



RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS

by *Ron Nicoletti*

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RACE 1:

7 JO JO'S CANDY is stepping up to next level after shipping in for Jorge Navarro and defeating \$16,000 '2-lifetime' claimers at the distance.

5 LITTLE CHRISTINA is plunging to this level after returning from the layoff for trainer Carlo Vaccarezza and finishing 3rd, and being placed 2nd when next-out winner Cordele was disqualified in a \$25,000 starter/optional claimer at the distance; Tyler Gaffalione rides strictly the one to beat. **3 NOT NICE** is making the 3rd start back from the layoff after finishing a troubled 4th in back-to-back races at this level and distance; Paco Lopez rides.

SELECTIONS: 7-5-3

RACE 2:

5 SMALL FORTUNE is back in South Florida, and back at 6 furlongs, after posting back-to-back optional claiming victories at Tampa. Trainer Georgina Baxter has Irad Ortiz Jr named to ride. **3 I IDOLIZE YOU** is returning from the layoff for trainer Jason Servis with the ideal stalking style need to sit the 'trip' behind what should be a hot and heavy early pace. Note the barn is 34% with the 61-180 days layoff. **2 HARRYHEE** will try to make it 2 in a row after setting solid fractions of 21 & 1 and 44 & 1 on route to an upset victory in the 6-furlong \$50,000 Trust Buster.

SELECTIONS: 5-3-2

RACE 3:

6 TIPSYPY KITTEN is dropping to the \$16,000 level after returning from the layoff to duel for the lead and tire when facing \$30,000 conditioned claimers going a mile. The proverbial screws should be tightened today. **4 ROMPIN REID** will face \$16,000 conditioned claimers at a mile after rallying to 'hit the board' in 1 of 2 \$16,000 open-claimers going a mile and a sixteenth. The 8-year-old is worth a flyer at a price.

5 LOVE CONQUERS is stretching out to 7 ½ furlongs after encountering early trouble and finishing 8th – beaten 3 lengths – when facing \$16,000 open-claimers going 5 furlongs.

SELECTIONS: 6-4-5

RACE 4:

3 CONQUEST WINDYCITY, claimed for \$62,500 a couple of starts back, drops to the \$35,000 level after breaking in the air when departing from Post 10, rushing up to attend the pace, and then weakening from his earlier exploits to finish 6th in the slop last out. The gelding is a shaky call on the drop. **5 MR. ATILA** will try \$35,000 open-claimers after setting the pace and retreating when facing \$25,000 optional claimers at the distance. Leading trainer Jorge Navarro has Emisael Jaramillo rationing his speed.

4 MUCHO PROSPECT, now in the Kathleen O'Connell barn, the 4-time local winner drops, and makes his first start since facing tougher before the layoff. Kathleen, 30% with new additions, has Irad Ortiz Jr riding.

SELECTIONS: 3-5-4

RACE 5:

2 TEAK is dropping to the \$16,000 level, and returning to the turf, after showing tons of early speed and weakening when facing \$30,000 2-lifetime' claimers on the dirt and turf, respectively. Trainer Jorge Navarro has Emisael Jaramillo named to ride.

3 BIG POSSIBLE, claimed by trainer Victor Barboza Jr 2 starts back, is eligible to show more after tracking the pace and finishing 3rd behind similar, which includes **1 BARBAROSSA**. The latter moved to the Angel Medina barn via the claim after breaking from the rail, setting a pressured pace, and finishing 2nd at this level and distance.

SELECTIONS: 2-3-1

RACE 6:

3 LONG STORY SHORT is dropping to the \$35,000 level on the dirt, and cutting back to 6 furlongs with blinkers added, in the first start since failing to handle \$50,000 maidens going a mile and a sixteenth on the turf. Trainer Ralph Nicks has Tyler Gaffalione handling the surface switch. **9 PAPA'S LITTLE GIRL** is stepping it up a notch after shipping in from Charlestown and finishing 3rd in back-to-back sprints at the \$25,000 level. Trainer Jose Garoffalo has Irad Ortiz Jr handling the outside draw.

5 CHARETTE is dropping to this level after returning from the layoff to finish a troubled starting (stumbled) 4th vs \$50,000 maidens.

SELECTIONS: 3-9-5

RACE 7:

9 JULIA'S KITTY, now in the Armando De La Cerda barn the 4-year-old drops to the \$10,000 level after facing tougher in Chicago, Indiana, and Kentucky, with limited success, before the 5-month layoff; Irad rides.

8 GLOTONASA is eligible to keep moving in the right direction after recovering from a slow start to finish 2nd at this level and distance. **5 FAITH FLYS AGAIN** is stepping up to face winners after responding to the dropdown in competition with a \$12,500 maiden score at the distance. Trainer Jena Antonucci has Jose Ortiz named to ride.

SELECTIONS: 9-8-5

RACE 8:

5 NO WAY NEVER (IRE) moved to the Linda Rice barn via the claim, and stretches out to a mile and a sixteenth, after returning from a 7-month layoff, chasing glib fractions, and finishing 5th vs \$50,000 maidens going 5 furlongs. Trainer Rice, 32% with new claims, has Javier Castellano named to ride.

1 NOBLE NEBRASKAN, listed as gelding, drops to the \$50,000 level with Lasix added, after facing a steady dose of maiden special weight competition before the layoff. Trainer George Weaver, 6 for 15 (40%) with similar class droppers, has Luis Saez named to ride. **4 DARDANELLOS** is stretching out after breaking from the rail, dueling for the lead, and finishing a solid 3rd vs similar going a mile. Trainer Chad Summers has Angel Rodriguez doling out his speed.

SELECTIONS: 5-1-4

RACE 9:

7 PRINCESA COQUETA (CHI) is making her North American debut for trainer Christophe Clement with Lasix added, and facing the girls, in the first start since finishing 2nd in Chili behind Robert Bruce, who went on to win both the G3 Fort Marcy and the G1 Arlington Million; Javier Castellano handles her first start in 17 months. **5 VENDITA**, in for the \$75,000 tag in this optional claimer, steps up after leading every step of the way but the last when beaten a neck vs \$50,000 optional claimers.

4 GOT STORMY, a multiple stakes winner on the turf, is heading back to the grass in the first race since she dueled for the lead and weakened in the \$157,000 Winter Memories at Aqueduct, which was moved from the lawn to the main track.

SELECTIONS: 7-5-4

RACE 10:

2 WILDWOOD'S BEAUTY is making her 3rd local start after the pair of solid 2nd place finishes vs \$75,000 optional claimers. The dropdown vs \$50,000 state-bred optional claimers looks like a winning move; Luis Saez rides for Scott Becker. **4 GRAY OWL** is making her first start since the impressive maiden victory here for trainer Larry Rivelli on the January 20th. The daughter of City Zip gets Lasix, but has only one published work since her last? **1 WHAT A BEAUT** is cutting back to a sprint distance on the main track after the trio of route races on the turf, which includes the troubled 5th place finish in the \$100,000 Ginger Brew. Trainer Mark Casse, 20% with the grass-to-dirt move, has Irad in the saddle.

SELECTIONS: 2-4-1

RACE 11:

7 WISELY is cutting back to a mile after a rough outing at a mile and a sixteenth in which he was checked back to last at the start, was stuck behind horses turning for home, and still managed to finish 2nd behind clear sailing Ding Dong Ditch. **1 TRUMP'S KITTEN** is stretching out to a mile in the first race since stumbling at the start and finishing 5th – as the odds-on choice – going 7 ½ furlongs on January 16. Trainer Mike Maker has Jose Ortiz handling the inside post.

9 BAD BOY E. J. is going back to the turf after dueling for the lead and fading when sent off as the odds-on choice in a race moved from the grass to a 1-turn mile on the dirt.

SELECTIONS: 7-1-9

BEST BET: RACE 8 – 5 NO WAY NEVER

LONGSHOT: RACE 9 – PRINCESA COQUETA