



**Iron Maidens Thoroughbreds
Tampa Bay Downs, Race 10
Sam F. Davis Stakes (G-3)
1 1/16 Miles 3 YO
February 12, 2011**



During the past 29 editions of the Sam F. Davis Stakes, several horses who have won or placed in the race have continued on to do well either on the Triple Crown trail or in the top mid-summer races. Blue Grass Cat, Musket Man and Any Given Saturday are Sam F. Davis Stakes alumni who went on to bigger and better.

This year's edition of the Tampa-based race includes the often discussed [BRETHREN](#) (Distorted Humor – Supercharger, by A.P. Indy). This half-brother to Kentucky Derby winner Super Saver has been working very well for the Pletcher stable. He may become the post time favorite and has speed to get into position, but there are others in here who have more recent races under their girths and could gallop away with all the cookies.

[REPRIZED HALO](#) (Halo's Image – Reprized Angel, by Reprized) beat Delta Jackpot winner Gourmet Dinner in the In Reality Stakes at Calder in October, but lost a decision to Too Experience in an allowance race a month later. Reprized Halo is the first foal from a stakes winning full sister to multiple Grade 3 winner Valid Reprized and a half-sister to Grade 2 turf winner Conveyor's Angel. Reprized Halo has been breezing well at Calder and had a 3 furlong "lung opener" to get him on his toes. Can he break the Azpurua barn jinx of 0 for 15 in stakes races?

It took [ADULARE](#) (Flatter – Corking, by Sensitive Prince) five attempts to break his maiden, but he faced future stakes horses Tapizar and Anthony's Cross during his tries. Adulare has a pedigree indicating that he'll improve with maturity and distance. He is a full brother to the multiple stakes winner Champagne Eyes and a half-brother to a stakes placed runner. Additionally his dam is stakes placed. Adulare has inbreeding to Something Royal through her sons Secretariat and Sir Gaylord. He has been working consistently, although his breeze times are average.

[WASHINGTON'S RULES](#) (Roman Ruler – Petite Charme, by Silver Charm) Closed over a speed favoring track to win his maiden a few weeks ago and fired a smokin' bullet five furlongs last week. His dam is an unraced half-sister to Canadian G-3 winner Raylene, and stakes winning sprinter Princess Janie. Trainer Ken McPeck is 20% with horses running their second race off of a layoff, but has a 6% win rate for graded stakes this year.

Only out of the money once in his career, the Seacliff Stakes winner [TOO EXPERIENCE](#) (Drewman – Lake Victoria, by Meadowlake) is the first stakes winner for his distaff family in two generations. He's been working well over the Tampa surface since December and gets the home favorite jock (Centeno) on board.

[WATCH ME GO](#) (West Acre - Sabbath Song, by Deputy Minister) destroyed an optional allowance field, including Litigate, last time out, but he comes up short in every minor stakes race. Watch Me Go is a half-brother to a stakes placed turf sprinter. His unraced dam is a half-sister to two multiple stakes winners and the second dam is also a stakes winner. Watch Me Go had a decent work after his rousing success over this Tampa track, but while his trainer Kathleen O'Connell has won 3 of 9 stakes races, her barn is 9% with horses making their third start and Watch Me Go seems a cut below.

LITIGATE (Closing Argument - Deja Entendu, by Menifee) takes off the hood in his second start off the layoff. As mentioned, he was no match for Watch Me Go in an optional claimer in his last race. Litigate worked back with a slow six furlong move to build stamina, but overall, nothing jumps out on paper.. Litigate's sire and damsire were both second in their respective Kentucky Derbies. He is the first foal for his dam, who won two of six starts as a dirt miler. He might enjoy the extra distance, but the Duggan barn is 4% with blinkers off, and 8% with horses stretching out.

BEAMER (Vindication - Untarnished, by Unbridled) was a distant third behind Soldat over a sloppy Gulfstream track in his first start of the season going 1 1/8 miles. He has a nice progression from his first to third race and recorded a bullet breeze for his conservative trainer, Carl Nafzger. Beamer's dam is an unraced full sister to the Champion Filly Banshee Breeze and his second damsire Known Fact was a Champion Juvenile in Europe. Beamer races for the same connections as Kentucky Derby winner Street Sense, who won the Tampa Bay Derby over this track.

After winning the Count Fleet Stakes at Aqueduct, **MONZON** (Thunder Gulch – Shadow of Mine, Belong to Me) earned a trip to warmer climes. Monzon has a stamina over speed pedigree. His sire won two legs of the Triple Crown while his damsire was a multiple graded stakes winning sprinter. Monzon's dam won once in 14 attempts, but she's a half-sister to three stakes winners and his second and third dams have blacktype. Monzon has been working well for his Florida stakes debut. Monzon is the most well traveled horse in the field and hasn't raced twice at the same track. He could turn out to be one of those hard knocking geldings that can do anything.

RIBO BOBO (Louis Quatorze – Private Prom Party, by Private Terms) is not having a good year. He was beaten like a read headed stepchild in his two starts in January, losing both races by over 28 lengths, but he had excuses both times. He has a stamina oriented dirt pedigree. Ribo Bobo's sire has a handful of stakes winners, including Repent, Second of June and the FL Champion Three Year Old Filly, Bushfire. Ribo Bobo has a modest distaff family. His second dam was a listed stakes winner. Ribo Bobo had a three furlong lung opener indicating his trainer wants him on his toes for the race, but the Azpurua barn is 0 for 15 in graded stakes contests and they're not having a good year either.

SELECTIONS:

How the track is playing: Over 80% of the 33 races held this meet going 1 1/6 miles have been won by horses on or pressing the pace, while 15% have wired the field. The day is expected to be partly cloudy and the track should be fast.

Four horses in here have a forward running style. **REPRIZED HALO** and **RIBO BOBO** had sharp three furlong works showed some speed, so we might see them head straight for the front. **BRETHREN**, **WATCH ME GO** and **BEAMER** may sit just behind the leaders. **BRETHREN** will get plenty of attention at the betting windows, but this isn't a one horse race.

The most interesting contestant is the well-bred **BEAMER**. He has a ton of upside and his trainer Carl Nafzger has a 30% win rate with stakes races. **ADULARE** signaled improvement beating maidens this year. He has a late-maturing pedigree and could be starting to turn the corner. **TOO EXPERIENCE** has lost only once in his career and he's been working well. 12-1 morning line? I'll take it!

What do we do with **WASHINGTON RULES**? He ran over a maiden field earing a good speed figure, then came back with a bullet breeze – he’s one of those who could be very good and improve, or this could be too much too soon and he’ll backfire like a ’73 Volkswagen bus. At a morning line of 9-2 we’ll pass. **MONZON** triumphed over a speed favoring track at Aqueduct and he’s a tough horse. This isn’t the strongest field and he could grab a piece of the pie, but we can’t pick them all.

#7 BEAMER

#10 BRETHREN

#4 TOO EXPERIENCE

#2 ADULARE – *longshot pick*

The Play:

\$2 Super Box - #7, #10, #4, #2 = \$24

\$2 W,P - #2 = \$4