



RACE BY RACE SELECTIONS

by Ron Nicoletti

Sunday, May 3, 2020

RACE 1:

3 ETANA is freefalling to the \$12,500 level, and racing without blinkers, after facing maiden special weight competition in 7 lifetime races. Trainer Saffie Joseph Jr has Irad Ortiz Jr up. **4 NENITA** is eligible to show more after responding to the stretchout to a mile with an improved 3rd place finish. **5 LOOKN FINE AS WINE** is dropping to this level on the main track after facing better on the turf with limited results.

SELECTIONS: 3-4-5

RACE 2:

3 CANDY CRUSHEM is dropping to the \$6,250 level after tracking the pace and finishing 3rd vs \$12,500 claimers at this 1-mile distance. Trainer Monica McGoey has Irad handling the class relief. **6 ANIMAL TRICKS**, a winner at this level during January, drops, and turns back to 8 furlongs, after dueling for the lead and tiring vs \$25,000 optional claimers going a mile and a sixteenth last out. Trainer Jorge Delgado has Fanny Olsson in the irons. **8 DESERT GENERAL**, a previous winner at the distance, drops a notch, and stretches out, after chasing the pace and fading vs \$8,000 claimers going 6 furlongs last out.

SELECTIONS: 3-6-8

RACE 3:

3 SIR CHUBBY is making the usually fruitful 3rd start of his current form cycle after pressing the pace and finishing 3rd at this level and distance. Trainer Tom Bush has Irad Ortiz Jr atop the son of Tiznow. **1 JOE BENJAMIN** is stepping up, and stretching out, after rallying along the inside to come within a neck of exiting the maiden ranks at the \$20,000 level. Trainer Murat Sancal has Paco Lopez handling the stretchout to a mile and a sixteenth. **7 BUDGET BUSTER** should take the lion's share of the betting action after rallying to finish 2nd in front of this familiar competition last out. Trainer Mike Maker has Tyler Gaffalione atop the one to fear.

SELECTIONS: 3-1-7

RACE 4:

2 SIR KAHN is turning back to three-quarters of a mile after disputing the pace and finishing 3rd behind next-out Unbridled Stakes winner Dr Post going 7 furlongs. **4 HARPER** is debuting locally with blinkers added, and making the first start since finishing 2nd vs special weight company going 6 furlongs at Parx. Trainer John Servis has Dylan Davis in the irons. **3 COMPETITIVE SAINT** is a son of Competitive Edge debuting for trainer George Weaver, who has a solid 21% average with his first-time starters. The colt gets Lasix, and has Edgard Zayas up.

SELECTIONS: 2-4-3

RACE 5:

1 CONGRATS THAT will depart from the rail after breaking from the outside (Post 11), setting the pace, and just getting nailed at the wire at this level and distance last out. Trainer Mike Yates has Miguel Vazquez handling the inside draw. **11 HUDSON OVERPASS** is dropping to the \$12,500 level, and returning to the turf (6-0-2-1), after knocking heads with better New York-bred runners on the turf at Saratoga, Belmont, and Aqueduct. Trainer Mike Maker has Irad named to ride. **5 PUT IT ON DETTI** is hoping for a clear sailing after following the \$20,000 maiden victory at the distance with a troubled trip (bumped start, steadied twice) at this level last out. Trainer Henry Collazo has Cristian Torres named to ride.

SELECTIONS: 1-11-5

RACE 6:

5 DAYS OF SPRING, the only 3-time winner in the field, moved to the Amador Sanchez barn via the claim after notching her 3rd career victory when defeating \$20,000 open-claimers at the distance; Hector Berrios rides. **7 JOYOUS TIMES**, now in the Roy Lerman barn, the daughter of Kitten's Joy is looking to make amends after her 2-race win streak ended when she finished 5th – as the favorite - behind Days of Spring last out; Emisael Jaramillo rides the lightly raced sophomore. **2 TOURNESOL** is dropping to the \$25,000 level after following her 3rd place finish in the \$60,000 Mrs Presidentess with a troubled outing (clipped heels) vs \$50,000 starter optional claimers last out. Trainer Saffie Joseph Jr has Tyler Gaffalione named to ride.

SELECTIONS: 5-7-2

RACE 7:

2 TOKEN is cutting back to a 1-turn mile after running into a buzz saw named Envoutante when finishing 2nd to her going a mile and a sixteenth last out. Trainer Bill Mott has Tyler Gaffalione named on the beautifully bred daughter of Curlin. **1 LASTING UNION** is stretching to a mile after the useful 6-furlong debut for trainer Michael Matz. The daughter of Union Rags is bred to respond favorably to the added distance, and has Edgard Zayas handling the inside post. **6 GUAZZA**, a half-sister to \$2.9 million earner Shared Belief, is stretching out to a mile again after tracking the action and finishing a well-meant 3rd going 6 furlongs last out. Trainer Murat Sancal has Irad named to ride.

SELECTIONS: 2-1-6**RACE 8:**

6 MOON EYES is stretching out around 2-turns after facing a notch tougher in a series of 5-furlong turf sprints. Trainer Mike Maker has Irad Ortiz Jr handling what can turn out to be the controlling speed in an otherwise paceless race. **5 HENNY'S TREASURE** is stretching out to a mile and a sixteenth after rallying to finish 3rd – beaten a length - vs similar going a mile. Trainer Joe Orseno has Paco Lopez named to pick up the pieces if the top choice fails to negotiate the distance. **10 KARENINA**, who has finished 2nd or 3rd in 17 of 29 races, looks poised again to grab a share of the trifecta or superfecta.

SELECTIONS: 6-5-10**RACE 9: THE WINNING COLORS**

6 BOERNE is stretching out to 6 ½ furlongs after proving her impressive maiden victory at the distance wasn't a 1-shot deal when she walloped a field of \$75,000 optional claimers going three-quarters of a mile last out. Trainer Juan Avila has Edgard Zayas going for 3 in a row.

2 SWEET MIA is shortening up to 6 ½ furlongs after setting a pressured pace and finishing 2nd going a 1-turn mile here last out. Trainer Kathleen O'Connell has Irad handling the turnback in distance. **5 VELVET CRUSH** is stepping up to face winners in the first race since drawing clear to break her maiden here in December like an international good thing. Trainer Rodolphe Brisset has Chris Landeros atop the \$450,000 daughter of Tapit.

SELECTIONS: 6-2-5**RACE 10:**

6 OUTSHINE is dropping to the \$20,000 level - with the blinkers added back - after tracking the pace and finishing a so-so 4th vs \$32,000 optional claimers going a mile and a sixteenth on the Tampa turf. Trainer Todd Pletcher has Luis Saez at the controls.

2 SOUPER COURAGE was solid in defeat when responding in the first race after the claim by Bobby Dibona with a well-meant 2nd place finish at this level and distance; Emisael Jaramillo rides. **9 STOCK TRADE** is dropping to the \$20,000 level after returning from the layoff and failing to fire – as the favorite – in a \$35,000 '3-lifetime' claimer in which he was protected from being claimed. Owner/trainer Bill Mott has Irad Ortiz named to ride.

SELECTIONS: 6-2-9**RACE 11:**

6 FUJAIRAH is cutting back to a sprint distance on the dirt after a troubled outing (checked) on the turf in the 1-mile \$100,000 Sanibel Island. The daughter of Ghostzapper, trained by Carlos David, should sit in the catbird seat behind what is sure to be a sizzling early pace. **2 MIDTOWN ROSE** will try to save more for the stretch drive after opening and surrendering a 2-length lead when 3rd at the distance last out. Trainer Saffie Joseph Jr has Tyler in the saddle again.

4 R PREROGATIVE, who had trouble in the early stages of her recent outing at the distance, will be running and gunning as soon as the gate opens.

SELECTIONS: 6-2-4**RACE 12:**

10 BOURBON IN MAY is dropping to the \$16,000 level after finishing 2nd in 2 of 3 allowance races at the meeting. Trainer Todd Pletcher has Irad Ortiz Jr handling the stretchout to 9 furlongs. **2 TILL THE END** is dropping to this level after stepping up off the claim by trainer Kelly Breen and encountering trouble (lacked room, checked) when finishing 5th – beaten 2 lengths – vs \$25,000 starter optional claimers going a mile. **6 DONJI** is dropping to this level after using his speed to defeat \$25,000 claimers going a mile last out. Trainer Elizabeth Dobles has Luis Saez handling the stretchout to 9 furlongs.

SELECTIONS: 10-2-6**BEST BET: RACE 4 – 2 SIR KAHN****LONGSHOT: RACE 11 – 6 FUJAIRAH**