



RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS

BY RON NICOLETTI



Friday, February 26, 2021

RACE 1:

2 RAY AREWETHEREYET is turning back to 5 ½ furlongs after the promising 6-furlong debut in which she shook off trouble at the start and was beaten only a neck. Trainer Louie Carvajal Jr has Jose Ortiz handling the turnback. **4 LOVELORN LADY** is a daughter of Strong Mandate debuting for trainer Saffie Joseph Jr with Lasix, and a series of swift morning workouts showing in preparation for this assignment: Tyler Gaffalione rides.

5 ELUSIVE UNCAPTURED is a daughter of Uncaptured debuting for trainer Kathleen O'Connell with Lasix, and leading jockey Irad Ortiz Jr in the irons. The tote action should tell us more.

SELECTIONS: 2-4-5

RACE 2:

8 KOURVOISIER (IRE) is dropping to the \$12,500 level after setting the pace and tiring in her local turf debut vs \$20,000 '3-lifetime' claimers. Trainer Eddie Kenneally has Tyler Gaffalione handling the combo dropdown/stretchout. **4 MAKEME DREAM** is plunging to this level after facing tougher throughout her 12-race career, which includes the ambitious outing the rained out \$100,000 Suwanee River last out: Jose Ortiz handles the dropdown.

9 SKYE SNOW moves to the Carlos David barn via the claim, and returns to her best surface, after showing some early interest before calling it a day going a mile on the main track. Note the barn is 44% with new claims.

SELECTIONS: 8-4-9

RACE 3:

5 WORA was visually impressive in his local turf debut. The son of Upstart was forced in and bumped at the start, got parked 6-wide, and closed to come within a half-length – as the favorite – of exiting the maiden ranks at this level and distance: Irad Ortiz Jr rides. **6 CHASING ARTIE** is debuting locally on the turf after opening and surrendering a 7 ½-length lead when 2nd – beaten a neck – vs \$15,000 maidens going 6 ½ furlongs on the synthetic surface at Turfway. Trainer Wesley Ward has John Velazquez handling the surface switch.

2 MR ANNOYING is a son of Kitten's Joy debuting for trainer Mike Maker, and that should be more than enough to pique your interest. The colt gets Lasix, and has Tyler Gaffalione in the saddle.

7 LEWIS CAL is a son of Vancouver (Aus) debuting for trainer Saffie Joseph Jr with 12 local workouts showing in preparation for this assignment. The colt gets Lasix, and has Luis Saez at the controls.

SELECTIONS: 5-6-2-7

RACE 4:

4 KNOWN AGENDA is stretching out to 9 furlongs, and getting both Lasix, and blinkers, after returning from a layoff and finishing a late-closing 5th in the mile and a sixteenth Grade 3 Sam F Davis at Tampa. Trainer Todd Pletcher has Irad atop the Grade 2 stakes-placed son of Curlin. **5 ETCHED IN STONE** is hoping to carve out a trip at a mile and an eighth after debuting locally and finishing 2nd to repeat winner Nitro Time going 5 furlongs on the grass. Trainer Larry Rivelli has Jose Ortiz atop the son of Cairo Prince, who is bred to handle both the surface and the distance. **1 TOP GUN TOMMY** is stretching out to this distance after following his maiden win going a 2-turn mile at GP West with a 1-turn mile score here vs \$50,000 starter optional claimers. Trainer Kelly Breen has Paco Lopez going for the hat trick.

SELECTIONS: 4-5-1

RACE 5:

4 THOROVER is dropping to the \$12,500 level, and turning back to 5 ½ furlongs, after setting a pressured pace and finishing 2nd vs \$16,000 maidens going three-quarters of a mile. Trainer Gilberto Zerpa, who claimed him 2 starts back, has Joe Ortiz in the saddle. **2 CON PERMISO** is going back to the main track after finishing a slow-starting 4th vs \$16,000 maidens going 5 furlongs on the grass. Trainer Antonio Sano adds 2nd-time Lasix for the surface switch.



12 MALIBU MANDATE, now in the Rohan Crichton barn, the gelding tries the dirt after racing exclusively on the Tapeta surface at Woodbine - at the \$25,000 level. The new connections remove the blinkers for the local bow.

SELECTIONS: 4-2-12

RACE 6:

1 AUSTRIAN goes from the outside (Post 10) to the rail, and stretches out to a mile and a sixteenth, after rallying to finish 2nd vs similar going a mile last out: Luis Saez rides for trainer Danny Gargan.

6 LIGHT FURY, a winner at the distance 2 starts back, stretches out after setting the pace and weakening to finish 3rd – as the favorite - behind Austrian when they hooked up at a mile last out. Trainer Ron Spatz has Miguel Vazquez in the saddle. **4 NOTSOSUBTLE** is stretching out and additional 16th of a mile after encountering early trouble (bumped start, steadied 1st turn) prior to finishing a rallying 4th behind the top two going 8 furlongs last out.

SELECTIONS: 1-6-4

RACE 7:

9 MS BIG SPRING is looking to make amends after showing speed and weakening late – as the favorite – in back-to-back races at this level and distance. Trainer David Fawkes has Tyler Gaffalione trying to improve on the recent chalk-burning status.

10 LALALI moved to the Jorge Delgado barn via the claim after drawing clear on a sealed sloppy track to defeat \$6,250 '2-lifetime' claimers going three-quarters of a mile. The barn, 26% with new claims, keeps the status quo with Hector Berrios in the irons.

5 MYFIRSTEXWIFE is hoping to save more for the stretch drive after stalking the pace and weakening to finish 3rd behind the top choice last out. Trainer Sandra Matier has Junior Alvarado named to ride.

SELECTIONS: 9-10-5

RACE 8:

5 JEHA, the only 2-time turf winner in the field, is debuting locally for trainer Mike Dini after the consistent turf campaign at Tampa. Hall of Fame jock Javier Castellano will ride the son of Animal Kingdom.

4 LONG BEACH KID was solid in defeat when he got bumped late and was just beat for 2nd by

8 UNCLE FUN last out. The latter, trained by Elizabeth Dobles, is certainly eligible to show more after talking the overland route when rallying wide to finish a neck in front of Long Beach Kid last out: Edgard Zayas rides the son of Justin Phillips.

SELECTIONS: 5-4-8

RACE 9:

2 R ADIOS JERSEY is stretching out to 6 furlongs again after following her debut victory at the distance with a driving score, over a pair of next-out winners – in a state-bred allowance dash going 5 ½- furlongs.

Trainer Georgina Baxter has Paco Lopez atop the daughter of Adios Charlie. **5 HEADLINE HUNTER** is debuting locally on the dirt after winning her \$30,000 career debut on the synthetic surface at Turfway Park, and getting a lofty 78 Beyer figure for her performance. Trainer Wesley Ward has Irad Ortiz Jr handling the local bow. **6 LEN LO LADY** is stepping up to face winners after responding to a dropdown with a 10 ½-length drubbing of \$50,000 maidens going a mile. Trainer Dale Romans has Corey Lanerie returning on this intriguing possibility.

SELECTIONS: 2-5-6

RACE 10:

11 CHIPS AND SALSA is dropping to the \$25,000 level, and turning back to 5 furlongs, after showing speed and fading when facing state-bred maiden special weight competition going 7 ½ furlongs last out. Trainer Mark Casse has Corey Lanerie handling the combo dropdown/turnback.

9 DRIVING WIND has her claiming tag cut in half, and wears blinkers, after tracking swift early fractions and finishing 5th vs \$50,000 maidens. Trainer Jose Pinchin has Irad quarterbacking the class relief.

1 CLASSIC SECRET moves to the Joe Catanese barn via the claim, and breaks from the rail again, after setting the pace and getting collared at the 1/8th-pole when finishing 4th – as the favorite – at this level and distance: Jesus Rios rides.

SELECTIONS: 11-9-1

BEST BET: RACE 8 – 5 JEHA

LONGSHOT: RACE 10 – 11 CHIPS AND SALSA