



# RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS

by *Ron Nicoletti*

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## RACE 1:

**2 WAHOOWAH** is making the usually fruitful 3<sup>rd</sup> start back from the layoff after rallying from the rail to finish 2<sup>nd</sup> on the turf at this level and distance.

**9 ART'S TABLE** is hoping to save more for the stretch drive after tracking the pace and fading to finish 5<sup>th</sup> behind the top choice last out. Trainer Antonio Sano tabs Luis Saez to handle the outside post. **4 HARDEST PART (GB)** is debuting locally for trainer James Allen, and turning back to 5 furlongs, after dueling for the lead and getting caught late in a trio of 1-mile turf races at Tampa.

**SELECTIONS: 2-9-4**

## RACE 2:

**6 LEVY LAND** is dropping to the \$6,250 '2-lifetime' level after tracking the pace and finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> when facing \$12,500 open-claimers at the distance. Trainer Armando De La Cerda has Luis Saez named to ride. **1 IS THAT MAGIC** is turning back to 7 furlongs, and breaking from the rail, after setting the pace and saving 2<sup>nd</sup> when facing similar going a 1-turn mile. **7 TIKITACA** is another cutting back to seven-eighths of a mile after returning from the 4-month layoff to finish 3<sup>rd</sup> behind Is That Magic at a mile.

**SELECTIONS: 6-1-7**

## RACE 3:

**6 SALSITA ROJA** moved to the Aubrey Maragh barn via the claim, and drops to the \$16,000 level, after making a middle move and settling for 3<sup>rd</sup> behind next-out winners Dance till Dawn and Corn Off the Cob in a \$25,000 claimer at the distance; Luis Saez rides. **4 EVEN BEAT** is dropping to this level, and turning back to 5 furlongs, after returning from the layoff chase the pace and weakening to finish 5<sup>th</sup> vs \$30,000 '2-lifetime' claimers going a 2-turn mile. Trainer Mike Maker has Rafael Hernandez handling the turnback. **3 JUDITH CAN** is stepping up to face winners after leading every step of the way to defeat \$25,000 maidens at the distance.

**SELECTIONS: 6-4-3**

## RACE 4:

**6 BIG ALEX** is stepping up, and stretching out with blinkers added, after rallying to get beat less than a length when finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> vs \$25,000 maidens going 6 ½ furlongs. **1 CURIOSO** is dropping to the \$35,000 level on the main track, and cutting back to 7 furlongs, after tracking the pace and finishing 4<sup>th</sup> vs \$50,000 maidens going a mile on the grass. Trainer Antonio Sano has Luis Saez handling the surface switch. **3 TWO STEP DANCE** is a son of Two Step Salsa debuting for trainer Marcus Vitali with Lasix, and Tyler Gaffalione named to ride.

**SELECTIONS: 6-1-3**

## RACE 5:

**8 ROYALLY COOL** is dropping to the \$12,500 level, and stretching out to 6 ½ furlongs, after totally blowing the turn when finishing 5<sup>th</sup> at the \$16,000 level. Trainer Jorge Navarro, who claimed her 2 starts back, tabs Isaac Castillo to ride.

**7 SONOMA STORM** is stepping up to face winners after responding to both a dropdown in competition, and the surface switch, with a much the best 6-length-plus maiden victory at 7 furlongs. Trainer Norm Casse has Luis Saez going for 2 in a row.

**4 SAMOA** is stretching out slightly after plunging from the \$75,000 level on the turf to finish 3<sup>rd</sup> vs this level of competition going 6 furlongs on the main track.

**SELECTIONS: 8-7-4**

## RACE 6:

**8 GRAYSSHOOTINGSTAR** is stretching out to a mile after debuting locally at this \$50,000 level and finishing a well-meant 3<sup>rd</sup> going 5 furlongs. Trainer Eddie Kenneally, 22% with the sprint-to-route angle, has Tyler Gaffalione handling the added distance.

**1 ALL IN STEW OUI** is turning back to 8 furlongs after responding to the dropdown with a 4-wide 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish vs this level of competition going a mile and a sixteenth.

**3 BUTTONHOOK** is a \$40,000 gelded son of Munnings debuting for trainer Todd Pletcher with Lasix, and Luis Saez named to ride.

**SELECTIONS: 8-1-3**

**RACE 7:**

**1 FAFA** was solid in defeat when he returned from the 2-month layoff, dueled for the lead, drifted wide, but held on to finish 2<sup>nd</sup> vs similar on a sealed 'sloppy' track; Luis Saez rides for Victor Barboza Jr. **6 DROP KICK** is returning to the main track after responding in the first race after the claim by Elizabeth Dobles with a 4<sup>th</sup> place finish vs similar going a 2-turn mile on the turf. **5 DIDDLEY** is stretching out to a mile after rallying to finish 2<sup>nd</sup> vs similar going 6 furlongs. The 5-time winner has Chris Landeros in the irons.

**SELECTIONS: 1-6-5**

**RACE 8: THE SKIP AWAY**

**7 ROCKETRY** is turning back to a mile & three-sixteenths after posting triple-digit Beyer figures when winning the 13-furlong Grade 2 Marathon at Churchill, and the mile & five-eighths Temperance Hill at Belmont last September. Trainer Jim Jerkens, 27% with the 61-180 days layoff, has Javier Castellano named to ride. **4 BIBLICAL**, an \$800,000 son of Tapit, and half-brother to Grade 1 Kentucky Oaks and Alabama winner Princess of Sylmar, stretches out after returning from the layoff to defeat \$62,500 optional claimers at a mile and a sixteenth. Trainer Todd Pletcher has John Velazquez named to ride. **3 ZULU** is stepping up, and stretching out, after rallying to win the mile and a sixteenth Old Hickory last out; Irad Ortiz Jr rides for Jorge Navarro.

**SELECTIONS: 7-4-3**

**RACE 9: THE APPLETON (G3)**

**4 HAWKISH**, a perfect 3 for 3 at a mile on the turf, is turning back in the first start since tracking the pace and proving no match for Travers winner Catholic Boy in the 10-furlong Grade 1 Belmont Derby last July. Trainer Jim Toner has the gelded son of Artie Schiller training sharply for the return. **9 DOCTOR MOUNTY** is making his first start since rallying to win the Grade 3 Tropical turf here during January. Trainer Shug McGaughey has Javier Castellano going for 2 in a row.

**5 KRAMPUS** figures on the 'what have you done' lately angle after using his tactical speed to win the Grade 3 Canadian Turf on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Trainer Bill Mott has John Velazquez in the saddle again.

**SELECTIONS: 4-9-5**

**RACE 10: THE ORCHID (G3)**

**9 SANTA MONICA (GB)** is turning back after rebounding from her poor showing in the Grade 1 Breeders' Cup F & M Turf with a well-meant 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish in the 12-furlong Grade La Prevoyante here last out. Trainer Chad Brown has Irad Ortiz Jr atop the Grade 1 stakes-placed mare.

**7 ICKYMASHO (GB)**, 7<sup>th</sup> behind Santa Monica in the La Prevoyante, renews the rivalry after responding to the addition of Lasix with a narrow defeat when finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Grade 3 The Very One. Trainer Roger Attfield has Luis Saez named to ride.

**3 GIANT ZINGER** is stepping up the competition for trainer Bill Mott after returning from the 4-month layoff to finish 2<sup>nd</sup> vs \$35,000 optional claimers. The daughter of Giant's Causeway is bred to love the distance. **2 A.A. AZULA'S ARCH**, beaten only a couple of lengths by Santa Monica in the La Prevoyante is looking to bounce back at a price after failing to fire in the G3 The Very One; Javier Castellano rides.

**SELECTIONS: 9-7-3-2**

**RACE 11:**

**6 ROSA STAR** is stretching out to a mile and a sixteenth after setting the pace and finish 2<sup>nd</sup> – beaten three-quarters of a length – vs similar going a mile. **8 ABJURE** is hoping to make amends after rallying to finish 3<sup>rd</sup> – as the lukewarm favorite – at this level and distance last out. Trainer Norm Casse has Irad Ortiz Jr named to ride. **9 GENERAL JUNE** moved to the Antonio Sano barn via the claim after rallying to finish 3<sup>rd</sup> behind Rosa Star when they hooked up at a mile last out; Luis Saez rides.

**SELECTIONS: 6-8-9**

**BEST BET: RACE 8 – 7 ROCKETRY**

**LONGSHOT: RACE 10 – 2 A.A. AZULA'S ARCH**