



RACE BY RACE SELECTIONS

by Ron Nicoletti

Sunday, January 26, 2020

RACE 1:

11 STUNTING will be outfitted with blinkers after drifting through the stretch and still managing to finish 2nd – beaten a neck – at this level and distance. Trainer Todd Pletcher has Jose Ortiz handling the outside post.

3 ACOUSTIC SHADOW is a \$325,000 daughter of More Than Ready debuting for trainer Chad Brown with Lasix, and Hall of Fame jock Javier Castellano named to ride. Need we say more? **7 FRESCO** is a daughter of Freud, and a full-sister to multiple stakes-placed Therapist, debuting for trainer Christophe Clement with Lasix, and a solid work tab showing on the Payson Park turf; Julien Leparoux rides.

SELECTIONS: 11-3-7

RACE 2:

1 SWEET BELEN is dropping to the bottom after 'hitting the board' in 4 of 5 sprints from the \$25 to \$35,000 levels. Trainer Kathy Ritvo has Cristian Torres in the saddle.

12 HARTS N FLOWERS will depart from the outside after responding to the dropdown in competition with a 2nd place finish – beaten a head – at this level and distance.

10 HAPPY LOUDON is a daughter of Fort Loudon debuting for the \$12,500 tag with a couple of sharp works over the track showing, including the recent bullet 3-furlong gate work in 35 & 3.

SELECTIONS: 1-12-10

RACE 3:

7 PAINT THE CORNERS is turning back to 7 ½ furlongs after prompting the pace and finishing 2nd behind repeat winner Trilby going a mile and a sixteenth last out. Trainer Murat Sancal has Luis Saez penciled in for the return riding assignment. **8 ENLISTING** is returning to the turf after responding to the dropdown from stakes competition with a \$16,000 'non-winners of 3-lifetime' victory going a mile and a sixteenth on the main track. Trainer Gustavo Delgado spots the daughter of Candy Ride perfectly today. **2 MUCH ABOUT IT** is moving to an inside post (2) after breaking from Post 12, stalking the pace, and finishing 4th – at a whopping 49-1 – vs similar quality going a mile; Apprentice Romero Maragh rides.

SELECTIONS: 7-8-2

RACE 4:

6 MONEY COME moves to the Victor Barboza Jr barn via the claim, and returns to the main track, after ending his campaign at GP West with a 2nd place finish going 5 furlongs on the turf. Trainer Barboza, 50%-plus with new claims, has Luis Saez named to ride. **3 WHY TRUST** is hoping to save more for the stretch drive after opening and surrendering and early 2-length lead when finishing 3rd at this level and distance. Trainer Gilberto Zerpa, who claimed him 2 starts back, has go-to jock Emisael Jaramillo in the saddle. **2 HIGH RIDER** is plunging to the \$6,250 level on the main track after shipping in from Parx and failing to handle \$25,000 claimers going 5 furlongs on the turf. Trainer Steve Klesaris has leading jock Irad Ortiz Jr handling the combo dropdown/surface switch.

SELECTIONS: 6-3-2

RACE 5:

10 LUCKY DIME is stretching out to 7 furlongs again, and debuting locally for trainer Bill Mott, after ending her sprint campaign in Kentucky with a 2nd place finish – as the favorite - going three-quarters of a mile on the Churchill main track; Julien Leparoux rides. **7 TESTIMONIAL** is stretching out to seven-eighths of a mile after the promising 5 ½-furlong debut here in which she finished 2nd – beaten a neck. Trainer Kelly Breen has Paco Lopez handling the stretchout. **9 PILOT EPISODE** is a daughter of Speightstown, and a full-sister to Grade 1 stakes-placed Bold Script, debuting for trainer Shug McGaughey with a steady work tab showing over the stamina tweaking Payson Park training track; Irad Ortiz Jr. rides.

SELECTIONS: 10-7-9

RACE 6:

2 REBELDE moved to the Terri Pompay barn via the claim, and returns to the turf, after the driving score vs \$35,000 claimers going a mile and a sixteenth on the main track. The son of Khozan, who was finished 2nd in the \$75,000 Juvenile Turf in his only previous grass race, has jockey Marcos Meneses going for 2 in a row.

6 VINTAGE KITTEN is hoping for a clean trip after getting mugged at the start prior to finishing a rallying 3rd at this level and distance. Trainer Mike Maker has Jose Ortiz atop the son of Kitten's Joy.

5 BLAZING DESIRE, who used his tactical speed to defeat \$35,000 maidens 2 starts back, should be part of the pace again after chasing the pace and weakening to finish 4th at this level and distance last out. Trainer Mike Maker has Irad Ortiz Jr atop this half of his uncoupled entry.

SELECTIONS: 2-6-5

RACE 7:

3 CRUMB BUN, who defeated state-bred allowance runners at this distance 2 starts back at GP West, drops, and stretches out, after finishing 3rd here vs \$35,000 '3-lifetime' claimers going 6 furlongs. **1 FREE TO FLY** is turning back to 6 ½ furlongs after dueling for the lead and getting beat a nose when finishing 2nd vs \$16,000 '3-lifetime' claimers going a mile and a sixteenth.

2 JANET B DOESIT ALL is returning to the claiming ranks after stalking the pace and finishing a distant 4th in an entry-level allowance race going 7 furlongs. Trainer Steve Dwoskin has Jeffrey Sanchez named to ride.

SELECTIONS: 3-1-2

RACE 8:

2 TOUPHA is stretching out to a mile and a sixteenth after making a 7-wide charge to finish 4th – before being placed 3rd vis a steward's decision, vs similar quality going a mile. Trainer Ruben Gracida tabs Jairo Rendon to ride.

1 HONEY WON'T is making his local return for trainer Bill Mott, and stretching out to 8 ½ furlongs, after getting beat a hard-fought neck vs \$35,000 '3-lifetime' claimers going a mile on the Aqueduct turf; Jose Ortiz rides.

3 ARMCHAIR JOCKEY is looking to make amends after rallying from 12th and last to finish 2nd in front of this familiar competition before he was disqualified and placed 9th for interference in the stretch. Trainer Mike Maker has Irad Ortiz Jr in the saddle.

SELECTIONS: 2-1-3

RACE 9:

10 QUICK POINT will try to make it 3 in a row after following the \$10,000 '3-lifetime' score at GP West with a commanding 7-length victory vs this level of competition. Trainer Robert Falcone Jr has Luis Saez handling the outside stalking trip. **5 BROOKES ALL MINE** will try to make it 2 in a row after an impressive inside move culminated in a 2-length victory at this level and distance. Trainer Bob Hess Jr has Fanny Olsson going for 2 in a row. **8 LEDECKY** moved to the Jose Gallegos barn via the claim, and makes her first start since finishing 2nd here going a mile vs similar opposition here last March. The new connections tab Irad Ortiz Jr to ride.

SELECTIONS: 10-5-8

RACE 10:

9 SOMBEYAY is debuting locally for trainer Todd Pletcher, and making his first start, since finish a game 2nd – beaten a head – in the 1-mile Grade 2 Hall of Fame on the Saratoga turf. Luis Saez guides the Grade 3 winner.

2 SAYYAAF will try to make it 2 in a row locally after setting the pace and drawing clear to defeat allowance competition going a mile. Trainer Chad Brown has Javier Castellano in the irons. **7 HAY DAKOTA**, an 8-time turf winner, who has won at this level in the past, was freshened after breaking poorly and failing to fire in an \$62,500 optional claimer at Aqueduct. Trainer Jason Servis, 28% with the 61-180 days layoff, has Irad named to ride.

SELECTIONS: 9-2-7

RACE 11:

10 CENTURION, a \$425,000 son of Pioneerofthe Nile, is stretching out around 2-turns after finishing 6th in his 6-furlong career debut. Trainer Jimmy Jerkens has the sophomore training well at Palm Meadows, and the colt can spring the upset with Javier Castellano stalking the inside speed. **6 U S ARMY CORPS**, a son of War Front, is making his local debut for trainer Shug McGaughey at a mile and a sixteenth after showing some late interest when going 6 and 8 furlongs on the New York turf circuit. The colt, bred to love the distance, has John Velazquez in the saddle. **7 LONESOME FUGITIVE (IRE)** is a son of Zoffany debuting for trainer Chad Brown with Lasix, and a steady morning work tab showing on the Palm Meadows turf; Irad Ortiz Jr rides. **4 SCANNO** is eligible to show more in his 2nd journey over the local sod after closing to get beat 2 lengths when 5th at this level and distance. Trainer Tom Albertrani has Luis Saez named to ride.

SELECTIONS: 10-6-7-4

BEST BET: RACE 6 – 2 REBELDE

LONGSHOT: RACE 11 – 10 CENTURION

