



RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS

BY RON NICOLETTI



Sunday, November 14, 2021

RACE 1:

5 STUCK ON KITTEN, now in the Saffie Joseph Jr barn, the daughter of Kitten's Joy drops to \$25,000 level on the Tapeta after facing special weight competition on the turf before going to the sidelines in December. The barn, 24% with similar layoffs, and 39% with similar class drops, adds Lasix for the return. **4 CODE NAME LISE** is dropping to this level, and changing surfaces, after showing speed and fading vs \$75,000 maidens going 7 furlongs on the Keeneland main track. Mike Maker has Samy Camacho atop the daughter of Declaration of War. **1 MAMA LONGLEGS** is stepping up the competition, and breaking from the rail, after setting the pace and getting beat a neck when finishing 3rd – as the tepid favorite – vs \$12,500 maidens going 5 furlongs on the Tapeta.

SELECTIONS: 5-4-1

RACE 2:

3 TUNE IN drops down, and turns back, after dueling for the lead and finishing 2nd vs \$62,500 optional claimers going a mile and a sixteenth. Trainer Diane Morici has Leonel Reyes up. **5 LUDINGTON** is making his first start since posting back-to-back \$25,000 optional claiming victories going a mile before going to the bench in August. Peter Walder has the gelding working sharply for the return. Edgard Zayas rides. **4 HERO TIGER** is stepping up into this \$25,000 starter allowance after shifting into overdrive when defeating \$16,000 starter optional claimers by 5-plus lengths. Juan C Avila has apprentice Franklin Calles going for 2 in a row.

SELECTIONS: 3-5-4

RACE 3:

5 HEADLINE HUNTER, now in the Saffie Joseph barn, the daughter of Tapizar, who broke her maiden on the Turfway synthetic, is moving to the Tapeta in the first start since finishing 2nd on the turf here in a \$50,000 starter optional claimer in April, a race that's produced a trio of next-out winners from 7 starters.

7 WILD AMERICA, who was impressive breaking her maiden on the Penn National main track, shifts to the Tapeta after setting the pace and weakening vs allowance competition going 6 furlongs on the revamped Laurel main track. Trainer Mike Stidham has Edgard Zayas atop the \$400,000 daughter of American Pharoah. **2 KATIESDREAMGIRL** is turning back to 5 ½ furlongs on the all-weather surface in the first race since finishing 4th vs \$25,000 starter optional claimers going a mile on the turf in August. Ralph Nicks has Chantal in the irons.

SELECTIONS: 5-7-2

RACE 4:

1 BAILEY, a 3-time winner, drops, and turns back to his best distance thus far (4-2-1-0) after shaking off trouble at the start (bumped) to stalk the pace and finish 3rd vs \$35,000 conditioned claimers going 6 ½ furlongs. Saffie has go-to jock Edgard Zayas handling the inside draw. **8 ABSOLUTE GRIT**, listed as a gelding, the son of Kantharos is stepping up after dueling early, and drawing clear late, to defeat \$20,000 '2-lifetime' claimers at the distance. Jorge Delgado has Chantal Sutherland going for 2 in a row. **3 AWESOME BEACH** is another stepping up the competition after parlaying a duel throughout score vs \$12,500 claimers going 6 furlongs. The 3-time winner will have Samy Camacho in the irons again.

SELECTIONS: 1-8-3

RACE 5:

11 SO DETERMINED, an \$875,000 Fla-bred son of Into Mischief, comes off a determined debut in which he recovered from a slow start to finish 2nd here at this level and distance. Trainer Todd Pletcher has Edgard Zayas in the saddle. **3 CHIEF ROCKA** is a son of Uncaptured debuting for trainer Carlos David with a solid work tab showing over the Palm Meadows training track. Tab the tote for more clues about his chances to win at first asking.

9 BIRDNOTE is turning back to 5 ½ furlongs after showing progress when stalking the pace and finishing a distant 2nd when trying 7 furlongs in his second career start. Bob Hess Jr has Samy Camacho handling the turnback in distance.

SELECTIONS: 11-3-9

**RACE 6:**

3 EAGLE EYE, now in the Saffie Joseph Jr barn, the daughter of Wicked Strong drops to the \$8,000 level on the Tapeta in the first start since she was eased in a \$30,000 claimer at Keeneland in April. Note that the sophomore is working up a storm at Palm Meadows in perpetration for the return.

6 CAPTURINI is debuting on the all-weather surface, and making her first start since using her speed to defeat \$12,500 maidens going 5 furlongs on the turf during August. Trainer Georgina Baxter, 25% the 61-180 days layoff, has Marcos Meneses handling the surface switch. **4 GLITTER BAY**, who has run well at this distance when turning back from a route to a sprint, albeit on the turf, will try to repeat that feat when returning from the layoff for Gilberto Zerpa, who has a 23%-win average on the Tapeta.

SELECTIONS: 3-6-4

RACE 7:

2 TIGER is turning back to 6 furlongs after setting a pressured pace and finishing 2nd – beaten a half-length – vs similar going a mile. Carlos David has Emisael Jaramillo handling the classic turnback move. **4 RAISE THE RENT**, listed as a gelding, the son of Malibu Moon is jacking up the competition after returning from the 14-month layoff to defeat \$40,000 maidens, and get an 86 Beyer figure for his effort. Aubrey Maragh has Rajiv Maragh atop the likely off-time favorite. **9 UPHOLD THE LAW** is making his first start since drawing clear at 6 ½ furlongs to defeat maiden special weight runners in his career debut. Trainer Mike Stidham readied the son of Upstart for the return with a solid 5-furlong drill over the track.

SELECTIONS: 2-4-9

RACE 8:

2 ALADO is dropping to the \$35,000 starter optional claiming level after coming within a half-length of defeating \$75,000 optional claimers going this distance on the Tapeta. Antonio Sano has Leonel Reyes atop the consistent 3-year-old.

5 CAVE HILL, who is a stakes winner on the Turfway Park synthetic, returns to the all-weather surface in the first race since Mike Maker claimed him out of a poor showing on the dirt at Churchill. Maker, 19% on the synthetic, has Chantal in the irons.

3 HAIL TO THE CHIEF should be primed and ready to offer more after returning from the 13-month layoff to finish a late-closing 3rd vs \$35,000 conditioned claimers going a mile and a sixteenth on the Tapeta. It's Saffie and Edgard!

SELECTIONS: 2-5-3

RACE 9:

8 ROYAL SQUEEZE is stretching out to a mile on the main track after rallying to finish 4th vs \$12,500 starter allowance runners going 5 furlongs on the Tapeta. The 12-time winner on a fast track, and a multiple winner at the distance (8-2-1-3), has Chantal at the controls. **3 ALONZO** is back home after shipping up to Parx in August and finishing 3rd in the mile and a sixteenth Grade 3 Smarty Jones. Trainer Juan Alvarado has the Arindel homebred working well over the track in preparation for the return. **6 FINANCIAL SYSTEM** is hoping to save a tad more for the stretch run after setting the pace and getting nailed late when finishing 2nd at this level and distance. Saffie has Edwin Gonzalez named to ride, as Zayas sticks with Alonzo.

SELECTIONS: 8-3-6

RACE 10:

11 DRUM AND DRUMMER is debuting locally on the Tapeta after showing speed vs similar quality going a mile and a sixteenth on the turf in New Jersey. Trainer Mike Dini has Isaac Castillo handling combo surface switch/turnback. **6 MAKE A MOVE**, who defeated Drum and Drummer when they competed in a 5-furlong maiden race on the Monmouth main track, will try to do it again on the Tapeta. Trainer Tim Hills has Romero Maragh in the saddle. **4 DEPUTY INDY** is plunging to this level on the Tapeta after facing tougher when sprinting on the turf last winter. Trainer Angel Rodriguez, 2 for 8 (25%) with a longer than 180 days layoff, has Angel Arroyo in the irons.

SELECTIONS: 11-6-4

BEST BET: RACE 3 – 5 HEADLINE HUNTER

LONGSHOT: RACE 9 - 8 ROYAL SQUEEZE