



RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS

by *Ron Nicoletti*

Sunday, July 28, 2019

RACE 1:

7 PRICKLY KITTEN is dropping to the \$12,500 level again after a solid effort – as the favorite – in which she came within a neck of defeating \$20,000 maidens at the distance. **3 CATNIP KITTEN** has been knocking on the door in consecutive turf outings at this level and distance for trainer Armando De La Cerda; Jeffrey Sanchez rides.

12 ROSA STAR departs from the outside after back-to-back 2nd place finishes, including the neck defeat at the distance last out. The Heather Irion trainee belongs on all your tickets.

SELECTIONS: 7-3-12

RACE 2:

2 LOOKING FOR MORE is dropping to the \$10,000 level in the first race since getting mugged at the start of a monster \$35,000 'key' race at GP West that produced 5 next-out winners. Trainer Jose Pinchin tabs Samy Camacho to ride.

6 ASSUME CONTROL is dropping to back to her most accomplished level and surface after showing speed and fading vs \$20,000 maidens on the grass.

4 NOT REGRET moved to the Angel Rodriguez barn via the claim, and makes her first start since she bumped at the gate and never fired when facing similar during June.

SELECTIONS: 2-6-4

RACE 3:

7 SLEEPING GIANT woke up in a big way when he fought off all challengers to defeat a pair of next-out winners, and 3 of the 6 rivals he faces today, when scoring as the odds-on choice last out.

2 HARDENED will try to turn the tables on nemesis Sleeping Giant after making a 3-wide bid and finishing 5th behind him last out. **6 ZANDAR** is eligible to show more after returning from Penn National, for trainer Jorge Navarro, and finishing 7th behind the top choice last out.

SELECTIONS: 7-2-6

RACE 4:

3 SKY CHASER is dropping into a winning spot after following the pair of impressive claiming victories with a troubled starting 5th (hopped) in the \$75,000 Azalea Stakes. **4 SAMMIE SUNSHINE** will try to make it 2 in a row at the distance after drawing clear to defeat 6 rivals in a \$25,000 conditioned claimer moved from the turf to 7 panels on a wet surface listed as 'good'. **5 HELPING LISA D**, 2 for 2 in the money at the distance (2-0-1-1), stretches out after a 3rd and 2nd, respectively, going 6 furlongs; Miguel Vazquez rides for Steve Dwoskin.

SELECTIONS: 3-4-5

RACE 5:

8 PARTY DANCER, a new face on the local scene, ships from Santa Anita into the Cam Gambolati barn after facing similar quality on the West Coast with some success. The daughter of Artie Schiller has red-hot apprentice Cristian Torres at the controls.

3 GREAT SISTER DIANE moved to the Rohan Crichton barn via the claim, and steps up to face winners, after parlaying a stalking trip into a \$35,000 maiden victory going 7 ½ furlongs.

1 NIGHT WATCH is turning back to a mile after rallying to finish 2nd when facing similar quality going a mile and a sixteenth. Trainer Stanley Gold has go-to jockey Jeffrey Sanchez at the controls.

SELECTIONS: 8-3-1

RACE 6:

4 GOLDEN PRINCE finds a perfect spot to end up in the winner's circle after back-to-back 3rd place finishes at this level and distance. Trainer Victor Barboza Jr lightens the impost with leading apprentice Cristian Torres at the controls.

7 CONGRATS THIS, 2nd at this distance before the layoff, stretches out after tracking the pace and finishing a distant 4th in his 6 ½-furlong return.

8 EDWARD HE'S SOFINE will break from the outside after responding to the dropdown in competition with a distance 2nd place finish – in the 'slop' - at this level and distance.

SELECTIONS: 4-7-8

RACE 7:

9 JUST PLAYING is a \$250,000 daughter of Pioneerofthe Nile debuting for trainer Mark Casse with a solid workout pattern showing, on both turf and dirt, at Palm Meadows. The freshman gets Lasix, and has Cristian Torres at the helm.

10 LIRAZ is a daughter of American Pharoah debuting for trainer Wesley Ward with an interesting workout pattern showing. The freshman worked 4 times over the stamina-tweaking GP West main track, and twice on the Palm Meadows turf, including the recent 5-furlong bullet, albeit the best of only 4 workers. **3 MUSIC CITY WOLF** is stretching out around 2-turns after finishing a late-running 2nd – beaten a neck – going 5 furlongs on the turf. Her past experience on the grass should prove beneficial.

SELECTIONS: 9-10-3

RACE 8:

4 NIGHTSTRINGS is stepping up to the next level after drawing clear to defeat \$6,250 '2-lifetime' claimers by 7 lengths, and get an 81 Beyer figure for his effort. **1 EIGHTS AND ACES** moved to the Jose D'Angelo barn via the claim, and makes his first start since drawing away to defeat \$12,500 conditioned claimers going a mile in the 'slop' during June. The obvious question, why the drop?

3 ORGANIC JENNY is stretching out to a mile with the late running style needed to grab a share of the tri or super. Trainer Monica McGoey has J J Gonzales at the controls.

SELECTIONS: 4-1-3

RACE 9:

9 SOVEREIGN WARRIOR is back in the claiming ranks after responding to the stretchout from 5 furlongs to a mile by coming within three-quarters of a length of using his speed to spring a 53-1 upset when finishing 5th in the \$122,000 Not Surprising.

2 TEMPLE is turning back to a mile, and stepping up to the \$35,000 level, after posting his 2nd consecutive open-length victory when defeating \$20,000 conditioned claimers going a mile and a sixteenth.

Trainer Kathleen O'Connell has Jairo Rendon going for the hat trick. **11 CAUSE FOR PARDON**, beaten a neck at this level 2 starts back, drops after making a bid and finishing 4th behind stakes caliber competition in a \$75,000 optional claimer at the distance; Cristian Torres rides.

SELECTIONS: 9-2-11

RACE 10:

9 SOUND MACHINE, a \$500,000 daughter of Into Mischief, is debuting for e Five Racing and Saffie Joseph Jr with a strong morning work tab showing over the track. The freshman gets Lasix, and has Edgard Zayas at the controls.

6 ESPIRITU DE LUNA is stretching out to 5 ½ furlongs after the solid 4 ½-furlong debut in which she raced wide and finished 4th.

11 GO GATOR GIRL GO is a daughter of Cajun Breeze who will try to parlay her previous experience into a victory. Trainer Mike Yates has Diego Gomez trying to get her out of 2nd gear.

SELECTIONS: 9-6-11

RACE 11:

5 OBLIO'S WISH is going back to the turf after following a well-meant 3rd place finish on the turf – at odds of 53-1 – with a duel for the lead and fade 4th place finish going a mile and a sixteenth on a sealed 'sloppy' track. She's my price play in the nightcap.

2 MI KARLITA is wheeling back after following her maiden victory at the distance with a 5-wide 3rd at this level and distance last out.

4 REGAL ROMANCE, who broke her maiden on the turf, is going back to the grass after getting rained out in a pair vs a notch tougher on the dirt. Trainer Armando De La Cerda has Cristian Torres handling the surface switch.

SELECTIONS: 5-2-4

BEST BET: RACE 4 – 3 SKY CHASER

LONGSHOT: RACE 9 – 9 SOVEREIGN WARRIOR