



RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS

by *Ron Nicoletti*

Thursday, January 10, 2019

RACE 1:

6 RACE ME HOME (IRE), in for the \$25,000 tag in this starter optional claimer, cuts back to a mile after just getting outkicked when finishing 3rd vs similar going 9 furlongs. Trainer Mike Maker has Jose Ortiz in the saddle. **7 UNCLE B** is turning back to 8 furlongs after lighting up the tote board when he rallied to win the mile and a sixteenth Claiming Crown Emerald, and paid \$72.00-plus. Trainer Lilli Kurtinecz has Irad Ortiz Jr named to ride. **8 TILL THE END**, now in the Jorge Navarro barn, the stakes-placed son of Kantharos, who was 6 for 8 'in the money' during 2018, should sit the 'trip' just off the flank of the speed.

SELECTIONS: 6-7-8

RACE 2:

6 MAGIC MAKER gets the tepid nod to get her picture taken after pressing the pace and weakening to finish 3rd in her local return at this level and distance. Trainer Tammy Levy has Paco Lopez in the irons. **3 MONEY PURSE** is dropping to the \$12,500 level after returning from the 3-month layoff to duel for the lead and tire to finish 5th vs \$16,000 maidens going seven-eighths of a mile. **2 STARSHIP SATURN**, a 7-year-old daughter of Kantharos, is making her first start since finishing 2nd at this level back on Tax Day 2017. Trainer Steve Dwoskin has Carlos Montalvo handling the first start in 21 months.

SELECTIONS: 6-3-2

RACE 3:

3 VICKY APPLE is dropping to the \$12,500 level after finishing 4th behind a trio of next-out winners, and front of another next-out winner, in a fruitful \$35,000 maiden sprint at GP West. **7 BEGIN** is dropping to the bottom, and returning to the main track, after failing to mount a rally when finishing 8th in a \$20,000 maiden claimer on the turf. Trainer Armando De La Cerda has Luis Saez handling the surface switch.

1 STRONGER KAT moved to the Saffie Joseph Jr barn via the claim, and immediately drops to the bottom on the dirt, after the sightseeing trip vs \$20,000 maidens going 2-turns on the turf; Irad Ortiz Jr rides.

SELECTIONS: 3-7-1

RACE 4:

8 PRETTY SHEA D is dropping to the \$6,250 '2-lifetime' level on the main track after chasing the pace and finishing 3rd when facing \$16,000 claimers going 5 furlongs on the GP West turf. Trainer John Servis is 35% with the turf-to-dirt angle. **5 GLOTONASA** is stepping up to next level after using her speed to defeat \$10,000 maidens going 5 ½ furlongs on a sealed 'sloppy' GP West main track. **3 KAYLIE'S GIRL** is stretching out to three-quarters of a mile after making a bid and weakening to finish 4th here going 5 ½ furlongs.

SELECTIONS: 8-5-3

RACE 5:

1 JUST KITTEN YOU is stretching out to a mile and a sixteenth after returning from the layoff to finish an okay 3rd here going a mile. Trainer Mike Maker has Tyler Gaffalione penciled in for the return riding assignment. **12 MR. NOBODY** is looking to make amends after following the neck defeat on the GP West turf with a 6th place finish – as the tepid favorite – here at this level and distance. **9 TIZ LUNA** will race with the blinkers off hoping the equipment change, and the addition of jockey Paco Lopez, will see this one-paced son of Soldat closer to the pace today.

SELECTIONS: 1-12-9

RACE 6:

8 A BIT OF BOTH, now in the Jason Servis barn, the daughter of Paynter makes her first start since drubbing a trio of next-out winners when she won her \$50,000 career debut by almost 12 lengths; Irad Ortiz rides this newly turned 3-year-old.

7 MISS HARRY is turning back to 5 ½ furlongs after following her \$50,000 maiden victory going three-quarters of a mile with a duel-for-the-lead 3rd – as the favorite – going 7 furlongs last out. She makes her 3rd start in 31 days with Brian Hernandez Jr in the saddle.

2 I'LLMAKEYOUSMILE is stepping up to face winners after responding to the dropdown in competition, and the addition of blinkers, with a sharp \$25,000 maiden victory; cheap, maybe?

SELECTIONS: 8-7-2

RACE 7:

6 MIDNIGHT MIRACLE is dropping to the \$25,000 level after the solid campaign vs better in California (5-2-1-1). Trainer Bob Hess Jr has Javier Castellano named on the daughter of Midnight Lute. **2 ABACO DREAM** is dropping to the \$25,000 level, and debuting locally for trainer Wesley Ward, after coming up empty – as the favorite – when facing \$50,000 optional claimers going 6 furlongs on the synthetic Turfway Park main track. **1 SOUTHERN TODDY** will be tested for class when she steps up to face winners after responding to the addition of blinkers with a commanding 8 ¾-length maiden victory at the \$12,500 level.

SELECTIONS: 6-2-1

RACE 8:

1 AMAZING AUDREY is debuting locally after responding in the first start after the \$40,000 claim by trainer Danny Gargan with a 6-wide 2nd – beaten a length – vs this level of opposition going a mile and a sixteenth on a softened Belmont turf listed as 'good'. **2 KEOTA**, who has run well going a distance of ground in the past, is stretching out to a mile for trainer Kiaran McLaughlin after recovering from an awkward start to finish 4th in an entry-level allowance sprint going 6 furlongs on the Aqueduct turf; Luis Saez rides.

7 CALL ME KAYLA is stepping up to face winners after responding in the first race after the claim by trainer Mike Maker with a \$50,000 maiden victory at the distance.

SELECTIONS: 1-2-7

RACE 9:

2 STAR PLAYER, the only multiple winner in the field (3-2-0-0), will try and make it 3 in a row when making the first start since the \$25,000 claim by Jorge Navarro. The son of Power Broker, a perfect 2 for 2 at a mile, has Tyler Gaffalione in the saddle.

6 QUASAR MOON is stepping up to face winners after responding to the dropdown in competition with a \$25,000 maiden victory as the odds-on choice. Trainer Todd Pletcher has Luis Saez in the saddle again. **1 HE'S SMOKIN HOT**, 4th behind Limehouse Stakes winner Seismic Jolt under maiden special weight conditions 2 starts back, is stepping up after defeating \$50,000 state-bred maidens last out.

SELECTIONS: 2-6-1

RACE 10:

2 TRUMPI is returning to the grass after following the neck defeat on the Indiana Grand turf with a stalk-the-pace and fade 6th place finish here going a 1-turn mile on the dirt. Trainer Bill Mott has Luis Saez returning on the son of Majestic Warrior.

9 BLUE LUTE is returning to his best surface after getting caught at the wire by main track specialist Chiseled when the race was moved from turf to a 1-turn mile on the main track last.

6 EXPECTED RULER will race with blinkers off when stretching out to a mile after back-to-back sprint races up north. The gelding, beaten a nose at the distance on the Saratoga turf, has Paco Lopez handling this major speed play.

SELECTIONS: 2-9-6

BEST BET: RACE 5 – 1 JUST KITTEN YOU

LONGSHOT: RACE 10 – 2 TRUMPI