



# RACE BY RACE SELECTIONS

by Ron Nicoletti

Wednesday, March 25, 2020

## RACE 1:

**10 MAYITO**, now in the Saffie Joseph Jr barn, the colt drops to the \$16,000 level in the first start since finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> vs \$32,000 maidens going a mile on the Tampa turf; Emisael Jaramillo rides.

**12 RAPSTOREROCKS** is cutting back to a mile after encountering trouble both early and late when beaten 2 ½ lengths vs similar going a mile and a sixteenth. Trainer Kelly Breen has Paco Lopez in the saddle. **9 FIRST IN LINE** is dropping to this level, and adding blinkers, after failing to show much in his \$50,000 career debut at the distance. Trainer George Weaver, winning races here at a strong 35% clip, has Joe Bravo handling the class relief.

**SELECTIONS: 10-12-9**

## RACE 2:

**2 LOOK FINE AS WINE** is dropping to the \$16,000 level after making a 5-wide middle move and finishing 4<sup>th</sup> vs \$25,000 maidens last out. Trainer Dom Schettino has Dylan Davis named to ride.

**6 GARNER STATE PARK** is a \$60,000 daughter of Lea debuting for leading trainer Todd Pletcher with Lasix, and a steady morning work tab showing at Palm Beach Downs; Luis Saez rides.

**11 HARMONIC THUNDER** is dropping to this level, and returning to the turf, after following a pair of 'out of the money' finishes vs considerably tougher on the grass with a stalk-and-weaken 5<sup>th</sup> vs \$50,000 maidens going a mile on the dirt.

**SELECTIONS: 2-6-11**

## RACE 3:

**2 CHAMPAGNE BLISS**, now in the Rohan Crichton barn, the \$105,000 daughter of Into Mischief plunges into this 'non-winners of 2-lifetime' claimer after facing allowance level competition at Aqueduct before being sent to the sidelines in January. The new connections keep it light with 10-pound apprentice Mario Fuentes named to ride.

**3 CORY GAL** moved to the Gustavo Delgado barn via the claim, and returns to the main track, after setting the pace and finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> vs \$16,000 2-lifetime' claimers going 5 furlongs on the turf. The barn is 5 for 17 (29%) with the grass-to-dirt angle.

**5 SHELLPHONE**, who was sharp defeating \$25,000 maidens 2 starts back, drops after failing to handle a tough group of \$32,000 optional claimers at the distance. Trainer Don Swick has Emisael Jaramillo named to ride.

**SELECTIONS: 2-3-5**

## RACE 4:

**4 CUY** is turning back to a mile after responding to the addition of blinkers with a slow starting, late-closing, 2nd going a mile and a sixteenth last out. Owner/trainer Elizabeth Dobles has Diego Gomez named to ride. **9 STILL SCHEMIN** is another eligible to show more vs this level of competition after breaking from Post 12 and finishing 5<sup>th</sup> behind Cuy last out. Trainer Jesus Lander has Emisael Jaramillo handling the rematch. **1 RINGLE BELLE** is a darn if you do, and darn if you don't, type. He's the lone early speed who breaks from the rail, but stopped abruptly last out. He may be worth a look at big balloons.

**SELECTIONS: 4-9-1**

## RACE 5:

**4 BY HIS GRACE** is cutting back to a sprint distance on the dirt after prompting the pace and weakening to finish 6<sup>th</sup> vs state-bred special weight runners going a 2-turn mile on the turf. Trainer Larry Bates has Paco named to handle the grass-to-dirt move.

**9 DAILY GRACE** is dropping to the \$50,000 level, and stretching out to 6 ½ furlongs, after making a 4-wide bid and finishing 4<sup>th</sup> behind impressive repeat winner Up in Smoke in a state-bred special weight sprint going three-quarters of a mile.

**1 SIMPLE STORY** is debuting locally, for trainer Stan Hough, after rallying in the slop to finish 2<sup>nd</sup> vs \$50,000 maidens going 6 furlongs at Churchill during November; Luis Saez rides.

**SELECTIONS: 4-9-1**

**RACE 6:**

**6 DAY BY DAY** is wheeling back after dueling throughout and getting beat a neck when 2<sup>nd</sup> at this level and distance last out. Trainer Jorge Delgado tabs Luis Saez to ride. **7 FLAT AWESOME JENNY** is stepping up the competition after reeling off back-to-back victories since the \$35,000 claim by trainer Kelly Breen. Paco Lopez is going for the hat trick.

**5 LIZA STAR** is cutting back to her most accomplished distance (15-5-0-2) after setting a pressured pace and finishing a drifting 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 7-furlong \$50,000 Lady Bird last out. Trainer Peter Walder has Miguel Vazquez atop the one to fear.

**SELECTIONS: 6-7-5**

**RACE 7:**

**8 KEEPSAKEKITTEN** is dropping to the \$16,000 level after shipping up to Tampa to defeat \$25,000 starter optional claimers going a mile on the turf. Trainer Saffie Joseph Jr has Luis Saez atop the logical choice. **2 VERDICT IS IN** is dropping a notch after making a 4-wide bid to get the lead before settling for 2<sup>nd</sup> – beaten a neck – vs \$20,000 claimers last out. Trainer Ed Plesa Jr has Paco returning on the gelded son of Lea. **9 EARTHQUAKE** is returning to the grass after following his maiden victory on the Tampa turf with a much-the-best victory here over 4 rivals in a race moved from the lawn to a 1-turn mile in the slop.

**SELECTIONS: 8-2-9**

**RACE 8:**

**7 WHYRUAWESOME** will try this familiar competition at the \$100,000 optional claiming level after making a 4-wide bid and coming up a neck short in the \$50,000 Trust Buster last out. Trainer Elizabeth Dobles has strong finisher Joel Rosario named to ride. **2 FAST PASS**, who absolutely does his best running in the latter stages of the race, should get more than enough pace needed to bolster his running style. Trainer Peter Walder has Miguel Vazquez in the irons.

**1 THE TABULATOR** is debuting locally for trainer Larry Rivelli with the moniker of the inside speed, and definitely the one to catch. The 6-furlong specialist (4-3-1-0) has Victor Lebron in the saddle.

**SELECTIONS: 7-2-1**

**RACE 9:**

**6 VEGAS KITTEN**, a reclaim by trainer Mike Maker, stretches out to this marathon 12-furlong distance after using his speed to defeat \$40,000 conditioned claimers going a mile and a sixteenth; Paco Lopez rides. **5 LEMONIST** moved to the Saffie Joseph Jr barn via the claim, and stretches out to a mile and a half, with the breeding needed to negotiate the added real estate. Note that the gelding finished 2<sup>nd</sup> twice when trying 11 furlongs in New York last summer. **7 DUC DE CALAS (FR)**, who competed strictly in 10-furlong races, on both turf and synthetic in France, is stretching out after the pair of poor showings locally at 8 and 9 furlongs, respectively. Trainer Christophe Clement has Joel Rosario atop this intriguing longshot.

**SELECTIONS: 6-5-7**

**RACE 10:**

**2 BEE MAJOR** is moving to an inside post after departing from Post 11, setting the pace, and weakening to finish 6<sup>th</sup> at the distance vs similar quality last out. He has the speed needed to steal the nightcap from on or just off the pace.

**4 MANDATE**, a \$200,000 son of Blame, is dropping to the \$40,000 level, and returning to the turf, after finishing a distant 4<sup>th</sup> when blinkers were added for his recent outing going 9 furlongs on the dirt. Trainer Todd Pletcher has Luis Saez named to ride.

**7 VENEZUELAN HUG** is dropping into the maiden claiming ranks after finishing a workman-like 4<sup>th</sup> in his state-bred special weight debut going a mile on the grass. Trainer Alexis Delgado has Marcos Meneses named to ride.

**SELECTIONS: 2-4-7**

**BEST BET: RACE 9 – 6 VEGAS KITTEN**

**LONGSHOT: RACE 10 – 2 BEE MAJOR**