



RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS

by *Ron Nicoletti*

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RACE 1:

4 AWSUM ROAR is dropping into a winning spot in the first race since pressing swift fractions and weakening late – as the favorite - vs a strong field of \$25,000 starter optional claimers. Trainer Steve Klesaris adds to the appeal with leading jock Edgard Zayas named to ride. **6 MAJESTIC MAIARA**, 2nd to Awsum Roar when they competed at this distance during January, turns back after dueling for the lead and tiring when facing \$16,000 state-bred optional claimers going a mile. The mare clearly does her best running at five-eighths of a mile. **7 LADY GREATNESS** is a late-running type who can be along for a share of the exacta or trifecta. Trainer Saffie Joseph Jr lightens the impost with apprentice Cristian Torres named to ride.

SELECTIONS: 4-6-7

RACE 2:

6 BLUE MAGIC is cutting back to three-quarters of a mile after surrendering a late lead to finish 2nd – as the favorite – going 6 ½ furlongs. The beaten favorite in her last 4 races on the dirt has Edgar Prado trying to repair the chalk burning status. **1 SI TE VAS** moved to the Matthew Williams barn via the claim, and turns back, after rallying late to finish 3rd behind Blue Magic when going 6 ½ furlongs last out. The sophomore has the speed needed to use the inside post to her advantage. **7 ROSEPATH** is stepping to the next level after dueling throughout and getting up under the shadow of the wire to defeat \$6,250 '2-lifetime' claimers at the distance.

SELECTIONS: 6-1-7

RACE 3:

2 STARSHIP PINNACLE is dropping to the bottom on the main track, and turning back to 7 furlongs, after rallying to finish an okay 4th vs \$12,500 maidens going 7 ½ furlongs on the turf. Trainer Steve Dwoskin has Cristian Torres handling the combo surface switch/turnback. **7 ROSAS FOR JIMMY** is turning back to seven-eighths of a mile after dueling for the lead, and drifting in the stretch, when finishing a distant 3rd vs similar going a mile. Trainer Angel Rodriguez has 10-pound apprentice Alberto Burgos in the saddle again. **4 IFEELGOOD** is another dropping to the bottom on the dirt after showing speed and retreating when facing \$12,500 maidens on the turf, including the top choice.

SELECTIONS: 2-7-4

RACE 4:

4 HONOLULU EXPRESS is hoping to get back on track after his 3-race win streak at the distance ended when he sat too far off the pace and finished 6th vs \$16,000 state-bred optional claimers. Trainer Jorge Delgado has Emisael Jaramillo named to ride. **7 BULLGRATS** is dropping a notch, and returning to the turf, after dueling throughout and finishing 2nd – beaten a half-length – vs \$25,000 claimers going 5 furlongs on a wet track listed as 'good'. Trainer Terri Pompay has Edgard Zayas handling the surface switch. **5 MARCELINO** is dropping to the \$20,000 level after returning from the 2-month freshening to finish a late closing 3rd, at the distance, vs a notch tougher competition. Trainer Bob Hess Jr tabs red-hot Jairo Rendon to ride.

SELECTIONS: 4-7-5

RACE 5:

6 FLAMING HOT is a son of productive first-year sire Khozan, and a half-brother to Grade 1 stakes-placed Uncle Vinny, debuting for Trainer Kathleen O'Connell with Lasix, and leading jock Edgard Zayas at the controls. **1 PLATO** is a son of Brethren, and a full-brother to stakes-placed Nacho Papa, debuting for trainer Stanley Gold with a string of stamina enhancing workouts showing over the track.

3 HIGHWAYTWENTYSEVEN is a son of win-early Cajun Breeze debuting for Trainer Michael Yates with Lasix, and Diego Gomez named to ride; the tote action should tell is more.

SELECTIONS: 6-1-3**RACE 6:**

9 GRANNY'S KITTEN is dropping a level after dueling throughout and just getting nabbed at the wire when finishing 2nd – beaten a neck by repeat winner It's a New Year – at the \$12,500 level. Trainer Mike Maker has Edgard Zayas returning on the 7-year-old son of Kitten's Joy.

8 COULD BE is another trying \$10,000 claimers at a mile and a sixteenth after rallying late to finish 3rd vs \$12,500 open-claimers. Trainer David Fawkes has Samy Camacho trying get the gelding's 1st victory this year (7-0-1-1).

7 LEWIS VALE is hoping for a clear trip after having to alter course when finishing 4th going 7 ½ furlongs last out. Trainer Peter Walder has strong finisher Miguel Vazquez at the controls.

SELECTIONS: 9-8-7**RACE 7:**

6 SLINGIN SAMMY B is plunging to the \$6,250 level on the main track after showing early interest and fading vs \$20,000 conditioned claimers going 7 ½ furlongs on the turf. Trainer David Fawkes is solid with the grass to dirt angle. **8 ALEXBABE** is debuting locally after knocking on the door vs similar quality in a pair of \$8,000 'non-winners of 2-lifetime' claimers at Tampa. Trainer Ian Hemmingway has Samy Camacho named to ride.

7 MYFRANCESCA is another trying \$6,250 '2-lifetime' claimers on the dirt after amassing a 7-1-1-1 record vs better on the turf this year. Trainer Terri Pompay has Edgard handling the surface switch.

SELECTIONS: 6-8-7**RACE 8:**

9 MAMBO DANCER is stepping up to the next level after putting on a serious whooping on a field of \$12,500 maidens when she drew clear to win by 6-plus lengths. Trainer Jorge Delgado has Emisael Jaramillo going for 2 in a row.

7 LILLIE'S HEAT is turning back to a mile after opening and surrendering an early 7-length lead when finishing 2nd – beaten a half-length – going a mile and a sixteenth. Trainer Bobby Dibona has Samy Camacho rationing her speed.

5 DUBAIAN is stretching out to a mile looking to sit in the catbird seat behind what should be a strong pace in the nightcap. The 5-year-old daughter of Hansen has Edgard Zayas in the irons.

SELECTIONS: 9-7-5**BEST BET: RACE 6 – 9 GRANNY'S KITTEN****LONGSHOT: RACE 9 – 9 MAMBO DANCER**