

## RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS



by *Ron Nicoletti*

#### FIRST RACE:

**6 MISTRESS D'CAT** drops to the \$50,000 level on the dirt after encountering double trouble (steadied backstretch & turn) and finishing seventh - beaten 5 ½ lengths - vs. maiden special weight competition at 5 furlongs on the turf. Trainer Joe Calascibetta has Manny Aguilar handling the surface switch.

**2 CAUGHT IN ACTION** is a daughter of Officer training forwardly for her career debut. Trainer Kelly Breen, 20% with his first-time starters, has Joe Bravo at the controls. **5 HABIBI AFFAIR** is a daughter of Fusaichi Pegasus who shows four local workouts in preparation her career debut. Trainer Dale Romans adds Lasix and jockey E T Baird for this assignment.

**SELECTIONS: 6-2-5**

#### SECOND RACE:

**3 GEORGIAN** is sitting on a winning performance after following a good second vs. this caliber of competition at 6 ½ furlongs on Feb. 18th with a troubled fourth place finish (bumped start, checked early) in another \$35,000 'three-lifetime' claimer at three-quarters of a mile. **6 SUCCESSFUL LOVE**, third behind Georgian at 6 ½ furlongs on Feb. 18th, then beaten a nose at this level and distance on March 7th, is back where he belongs after trailing the field vs. \$62,000 optional claimers at 7 furlongs last out. **5 GREELEY'S ANGEL** is dropping into this conditioned claimer after breaking slowly and finishing fourth vs. 'three-lifetime' allowance competition, which was his first race in 17 months. Joe Bravo rides.

**SELECTIONS: 3-6-5**

#### THIRD RACE:

**5 STACIE'S SMILE** drops to the \$30,000 level, and stretches out to a mile and a sixteenth, after shaking off trouble on the first turn (steadied) and finishing third, as the favorite, vs. \$80,000 maidens at a mile. Leading trainer Ken McPeck has Manoel Cruz atop strictly the one to beat. **10 NOORISSUN**, beaten three-quarters of a length on the turf vs. \$40,000 maidens on Jan. 25th, returns to the lawn after finishing a slightly troubled fourth vs. another group of \$40,000 maidens at a mile on the main track. **9 SMOKE BEFORE FIRE** is plunging to the \$27,500 level after posting a speed figure (69) good enough to defeat this group when finishing fourth vs. maiden special weight competition at a mile on the Tampa turf. Trainer Greg Sacco tabs Elvis Trujillo to ride. **1 SHESA BUD GIRL** gets some much needed class relief, and wears blinkers, after stalking the action and fading to get beat double-digit lengths vs. maiden special weight competition at 9 furlongs. Trainer Barclay Tagg, 33% with similar class drops, has Paco Lopez at the helm.

**SELECTIONS: 5-10-9-1**

#### FOURTH RACE:

**7 LE GRAND CRU** will try 6 ½ furlongs after a couple of sharp allowance efforts in which he finished second - beaten a length - at 6 furlongs on Feb. 27th, and followed that with another second at 7 furlongs on a sealed 'sloppy' track. Trainer Allen

Jerkens has Jose Lezcano atop this lightly raced 4-year-old son of Dynaformer. **5 EXCESS CAPITAL** is facing winners after recovering from a bobbling start to break his maiden by 5 ½ lengths. Trainer Mark Hennig has Joe Bravo in the saddle.

**3 BELAFONTE** will make his first-ever start on a traditional dirt surface after posting some interesting Beyer figures when finishing fourth, on either turf or synthetic stuff, in seven of his last eight races, and fifth in the other race. New trainer Ed Plesa Jr. hopes E T Baird can get the colt out of fourth gear.

**1 MOTORCYCLE TOM**, another from Ed Plesa Jr., is stepping up the competition after stalking early and drawing clear late to demolish \$20,000 'three-lifetime' claimers by 6 widening lengths. Note that the gelding should see the same pace scenario that afforded him the victory last out.

**SELECTIONS: 7-5-3-1**

#### FIFTH RACE:

**4 REGARDLESOFOUTCOME** has trained sharply in preparation for the first start since he blew the doors off the competition and defeated entry-level allowance runners, as the favorite, by 4-plus lengths. Trainer Wesley Ward, 26% with horses winning back-to-back starts, has Elvis Trujillo going for the second consecutive sprint score on the lawn. **7 SIR EDGAR** is entered to run in South Florida after crushing a field of \$50,000 allowance optional claimers at 5 furlongs on the Tampa turf. He will surely give Regardlessoutcome a run for his money if trainer Kirk Ziadie sends the colt on a trip down I-75.

**2 PERFECT OFFICER**, who can sit in the catbird seat behind the oodles of speed in the race, steps up after finishing second behind repeat winner Purely by Chance, and in front of next-out winner Mikes Kong, in a 'key' \$35,000 claimer at the distance.

**8 BEACON HILL ROAD** is turning back to 5 furlongs after showing speed and getting beat a length in the 1-mile Dania Beach on Jan. 17th, and fourth - beaten 2 ¾ lengths - in the mile and a sixteenth Hallandale Beach on Feb. 14th. Note that trainer Jason Servis is 36% with his turf sprinters.

**SELECTIONS: 4-7-2-8**

#### SIXTH RACE:

**2 GO GO PINK** is cutting back to a sprint distance on the dirt after hitting the board in one of two \$50,000 claimers at a mile on the turf. Trainer Todd Pletcher has Chris DeCarlo handling the surface switch. **9 SOPHISTICATED LASS** is stretching out to 6 ½ furlongs after rallying 3-wide on a sealed 'sloppy' track to finish second vs. this caliber of competition at 5 ½ furlongs. Trainer Tim Ritvo lightens the load with 5-pound apprentice Noel Vigil in the saddle. **6 CHARY** is trying 6 ½ furlongs after finishing a well meant second vs. this caliber of competition at three-quarters of a mile on Feb. 25th, and third vs. \$30,000 maidens at a mile on March 20th. **1 MINDBENDER** drops to the \$30,000 level after breaking from the rail, stalking the pace, and tiring to finish fourth vs. \$50,000 maidens at three-quarters of a mile. Trainer Allen Jerkens has Jose Lezcano at the controls.

**SELECTIONS: 2-9-6-1**

**SEVENTH RACE:**

**1 LOVAMOR** moved to the Marty Wolfson barn via the claim after stalking the pace and fading to finish sixth, as the favorite, vs. similar at a mile. Trainer Wolfson, 1 for 1 with new claims, has Jermaine Bridgmohan atop the daughter of Olmodavor, who has been the beaten favorite in her four career starts. **12 SHES'SAHAPPYCAMPER** has room to improve after stalking the pace and finishing fourth in her local turf debut at this level and distance. **3 SPIRITED WOMAN** is stretching out to a mile and a sixteenth after closing from far back to come within a length of defeating this caliber of competition in her career turf debut at a mile. **11 POETIC LANA** is dropping to the \$30,000 level in the first start since setting the pace and weakening to finish fourth vs. maiden special weight competition at the Meadowlands. Trainer Tim Kelly keeps things light with apprentice Noel Vigil at the controls.

**SELECTIONS: 1-12-3-11**

**EIGHTH RACE:**

**9 LIGHT GREEN** was given some time to recharge her batteries after a couple of solid local sprints in which she returned from a 4 ½-month layoff to break her maiden here on Jan. 4th, and followed that performance with a well-meant second - beaten a length - in her 6 ½-furlong allowance debut on Feb. 15th. Trainer Todd Pletcher has Chris DeCarlo in the saddle. **2 FIERY GLOW** shows three Palm Meadows workouts, which includes back-to-back bullets, in preparation for the first start since breaking her maiden here at first asking vs. special weight competition at 5 furlongs (Feb. 22nd). Trainer Eduardo Caramori, 4 for 13 (31%) at the meeting, is 4 for 9 (44%) with horses making their second start. **5 FIRST PASSAGE** will face winners at three-quarters of a mile after drawing clear 3-wide to win her North American debut at 7 furlongs. Trainer Marty Wolfson, who has two in the race (Gadda Da Vida), adds second-time Lasix on the \$1.2-million dollar daughter of Giant's Causeway. **8 LION QUEEN** returns from the layoff for leading trainer Ken McPeek, and that should be more than enough reason to give the daughter of Lion Heart serious consideration.

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

**NINTH RACE: THE SOUTH BEACH**

**7 FLIBBERJIBIT**, a winner of eight of her last 14 races, is turning back to 7 ½ furlongs after making what looked like a winning move and fading to finish third behind ultra classy I lost My Choo in the 1-mile Grade 3 Honey Fox. The daughter of Arch gets the tepid nod in one of the toughest \$50,000 stakes you'll ever handicap. **13 ALL IS VANITY**, who runs well fresh, makes her first start since finishing third behind American Border when both were at the top of their game in the Grade 3 Violet at the Meadowlands on Oct. 17th. Trainer Christophe Clement,

24% with the 61-180 day layoff, has Joe Bravo in the saddle.

**4 PASTEL GAL** makes her local stakes debut after posting back-to-back allowance victories here in impressive fashion. Trainer Barclay Tagg has Jose Lezcano going for the hat trick.

**1 RAW SILK**, who won the Grade 2 Sands Point in front running fashion, and set the pace in both the Grade 1 American Oaks and the Grade 1 Garden City, will try a flaunt her daunting turn-of-foot from the inside post. Trainer Tom Albertrani teams with hard-riding Paco Lopez.

**SELECTIONS: 7-13-4-1**

**TENTH RACE:**

**1 ZESTY BREW** is turning back to 7 furlongs after a solid 1-mile career debut on a sealed 'sloppy' track in which she set the pace and finished second. Trainer Brian Lynch has Elvis Trujillo guiding the Stronach Stables homebred daughter of Milwaukee Brew. **5 CHAPEL AFFAIR** makes her sophomore debut the first start since finishing second in front of a pair of next-out winners in a 'key' 6-furlong freshman dance at Churchill on Nov. 1st. Trainer Ken McPeek, 25% with the 61-180 day layoff, has the daughter of Chapel Royal training like a winner.

**7 DARK STARLET** is a daughter of Speightstown debuting for the always-dangerous Todd Pletcher barn. The sophomore, who shows 11 Palm Meadows workouts, starts her campaign with Lasix added. **8 DATTS LADY DI** has trained consistently at Payson Park in preparation for the first start since finishing third in a fruitful maiden special weight dash at Aqueduct that produced a pair of next-out winners (Nov. 9th). Trainer Mark Hennig teams with Joe Bravo.

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

**BEST BET: RACE 3 - 5 STACIE'S SMILE**

**LONG SHOT: RACE 9 - 6 - MISSVINSKI**

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