

RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS



by *Ron Nicoletti*

FIRST RACE:

1 ANYTHINGYOUWANT will try 7 furlongs after following a neck victory over this familiar competition at three-quarters of a mile with an even more impressive score vs. another group of \$25,000 starter allowance runners at a mile. Trainer Jose Pinchin has Cornelio Velasquez going for the hat trick. **6 MOONPORT** is stretching out an additional furlong after rallying wide to come within a neck of catching Anythingyouwant when they hooked at 6 furlongs on Feb. 7th. Trainer Ian Wilkes has Julien Leparoux handling the rematch. **3 STARSHIP VALOR** is hoping to get away from the gate in a timely fashion after breaking a step slow before rallying to finish third behind Anythingyouwant and Moonport on Feb. 7th. Trainer Steve Dwoskin has Elvis Trujillo in the saddle again.

SELECTIONS: 1-6-3

SECOND RACE:

7 FIVE AFTERNOONS drops to the \$15,000 level after making a 4-wide bid and fading to finish fifth in a 'key' \$25,000 maiden test at Aqueduct on Nov. 14th that produced a pair of next-out winners. **6 SENOR PEDRO** drops to the bottom after disputing the pace and tiring to finish fourth vs. \$25,000 maidens here on Jan. 22nd. Trainer David Fawkes, 18% with the 31-60 day layoff, has Elvis Trujillo in the saddle. **5 BEARS GENERAL** is cutting back to 5 ½ furlongs, and racing without blinkers, after dueling through swift fractions and retreating vs. similar at 6 ½ furlongs. **8 TANGO RIDGE** makes his local return the first start since finishing a distant third in a 6-furlong \$16,000 maiden test at Calder on Nov. 14th.

SELECTIONS: 7-6-5-8

THIRD RACE:

3 AIR LORD should find things a little easier after finishing second to rejuvenated stakes caliber B B. Best in a \$35,000 claimer at the distance. Trainer Elizabeth Gray has Julien Leparoux in the saddle again. **4 BIG LOVER** drops, and turns back to a mile, after stalking the pace and tiring to finish fifth vs. \$75,000 allowance optional claimers at 9 furlongs. Trainer Kathy Mongeon has Elvis Trujillo in the saddle. **1 DYNHOCRACY** gets some class relief after making a middle move and fading vs. \$75,000 allowance optional claimers in a 2-turn mile on the turf. Note the gelding was stakes placed the last time he went from the turf to the dirt (Aug. 16th).

SELECTIONS: 3-4-1

FOURTH RACE:

5 LOVE ON A WIRE moved to the Chad Brown barn via the claim, and debuts on the turf, after taking the overland route when circling wide to finish third vs. similar quality at a mile on the main track. Trainer Brown, 27% with his debut turf runners, has Jose Lezcano atop the gelded son of Broken Vow. **7 TRAMEZZINI** is a son of Hennessy training sharply at Payson Park in preparation for his career debut. Trainer Bill Mott has strong gate rider E T Baird named to ride, so a front running trip may be in the plans. **6 BENGAL RIDGE**, beaten 4 lengths on the turf here vs. a notch tougher on Jan. 8th, returns to the lawn after failing to show much vs. this level of competition on the main track. Trainer Dave Braddy has Javier Santiago atop the gelded son of Tiger Ridge. **9 TEMO'S DREAM** makes his career turf debut after rallying to finish third vs. similar at three-quarters of a mile on the main track. Trainer Bill Kaplan, who is 2 for 10 with a \$6.36 return of investment with the first-turf angle, has Paco Lopez handling the surface switch.

SELECTIONS: 5-7-6-9

FIFTH RACE:

1 FORMAL KING, who reeled off three consecutive victories when facing similar competition last fall on the New York/New Jersey circuit, returns to the main track after stalking the pace and getting beat 4 ¼ lengths on the turf vs. state-bred competition in the \$75,000 Tallahassee. Trainer Rick Dutrow Jr., a healthy 36% with the grass-to-dirt angle, spots the gelding perfectly. **7 FANCY RUNNER** drops into a competitive spot after an ambitious outing vs. \$100,000 allowance optional claimers at the distance. Owner/trainer/jockey Clyde Martin readied him for this assignment with a couple of solid half-mile drill over the track. **8 NORTHERN ACADEMY** is a late-striding type who used his patient running style to 'hit the board' in consecutive local starts, and more of the same is expected today. **5 TOO MANY TOYZ** is hoping to find a little more for the stretch run after changing running tactics when setting the pace and weakening to finish third vs. \$16,000 claimers at the distance.

SELECTIONS: 1-7-8-5

SIXTH RACE:

2 GOLD INDY is turning back to a mile and a sixteenth after breaking from Post 10, stalking the pace, and finishing third vs. similar in her 9-furlong career turf debut. Trainer Todd Pletcher has John Velazquez atop the \$500K daughter of A. P. Indy. **7 LADY MIST** shows a couple of sharp workouts on the Palm Meadows grass in preparation for the first start since a troubled local turf debut with first-time blinkers in which she broke slowly from Post 12, rushed up to stalk the pace, and tired to finish ninth. Trainer Brian Lynch, 43% with the 61-180 day layoff, has Javier Castellano atop the Stronach Stables daughter of El Prado. **6 LOXY LADY**, a promising 2 for 2 'in the money' on the turf during 2007, returns to the grass after a much needed return from a 14-month layoff in which she finished seventh in a 'key' maiden race on the Aqueduct inner track that produced three next-out winners. **12 FEMININE FLAIR** is a daughter of Arch debuting for trainer Bill Mott with a series of solid Payson Park workouts showing. The beautifully bred sophomore starts her career with Lasix and Julien Leparoux added to the equation.

SELECTIONS: 2-7-6-12

SEVENTH RACE:

2 PYRAMYST is stepping up to the next level after keeping her Gulfstream record unblemished (4-4-0-0) when she defeated \$10,000 starter allowance competition by 8 ½ lengths. Trainer Peter Walder has John Velazquez returning on the 7-time winner at the distance (18-7-6-1). **7 SWEETSOUTHERNQUEEN**, 6-4-0-0 on fast dirt surfaces, returns to the main track after a trio of sharp turf races vs. a notch tougher competition. Trainer Vinnie Blengs has Edgar Prado handling the surface change. **4 BOFFO** moved to the Steve DiMauro barn via the claim after drawing clear to humble a field of \$16,000 claimers by 8 lengths. The new connections tab Joe Bravo to ride. **10 GIRL SLEUTH** drops a notch on the dirt after posting a competitive speed figure when finishing fifth on the turf, at life-altering odds of 108-1, vs. \$16,000 starter allowance competition.

SELECTIONS: 2-7-4-10

EIGHTH RACE:

7 MISS BLAKELY will tussle with \$40,000 starter allowance competition after showing speed and getting caught late in a pair of competitive allowance races at the distance. Trainer Joe Orseno spots the daughter of Smart Strike perfectly today. **10 SALDANHA** is stretching out to a mile and a sixteenth after an impressive victory vs. similar at a mile in which she avoided a fallen horse on the backstretch before

uncorking a strong rally to win by 2-plus lengths. Trainer Kathleen O'Connell has Jose Lezcano in the saddle again.

2 ENTERTAINING departs from an inside post (2) after breaking towards the outside, dueling from start to finish, and getting beat a neck by **9 PRINCESS TOWN** last out. The latter picks up 4 pounds (121) after setting the pace and holding off Entertaining while carrying 117 pounds in their recent clash vs. \$50,000 claimers at the distance.

SELECTIONS: 7-10-2-9

NINTH RACE:

5 QUALQUIN, second on the dirt vs. \$25,000 maidens here on Feb. 5th, drops to the bottom on the main track after disputing the pace and faltering vs. another group of \$25,000 types on the turf. **9 HICKORY GRAY**, second on the main track vs. this caliber of competition at 7 ½ furlongs on Jan. 29th, returns to the dirt after showing little vs. \$25,000 maidens on the grass last out. **2 ECHO MOUNTAIN** is stretching out to a mile after making a 4-wide bid to finish second in her local debut vs. similar at 5 ½ furlongs. Trainer Joe Catanese has Manoel Cruz quarterbacking the stretchout. **8 KIMS WONDER** drops to the bottom after breaking slowly and failing to respond in a 'key' \$45,000 maiden test on the grass that produced a pair of next-out winners.

SELECTIONS: 5-9-2-8

BEST BET: RACE 5 - 1 FORMAL KING

LONG SHOT: RACE 6 - 11 POWDER BURN

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