



RACE BY RACE SELECTIONS

by Ron Nicoletti

Saturday, April 4, 2020

RACE 1:

3 PUNCHLINE is dropping to the \$16,000 level after stalking early and fading to finish 5th in his \$32,000 career turf debut. Trainer Jimmy Jerkens has Angel Rodriguez named to ride. **12 DUELLIST** is turning back to a mile after following a close-up 3rd at this distance 2 starts back with another 3rd place showing going a mile and a sixteenth last out. **5 BIG TREASURE** is dropping to this level after hitting the board in 1 of 3 recent grass outings at the \$30-25,000 levels.

SELECTIONS: 3-12-5

RACE 2:

10 PEPPY THE HUNTER moved to the Saffie Joseph Jr barn via the claim, and drops to the \$8,000 level, after rallying to finish 2nd vs \$12,500 claimers at the distance. Handicapping 101 points this gelding out as the one to fear. **3 SO LONG CHUCK** drops, and stretches out to a mile, after vying for the lead and weakening to finish 4th when facing \$12,500 types going 7 furlongs last out. **5 MILLIONAIRE RUNNER** is a late-striding type who should be up for a share on the exotic wagers when uncorking his patented late run.

SELECTIONS: 10-3-5

RACE 3:

8 TOONIE LOONIE is turning back to three-quarters of a mile after prompting the pace and finishing a distant 2nd when going 6 ½ furlongs last out. Trainer John Vinson has Emisael Jaramillo named to ride. **11 BELLA GIANNA** is dropping to the \$10,500 level on the main track after showing speed and weakening late when facing tougher in back-to-back 5-furlong turf sprints. **3 AZNAVOUR** is another dropping to this level on the dirt after failing to fire when facing \$16,000 maidens sprinting on the grass.

SELECTIONS: 8-11-3

RACE 4:

8 NOTHING FOR FREE is dropping to the \$16,000 level on the main track after encountering trouble at the start and never getting untracked in his \$40,000 debut sprinting on the turf, a race that produced a trio of next-out winners from 5 starters. Trainer Mark Casse has Tyler Gaffalione named to ride.

5 W W ARCHIE is dropping to this level after yielding late – at odds of 22-1 – when finishing 3rd at the distance vs \$25,000 maidens. Trainer Scott Becker has Angel Rodriguez handling the class relief. **1 MIGHTY FAST** is stepping it up a notch, and breaking from the rail, after departing from Post 11, chasing the pace, and weakening late to finish 4th in a ‘key’ \$12,500 maiden test at the distance. The sophomore has speed, the rail, and Luis Saez named to ride.

SELECTIONS: 8-5-1

RACE 5:

1 LITTLE BELLA, now in the Joe Orseno barn, the 4-year-old breaks from the rail after encountering trouble at the start, getting parked wide, and still managing to finish 2nd in a \$16,000 ‘2-lifetime’ claimer at the distance; Joel Rosario rides. **10 GREY MANNERS** is hoping to save more for the stretch drive after disputing the pace before weakening to finish 6th behind Little Bella last out. Trainer Efren Loza Jr has Edgard Zayas handling the rematch. **9 MOON EYES** is hoping to make amends after closing late – as the odds-on choice – when finishing 4th behind Little Bella last out. Trainer Mike Maker has Chris Landeros named to ride.

SELECTIONS: 1-10-9

RACE 6:

8 KOZY DREAMS moved to the Oscar Gonzalez barn via the claim, and stretches out to 6 ½ furlongs, after rallying wide to finish 2nd – as the favorite – going three-quarters of a mile last out; Emisael Jaramillo rides. **4 BARDOT** is a \$97,000 daughter of Candy Ride debuting for trainer Todd Pletcher with Lasix, and Luis Saez name to ride. **1 EBONY BAY** has her claiming tag carved in half after finishing a distant 4th in her \$50,000 career debut for trainer Eddie Kenneally; Tyler Gaffalione rides. **6 PASATIME** figures prominently on the ticket after responding to the addition of blinkers with a late-running 2nd place finish going 6 furlongs last out. Trainer Juan Avila has Leonel Reyes handling the additional half-furlong.

SELECTIONS: 8-4-1-6

RACE 7:

7 I'M THE CAPTAIN NOW is looking to take command at the \$12,500 level after returning from the layoff to finish a late-running 2nd – beaten a neck – vs \$20,000 '3-lifetime' claimers going 8 ½ furlongs last out. Trainer Barclay Tagg has Luis Saez named to ride. **2 CROW MOON** is debuting locally for trainer Larry Rivelli with the great equalizer on his side – Speed! The gelded son of Artie Schiller will be playing catch me if you can.

10 MYSTICAL MOON is stepping up to the 'non-winners of 3-lifetime' level after parlaying an inside stalking trip into a \$16,000 '2-lifetime' victory at the distance. Trainer Brian Lynch has Dylan Davis handing the outside post.

SELECTIONS: 7-2-10**RACE 8:**

2 GHOSTLY BEAUTY was solid in defeat when pressing the pace, and reaching the lead, before getting caught at the wire when finishing 2nd last out. Trainer Mike Maker has Luis Saez named to ride. **7 HOTTY TODDY** is turning back to her best distance (18-3-1-0) after taking the overland route when finishing 4th vs \$20,000 open-claimers going a mile and a sixteenth. Trainer Carlos David has apprentice Isaiah Wiseman named to ride.

3 LOOKINLIKEAQUEEN should take the lion's share of the betting action when moving to the Ron Spatz barn via the claim after rallying late to defeat Ghostly Beauty last out. Emisael Jaramillo gets the mount, as Luis Saez moves to the top choice.

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

1 MOBEATYABAD certainly lived up to his name when he responded to both the dropdown, and surface switch, with a 'much the best' 13 ½-length \$40,000 maiden victory going 6 furlongs at Tampa. Trainer Jonathan Thomas has Tyler Gaffalione named on the son of Uncle Mo.

3 PERUVIAN BOY is dropping to this level after rallying to finish 2nd in a \$75,000 optional claimer at the distance. The son of Tapiture should sit in the garden spot behind the speed, especially if the top choice and **4 CIGAR BOX** hook up in a duel. The latter, trained by Dale Romans, is stepping up to face winners after smoking the competition when drawing clear to defeat \$50,000 maidens at the distance. 7-pound apprentice Isaiah Wiseman should get the son of Will Take Charge interested early.

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

11 HALLADAY will face \$100,000 optional claimers at a mile after following his victory in the mile and a sixteenth Tropical Park Derby with a stalk-the-pace 4th in the Grade 3 Tampa Bay at Oldsmar last out. The son of War Front has the tactical speed needed to use the outside post to his advantage. **3 FIRST PREMIO**, the obvious class in the field, makes his first start since rallying to finish 4th – beaten three-quarters of a length – in the Grade 1 Shadwell Mile at Keeneland. The son of Pure Prize, who runs well fresh, should get the pace needed to compliment his stalk/closing style. **2 KROY**, now in the Danny Gargan barn, the gelding returns from the 9-month plus layoff with the speed needed to lead this group from start to finish; Emisael Jaramillo rides.

SELECTIONS: 11-3-2**RACE 11:**

3 I'LL FIGHT DEMPSEY is stepping up to face winners after drawing clear to break his maiden at first asking in impressive fashion. Trainer Todd Pletcher has the \$300,000 son of Into Mischief firing bullets in preparation for this assignment. **4 SONNEMAN**, 2nd at this 7-furlong distance at Saratoga last summer, turns back after ending his freshman campaign with a late-running maiden victory going a 1-turn mile at Belmont during October. Trainer Mark Hennig has Joel Rosario named on the \$375,000 son of Curlin. **8 ACRE** is making his 3-year-old debut with Lasix after ending his brief 2-year-old season with a rousing 3 ½-furlong victory in a race moved from the turf to 7 furlongs on the main track. Trainer Bill Mott has Chris Landeros named to ride.

SELECTIONS: 3-4-8**RACE 12:**

4 SWEET STORY is sitting on a winning performance after responding in the first race after the claim by trainer Steve Klesaris with a closing 3rd – beaten a head – at this level and distance. Strong finisher Joel Rosario gets the call to turn the tables on winning machine **8 AVENIDA MANANA**. The latter moves to the Bob Hess Jr barn via the claim after posting her 3rd consecutive victory over this familiar competition. The new connections tab Luis Saez to ride. **9 TRILBY** moved to the Ron Spatz barn via the claim, and turns back to a mile, after taking the overland route when finishing 5th -as the tepid favorite – going a mile and a sixteenth last out; Tyler Gaffalione rides.

SELECTIONS: 4-8-9**BEST BET: RACE 9 – 1 MOBEATYABAD****LONGSHOT: RACE 12 – 4 SWEET STORY**