



RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS

by Ron Nicoletti

Saturday, January 13, 2018

RACE 1:

8 FAMILY JUSTICE is stretching out to a mile and a sixteenth after rallying to finish 3rd at a mile and 7 ½ furlongs, respectively. Trainer Gustavo Delgado has Luis Saez handling the added distance.

3 ANOTHER SOFTBALL will try to stretch his speed to the wire after setting the pace and finishing 2nd at this level and distance last out. Trainer Joe Catanese III has Nik Juarez rationing the gelding's speed.

4 RYTHMOFSIMMARD is wheeling back after making a 4-wide bid to finish 3rd behind speedy Another Softball last out.

SELECTIONS: 8-3-4

RACE 2:

1 ONE OF A KIND will depart from the rail after rallying to finish a well-meant 2nd when beaten three-quarters at this level and distance. Trainer Mike Maker has Tyler Gaffalione atop the son of Lemon Drop Kid.

11 COULD BE is stretching out an additional 16th of a mile after stalking the pace and finishing 5th vs similar going 7 ½ furlongs. Trainer David Fawkes has leading jock Luis Saez handling the added distance.

3 BLACK PRONG is debuting locally for trainer Reid Nagle after recovering from an awkward start to finish 3rd vs this caliber of competition going a mile on the Tampa turf; Jose Batista rides this intriguing possibility.

SELECTIONS: 1-11-3

RACE 3:

4 PUT EM UP is debuting locally for trainer Danny Gargan, and returning to the main track, after finishing a late-closing 5th – beaten 1 ½ lengths – vs \$16,000 maidens going 5 ½ furlongs on the Laurel turf. Trainer Gargan, 31% with the turf to dirt angle, has Tyler Gaffalione atop the \$50,000 son of Put It Back.

7 AS IT HAPPENS is an obvious choice after responding both a dropdown in competition, and the move to the main track, with a 2nd place finish at this level and distance. **3 TWO SEVENTY ONE** is a son of Kantharos debuting for trainer Armando De la Cerda with Lasix, and leading jock Luis Saez named to ride. The tote action should tell us more.

SELECTIONS: 4-7-3

RACE 4:

9 LAYTHATPISTOLDOWN is dropping back to the \$16,000 level after breaking from a demanding outside post (12) dueling for the lead and fading to finish 10th in the Claiming Crown Emerald, a 'key' race that produced a trio of next-out winners from 5 starters, including next-out stakes winner Durocher. **4 OUSBY** is stretching out to a mile and a sixteenth (8-3-2-2) after shipping back from Delaware to defeat a field of \$16,000 claimers going a mile. Trainer Marcus Vitali has Carlos Montalvo in the saddle. **6 REGAL KITTEN** is stretching out to a mile and a sixteenth again after rallying 6-wide to finish 3rd behind Ousby last out. Trainer Aubrey Maragh has Luis Saez atop the son of Kitten's Joy.

SELECTIONS: 9-4-6

RACE 5:

8 SALSA RITA is sitting on a winning effort after returning from Gulfstream West to come within a head of exiting the maiden ranks at this level and distance.

6 TOTAL TREASURE is turning back to three-quarters of a mile after dueling with the eventual winner and finishing 2nd best when going 6 ½ furlongs last out.

7 STROLL ACTION is dropping to the \$12,500 level on the main track, and adding blinkers, after showing speed and fading when facing \$25,000 maidens going a mile on the turf. Trainer Luis Duco has Jorge Ruiz in the saddle.

SELECTIONS: 8-6-7

RACE 6:

5 TENACITY ZIP is dropping to the \$35,000 level on the main track after tracking the pace and finishing 5th vs \$75,000 optional claimers going 5 furlongs on the turf. Trainer Nick Gonzalez has Luis Saez handling the surface switch. **4 MUCHO PROSPECT** will try to make it two in a row after turning back from a 2-turn mile at Gulfstream West to defeat \$50,000 starter allowance at this 6-furlong distance. Trainer Leo Azpurua Jr, who has two in the race (Controlled Fury), has Edgard Zayas atop this half of the uncoupled entry. **7 STAR JUANCHO** is stepping up to face winners in the first start since a couple of sharp maiden sprints at Gulfstream West, which includes the almost 6-length \$50,000 maiden victory at the distance.

SELECTIONS: 5-4-7

RACE 7:

6 DIRTY is debuting locally for trainer Jeramiah Englehart with blinkers added after vying for the lead and fading to finish 4th in a strong maiden special weight race that produced a trio of next out winners, which includes repeat winner Mask, who won the Mucho Macho Man Stakes in his next start.

8 MAGNUM MOON is a \$380,000 son of Malibu Moon debuting for trainer Todd Pletcher with a series of sharp morning workouts at Palm Beach Downs showing. The colt gets Lasix, and has Luis Saez in the saddle.

9 ZIG ZILLION is making his sophomore debut the first start since rallying to finish 3rd in a 6-furlong maiden special weight sprint at Churchill. Trainer Ian Wilkes has Joel Rosario in the saddle.

SELECTIONS: 6-8-9

RACE 8:

7 SOUND VALUES is making the 3rd start of his current form cycle looking to build on what was a solid effort at this level and distance when he dueled from start-to-finish and was beaten less than a length. Trainer Angel Rodriguez has Emisael Jaramillo atop the son of Munnings. **8 ABBOT** who was stakes-placed at a mile here during 2016, is stretching out around 2-turns after rallying to finish 3rd in his local return vs similar going 5 furlongs. Trainer Christophe Clement has Tyler Gaffalione handling the stretchout. **10 UNCLE B** was well-meant at this level and distance when he broke from Post 11 and rallied to finish 2nd in front of Sound Values when beaten a neck at this level and distance last out; Marcos Meneses rides.

SELECTIONS: 7-8-10

RACE 9: THE MARSHUA'S RIVER (G3)

5 GIANNA'S DREAM is stretching out to a mile and a sixteenth (5-4-0-1) after returning from a layoff and using her tactical speed to finish 2nd – beaten a neck – in the Grade 3 My Charmer here going a mile. Trainer Mike Maker has Tyler Gaffalione atop the classy daughter Twirling Candy. **8 DREAM DANCING**, a Grade 1 winning daughter of Tapit, is making her first start since finishing a workman-like 7th in the Grade 1 QEII Cup at Keeneland in her last. The 4-year-old, unbeaten on this turf course in 2 tries, which includes a victory in the Grade 3 Herecomesthebride here last March, has Irad Ortiz Jr in the saddle. **4 ABBREVIATE** is making her graded stakes debut for trainer Chad Brown after her 2-race win streak on the Belmont turf ended when she finished a 5-wide 7th in the 6-furlong Autumn Days on the Aqueduct grass.

SELECTIONS: 5-8-4

RACE 10:

7 STARSHIP FRONTIER is dropping to the \$6,250 level, and turning back to 6 furlongs, in the first start since finishing a set-the-pace 2nd vs \$8,000 claimers going 7 furlongs at Gulfstream West. Trainer Milt Wolfson has Nik Juarez named to ride. **4 RUNAWAY BULL** is making his 3rd start at the meeting after tracking the pace and finishing 2nd behind repeat winner Social Roy at this level and distance last out; Carlos Montalvo rides.

11 POLITICAL JUSTICE is dropping to this level, and turning back to 6 furlongs, after setting the pace and weakening at the ¼-pole when 5th vs \$12,500 claimers going a mile. Trainer Anthony Quartarolo has Irad Ortiz Jr quarterbacking the combo dropdown/turnback.

SELECTIONS: 7-4-11

RACE 11: THE FORT LAUDERDALE (G2)

3 HEART TO HEART, who won this race in 2016, and was beaten a length when 4th in the Ft Lauderdale last January, is back on his favorite turf course (5-4-0-0) after surrendering a late lead when beaten 3 lengths by World Approval in the Grade 1 Breeders' Cup Mile. The newly turned 7-year-old, who is 4 for 5 at a mile and a sixteenth, needs to avoid a suicide duel with the abundance of speed in the field. **6 ALL INCLUDED**, who does his best running from 'off the pace', is stretching out after rallying to finish 5th in the 1-mile Grade 3 Tropical Turf last out. Trainer Todd Pletcher has strong finisher Luis Saez in the saddle.

5 SHINNING COPPER is turning back to a mile and a sixteenth after leading every step of the way to win the 9-furlong Grade 3 River City Handicap on a 'yielding' Churchill course. Trainer Mike Maker has Jose Ortiz up.

SELECTIONS: 3-6-5

RACE 12:

7 TIME ON TARGET is debuting locally for trainer Bill Mott after leading every step of the way – from a tough outside post (12) - to spring a 26-1 upset going a mile and a sixteenth on the Aqueduct turf. The \$450,000 son of Distorted Humor can spring the upset if left alone on or near the front ended. **4 MARAUD** is stretching out to a mile and a sixteenth after following the well-meant 3rd place finish in the Grade 3 Pilgrim at Belmont with a 3rd place finish here – as the 4-to-5 favorite – in the 1-mile \$75,000 Pulpit. Trainer Todd Pletcher has Irad Ortiz Jr in the saddle. **2 SAND DANCER** is stretching out to this distance after rallying wide to finish 3rd here vs this caliber of competition going 7 ½ furlongs. Trainer Tim Hills has Luis Saez handling the added distance.

SELECTIONS: 7-4-2

BEST BET: RACE 7 – 6 DIRTY

LONGSHOT: RACE 12 – 7 TIME ON TARGET