



RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS

BY RON NICOLETTI



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RACE 1:

11 STEAK AND CHEESE is freefalling to the \$12,500 level after facing \$50,000 maidens in back-to-back maiden races for trainer Mike Maker. The gelding's current speed figures point him out as the one to fear at this level. **6 DREAM OF ANFIELD** is stretching out slightly to a mile after getting nailed in the stretch when finishing 2nd – beaten a head – vs this level of competition going 7 ½ furlongs. Georgina Baxter has Marcos Meneses in the saddle. **2 MARISA'S MISSION** is hoping to get away in a timely fashion after breaking slowly, and getting parked wide throughout, when finishing 5th – beaten less than a length – at this level and distance. Ron Spatz has Jose Morelos atop this price play.

SELECTIONS: 11-6-2

RACE 2:

2 FACE OF VICTORY is cutting back to 7 furlongs on the main track, and dropping to the \$8,000 level, after setting a pressured pace and fading when facing \$16,000 claimers going around 2-turns on the turf. Note that the gelding is 9 for 12 'in the money' on a fast main track. **3 AREYOUTALKINGTOME** moved to the Peter Walder barn via the claim, and was sent to the sidelines during March, after coming up empty vs \$6,250 open-claimers going a mile in the slop. Walder, 26% with first start after the claim, has Chantal Sutherland handling the dropdown into this dated claimer. **4 DOCTOR D J** drops, and cuts back to 7 furlongs, looking to parlay his late running tactics into a spot on the exacta or trifecta ticket. Herbert Miller has Jose Morelos at the controls.

SELECTIONS: 2-3-4

RACE 3:

1 CHICKAPOO PRINCESS is a daughter of Upstart debuting for trainer Mark Casse in an ideal spot for a first-time starter to succeed. The sophomore gets Lasix, and has Edwin Gonzalez handling the inside draw. **5 MANUELA** is stretching out to a mile and a sixteenth after closing to finish 2nd vs this level of opposition going 7 ½ furlongs on a good turf. Rodolfo Garcia has Cristian Torres handling the added distance.

8 SIERRA GOLD is a daughter of Bodemeister debuting for trainer Mike Maker with Lasix, and leading jock Edgard Zayas named to handle the outside draw. She's another live firster in this wide-open affair.

SELECTIONS: 1-5-8

RACE 4:

5 BETWEEN DREAMS is stepping up, and stretching out, after following her \$6,250 '2-lifetime' victory going 5 ½ furlongs with a score at this level and distance. The only 3-time winner in the field will have Edgard Zayas in the irons.

6 NICOLE PRINCESS moves to the Paul Kopaj barn via the claim, and stretches out an additional furlong, after responding to a dropdown in class with a 3rd place showing vs this level of competition going 5 ½ furlongs: Chantal Sutherland rides.

4 DINNER AT FIVE is cutting back to 6 ½ furlongs after surviving a stretch-long duel to defeat \$6,250 '2-lifetime' foes going seven-eighths of a mile. Gilberto Zerpa has Miguel Vazquez going for 2 in a row.

SELECTIONS: 5-6-4

RACE 5:

3 WHISTLER DIXIE is stretching out to a mile after responding to the addition of blinkers with an improved late-running 4th going 5 furlongs. Trainer Tim Hamm has Edwin Gonzalez quarterbacking the added distance. **6 EARNESTINE N HAZEL (IRE)**, now in the Saffie Joseph Jr barn, the beautifully bred daughter of Zoffany (Ire) drops to the \$25,000 level in the first start since finishing 5th behind a pair of next-out winners in a mile and a sixteenth maiden special turf outing at Tampa while in the Christophe Clement barn: Edgard Zayas rides.

10 MADEIRA WINE has her claiming tag carved in half after tracking the pace and finishing 4th vs \$50,000 maidens going a mile. Patrick Biancone has Mario Pino named to ride.

SELECTIONS: 3-6-10

RACE 6:

2 K'S RUNNING FREE lived up to her name when she shook free in the stretch to defeat \$12,500 '2-lifetime' claimers by 2 ½ lengths. Saffie Joseph Jr has Edwin Gonzalez going for 2 in a row.

7 INCLUDE THE BEAST drops, and returns to the main track, after following pair of 3rd place finishes sprinting on the dirt at the \$20,000 level with a poor showing vs \$20,000 claimers going 5 furlongs on the turf. Trainer Aubrey Maragh has Angel Arroyo handling the class relief. **4 MS BIG SPRING** is stretching out to three-quarters of a mile after dueling throughout and getting caught late when beaten a neck at 5 ½ furlongs. Javier Negrete has apprentice Gaddiel Martinez in the irons.

SELECTIONS: 2-7-4

RACE 7:

6 GRAN RUNNER is wheeling back after shaking off some early trouble (brushed, bumped) to finish 3rd at this level and distance. Victor Barboza Jr has Edgard Zayas at the controls. **1 MYSTERY MO** will depart from the rail after breaking from the outside (Post 6) and rallying 5-wide to finish 2nd in front of Gran Runner last out: Romero Maragh rides.

2 GIGANTIC, a son of Street Sense, who is bred to love the distance, stretches out to a mile for the first time after the pair of so-so maiden special weight performances going 6 furlongs. Trainer Louie Rousell has Edwin Gonzalez handling the added distance.

SELECTIONS: 6-1-2

RACE 8:

5 PASSION PLUS is turning back to a mile after the game victory vs similar in which she dueled throughout and held on gamely to score at a mile and a sixteenth. Saffie Joseph Jr has Edgard Zayas returning on the 4-time winner at the distance.

12 BASELINE DRIVE was game in defeat when she rallied to finish a well-meant 2nd behind Passion Plus last out. The obvious concern is the tough outside post going a mile. **3 ESKIMO'S BOSS** is stepping up to face winners after following her troubled starting 6th behind Baseline Drive with a rousing maiden special weight victory as the 4-to-5 favorite. David Fawkes has Emisael Jaramillo named to ride.

SELECTIONS: 5-12-3

RACE 9:

3 SHES ALL WOMAN is returning to action vs \$35,000 conditioned claimers after a quartet of 'in the money' finishes vs similar quality before going to the bench during April. Trainer Bob Hess Jr has Samy Camacho named on the consistent Mucho Macho Man mare. **7 R PREROGATIVE** is back locally for Averill Racing and Georgina Baxter after returning from the layoff at Tampa and finishing a troubled starting 5th behind repeat winner All Good Times in a \$32,000 optional claimer going 6 furlongs. The barn, 32% with the 31-60 days freshening, has Edgard Zayas handling the outside post.

6 PERSPIRE is turning back to 7 furlongs after setting the early pace and finishing 2nd vs \$25,000 allowance optional claimers going a mile. Juan Alvarado has Edwin Gonzalez handling the turnback in distance.

SELECTIONS: 3-7-6

RACE 10:

1 AL HILAL is dropping to the \$25,000 level, and wearing blinkers, in the first start since finishing 7th in what turned out to be a monster special weight 'key-race' that's produced a quartet of next-out winners. The figures he posted before going to the sidelines indicate he can score at this level.

8 ROAD TO SUCCESS, a \$275,000 son of Quality Road, debuts on the turf after finishing a solid, but green, 2nd going a mile on the dirt. Trainer George Weaver 25% with similar class drops, has Rajiv Maragh handling the surface switch. **6 HEY PADRE** is turning back to 7 ½ furlongs after moving to the Sarah Nagle barn via the claim and finishing 2nd vs this level of competition going a mile and a sixteenth. The gelded son of Hard Spun looks solid in the finale. **2 MILITARY DRILL** is stretching out around 2-turns, and dropping to the \$25,000 level, in the first start since rallying to finish 3rd – beaten a neck – vs \$40,000 maidens going 5 furlongs during February. The gelded son of Drill is bred to handle the added distance.

SELECTIONS: 1-8-6-2

BEST BET: RACE 5 – 3 WHISTLER DIXIE

LONGSHOT: RACE 10 – 1 AL HILAL