

## RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS



by *Ron Nicoletti*

**FIRST RACE: Turf Rail Set At 96 Feet**

**7 SPLASH OF COLOUR**, part of a Todd Pletcher uncoupled entry, turns back to 5 furlongs after stalking the pace, making a 3-wide bid and tiring to finish fourth - beaten 2 ¼ lengths - at a mile and a sixteenth. **9 BROOKE'S VALENTINE**, the other entrant from Todd Pletcher, cuts back to five-eighths after setting the pace and giving way to get beat 5 ¼ lengths vs. similar at a mile. Note that Edgar Prado returns on the former while John Velazquez picks up the mount on the latter.

**10 STREET GOSSIP** makes her career turf debut after showing promise on the main track when she bumped and checked at the start and finished second behind repeat winner Matchless Orinda on Jan. 7th. **6 ELLEWINKLE**, who finished third on the turf, at 90-1, at this distance on Feb. 4th, returns to the lawn after making a bid and fading to finish sixth vs. a tough group of maiden special weight performers on the dirt. She can help boost the superfecta payoff.

**SELECTIONS: 7-9-10-6**

**SECOND RACE:**

**2 THELMA'S SONGCAT** should be ready to score after chasing the pace and finishing second in her local debut at this level and distance. Trainer Mike Maker, 33% with horses making the second start after a 45-180 day layoff, has go-to jock Julien Leparoux in the saddle. **6 DOADEERAFEMALEDEER** drops to the \$10,000 level on the dirt after failing to earn a check vs. a notch tougher in a pair on the turf, including the fifth place finish vs. \$15,000 types last Sunday. **8 TICKLE ME TICK** is hoping to find a little more for the stretch drive after stalking the action and fading to finish a distant third behind Thelma's Songcat last out. **7 WITHMIXEDEMOTIONS** is eligible to rebound after failing to fire when finishing an uncharacteristic sixth behind Thelma's Songcat and Tickle Me Tick last out.

**SELECTIONS: 2-6-8-7**

**THIRD RACE: Turf Rail Set At 96 Feet**

**7 WITH FLYING COLORS**, a half to multiple grade stakes winner Storm Flag Flying, stretches out to a mile and a sixteenth after encountering trouble on both turns (steadied) and finishing second in her local turf debut at a mile. Trainer Shug McGaughey, 27% with horses making the second start after a 45-180 day layoff, has Julien Leparoux in the saddle.

**1 HALF A SURPRISE**, a half to multiple graded stakes winner Halfbridled, makes her career turf debut with a series of useful workouts showing, on both turf and dirt, in preparation for this assignment. Trainer Todd Pletcher has John Velazquez atop the

regally bred daughter of A. P. Indy. **5 PROVEN RIGHT** is eligible to get her picture taken in the third start of her current form cycle after getting beat 2 ¾ lengths at this distance on Jan. 14th, and finishing third vs. similar at a mile last out.

**2 GOLD D'ORO** is stretching out around 2-turns after showing promise in consecutive 7-furlong turf outings at Belmont last fall. Trainer Bill Mott, 20% with the 61-180 day layoff, has Kent Desormeaux in the saddle.

**SELECTIONS: 7-1-5-2**

**FOURTH RACE:**

**5 ALICE'S HALO** is turning back to 5 ½ furlongs after surrendering a commanding 2 ½-length lead to finish second - beaten a length - vs. similar at three-quarters of a mile.

**8 TAKING OVER** is dropping to the \$6,250 level after a gutsy \$10,000 claiming score in which he was headed and came again to win by a half-length. However be advised the colt tends to bounce a little after a hard-fought victory.

**4 FLINT MOUNTAIN** is hoping to get back to his winning ways at Gulfstream (10-5-0-2) after bumping and stumbling soon after the start of a \$10,000 claimer at a mile. The horse-for-course type is spotted perfectly for a \$6,250 tag.

**9 DELAWARE MANOR**, a sharp \$10,000 'three-lifetime' winner here on Jan. 29th, returns after failing to fire when facing \$12,500 claimers upstate at Tampa. Jose Lezcano rides.

**SELECTIONS: 5-8-4-9**

**FIFTH RACE: Turf Rail Set At 96 Feet**

**10 DRESSED TO WIN** is cutting back to 5 furlongs after setting the pace and fading to finish third in a 'key' \$50,000 'two-lifetime' claimer at Tampa that produced a pair of next-out winners. Trainer Linda Rice, 26% with her turf sprinters, has Alan Garcia atop the mare. **8 MYMISSJULIAC**, the other gal in the field, is hoping to find a tad more after finishing second - beaten a neck - in a fruitful outing at this level and distance that produced a pair of next-out winners. **2 FOOTLOOSE MAN** plunges into this 'two-lifetime' claiming event after finishing a respectable third at the distance vs. \$42,000 allowance level competition. Trainer Tim Ritvo has Manoel Cruz in the irons.

**1 ODE TO REVOLUTION** is turning back to 5 panels after showing good speed and fading late in a pair of stamina tweaking turf outings around 2-turns. Trainer Tim Hills has John Velazquez handling the classic turnback move.

**SELECTIONS: 10-8-2-1**

**SIXTH RACE:**

**4 BRITANNIA ROSE** is a daughter of Golden Missile debuting for trainer Brian Lynch with a series of solid Palm Meadows workouts showing. Trainer Lynch, 19% with his first-time starters, has Kent Desormeaux named to ride.

**1 EXCUSE ME** and **1A MARASCHINO RED** are a well-bred pair from Lael Stable. The former, a daughter of Distorted Humor, conditioned by Michael Matz, has trained nicely at Palm Meadows while her stablemate, trained by Barclay Tagg, returns to the dirt after failing to muster a rally in her 2-turn career debut on the turf. **8 PINA COLADA** is a daughter of Speightstown who may have signaled her intentions when she worked a half-mile out of the gate in :48 & 2, which was the second best time of 43 horses at the distance. Trainer Michele Nihei tabs John Velazquez to ride. **3 IVORY EMPRESS** is a daughter of Seeking the Gold debuting for trainer Ian Wilkes with a string of solid Palm Meadows workouts showing. Julien Leparoux rides.

**SELECTIONS: 4-1-1A-8-3**

**SEVENTH RACE: Turf Rail Set At 0 Feet**

**10 CHOOSING** is returning to the allowance ranks after a couple of solid performances on the local sod vs. "three-lifetime" claimers in which she followed a narrow defeat at a mile and a sixteenth with 4-wide score at this 1-mile distance. Trainer Bill Mott has Kent Desormeaux named to ride as Julien Leparoux sticks with **2 WOODFORD GIRL**. The daughter of Honour and Glory, second vs. allowance competition on the Woodbine turf, makes her first start since hitting the board vs. 'two-lifetime' allowance runners on the Keeneland Polytrack, and finishing fourth vs. 'a-other-than' allowance competition in a 1-turn mile on the Churchill main track. **7 PRETTY ELUSIVE** shows a bullet 5-furlong drill on the Palm Meadows turf in preparation for the first start since finishing second vs. \$37,000 allowance runners here at a mile a sixteenth. Trainer Stan Hough has Joe Bravo atop the \$625K daughter of Elusive Quality.

**11 CHORUS MUSIC**, now in the John Terranova barn, makes her first start since posting the best last-race Beyer figure (84) when coming within a half-length of notching her entry-level allowance condition at Tampa (Jan. 4th).

**SELECTIONS: 10-2-7-11**

**EIGHTH RACE:**

**1 WOODLAND** moved to the Wesley Ward barn via the claim after rewarding his many backers when he defeated similar, as the odds-on choice, in his local debut at this level. Trainer Ward, 27% with new claims, has Elvis Trujillo handling the mini turnback to 5 ½ furlongs. **8 KELLYS RX**, 7 for 15 'in the money' at the distance, turns back after vying for the lead and fading to finish third behind Woodland when they tussled at 6 furlongs last out. **7 FLIGHT TO EDEN**, 11 for 21 'in the money' at 5 ½ furlongs, drops and turns back, after finishing third vs. \$10,000 claimers at three-quarters of a mile.

**5 SMOOTH VALENTINE** turns back slightly, and gets in light with apprentice Ares Campos at the controls (112 lbs), after making a 3-wide bid to finish third vs. similar at 6 panels.

**SELECTIONS: 1-8-7-5**

**NINTH RACE: THE ORCHID (G3) Rail Set At 0 Feet**

**4 CRITICISM** has been spectacular since arriving in America and receiving Lasix. The daughter of Machiavellian was second in the mile and a sixteenth Grade 3 Athenia Handicap last October, won the 12-furlong Grade 3 Long Island in November, and used her speed to win the 11-furlong Grade 3 Very One here last out. Trainer Tom Albertrani, who has five stakes victories at the meeting, has Edgar Prado in the saddle.

**5 DRESS REHEARSAL** is stretching out to a mile and a half after closing to finish second to Criticism in the 11-furlong Very One last out. The distance specialist to should respond favorably to the added real estate. **6 LAMENTATION**, an allowance winner at this distance here in January, stretches out after finishing fifth behind Criticism last out. Trainer Christophe Clement merits respect in any turf stake at Gulfstream.

**8 PASTEL GAL** is stepping up, and stretching out, after notching her second consecutive turf victory here when she defeated allowance runners at a mile and a sixteenth.

**SELECTIONS: 4-5-6-8**

**TENTH RACE:**

**8 CANTRUSHPERFECTION** drops, and cuts back to a sprint on the dirt, after making a 4-wide middle move and fading to get beat 4 lengths vs. \$80,000 maidens at a mile on the turf. Trainer Ken McPeck has Kent Desormeaux handling the surface switch. **3 HIGHER PEACE** is hoping to make amends after responding to a drop in competition with a second place finish - beaten a length as the favorite - at this level and distance. Trainer Bill White has Elvis Trujillo in the saddle again.

**11 ANSWER MAN**, second here in his career debut at this level and distance (Feb. 11th), drops, and wears blinkers, after showing early interest and retreating vs. \$70,000 maidens last out. Trainer Stan Hough reunites the colt with Cornelio Velasquez, who was aboard for the debut performance.

**4 SMOKNDRINKGAMBLN**, 1 of 2 in the race for trainer Helen Pitts (Iswear Iswear), drops to the \$50,000 level after showing speed and fading in a series of maiden special weight sprints on the Kentucky circuit. Alan Garcia handles the \$150K son of Smoke Glacken.

**SELECTIONS: 8-3-11-4**

**BEST BET: RACE 3 - 7 WITH FLYING COLORS**

**LONG SHOT: RACE 5 - 9 WOODEN INDIAN**

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