

Hi again...was looking at the future wager pool for Derby hopefuls and I thought I'd introduce you to some of the outsiders at this point.

AMERICAN DUBAI is a Virginia bred colt by E Dubai out of the Bates Motel mare Smash Review. E Dubai himself won at ten furlongs (Suburban Hdcp) and was a G2SW as well (Dwyer Stakes). His career as a stallion is bizarre in that he started out at Jonabelland shuttled to Darley Australia then he was sent to PA and then to MD & is now in Louisiana. He is the sire of Breeder's Cup Classic winner Fort Larned (winner of almost 4 ½ million \$) as well as Breeders Cup Turf Sprint winner Desert Code, Royal Louis which won the Russian St Leger S., G2SW High Heels and G2SW Aggie Engineer. The dam was a winner of 5 of her 24 starts, most in claiming events in the Mid-Atlantic area and none over a mile and a sixteenth. She is also dam of American Dubai's full brother, SP Dubai Review. Broodmare sire Bates Motel was the USAs Champion Handicap horse of 1983 and won at 10 furlongs. American Dubai himself has started 3 times to date (Mar 14, 2016). In his first start, which was in November at Churchill Downs, he had a troubled start, raced wide and still managed to win the 6 furlong event. This year, he's started twice at Oaklawn Park and his last start was a third place in the Southwest Stakes to Suddenbreakingnews and Whitmore. In the beaten field was Cutacorn who had defeated him in his second start, as well as favorite, Collected. His trainer is Rodney Richards.

ECONOMIC MODEL is a Chad Brown trainee and has had 3 starts to date with a win & a second place. He was second to AWESOME BANNER in the G2 Swale Stakes at Gulfstream Park and followed that by trailing in this weekend's Tampa Bay Derby which will probably have his connections rethinking the whole Triple Crown thing. Regardless, he is by G2SPw FLATTER who is siring some nice horses like Flat Out, Upstart, Kobe's Back, Tar Heel Mom, Taris, Apart, etc. His dam is Queen of America, herself a non-winner but she is the mother of SW Jimmy Simms (best at a mile), the turf specialist Graded SW Well Monied. Broodmare sire is Quiet American who sired Kentucky Derby winner Real Quiet as well as the consistent stakes winner Star Guitar and others.

UNCLE LINO was seen this past weekend in the San Felipe Stakes in which he was an unimpressive fourth. Trained by Gary Sherlock, he had previously won a maiden event at 6.5 furlongs at Del Mar last year (Danzing Candy finished far back in that one) and second to Mor Spirit in the Robert Lewis Stakes. He's 1 for 5 thusfar. By Eclipse Champion Uncle Mo, he's out of Champion Sprinter Orientate's daughter, the unraced Havsee which is a full sister to G1SW Lady Joanne (which won at 10 furlongs) & half brother to Preakness winner Shackleford (4th in the Kentucky Derby), G3SW Baghdaria (dam of a Japanese SW at 2000 meters), G2SW Afleeting Lady, SW Stephanoatsee and others. Havsee is a daughter of Broodmare of the Year, Oatsee.

RIKER is by 9 furlong specialist G1SW Include, which was Maryland Horse of the Year in 2001. This past weekend, his Argentinian-bred son DON INC won the Latinoamerican in Brazil which was at 2000 meters. Stateside, he's sired She's All In, Panty Raid and Include Me Out. His son, Redeemed, won the 12 furlong Brooklyn Hdcp and Greenwood Cup. The dam is Desviacion which was bred and raced in Illinois. She won 2 of her starts, a maiden special weights at 6 furlongs and an allowance event at a mile. She had lots of early speed, being by sprint sire Unreal Zeal. Riker has more of a foundation than most of the Derby hopefuls, which I like to see. He's started 6 times and won four of them, all in Canada as a two year old (remember, Mine That Bird was the Canadian Champion 2 year old after winning 3 stakes there and he went on to upset the Kentucky Derby. In fact, Riker won two of the same races Mine That Bird did, the Grey and the Swynford). Where is Calvin Borel? He was unplaced in the BC Juvenile and this year, his only start was in this weekend's Tampa Bay Derby in

which he showed brief early speed and tired. Wish the “foundation” I spoke of earlier was done this year as it's getting pretty late to get his stamina up enough to contest a mile and a quarter. Trainer is Mark Casse.

Bob Baffert scratched **CUPID** out of the SA stakes this weekend and is apparently going to go to Oaklawn Park for the Rebel Stakes this weekend in which he will probably face Suddenbreakingnews, Whitmore, American Dubai, Ralis, Cutacorn and others. (More in a later column on this race.) The exceptional sire Tapit is the daddy while mom is SPW Pretty n Smart which makes him a half brother to Indianapolis which at this time a few years back was being talked about as a Derby horse. Didn't happen. He won a minor California stakes and this year is running in Dubai. Other siblings of Cupid are half sister sprinter Heart Ashley, G3SW Ashley's Kitty, and a few other winners. In that group is full brother Dream Team which won a mile race on the front end in his only victory thus far and for the same connections. He's preparing for his 2016 debut and should be a name in the news before the year's end. CUPID's dam sire is G1SW Beau Genius (Can) which won at 9 & 10 furlongs. Cupid has had but three starts and his maiden win came in his last start earlier this year at Santa Anita in a mile and a sixteen maiden event in which he was off poorly but won by over five lengths as the favorite.

WHITMORE, which I mentioned is a proposed starter in this weekends Rebel Stakes, is trained by Ron Moquett and was ridden in his most recent start by Mike Smith who I have mentioned before is one of my 3 favorite jockeys. He's a money rider. Whitmore has won half of his 4 starts, one of 2 last year and 1 of 2 this year. His last start was in the G3 Southwest Stakes in which he came from far, far back in a crowded field (as did the winner Suddenbreakingnews). The chart said he “bobbled slightly” in the stretch which may have cost him the win. His sire is distance loving, Dubai World Cup winning Pleasantly Perfect (another Kentucky castaway). This gelding's dam is the unraced Melody's Spirit by recently deceased G1SW Scat Daddy. I have a bias against geldings in the classics but I like this horse for this particular race.

Since I erred in writing a column in advance of finding out the actual entries before, I will wait a few days to comment on this weekends Derby prep races (Rebel Stakes, Sunland Park Festival of Racing Stakes). Hope you have been enjoying my columns. Derby dreams!