

# The Wizard's Spotlight Play

January 17, 2009

Fair Grounds, Race 10

**Race 10: \$42,000 Maiden Special Weight, fillies, 3yos, 1 mile, dirt**

**HIGHTAP** Gray Tapit filly out of a Regal Classic mare brought \$72,000 as a yearling, nearly 5 times her sire's stud fee. On December 18, she debuted in a sprint off a rather ordinary looking work tab. That is, unless you know that Steve Asmussen rarely asks his youngsters in the morning, and rarely has them fully cranked up first time out. Hightap was allowed to roll in one work, a best-of-47 5F breeze from the gate on Nov. 3.

She took heavy betting action in her debut, sent off as a virtual co-favorite with the winner. Shaun Bridgmohan had her between horses early, then took her 4-wide to launch a move on the turn. She covered the 5th furlong in a sparkling :12 flat and finished steadily for the place in a very strung out field.

Hightap is bred for a route and distributes her energy in the manner of a router. Asmussen wins at a 35% clip when going from a sprint to a route the 2nd time out. He has used this maneuver successfully several times recently. Side Venture, who showed some speed in her sprint debut, is the likely pacesetter. Look for Bridgmohan to place Hightap just off the early lead and attack as the field turns for home.

#4 (**HIGHTAP**) to Win at 7-5 or higher.

Exactas: #4 Over # 6 (**EIGHTONINE BELL**) and # 7 (**WEEKEND PROSPECT**)

NO REVERSE!!!