



RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS

by *Ron Nicoletti*

Thursday, August 29, 2019

RACE 1:

5 R HAPPING ENDING will try to make it 2 in row after sitting off the speed of stablemate Fallen Leaf and drawing clear to win by 3-plus lengths. The consistent daughter of Prospective should see a similar pace scenario today. **1 SPEED STAR**, who has run well in the past at this level and distance, returns to action looking to rebound from the troubled trip during April. Trainer Saffie Joseph Jr has Edgard Zayas atop the late-running daughter of Wildcat Heir. **6 FALLEN LEAF** has one objective: Go to the lead and never look back. Trainer Georgina Baxter has apprentice Cristian Torres in the irons.

SELECTIONS: 5-1-6

RACE 2:

3 EMPIRE POWER is looking to get back to the winner's circle after his 2-race win streak at the distance ended when he broke from the rail and failed to reel in ultra-game Just Kidding at this level last out. **5 FUNDY'S TIDE** is stretching out to a mile after drawing away at 6 furlongs to defeat 4 rivals by 11-plus lengths. Note that the last time he tried this level and distance (May 17) he won by 9 lengths in the slop. **1 JUST KIDDING** will try to make it 2 in a row after leading from start to finish to defeat this familiar competition by a hard-fought three-quarters of a length.

SELECTIONS: 3-5-1

RACE 3:

2 PARTY DRESS is dropping to the \$16,000 level after breaking awkwardly and never getting untracked in her \$25,000 career debut going 5 ½ furlongs on a sealed sloppy track. Trainer Kathleen O'Connell has Miguel Vazquez returning on the daughter of productive first-year sire Khozan.

6 SANSA, now in the Juan Alvarado barn, the daughter of Brethren takes a needed drop after back-to-back double-digit length defeats vs better.

1 LADY MARCHELLA will be outfitted with blinkers after failing to show much when facing \$25,000 maidens in her 7 ½-furlong debut on the turf.

SELECTIONS: 2-6-1

RACE 4:

9 VENEZUELAN FOREVER moved to the Jorge Delgado barn via the claim after responding to the dropdown in competition with a rousing 7-length plus victory at this level and distance. The barn, 41% with new claims, has Emisael Jaramillo named to ride.

4 SAMURAI'SFIRSTLADY is dropping to the \$10,000 level, and returning to her best surface after showing speed and fading to finish 3rd vs \$16,000 claimers going 5 furlongs on a sealed sloppy track. Note that the mare loves going a mile on the grass (9-3-0-2). **6 VINYARDNINA** is a hard-trying closer who can grab a share of the exotic wagers.

SELECTIONS: 9-4-6

RACE 5:

1 MR. KISSES is stretching out to three-quarters of a mile hoping to make amends after tracking the pace and finishing 2nd – as the odds-on choice – going 5 ½ furlongs. Trainer Juan Arriagada, who claimed him 2 starts back, lightens the impost with 7-pound bug Gaddiel Martinez.

6 DELTA BLUESMAN is plunging into this dated claimer after facing tougher in both starts since returning from the layoff. Trainer Steve Klesaris has leading apprentice Cristian Torres at the controls.

2 TEMPTER is turning back to 6 furlongs after vying for the lead and finishing 3rd vs similar going seven-eighths of a mile.

SELECTIONS: 1-6-2



RACE 6:

5 UNEQUAL has his claiming tag carved in half, and debuts on the turf, after the chase-and-fade performance vs \$40,000 maidens on the main track. The \$230,000 son of Uncaptured is bred for the grass. **2 SHUDDAWUDDACUDDA**, now in the Mike Maker barn, the now gelded son of Street Sense debuts on the turf in the 1st race since failing to fire in a productive maiden sprint at Belmont last September, won by next-out G3 winner Verkoma.

7 SLICK STAR moved to the Aubrey Maragh barn via the claim, and returns to the turf at the \$20,000 level, after dueling for the lead and finishing 2nd vs \$10,000 maidens going 5 furlongs in the slop; Miguel Vazquez rides.

SELECTIONS: 5-2-7

RACE 7:

8 WHERE YA GOIN OWEN went to the Amador Sanchez barn via the claim, and stretches out to 5 ½ furlongs, after chasing the pace and finishing 2nd vs similar going five-eighths of a mile.

4 UNCORK THE BOTTLE is a son of Colonel John debuting for trainer Mike Maker in an ideal spot for a first-time starter to be successful. The freshman gets Lasix, and has leading jock Edgard Zayas at the controls. **1 POWER PUNCH** is a son of Overdriven debuting for trainer Larry Pilotti with Lasix, and jockey Tony Maragh named to handle the inside post. The tote action should tell us more.

SELECTIONS: 8-4-1

RACE 8:

2 ITSHERLUCKYDAY is a candidate for a rebound performance at a price after following her maiden victory at the distance with a stalk-the-pace 5th vs this level going 7 ½ furlongs. Trainer Kathleen O'Connell reunites the sophomore with Jairo Rendon, who was aboard for the maiden score.

7 HERA will face state-bred competition as the one to beat after responding in the first race under the guidance of trainer Carlos David with a \$35,000 starter optional claimer victory going a mile on a 'good' turf. **8 LOVELY LUVY** is a consistent daughter of He's Had Enough who hasn't been able to find the winner's circle in 6 races this year (6-0-2-3), but certainly belongs on the exacta and tri and super tickets.

SELECTIONS: 2-7-8

RACE 9:

1 DURLYN moved to the Gustavo Delgado barn via the claim, and steps up to the \$16,000 level, after posting her 2nd consecutive open-length victory vs \$6,250 conditioned claimers. The only 4-time winner in the field has Emisael Jaramillo handling the inside draw. **2 JOLIE BAY** is dropping to the \$16,000 level on the main track after facing considerably tougher going around 2-turns on the turf. Trainer Rohan Crichton, 29% with the grass-to-dirt move, has Cristian Torres in the saddle. **4 CREATIVE AWARD** is wheeling back after responding to the dropdown in competition with a well-meant 2nd place finish – when beaten a neck at the distance.

SELECTIONS: 1-2-4

RACE 10:

5 KANTHAROS' IMAGE has been training well in preparation for his first race since finishing 3rd vs \$16,000 open-claimers during the competitive Championship Meet. Trainer Steve Klesaris has Edgard Zayas handling the 1st start since Jan 31.

8 SWAGGER, who has finished 2nd or 3rd in 7 races this year, will try to get his first turf victory since last August after finishing a troubled 2nd (steadied) vs \$16,000 conditioned claimers last out. The 7-time turf winner fits the conditions of the finale perfectly.

4 OUR INDEPENDENCE should be primed and ready to score after shipping in from Golden Gate for trainer Bob Hess Jr and finishing 3rd at this level and distance.

SELECTIONS: 5-8-4

BEST BET: RACE 6 – 5 UNEQUAL

LONGSHOT: RACE 8 – 2 ITSHERLUCKYDAY

