

TWINSPIRES TIPSHEET



SAM F. DAVIS STAKES

G3 - 1 1/16-Miles Dirt
PURSE \$250,000

POST	HORSE	ML ODDS	WIN
1	Counter Offer	12-1	6 Kentucky Wildcat
2	Going for Gold	20-1	3 Knicks Go
3	Knicks Go	5-2	10 Still Dreaming
4	Cave Run	6-1	8 So Alive
5	Moonster	30-1	
6	Kentucky Wildcat	9-2	\$20 WIN/PLACE
7	Five Star General	4-1	6 (\$40)
8	So Alive	5-1	\$10 EXACTAS
9	Well Defined	8-1	6 with 3, 10, 8 (\$30)
10	Still Dreaming	15-1	3, 10, 8 with 6 (\$30)

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The Sam F. Davis Stakes (G3) will be held on Saturday at Tampa Bay Downs and the generous \$250,000 purse has attracted a field of ten. Over the quirky main track there, which seems to be playing faster than normal this year, there is a decent amount of early speed in the field. The Sam F. Davis is part of the Road to the Kentucky Derby (G1) with 10-4-2-1 points awarded to the top four.

#6 KENTUCKY WILDCAT has a strong chance at a generous price in here. He was outrun in a salty maiden going six furlongs at Saratoga in August then bounced back at this distance at Belmont Park and was a good third in very fast time when Lasix was added for the first time. What I liked about that effort was that he held well after disputing very fast fractions but bounced back to break his maiden going a one-turn mile coming from off the pace behind slow fractions. The son of Tapit is out of a stakes-winning dam by Ghostzapper and has had five breezes at Palm Meadows for Tom Albertrani.

#3 KNICKS GO upset the Breeders' Futurity (G1) at Keeneland when dismissed at 70/1. He showed it was no fluke when he was a terrific second in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile (G1) at 40/1 but did nothing last out from post 12 on a sloppy track in the Kentucky Jockey Club Stakes (G2). Since stretching out to two turns and adding blinkers, he has been a different horse and his gate speed, sharpened by a 58 and change breeze here two weeks ago, will be tough to overcome. The son of Paynter shows he likes the main track here in the morning but has shown he can handle any dirt surface.

#10 STILL DREAMING showed good speed before weakening in his well-bet career debut going six furlongs in decent time at Laurel. He came back there at a one-turn mile and won easily with a terrific last quarter mile as the odds-on favorite. Now, he tries stakes company and two turns for the first time for Graham Motion. The son of Flatter is out of a dam by Forestry whose first foal to race is Juvenile Champion and Kentucky Derby (G1) winner Nyquist. #8 SO ALIVE has the benefit of an allowance win over the track in his two-turn debut last out when blinkers were added. Todd Pletcher has won this race six times and Javier Castellano is in for the mount.