

Date: August 21st, 2020**Track:** Del Mar**By Brad Free****BEST BET: Drippin Sauce (2nd race)****First Race****1. Miss Flawless****2. Quinnie****3. Clearly Gone**

MISS FLAWLESS missed by only three lengths last out as a 45-1 shot first start off the claim, and now returns to the \$32k level at which she was claimed. Vladimir Cerin has won with 21 percent of his second-off-the-claim starters the past five years; the most recent win by 'FLAWLESS was on the Del Mar turf course last fall. **QUINNIE** found a mile and three-eighths out of reach last time, yet she actually ran well. She challenged for the lead in the stretch before tiring to fifth. She shortens to a mile and one-sixteenth, drops in class and switches to Flavien Prat. **CLEARLY GONE** is back doing what she does best, which is run long on turf. Her dirt-sprint misfire last out is excusable, although it has been more than two years (seven starts) since her most recent win.

Second Race**1. Drippin Sauce****2. Natural History****3. Promise Nothing**

DRIPPIN SAUCE should be tough to beat in this \$40k claiming sprint for 3yos, based on his solid runner-up finish one month ago for \$50k. He pressed fast fractions going seven furlongs, made the lead in the stretch and got collared by a deep closer that rallied from next-to-last. Excellent effort by 'SAUCE, who shortens to six and a half, and is drawn outside again where he figures for a pressing trip in the clear. Most probable winner on the card. **NATURAL HISTORY** makes his California debut and first off the claim after a tough-trip runner-up finish in Kentucky. The Midwest speed figures earned by 'HISTORY suggest he fits here. On the other hand, the race he exits turned out to be a negative key race. Six runners ran back, none hit the board. **PROMISE NOTHING** finished only a length and a quarter behind the top choice last out, and probably benefits from this shorter trip. **HIDDEN PROMISE** will rally late.

Third Race**1. Big Score****2. Murad Khan****3. Calexman**

BIG SCORE ran super last out in his return from a nine-month layoff, rallying from far back to miss by less than a length in a restricted stakes race. Sharp effort by a veteran likely to improve now that he has a race under his belt. He would have been a marginal contender Sunday in the G2 Del Mar Mile, but opts for this allowance instead. Looks like the right move, off the pace and into the winner's circle? **MURAD KHAN** finished in front of the top choice last out in a race that signaled a return to peak form. 'KHAN has more tactical speed than the top choice, therefore will get first run. They both must catch likely pacesetter **CALEXMAN**, whose ability to stay a mile and one sixteenth is uncertain. But the pace scenario benefits **CALEXMAN**, who could be loose on the lead. **JASIKAN** ran like a colt that needed a start when he finished seventh in his return from a layoff of nearly a year. **BUILDER** figures to sit second behind the speed.

Fourth Race**1. Get'em Tiger****2. Magnolia's Hope****3. Little Miss Ellie**

GET'EM TIGER returns to the sprint game, returns to the main track, and drops for the first time into a \$50k claiming race for maiden Cal-breds. Her Northern California runner-up sprints in May and June earned figures that are fast enough for these; her ninth-place finish last out in a turf route is a toss. She can win rallying from off the pace. **MAGNOLIA'S HOPE** finished a disappointing third as the favorite last out at Pleasanton; she returns to the Cal-bred maiden-50 level of her runner-up finish two back. She has speed, an outside post and will be setting or pressing the pace. **LITTLE MISS ELLIE** should vie for favoritism following back-to-back runner-up finishes including a 59-Beyer effort last out at five and a half in her first try over the Del Mar track. **OLE SILVER** goes from inside to an outside post and will pick them up late.

Fifth Race**1. Scooby****2. Big Talker****3. Big Fish**

A promising third in a stakes for Cal-breds in his career debut, **SCOOBY** stretches to a mile, moves to grass and drops into a maiden race with an apparent advantage on ability over his rivals in this turf mile for maiden 2-year-olds. Based on pedigree, grass should be just fine. **BIG TALKER**, full brother to race-3 favorite/stakes winner Big Score, merely ran around the course in his seventh-place debut. The turf

route was only a prep, now he drops from open maiden into a maiden race restricted to Cal-breds. Seems logical to expect improvement second time out. **BIG FISH** sprints like a 2yo that might like two turns and grass. His pedigree supports the move; his second- and third-place efforts his first two starts were okay. **INGEST** finished an okay fifth last out in the aforementioned open maiden race. His effort was not bad. He set/pressed the pace to deep stretch before fading. This is a class drop to Cal-bred.

Sixth Race

1. Adens Dream

2. Fire When Ready

3. Castle Gate

ADENS DREAM nosedives in class, from upper-middle claiming all the way to rock bottom \$8k. It's a curious move by a veteran whose third-place finish three starts back in a \$25k claiming sprint would crush. Not sure what to make of this class-drop placement. It certainly is not a show of confidence. **FIRE WHEN READY** misfired last time without a visible alibi; he finished sixth in a \$16k claiming route. Disappointing effort first off the claim, but if that race can be excused he actually figures as a contender. He can sprint, adds blinkers, and drops to the bottom. Unlike the top choice, the low-level placement of 'READY seems somewhat reasonable based on his last-start misfire. **CASTLE GATE** also drops off a subpar effort as the favorite. After an impressive comeback victory in winter, his next three starts have been uninspiring. He could wake up on the drop. **BLACK STORM** will roll late.

Seventh Race

1. Hudson River Park

2. World Affairs

3. Tiger's Song

HUDSON RIVER PARK stretches out first off the claim; the maiden-20 gelding catches a lackluster field in this mile race. His last-out speed figure tops the field. **WORLD AFFAIRS** lost ground much of the trip finishing third in a similar maiden-20. It was an improved effort over his previous form, and he does have more early speed than the top choice. **TIGER'S SONG** drops from Cal-bred maiden-50 to rock-bottom maiden-20 and stretches to a mile while switching to one of the meet's leading riders. Also-eligible **REVOLT** fits on figures (same 67 last-out Beyer as the top choice), but if he does draw into the field, the outside post does him no favors at a mile on dirt.

Eighth Race

1. Leggs Galore

2. Plum Wild

3. Queensbeccaandjane

LEGGS GALORE wheels back in two weeks following a sharp maiden victory in her first try on turf. The lightly raced filly (three starts) meets a modest cast of Calbred allowance fillies and mares; she could be long gone again. The knocks are the quick turnaround from her win, and the fact that the runner-up encountered trouble. Perhaps the win by 'GALORE was not as good as it looks? Still the one to beat. **PLUM WILD** is worth a longshot look. She did not have a good trip in her fifth-place comeback, yet she missed by less than four lengths while racing for the first time in four months. She will finish, and her odds should be high. **QUEENSBECCAANDJANE** set the pace and cracked last time at one mile. She is best at this one-turn trip. This is her third start of the summer meet.

Ninth Race

1. Sneaking Out

2. Unique Factor

3. Mother of Dragons

SNEAKING OUT is the one to beat in this G3 filly mare sprint. Her return-to-form upset win last out in a fast G2 was validated when runner-up Bellafina shipped to Saratoga and finished second in a G1. **SNEAKING OUT** should get a beneficial trip just off the speed. One-two nine of 11 starts, proven over the Del Mar track, the Jerry Hollendorfer trainee should be tough. Favorites won this race 10 of the last 19 years. **UNIQUE FACTOR** took a shot last time in a G1, but she was in too tough and finished sixth at long odds. This group of West Coast filly-mare sprinters is less imposing; the tough-trip allowance victory two starts back by 'FACTOR puts her within striking range of the top choice. They have opposite styles; 'FACTOR will rally from the back of the pack. **MOTHER OF DRAGONS** is a 6-for-12 speedster with multiple stakes wins in Northern California and enough speed to contest the pace with fellow speedster **ARTISTIC DIVA**. Six and a half furlongs is a reach for both front-runners. The last-out stakes win by 'DRAGONS at Pleasanton was validated Sunday when runner-up Biddu Duke returned to win. **GINGHAM** ran the fastest race of her career last time when she sprinted for the first time in her career to win a stake for 3yo fillies. Maybe the short game is what she wanted all along?

Tenth Race

1. Rockie Causeway

2. Eddie's Sister

3. Nina En Fuego

Runner-up last out in a similar turf mile for Cal-bred maidens, **ROCKIE CAUSEWAY** figures to start favored again in the third start of her career. The outside post last time (12 of 12) did not help; she starts this turf mile from the rail. But her second-place finish looks better on paper than video. She definitely is the one to beat, but does not "have to" win at low odds. **EDDIE'S SISTER** stretches to two turns for the first time, and if she is anything like her sibling Sister Sally, a mile should be within reach. Sister Sally won five successive turf routes including three graded stakes. **EDDIE'S SISTER** went the half in :45.19 last time before she faded to finish last. She could be loose on the

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lead in this spot; her trainer Phil D'Amato enters the Friday card having won with six of his last 11 starters. **NINA EN FUEGO** split the field in her debut, the same turf route in which the top choice finished second. With a debut prep under her belt, improvement expected from 'FUEGO. CASSIE BELLE set the pace and finished third in the aforementioned race. She will keep EDDIE'S SISTER honest up front.