



RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS

by Ron Nicoletti

Thursday, November 8, 2018

RACE 1:

7 SONG OF MELODY moved to the Saffie Joseph Jr barn via the claim after posting her 2nd consecutive open-length victory when she drew clear to defeat \$10,000 conditioned claimers at 7 furlongs, which is clearly her best distance (5-4-0-1). **4 PUBLICIST**, a 5-time winner, is dropping to the \$10,000 level on the main track, and turning back to 7 furlongs, after returning from the layoff to press the pace and weaken to finish 5th vs \$16,000 claimers going a 2-turn mile on the turf. Trainer Georgina Baxter lightens the impost with 7-pound apprentice Kevin Carmona at the controls. **2 VIOLENT DANGER** is plunging to the \$10,000 level in the first start since shipping from Puerto Rico and finishing 5th in a \$25,000 conditioned claimer at Gulfstream on September 16. Note that trainer Victor Barboza Jr is 7 for 25 (28%) with mid-level claimers returning from a 31-60 days layoff.

SELECTIONS: 7-4-2

RACE 2:

1 GOING TO THE BEACH will depart from the rail again after responding to both a distance switch, and a dropdown in competition, with a neck defeat at this level and distance.

6 IL FARAONE is hoping to find just a tad more for the stretch drive after surrendering a late lead when finishing 2nd – beaten a half-length – at this level and distance. Trainer Shamir Maragh has leading apprentice Romero Maragh in the saddle. **4 GREGORY SUN** is stretching out to a mile on the main track after making a bid and flattening out when finishing 5th vs \$8,000 ‘3-lifetime’ claimers going 7 ½ furlongs on the lawn.

SELECTIONS: 1-6-4

RACE 3:

4 SHREW GRIT is dropping to the \$25,000 level, and turning back to 5 furlongs, after stalking the pace and weakening late in back-to-back turf routes contested under maiden special weight conditions. Trainer Mike Yates has Romero Maragh returning on the daughter of Prospective. **1 SHALL RETURN**, an okay 3rd in her career debut sprinting on the grass, is returning to the turf after tracking the pace and finishing 2nd to much-the-best winner Really Cool going 5 ½ furlongs on the main track.

8 LADY OF QUALITY is dropping to the \$25,000 level on the turf, and adding blinkers, after encountering trouble at the start (carried in) and finishing a distant 7th vs \$50,000 state-bred maidens on the main track. Trainer Phil Combest has Carlos Montalvo handling the surface switch.

SELECTIONS: 4-1-8

RACE 4:

3 CLEAR SKY is stretching out to 5 ½ furlongs on the main track after dueling for the lead and weakening when facing \$10,000 maidens going 5 furlongs on the turf. The gelding should have an easier time on or near the lead vs caliber of competition. **8 ENDURING ARCH** is cutting back to a sprint distance after following a well-meant 2nd place finish going three-quarters of a mile 2 starts back with a stalk-and-fade outing going a 2-turn mile last out. **5 DR DUDLEY** is another going back to the dirt hoping the surface switch sparks an improved performance. Trainer Ralph Catanese has Eduardo Nunez up.

SELECTIONS: 3-8-5



RACE 5:

5 ESCAPE VELOCITY will try to make 3 in a row on the turf after parlaying his stalking style into perfectly timed scores at this 7 ½-furlong distance. The gelding should get the same pace scenario that afforded him his recent success.

3 SQUADRON moved to Yvon Belsoeur barn via the claim after using his speed to crush a field of \$10,000 '3-lifetime' claimers on the GP turf. **4 FLOWMOTION** moved to the Saffie Joseph Jr barn after the claim, and returns from the layoff, looking to recapture the form he displayed wiring a field of \$10,000 '3-lifetime' claimers going a mile across town. Trainer Joseph, only 1 for 14 (7%) with horses making the first start after the claim on the turf, after a 31-60-day break, has leading jock Edgard Zayas at the controls.

SELECTIONS: 5-3-4

RACE 6:

5 PRETTY OVERDRIVEN is dropping to the \$16,000 level after vying for the lead and retreating when facing \$30,000 '2-lifetime' claimers at the distance last out. Trainer Kathleen O'Connell, 8 for 17 (47%) with similar class drops sprinting on the dirt, has Edgard Zayas at the controls.

1 DREAMINGOFMERMAIDS is stepping up to face winners after stalking early, and drawing clear late, to wallop a field \$10,000 maidens going 6 ½ furlongs here last out. **4 COOL SKY** is making her first start since drawing clear to crush a group of \$20,000 maidens at Gulfstream on August 17th. Trainer Chuck Simon has the sophomore working steadily at Palm Meadows.

SELECTIONS: 5-1-4

RACE 7:

8 PRAY PRAY PRAY is sitting on a winning performance after returning from the layoff to make a strong outside bid and finish 2nd – beaten three-quarters of a length – at this level and distance. She should sit the 'trip' behind the speed, which includes

3 BONNIE SCOT. The daughter of Graydar is stepping up to face winners after the successful outing over the course in which she used her speed to break her maiden at the \$10,000 level. Trainer Natalie Fawkes has Nik Juarez in the saddle. **4 GRACIAS ADIOS** lived her to her name when she said adios to the field and defeated \$12,500 maidens on the GP turf, despite the fact she broke from a demanding outside post (12).

SELECTIONS: 8-3-4

RACE 8:

5 REAGAN'S HEART is dropping to the \$35,000 level after an eventful start vs \$50,000 state-bred maidens in which he broke outward, and had to be coaxed back into the field before finishing a distant 5th going 5 ½ furlongs here last out. Trainer Rory Miller has Samy Camacho in the saddle. **2 VENEZUELAN WARRIOR** moved to the Saffie Joseph Jr barn via the claim after disputing the pace and finishing 2nd - as the favorite – in a \$25,000 maiden race here last out. The new connections have the freshman firing bullets in preparation for this assignment. **9 R MERCEDES BOY** is dropping to the \$35,000 level after chasing the pace and flattening out in a 'key' \$50,000 maiden test that has already produced a trio of next-out winners from 6 starters. Trainer Georgina Baxter has Edgard Zayas in the saddle.

SELECTIONS: 5-2-9

BEST BET: RACE 6 – 5 PRETTY OVERDRIVEN

LONGSHOT: RACE 8 – 5 REAGAN'S HEART