



RACE BY RACE SELECTIONS

by Ron Nicoletti

Sunday, February 28, 2021

RACE 1:

10 JARLIAN is dropping to the \$25,000 level after failing to get untracked in his maiden special weight debut for trainer Bill Mott, who is 25% with horses making similar Class drops: Edgard Zayas rides. **5 KATHERN'S JOY** is stretching out to a mile and a sixteenth after setting the pace and weakening to finish 6th vs similar going a mile last out. His ability to be on, or with the pace, can be key vs a field that's light in the pace department. **8 POLITICAL RIOT** has his claiming tag carved in half after rallying 6-wide to finish 4th vs \$50,000 maidens going a mile. Trainer Steve Budhoo has Miguel Vazquez named to ride.

SELECTIONS: 10-5-8

RACE 2:

1 LUANN moved to the Kelsey Danner barn via the claim after drawing clear to win her \$12,500 career debut by almost 7 lengths. The new connections keep the status quo with leading jock Irad Ortiz Jr at the controls. **3 HOLD THE APPLAUSE** is stretching out to 5 ½ furlongs after shipping down from Woodbine and finishing 2nd behind repeat winner Gitana going 5 furlongs last out. Trainer Rohan Crichton has Miguel Vazquez handling the oh so important 2nd journey over the local terrain. **7 COOKIE COVE** moved to the Fernandez Noda barn via the claim after dueling throughout and finishing 2nd vs \$6,250 '2-lifetime' claimers going 6 furlongs in the slop: Jose Ortiz rides.

SELECTIONS: 1-3-7

RACE 3:

1 HARVARD, a full-brother to multiple Grade 1 winner Classic Empire, debuts for trainer Rodolph Brisset with Lasix, and a steady work tab showing over the Palm Meadows training track: Tyler Gaffalione rides. **2 CORRADO** is a son of Distorted Humor debuting for trainer Shug McGaughey with Lasix, and a string of stamina enhancing workouts showing over the deep Payson Park training track. Jose Ortiz rides the Courtlandt Farm homebred. **3 PUBLICALLY AVAILABLE** is a son of Liam's Map debuting for trainer Chad Brown with Lasix, and Irad Ortiz Jr named to ride. The tote action should tell us more.

SELECTIONS: 1-2-3

RACE 4:

3 CANDY JAR is sitting on a winning performance after responding to the addition of Lasix with a 2nd place finish – beaten a neck – at this level and distance. Trainer Bill Mott has Junior Alvarado returning on the daughter of Candy Ride. **2 FIRST HOUR** is another eligible end up in the winner's circle after taking a positive step forward when finishing 2nd in her recent outing at this level and distance. Trainer Todd Pletcher has John Velazquez atop the \$250,000 daughter of Speightstown. **8 NEVER AT ALL (FR)** is a \$430,000 daughter of No Nay Never who wheels back after recovering from a slow start to finish 4th behind First Hour last out. Trainer Mark Casse has Irad in the saddle again.

SELECTIONS: 3-2-8

RACE 5:

5 QUENANE, a rejuvenated 7-year-old, will try to make it 2 in a row after drawing clear to score at this level and distance. Trainer Tammy Levy has Irad Ortiz Jr returning on the son of Algorithms. **4 GLORY OF FLORIDA** is hoping to turn the tables on the top choice after making a middle move to get the lead before getting overhauled in the stretch. Trainer Laura Cazares has Javier Castellano trying to close the gap. **6 BLESSED JOURNEY** is stretching out to a mile after shaking off trouble at the start (tight quarters) to defeat \$25,000 starter allowance runners going 7 furlongs. Trainer Carlos Perez has Junior Alvarado returning on the previous winner at the distance.

SELECTIONS: 5-4-6

RACE 6:

5 AVENUE, a \$450,000 son of Quality Road, makes his 2nd start after tracking the pace throughout and finishing 2nd in his debut at this level and distance. Trainer Todd Pletcher, 23% with maidens making their 2nd start, has Irad in the saddle again. **7 CAMBI LION** is expected to show more after recovering from a slow start to finish 6th in his career debut going a mile. Trainer Shug McGaughey has Jose Ortiz returning on the son of Medaglia d'Oro. **8 WARN** is a son of Declaration of War debuting for trainer Christophe Clement, who has a solid 26% average with his first-time starters. The colt starts his campaign with Lasix, and John Velazquez named to ride.

SELECTIONS: 5-7-8

RACE 7:

4 IT'S A RISK is stretching out to 7 furlongs after making a 3-wide bid to finish 3rd vs similar going three-quarters of a mile. Trainer Kelly Breen has Irad returning on the son of Bellamy Road. **8 COOL HAND COOP** is dropping to the \$6,250 level, and stretching out, after stalking the action and finishing 3rd vs \$12,500 '3-lifetime' claimers going 6 furlongs. Trainer Jane Cibelli has Paco Lopez in the irons. **5 MIDNIGHT WHISKEY** is stepping up, and turning back, after setting the pace and holding on to defeat \$6,250 '2-lifetime' claimers going a 1-turn mile. Trainer Cheryl Winebaugh has Edgard Zayas handling the turnback.

SELECTIONS: 4-8-5**RACE 8:**

10 AVAINO is turning back to a mile and a sixteenth after shipping down from Tampa and finishing well-meant 5-wide 2nd going 9 furlongs. Trainer Todd Pletcher has Irad Ortiz Jr atop the \$775,000 son of Medaglia d'Oro. **1 HE'SPUREGOLD** is stretching out to 8 ½ furlongs after rallying to finish 3rd and 2nd, respectively, vs maiden special weight runners going a mile. Trainer Michelle Nihei has Tyler Gaffalione atop the half-brother to 9-time turf winner Valedictorian.

7 MY SEA COTTAGE is stretching out around 2-turns after shaking off trouble at the start (Forced In) with a 3rd place finish vs special weight runners going 5 furlongs on the grass: Jose Ortiz rides

SELECTIONS: 10-1-7**RACE 9:**

6 CORY GAL was freshened after the stellar 2020 campaign in which she won 6 of 10 races for 3 different conditioners. Peter Walder, who claimed her 2 starts back, has Miguel Vazquez trying to make it 2 in a row at the \$62,500 level. **3 SOUND MACHINE** drops, turns back, and removes the blinkers, after chasing the pace and faltering to finish last in the 7-furlong Grade 2 Inside Information, which was her 8th consecutive race under stake's conditions. Saffie Joseph Jr has Tyler atop the class of the field. **1 EVE OF WAR**, who broke her maiden here at this distance last February, turns back after showing speed and retreating in the Grade 3 Monmouth Oaks on the dirt, and 9-furlong Grade 3 Regret on the Churchill turf.

SELECTIONS: 6-3-1**RACE 10:**

2 FREDDYMO FACTOR breaks towards the inside after shipping down from New York to finish 2nd – beaten a neck from a demanding outside post (12) – going a mile at this level. Trainer Mark Hennig has Tyler Gaffalione returning on the daughter of The Factor.

6 GHOSTLY BEAUTY is stretching out to a mile and a sixteenth after rallying to finish 3rd – a nose behind Freddymo Factor - in their recent clash at a mile. Trainer Mike Maker has Irad handling the rematch.

4 HURRICANE BREEZE, a previous winner at the distance, stretches out after finishing an even 5th vs similar quality going 5 furlongs. Trainer Carlos David claimed her last-out, and has Jose Ortiz named to ride.

SELECTIONS: 2-6-4**RACE 11:**

5 BIG RINGS is turning back to 6 ½ furlongs, and facing state-bred allowance competition, after stalking the pace and finishing 4th in the 7-furlong \$75,000 Gasparella Stakes at Tampa. Trainer Carlos David has Irad atop the previous winner at the distance. **6 JADE EMPRESS** is stepping up to face winners after responding to the addition of Lasix by defeating a pair of next-out winners in a 7-furlong special weight sprint. Trainer Bill Mott has Edgard Zayas returning on the daughter of Shanghai Bobby. **4 THINK IT THRU** moved to the Oscar Gonzalez barn via the claim after drawing clear – as the favorite – to defeat \$25,000 maidens by 13 widening lengths. The half-sister to stakes winner Axelrod will be tested for class with John Velazquez in the saddle.

SELECTIONS: 5-6-4**RACE 12:**

8 DREAMING OF AUDREY is dropping to the \$50,000 level after responding to the addition of Lasix with an improved 3rd place finish vs state-bred special weight competition going a mile. Trainer Mike Yates has Miguel Vazquez atop the longshot special in the nightcap.

9 NOBLE NAME is a daughter of Noble Mission debuting for trainer Christophe Clement with Lasix, and Junior Alvarado named to ride. The Mrs Alec Head homebred has been working consistently at Payson Park. **1 FOXTROT SEVILLE** is stretching out to a mile and a sixteenth after making a bid for the lead and flattening out going a mile at this \$50,000 level. Trainer Patrick Biancone has John Velazquez handling the inside post.

SELECTIONS: 8-9-1**BEST BET: RACE 10 – 2 FREDDYMO FACTOR****LONGSHOT: RACE 12 – 8 DREAMING OF AUDREY**