



RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS

by Ron Nicoletti

Friday, October 5, 2018

RACE 1:

5 HARD BELLE, a half-brother to million-dollar earner Not Bourbon, is dropping to the \$50,000 level after setting the pace and fading to finish 4th in a maiden special weight test contested at 5 ½ furlongs. **4 FOREVER TOUCHED** is a son of Atreides (Medaglia d'Or) debuting for trainer Ron Spatz with Lasix and Emisael Jaramillo named to ride. Note the barn sports a 27%-win average with their freshman runners.

3 REAGAN'S HEART is returning to the main track after dueling throughout and finishing 2nd – beaten a half-length – vs \$35,000 maidens going 5 panels on the grass. Trainer Rory Miller has Samy Camacho handling the surface switch.

SELECTIONS: 5-4-3

RACE 2:

4 EARTH is dropping to the \$16,000 level on the lawn after following a 3rd place finish vs \$25,000 optional claimers on the Gulfstream turf with a stalk-and-fade outing behind repeat winner American Power in a \$40,000 claimer contested at 6 furlongs on the Saratoga main track. Trainer Jena Antonucci has Samy Camacho handling the combo dropdown/surface switch. **1 FLYING LIBERTY** is making his local return the first start since rallying to finish 2nd in a \$25,000 conditioned claimer on June 29th. Trainer Victor Barboza Jr is a solid 20% with the 61-180 days layoff.

3 GONE FISHING is another in the field getting some class relief after stalking the pace and weakening to finish 4th behind repeat winner Gran Malbec in a \$30,000 conditioned claimer at the distance.

SELECTIONS: 4-1-3

RACE 3:

7 ROYALTY SALVATORE can turn out to be the controlling speed when he turns back to seven-eighths of a mile, and adds blinkers, after opening and surrendering an early 2-length lead when finishing 6th behind Xiroma in their recent clash at a mile. **4 HOOKUP** is dropping into this \$16,000 'non-winners of 2-lifetime' claimer after bumping at the start and rallying wide to finish 5th in a 'key' \$16,000 optional claimers that produced a trio of next-out winners, and note that the winner went on to finish 3rd in the Grade 3 Smarty Jones at Parx in his next start. **5 XIROMA** is turning back to 7 furlongs after finishing a late-running 2nd in his Gulfstream finale going a 1-turn mile. Trainer Antonio Sano, who also conditions Hookup, has Samy Camacho on this half of his uncoupled entry.

SELECTIONS: 7-4-5

RACE 4:

7 DYNAMIC DANCER is looking to make amends after returning from the layoff to finish a rallying 2nd – as the favorite – when facing similar quality across town. The obvious concern is the 1-for-19 record thus far (19-0-6-4). **3 TOSS** is dropping a notch, and debuting on the turf, after couple of promising \$20,000 maiden claiming sprints on the main track. Trainer Luis Olivares has Samy Camacho atop the son of Kantharos, who is bred to respond favorably to the surface switch.

1 KID KANTHAROS will depart from the rail after chasing the pace and finishing 4th – as the favorite – in a \$12,500 maiden sprint at Gulfstream. Trainer Fernando Abreu has Emisael Jaramillo in the saddle.

SELECTIONS: 7-3-1



RACE 5:

4 CYRUS is dropping to the \$20,000 level with blinkers added, and stretching out to 7 furlongs, after rallying on a sealed 'sloppy' track to finish 2nd in a \$25,000 maiden test going three-quarters of a mile. Trainer Stanley Gold has Jeffrey Sanchez atop the Arindel Farm homebred. **5 VITA DOLCE** is dropping into the maiden claiming ranks after returning from the 7-week freshening to stalk the pace and fade in a maiden special weight sprint contest at 6 ½ furlongs. Trainer Antonio Sano has Paco Lopez handling the dropdown.

7 GEM JUAN is stepping up, and stretching out, after rallying to come within a neck of exiting the maiden ranks when finishing 3rd vs \$16,000 maidens going 5 furlongs.

SELECTIONS: 4-5-7

RACE 6:

7 REORGANIZE is dropping to the \$50,000 level, and returning to the turf, after tracking the pace and fading when facing maiden special weight competition going 6 ½ furlongs on the dirt. The son of Data Link should be a major part of the pace when stretching out around 2-turns on the grass.

5 CABLE CHANNEL is a son of English Channel, out of the Horse Chestnut mare Henna, debuting for trainer Armando De la Cerda with strong grass breeding on both sides of the family tree; Emisael Jaramillo rides.

1 COSMIC SHIFT is debuting on the grass after coming up short when finishing 4th – as the favorite – when dropped to the \$35,000 level on the main track. The son of Prospective should respond favorably to the surface change.

SELECTIONS: 7-5-1

RACE 7:

3 SILVER BAY, undefeated in her 2 previous sprints on the Gulfstream West main track, which includes the victory in the \$75,000 Juvenile Sprint last November, is making her local return the first start since pressing the pace and fading

to finish 6th on the turf in the 1-mile \$100,000 Martha Washington on July 7th. Trainer Bill Hickey has Samy Camacho named on the horse-for-course play. **6 WHIP ME INTO SHAPE** is debuting locally after the trio of sharp sprints across town, which includes the well-meant 2nd in a \$30,000 conditioned claimer, when she received an 80 Beyer for her effort.

5 CHRISTMAS MAGIC, 2-1-0-1 on this track, is cutting back to three-quarters of a mile after getting headed and fighting back to defeat \$16,000 state-bred optional claimers going 7 furlongs on a wet surface listed as 'good' across town. Trainer Kathleen O'Connell is 20% winning back-to-back races.

SELECTIONS: 3-6-5

RACE 8:

4 FEATURE CREATURE is dropping to the \$16,000 level with blinkers added after breaking a step slow, having to steady briefly going up the backstretch, before rallying to finish 5th behind even-money favorite Madame Barrister in a \$20,000 maiden sprint at the distance. Trainer Larry Bates has Alvaro Donis named to ride.

1 SPICED RUM PUNCH is dropping to this level, and turning back to 5 furlongs, after breaking a step slow and finishing a so-so 6th when facing \$35,000 maidens going 7 ½ furlongs on the Gulfstream turf. Trainer Marcus Vitali, 2 for 7 (29%) with his grass sprinters, has apprentice Romero Maragh handling the daughter of Treasure Beach. **2 SHALL RETURN** is a daughter of Kantharos, out of the Montbrook mare Marion Theatre, debuting in an ideal spot for a 1-time starters to succeed. The freshman, bred to love the turf, gets Lasix, and has Edgard Zayas in the saddle.

SELECTIONS: 4-1-2

BEST BET: RACE 7 – 3 SILVER BAY

LONGSHOT: RACE 3 – 7 ROYALTY SALVATORE