



# RACE BY RACE SELECTIONS

by *Ron Nicoletti*

Thursday, March 12, 2020

**RACE 1:**

**8 BELLATRIX'S WAND** is plunging to the \$16,000 level in the first start since showing speed and fading in her maiden special weight debut during December. Trainer Jane Cibelli has Paco Lopez in the saddle. **7 DANCINGWITHJIMMIEB** figures on the opening ticket after showing some late interest in back-to-back races at this level and distance.

**4 IMPRESSION GIVEN** is debuting on the turf with blinkers added after showing speed and weakening late when facing similar quality in back-to-back sprints on the main track.

**SELECTIONS: 8-7-4**

**RACE 2:**

**5 HARTS N FLOWERS** is turning back to 5 ½ furlongs after breaking from Post 12 and making a 4-wide bid to finish 6<sup>th</sup> vs similar quality going three-quarters of a mile. Trainer Herbert Miller has Rajiv Maragh handling the turnback. **4 TOO STYLISH** is dropping to the \$10,500 level after shipping up to Tampa to show speed and fade when facing \$20,000 maidens going 6 furlongs. The turnback to 5 ½ furlongs can be the key to her success.

**6 NENITA** is a candidate for a rebound performance after following a 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish in her career debut with a wide sightseeing trip last out. Trainer Antonio Sano has Edgard Zayas in the saddle.

**SELECTIONS: 5-4-6**

**RACE 3:**

**4 SUBSIDIARY** is returning from the layoff at the \$25,000 level after ending her sophomore campaign by showing speed and fading vs allowance competition sprinting on the Tapeta surface at Woodbine. Trainer Mark Casse has Paco Lopez handling the previous winner on the dirt here.

**2 CRUMB BUN** is cutting back to three-quarters of a mile after setting the pace and getting caught late when finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> vs this level of competition going 6 ½ furlongs.

Trainer Larry Bates has apprentice Cristian Torres handling the turnback. **5 PEACE CONTROL** moved to the Victor Barboza Jr barn via the claim, and steps up to the \$12,500 level, after holding on gamely to defeat \$6,250 '2-lifetime' claimers last out. The new connections, 64% with new claims, have 7-pound apprentice Gaddiel Martinez named to ride.

**SELECTIONS: 4-2-5**

**RACE 4:**

**1 HECHIZADA** is dropping to the \$16,000 level after facing considerably tougher competition, with limited success, before the layoff. Trainer Antonio Sano has Edgard Zayas handling the inside post.

**5 SIGNING BONUS** is turning back to 7 furlongs with blinkers added after rallying along the rail to finish 3<sup>rd</sup> vs similar opposition going a 1-turn mile. Trainer Marcy Brooks has Victor Lebron named to ride.

**7 STAMINA PRINCESS** is another cutting back to 7 furlongs after taking the overland route when finishing a distant 4<sup>th</sup> behind Signing Bonus at 8 furlongs.

**SELECTIONS: 1-5-7**

**RACE 5:**

**1 CARIBBEAN GOLD** is turning back to 5 furlongs after tracking the pace and finishing a stamina-tweaking 4<sup>th</sup> in his 1-mile career debut. Note that trainer Ben Perkins Jr had him firing bullets going 5 furlongs on the Palm Meadows turf before that 8-furlong debut. **2 UNCLE GEORGE** is a \$310,000 son of Uncle Mo debuting for trainer Christophe Clement with a series of solid workouts showing at Payson Park. The sophomore gets Lasix, and has leading jock Irad Ortiz Jr at the controls.

**3 ALLEGEDLY PERFECT**, listed as a gelding, the son of Kantharos, who is a half-brother to \$1.3 million-dollar superstar Starship Jubilee, and speedy turf sprinter Fallen Leaf, debuts on the turf when switching to the David Fawkes barn for the first time.

**SELECTIONS: 1-2-3**

**RACE 6:**

**2 SWEET YARE N DIRA** will try to make it 2 in a row after responding in the first race after the claim by Dan Hurtak with a game late-running victory – as the odds-on choice – at this level and distance; Paco Lopez rides. **4 HEIR BALL**, a winner at this level during January, drops after finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, respectively, in a pair of state-bred optional claimers at the distance. Trainer Larry Rivelli has Victor Lebron named to ride. **1 BRIGHT VENEZUELAN** is looking to turn the tables on the top two after finishing 4<sup>th</sup> behind Sweet Yare N Dira last out, and 5<sup>th</sup> behind Heir Ball when they hooked up during January.

**SELECTIONS: 2-4-1****RACE 7:**

**2 QUALITY ON TAP** moved to the Victor Barboza Jr barn via the claim after stalking the pace and finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> at this level and distance. The new connections tab Emisael Jaramillo to ride the gelded son of The Big Beast. **5 NEVERSTOPDREAMING**, now in the Juan Rodriguez barn, the son of New Year's Day, freefalls to the \$16,000 level after following his \$25,000 debut victory with a duel-for-the-lead 3<sup>rd</sup> vs \$50,000 starter optional claimers going a mile during January; Santiago Gonzalez rides. **1 L' CRISTABAL**, a solid maiden winner going a mile on a fast track 2 starts back, breaks from the rail after stalking the pace and finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> on a sealed sloppy surface last out. Watch the skies and bet accordingly.

**SELECTIONS: 2-5-1****RACE 8:**

**1 CHAMPAGNE HORIZON** is stretching out an additional 16<sup>th</sup> of a mile after her 2-race win streak ended when she finished a late-closing 2<sup>nd</sup> going a mile vs similar last out. Trainer Jane Cibelli has Jairo Rendon in the irons. **9 BEAN COUNTER**, who runs well fresh, returns for trainer Todd Pletcher, and stretches out to a mile and a sixteenth, in the first start since setting the pace and finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> vs \$50,000 starter optional claimers going a mile during December. The daughter of Into Mischief has the speed, and the jock (Luis Saez), needed to steal this race from on or just off the pace.

**2 MIKE'S GIRL** is stretching out to 8 ½ furlongs after shipping down from New York to finish a solid 4<sup>th</sup> behind this familiar competition going a mile. Trainer Danny Gargan has Irad Ortiz Jr returning on the beaten favorite last out.

**SELECTIONS: 1-9-2****RACE 9:**

**6 ADDISON** drops, and turns back to 6 furlongs, in the first start since stalking the pace and finishing 4<sup>th</sup> behind repeat winner, and Grade 2 stakes-placed Dream Marie, and next-out allowance winner We Miss Susie, in a \$50,000 starter optional claimer going a mile. She classes up perfectly in this spot.

**2 AMELIA MADELYN** moved to the Kelly Breen barn via the claim, and turns back to three-quarters of a mile, after rallying to finish 2<sup>nd</sup> – as the favorite – vs \$20,000 claimers going 7 furlongs.

**1 LIL MISS HOT MESS** is cutting back to a sprint distance on the dirt after making a middle move and weakening to finish 6<sup>th</sup> when trying \$50,000 claimers in her local debut going a mile on the turf. Trainer Ken McPeek has Julien Leparoux handling the surface switch.

**SELECTIONS: 6-2-1****RACE 10:**

**3 KUDURO** is making his local return at a mile after following his debut victory here sprinting on the turf last May with a 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish vs maiden special weight competition going 5 furlongs in the slop at Belmont last June. Trainer Todd Pletcher drops him to the \$50,000 level for this assignment.

**9 ARITHMETIC** certainly adds up in this spot when he makes his career debut for trainer Christophe Clement with Lasix, and Tyler Gaffalione named to ride. **10 BUDGET BUSTER** should be primed and ready to score after returning from the layoff to finish 3<sup>rd</sup> at this level and distance. Trainer Mike Maker has Irad penciled in for the return riding assignment.

**SELECTIONS: 3-9-10****BEST BET: RACE 5 – 1 CARIBBEAN GOLD****LONGSHOT: RACE 8 – 1 CHAMPAGNE HORIZON**