



RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS

BY RON NICOLETTI



Thursday, March 4, 2021

RACE 1:

6 MIAHSOLOMIA is going back to the turf after dueling for the lead and finishing 3rd in race moved to this level and distance on the dirt. The lightly raced mare has Irad Ortiz Jr handling the return to her best surface thus far. **3 KAYLA'S TUNE** is stepping up to the \$16,000 level in the first race since finishing 2nd vs \$12,500 types going 5 furlongs on the GP West turf. Trainer Joe Orseno has Paco Lopez up. **9 MUDSLIDE WICKED** is dropping back to this level after opening and surrendering an early 2-length lead when finishing 2nd – beaten a neck – vs \$25,000 maidens. Trainer Maria Mejia has Angel Arroyo atop the daughter of Wicked Strong.

SELECTIONS: 6-3-9

RACE 2:

3 ULTIMATE GIFT is freefalling to the \$12,500 level after showing speed and fading to finish 3rd vs \$50,000 maidens at the distance. Trainer Todd Pletcher has Irad Ortiz Jr atop the \$350,000 son of Pioneerofthe Nile. **5 BIG FRANK** moved to the Jose D'Angelo barn via the claim, and gets full compliment of changes, when the new gelding drops to this level with Lasix, and blinkers added. When last seen the son of Upstart finished 2nd vs \$16,000 maidens going a mile and a sixteenth here in December. **4 COUCH DREAMS** is another getting some class relief, and adding blinkers, after failing to show much vs better on the turf. Trainer Ken McPeck is 31% with the turf to dirt angle.

SELECTIONS: 3-5-4

RACE 3:

10 CAIRO CAMPAIGN is turning back slightly to 7 ½ furlongs after making a bid to take the lead when finishing 2nd going a mile. Trainer Mike Maker has Irad returning on the Cairo Prince gelding.

11 CONVICT PIKE is making the 3rd start of his current form cycle after running an improved 2nd vs similar going a mile and a sixteenth last out. Trainer Rusty Arnold has Corey Lanerie handling the turnback to the 7 ½-8-furlong distance (7-2-1-1).

6 BIG MAN BOB is turning back to this distance after coming up big when he shipped in from Hawthorne to set the pace and finish 4th vs similar going a mile and a sixteenth. Trainer Kelsey Danner has Paco Lopez in the saddle.

SELECTIONS: 10-11-6

RACE 4:

5 VEGAS WEEKEND is dropping, and turning back, after following a 2nd place finish vs \$50,000 maidens at the distance with a set-the-pace-and-weaken 3rd place finish vs \$50,000 types going a mile last out. Trainer Kelly Breen adds 2nd-time blinkers for the turnback. **2 JAMSSTAR** has license to improve after moving from the synthetic surface at Turfway to finish a willing 2nd here at this level and distance. Trainer Mark Casse has Luis Saez in the irons.

8 NUSCAA is hoping to finally get out of 3rd gear after rallying to finish 3rd – again – vs this familiar competition last out. Trainer Fausto Gutierrez has Edgard Zayas trying not to make it déjà vu all over again.

SELECTIONS: 5-2-8

RACE 5:

2 CAMELLIA GAL is wheeling back after responding in the first race after the claim by Mike Maker with a set-the-pace 2nd place finish – in front of a pair of next-out winners – at this level and distance: Irad Ortiz Jr rides.

4 MY LIPS ARE SEALED is making her first start since setting the pace and finishing 2nd going a mile here vs similar quality during December. Her pace figures point her out as a major piece of the pace puzzle. **1 WICKED MERCURY**, who does her best running from a stalking position, can end up sitting the 'trip' behind the abundance of speedy types signed on to run in this race. Trainer Jane Cibelli has strong finisher Jose Ortiz in the saddle.

SELECTIONS: 2-4-1



RACE 6:

5 ALIZEE moved to the Saffie Joseph Jr barn via the claim, and faces \$35,000 conditioned claimers, after finishing 4th vs a solid group of \$35,000 optional claimers going this mile distance. The new connections keep the status quo with Edgard Zayas in the saddle. **1 SHACKLETTE** is dropping to this level after facing considerably tougher in her 2020 campaign in Kentucky. Trainer Dale Romans has Corey Lanerie atop the daughter of Shackleford, who was 2 for 3 in her previous stay at Gulfstream. **2 PERSPIRE** is another trying conditioned claimers after finishing a prompt-the-pace 5th behind Alizee in her last. Trainer Juan Alvarado has Irad handling the rematch.

SELECTIONS: 5-1-2

RACE 7:

3 HIGHTAILING, a lightly raced daughter of Orb, is making her 5-year-old debut for trainer Shug McGaughey with a solid morning work tab showing in preparation for the return. Shug, who is a solid 28% with the longer than the 180 days layoff, has go-to jock Jose Ortiz atop this longshot play. **2 KATAMA MOONLIGHT** is turning back to a mile after setting the pace and finishing 3rd – beaten a length – vs maiden special weight runners going a mile and an eighth last out. Trainer Saffie Joseph Jr has Irad Ortiz Jr hoping to finally notch the elusive maiden victory. **4 REGAL PASSAGE** is making her local debut for trainer Cherie DeVaux after showing promise when facing maiden special weight competition at Churchill before going to the sidelines in November. The daughter of Violence will have Edgard Zayas handling this intriguing possibility.

SELECTIONS: 3-2-4

RACE 8:

7 SOLDOLLIE moved to the Tammy Levy barn via the claim, and turns back to 5 ½ furlongs, after notching his 2nd consecutive victory vs this level of competition going three-quarters of a mile. The new connections tab Irad Ortiz Jr to ride. **5 GAME BOY BENNY** is cutting back to this distance hoping to turn the tables on Soldollie, who has had his number in back-to-back sprints at 6 panels. The 2-time winner - at 5 ½ furlongs – has Edgard Zayas trying to reverse the previous outcomes.

2 UNPUBLISHED, who defeated \$25,000 conditioned claimers – as this distance – at GP West, was freshened after duel-and-fade outing vs \$16,000 state-bred optional claimers going 6 furlongs at GP West during October. Trainer Gary Jackson has Paco Lopez handling the return.

SELECTIONS: 7-5-2

RACE 9:

6 VIVIDLY is cutting back to 7 ½ furlongs after the interesting North American debut in which she missed the break prior to her rallying to get beat only a length when finishing 4th last out. Trainer Brendan Walsh has Irad atop the daughter of Charm Spirit. **4 SANITY** is stretching out around 2-turns after rallying to finish 2nd in back-to-back sprints going 5 furlongs. Trainer Kelly Breen has Emisael Jaramillo atop 7-year-old daughter of City Zip, who has a previous win at this distance on her record. **8 NORTH BROADWAY**, now in the Lisa Lewis barn, the beautifully bred daughter of Quality Road makes her first start since opening and surrendering an early 10-length lead in the Grade 2 Ballston Spa at Saratoga last July: Julien Leparoux rides.

SELECTIONS: 6-4-8

RACE 10:

2 GOING FOR GOLD was game in defeat when she debuted locally, broke from a demanding outside post (10), set the pace, and yielded late to finish 2nd. Trainer Anthony Quatarolo has Jose Ortiz named to ride. **4 SURPRISE FACTOR** moved to the Kelsey Danner barn via the claim, and cuts back to 5 furlongs, after chasing the pacesetter and finishing 2nd – beaten a head – going a mile last out. The new connections add blinkers, and have Irad Ortiz Jr, handling the turnback. **9 CLAMOR** is dropping to the \$20,000 level, and turning back to 5 furlongs, in the first start since facing better here last year with some success. The Tom Bush/Edgard Zayas collaboration is worth a flyer at a price!

SELECTIONS: 2-4-9

BEST BET: RACE 10 – 2 GOING FOR GOLD

LONGSHOT: RACE 7 – 3 HIGHTAILING