



RACE BY RACE SELECTIONS

by *Ron Nicoletti*

Friday, April 3, 2020

RACE 1:

6 BULLDAT should be primed and ready to offer more in her 2nd outing over the turf after stalking early, and reaching the lead, before fading to finish 4th. Trainer Terri Pompay has Miguel Vazquez in the saddle again. **1 MISSANDEI** is a 4-year-old daughter of Fed Biz debuting for trainer Brendan Walsh with Lasix, and Tyler Gaffalione named to ride. It's the perfect spot for a first-time starter to be successful. **3 PRINCESA CRYSTAL (GB)**, beaten only a neck at the distance 2 starts ago, turns back after finishing a wide 4th going a mile and a sixteenth last out.

SELECTIONS: 6-1-3

RACE 2:

7 FRONTIER MESA is stepping up to face winners after responding to the addition of blinkers with a rousing \$50,000 maiden victory at the distance. Trainer Kelly Breen tabs Emisael Jaramillo to ride. **4 FLAMING HOT** will face \$30,000 open-claimers after responding in the first race after the claim by Scott Becker by coming within a nose of defeating \$25,000 state-bred optional claimers at the distance; Marcos Meneses rides. **5 BEYOND GONE** is dropping to this level after rallying late to finish 4th – at the distance – vs \$50,000 starter optional claimers. Trainer Ken McPeck has Tyler named to ride.

SELECTIONS: 7-4-5

RACE 3:

3 NOT NOW RAND has his maiden tag carved in half, and turns back to 5 ½ furlongs, after returning from the freshening to finish a chase-and-fade 4th vs \$25,000 maidens going 6 ½ furlongs. Trainer Stan Hough has Luis Saez in the saddle again.

8 NEWYORK GIANT, who was beaten a head in the first race after the claim by Saffie Joseph Jr in early January, was sent to the sidelines after finishing a wide and distant 3rd – as the 3-to-5 favorite – in his last. The barn, 30% with the 61-180 days layoff, have Emisael Jaramillo named to ride. **2 NEXTSTOP POKIPC** is plunging to \$10,500 level on the main track after recovering from a slow start to finish 4th vs \$25,000 maidens going 5 furlongs on the turf. Tyler Gaffalione rides for Jorge Abreu.

SELECTIONS: 3-8-2

RACE 4:

1 THRESHOLD has his claiming tag sliced in half after showing some early interest and tiring in his \$50,000 career debut, a race that has already produced a pair of next-out winners. Trainer Mark Casse has Tyler handling the inside draw.

6 STARSHIP BUBBA moved to the Mike Maker barn via the claim after stalking the pace and fading vs \$25,000 maidens going a 1-turn mile on the dirt; Luis Saez handles the surface switch.

12 PLAN OF ATTACK moved to the Kathleen O'Connell barn after the claim, and steps up to the \$25,000 level, after encountering early traffic problems and finishing a closing 4th on the grass vs \$16,000 maidens; Edgard Zayas rides.

SELECTIONS: 1-6-12

RACE 5:

2 DALARNA is turning back to a mile (11-5-0-2) after drawing clear to post his 3rd consecutive victory when defeating this caliber of competition going a mile and a sixteenth on a 'good' turf. Trainer Bobby Dibona has Victor Lebron going for 4 in a row.

8 MY POINT EXACTLY, 2nd behind Dalarna when they hooked up in the \$50,000 Little Magician, renews the rivalry after finishing a well-meant 2nd vs \$25,000 starter optional claimers last out. Trainer Carlos David has Edgard Zayas handling the rematch. **7 POWER WALKER** is returning to the Gulfstream turf (3-2-1-0) after shipping up to Tampa and defeating \$16,000 open-claimers going a mile on the grass. Trainer Georgina Baxter has Emisael Jaramillo at the controls.

SELECTIONS: 2-8-7

RACE 6:

3 CANDY MACHINE is stretching out to 8 ½ furlongs after rallying to finish 2nd in his screw-tightening debut going 6 furlongs. Trainer Chad Brown has Tyler Gaffalione in the irons.

5 ELLIS ISLAND is stretching out around 2-turns after rallying to finish 3rd in his 7-furlong career debut. Trainer Todd Pletcher has Luis Saez named to ride the \$180,000 son of Will Take Charge. **2 OR'EFFICE** will be outfitted with blinkers after following a 4th place finish going a mile on the turf with a 2nd-place finish – beaten a half-length – in a race moved from the turf to 9 furlongs on a sealed 'sloppy' track. Trainer Mark Hennig has Joe Bravo named to ride.

SELECTIONS: 3-5-2

RACE 7:

2 INTEREST is dropping to the \$12,500 level after losing all chance when stumbling badly at the start of a \$25,000 starter optional claimer going a mile on the turf. Trainer Saffie Joseph Jr removes the blinkers, and tabs Luis Saez to ride.

7 SILLY NOTION, now in the Larry Rivelli barn, the daughter of Itsmyluckyday debuts locally after rallying to break her maiden at first asking going a mile and a sixteenth on the Tampa turf. The barn, 29% with new additions to the shedrow, tab Tyler Gaffalione to ride. **4 LA TRES JOLIE** is dropping to this level after making a middle move and weakening to finish 6th in her career turf debut going a mile vs \$20,000 claimers. Trainer Antonio Sano has Edgard Zayas handling the dropdown.

SELECTIONS: 2-7-4

RACE 8:

4 OFF TOPIC, a Grade 1 stakes-placed daughter of Street Sense, makes her 4-year-old debut at a 1-turn mile after ending her sophomore campaign with an allowance victory going a 1-turn mile and a sixteenth at Belmont last September. Trainer Todd Pletcher, 29% with the 180 day-plus layoff, has Luis Saez named to ride. **6 W W FITZY** is dropping back to the \$62,500 level after following the victory going 6 furlongs with an ambitious 6th place finish in the 7-furlong Grade 3 Hurricane Bertie. Trainer Scott Becker has Marcos Meneses handling the stretchout to a mile. **5 FINAL CUT** is making her 4-year-old debut after ending her 3-year-old season on a roll when reeling off 3 consecutive victories. Trainer Vicky Oliver has Joe Bravo named to ride.

SELECTIONS: 4-6-5

RACE 9:

7 CHEROKEE SOUND is making her first start since rallying from 'off the pace' to finish 3rd – beaten a neck – at this level and distance during January. Trainer Wesley Ward has the daughter of English Channel firing bullets for the return to action. **3 TAPIT TO RIDE** is dropping to the \$25,000 level after facing maiden special weight competition in 3 consecutive turf outings at the Championship Meet. Trainer Todd Pletcher has Luis Saez returning on strictly the one to beat.

5 LASKA is dropping to this level after returning from the layoff to finish 4th vs \$40,000 maidens at this mile and a sixteenth distance. Trainer Michael Matz has Joe Bravo named to ride.

SELECTIONS: 7-3-5

BEST BET: RACE 7 – 2 INTEREST

LONGSHOT: RACE 9 – 7 CHEROKEE SOUND