



RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS

by *Ron Nicoletti*

Thursday, March 21, 2019

RACE 1:

5 RATTLE'M drops, and cuts back to three-quarters of a mile, in the first start since vying for the lead and finishing 3rd vs \$35,000 maidens going 7 furlongs on February 1. Trainer Scott Becker is 25% with the 31-60 days layoff. **3 KING DADDIO** is debuting locally for trainer Kathleen O'Connell after the recent pair of 3rd place finishes vs similar quality at Tampa; Luis Saez rides. **2 COLD WARRIOR**, another from trainer Scott Becker, cuts back to a sprint on the dirt, and adds blinkers, after facing better on the turf in his 2 previous starts.

SELECTIONS: 5-3-2

RACE 2:

1 MARY LEE AND ME is dropping to a winning level after following a sharp \$20,000 score at the distance on January 18 with a pair of ambitious outings in her last 2 starts. Trainer Antonio Sano has Tyler Gaffalione named to ride. **2 BIRD TRAFFIC** is making her sophomore debut the first start since ending her brief 2-year-old season with a \$50,000 maiden victory going a mile and a sixteenth at Churchill last November. **4 GLORIOUS MYSTERY** is back in the claiming ranks after stepping up off the claim by Saffie Joseph Jr, bobbling at the start, and finishing last of 11 in the \$60,000 Queen Mother.

SELECTIONS: 1-2-4

RACE 3:

8 FREEDOM MATTERS will depart from the outside after losing a stretch duel when beaten a well-meant neck at this level and distance. Trainer Allen Iwinski has John Velazquez named on the consistent son of Stroll. **1 IT'S A NEW YEAR** moved to owner/trainer Norm Casse barn after cruising through his conditions when he followed his \$16,000 '2-lifetime' victory in the slop with a rousing 2-length plus score on the turf vs \$16,000 '3-lifetime' claimers; Jose Ortiz rides.

5 ZAP DADDY was game in defeat when he closed from 10th and last to finish 2nd – a neck in front of Freedom Matters last out. Leading jock Irad Ortiz Jr adds to the appeal.

SELECTIONS: 8-1-5

RACE 4:

5 COUNTRY STRONG is sitting on a winning performance after returning from the 2-month freshening to finish 2nd at this level and distance. Trainer Dave Kassen has Jonathan Gonzales in the saddle. **7 MONEY PURSE**, 3 for 4 'in the money' on the GP main track vs similar quality, is going back to the dirt after encountering double-trouble (steadied early & late) when 6th against \$20,000 maidens sprinting on the turf. **3 MONJA** is turning back to 6 furlongs after opening and surrendering an early 2 ½-length lead when finishing a distant 3rd vs similar going a 1-turn mile.

SELECTIONS: 5-7-3

RACE 5:

6 SUNNIVA is a daughter of Speightstown, and a half-sister to G1 Breeders' Cup Classic runner up Toast of New York, debuting locally for trainer Kathleen O'Connell after ending her turf campaign at the Fair Grounds with a 3rd place finish vs maiden special weight competition going a mile and a sixteenth. **5 MAKEALITTLEMISCHIEF** is debuting on the turf for trainer Todd Pletcher after showing promise in a pair of route races on the dirt here during December & January. The daughter of Into Mischief is bred to love the grass.

1 PASSIONOF THE NILE, a daughter of the late-great Pioneerofthe Nile, and a half-sister to G2 winner Mrs. McDougal, debuts for trainer Rodolphe Brisset with Lasix, and Jose Ortiz named to ride.

SELECTIONS: 6-5-1

RACE 6:

5 ECLIPSED MOON moved to the Jose Gallegos barn via the claim after his 2-race win streak at the distance ended when he finished 4th at this level and distance last out. The new connections tab Irad Ortiz Jr to handle the rebound performance.

3 MAJOR ATTITUDE is dropping to the \$12,500 level on the main track after failing to 'hit the board' in a quartet of races vs tougher on the turf. Trainer Marcus Vitali, 21% with the grass-to-dirt move, has Luis Saez in the irons. **4 KING WILDCAT** is eligible to show more after responding to the dropdown with a late-closing 3rd at this level and distance. Trainer Jose Garoffalo has Tyler Gaffalione aboard.

SELECTIONS: 5-3-4

RACE 7:

4 BELLO PORTE will try to keep her record unblemished after following her \$50,000 debut victory with a set-the-pace victory at this level and distance last out. Trainer Victor Barboza Jr, who has 2 in the field (3 Lovely Luvy), has Luis Saez named to ride. **9 FULL SWING** proved her \$50,000 maiden victory wasn't a 1-shot deal when she came right back to run 2nd – as the 4-to-5 favorite - behind Bello Porte last out. Trainer Todd Pletcher has Javier Castellano in the irons. **8 CASSIES DREAMER**, 3rd in the G1 Spinaway and G1 Frizette during her freshman season, makes her 3-year-old debut on the turf the first start since finishing 5th in the G1 Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies. Trainer Barclay Tagg tabs Jose Ortiz, who rode Bello Porte last out, to guide the daughter of Flatter.

SELECTIONS: 4-9-8

RACE 8:

7 HE'S SMOKIN HOT is turning back to three-quarters of a mile after responding to the dropdown in competition with a 3rd place finish – as the odds-on choice - vs this caliber of competition going 7 furlongs. Trainer Joe Orseno has Paco Lopez handling the outside draw. **3 WINNING DRIVE** is stepping up to face winners after returning from the freshening for trainer Jason Servis and crushing a field of \$35,000 state-bred maidens by 7-plus lengths.

2 ARRIVEDERLA is shortening up to 6 furlongs after setting the pace and weakening to finish 4th behind the top choice in their recent clash at seven-eighths of a mile. Trainer Rohan Crichton has Jose Ortiz handling the rematch.

SELECTIONS: 7-3-2

RACE 9:

6 DEVAMANI (FR), listed as a gelding, is making his local debut for trainer Christophe Clement after showing promise vs this level of competition in his 3 North American turf races before the 9-month plus layoff; Irad Ortiz Jr rides. **3 UNBRIDLED HOLIDAY** figures on the 'what have you done lately' angle when he moves to the Jorge Navarro barn, and returns to the turf, after drawing clear to defeat this level of opposition in a race moved from the grass to 9 furlongs on a sealed 'sloppy' surface.

5 BERN' JAMES BERN moved to the Saffie Joseph Jr barn via the claim after following back-to-back victories with a chase-and-fade clunker at this level and distance last out; Tyler Gaffalione rides.

SELECTIONS: 6-3-5

RACE 10:

3 WINNING GAME is hoping to get a winning trip after getting stuck in traffic, and having to steady, when finishing 8th behind Necessary last out. Trainer tabs Paco Lopez to ride the upset special.

6 NECESSARY will face \$12,500 open-claimers after a pair of solid performances vs \$16,000 conditioned claimers, which includes the 2-lifetime victory 2 starts back, and the narrow defeat – as the favorite – vs '3-lifetime' foes last out.

2 FROZEN HANNAH moved to the Saffie Joseph Jr barn via the claim, and makes her first start since the poor showing vs \$16,000 claimers during January. The new connections have Tyler Gaffalione atop the 3-time turf winner.

SELECTIONS: 3-6-2

BEST BET: RACE 5 – 6 SUNNIVA

LONGSHOT: RACE 10 – 3 WINNING GAME