



# RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS

by *Ron Nicoletti*

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## RACE 1:

**8 KIKINBOY**, now in the Jorge Navarro barn, the gelded son of Curlin drops into a competitive situation after failing to handle stakes-caliber allowance runners when going 12 and 8 furlongs, respectively, in his 2 previous turf outings; Jose Ortiz rides. **4 TIGERBEACH** is dropping to the \$16,000 level after setting the pace and fading late when finishing 4<sup>th</sup> in a \$30,000 conditioned claimer going a mile on the GP West turf. Trainer Armando De la Cerda has Luis Saez named to ride.

**5 DIAMOND MINT** is stretching to 7 ½ furlongs after a consistent campaign sprinting on the turf before the layoff. The gelding should be part of the pace with Paco Lopez at the controls.

**SELECTIONS: 8-4-5**

## RACE 2:

**5 BRONZED**, now in the Ken Westlye barn, the son of Fed Biz is dropping to the \$50,000 level after showing promise vs maiden special weight competition at Monmouth, which includes the 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish between next-out Belmont Futurity winner Uncle Benny, and next-out maiden special weight winner Direct Order. **9 LARCENY** is dropping into this high-priced maiden claimer after returning from a layoff at Keeneland and finishing a distant 3<sup>rd</sup> vs a full field of maiden special weight sprinters. Trainer Brian Lynch has Jose Ortiz handling the outside draw. **8 INDY RULES** makes it a trio dropping into the selling ranks after an inconsistent pair vs special weight competition. Trainer Ralph Nicks has Tyler Gaffalione handling the turnback from 6 ½ to 6 furlongs.

**SELECTIONS: 5-9-8**

## RACE 3:

**1 SARA'S DAY** moved to the Marcus Vitali barn via the claim after posting her 2<sup>nd</sup> victory in 3 starts when she got up to defeat this level of competition going a 2-turn mile at GP West. The sophomore, 7-4-3-0 at a mile, has Leonel Reyes handling the inside post.

**11 CHANNEL SURFING** should be primed and ready to offer more after returning from the layoff to finish 2<sup>nd</sup> going a mile across town. Trainer Jorge Navarro has Irad Ortiz Jr trying to get the 6-year-old mare out of 2<sup>nd</sup> gear. **2 THERE GOES BELLA** is back at the \$6,250 level after responding in the first race after the claim by trainer Gilberto Zerpa with a \$10,000 conditioned claiming victory going a 2-turn mile across town. The barn is a whopping 32% winning consecutive races.

**SELECTIONS: 1-11-2**

## RACE 4:

**7 MY POINT EXACTLY** is making his local return after rewarding his backers with a popular \$10,000 conditioned claiming victory going a 2-turn mile across town. Trainer Elizabeth Dobles has Paco Lopez going for 2 in a row. **2 CHOVANES** is dropping to the \$12,500 level after setting the pace and fading when facing \$16,000 optional claimers going a mile at GP West. The 4-time winner this year will have Emisael Jaramillo rationing his speed. **5 RED HOT RANDY**, 2<sup>nd</sup> behind My Point Exactly when going 7 furlongs 2 starts back, stretches out after dueling throughout and finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> in another outing at seven-eighths of a mile.

**SELECTIONS: 7-2-5**

## RACE 5:

**4 KING ORB** is dropping to the \$50,000 level after returning from a layoff at Laurel to come within a head of defeating maiden special weight competition going a mile on a 'yielding' turf. Trainer Linda Rice has Jose Ortiz named on the \$300,000 gelded son of Orb. **8 C MAJOR** is debuting locally for trainer Todd Pletcher after tracking the pace and finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> in his career debut going a mile on the GP West turf. Trainer Pletcher is 33% with horses dropping from special weight to maiden claiming. **6 TROUBLE COFFEE** is dropping to this level, and returning to the turf, after racing wide and finishing a distant 3<sup>rd</sup> going a mile on the GP West main track.

**SELECTIONS: 4-8-6**

**RACE 6:**

**4 ARTICULATOR** moved to the Jorge Navarro barn via the claim, and will be outfitted with blinkers, after returning from a 4-month plus layoff at Keeneland to finish 2<sup>nd</sup> behind a repeat winner going 7 furlongs on a sealed 'sloppy' track. Trainer Navarro, 24% with first-time blinkers, has Edgard Zayas in the saddle. **3 MAC JAGGER** is debuting locally after chasing the pace and flattening out when finishing 6<sup>th</sup> in a 7-furlong allowance contested on a sealed 'muddy' track at Keeneland. The colt's recent speed figures point him as a major player in this spot. **1 BE GONE DADDY** is debuting locally after responding in a race moved from the turf to 7 furlongs on the dirt with a 5-wide 2<sup>nd</sup> – beaten a neck for the whole enchilada.

**SELECTIONS: 4-3-1****RACE 7:**

**3 PRECOCIOUS PEACH** is dropping to the \$16,000 level, and turning back to 5 furlongs, after following the maiden victory at this distance with a set-the-pace-and-fade outing vs \$30,000 conditioned claimers going 7 ½ furlongs on the GP West turf. **5 PRETTY SHEA D** is dropping into this 'non-winners of 2-lifetime' sprint after chasing the pace and weakening in a \$16,000 optional claimer at the distance. Trainer John Servis has Nik Juarez in the saddle. **11 SOLD ON SALSA** is making her first start since the promising turf debut across town in which she tracked the pace and finished 4<sup>th</sup> in a \$16,000 optional claimer. Trainer Jose Pinchin has Irad Ortiz Jr in the saddle.

**SELECTIONS: 3-5-11****RACE 8:**

**9 IMPERATIVE**, impressive winning the \$400,000 Poseidon here last January, is turning back to a mile (3-3-0-0) after responding to the dropdown in competition, and the addition of blinkers, with a much improved 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish vs \$50,000 optional claimers going a mile and a sixteenth at Laurel.

**1 BREAKING LUCKY**, still looking for his first victory since winning the Grade 3 Seagram at Woodbine in 2016 (8 races), the winner of \$1.1 million dollars drops to the \$62,500 level after showing speed and fading in the 9-furlong Grade 3 Lukas in his last.

**3 SHAGAF**, a 5-year-old son of Bernardini, returns from the 19-month plus layoff for the always-dangerous Chad Brown barn. The Shadwell homebred has Irad Ortiz Jr in the saddle.

**SELECTIONS: 9-1-3****RACE 9:**

**9 GOODTHINGSTAKETIME** is dropping into this allowance race after facing a steady dose of graded stakes competition, which includes 3<sup>rd</sup> place finishes in the Grade 2 Appalachian at Keeneland, and the Grade 3 Lake George at Saratoga, before the freshening. Trainer Jorge Abreu has Irad Ortiz Jr in the saddle. **7 RIVERSIDE WALK** is stretching out around 2 turns for the first time after making a 5-wide bid to finish 4 ½ lengths behind a pair of next-out winners in her 5 ½-furlong North American debut for trainer Brendan Walsh. The sophomore should be a major part of the pace with Tyler Gaffalione at the helm. **6 MONEY FACTOR** is back on her favorite course after following a pair of sharp efforts locally with a late-striding 3<sup>rd</sup> going 7 ½ furlongs on the GP West turf. Trainer Ralph Catanese has Edgard Zayas in the saddle.

**SELECTIONS: 9-7-6****RACE 10:**

**2 SEISMIC JOLT** is shifting his focus to the main track after finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> – as the 3-to-5 favorite – behind repeat winner Gladiator King going 5 furlongs on the turf. Trainer Dave Fawkes has Tyler Gaffalione handling the surface switch.

**13 WINNING DRIVE** will depart from the outside after making a middle move to get the lead before settling for 2<sup>nd</sup> in his 5-furlong special weight debut at Delaware. Trainer Jason Servis has Irad Ortiz Jr named to ride. **7 HE'S SMOKING HOT** is stretching out to three-quarters of a mile after rallying to finish 2<sup>nd</sup> – at 30-1 – in his 5 ½-furlong debut vs state-bred freshman; Paco Lopez rides.

**SELECTIONS: 2-13-7****BEST BET: RACE 5 – 4 KING ORB****LONGSHOT: RACE 7: 3 PRECOCIOUS PEACH**