

RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS



by *Ron Nicoletti*

FIRST RACE:

4 SHOSHONE GIRL will turn back to a mile on the main track after showing good speed and getting caught late vs. similar in a pair of 2-turn outings on the turf. Trainer Bill White finds a spot where she can finally notch the elusive maiden victory (12-0-3-2). **9 HOOFING** is a daughter of Dance Master who is training consistently in preparation for the debut. Trainer Graham Motion, 27% with his debut maiden claimers, has Jeremy Rose named to ride. **1A IN THE RED ZONE** will give Gulfstream a try after responding to a surface switch with a narrow defeat vs. \$25,000 maidens on the Tampa main track. Trainer Enrique Alonso has Wilmer Galviz in the saddle.

3 MISS LEONARDO, second vs. \$25,000 claimers on the Calder main track last June, makes her first start since failing to earn a check when trying similar on the Calder sod last July.

SELECTIONS: 4-9-1A-3

SECOND RACE:

4 CONSTABULARY, who has run well in the past when switching from the turf to the main track, turns back to a mile after a useful return from the 6-month layoff in which he stalked the pace and tired to get beat 4 ³/₄ lengths vs. similar at a mile and a sixteenth on the turf. Trainer Bill Mott has John Velazquez handling the surface switch. **5 STEVIL**, still searching for his second career victory (13-1-4-3), wheels back at the same level and distance hoping to improve on the recent third place finish. Trainer Nick Zito has Jose Lezcano in the saddle. **6 DESERT FALCON** is stepping up the competition after notching his second consecutive victory when he made a 4-wide bid to defeat \$20,000 'two-lifetime' claimers at a mile. The currently hot Joe Orseno barn has Carlos Marquez Jr. going for the hat trick.

SELECTIONS: 4-5-6

THIRD RACE:

2 G. POLI is stretching out to 7 ¹/₂ furlongs after steadying at the ¹/₄-pole and finishing second vs. similar at 6 ¹/₂ furlongs. Trainer Terri Pompay has Manny Aguilar in the saddle. **9 MARAL** is eligible to show major improvement after an eventful 5 ¹/₂-furlong career debut in the slop here last Thursday in which he bumped at the start and finished third despite the fact that he apparently bled. Trainer Tony Reinstedler adds Lasix and jockey Jermaine Bridgmohan for

this assignment. **8 BOLD VINDICATION** is stretching out to 7 ¹/₂ furlongs after closing late to finish a distant third vs. similar at three-quarters of a mile. Trainer Stan Hough has Eibar Coa handling the stretchout. **7 CURRAGH** moved to the Norm Pointer barn via the claim after following a good second at this level and distance with a not so good effort at this level and distance. It's the bounce/rebound angle for the new connections.

SELECTIONS: 2-9-8-7

FOURTH RACE:

5 INTUITION MAGIC will try \$25,000 starter allowance competition at his best distance (5-3-0-1) after following an entry-level allowance victory on the Woodbine Polytrack with a local victory vs. \$35,000 claimers. Trainer Mike Pino has leading jock Kent Desormeaux atop the son of Awesome Again. **2 MEAN DEMAND** is hoping to get away from the gate in a timely fashion after recovering from a slow start to finish third vs. similar in a \$35,000 claimer at the distance. Trainer Joe Orseno has Carlos Marquez Jr. in the saddle. **4 PIRATE KING** may have been best when he made a 4-wide bid and finished second -beaten a head by Next Adventure last out. Trainer Larry Bates has Jermaine Bridgmohan in the saddle again.

SELECTIONS: 5-2-4

FIFTH RACE: Turf Rail At 12 Feet

10 LOVAMOR drops to the \$30,000 level after stalking the action and finishing fourth in a 'key' \$80,000 maiden test that produced next-out local winners Alexandrite Ring, Check Point, and Proud Lisa. **2 PRINCESS BUDDHA**, second on the Ellis Park turf vs. maiden special weight competition last August, is back on the grass after stalking the action and finishing fourth in a 7-furlong \$50,000 maiden test on the dirt. Trainer Ken McPeek has Kent Desormeaux handling the surface switch. **6 CALVARY CHARGE**, beaten 3 lengths on the turf here vs. \$40,000 maidens (Jan. 7th), is back on the lawn after losing all chance when she stumbled at the start, and steadied on the backstretch, in a fruitful \$20,000 claimer on the dirt that produced a pair of next-out local winners. **7 CLOUD OF SMOKE** will give the lawn a try after hitting the board in 4 of 5 sprints on either traditional dirt surfaces or synthetic tracks.

SELECTIONS: 10-2-6-7

SIXTH RACE:

6 WOOD BE ME looks like the logical choice to get his picture taken after finishing a willing second at this level and distance last out. Trainer Mike Pino has E T Baird in the saddle. **9 SONOFAWITCH** is hoping to turn the tables on Wood Be Me after steadying behind rivals entering the turn and finishing fourth behind him. Trainer Peter Walder has John Velazquez handling the rematch. **4 BRUNO'S A BITER** is hoping to make amends after losing all chance when he ducked inward at the start, as the favorite, and finished seventh behind Wood Be Me. **1 SENSEI BILL** and **1A WARM MEMORIES** look good in this spot for trainer Enrique Alonso. The former stretches out for a mile after a couple of sharp sprint efforts at Tampa while the latter turns back after finishing third vs. similar in a mile & 40-yard 2-turn affair upstate.

SELECTIONS: 6-9-4-1-1A

SEVENTH RACE: Turf Rail At 96 Feet

2 OPTIMER is stretching out to a mile and a sixteenth again (9-1-3-1) after closing late to finish second, as the odds-on choice, vs. a solid group of \$20,000 claimers at a mile. The 7-year-old should be the overwhelming choice again.

6 VERISMO is stretching out to his most accomplished distance (11-3-1-1) after an eventful outing vs. \$16,000 starter allowance runners at 7 ½ furlongs in which broke slowly, and checked on the turn. **9 EASTERN SEABOARD** drops a notch on the claiming scale after closing late and coming up short in a pair vs. \$22,500 claimers. The 3-time winner at the distance (13-3-0-2) has Elvis Trujillo in charge of his late-striding tactics. **1 HARIOLUS** gets some much needed class relief after shipping in from Brazil and failing to earn a check vs. allowance level competition both here and at Tampa. Eduardo Caramori takes over the training on the Brazilian-bred son of Impression.

SELECTIONS: 2-6-9-1

EIGHTH RACE:

4 PHANTOM RISING will be treated with Lasix added after drawing clear to defeat a pair of next-out winners in a 'key' 7-furlong maiden special weight dash, despite the fact that she bled. Trainer Bill Mott has leading jock Kent Desormeaux atop the \$200K daughter of Mr. Greeley.

10 RUN ALL DAY shows a couple of sharp Palm Meadows workouts, including the 5-furlong bullet on Mar. 17th, in preparation for the first start since shaking off trouble on the backstretch (steadied) to break her maiden at the distance by 3 lengths. Trainer Brian Lynch, strong with horses winning consecutive races (29%), has Rene Douglas in the saddle. **8 ROXYANA** has trained sharply at Payson Park in preparation for the first start since her useful local return

from a 5 ½-month layoff in which she chased the pace and finished fifth vs. this level of competition at 6 ½ furlongs. Trainer Mark Hennig has John Velazquez handling the stretchout to a mile. **2 COFFEE IN BED** has room to improve at a mile after rallying 3-wide to finish third behind undefeated Grade 2 Bonnie Miss bound Gatorette at 7 ½ furlongs. Trainer Kelly Breen has Elvis Trujillo named to ride.

SELECTIONS: 4-10-8-2

NINTH RACE: Turf Rail Set At 12 Feet

1 STRAIGHT TO IT, a beautifully bred \$500K son of Giant's Causeway, makes his career debut for trainer Alan Goldberg with a series of useful local workouts showing. Mr. Goldberg, 27% with first-time starters, has Carlos Marquez Jr. handling the inside post. **9 DEMOLITION** is a son of Red Bullet debuting for trainer Todd Pletcher with a string of Palm Meadows turf workouts showing. The barn, which has shown the uncanny ability to win the last race with first-time starters, sweetens the deal with Lasix and John Velazquez.

8 CHEYENNE NATION is a \$220K son of Gulch debuting for trainer Chad Brown, who is 4 for 16 (25%) with his debut turf runners. Jose Lezcano rides. **5 SPANISH FORTUNE**, third behind likely Florida Derby favorite Dunkirk at 7 furlongs on Jan. 24th, and a no factor tenth behind impressive winner Santana Six at a mile on Feb. 21st, will try the turf for trainer Christophe Clement. Rene Douglas will handle the surface switch.

SELECTIONS: 1-9-8-5

BEST BET: RACE 5 - 10 LOVAMOR

LONG SHOT: RACE 8 - 3 KATARA

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