



# RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS

by *Ron Nicoletti*

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## RACE 1:

**6 REAGAN'S HEART** is dropping to the \$12,500 level after returning from the 2-month respite to duel for the lead and finish a useful 5<sup>th</sup> at the distance vs \$20,000 maidens. **1 REORGANIZE**, who faced better in his only previous turf race at 5 furlongs, turns back after opening and relinquishing an early 3-length lead vs \$20,000 maidens going 7 ½ furlongs. **5 REGGAE PIRATE** was solid in defeat when he rallied 3-wide to finish 2<sup>nd</sup> at this level and distance last out.

**SELECTIONS: 6-1-5**

## RACE 2:

**3 YES FOR LESS**, who was impressive breaking his maiden at the distance 2 starts back, drops after failing to mount a rally when finishing 5<sup>th</sup> behind Positively Awesome in the \$75,000 Kodiak Island. Trainer Fernando Abreu has apprentice Cristian Torres in the saddle. **7 WHISKEY BENT** is stepping up to face winners after setting the pace and holding off all challengers when breaking his maiden vs \$50,000 types. Trainer Robert Smith has Miguel Vazquez going for 2 in a row. **4 DOUBLETURBO**, in for the \$35,000 tag in this optional claimer, drops after tracking the pace and fading to finish 5<sup>th</sup> in the Kodiak Island.

**SELECTIONS: 3-7-4**

## RACE 3:

**2 TIMMY M.**, a multiple stakes-placed runner on the turf, drops to the \$35,000 optional claiming level after rallying to finish 2<sup>nd</sup> to repeat winner Grand Journey in a \$75,000 optional claimer at the distance. The sophomore, who has beaten older horses in the past, has Jairo Rendon in the saddle.

**3 WINGMAN**, in for the \$25,000 tag in this optional claimer, will try to make it 4 in a row after dispatching \$25,000 optional claimers in 3 consecutive races, including the pair going 7 ½ furlongs on the turf. **7 TOUGHEST 'OMBRE** is hoping to turn the tables on logical choice Wingman at a mile after finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> behind him at 7 ½ furlongs.

**SELECTIONS: 2-3-7**

## RACE 4:

**7 UNCORK THE BOTTLE** is a son of Colonel John (Tiznow) debuting for trainer Mike Maker in an ideal spot for a first-time starter to succeed. The freshman gets Lasix, and has Reyly Gutierrez at the controls. **4 DEO FORTE** is dropping to the \$25,000 level after showing early interest and fading when facing maiden special weight competition in his 6-furlong debut. Trainer Barry Croft has leading jock Edgard Zayas returning on the son of Adios Charlie. **5 STROLL BY LEA** is stretching out to 5 ½ furlongs after chasing the pace and finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> vs \$20,000 maidens going 5-furlongs. The most consistent runner in the group (5-0-2-1) belongs on your ticket.

**SELECTIONS: 7-4-5**

## RACE 5:

**5 ARBA** is dropping to the \$40,000 level after returning from a 5-month layoff to chase the pace and finish 3<sup>rd</sup> vs maiden special weight competition. Trainer Sandra Slivka has Albin Jimenez atop the gelding. **3 JUST US**, a Louisiana-bred son of Half Ours, debuts for trainer Leo Gabriel Jr with a solid morning work tab showing in preparation for the debut. The sophomore gets Lasix, and has Luca Panici in the irons.

**4 GOLDENLION** is dropping into the maiden claiming ranks in the first start since finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> at the distance vs. special weight runners. Trainer Jamie Mejia has Silvia Zapico named to ride.

**SELECTIONS: 5-3-4**

**RACE 6:**

**5 R MERCEDES BOY** is turning back to 5 ½ furlongs after returning from the almost 7-month layoff to press the pace and finish 2<sup>nd</sup> behind repeat winner Hard Belle in a \$25,000 claimer contested at 6 ½ furlongs. **7 ALLURSTRA**, a perfect 2 for 2 at the distance, turns back after back-to-back well-meant 2<sup>nd</sup> place finishes going three-quarters of a mile. Trainer Teri Pompay has Leonel Reyes returning on the son of Gone Astray. **1 SALAMBO** will try and make it 3 in a row, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive victory since the \$12,500 claim by trainer Elizabeth Dobles 2 starts back. The 4-year-old son of Kantharos loves this 5 ½-furlong distance (5-3-0-1).

**SELECTIONS: 5-7-1**

**RACE 7:**

**1 RUDIGER** moved to the Victor Barboza Jr barn via the claim, and turns back to a mile, in the first race since stalking the pace and finishing 4<sup>th</sup> vs similar going a mile and a sixteenth during June. The new connections tab Edgard Zayas to handle the previous winner at the distance.

**4 MAJESTIC LUNA** will try to make it 2 in a row, and notch his 4<sup>th</sup> turf victory at a mile, after drawing away to win by almost 3 lengths last out. Trainer Luis Luna has Cristian Torres atop the consistent 3-year-old. **3 LUCKY FAST** is a late-striding type who has closed out the trifecta in consecutive races, and it can be déjà vu all over again.

**SELECTIONS: 1-4-3**

**RACE 8:**

**3 MYFRANCESCA** moved to the Gilberto Zerpa barn via the claim, and wheels back at the same level and distance, after finishing a distant 2<sup>nd</sup> to repeat winner Durlyn last out. Trainer Zerpa, 40%-plus with new claims, keeps the status quo with Edgard Zayas in the saddle.

**4 SLINGIN SAMMY B** moved to the Jorge Delgado barn after the claim, and steps up the competition, after drawing clear to defeat \$6,250 '2-lifetime' claimers by 7 ½ lengths; Fanny Olsson rides. **6 BIRD OF PEACE** moved to the Elizabeth Dobles barn via the claim, steps up to the next level, and stretches out to a mile, after defeating \$6,250 '2-lifetime' claimers at 5 ½ furlongs. The barn is 29% with horses stretching out in distance.

**SELECTIONS: 3-4-6**

**RACE 9:**

**7 CAPTAIN RON** is dropping to the \$10,000 '2-lifetime' level after following his front-running \$20,000 maiden victory with a 'come-from-behind' 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish – beaten three-quarters of a length – vs \$16,000 conditioned claimers.

**8 STEADY EARNER** is plunging to this level, and debuting on the turf, after tracking the pace and fading to finish 4<sup>th</sup> vs \$50,000 claimers going 6 ½ furlongs on the dirt. The son of More Than Ready, trained by Aubrey Maragh, is bred to handle the surface switch. **4 VINNIE VAN GO** moved to the Victor Barboza Jr barn via the claim, gets the blinkers back, and returns to the turf, after setting a pressured pace and finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> vs \$12,500 conditioned claimers going 6 ½ furlongs on a sealed 'sloppy' track.

**SELECTIONS: 7-8-4**

**BEST BET: RACE 7 – 1 RUDIGER**

**LONGSHOT: RACE 6 – 5 R MERCEDES BOY**