



RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS

by *Ron Nicoletti*

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RACE 1:

6 LONG BLADE, who was impressive sprinting on the grass when defeating \$16,000 '2-lifetime' claimers in March, goes back to the turf after returning from the layoff to chase the pace and fade when facing \$30,000 claimers going 7 furlongs on the main track.

3 SUM OVERTURE is dropping a notch after breaking slowly from the rail prior to unleashing a solid late rally to finish 3rd at the distance vs \$12,500 claimers.

1 AMERICAN RIVER (VEN) will give the turf a try after recovering from a slow start to finish 3rd vs \$6,250 claimers sprinting on the dirt.

SELECTIONS: 6-3-1

RACE 2:

2 FREE FLAYME is turning back to 5 ½ furlongs after responding to the surface switch with a stalk-the-pace 3rd at this level and distance. Trainer Joe Orseno has Jairo Rendon in the saddle. **1 WARRIOR SPIRIT** has speed, the rail, and a chance to lead this group from start to finish, especially at this abbreviated 5 ½-furlong distance.

5 WHEELER FORTY FIVE will try sprinting on the dirt after facing similar quality on the turf with a modicum of success. Trainer Lilli Kurtinecz has Albin Jimenez handling the combo surface switch/turnback.

SELECTIONS: 2-1-5

RACE 3:

1 ROSEPATH is stretching out to three-quarters of a mile after rallying to win for the 3rd time when defeating this level of competition at 5 ½ furlongs. **2 AURORA PRINCESS**, now in the Juan Avila barn, the 4-year-old with try to turn the tables on Rosepath after dueling for the lead and finishing 3rd behind her when they hooked up at 5 ½ furlongs in the slop last out.

4 CHASTITY is hoping the weather cooperates because the 2-time winner on a fast track came up empty behind the top two under the wet conditions in their last.

SELECTIONS: 1-2-4

RACE 4:

6 BEAU TRACE is dropping to the \$12,500 level after drawing clear to defeat \$35,000 maidens at the distance last out. Trainer Saffie Joseph Jr has Tyler Gaffalione atop the son of Beau Choix. **5 MYSTERIO** was solid in defeat when he followed his \$10,000 maiden victory on a fast track with a late-running 2nd, at this level and distance, in the slop last out.

7 EL PLAYON is hoping to make amends on a fast surface after stalking the pace and failing to fire through the lane when 4th behind Mysterio in the slop last out. Trainer Antonio Sano has Emisael Jaramillo in the saddle again.

SELECTIONS: 6-5-7

RACE 5:

5 SLEEPING GIANT is breaking midpack after a herculean effort from Post 12 in which he dueled through swift fractions when finishing 2nd – beaten a half-length. Trainer Gilberto Zerpa has Edgard Zayas at the controls.

7 GIANT'S VOICE is dropping to the \$12,500 level after pressing fractions of 20 & 4 and 43 & 2 before fading to finish 3rd vs \$25,000 conditioned claimers. **1 HARDENED** will depart from the rail after leading every step of the way to win at this level and distance last out. Trainer Antonio Sano has Emisael Jaramillo going for 2 in a row.

SELECTIONS: 5-7-1

RACE 6:

6 HIP HIP JORGE is turning back to three-quarters of a mile after returning from the freshening to open and surrender a 2 ½-length lead when finishing an otherwise game 2nd going 6 ½ furlongs.

4 EVERYDAYSAHOLIDAY, a \$210,000 son of Uncaptured, is turning back to 6 furlongs after finishing a distant 2nd in his 7-furlong debut in a race that was moved from turf to a sealed 'sloppy' main track. **3 GUMP** is making his sophomore debut the first race since facing allowance level maidens before the layoff. Trainer Stanley Gold has the gelded son of Brethren working sharply for the return to action.

SELECTIONS: 6-4-3

RACE 7:

7 CORY GAL is returning to the turf, and cutting back to 5 furlongs after setting the pace and fading on the main track in the 6-furlong \$75,000 Liza Jane. The daughter of Corfu is bred to love the grass.

8 TAYLOR'S IN ORBIT will face state-bred competition at the \$16,000 level again after rallying late to defeat \$25,000 starter optional claimers at the distance. This daughter of Corfu should get the pace needed to compliment her patient running style.

1 NIKEE KAN is going back to the turf after following a sharp maiden score on the grass with a chase-the-pace 4th in race moved from the turf to a sealed 'sloppy' track.

4 MY SARASOTA STAR leaves little doubt as to what her running tactics will be after using her speed to break her maiden on a sealed 'sloppy' track. Trainer Dave Braddy has Edgar Prado atop the likely pacesetter.

SELECTIONS: 7-8-1-4

RACE 8:

7 FOLLOWHISFOOTSTEPS is turning back to 6 ½ furlongs after surrendering a late lead when finishing 2nd vs this level of opposition going 7 furlongs. Trainer Fernando Abreu has Emisael Jaramillo in the irons.

6 YODEL E. A. WHO moved to the Gilberto Zepa barn via the claim after getting parked wide through the lane when finishing 3rd behind repeat winner Oh Danny Bear at the distance last out. **4 HARD BELLE**, who was facing stakes quality competition on the dirt before the layoff, moves to the Elizabeth Dobles barn via the claim, and returns to the main track, after finishing 4th vs \$25,000 claimers on the turf; Albin Jimenez rides.

SELECTIONS: 7-6-4

RACE 9:

4 SHE FLED THE SCENE is turning back slightly to 7 ½ furlongs after responding to the dropdown to this level with a 2nd place finish – as the favorite – going a mile. Trainer Kathleen O'Connell has Edgard Zayas at the controls.

5 SWEET BLOSSOM was solid in defeat when she returned from 4-month plus layoff to finish a late running 4th vs \$40,000 maidens going a mile. Trainer Antonio Sano tabs Jairo Rendon to ride as Zayas sticks with the top choice.

6 NOBLE MARIA is eligible to show more after returning from the freshening to take the overland route when finishing a wide 3rd behind She Fled the Scene last out.

SELECTIONS: 4-5-6

BEST BET: RACE 6 – 6 HIP HIP JORGE

LONGSHOT: RACE 7 – 7 CORY GAL