

## RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS



by *Ron Nicoletti*

#### FIRST RACE:

**8 VALUE DRIVE** is shortening up to a 1-turn mile on the dirt after setting the pace and weakening late to finish third - beaten only 1 ½ lengths - vs. \$16,000 allowance optional claimers at a mile and a sixteenth on the Calder turf. The 5-year-old, 2 for 4 'in the money' locally (4-0-1-1), has 5-pound apprentice Jose Ortiz in the saddle. **5 REAFFIRMED** should have the proverbial screws tightened after finishing a workman-like sixth in his local return at the \$20,000 level. Trainer Peter Walder, 28% with horses making the second start after a 45-180 day layoff, has John Velazquez named to ride. **2 MOUNT WILTON** moved to the Greg DiPrima barn via the claim after finishing fourth in a 'key' \$10,000 claimer on the Aqueduct inner track that produced a pair of next-out winners. His recent speed figures indicate he's fast enough to compete with these. **9 TAD** makes his first start since he drew clear on a sealed 'muddy' track to defeat \$15,000 'two-lifetime' claimers at Churchill (Nov. 16). Trainer Carl Nafzger, 2 for 7 with the 61-180 day layoff, has Julien Lejaroux in the saddle.

**SELECTIONS: 8-5-2-9**

#### SECOND RACE:

**7 PROPENSITY** is stepping up, and stretching out, after threatening to break his maiden in three consecutive 9-furlong turf races on the New York circuit. Trainer James Bond has Julien Lejaroux quarterbacking the stretchout to a mile and a half. **4 CARDINAL NATION**, the only participant in the race to ever compete at this marathon distance (May 23), stretches out after a useful return at Calder in which he rallied 5-wide on a sealed 'good' track to finish fourth vs. \$32,000 maidens. **5 PROMULGATION**, a filly against the boys, stretches out after recovering from a slow start to finish fourth at a mile in her North American debut on the Calder turf. Trainer Graham Motion has Rene Douglas atop the daughter of Street Cry. **1 TAP DANCING**, bred to run all day, the daughter of Pleasant Tap debuts on the turf after showing some early interest and fading at a mile & 70 yards on the Calder main track.

**SELECTIONS: 7-4-5-1**

#### THIRD RACE:

**5 HIGH BRASS** will try 'two-lifetime' competition after finishing a willing third in his local debut vs. multiple winners in a \$20,000 claimer at the distance. Trainer Allen Jerkens has Cornelio Velasquez in the saddle again. **8 MASTERWORK** is stretching out to a mile after finishing a 3-wide fourth in a 'key' 6-furlong dash, contested on a 'muddy' Aqueduct inner track that produced a pair of next-out winners. Trainer Rick

Dutrow Jr. has Edgar Prado handling the local debut.

**1 GRANDE** will depart from the always adventurous inside post after showing speed and tiring late in a pair of mile & 70-yard allowance optional claimers at Calder. **4 HARBOR RIDGE**, drops, and shortens up to a 1-turn mile on the dirt, after disputing the pace and tiring when facing money-allowance competition in a 2-turn mile on the local turf. Trainer Amy Tarrant has Paco Lopez handling the surface switch.

**SELECTIONS: 5-8-1-4**

#### FOURTH RACE:

**5 MOONPORT** has his maiden tag sliced in half after making a 3-wide bid and finishing sixth in a 'key' \$50,000 maiden test at Churchill that produced three next-out winners, including Mr. Dr. Professor, who defeated \$15,000 maidens here on Jan. 10. **10 SENOR PEDRO** will return to the dirt after setting the pace and fading to get beat 3 ½ lengths, at 25-1, in a 7 ½-furlong \$40,000 maiden test on the turf. Trainer Dave Fawkes has Eibar Coa atop the son of Halifax. **7 TRUSTING HEART** plunges to the \$22,500 level after stalking the pace and fading to finish a distant fifth vs. \$60,000 maidens at Aqueduct (Nov. 5). Trainer Stan Hough adds second-time blinkers on the son of Lion Heart.

**12 WILD BLUE DREAMS** drops to the \$25,000 level after trainer Rodolfo Garcia claimed him out of a 6-furlong \$40,000 maiden event at Calder in which he finished a distant second.

**SELECTIONS: 5-10-7-12**

#### FIFTH RACE:

**5 I'M IT WAYNE** takes an immediate drop to the \$20,000 level after stumbling badly at the start and still managing to finish third vs. \$40,000 claimers here just 6 days ago. He should be odds-on despite the short turnaround.

**1 CALABRIA** will get both Lasix and blinkers in the first start since he stalked early and drew clear late to defeat \$15,000 maidens at Churchill by 5 ¼ lengths. Trainer Fred Seitz has Robert Landry named to ride. **11 LEXICON TURBULENTS** is stretching out an additional half-furlong after setting early pace, dueling through the stretch run, and yielding late to finish second vs. \$16,000 claimers at 5 furlongs.

**10 B L'S NOISE**, now in the Peter Walder barn, makes his first start since he chased the pace and faded badly vs. \$25,000 'two-lifetime' claimers on sealed 'sloppy' track at Calder on Oct. 18. Note that Walder has a 30% win average with new acquisitions to his shedrow.

**SELECTIONS: 5-1-11-10**

**SIXTH RACE:**

**3 EVOLUTIONIST**, a half to Grade 1 Hopeful Stakes winner Majestic Warrior, returns to the turf with blinkers added, after dueling for the lead and weakening to third vs. maiden special weight company at 9 furlongs on the Keeneland Polytrack. **5 PINCKNEY HILL**, a half to three-time Irish-bred turf stakes winner English Colony, makes his career debut for trainer Angel Penna Jr. with a series of useful Palm Meadows workouts showing. The son of A. P. Indy gets Lasix and Cornelio Velasquez for this assignment. **12 CHAPIN BEACH**, a full brother to multiple graded stakes winner Sand Springs, shows a plethora of Payson Park bullet workouts in preparation for his career debut. Trainer Mark Hennig has Alan Garcia atop the son of Dynaformer. **1 FAVORITE SOUP** is a son of Alphabet Soup who can spell trouble for a barn that boasts a 25% win average with turf runners, which includes a 2 for 4 (50%) record with first-time starters.

**SELECTIONS: 3-5-12-1**

**SEVENTH RACE:**

**6 B L'S TSUMANI** moved to the Pablo Andrade barn via the claim after closing strongly to come within a length of defeating \$16,000 allowance optional claimers at 6 ½ furlongs. The colt, knocking heads with tougher across town, including recent Grade 3 Mr. Prospector winner Ikigai, gets in light with 10-pound apprentice Julio Castillo named to ride (112). **2 EDGE OF CHAOS** debuts locally after defeating three next-out winners in a fruitful \$15,000 'three-lifetime' claiming sprint at Churchill. Trainer Rebecca Maker has Julien Leparoux atop the gelded son of Orientate. **9 YES HE'S THE MAN**, a Grade 3 winner in 2007, gets some major class relief after encountering trouble on the turn (steadied) and finishing last in a 5-furlong turf sprint vs. stakes caliber \$75,000 allowance optional claimers at Calder. **7 CARGO MATE**, 4-1-1-1 at Gulfstream, returns after ending his 2008 campaign with a second place finish vs. \$30,000 claimers on the Woodbine Polytrack. Kent Desormeaux rides for trainer Julia Carey.

**SELECTIONS: 6-2-9-7**

**EIGHTH RACE:**

**2 HOUSE QUEST** moved to the Rick Dutrow Jr. barn via the claim after stalking the pace and finishing second vs. similar in her Aqueduct turf finale at a mile and a sixteenth. The daughter of Chester House has Edgar Prado at the controls. **5 MISS MECKE MOUSE**, undefeated in two races on the Gulfstream turf (2-2-0-0), and a perfect 3 for 3 at the distance, returns after drawing clear to defeat \$16,000 allowance optional claimers at a mile and a sixteenth on the Calder turf. **9 INTER GALACTIC**, now in the Tim Ritvo barn, stretches out to a mile after her 2-race win streak ended

when she finished a disappointing eighth and last vs. similar, at 7 furlongs, on Sept. 18. Eibar Coa rides. **8 LITTLE B ROSSON** drops into a winning situation after stalking the action and finishing fourth - beaten 2 lengths - vs. \$50,000 claimers at a mile and a sixteenth, but that was before she was disqualified and placed sixth for lugging in during the stretch run.

**SELECTIONS: 2-5-9-8**

**NINTH RACE:**

**2 FIJI BOY**, beaten a neck at this level and distance on the Turfway Polytrack, drops and turns back, after hitting the board in 1 of 2 recent 9-furlong maiden special races at Churchill. Trainer Eddie Kenneally has Julien Leparoux named to ride. **5 LONGANDSTRONG** drops into a competitive spot after following a couple of promising maiden special weight races at the Meadowlands with a chase-and-fade performance in a 2-turn mile on the Calder main track. **3 SCHLEPROCK**, now in the David Fawkes barn, turns back to 8 furlongs after threatening to break his maiden vs. similar at Hawthorne. Cornelio Velasquez rides. **8 SHAREHOLDERS DUES** drops, and turns back, after making a 3-wide bid and tiring to finish fourth vs. maiden special weight runners at a mile & 70 yards on the Calder main track. Trainer Allen Jerkens reunites the son of Devil His Due with jockey Shannon Uske.

**SELECTIONS: 2-5-3-8**

**BEST BET: RACE 4 - 5 MOONPORT**

**LONG SHOT: RACE 6 - 11 WESLINN**

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