



Iron Maidens Thoroughbreds
Santa Anita, Race 8
San Felipe Stakes, Grade 2
1 1/16 miles, 3 YO
March 12, 2011



The San Felipe Stakes is a major race along the Triple Crown trail. In the last ten years, the contest has produced two Derby winners and a runner-up, plus a Belmont Stakes winner and runner-up. This year's edition of the San Felipe sees a couple of contenders that have the pedigrees to develop into Classic challengers.

Everyone was buzzing after [RUNFLATOUT](#) (Flatter – Slamin Lil, by Grand Slam) blasted a group of maidens in 1:07 3/5 without extending himself. Runflatout has a miler's pedigree. His sire's offspring are miler types, but his son Apart won the 1 1/8 miles Super Derby. Runflatout's dam only won 3 starts in 25 attempts and placed four times, once in a listed stakes. A mile on the dirt was her game and she has the only blacktype in two generations. Runflatout may inherit some stamina from his second damsire the Champion Turf Horse Sunshine Forever.

The last time we saw the morning line favorite, [JAYCITO](#) (Victory Gallop – Night Edition, by Ascot Knight), had a meltdown in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile. Switched to the steady barn of Bob Baffert, Jaycito has been on fire with morning works, including a sharp seven furlong gate work at the end of last month and he takes the hood off. Jaycito has a stamina oriented pedigree and should improve with time and distance.

[BENCH POINTS](#) (Benchmark – Mo Chuisse, by Freehouse) is undefeated in four lifetime sprints. He's only beaten state-breds and optional claimers, but has done it in race horse time. Bench Points has a speed over stamina pedigree. His sire was successful at the Grade 2 level going 1 1/8 miles. His offspring are sprinter/miler types, but two of his progeny (Brother Derek and A to the Z) won at 1 1/8 miles. Bench Points damsire was a tough gray horse who won this race in 1997 over Silver Charm and fought with that rival through much of his career. Freehouse was a multiple Grade 1 stakes winner at 1 ¼ miles. Unfortunately, he died early in his stud career (2004) and sired only two stakes winners. His daughters are just starting to produce foals.

[COMMA TO THE TOP](#) (Bwana Charlie – Maggies Storm, by Stormy Atlantic) had his five win race streak smashed in the El Camino Real Derby. Not surprising given his sprinter/miler oriented pedigree. Comma To The Top is Bwana Charlie's best son on the track. His dam, Maggies Storm, placed once in four tries. She is a half sister to the stakes winner miler Yes He's a Pistol and stakes placed Dumaai of Course. The San Felipe is Comma To The Top's dirt debut and he should take to it like a duck to water. His works are good and he can rebound here.

[PREMIER PEGASUS](#) (Fusaichi Pegasus – Squall Linda, by Summer Squall) was third in the San Vicente Stakes, but recorded a lifetime best speed figure. He has a two-turn pedigree and he's also a half-brother to Grade 1 Stakes winner, Street Hero. Premier Pegasus blazed a :57 3/5 five furlong move and he'll be ready to take on all comers.

By the 1998 Breeders' Cup Classic winner out of an unraced full sister to Tiznow, Budroyle and Tizbud, **AWESOME PATRIOT** (Awesome Again - Tizamazing, by Cee's Tizzy) should love distance and should be realizing his full potential this year. He won an allowance race over Riveting Reason last year and should love the extra distance. The Bob Baffert trainee has posted very healthy works for his three year old debut.

JAKESAM (Smoke Glacken – Deputy Sarah, by Deputy Commander) made all the pace and held on tenaciously for a surprise second place finish in the El Camino Real Derby. Jakesam has a speed over stamina pedigree. His sire gets mostly sprint types, but does have three winners at 1 1/8 miles, including Persistently, who has similar breeding to Jakesam. His damsire Deputy Commander and second damsire Holy Bull both won the Travers Stakes. Jakesam dam is a half-sister to Grade 2 stakes winner Higher World. The pretty gray colt cuts back in distance, but could have a torrid pace to contend with.

ALBERGATTI (Unbridled Song – My Miss Storm Cat, by Sea Of Secrets) progressed in his second start to win his maiden. He has a miler pedigree. His dam won five of seven starts, including a listed stakes at six furlongs. She's a half sister to West Virginia Derby hero Soul Warrior. Albergatti is her first foal. Albergatti is working strongly for the Asmussen barn, which has a 21% win rate with the maiden to stakes angle.

SURREY STAR (Dubawi – Turning Light, by Fantastic Light) finished a so-so fourth in the seven furlong San Vicente. He has a pedigree rife with weeds. His sire, a Group 1 sprinter in Europe, is one of five stakes winners produced by Dubai Millennium in his only crop of 56 foals. Surrey Star's dam sire was a long-winded turf champion and the dam is a German-bred stakes winner. Surrey Star had a couple of decent works after the San Vicente, but he'd probably be happier going long over the grass.

Like Surrey Star, **QUAIL HILL** (Candy Ride – Midwife, by Family Calling) had an average finish in his first try against graded stakes company and like Surrey Star, Quail Hill has strong turf influences in his pedigree. Quail Hill's damsire, a son of Mr. Prospector, won a minor stakes race, and the second damsire is the international sire Dynaformer. Quail Hill's dam is a stakes winning turf miler. All of Quail Hill's post-race breezes over the Santa Anita dirt have been slow.

SELECTIONS:

How the track is playing: California is king of the speed. 53% of route races this meet have been won on the lead, but the last two weeks have seen a track kinder to off the pace types and closers. Post position doesn't seem to matter, but oddly, 22% of the winners exit the starting gate from the 2 hole. The day should be sunny and the track fast.

The San Felipe sets up with plenty of speed on the front end. Seven of ten entrants could try for the lead and it could all boil down to who gets breaks on top and has the best early speed. If they go too fast in front, the few colts who can successfully sit behind the pace could have a field day.

Most are expecting **RUNFLATOUT** to do just that and blow the field away like The Factor did in the San Vicente after his record breaking maiden win, but **RUNFLATOUT** has had less time to recoup and is jumping from six furlongs to 1 1/16 miles. This could set him up like a kid in a moon house, especially if other fast colts, such as **COMMA TO THE TOP** or **PREMIER PEGASUS** pressure him. Bob Baffert could pull off the exacta with **JAYCITO** and **AWESOME PATRIOT**. **JAYCITO** is the class of the race and can sit behind the speed. Baffert has him ready to go and Jaycito could fulfill the potential he showed early in his juvenile season. **AWESOME PATRIOT** has the pedigree to go long and if he can learn to sit off the pace, he could finish in the money. Unfortunately, the best

front-riding jock has the mount and they will likely contest the pace. **BENCH POINTS** has been brought along the right way and should be physically and mentally ready for this test. **ALBERGATTI** is a nice colt and his winning time last out was comparable to The Factor's San Vicente.

#7 BENCH POINTS – 3rd

#9 JAYCITO – 2nd

#6 PREMIER PEGASUS – 1st

#4 AWESOME PATRIOT – *longshot pick*