

TWINSPIRES TIPSHEET



SOUTHWEST STAKES

1 1/16 Mile G3
PURSE \$500,000

POST	HORSE	ML ODDS	TOP PICKS
1	Gray Attempt	7-2	5 Jersey Agenda
2	Ninth Street	30-1	3 Curring Humor
3	Cutting Humor	3-1	1 Gray Attempt
4	Boldor	12-1	11 Olympic Runner
5	Jersey Agenda	5-1	
6	Super Steed	20-1	\$40 WIN
7	Sueno	7-2	5 Jersey Agenda (\$40)
8	Six Shooter	20-1	
9	Bankit	10-1	\$20 EXACTA
10	Long Range Toddy	10-1	1, 3, 11 with 5 (\$30)
11	Olympic Runner	15-1	

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\$500,000 will be available to the 11 starters in Monday's Southwest Stakes (G3) at Oaklawn Park. Going 1 1/16 miles on the main track, the Southwest is part of the Road to the Kentucky Derby (G1) and will give 10 points to the winner, 4 points for second, 2 points for third and 1 point for fourth.

The Smarty Jones Stakes was the prep for the Southwest three weeks ago and the top four finishers show up today. Steve Asmussen has five entered and they all have a chance. Todd Pletcher ships in from his Palm Beach Downs training base and Keith Desormeaux shows up from Santa Anita. \$500,000 will do that.

#5 JERSEY AGENDA just missed in his career debut at Kentucky Downs on the turf then came back ten weeks later on a sloppy track and broke his maiden by four lengths going 6 1/2 furlongs. Freshened for two months by Asmussen, he showed up here for his two-turn debut and he battled early before pulling away to win by almost three lengths. His pace ratings that day were 91, 94, 89 so there was no real slowing down and he showed that he can relax. I don't see him on the lead here but Ricardo Santana, Jr. should be able to work out a stalking trip. His sire, Jersey Town, was a brilliant miler and his dam is by dirt, stamina influencer, Dynaformer.

#3 CUTTING HUMOR ships in for Todd Pletcher and Starlight Racing. \$400,000 yearling purchase by First Samurai held on for second in his career debut at Belmont last September then he came back going this distance at Keeneland and wound up third after an awkward start behind Harvey Wallbanger, winner of the Holy Bull Stakes (G2) last out. Pletcher added blinkers next time out at Gulfstream Park West and he broke his maiden by two lengths. His habit of breaking awkwardly returned last out at Gulfstream Park where he was second, but he did it in very fast time going this distance. Pletcher has put the hammer down with two fast workouts at Palm Beach Downs and Johnny Velazquez is in for the ride.

#1 GRAY ATTEMPT broke his maiden at Churchill Downs, then went to the Fair Grounds to win a sprint stakes race in fast time. Back here for Jinx Fires, he gunned to the front from an outside post in the Smarty Jones and grimly held on to win by a neck in fast time. He draws the rail today and Shaun Bridgmohan will have him winging early. #11 OLYMPIC RUNNER raced evenly in a five-furlong turf sprint at Gulfstream Park in his career debut but he came back there in an off-the-turf event and won easily in fast time. I like horses that excel when they try something for the first time and he looks fast enough to overcome the wide draw; just like stablemate War of Will did in Saturday's Risen Star (G2) from post 13.