

## RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS



by *Ron Nicoletti*

#### FIRST RACE:

**7 LIBOR RATE**, 1 for 1 'in the money' at the distance, turns back after ending her 2008 campaign with a third place finish in a 'key' mile and a sixteenth \$40,000 maiden test at the Meadowlands that produced three next-out winners. Trainer Joe Orseno, 20% with the 61-180 day layoff, has Jeffrey Sanchez named to ride. **6 HOLD 'EM SLEW** is dropping to the \$30,000 level after setting the pace and fading to finish fifth vs. maiden special weight competition at the distance. Trainer Phil Gleaves spots the sophomore perfectly vs. this level of competition. **2 RASPBERRY ROSE** drops in for a tag after encountering trouble on the backstretch and finishing sixth vs. 11 rivals in a maiden special weight test at the distance. Trainer Mike Pino sharpened her for this performance with a couple of 3-furlong drills at Palm Meadows.

**3 SOPHISTICATED LASS** returns to the turf after responding to a drop in competition with a second place finish vs. this caliber of competition at 5 ½ furlongs on a sealed 'sloppy' track.

**SELECTIONS: 7-6-2-3**

#### SECOND RACE:

**4 GREAT DOXOLOGY** drops to the \$30,000 level after a troubled \$50,000 career debut in which she bumped in the stretch and still managed to finish third. Trainer Todd Pletcher, 23% with horses stretching out in distance, has Chris DeCarlo quarterbacking the move from 6 to 8 furlongs. **1 STANDING APPEAL** is shortening up to a 1-turn mile on the dirt after stalking the pace throughout and finishing second vs. similar in a 2-turn mile on the turf. Trainer Manny Estevez, 21% with the grass-to-dirt angle, has Jose Rivera II handling the surface switch.

**6 SPIRIT SEEKER**, second at this level and distance on the dirt on March 20th, is back on the main track after rallying to get beat only 1-½ lengths vs. similar in a 2-turn affair on the lawn.

**SELECTIONS: 4-1-6**

#### THIRD RACE:

**6 MADDY'S CROWD** is turning back to a mile (3-1-1-0) after rallying with a purpose to finish second vs. similar quality at a mile and a sixteenth, which was his first race back from a 7-month layoff. **4 SEASTATE**, a game \$30,000 'two-lifetime' winner on the turf here on Feb. 12th, returns to the lawn after encountering trouble in the stretch (steadied) and finishing third vs. entry-level allowance competition in a race moved to a mile on a sealed 'sloppy' track. **3 ROSE'S TIGER** is stepping up a notch

after rallying to finish second on the grass vs. \$15,000 'three-lifetime' claimers. Trainer Bobby Dibona has Elvis Trujillo in the saddle again. **1 SINGING ROCK** is turning back to a mile after stalking the pace, making a mid-race bid, and tiring to finish fifth behind Maddy's Crowd last out. Trainer Harry Benson has Eduardo Nunez handling the inside post.

**SELECTIONS: 6-4-3-1**

#### FOURTH RACE:

**3 GOLDEN ISLE** is stepping it up a notch after breaking slowly from the rail and closing to come within a half-length of defeating \$15,000 maidens in her 6-furlong career debut on a sealed 'sloppy' track. Trainer Jason Servis, 31% with horses making their second start, has leading jock Jose Lezcano in the saddle.

**2 LACY'S LUCK** plunges to the \$20,000 level after stalking the pace, encountering traffic on the turn (tight quarters) and finishing a distant fourth vs. maiden special weight runners at a mile. **4 GIANYSBEE** is dropping to the \$20,000 level after stalking the action and finishing fourth - beaten 3 lengths - in her \$25,000 career debut at the distance.

**SELECTIONS: 3-2-4**

#### FIFTH RACE:

**4 OLD MAN BUCK**, who finished third in the Grade 2 Jefferson Cup when returning from a similar 7-month layoff at Churchill last June, makes his first start since finishing a troubled fifth (bumped, checked) - beaten 1 ½ lengths - in the 'key' \$50K Cliff Guilliams Memorial at Ellis Park last August, a race that produced three next-out winners. Trainer Ken McPeck, 27% with this type of layoff, has Manoel Cruz at the controls.

**1 DIVINE MASTER** is turning back to one of his most accomplished distances (4-3-1-0) after surrendering a late lead to come within three-quarters of a length of defeating similar at 9 furlongs. **9 MARCH TO VICTORY** is turning back after recovering from early trouble to finish fourth - a neck behind Divine Master - at a mile and an eighth. Trainer Christophe Clement has Joe Bravo handling the rematch. **5 STEPPEDOUTOFPLACE** is stepping up the competition after keeping both his local turf record (3-3-0-0), and his record at the distance (4-4-0-0) unblemished. Trainer Jessica Campitelli has E T Baird going for 4 in a row.

**SELECTIONS: 4-1-9-5**

**SIXTH RACE:**

**2 GRANTED TIGER** is turning back to 7 furlongs on the dirt after dueling for the lead and weakening to finish fourth vs. \$50,000 claimers at a mile and a sixteenth on the turf. Trainer Allen Jerkens has Javier Santiago handling the combo turnback/surface switch. **6 GOLDEN MYSTERY**, who was very impressive breaking her maiden here at first asking (Jan. 15th), is back in South Florida after finishing fourth in both the OBS Sprint at Ocala in February, and the Sophomore Fillies at Tampa on April 4th. **4 MANITOBA MISS**, who broke her maiden at 7 furlongs at the tough Saratoga meeting, makes her first start since setting the pace and fading on a 'yielding' course in the 1-mile \$126K La Prevoyante at Woodbine (Sept. 13th). Trainer George Weaver, 28% with the longer than 180-day layoff, has Jose Lezcano in the saddle.

**SELECTIONS: 2-6-4**

**SEVENTH RACE:**

**1 THOU SWELL**, who was beaten only a half-length in the Grade 2 Hall Of Fame at Saratoga last August, makes his first start since coming up empty in a 'key' entry-level allowance at Belmont that produced next-out Mohawk Stakes winner Logic Way, and next-out allowance winner Baletti. Trainer George Weaver, 28% with this type of layoff, has Ariel Smith atop the classy son of Aptitude. **4 STAR PLAYER** finds a nice spot to step up after showing a strong late push when closing to finish fourth - beaten 1 ½ lengths - vs. \$35,000 'three-lifetime' claimers at the distance. Hot trainer Chad Brown has Elvis Trujillo named to ride. **7 EAST END TAP** will give the turf another try after proving he could win at this level on a sealed 'sloppy' track before he was disqualified and placed second for bumping a rival in the stretch. **10 CHINESE WHISPER** was given some time to regroup after following a second place finish in his North American debut last April on the Aqueduct turf with a poor showing in a 10-furlong allowance test on the Belmont turf on May 21st. Trainer Rick Dutrow Jr. has Mario Madrid handling the comeback.

**SELECTIONS: 1-4-7-10**

**EIGHTH RACE:**

**3 DIAMOND DANZIG** will face winners at 6 ½ furlongs after stalking early and getting up late to defeat \$15,000 maidens, at a mile, by a nose. Trainer Ken McPeek, 26% with horses winning back-to-back races, has Manoel Cruz going for two in a row. **7 GO TIME** will try to live up to her name when she drops into this \$10,000 'two-lifetime' claimer after stalking the pace and faltering to finish fifth vs. state-bred 'two-lifetime' allowance runners at 5 ½ furlongs on a sealed 'sloppy' track. Trainer Ed Plesa Jr. has Paco Lopez atop the daughter of Songandaprayer. **5 PLACID WATERS** is stretching out an additional half-furlong after responding to a drop in competition with a victory, as the favorite, vs. \$15,000 maidens at three-quarters of a mile. Trainer Jason Servis is 23% with horses winning consecutive races. **4 SHE'S TRIPPING** is another facing winners after drawing clear to defeat \$15,000 maidens at three-quarters of a mile. Trainer Rodolfo Garcia lightens the impost with 7-pound apprentice Roan Vargas.

**SELECTIONS: 3-7-5-4**

**NINTH RACE: THE BOYNTON BEACH**

**4 MY MAGIC MOMENT** makes her sophomore debut after ending her 2-year-old campaign with neck defeat to eventual Grade 1 Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf winner Maram in the Grade 3 Ms Grillo (Oct. 1st), and with a victory on a 'yielding' course in a \$78K overnight stake at Belmont on Oct. 26th. Trainer Tom Albertrani, who has six stakes victories at the meeting, has Jose Lezcano in the saddle. **2 OILGONEWILE**, who won the \$100K Sweetest Chant here at this distance in front running fashion, is turning back after setting the pace and weakening late to finish behind Albertrani-trained Gozzip Girl in both the mile and a sixteenth Coconut Grove and the 9-furlong Grade 3 Herecomesthebride. **8 AMERIBELLE**, beaten 2 ½ lengths by Oilgonwile in the Sweetest Chant, returns to the turf after finishing second on the Tampa main track in both the Grade 3 Fla. Oaks, and the \$75K Suncoast. Trainer Ed Plesa Jr. has Paco Lopez handling the surface switch. **9 MISS BLAKELY** makes her stakes debut the first start since defeating next-out winners Romin Robin, Entertaining, and Saldanha in a 'key' \$40,000 starter allowance on the grass.

**SELECTIONS: 4-2-8-9**

**TENTH RACE:**

**6 MAGGIE RULES** is a \$47K daughter of Peace Rules debuting for a \$15,000 maiden tag with six Palm Meadows workouts showing, which includes a 5-furlong bullet on March 26th, in preparation for her career debut. Trainer Ken McPeek, 17% with his first-time starters, adds Lasix and Manoel Cruz for this event. **8 DARCU** is stretching out to 6 furlongs after rallying to finish a distant second vs. similar at five-eighths of a mile. Trainer Ed Plesa Sr. has Manny Aguilar at the controls. **5 CHOSIN RESERVOIR** is stretching out an additional furlong after encountering early trouble (bumped after start) when finishing third behind Darcu at 5 panels. **2 GATTA NIKKI** drops to the bottom on the dirt after failing to show much vs. \$27,500 maidens in her mile and a sixteenth career turf debut. Trainer Peter Walder, 40% with the grass-to-dirt angle, has 7-pound apprentice Ares Campos in the saddle.

**SELECTIONS: 6-8-5-2**

**BEST BET: RACE 6 - 2 GRANTED TIGER**

**LONG SHOT: RACE 5 - 8 WOOD BE WILLING**