Date: November 7th, 2020 **Track:** Del Mar

By Brad Free

BEST BET: Whooping Jay (6th race)

First Race

1. Top Gunner 2. McWherter 3. Leme At Em

Five first-time starters in this six-horse maiden turf sprint, the call is **TOP GUNNER**. Sired by Into Mischief, 'GUNNER is the first runner produced by Downton My Lady, who won first time out for these same connections: owner-breeder Michael Talia, trainer John Sadler, jockey Tyler Baze. 'GUNNER appears to have trained well for his debut. First-timer **MCWHERTER**, a gelding, is a full sibling to graded winner Wildman Jack, a Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint longshot contender today at Keeneland. MCWHERTER appears to have worked well. He is trained by Doug O'Neill, who also entered 4yo first-time starter **LEME AT EM**. The latter was purchased for \$485k at a 2yo sale in 2018, and finally makes his debut. ANACONDA debuts with sharp workouts, while the six-start maiden DEUCE is the only entrant with racing experience. He finished an okay third last out in his return from a one-year layoff.

Second Race

1. Uno Trouble Maker 2. Eternal Endeavour 3. Madame Barbarian

With an outside post, proven from over the Del Mar main track, and seven career wins from 20 starts, speedy and versatile **UNO TROUBLE MAKER** is the one to beat. Freshened two months after a decisive victory vs. similar on closing weekend of the summer meet, 'MAKER became reacquainted with the Del Mar surface working a bullet work last week. With a front-running/pace-pressing trip from the outside, the veteran mare is the one to beat. **ETERNAL ENDEAVOUR** did not have the smoothest of trips finishing second behind the top choice in the same race, although she likely would have finished second regardless. 'ENDEAVOR runs best rallying from behind, the pace should be genuine and would flatter her late kick. **MADAME BARBARIAN**, a 7yo mare in peak form, was re-claimed last out by Jeff Mullins, who won twice with her in spring and summer. Look for her late. RED LIVY is all speed. She will give the top choice a target to run at.

Third Race

1. Metarose 2. Complete Control 3. Luxury Liner

Although not many first-time starters win at Del Mar after training at Zia Park in New Mexico, **METAROSE** might be an exception. She faces a soft field of Cal-bred maiden-claiming 2yo fillies, her published workouts suggest she can run more than just a little bit. Her sire Metaboss has had just two starters (through Sunday), both finished second in their career debut. METAROSE is the first foal from a claiming-caliber dam; she looks "live" first out. She is the trainer's first Del Mar starter. **COMPLETE CONTROL** finished second in a drab four-horse field, missing by a neck with a 46 Beyer that tops this field. That was her fifth start, but her first at this class level. **LUXURY LINER** drops in for a tag for the first time, while returning to the track/surface on which she ran arguably the best race of her brief career. That was a third-place finish during the summer meet. She will rally late; six furlongs should be right up her alley. BIG AWARD makes her career debut in an easy spot, for a trainer that pops with an occasional maiden-claiming longshot.

Fourth Race

1. Silardi 2. Strike It Lucky 3. Rager

SILARDI returns from a two-month freshening to the turf-sprint course on which he finished second vs. older N1X rivals last. It's a significant class drop to \$50k claiming 3yos for SILARDI, who is drawn outside his main pace rival. With a front-running/pace-pressing trip, SILARDI should be tough. STRIKE IT LUCKY apparently thrives on activity. This will be his fourth start in five weeks, he finished a close third last out (four-horse field) against older at Golden Gate. If the pace backs up, 'LUCKY would be in the right spot to pounce. RAGER returns from a layoff of nearly six months while dropping into the claiming ranks for the first time. He won his career debut last fall, so he does fire fresh. RESTORING DREAMS is the aforementioned pace rival for the top choice. 'DREAMS finished second vs. similar 3yo claiming turf sprinters here in summer.

Fifth Race

1. Prosteria 2. Agreetodisagree 5. Nasreddine	1. Frosteria	2. Agreetodisagree	
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A promising runner-up finish by **FROSTERIA** stamps the 2yo filly the choice in this maiden sprint. Though no match for her heavily favored stablemate, she finished more than six lengths clear of third and worked a bullet half-mile since. Obvious horse to beat. However, **AGREETODISAGREE** is believed to be better than her sixth-place debut suggests. She reportedly showed speed from the gate in predebut workouts, but she walked out of the gate in her only race, dead last, raced wide and merely ran around the track. She returned to post more fast works, adds blinkers and should improve with a clean takeoff. **NASREDDINE** also was compromised by a slow start, which was not a surprise. She reportedly had gate issues in the morning. But she ran well first out nonetheless, while facing males, rallying to finish second. Expect an improved start second time out. MOONLIGHT D'ORO finished an okay second in her debut three months ago. She can only improve.

Sixth Race

1. Whooping Jay 2. Comradery 3. M Town Gem

Freshened two months after solid performances over the DMR turf during the summer meet, **WHOOPING JAY** looks rock solid as the favorite in this N1X mile. Runner-up in a Cal-bred stakes, winner of a Cal-bred N1X and runner-up in an open N1X, 'JAY should be tough to beat if he picks up where he left off in summer. **COMRADERY** improved each U.S. start: third-second-maiden win last out over a field that included next-out maiden winner War Path. COMRADERY will be rolling late over a turf course that played fair opening weekend with the turf rails at zero. The rails move to 18 feet this week. **M TOWN GEM** finished an okay fourth last out against open \$40k claiming rivals at Santa Anita; he scored both career wins over the DMR course. DR. TROUTMAN has one style of running. He is all speed, and will show the way into the stretch.

Seventh Race

1. Good With People 2. Touchdown Brown 3. Doc Adams

A deep field of Cal-bred 2yos entered this sprint stakes, the choice is the quickest in the field. That is GOOD WITH PEOPLE, back home with state-bred rivals after taking a shot vs. open company on turf in Kentucky. 'PEOPLE raced over the Del Mar main track three times during summer, two wins and a second while setting the pace each time. Although his ability to carry speed seven furlongs is uncertain, there is little doubt he is the one to catch. Gate to wire? TOUCHDOWN BROWN also took a shot against open company last out; he was not good enough in a G1 route at Santa Anita. He cuts back to a sprint, ran well finishing second to the top choice on the Del Mar track in September, and the seven-furlong distance should be fine. Blinkers back on. DOC ADAMS looms an upset candidate. He ran well last out on synthetic at Golden Gate, runner-up behind the odds-on favorite that was winning his third straight. It was a decent prep for 'ADAMS, who was nominated to this stakes race just four days after his prep. If he reproduces his synthetic form switching to dirt, he could score an off-the-pace upset. TACOFLAVOREDKISSES defeated a next-out stakes winner last out while racing two turns at Golden Gate; he also ran well on the Del Mar surface in summer. Cal-bred stakes winner POSITIVITY was sold privately and changed trainers since his Graduation Stakes win; ASCOT STORM was sold privately and changed trainers following his impressive debut victory. This field is deep.

Eighth Race

1. Cheap Cheap Cheap 2. Watch Me Burn 3. Mischiffie

CHEAP CHEAP wanted no part of dirt last out; she set the pace and cracked. But her recent form includes a highly rated turf sprint win in spring that would be good enough for these. She returns to her preferred surface, and gets the call to win with an up-front trip even though she could face significant pace pressure. One of those pace rivals is dropper WATCH ME BURN, dropping from N2X and entered for the optional \$40k claim tag. Two turf starts at Del Mar by 'BURN include a claiming win and a solid N2X third. She will keep the top choice honest on the front end. If those two engage, the race could unfold perfectly for MISCHIFFIE, who also drops from N2X. She disappointed without a visible alibi last out, but returned to work well including a half-mile grass work here on Sunday. MISCHIFFIE could tuck into a cozy trip right behind the speed. KOOKIE GAL goes route to sprint and looms the deep threat if the front-runners cancel out one another. ACTING OUT also figures to show speed.