

RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS



by *Ron Nicoletti*

FIRST RACE:

2 CAPE GIRL makes her first start of the year after a consistent 2008 campaign in which she reeled off four consecutive victories in the claiming ranks, then raised the bar and used her tactical speed to defeat entry-level allowance competition in her mile and a sixteenth finale at Laurel. Trainer Peter Walder has John Velazquez in the saddle. **7 BOFFO** drops to the \$16,000 level after making a 3-wide charge to defeat \$25,000 claimers in a 1-turn mile at Churchill. Trainer Dave Kassen has Junior Alvarado named to ride.

3 SATIRA gets some class relief after following back-to-back claiming victories vs. this caliber of competition with a couple of chase-and-fade performances vs. \$32,000 claimers and entry-level allowance runners, respectively.

SELECTIONS: 2-7-3

SECOND RACE:

4 SKYLIGHTER is cutting back to a 1-turn mile after ending her sophomore campaign with a victory in the mile and a sixteenth Grade 2 Indiana Oaks, and a second place finish vs. older horses in 9-furlong Grade 2 Fall City Handicap at Churchill (G2). Trainer Bobby Frankel has Julien Leparoux atop the daughter of Sky Mesa. **1 INDY'S ALEXANDRA** is stretching out to a mile after disputing the pace and finishing second in her local return at seven-eighths of a mile. Trainer Marty Wolfson, who has two in the race (Miss Primetime), has Elvis Trujillo in the saddle. **3 SO GLITZY** will be treated with Lasix after stalking the action and apparently bleeding when fading to finish fifth behind Indy's Alexandra last out. Trainer Allen Jerkens has Javier Castellano named to ride.

SELECTIONS: 4-1-3

THIRD RACE:

1 CONSERVATIVE should be ready to exit the maiden ranks after circling 4-wide to finish second in his career turf debut at this level and distance. Trainer Shug McGaughey has Alan Garcia returning on the son of Unbridled's Song.

9 BEARPATH is hoping to find a little more for the stretch drive after rallying to finish third behind impressive Japanese-bred winner Florentino, who finished second to his equally impressive coupled stablemate Stormalory in an allowance test on Thursday. **10 TAPIT'S BREW**, beaten a neck in his maiden special weight turf finale at Aqueduct, returns to the lawn after losing all chance when he stumbled at the start and finished fifth vs. similar at a mile and

a sixteenth on the Aqueduct inner dirt track. Trainer Kiaran McLaughlin has Elvis Trujillo atop the son of Tapit. **6 FLYING WARRIOR** makes his career turf debut with blinkers added after chasing the pace and weakening to finish second, as the favorite, on the Turfway Polytrack. Trainer Bill Mott has Edgar Prado guiding the \$290K son of Fusaichi Pegasus.

SELECTIONS: 1-9-10-6

FOURTH RACE:

4 PRINCE ALPHIE is stepping up, and turning back to 6 ½ furlongs, after holding on gamely to defeat \$16,000 claimers here at seven-eighths of a mile. Trainer Peter Walder, 23% with horses winning consecutive races, has Johnny Velazquez going for two in a row. **7 GONE MISSING** drops to the \$20,000 level after hitting the gate at the start and finishing fourth in his local debut at the \$35,000 level. Trainer Roger Paquette has Cornelio Velasquez in the saddle again. **6 FATE TAKES A HAND** is another getting some class relief after stalking the action along the rail and finishing fifth behind Gone Missing in their recent tussle at the \$35,000 level. **8 PUNTO FIJO** is turning back to his best distance (10-3-1-2) after tracking the pace and faltering in a \$25,000 claimer at 7 furlongs. Eduardo Nunez rides.

SELECTIONS: 4-7-6-8

FIFTH RACE:

7 COCKTAIL ATTIRE makes her 4-year-old debut after ending her sophomore season in fantastic fashion when she won the \$60K P G Johnson while still a maiden. The daughter of Distorted Humor has trained sharply at Palm Meadows in preparation for this event. **12 ASGOODASSHELOOKS** makes her first start since using her speed to defeat next-out winners Classie Hennessy and Dubai's Connection in a 'key' \$16,000 allowance optional claimers at 5 furlongs on the Calder turf. **5 EXCESSIVE HEAT** is stepping up the competition after keeping her record on the Gulfstream turf unblemished when she returned from an 11-month layoff to defeat \$50,000 claimers at the distance (2-2-0-0).

4 LADY RIZZI, 2-1-0-1 on the Gulfstream turf, and 7-3-1-1 at the distance, makes her first start since getting beat three-quarters of a length in a 5-furlong optional claimer on the Meadowlands turf. Trainer Linda Rice has the daughter of Rizzi training like a winner.

SELECTIONS: 7-12-5-4

SIXTH RACE:

12 LOVE ON A WIRE is hoping to exit the maiden ranks after closing against a speed/stalk bias to finish third in his local debut at this level and distance. He should have clear sailing from his outside post (12). **10 WANTED SONG** is cutting back to a 1-turn mile on a traditional dirt surface after setting the pace and getting beat a length vs. similar at a mile and a sixteenth on the Woodbine Polytrack. Trainer Greg De Gannes has Jamie Mcaleny named to ride. **8 VINDICAT** is eligible to show more with second-time blinkers after getting squeezed at the start and finishing a distant fourth behind Love On A Wire last out. Trainer Nick Zito has Alan Garcia in the saddle again. **1 UNDAUNTED ONE** is stretching out to a mile after hesitating at the start and finishing fifth in his 6-furlong career debut vs. similar opposition.

SELECTIONS: 12-10-8-1

SEVENTH RACE:

2 DRESSMAKER is stretching out to a mile and a sixteenth after finishing a troubled fourth (steadied first turn) in a 'key' \$35,000 'two-lifetime' claimer at a mile that produced next-out local winners Granted Tiger and Delta Weekend. **4 KELLIHER** is hoping to keep a straight course through the lane after drifting in the stretch, finishing second, and being place fourth behind Delta Weekend in 'two-lifetime' event on Jan. 23rd. Trainer Josie Carroll tabs John Velazquez to ride. **3 MADAM BLING** will face winners after getting up in the final jump to defeat \$50,000 maidens, as the favorite, at Tampa. Trainer Jim Toner has Alan Garcia in the saddle. **5 WISE COOKIE** plunges into this 'two-lifetime' claimer hoping to recapture the form she displayed winning the \$100K Franks Juvenile Fillies Turf while still a maiden (Nov. 2007). Trainer Dave Brownlee has Paco Lopez at the helm.

SELECTIONS: 2-4-3-5

EIGHTH RACE:

1 ALOTA UNO is stretching out to 6 ½ furlongs after ending her freshman campaign on a high note when she rallied to finish second vs. \$32,000 'two-lifetime' claimers at 5 ½ furlongs on the Calder main track. Trainer Henry Collazo has Kent Desormeaux in the saddle. **8 BABYLONIAN** is turning back to 6 ½ furlongs with blinkers added after disputing the pace and finishing second best, as the lukewarm favorite, in her local debut vs. similar at a mile. Trainer Dan Harvey has Javier Santiago returning on strictly the one to beat. **9 SKIP AWAY BELLE** will face winners after making a 4-wide swoop to break her maiden vs. \$25,000 types at seven-eighths of a mile. Trainer Wesley Ward, 26% with horses winning consecutive races, has E T Baird in the saddle again. **11 MONAVISTA** is stepping up to the next logical level after responding to the addition of Lasix with a \$12,500 maiden win at Calder on New Years Day.

SELECTIONS: 1-8-9-11

NINTH RACE: THE MARION COUNTY

6 SCOLARA, a Grade 2 stakes-placed daughter of Quiet American, ships in from the Big Easy to face Florida-breds after coming within a nose of winning the \$59K Pago Hope at the Fair Grounds. Note that the Bill Mott/Kent

Desormeaux collaboration should sit an ideal second flight trip behind the speed, which includes **4 JULIA TUTTLE**. The daughter of Giant's Causeway turns back to a mile after dueling for the lead and retreating to finish fourth behind repeat winner Wild Promises in the 9-furlong \$500K Sunshine Millions Filly & Mare Turf. **1 ANNABILL**, who has achieved her greatest success on the dirt, but is 2 for 2 'in the money' on the turf vs. stakes caliber competition, is back in Florida after making a 5-wide charge to finish fifth at Santa Anita in the \$500K Sunshine Millions Distaff. Trainer Milt Wolfson has Rene Douglas handling the homecoming. **5 ASHLEY RIVER** a multiple stakes-placed performer on the turf, is cutting back to 8 furlongs after setting the pace and finishing second in a strong local tune up at a mile and a sixteenth. Trainer Dave Brownlee has John Velazquez rationing her considerable speed.

SELECTIONS: 6-4-1-5

TENTH RACE:

11 HE'S APPEALING is dropping to the \$45,000 level on the dirt, and racing with blinkers, after showing speed and retreating vs. special weight company at 5 furlongs on the Calder turf. Trainer Jose Pinchin has Alan Garcia handling the combo dropdown/surface switch. **1 AGAIN ELEVEN** is stepping up the competition after ending his 2-year-old season with a third place finish - beaten 2 lengths - vs. \$32,000 maidens at five-eighths on the Calder turf. **7 I KNOW WHY** is one of eight first-time starters in the field who can be a factor in this wide-open sprint. The son of Whywhywhy has trained consistently over the track for trainer Dale Capuano. **8 HIGHER PEACE** gets some quick class relief after stalking the pace and faltering to finish seventh in his career debut here vs. maiden special weight competition. Trainer Bill White has Elvis Trujillo in the saddle again.

SELECTIONS: 11-1-7-8

BEST BET: RACE 3 - 1 CONSERVATIVE

LONG SHOT: RACE 9 - 9 QUIET MEADOW

The advertisement is for Minebender Jewelers, a Certified Rolex Technician. It features a woman wearing jewelry and a watch. The text includes: "We Buy Gold & Cash" (repeated around the border), "MINEBENDER JEWELERS", "Certified Rolex Technician", "We Repair Rolex - Movado - Tag Heuer Concord - Seiko - and all high-grade watches", "Special Order on Jewelry and Diamonds", "JEWELRY AND WATCH REPAIR DONE ON PREMISES", "*Call for GOLD - Pick-ups*", "450 Hollywood Mall, Hollywood FL 33021", "Publix Shopping Plaza", "954-962-0771", and "Se Habla Espanol".