



RACE BY RACE SELECTIONS

by Ron Nicoletti

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RACE 1:

4 SAUCY TUNE is tumbling to the \$12,500 level after returning from the layoff, breaking poorly from an outside post, and failing to get untracked going 5 furlongs vs maiden special weight competition. Trainer Joe Orseno has Emisael Jaramillo in the saddle. **2 MYFIRSTEXWIFE** is cutting back to her best distance thus far (5-0-2-1) after setting the pace and fading when facing similar going a mile last out. Trainer Sandra Matier has Hector Berrios up. **5 MUCHA SUERTE** is returning to the turf after following a duel-for-the-lead 5th on the grass with a poor showing going 6 furlongs on the turf. Trainer Kathy Ritvo has Luca Panici handling the surface switch.

SELECTIONS: 4-2-5

RACE 2:

5 TIGER is stretching out to 5 ½ furlongs after the promising 5-furlong debut in which he dueled through the stretch and finished 2nd – beaten less than a length. Trainer Juan Alvarado has Emisael Jaramillo in the saddle. **6 FULL SEND** is stepping up, and stretching out, after rallying to finish 2nd to impressive winner Casalsa in a \$50,000 sprint going five-eighths of a mile. Trainer Mike Yates has Alberto Burgos in the saddle. **8 SPEARGUN** is a son of Khozan debuting for trainer Ralph Nicks with a series of consistent workouts showing over the track; Cristian Torres rides.

SELECTIONS: 5-6-8

RACE 3:

5 TIZ APPROVED is turning back to 6 furlongs after his 3-race win streak sprinting on the Tampa main track ended when he opened and surrendered and early 2-length lead vs \$25,000 optional claimers going a mile here on a good track.

The dropdown to the \$12,500 level looks like a winning move. **7 CAJUN FIRECRACKER** is dropping to the \$12,500 level after facing tougher in the 2 races since he was claimed for \$50,000 in February. Trainer Mike Maker has Emisael Jaramillo handling the big drop. **4 DARK AGES** is dropping to this level on the main track after following the \$12,500 '3-lifetime' score on the dirt with a clunker vs \$16,000 claimers going 5 furlongs on the turf. Trainer Liz Dobles has Victor Lebron handling the surface switch.

2 STONE HANDS moved to the Jorge Delgado barn via the claim, and makes his first start since finishing 4th vs \$16,000 claimers going a mile during May. The barn, 24% with new claims, has Santiago Gonzalez handling the turnback to 6 furlongs.

SELECTIONS: 5-7-4-2

RACE 4:

3 NORTHERN is turning back to one of his best distances (5-4-0-0) after dueling throughout and holding sway to defeat this level of competition going 6 furlongs. The 8-time local winner has shown in the past that he can string together back-to-back victories. **1 GAME BOY BENNY** moved to the Pedro Sobarzo barn via the claim, and cuts back to 5 ½ furlongs, after setting a pressured pace and fading to finish 4th behind 3rd pace participant Whyruawesome going 6 ½ furlongs. Note: use the earlier race as a handicapping guide before you plunk your money down on this son of Benny the Bull. **6 DR HARLAN** is turning back after closing with a purpose to finish 3rd behind the top choice going longer last out.

SELECTIONS: 3-1-6

RACE 5:

3 HONESTO is a son of Khozan debuting for trainer Dan Pita with a series of solid workouts showing over the GP West training track; Miguel Vazquez rides. **5 DANG IT** is eligible to take a step forward after chasing the pace and finishing 4th behind Casalsa in a \$50,000 maiden test going 5 furlongs. Trainer Fernando Abreu is 20% with horses making their 2nd start. **9 GOSPEL HOUSE** is a son of Big Drama debuting for trainer Louie Roussel with 6 local workouts showing in preparation for this assignment. Angel Rodriguez will handle the helpful outside draw.

SELECTIONS: 3-5-9**RACE 6:**

3 IMPERIAL MOMENT is dropping to the \$50,000 level after shipping in from the Fair Grounds, making a middle move, and finishing 4th – as the favorite – vs maiden special weight competition. Trainer Louie Roussel has Emisael Jaramillo in the irons again. **10 MAVERICK KITTEN**, in for the \$40,000 tag in this claimer, drops in the first start since facing tougher with some success before the layoff. Trainer Mike Maker has Miguel Vazquez named to ride. **12 TRACEABILITY** is cutting back to a mile, and breaking from the outside, after returning from the layoff to come within a neck of springing a 44-1 upset when 2nd going a mile and a sixteenth. Trainer Joe Catanese has Cristian Torres in the saddle.

SELECTIONS: 3-10-12**RACE 7:**

4 KOZY DREAMS is stepping up to the \$25,000 level after responding in the first race after the claim by Amador Sanchez with a \$12,500 claiming score at the distance. The sophomore is going for her 3rd consecutive victory with Hector Berrios up. **5 R PREROGATIVE** is dropping into the claiming ranks in the first race since dueling for the lead and fading vs allowance competition going 6 furlongs during early May. Trainer Georgina Baxter, 32% with the 61-180 days layoff, has Miguel Vazquez in the irons.

1 TALKTHETALK proved she could compete at this level when she followed her \$16,000 '2-lifetime' victory with a 2nd place finish vs \$30,000 conditioned claimers last out. Trainer Joe Garoffalo has Samy Camacho handling the inside draw.

SELECTIONS: 4-5-1**RACE 8:**

3 HEIR BALL will try to make it 2 in a row after responding in the first race after the claim by Carlos David with a \$25,000 optional claiming victory at the distance. The mare has shown in the past that she can post back-to-back victories.

1 TRUE HEIRESS, who has come from 'off the pace' to defeat Heir Ball in the past, is looking to sit another successful stalking trip behind what should be a solid early pace. Trainer Julio Cartagena has Victor Lebron in the saddle.

4 MERSEYSIDE is dropping into this \$12,500 state-bred optional claimer after tracking the pace and finishing 5th vs open \$75,000 optional claimers at the distance. Trainer Saffie Joseph Jr Marcos Meneses handling the class relief.

SELECTIONS: 3-1-4**RACE 9:**

8 JUST KIDDING moved to the Carlos David barn via the claim after stumbling at the start and finishing 2nd – as the 3-to-5 favorite – at this level and distance last out. Trainer David, 45% with new claims, has Samy Camacho named to ride.

3 TWO STEP SLEW is dropping into this dated-claimer after couple of solid 2nd-place finishes vs \$6,250 open-claimers going 8 and 8 ½ furlongs, respectively. Trainer Rohan Crichton has Leonel Reyes in the saddle. **4 DIZZY GILLESPIE** is dropping into this \$8,000 'non-winners of a race since January 17th' affair after 'hitting the board' in 2 of 3 recent races at the \$12,500 level. Trainer Peter Walder spots the 11-time winner perfectly in the nightcap.

SELECTIONS: 8-3-4**BEST BET: RACE 8 – 3 HEIR BALL****LONGSHOT: RACE 3 – 5 TIZ APPROVED**