Sunday, August 5, 2018

RACE 1:
1 FRIEND ZONE will depart from the rail, and race with the blinkers off, after setting a pressured pace and finishing 4th when dropped to this level last out. Trainer Chad Summers has Carlos Montalvo atop strictly the one to beat in the opener. **3 BEACH TREASURE** is dropping to the $12,500 level after facing tougher on turf with a modicum of success (5-0-0-2). The new gelding has Miguel Vasquez in the saddle.
6 YESUS STAR is another dropping to this level on the turf hoping the class relief helps spark an improved performance.

SELECTIONS: 1-3-6

RACE 2:
1 HIDDEN TO WIN moved to the Steve Klesaris barn via the claim, and stretches out to one of her best distances (4-3-1-0) after posting her 2nd consecutive open-length victory going 7 furlongs last out.
4 FLYING GIRL will try to make it two in a row at the distance after stalking early and pouncing late when defeating this familiar competition by almost 4 lengths.
2 QUEEN ROLLER moved to the Elizabeth Dobles barn after the claim looking to improve on the recent hard-fought 2nd place finish at this level and distance last out.

SELECTIONS: 1-4-2

RACE 3:
12 LIL' SMARTIEPANTS will break from the outside after setting the pace and just getting caught at the wire when finishing 2nd – beaten a head – last out. She'll be mixing it up as soon as the spring the gate latch, and can score at a price. **10 SOBER ON SUNDAY** will face $10,000 open-claimers at a mile after returning from the freshening to draw clear and defeat a field of $16,000 conditioned claimers going 7 ½ furlongs.
1 MADISON BLUES moved to the Angel Quiroz barn via the claim, and returns to her preferred surface, after losing her best chance when she bobbled at the start of a $10,000 claimer moved to the main track.

SELECTIONS: 12-10-1

RACE 4:
1 HARRYHEE is dropping into this $10,000 optional claimer after holding his own against the who's who of the allowance optional claiming ranks, including Mo Cash, Reason to Soar, and Blings Express to name a few. **4 PHISH FAN** is turning back to his most accomplished distance (25-7-8-2) after a pair going 7 furlongs, which includes the commanding score 2 starts back, and the disappointing 4th place finish – as the 4-to-5 favorite – last out. **3 FRANCESCO APPEAL** will try to make it two in a row at the distance after returning from the 4-month layoff to defeat a tough group of $6,250 open-claimers.

SELECTIONS: 1-4-3

RACE 5:
5 FALLEN LEAF is stepping up to the $25,000 level after highlighting her current good form when she followed a front running score going 5 furlongs on the turf with an equally solid performance vs $16,000 state-bred optional claimers going 5 panels on a 'fast' track.
8 ELECTRIC was sent to the sidelines to recharge her batteries after following the maiden victory on the Tampa turf with a duel-and-fade performance vs allowance competition going 5 furlongs on a 'sloppy' Pimlico main track. Trainer Jonathan Thomas is 35% with the 61-180 days layoff. **6 QUEEN ROSE**, who does her best running from 'off the pace' can sit in the catbird seat behind what should be a hot and heavy early pace scenario.

SELECTIONS: 5-8-6

RACE 6:
7 HARDCORE CAT will face $6,250 '2-lifetime' claimers on the main track after a rough outing on the turf in which she had to check repeatedly when finishing 6th vs $10,000 claimers.
5 HURRICANE ROBERTA is stretching out an additional half-furlong after rallying to finish 2nd vs similar when going 5 ½ furlongs in her last.
6 BUN BUN should find this level of competition more in her wheelhouse after failing to reel in free-running repeat winner Dancing Donut at this distance last out.

SELECTIONS: 7-5-6

RACE 7:
2 FULL SWING is a daughter of Verrazano, and a half-sister to multiple graded stakes-placed runner Thrilled, debuting for trainer Todd Pletcher with Lasix and a solid morning work tab showing.
5 HOT FUDGE HONEY, a daughter of Orb, is debuting on the turf after following her 4th place finish behind rising superstar Catherinethegreat in her 5-furlong debut in the 'slop' with a 2nd place finish vs $50,000 maidens going 5 ½ furlongs on a 'fast' track; Miguel Vasquez handles the combo surface switch/stretchout.
3 BLUE SKY VENEZUELA, a daughter of Sky Mesa, is stretching out to a mile on the grass with the breeding needed to handle both the surface and the distance.

SELECTIONS: 2-5-3

RACE 8:
8 GRAN CHIEF is dropping to this level on the dirt after racing exclusively on the turf vs better before the layoff. Trainer Victor Barboza Jr, 41% with the turf-to-dirt angle, has Miguel Vasquez handling the surface switch. **6 MCMANAMAN** is wheeling back looking to improve on the recent 3rd place finish at this level and distance, a race that has produced a pair of next-out winners from 5 starters. **2 LUMINARY FLIGHT** will be hoping to find a little more firepower for the stretch drive after rallying 5-wide to come with a half-length of notching this 'non-winners of 3-lifetime' condition.

SELECTIONS: 8-6-2

RACE 9:
6 BOGULATOR is going back to the turf after shipping down from Belmont and finishing 3rd in back-to-back races moved from the grass to wet main tracks. Trainer Danny Gargan has C C Lopez named on the daughter of Bodemeister. **9 AWESOME CLASS** proved she could compete at this level when she followed a 2nd place finish at the $20,000 level with another well-meant 2nd place finish vs $40,000 maidens in her most recent start on the turf. **7 EXPECT AN ENTRY** is dropping into this high-priced maiden affair after dueling for the lead along the inside before fading to finish 3rd vs maiden special weight competition.

SELECTIONS: 6-9-7

RACE 10:
7 CHRISTMAS MAGIC is dropping into this $12,500 state-bred optional claimer on the main track after following victory vs $35,000 optional claimers going 6 furlongs on the dirt with a duel-and-fade outing vs $75,000 optional claimers going a mile on the turf.

3 FLORA FANTASY will try to make it 3 in a row after drawing clear to wallop $16,000 conditioned claimers in back-to-back sprints moved from the turf to 5 furlongs on the main track. **4 HELLO JULIET**, who has been sharp since returning the 7-month layoff, will try to get back into the winner's circle after rallying to finish 2nd at the distance last out.

SELECTIONS: 7-3-4

RACE 11:
2 FONTANAZZA is dropping to the $6,250 level after responding in the first start after the claim by Angel Quiroz with a so-so 3rd place finish at the $12,500 level. The filly gets 2nd-time blinkers for the stretchout to a mile. **7 TIKITACA** has been knocking on the door in both recent races at this level and distance, and is eligible to pick up the pieces and score if Fontanazza fails to negotiate the distance. **3 OPTIMISTIC SHOT** moved to the Antonio Sano barn via the claim, and stretches out to a 1-turn mile (2-0-1-0), after a 5-wide bid produced a 4th place finish vs similar going 5 ½ furlongs.

SELECTIONS: 2-7-3

RACE 12:
5 MISS CINDY LOU WHO is eligible to offer more in career start number 2 after showing speed and fading – as the favorite – in her career debut at this level and distance. Trainer Saffie Joseph Jr has Aby Medina at the controls. **6 MENDING SOULS**, now in the Danny Gargan barn, the 5-year-old mare makes her 2nd career start the first race since she finished up the track in a $12,500 maiden sprint during the Championship Meet. **3 UNITED SONG** is dropping to the $10,000 level after returning from the layoff to duel of the lead and finish a distant 3rd vs $16,000 maidens going 5 furlongs at Tampa.

SELECTIONS: 5-6-3

BEST BET: RACE 10 – 7 CHRISTMAS MAGIC

LONGSHOT: RACE 3 – 12 LIL' SMARTIEPANTS