



# RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS

by *Ron Nicoletti*

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## RACE 1:

**2 RUBELLITE** is dropping to the \$16,000 level after setting the pace and getting leg weary late with finishing 9<sup>th</sup> in her local debut, for trainer Danny Gargan, at the \$40,000 level.

**10 WINDJAMMER (GER)**, another from Danny Gargan, will try to repair her current chalk burning reputation when she stretches out to a mile and a sixteenth after rallying to finish 2<sup>nd</sup> vs this level of competition going a mile. **1 PLAY THAT TONE** has speed, the rail, and a chance to grab a share of the trifecta or superfecta.

**SELECTIONS: 2-10-1**

## RACE 2:

**4 FIRST GOAL** is dropping into this conditioned claimer after returning from the freshening to set the pace and finish 2<sup>nd</sup> – beaten a length at the distance – vs \$6,250 open claimers. **2 OFF DUTY** is hoping to find a little more for the stretch drive after making a middle move to get the lead before fading to finish 3<sup>rd</sup> at this level and distance.

**3 PACHANGA PARTY**, a 13-time winner, looking for his first victory since last July, deserves warhorse status when he going for his 8<sup>th</sup> lifetime victory at 5 ½ furlongs.

**SELECTIONS: 4-2-3**

## RACE 3:

**7 LADY'S ISLAND** is returning to the turf after shipping up to Tampa to defeat a pair of next-out winners when facing \$32,000 optional claimers going 6 furlongs in the slop. Note the mare's 3 previous turf races were against stakes competition. **6 CORDELE**, who should sit in the catbird seat behind the speed, is hoping to make amends after drifting inward during the stretch run, finishing 1<sup>st</sup>, but being disqualified and placed 8<sup>th</sup> for her antics in the stretch.

**3 AWESOMENDDENSOME** is stepping up the competition after living up to her name when she posted back-to-back victories, including her last, from a tough outside post.

**SELECTIONS: 7-6-3**

## RACE 4:

**4 J BOYS ECHO**, a former Kentucky Derby participant, plummets into this \$30,000 conditioned claimer after finishing a sightseeing 5<sup>th</sup> in his local return vs \$62,500 optional claimers. **3 ELLAS MY LOVE** moved to the Jorge Navarro barn via the claim, and steps up to this level, in the first start since finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> behind repeat winner Trio of Champions in a \$12,500 '3-lifetime claimer going 6 ½ furlongs. The gelding is training sharply for the stretchout to a mile. **6 ALL STAR RED** will be outfitted with blinkers after rallying to finish 2<sup>nd</sup> in back-to-back races at this level and distance.

**SELECTIONS: 4-3-6**

## RACE 5:

**2 ERIC THE SALESMAN**, listed as a gelding, is stretching out to a mile, with Hall of Fame jock Javier Castellano in the irons, after breaking from post 12, setting the pace, weakening to finish 3<sup>rd</sup> going 7 ½ furlongs. **6 RESTART** is cutting back to a mile after shaking off some early traffic to finish a late-running 3<sup>rd</sup> vs similar going a mile and a sixteenth. **12 KING LEO** breaks from the outside again looking to improve in the recent stalk-the-pace 5<sup>th</sup> at this level and distance; Irad Ortiz Jr rides.

**SELECTIONS: 2-6-12**

**RACE 6:**

**1 ARTICULATOR** is cutting back to three-quarters of a mile after showing speed and weakening late in a trio of allowance level sprints going 7 furlongs. Leading trainer Jorge Navarro has Emisael Jaramillo handling the inside draw.

**2 BOLD ENVOY** is going back to the main track after returning from the 11-month layoff to finish a much-needed, slow starting, 2<sup>nd</sup> going 5 furlongs on the turf. Trainer Georgina Baxter has John Velazquez handling the surface switch.

**3 TRIO OF CHAMPIONS** is stepping up the competition after using his tactical speed to post back-to-back sprint victories. Trainer Juan A Rodriguez has Leonel Reyes in the irons.

**SELECTIONS: 1-2-3****RACE 7:**

**8 TERYN IT UP** is stepping up to face winners after closing 5-wide to defeat \$50,000 maidens at a mile and a sixteenth. The son of English Channel should sit the 'trip' behind the hot pace expected; Julien Leparoux rides for Brian Lynch.

**3 PEACOCK KITTEN** is turning back slightly to 9 furlongs after a sharp effort at a mile & three-sixteenths in which he set the pace and finished 2<sup>nd</sup> – beaten a half-length – vs this caliber of competition. **7 GOLDEN SPEAR**, in for the \$35,000 tag in this optional claimer, is hoping for clear sailing after altering course and finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> behind Illudere, who finished 3<sup>rd</sup> behind Peacock Kitten in their recent clash at 1 3/16 miles.

**9 THE GREEN MO'STER** is stretching out to 9 furlongs after getting mugged at the furlong marker last out and losing all chance. Trainer Marcus Vitali has Javier Castellano penciled in for the return riding assignment.

**SELECTIONS: 8-3-7-9****RACE 8:**

**6 KING OTTOKAR**, a half-brother to Grade 2 winner Free Rose, is stepping up to face winners after using his speed to defeat a trio of next-out winners at a mile. Trainer Mark Casse has Julien Leparoux atop the son of Temple City.

**7 JAIS'S SOLITUDE** is stretching out to a mile and a sixteenth after returning from a layoff at Tampa to finish a rally 2<sup>nd</sup> vs \$75,000 optional claimers going a mile on the turf.

Trainer Eddie Kenneally is 34% with the 2<sup>nd</sup> start after a 45-180 days layoff. **1 SAMBACER** was the exception to the norm when he set a pressured pace and won first-out for trainer Shug McGaughey. The gelded son of First Samurai has Jose Ortiz going for 2 in a row.

**SELECTIONS: 6-7-1****RACE 9:**

**9 X Y JET** is looking to bounce back after getting caught up in a suicide speed duel and tiring to finish 4<sup>th</sup> in his first race since winning the Grade 3 Smile Sprint here on June 30<sup>th</sup>. The winner of more an \$1.5 million has Emisael Jaramillo at the controls. **6 TIMBER GHOST** is making his 4-year-old debut after ending his sophomore campaign up north with a 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish in a fast and fruitful \$62,500 optional claimer that produced a pair of next-out winners from 3 starters.

**8 REASON TO SOAR**, 2<sup>nd</sup> behind X Y Jet in the G3 Smile, renews the rivalry after failing to fire in his return in the Sunshine Millions Sprint. Trainer George Weaver has Tyler Gaffalione handling the rematch.

**SELECTIONS: 9-6-8****RACE 10:**

**5 CLEAR FOR ACTION** is dropping to the \$20,000 level in the first outing since showing early interest and tiring vs maiden special competition here on December 23<sup>rd</sup>. Trainer Mike Maker is 20% with the maiden special weight to maiden claiming angle. **1 COAL TRUTH** is debuting on the turf with blinkers added with the tactical speed, and the breeding, needed to handle the turf from his inside post. Trainer Anthony Quartarolo has Javier Castellano named to ride. **4 TROPICAL COGNAC** is dropping to the \$20,000 level with blinkers added after making a bid and flattening out when finishing 7<sup>th</sup> vs \$35,000 maidens. Trainer Michelle Nihei has Leonel Reyes named to ride.

**SELECTIONS: 5-1-4****BEST BET: RACE 8 – 3 KING OTTOKAR****LONGSHOT: RACE 7 – 8 TERYN IT UP**