



Iron Maidens Thoroughbreds
Tampa Bay Derby (G-3)
March 13, 2010



In the last four years, the Tampa Bay Derby (G-3) has attracted strong fields. Bluegrass Cat, Street Sense and Musket Man flashed their potential in this race and went on to prove it in the Kentucky Derby. No trainer has ever captured this race more than once, but this year, Todd Pletcher, Nick Zito, Derek Ryan and Tom Albertrani all have a shot to change that. Owner Eric Fein's horses have won the last two editions of the Tampa Bay Derby and he's in a good position to do the same this year with Schoolyard Dreams.



Odysseus, Super Saver and Tuvia's Force invade from Palm Meadows. Do all three have a legitimate shot of taking home the price money? Let's review the field.



Uptowncharlybrown - Photo: Don Haines

Uptowncharlybrown (Limehouse - La Iluminada, by Langfuhr) was third last time out in the Sam F. Davis stakes after circling the field. He has intense inbreeding top and bottom to Mr. Prospector and Northern Dancer. He has four strains, two top and two bottom of Northern Dancer and two strains of Mr. Prospector top and on the bottom. Additionally, his distaff family traces back to Myrtlewood, as does Mr. Prospector's dam, Gold Digger. Uptowncharlybrown's 5F work after the Sam Davis Stakes shows he bounced back nicely and the brisk 3F "lung opener" indicates that he may show more speed in the Tampa Bay Derby. In addition, he adds blinkers which can help him stay closer to the pack.

Tuvia's Force (Mineshaft – Jazz Tradition, by Dixieland Band) showed that he wants to go long when he was a late running third to Spectacular Bid runnerup Wildcat Frankie last time out going a mile. His sire is known for getting slow-developing runners. Damsire Dixieland Band is the damsire of Kentucky Derby winner Street Sense, Society Selection and Southern Image, all runners who won at classic distances. Tuvia's Force's dam was in the money half of her eight tries in route races and she is a half sister to a Grade 3 stakes runner. His second dam was a champion filly in Argentina and also won the Vanity Invitational Handicap (G-1) in the US. Tuvia's Force shows three quick works at Palm Meadows. Zito/Lezcano are 20% together.

Gleam of Hope (City Zip – Victorious Vice, by Vice Regent) just missed in his first off a layoff going a mile over turf in his first start of the year. He won two races over the dirt including the Cradle Stakes at River Downs over a sloppy track going 1 1/6 miles when he was two, but that's a far cry from a Grade 3 race in Tampa at age three. Gleam of Hope's sire gets very quick babies who are at their best up to 1 1/6 miles. His damsire was born in 1969 and was pretty prolific up until his death at age 28 and he's best known as the sire of Deputy Minister. Gleam of Hope is a half brother to a Canadian stakes winner and his half sister produced a Canadian multiple stakes winner. Gleam of Hope's dam is a half sister to two stakes winners. Gleam of Hope worked a bullet for this race.

Slammy Boy (Grand Slam – Minister's Baby, by Deputy Minster) tries dirt again after three tries over turf. His sire's offspring are good up to nine furlongs and his damsire is a noted broodmare sire. Ironically, he is the broodmare sire of both Curlin, and Rages to Riches, who defeated her rival in the Belmont Stakes. Slammy Boy's dam is a Grade 3 stakes winner and has won or placed in 17 of 29 starts, mainly in dirt routes. She is a half sister to a stakes winner and two stakes placed runners. Trainer Reinstedler is 8% with the turf to dirt angle.

Schoolyard Dreams (Stephen Got Even – Hear this, by Prospectors Music) was on a fast pace in the Sam Davis Stakes and faded to finish second by three lengths to Rule. His sire is a G-1 winner at 9 furlongs and is the sire of this year's Whirlaway winner Peppi Knows. Schoolyard Dreams' dam was in the money in four of five starts sprinting and unplaced once in the mud and there is no blacktype in his distaff family in three generations. His sire is equally obscure, having

been unplaced in three starts in France. He stood in Oklahoma and was a half brother to three stakes winners. Schoolyard Dreams shows two consecutive bullet works and should be on his toes for another try at the 1 1/6 mile distance.



Super Saver – Photo: Reed Palmer

Super Saver (Maria's Mon - Supercharger, by A.P. Indy) won the Kentucky Jockey Club (G-2) by an impressive five lengths in his last start way back in November. Super Saver has a pedigree that screams distance and class. His sire gave us Monarchos, the second-fastest Kentucky Derby winner, while his damsire is known for producing long-winded offspring. His dam is a Phipps-family bred full sister to Grade 2 winners Daydreaming, Girolamo and Grade 3 winner Accelerator. Her other unraced full sister produced Blue Grass Cat who was second in the Tampa Bay Derby and went on to place in the Kentucky Derby. Her half brother (by Monarchos) was a Canadian stakes winner. Super Saver's second dam was a graded stakes winner and the list goes on.

Odysseus (Malibu Moon – Persimmon Hill, by Conquistador Cielo) was a brilliant 15 length winner of an optional claimer at this track and distance last time out. His winning time (1:44 1/5) was close to the winning time of the Sam F. Davis, run two days earlier (1:44), indicating he can probably run much faster if asked. His sire is nationally ranked at 11 and is really making a name for himself in the breeding shed. Odysseus' damsire was a Champion three year old and was the first of five consecutive Belmont Stakes winners for Hall of Fame trainer Woody Stephens. Odysseus is a half brother to a stakes winner. His dam Persimmon Hill was in the money 7 of 10 of her starts, mainly dirt routes. She's a half sister to a stakes placed runner.

Selections:

How the track is playing: It seems like at every track this spring, speed rules on the rail. So far this meet 27% of the field has gone wire to wire and this week alone 67% have accomplished this feat. Early pace and pressers are winning the lion's share of races and the one run stalkers have a dismal 7% win rate.

Super Saver has hands down the best pedigree in the field. He also is a speedball and has dominated with his wire –to-wire tactics two out of three races. He won't find it so easy this time. Besides coming off almost a four month layoff and running over a deep, tiring track, he'll have company on the front end by the name of **Schoolyard Dreams** and possibly **Odysseus**. Both of these contenders are fit and facing their third start off a layoff. The rest of the field will hover a few lengths behind, hoping the top three will run themselves into the ground. **Uptowncharlybrown** was compromised by his come from the clouds running style last time out, but his connections have added a nice set of blinkers and given him a quickie breeze to hone his speed. Don't expect him to be so far out of it this time. **Tuvia's Force** has indicated that he can be closer to the speed when asked. He's coming in for his second off a layoff and shows slowly improving BRIS speed figures of a horse that will improve during his three year old season. Will he improve enough to beat this group? Probably not, but he's worth consideration for your exotics. **Gleam of Hope** and **Slammy Boy** will both try transferring their form to dirt. Both are stalkers and while **Gleam of Hope** showed a quick burst to grab second last out at a mile over turf, it will be hard for him to make up that type of ground over the dirt.

Uptowncharlybrown

Odysseus

Schoolyard Dreams

Tuvia's Force – longshot