



RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS

by *Ron Nicoletti*

Sunday, February 10, 2019

RACE 1:

6 FAMILY KITTEN is stretching out to 9 furlongs with the tactical speed needed to dictate the race flow for the connections of Marcus Vitali and leading jock Luis Saez. **4 APARTFROMTHECROWD** is stretching out to this distance after showing some late interest when facing state-bred optional claimers at a mile. The gelded son of Gio Ponti is bred to handle the distance. **7 ODE TO THE HUNT**, now in the Bob Hess Jr barn, the gelding debuts locally after facing tougher on both turf and dirt on the New York racing circuit.

SELECTIONS: 6-4-7

RACE 2:

4 BALLY SQUALL is dropping to the \$12,500 level on the main track after shipping in from Churchill for trainer Ken McPeck and finishing a stalk and weaken 6th vs \$20,000 maidens on the turf. Note that the barn is 19% with the turf-to-dirt angle. **9 DO WHAT IT TAKES** is stretching out to 6 ½ furlongs after rallying to finish 3rd when facing similar going three-quarters of a mile last out. **5 MY SEBASTIANA** is stretching out an additional furlong after responding to the dropdown in competition with a 3rd place finish at 5 ½ furlongs.

SELECTIONS: 4-9-5

RACE 3:

4 W W CONCERTO moved to the Jorge Navarro barn via the claim after a solid 2nd-place finish behind rejuvenated Dizzy Gillespie at this level and distance. The new connections tab C C Lopez to ride. **8 CHOVANES** moved to the Angel Quiroz barn after the claim, and turns back to a 1-turn mile, after surrendering a 2 ½-length midrace lead when fading to finish 4th at a mile and a sixteenth; Emisael Jaramillo rides. **3 DREAMY MARTINI** is turning back after gaining on a sealed 'sloppy' track to finish 2nd vs similar going a mile and a sixteenth.

SELECTIONS: 4-8-3

RACE 4:

2 GUERRERON moved to the Kelly Breen barn via the claim after finishing 2nd for the 3rd consecutive race when closing to get beat 6 ¾ lengths by repeat winner Math Wizard last out. **5 QUEEN'S BIRD**, claimed for \$50,000 by trainer Aubrey Maragh last out, immediately drops to the \$25,000 level after getting beat double-digit lengths going a mile last out; Tyler Gaffalione rides this shaky proposition.

7 LUCKYTOBEINAMERICA, 2nd at the \$35,000 level 2 starts back, drops in for a quarter after finishing a well-beaten 6th and last at the \$50,000 level. Trainer Ed Plesa Jr has Chris Landeros in the irons.

SELECTIONS: 2-5-7

RACE 5:

2 BREAK CURFEW is making her 3-year-old debut after an interesting 2-race freshman campaign in which she won at first-asking, and finished a troubled 2nd in the Grade 2 Golden Rod going a mile and a sixteenth on a sealed 'sloppy' track. **6 ORRA MOOR** is stepping up to face winners after drawing clear to defeat a pair of next-out winners when winning her 5 ½-furlong debut here on December 22nd. Trainer Todd Pletcher has John Velazquez returning on the daughter of Orb. **5 KATIELEIGH**, now in the Kathy Ritvo barn, the daughter of Midnight Lute makes her South Florida debut the first start since defeating classy stakes winner Bellafina in a 5-furlong maiden sprint in California last July: Luis Saez rides.

SELECTIONS: 2-6-5

RACE 6:

4 FERDINANDA should be primed and ready to score after returning from the layoff to finish 2nd at this level and distance. Trainer Barclay Tagg has Jose Ortiz in the saddle again. **5 SUBTLE STEP** is hoping for a clean trip after getting stuck behind a wall of horses and settling for 5th behind the top choice last out. Trainer Shug McGaughey has Tyler Gaffalione in the irons. **2 TAMIT (IRE)** renews the rivalry with the top two after breaking slowly from Post 11, and rallying wide, when finishing 4th in front of Subtle Step. Trainer Norm Casse has Julien Leparoux atop the daughter of Fastnet Rock.

SELECTIONS: 4-5-2

RACE 7:

5 AND SEEK was sent south by trainer Dale Romans after coming within a head of exiting the maiden ranks when finishing 3rd going a mile & 40 yards on the Tampa main track. **10 GROWTH ENGINE**, a \$300,000 gelded son of Tapit, and half-brother to \$1.6 million earner Pyro, is stretching out to a mile and a sixteenth after finishing 2nd in his 7-furlong debut here going 7 furlongs. The concern is the tough outside post.

2 RY'S THE GUY is making his first journey around 2-turns after finishing a promising 2nd in his 6-furlong career debut here last out. The son of Distorted Humor is bred to love the added distance.

SELECTIONS: 5-10-2**RACE 8:**

11 TOWNIE is dropping to the \$6,250 level on the main track after showing stalk speed and fading late vs \$16,000 '2-lifetime' claimers going 5 furlongs on the grass. Trainer Jane Cibelli is 27% with the turf-to-dirt angle. **1 BLACK PEPPER** is dropping into this 'non-winners of 2-lifetime' sprint after facing tougher before the layoff, which includes the maiden special weight victory at this distance last September. **6 LUMUMBA** is cutting back to three-quarters of a mile after making a middle move and fading to 4th vs similar going 6 ½ furlongs.

SELECTIONS: 11-1-6**RACE 9:**

1 SKYCHIEF is stretching out to a mile after rallying to finish 2nd – as the tepid favorite – going 7 ½ furlongs last out. Trainer Mike Maker has Tyler Gaffalione atop the gelded son of More Than Ready. **8 VALID POINT**, son of Scat Daddy, debuts for trainer Chad Brown with Lasix, and Javier Castellano named to ride. Note the 10 Palm Meadows workouts showing in preparation for this assignment. **3 ICARIUS** is a son of Quality Road debuting for trainer Todd Pletcher with Lasix, and a string of strong workouts showing on the Palm Beach Downs turf; Luis Saez rides.

SELECTIONS: 1-8-3**RACE 10:**

1 NATIONAL HONOR was sent south by trainer Robert Falcone Jr after shipping into Tampa and finishing 2nd vs this caliber of competition going a mile and a sixteenth; Nik Juarez rides.

4 HOOVER TOWER is dropping to the \$16,000 level after ending his campaign on the West Coast with a late-running 3rd vs \$22,500 '2-lifetime' claimers going a mile on the Santa Anita turf. Trainer Bob Hess Jr has Julien Leparoux at the controls. **7 JUPITER RISING** is stretching out to this distance after shipping in from Belmont to finish 2nd – as the favorite – going 7 ½ furlongs. Trainer Todd Pletcher has Luis Saez atop the gelding.

SELECTIONS: 1-4-7**RACE 11:**

7 OUTSHINE is making his sophomore debut at 7 furlongs after following his debut maiden victory going 5 furlongs in the 'slop' with a 5th place finish in the 5 ½-furlong Tremont Stakes, a 'key' race that has produced 4 next-out winners from 5 starters, which includes a trio of stakes winners. **5 JUNGLE WARRIOR** is making his 3-year-old debut the first start since he broke slowly from the rail and never got untracked when finishing a distant 5th in the 9-furlong Grade 2 Remsen. Trainer Jimmy Jerkens is 31% with the 61-180 days layoff.

8 THE RIGHT PATH is stepping up to face winners after the sharp debut victory at Aqueduct in which edged clear on a 'good' track to score by 3-plus lengths, and get a lofty 82 Beyer figure for his effort.

SELECTIONS: 7-5-8**RACE 12:**

7 FREEDOM'S FLIGHT will be outfitted with blinkers after breaking slowly and rallying 5-wide to finish 4th vs similar going 7 ½ furlongs. Note the bullet workout with the blinkers added; Luis Saez rides the upset special.

4 SPINDLETOP should be ready to score after returning from the layoff for trainer Kiaran McLaughlin and finishing 3rd at this level and distance. Note the barn is 23% with the with the 2nd start after a 45-180 days layoff. **5 BETTERMENT** is stretching out slightly to a mile after rallying to finish 3rd in his 7 ½-furlong career debut. Trainer Mark Hennig has Julien Leparoux returning on the son of Kitten's Joy.

11 OSO NEGRO is a \$440,000 son of Medaglia d'Oro debuting for trainer Chad Brown with Lasix and Irad Ortiz Jr named to handle the outside post.

SELECTIONS: 7-4-5-11**BEST BET: RACE 11 – 7 OUTSHINE****LONGSHOT: RACE 12 – 7 FREEDOM'S FLIGHT**