



RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS

by Ron Nicoletti

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RACE 1:

6 THORISTIC is dropping to the \$12,500 level after a solid local debut in which he closed against the bias to finish 2nd – beaten a neck – vs \$20,000 conditioned claimers at the distance. Trainer Bobby Dibona has Edgard Zayas in the saddle. **8 SUNSET CATCH** is turning back to a mile on the turf after the pair of solid performances at a mile and a sixteenth in which he was 2nd on the turf two starts back, and followed that with a 6-length plus maiden victory in a race moved from the lawn to a fast-main track. **7 PIAZZA DEL CAMPO** is debut locally for trainer Tim Hills looking to carve out a ‘key’ stalking trip behind what should be solid early fractions in the opener. Note that the gelding is 4-for-7 ‘in the money’ at the distance.

SELECTIONS: 6-8-7

RACE 2:

1 NONSUCH, the beaten favorite in 6 consecutive races, drops another notch on the maiden scale, and adds the blinkers back, after stalking the pace and finishing a weakening 4th in a \$50,000 maiden sprint going three-quarters of a mile. Trainer Jose Pinchin has Emisael Jaramillo handling the turnback to 5 furlongs. **5 AMERICAN POWER** is a son of Power Broker debuting for trainer Jason Servis with 7 morning workouts showing, which includes a pair half-mile drill at Palm Meadows. Trainer Servis, 27% with his debut maiden claimers, adds Lasix, and has Albin Jimenez named to ride. **3 LITTLE PLUMBER**, 2nd in the slop vs \$25,000 maidens in his career debut, returns to the claiming ranks after setting the pace and fading when facing state-bred maiden special weight competition going 6 furlongs across town. He’s a major player at this 5-furlong distance.

SELECTIONS: 1-5-3

RACE 3:

1 POWER JAK, 2nd in her \$12,500 career debut going 5 ½ furlongs, drops, and debuts on the turf, after dueling for the lead along the inside before weakening to get beat double-digit lengths – as the favorite – in a \$25,000 maiden event on the Gulfstream main track. Trainer Gilberto Zerpa has Emisael Jaramillo named on the daughter of Power Broker.

6 EROTIC KISS is dropping a notch on the maiden scale after encountering trouble at the 3/8th-pole (taken up sharply) prior to finishing 4th in a \$16,000 maiden test at the distance.

7 INFINITE OZ, now in the Ruben Gracida barn, the daughter of Crown of Thorns, who is bred to respond favorably to the turf, debuts locally after showing speed and retreating in his \$16,000 career debut going 5 ½ furlongs on the Laurel main track.

SELECTIONS: 1-6-7

RACE 4:

2 DARING EGO is a son of Into Mischief debuting for trainer Jason Servis in a perfect spot for a first-time starter to succeed. The freshman gets Lasix, and has Tyler Gaffalione in the saddle. **6 COTTON TO** is stepping up to face maiden special weight competition after rallying to finish 3rd at the \$50,000 and \$35,000 levels, respectively. Trainer Larry Bates has Luca Panici atop the son of High Cotton.

3 OROSCOPO is turning back to a sprint distance after setting the pace and fading vs maiden special weight runners going a mile and a sixteenth on the Woodbine synthetic surface. Trainer Mark Casse has Emisael Jaramillo handling the turnback in distance.

SELECTIONS: 2-6-3



RACE 5:

5 SOUND DEFENCE is a consistent daughter of First Defence who goes back to the turf after using her speed to defeat \$25,000 optional claimers in a race moved to 5 furlongs on a sealed sloppy track. The 5-furlong turf specialist (10-4-1-3) should be flaunting her speed as soon as they pop the gate latch.

4 BLAME IT ON DIXIE is dropping to the \$25,000 level, and turning back to 5 furlongs, in the first start since stalking the pace and fading vs better in a pair of turf routes at the Championship Meeting. Trainer Todd Pletcher, 32% with the longer than 180 days layoff, has the \$385,000 daughter of Blame training consistently at Palm Beach Downs.

7 CRAZY ABOUT JAZZ is debuting locally for trainer Christophe Clement after ending her campaign on the New York turf circuit with a stalk-and-close victory vs \$35,000 '3-lifetime' claimers going 7 furlongs on the Belmont turf.

SELECTIONS: 5-4-7

RACE 6:

3 UNO DUDE is returning locally for trainer Ralph Nicks, and turning back to three-quarter of a mile, after responding to the addition of blinkers with an improved 3rd place finish vs similar quality going 6 ½ furlongs on the Belmont main track. The daughter of First Dude has run well on this surface in the past.

5 PARTY TARDE is stepping up to the next logical level after returning from the 5-month layoff to defeat \$25,000 maidens here on a sealed 'sloppy' track. **6 LIZA STAR** is dropping to the \$20,000 'non-winners of 2-lifetime' level in the first start since finishing a troubled 4th in a \$30,000 conditioned claimer across town. Trainer Albino Rossi has the daughter of Cool Coal Man working sharply for the return.

SELECTIONS: 3-5-6

RACE 7:

3 RETURN TASENDA is sitting on a winning performance after responding to the dropdown in competition by coming within a scant nose of exiting the maiden ranks at this level and distance. **7 MEANT TO BE MINE** is taking a big drop to the \$10,000 level after showing speed and fading late vs considerably tougher on both turf and dirt. Trainer Kathleen O'Connell spots the daughter of Kantharos where she should be effective.

1 HOSTILE BUT AWESOME is turning back to 5 furlongs, and dropping to this level, after setting the pace and weakening to finish 4th vs \$16,000 maidens going 7 ½ furlongs here last out. The concern is the zero-for-5 record at 5 furlongs on the turf (5-0-0-0).

SELECTIONS: 3-7-1

RACE 8:

4 MOTATAN is turning back slightly to 7 ½ furlongs after returning from the freshening to finish a rallying 3rd vs this caliber of competition going a mile here. Trainer Francisco D'Angelo has Marcos Meneses in the saddle.

2 MCMANAMAN is stretching out around 2-turns on the turf after using his tactical speed to 'hit the board' in a pair of 7-furlong sprints on the main track. Trainer Antonio Sano has Jilver Chamafi handling the surface switch.

1 FLEDERMAUS is making his first start since the promising turf debut across town in which he recovered from trouble after the start (bumped) to finish a closing 3rd at this level and distance. Trainer Mike Yates has Luis Castillo handling the inside post.

SELECTIONS: 4-2-1

BEST BET: RACE 5 – 5 SOUND DEFENCE

LONGSHOT: RACE 7 – 4 LOVELY GRACE