



RACE BY RACE SELECTIONS

by Ron Nicoletti

Friday, April 24, 2020

RACE 1:

1 MR TITO'S listed as a gelding, drops to the \$16,000 level, and gets Lasix, in the first race since failing to show much in what turned out to be a monster maiden special weight 'key-race' at Churchill that produced 5-next-out winners from 10 starters. Note that trainer Ian Wilkes is 20% with the longer than 180 days layoff. **9 FIRST IN LINE** is stretching out to a mile and a sixteenth after shaking off early trouble and finishing a closing 4th vs this level of competition going a mile. Trainer George Weaver has Luis Saez up. **7 FAYEZ** is stretching out to 8 ½ furlongs again hoping the latest distance switch helps produce the elusive maiden victory (15-0-3-3); Leonel Reyes rides.

SELECTIONS: 1-9-7

RACE 2:

1 AMELIA MADELYN, a previous winner at the distance, is dropping to the \$20,000 level, and stretching out, after finishing 4th vs \$32,000 starter optional claimers going 6 furlongs. Trainer Kelly Breen, who claimed her 2 starts back, has Joe Bravo in the saddle. **4 HARTLING**, a perfect 2 for 2 going a mile on the dirt, drops to this level after showing some early interest and fading vs \$50,000 claimers going a 2-turn mile on the turf. Trainer Mike Pino has Luis Saez in the irons. **7 LADY ARCHA** moves to the Oscar Gonzalez barn via the claim, and stretches out to 8 furlongs, after her impressive 3-race win streak ended when she failed to fire vs \$25,000 claimers going seven-eighths of a mile.

SELECTIONS: 1-4-7

RACE 3:

3 PANAREA is dropping to the \$25,000 level after returning from the 4-month plus layoff to finish a respectable 3rd in a 'key' \$50,000 claimer that's produced a pair of next-out winners.

6 PERFECTCOMBINATION is dropping into the maiden claiming ranks after breaking slowly and never getting untracked in her special weight debut at Tampa. Trainer Graham Motion has Rajiv Maragh atop the 4-year-old daughter of Bodemeister.

7 KOZY DREAMS is cutting back to three-quarters of a mile after following a 2nd place finish at this distance 2 starts back with a duel for the lead and fade 5th – as the favorite – going 6 ½ furlongs.

SELECTIONS: 3-6-7

RACE 4:

3 I'M PRAYINGFORTHAT, 2nd sprinting at this distance vs \$25,000 maidens 2 starts back, drops, and turns back, after showing some early interest and fading when tussling with state-bred special weight competition going a mile. **6 CULTIVATION** is a candidate for a rebound performance after following a nose defeat at this distance 2 starts back with a slow starting 6th – as the favorite – last out.

5 WILD ABOUT THIS was solid in defeat when turning back to 5 furlongs for the first time and responding with a 3rd place finish at this level and distance.

SELECTIONS: 3-6-5

RACE 5:

6 FRENCHMEN STREET was solid in defeat when he stepped up off the claim by trainer Mike Maker to set the pace and finish 2nd – beaten a length – at this level and distance; Luis Saez rides.

2 TIGER BLOOD is a winner of 3 of 4 turf sprints this year, including the troubled starting victory vs \$25,000 starter optional claimers last out. The winner of 8 of 9 races at 5 furlongs, has Edgard Zayas at the controls. **8 COOP TRIES HARDER**, who does his best running from 'off the pace', can end up sitting in the garden spot behind what is sure to be a mad scramble for the lead. Trainer Jane Cibelli, who also has What's Inside in the field, has Miguel Vazquez named to ride this half of the uncoupled entry.

SELECTIONS: 6-2-8

RACE 6:

3 EAST COAST SWING is turning back to 7 furlongs on the main track after showing speed and fading late when facing allowance competition going around 2-turns on the Tampa turf. Trainer Rodolphe Brisset adds blinkers for the dropdown to the \$40,000 '2-lifetime' level. **2 SIMPLE STORY** is stepping up to face winners after returning from the 4-month layoff to break her maiden at the \$50,000 level. Trainer Stan Hough has Luis Saez going for 2 in a row. **1 THE GOSPEL OF JOHN** is dropping into this conditioned claimer, and cutting back to 7 furlongs with blinkers added, after failing to fire in a 'key' \$25,000 optional claimer going a mile and a sixteenth here during February.

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

8 KYLE is cutting back to three-quarters of a mile after tracking the pace and finishing 2nd vs \$16,000 state-bred optional claimers going 6 ½ furlongs. Trainer Carlos David, who also has French Quarter in the field, has Miguel Vazquez named to ride this half of the uncoupled entry. **4 COMBINATION** is stepping up to the \$12,500 level again after his 2-race win streak ended when he finished 3rd – as the favorite – vs \$8,000 claimers. Trainer Murat Sancal, who claimed him last out, has Luis Saez trying to get the gelding back to the winner's circle.

3 FRENCH QUARTER, the other starter for Carlos David, will be tested for class after winning 2 of 4 races this year vs softer competition.

SELECTIONS: 8-4-3**RACE 8:**

2 SECRET STASH (IRE) is stretching out to a mile and an eighth after returning from the layoff and finishing 3rd in the mile and a sixteenth Grade 3 Fla Oaks at Tampa. Trainer Mark Casse has Edgard Zayas in the irons. **3 EVE OF WAR**, a daughter of Declaration of War (War Front), is debuting on the turf for trainer Todd Pletcher after the pair of solid performances on the main track, which includes the head-swirling debut going three-quarters of a mile. The sophomore is bred to love both the surface and distance.

6 ELLA BRILLA, the only previous winner in the field going 9 furlongs, is stretching out after finishing 3rd vs \$50,000 optional claimers going a mile and a sixteenth here during January. Trainer Brian Lynch has Emisael Jaramillo named to ride.

SELECTIONS: 2-3-6**RACE 9:**

7 SHREWDNESS (GB), who posted her only previous victory on a synthetic surface in Great Britain, will try the dirt at 8 ½ furlongs after finishing 3rd here in a stamina-enhancing outing going 12 furlongs on the turf. She's the upset special.

4 WHISPERING BEAUTY is cutting back to a mile and a sixteenth, and debuting on the main track with blinkers added, after displaying tactical speed vs allowance company going around 2-turns on the turf. Trainer Brendan Walsh has Dylan Davis up.

1 SLAM DUNK is making her sophomore debut the first start since breaking her maiden in her 2-year-old finale going a mile in the 'slop' at Churchill. She'll need her best to defeat older horses in her first outing back. **3 GRACEFUL PRINCESS**, now in the Todd Pletcher barn, the daughter of Tapit stretches out to a mile and a sixteenth after ending her 3-year-old season with a string of poor sprint performances. The 4-year-old, firing bullets at Palm Beach Downs, has Luis Saez at the controls.

SELECTIONS: 7-4-1-3**RACE 10:**

11 CANDY COMA is dropping to the \$12,500 level after surrendering a late lead when finishing 2nd in his \$25,000 career debut at the distance. Trainer Wesley Ward has Dylan Davis handling the dropdown. **12 ANNUALIZED** is another dropping to this level after encountering trouble at the 1/8th pole and finishing 4th behind repeat winner Ohanee at the \$25,000 level. Trainer Saffie Joseph Jr has Victor Lebron handling the outside post.

5 NOTHIN BUT NET, listed as a gelding, moves to the Joe Orseno barn after finishing 2nd at the distance vs \$16,000 maidens.

SELECTIONS: 11-12-5**BEST BET: RACE 6 – 3 EAST COAST SWING****LONGSHOT: RACE 9 – 7 SHREWDNESS (GB)**