



# RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS

BY RON NICOLETTI



Friday, April 16, 2021

## RACE 1:

**9 CONSTITUENCY** moved to the Greg Sacco barn via the claim, and turns back to three-quarters of a mile, after finishing a solid 2<sup>nd</sup> vs similar going 6 ½ furlongs. The new connections tab Paco Lopez to ride. **2 NAHUATL** drops, and turns back to a sprint distance, after stalking the pace and finishing a workman-like 4<sup>th</sup> vs \$35,000 maidens going a 1-turn mile. Trainer Fausto Gutierrez has Angel Arroyo handling the turnback/dropdown. **6 DR. ROGER** moves to the Juan Avila barn after the claim, and steps it up a notch, after finishing a distant 2<sup>nd</sup> – as the favorite – vs \$16,000 maidens going 6 ½ furlongs: Edgard Zayas rides.

**SELECTIONS: 9-2-6**

## RACE 2:

**4 KITODAN** is a son of Point of Entry, and a half-brother to G2 stakes-placed Market King, debuting for trainer Jorge Delgado, who has a 27% average with his 2-year-old runners: Paco Lopez rides. **2 NOBLE PRESENT** is a daughter of Noble Bird, and a half-sister to Ceci Valentina, who was a multiple stakes winner during her freshman season. Trainer Angel Rodriguez has Leonel Reyes named to ride. **5 MERLIN** is a Arindel homebred son of Brethren, and a half-brother to Genghis, who was stakes-placed as a 2-year-old. Trainer Juan Alvarado has Edgard Zayas named to ride.

**SELECTIONS: 4-2-5**

## RACE 3:

**12 DADDY'S JOY** is stretching out around 2-turns again after following a well-meant 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish going a mile and a sixteenth during December with a set-the-pace 2<sup>nd</sup> – as the favorite – going 5 furlongs - vs \$16,000 state-bred optional claimers last out. Trainer Saffie Joseph Jr has Edgard Zayas handling the outside draw.

**10 LOOKINLIKEAQUEEN**, in the for the \$20,000 claiming tag, the mare comes off a solid 2<sup>nd</sup>-place finish vs \$16,000 starter allowance runners to figure on the ticket. Trainer Herman Wilensky has Joe Bravo named to ride.

**11 FIERCE SCARLETT**, now in the Rohan Crichton barn, the daughter of Scat Daddy makes her first start since closing to finish 3<sup>rd</sup> behind Daddy's Joy when they hooked up during December. Paco Lopez handles the rematch.

**SELECTIONS: 12-10-11**

## RACE 4:

**6 SUNSHINE CITY**, a previous winner at this 5-furlong distance, turns back after setting the pace and finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> behind red-hot 4-time winner Por Que No going a mile and a sixteenth. Trainer Bobby Dibona has Edwin Gonzalez up. **7 EXACT** is stepping up the competition after posting her 2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive victory when she defeated \$35,000 claimers – as the 3-to-5 favorite – by almost 5 lengths. Trainer Todd Pletcher has Emisael Jaramillo in the saddle again.

**1 RUNNING MEMORIES** is dropping into this starter optional claimer after following her debut victory at the \$25,000 level with a troubled starting (head turned), and traffic filled (checked ¼-pole) 4<sup>th</sup>, in the \$75,000 Melody of Colors. Trainer Joe Orseno has Victor Lebron handling the inside post.

**SELECTIONS: 6-7-1**

## RACE 5:

**8 EXCALIBUR** has been knocking on the door in consecutive races vs this level of competition, which includes the 2<sup>nd</sup>-place finish – as the 3-to-5 favorite – going this mile distance last out. The obvious concern is his penchant for finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> (16-1-4-2).



**4 ALASTOR** is hoping to save more for the stretch run after setting the pace and yielding at the ¼-pole when finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> behind Excalibur last out. Owner/trainer Rohan Crichton has Miguel Vazquez up. **3 RACK GIN**, now in the Monica McGoey barn, the 5-year-old stretches out to a mile after shaking off a troubled start (hopped) to finish 2<sup>nd</sup> vs similar going 5 ½ furlongs.

**SELECTIONS: 8-4-3**

**RACE 6:**

**6 DR. DUKE** is hoping for a clean trip after following his maiden victory with troubled outing (checked turn) in the \$75,000 Texas Glitter. Trainer Jena Antonucci has Paco Lopez in the irons. **2 NO QUE NO** gets the Lasix back after following a pair of solid performances at this level and distance with a poor showing in the \$75,000 Texas Glitter. Trainer Fausto Gutierrez has Angel Arroyo named to ride. **7 BRIGHT DEVIL (IRE)** gets both Lasix and blinkers when making his first start since finishing a sightseeing 7<sup>th</sup> in the 6-furlong Grade 3 Futurity at Belmont. He makes his sophomore debut, for Mark Casse, with Edwin Gonzalez named to ride.

**SELECTIONS: 6-2-7**

**RACE 7:**

**1 BRIELLA**, claimed for \$50,000 2 starts back, is in for the \$25,000 claiming tag after showing speed and fading vs \$50,000 starter optional claimers last out. Trainer Kelly Breen has Paco Lopez named on this shaky dropdown.

**2 PULLING STRINGS** is stepping up, and stretching out, after drawing clear to wallop a field of \$12,500 maidens by 6 ½ lengths. She gets the acid test with Edgard Zayas in the irons.

**5 C'MON KAREN** is stretching out to three-quarters of a mile after rallying 5-wide to defeat \$25,000 state-bred maidens in her 5 ½-furlong debut. Trainer Bob Hess Jr has Rajiv Maragh in the saddle.

**SELECTIONS: 1-2-5**

**RACE 8:**

**2 KROY** moves to the Carlos David barn via the claim, and stretches out to a mile and a sixteenth, after using his speed to defeat this level of competition going a mile last out. Trainer David, 39% with new claims, has Emisael Jaramillo named to ride. **5 FREEDOM MATTERS**, 1 of 2 in the field for trainer Mike Maker, moves to his barn via the claim, and stretches out to his most accomplished distance (7-2-4-0), after finish 3<sup>rd</sup> behind Kroy when they competed at a mile last out: Edgard Zayas rides.

**3 DOMINATE THEMOMENT** is another stretching out to 8 ½ furlongs after splitting the top 2 when finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> going the mile last out. Trainer Allen Iwinski has Joe Bravo at the controls again.

**SELECTIONS: 2-5-3**

**RACE 9:**

**3 MUMBAI** looks very tough in the nightcap after returning from the 7-month plus layoff to finish 2<sup>nd</sup> – beaten a neck – at this level and distance. Trainer Christophe Clement has Paco Lopez in the saddle. **4 WHAT A TRICK** proved she could handle the bump up in competition when she followed a troubled 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish at the \$50,000 level with a 2<sup>nd</sup>-place finish at this level and distance. Trainer Kent Sweezey has Edwin Gonzalez named to ride, as Paco sticks with the top choice. **1 WISE MEMORIES** is a regally bred daughter of Tapit debuting for Whisper Hill Farm and Ralph Nicks with Lasix, and slew of workouts showing over the track in preparation for this assignment. The sophomore gets Lasix, and has Edgard Zayas in the saddle.

**SELECTIONS: 3-4-1**

**BEST BET: RACE 8 – 2 KROY**

**LONGSHOT: RACE 4 – 6 SUNSHINE CITY**