



RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS

by Ron Nicoletti

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RACE 1:

5 SKY CHASER is dropping to the \$10,000 level after returning from the layoff to press the pace and weaken vs \$20,000 maidens on a wet-fast main track.

4 ONE CLASSY LADY is dropping a notch on the maiden scale after relinquishing a mid-race lead to finish 2nd vs \$12,500 maidens at the distance.

1 COUNTRY STRONG is making the usually fruitful 3rd start back from the layoff after closing to finish 3rd and 2nd, respectively, vs \$12,500 maidens at this 6-furlong distance.

SELECTIONS: 5-4-1

RACE 2:

1 SPA JAZZ is dropping to the \$6,250 level on the main track after setting a pressured pace from the rail before fading to finish 5th vs \$12,500 conditioned claimers going a mile on the turf; Jairo Rendon rides.

2 MR. MACFADDEN moved to the Henry Collazo barn via the claim after following the open-length '2-lifetime' victory with a stalk-and-fade outing at this level and distance. It's the old bounce/rebound angle.

3 MASS APPROVAL has been knocking on the door in consecutive races at this level and distance, and merits a spot on the exotic ticket.

SELECTIONS: 1-2-3

RACE 3:

7 OVERLEVERAGED is dropping to the \$12,500 level after dueling for the lead and yielding late when beaten 2 ½ lengths vs \$20,000 maidens. Trainer Linda Rice has Miguel Vazquez handling the class relief.

11 VERY AMUSING is another dropping to this level after recovering from a troubled start (broke outward) to duel for the lead and fade late to finish 5th – beaten 3 lengths – at the \$20,000 level. **6 KRAMMY BOY** is turning back to a sprint distance after responding to a dropdown in competition by stalking the pace and finishing 3rd vs this level of competition going 7 ½ furlongs.

SELECTIONS: 7-11-6

RACE 4:

4 FIRST DEAL was a big deal upstate at Tampa when he rebounded from a disqualification vs \$32,000 optional claimers with a 5 ½-length drubbing of \$75,000 optional claimers. Trainer Jorge Navarro has Victor Lebron named to ride. **6 LEAKY CUP** will face \$35,000 starter optional claimers after returning from the 4-month plus layoff to defeat \$35,000 claimers in driving fashion. Trainer Antonio Sano has Edgard Zayas named to ride. **7 SMOKER** moved to the Aubrey Maragh barn via the claim after encountering trouble both early and late when finishing 4th behind Leaky Cup and disqualified Elgin Escape.

SELECTIONS: 4-6-7

RACE 5: THE GAME FACE

3 A BIT OF BOTH is making her stakes debut for trainer Jason Servis after impressive back-to-back victories, which includes the \$50,000 optional claiming victory going 7 furlongs on February 14. **4 KARAMA** is a daughter of Kitten's Joy stepping up to face winners after the impressive 7-furlong debut in which she cruised to victory and stamped herself as 'one the watch'. Trainer Mike Pino has Nik Juarez named to ride. **5 BRUNETTE PRINCESS** is stretching out to seven-eighths of a mile after closing strongly to win the 6-furlong \$75,000 Any Limit last out. She should get the pace needed to compliment her stalking style.

SELECTIONS: 3-4-5

RACE 6:

8 GIANT RUN is dropping to the \$35,000 level after returning from the layoff to stalk the pace and finish 4th vs \$50,000 claimers at the distance. Trainer Tom Albertrani tabs Samy Camacho to ride.

3 TWEET KITTEN is stepping it up a notch, and stretching out to a mile and a sixteenth, after setting the pace and finishing 2nd going a mile last out. The hard-knocking 7-year-old can get brave if left alone on the front end. **9 TUSK** moved to the Jorge Navarro barn via the claim, and turns back to 8 ½ furlongs, after vying for the lead and weakening to finish 5th vs this level of competition going a mile and an eighth.

SELECTIONS: 8-3-9

RACE 7:

6 SOUPER STONEHENGE is stepping up to face winners after responding to both the surface switch, and the turnback in distance, with a monster 10 ½-length maiden victory at the distance.

2 I DOLIZE YOU should be primed and ready to score after returning from the layoff to finish a troubled 2nd vs \$10,000 open starter optional claimers. Trainer Jason Servis has Nik Juarez named to try state-bred runners.

3 POLAR JET moved to the Jorge Navarro barn via the claim, and makes his first start breaking poorly from the rail and finishing 3rd vs \$12,500 conditioned claimers; Victor Lebron rides.

SELECTIONS: 6-2-3

RACE 8:

2 FERDINANDA will try \$25,000 optional claimers at 7 ½ furlongs after back-to-back 2nd place finishes going a mile vs allowance competition at the Championship Meet. Trainer Barclay Tagg has Paco Lopez named on the daughter of Giant's Causeway. **6 ROSE VELVET** (IRE) is making her 5-year-old debut with Lasix added after showing promise during her 3-race campaign when shipping from Italy into the George Weaver barn last year. **1 CHILLED MILK** is stepping up to the \$25,000 optional claiming level after following her \$35,000 maiden victory with an equally sharp score vs \$16,000 state-bred optional claimers.

SELECTIONS: 2-6-1

RACE 9:

4 SAINT MICHAEL is dropping to the \$6,250 level after dueling for the lead and weakening late to finish 4th at the distance vs \$12,500 claimers. Trainer Robert Falcone Jr has Tony Maragh named to ride. **5 ZALZA** moved to the Angel Quiroz barn via the claim, and immediately drops to this level, after setting the pace and fading to get beat double-digit lengths in a \$12,500 claimer going a mile. Hector Berrios guides this shaky proposition. **12 BLACK PEPPER** is stretching out to three-quarters of a mile after rallying to finish 2nd – as the favorite – going 5 ½ furlongs.

SELECTIONS: 4-5-12

RACE 10:

3 CODESEVENTYSEVEN is stepping up to next level after leading every step of the way to defeat \$20,000 maidens at this distance. Trainer Aubrey Maragh has Miguel Vazquez going for 2 in a row.

4 THORPE D'ORO is dropping to the \$12,500 level, and stretching out around 2-turns, after rallying wide to finish 5th vs \$20,000 maidens going 5 furlongs. The gelding should be closer to the pace when facing this level of competition. **11 PUT THE HAT BACK** is dropping to this level in the first start since breaking from a tough post, dueling for the lead, and weakening when facing \$16,000 '2-lifetime' claimers at GP West. Trainer Sarah Nagle is 3 for 8 (38%) with the 61-180 days layoff.

RACE 11: THE ROAR

8 BRONZED is making his stakes debut at 7 furlongs after following his strong \$50,000 maiden victory at three-quarters of a mile with a set-the-pace score vs \$50,000 starter optional claimers going a mile. Trainer Jason Servis has Nik Juarez named to ride.

4 PROMO CODE is stepping up to face winners after cruising to victory to win his 7-furlong career debut for trainer Todd Pletcher. Edgard Zayas rides the \$450,000 son of Union Rags. **7 GLADIATOR KING** is stretching out to seven-eighths of a mile (3-0-1-0) after leading every step of the way to win the 6-furlong Grade 3 Hutcheson Stakes at 12-1.

SELECTIONS: 8-4-7

RACE 12:

5 MATURIN will be outfitted with blinkers after getting parked on the inside and failing to get untracked when finishing 4th at this level and distance. He's the upset special with the shades, and Paco added to the mix.

9 WHEELER FORTY FIVE is hoping for clear sailing after getting carried wide and finishing 3rd at this level and distance. Trainer Lilli Kurtinecz has Jose Batista named to ride. **7 LIVE LIKE LARRY**, an okay 4th in his \$20,000 debut, drops after moving to the Saffie Joseph Jr barn via the claim and failing to show much vs \$50,000 maidens last out; Edgard Zayas handles the dropdown. **4 PERFECT BEAM** was solid in defeat when he made a 5-wide bid to finish 3rd beaten a head by next-out winner, and 10th race choice Codeseventyseven, last out. Use the earlier race as a handicapping guide before you plunk your money down.

SELECTIONS: 5-9-7-4

BEST BET: RACE 6 – 8 GIANT RUN

LONGSHOT: RACE 12 – 5 MATURIN