

## RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS



by *Ron Nicoletti*

#### FIRST RACE:

**4 SACRIFICE BUNT** moved to the Norm Pointer barn via the claim after drawing clear to defeat \$20,000 claimers at the distance. Note that his four victories at 9 furlongs are four more than the rest of the field has combined (12-4-0-3).

**6 SNEAKY STEPHEN**, a popular 5-year-old, claimed in consecutive races, stretches out to 9 furlongs for new conditioner Terri Pompay after notching his second consecutive victory vs. \$16,000 claimers at a mile. The newest connections keep the status quo with John Velazquez at the controls. **3 A. P. EDDIE** gets some immediate class relief after trainer Rick Dutrow Jr. haltered him out of a \$40,000 claimer in which he finished a distant fourth at a mile. Trainer Dutrow, 24% with new claims, has go-to jock Edgar Prado in the saddle. **8 I'M SPECTRAL** is stretching out to a mile and an eighth after finishing a solid second vs. similar at a mile. Trainer Tino Attard has Edgar Prado handling the stretchout.

SELECTIONS: 4-6-3-8

#### SECOND RACE:

**3 DISTORTEDAMUSEMENT** plunges into this \$10,000 'two-lifetime' claimer on the dirt after making a 4-wide bid and fading vs. money-allowance competition at 5 furlongs on the turf. Trainer George Weaver has Edgar Prado quarterbacking the combo dropdown/surface switch.

**7 SQUIRES WINGMAN** is shortening up to three-quarters of a mile after an eventful outing vs. similar at 6 ½ furlongs in which he broke slowly, encountered traffic on the turn, and reached the lead before fading to finish second.

**4 HEATH'S STAR** is turning back to his best distance thus far after making a 3-wide bid and fading to finish third behind Squires Wingman at 6 ½ furlongs last out.

SELECTIONS: 3-7-4

#### THIRD RACE:

**6 LOHAD** has his maiden tag carved in half after making a 4-wide charge and tiring to finish fourth, as the favorite, vs. \$50,000 claimers at this mile distance. Leading trainer Ken McPeck has Kent Desormeaux in the saddle.

**3 MR. DR. PROFESSOR** moved to the Danny Miller barn via the claim after drawing clear to defeat \$20,000 'two-life-

time' claimers at 7 ½ furlongs. The new connections tab E T Baird to ride. **1 ALL COUNTRY** will depart from the rail after bumping at the start, dueling for the lead, and giving way to finish third in front of Lohad when they hooked up for \$50,000 last out.

SELECTIONS: 6-3-1

#### FOURTH RACE: Turf Rail at 0 Feet

**5 GO GO PINK** should be primed and ready to score after returning from a 10-month plus layoff to come within a nose of winning at this level and distance. It's Pletcher and Velazquez. **7 AWESOME PLAY**, now in owner/trainer Wayne Catalano's barn, will debut locally after an interesting outing vs. similar on the Tampa turf in which she recovered from an awkward start to come within a nose of breaking her maiden at this distance. Trainer Catalano, 42% with new additions to his shedrow, has Carlos Marquez Jr. in the saddle. **9 PROUD LISA** is dropping into a competitive spot with blinkers added after breaking slowly and finishing sixth in a fruitful \$80,000 maiden test that produced a pair of next-out local winners. **11 MY LOVELY LARK** should offer more in her second start back from the freshening after dueling throughout and fading late to finish fourth - only 1 ¼ lengths behind Go Go Pink last out.

SELECTIONS: 5-7-9-11

#### FIFTH RACE:

**5 CHARY** is stretching out to a mile after responding to a drop in competition with an improved second place finish vs. this caliber of competition at 6 furlongs.

**3 SPIRIT SEEKER**, beaten a head at this level and distance on Feb. 6th, drops after making a 3-wide bid and fading vs. to finish a distant fifth vs. \$45,000 maidens at 7 furlongs.

**4 RIGHT SPECIAL**, third behind Spirit Seeker on Feb. 6th, returns to the main track after recovering from a bumping start to get beat 2 lengths vs. similar in a 2-turn mile on the turf. Trainer Kathleen O'Connell has Pedro Monterrey Jr. handling the surface switch. **6 LAST INDIAN** is cycling up to a solid debut after posting a steady work tab on the Calder main track. Trainer Alan Benson adds Lasix and has Joseph Berrios Cruz in the saddle.

SELECTIONS: 5-3-4-6

**SIXTH RACE: Turf Rail at 96 Feet**

**8 PAUILLAC** drops, and stretches out to a mile and a sixteenth on the turf with blinkers added, after bumping at the start and finishing last in a \$35,000 'three-lifetime' claimer at 6 ½ furlongs on the main track. Trainer Mike Maker, 31% with the dirt-to-turf move, and 33% with first-time blinkers, readied the son of Mr. Greeley for the surface switch with a half-mile bullet workout. **6 BUCKET HEAD**, who shows good speed every time he stretches out from a sprint to a route on the grass, drops, and stretches out to a mile and a sixteenth after breaking last in a field of 12 and rallying to finish sixth vs. a notch tougher at five-eighths of a mile. Trainer Mario Morales lightens the load with 10-pound apprentice Ares Campos. **1 COLIE Z** cuts back, and departs from the rail, after breaking from Post 10, opening a quick 3-length lead, and weakening to finish third vs. \$30,000 'three-lifetime' foes at 9 furlongs. **3 WARRIOR'S WAY** will wear blinkers after rallying from 13 lengths off the pace to finish fifth vs. \$12,500 starter allowance competition at a mile. Trainer Phil Gleaves, 2 for 7 with first-time blinkers, has Ariel Smith in the boot.

**SELECTIONS: 8-6-1-3**

**SEVENTH RACE:**

**6 EMMA GUTH** makes her first start since her impressive 2-race win streak at the distance ended when she stalked the pace and weakened to finish fourth vs. \$40,000 at a mile on the Churchill turf (Nov. 11). Trainer Tony Reinstedler has Carlos Marquez Jr. named to handle the 6-furlong specialist (3-2-0-1). **3 TRUCK RIDE** is an obvious choice to be on the ticket after closing nicely to finish second in her local debut at this level and distance. Trainer Dale Capuano, 26% with horses making the second start after a 45-180 day layoff, has Edgar Prado in the saddle. **9 EAST TO EDEN** is back on what is surely her preferred surface after her 2-race win streak on the dirt ended when she showed speed and drifted late to finish sixth vs. \$40,000 starter allowance competition at a mile on the turf (3-0-0-0). **5 PERPETUITY** is facing winners after a wild bottom level debut in which she lunged and stumbled at the start, and then closed from last to score by 2 lengths. She might be able to handle the next level, especially if she gets away from the gate trouble free.

**SELECTIONS: 6-3-9-5**

**EIGHTH RACE: Turf Rail set at 0 Feet**

**5 SPIRIT LINE** is turning back to a mile after getting hooked in a spirited speed duel soon after leaving the gate and finally giving way late to finish third vs. this very familiar competition at a mile and a sixteenth. Trainer Wesley Ward reunites the speedy daughter of Indian Charlie with jockey Elvis Trujillo. **6 LITTLE B ROSSON** is turning back to a mile

after notching her second consecutive turf victory at a mile and a sixteenth when she closed 3-wide to defeat both Spirit Line and **7 SOLDIER GIRL** last out. The latter, trained by Julia Carey, hopes to get away from the gate in a timely fashion after getting put in tight quarters at the start before rallying to finish second between Little B Rossion and Spirit Line last out. **4 ACQUIRED CAT**, stakes-placed at the distance vs. New York-breds in 2007, stretches out after drawing clear to defeat \$35,000 claimers at 5 furlongs. Trainer Frank Alexander has Eibar Coa at the controls.

**SELECTIONS: 5-6-7-4**

**NINTH RACE:**

**5 MYMAMADONTDANCE** drops to the bottom of the maiden scale after a couple of troubled trips, as the favorite, at the \$30,000 level in which he encountered trouble at the start when finishing third in his 6 ½ furlong career debut on the dirt (Feb. 7th), and was steadied twice when finishing seventh in a 2-turn mile on the turf. **4 GOLDEN RUSH** is turning back to three-quarters of a mile after breaking slowly, rushing up to set the pace, and yielding late to finish third - beaten a length - vs. similar at 6 ½ furlongs.

**2 HEZ GONNA B FAMOUS** is hoping to make amends after racing erratically in the stretch when finishing second, as the favorite, in his career debut at this level and distance.

**3 TOMFOOLERY** is turning back after breaking from Post 12, making a 4-wide bid, and settling to finish fourth behind next-out winners Golf Pal and Cabaiguan in a 'key' bottom level dash at 6 ½ furlongs.

**SELECTIONS: 5-4-2-3**

**BEST BET: RACE 4 - 5 GO GO PINK**

**LONG SHOT: RACE 8 - 2 BLACK MINK**

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