



RACE BY RACE SELECTIONS

by Ron Nicoletti

Thursday, July 30, 2020

RACE 1:

1 COMMANDING LADY will depart from the rail after responding to the dropdown in competition with a 2nd place finish – as the favorite – at this level and distance. Trainer Gustavo Delgado has Cristian Torres named to ride. **7 NENITA** is stretching out to three-quarters of a mile after rallying on a sealed sloppy track to finish 2nd – beaten a neck – at 5 ½ furlongs. **11 AUBURN** is turning back to this distance after shaking off some trouble at the start (fractious) to finish 3rd vs similar going 6 ½ furlongs.

SELECTIONS: 1-7-11

RACE 2:

4 SAVATIANO, a half-brother to local runner Assertiko, who is currently working on a 3-race win streak, debuts for trainer Ron Spatz trying to emulate his older brother; Miguel Vazquez rides.

3 GEGE CONQUEST is hoping to show more in his 3rd race after back-to-back 4th place finishes at the distance. Trainer Antonio Sano tabs Jesus Rios to ride, and Edgard Zayas moves to **7 HANGAR ONE**. The latter, trained by Dave Braddy, is hoping to get away from the gate in a timely fashion after breaking slowly in his career debut at this level and distance. The recent solid half-mile drill at GP West indicates improvement is expected.

SELECTIONS: 4-3-7

RACE 3:

3 LA TRES JOLIE, beaten only a half-length at this level and distance on dirt 2 starts ago, is returning to the main track after coming up empty vs \$12,500 claimers going a mile and a sixteenth on the turf. Trainer Phil Serpe has Cristian Torres handling the surface switch. **4 WITCH HUNTER** is stepping up to the next level, and turning back to a mile, after following her maiden score at the distance with a rousing ‘non-winners of 2-lifetime’ victory going a mile and a sixteenth; Edgard Zayas goes for the hat trick.

1 BLOSSOM BOW is another stepping up to face ‘3-lifetime’ competition after following her 2nd place finish to Witch Hunter 2 starts back with open-length victory vs ‘2-lifetime’ foes - at the distance – last out.

SELECTIONS: 3-4-1

RACE 4

4 DON’T EAT THE APPLE is freefalling to the \$10,500 level after facing maiden special weight competition before the layoff. Trainer Ralph Nicks has Emisael Jaramillo named on this shaky proposition. **2 CABRINA** is hoping to save more for the stretch drive after dueling for the lead and finishing 3rd – as the favorite – going 5 ½ furlongs in the slop. **9 GASPARILLA BLAST** is a daughter of Burning Roma debuting for trainer David Fawkes in a perfect spot for a first-time starter to succeed.

SELECTIONS: 4-2-9

RACE 5:

8 KATIESDREAMGIRL is stretching out to 5 ½ furlongs after tracking the pace and finishing 2nd in her 5-furlong career debut at this level. Trainer Ralph Nicks has Emisael Jaramillo handling the stretchout. **7 MY GLORY** is another stretching out to this distance after dueling for the lead and finishing 3rd vs this level of opposition going five-eighths of a mile. **5 DARK BLUE FLAME** is another eligible to show more at 5 ½ furlongs after rallying to finish 4th behind My Glory last out. Trainer Tim Hamm has Victor Lebron named to ride.

SELECTIONS: 8-7-5

RACE 6:

7 SHARM EL SHEIKH is cutting back to a mile and a sixteenth (6-3-0-1) after setting the pace and just getting nailed at the wire when 2nd vs this level of competition going 9 furlongs. Trainer Murat Sancal has Edgard Zayas rationing his speed.

3 SOUPER COURAGE is dropping a notch after following his \$25,000 '2-lifetime victory with a poor showing – as the tepid favorite – vs \$20,000 state-bred optional claimers. **10 RULE YOURSELF** is turning back after rallying late to finish 3rd vs \$20,000 open-claimers going a mile and an eighth. Trainer Carlos David has Emisael Jaramillo trying to notch the gelding's first-ever win at 8 ½ furlongs (10-0-3-1).

SELECTIONS: 7-3-10**RACE 7:**

2 CHARLIE THE GREEK is wheeling back after the game outing at the distance in which he was floated wide and still managed to finish 2nd behind repeat winner Cres Bklyn Law, and next-out winner Dizzy Gillespie. **1 CHASE RUNNER** is returning from the layoff, and dropping to the \$10,500 level, after responding in the first race after the claim by Saffie Joseph Jr – at this level and distance – with a stalk-and-fade affair vs \$20,000 claimers going a mile in the slop during May; Edgard Zayas rides.

7 LOVE NEST moved to the Alfredo Velazquez barn via the claim, and steps up to \$12,500 level, after totally dominating \$8,000 claimers going a mile last out.

SELECTIONS: 2-1-7**RACE 8:**

7 KOBE FIFTY TWO is making his first start since the successful career debut in which he drew clear to defeat \$12,500 maidens with a high turn of speed. Trainer Gilberto Zerpa has Emisael Jaramillo handling the gelding's first race since April.

4 THENEXTBESTTHING is stepping up the next best level after stalking early, and drawing clear late, to defeat \$10,500 maidens at this 5-furlong distance.

11 NOTHIN BUT NET will depart from the outside after responding in the first race under the tutelage of Elizabeth Dobles with a \$12,500 maiden score. Note the gelding finished 2nd to Kobe Fifty Two during April to compete an NBA themed exacta.

SELECTIONS: 7-4-11**RACE 9:**

3 CORY GAL is hoping to get back to her winning ways vs this level of competition after her 3-race win streak ended when she set the pace and finished 3rd behind Liza Star and next-out winner Crumb Bun in a \$62,500 optional claimer going 6 ½ furlongs.

5 BARGAINAIRE, who has recently turned finishing 2nd into an art form, is hoping to get out of 2nd gear for trainer Christine Wasilewski; Alberto Burgos rides this major piece of the exacta and trifecta puzzle. **7 MIDTOWN ROSE**, who was 2nd to Cory Gal when they competed under allowance conditions during early May, returns from the layoff for trainer Saffie Joseph Jr looking to rebound from a troubled trip behind Crumb Bun and Bargainaire on May 28th; don't ignore!

SELECTIONS: 3-5-7**RACE 10:**

1 POLICY OPTION, now in the Saffie Joseph Jr barn, the gelded son of Empire Maker, makes his first start since facing maiden special weight competition at Saratoga – last summer – while in the Chad Brown barn; Edgard Zayas rides. **11 RATIFY** breaks towards the outside after responding to both the dropdown in competition, and the addition of blinkers, with a prompt-the-pace 2nd – beaten a length – as the favorite. **4 CROI MOR**, now in the Robert Falcone Jr barn, the gelding makes his first start since threatening to break his maiden at this level during January and February. Note the colt is working sharply at Palm Meadows.

SELECTIONS: 1-11-4**BEST BET: RACE 6 – 7 SHARM EL SHEIKH****LONGSHOT: RACE 3 – 3 LA TRES JOLIE**