

**Date:** November 20th, 2020**Track:** Del Mar**By Brad Free****BEST BET: I Belong to Becky (1st race)****First Race****1. I Belong to Becky****2. Littlebitamedal****3. Proof It**

**I BELONG TO BECKY** returns to the claiming level and Del Mar surface on which he rolled to a convincing victory in summer. He was in too tough at Santa Anita last time for \$25k, a race that produced two next-out winners. Back where he fits, likely winner with an up-front trip. The challenge is coping with a potentially fast pace. **LITTLEBITAMEDAL** rallies from behind, a style that suits the scenario. 'MEDAL will be outrun early and rally late. Looks like plenty of speed to run at including the top choice, **PROOF IT**, and J T'S A. T. M. From the inside post, **PROOF IT** must go. One-two in eight of 14 starts in the Northwest and Southwest, he will keep the top choice busy up front. **SHORT OF EZ** is comfortably drawn outside, he can rally from behind, and has won seven of 19. Furthermore, Rosemary Trela-trained runners consistently offer value.

**Second Race****1. Chaos Theory****2. Tilted Towers****3. Texas Wedge**

**CHAOS THEORY** turned out to be a dynamite claim for \$62.5k by trainer John Sadler and Hronis Racing. The turf sprinter won a G3 on this course first off the claim; his recent fourth in a stake at Keeneland was validated when winner Leinster returned to finish third in the Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint. 'THEORY returns to the course on which he won the Green Flash in summer, and enters as the "now" horse. Lightly raced **TILTED TOWERS** is on his way up; he won back-to-back maiden and N1X turf sprints on this course in summer. His fall campaign was interrupted when he got sick and scratched from a similar allowance Oct. 12 at Santa Anita. He returned to the work tab only two weeks later, blew out over the turf course Sunday, and has room to develop as he makes just the fifth start of his career. **TEXAS WEDGE** seems to have tailed off as the season unfolded, though he faces much easier. Last time out, he pressed and faded in the BC Turf Sprint. **OVERDUE** is back where he fits, on turf. His comeback two starts back was decent considering it was a G2, he did not care for dirt last out. He trained well since and enters with an upset chance in a race that should unfold at a lively pace. **MR. VARGAS** has a prep race under his belt. The large-sized gelding is pure speed, but so is dropper **MIKES TIZNOW**. Those two could get in each other's way.

**Third Race****1. Zestful****2. King of Speed****3. Potantico**

Front-runner **ZESTFUL** and pace-presser **KING OF SPEED** can make this N2X dirt route a parade if they stay out of each other's way. **ZESTFUL** is rounding into form in just his third start of the year. Last in his comeback, he improved a ton second start back when he set the pace into the lane and held third in a similar N2X on turf. The front-running gelding can stay this mile and one-eighth trip, and gets the call to wire the field. If he falters, then **KING OF SPEED** probably would be first over. The latter ran well last out, runner-up in a similar N2X dirt route. He has speed, and probably will be positioned second behind the top choice. **POTANTICO** was eased last time in a G3 at a mile and one-half. He shortens to a mile and one-eighth, gets in light with a seven-pound apprentice allowance, and will grind away late. He is the only entrant with two wins over the Del Mar main track. **UNBROKEN STAR** and **THE STIFF** will pick them up late.

**Fourth Race****1. Cover Version****2. Bristol Bayou****3. Unbreakable**

Fourteen-start maiden **COVER VERSION** and 10-start maiden **BRISTOL BAYOU** are tough to separate in this maiden-50 turf mile. **COVER VERSION** gets the call. Her runner-up finish last out in her first try at this class/distance was arguably the best race of her career. She gave the odds-on winner all she could handle, missing by a neck and finishing more than three lengths clear of third. **BRISTOL BAYOU** drops for the first time to maiden-claiming; she was compromised last time by a terribly wide trip. four-wide virtually start to finish after breaking from the outside post, she never had a chance. Now she draws the rail while entered for a claim tag for the first time. **UNBREAKABLE** did not have the greatest of trips into and through the far turn when she lost position. Under the circumstances, her third-place finish was actually okay.

**Fifth Race****1. Little No Way****2. R Cha Cha****3. Cedar Rapids**

**LITTLE NO WAY** could be heavily favored in this \$8k claiming route, based on five successive in-the-money finishes that earned the highest recent speed figures in the field. He ran well both routes on this track in summer, and enters as simply the fastest in the field. He is a grinder however, and seems to lack the knockout punch. **R CHA CHA** stretches out with speed to set or press the pace in a field without much early pace. Of course, two turns is a long way for the 33-start sprinter. He has routed twice in his career, third and off the board. Might be the one to catch anyway. **CEDAR RAPIDS** will rally from the back of the pack. He is an eight-time winner, tops in the field. **VODKA TWIST** drops and has some speed.

#### Sixth Race

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##### 1. First Prez

##### 2. Rustic Canyon

##### 3. Fly to Mars

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**FIRST PREZ** faces a tall order, trying allowance winners and stretching to two turns off a debut sprint victory vs. maidens. But his win was stylish. Outrun early, he rallied wide, levelled off in the stretch and powered away to a visually impressive win. He ran like a colt that wants two turns. Sibling to route stakes winner Rovenna, **FIRST PREZ** meets modest Cal-bred allowance turf milers and gets the call to make it two for two. **RUSTIC CANYON** won this condition (Cal-bred N1X) last out at Santa Anita, his fourth win from 17 turf starts. He runs back for the optional \$20k claim tag; he ran well over the Del Mar turf course during summer. **FLY TO MARS** lost a step after he was injured and sidelined nearly two years. However, he fits with these state-breds. The G2-placed veteran stretches back to two turns, and is quick enough to either make the lead or press. **SEA OF LIBERTY** is due for some luck. Had severe traffic trouble two back, last time out he lost ground and was unable to make up ground in a race largely dominated by speed.

#### Seventh Race

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##### 1. Chevelita

##### 2. Brilliant Cut

##### 3. Martique Miss

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The seventh-place debut by **CHEVELITA** was inconclusive; she should improve in this maiden-50 for 2yo fillies, despite the inside post. First out, she stumbled when the gates opened, was taken back, and merely ran around the track. That MSW was won by none other than Astute, who came back with a dazzling stakes victory here Saturday. **CHEVELITA** drops in for a tag for trainer Peter Miller, who won with 5 of his last 8 second-start juveniles MSW-to-MCL. **BRILLIANT CUT** also drops in for a tag after three okay tries vs. better. Both recent starts were on turf, she ran okay on dirt in her debut here in summer. **MARTIQUE MISS** debuts with a series of fast works. Juvenile progeny of her sire are just 2-for-43 first out, but this field does not look particularly strong. **ROYAL BLEND** is an Into Mischief filly, produced by an unraced Tapit mare that is a sibling to three graded winners. Despite her pedigree, she is entered for a \$50k tag.

#### Eighth Race

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##### 1. That Corey

##### 2. Theluteismine

##### 3. Gabby Hayes

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Second-time starter **THAT COREY** figures to improve off his fifth-place debut. The post-time favorite, he pressed the pace and gave way in a race won by his owner's second starter. 'COREY came back to work well, and should move up with a race under his belt. **THELUTEISMINE** split the field in his debut at a mile. He cuts back to a sprint for his second start, gets a rider change to Flavien Prat, and should be rolling late. First-time starter **GABBY HAYES** turned it up a notch in his final workout, a half-mile in 47.60 that was quicker than his previous works. **CROSSWORD** worked well into debut, was well-backed, and misfired. Have to believe he is better than that. Sired by Square Eddie, the switch to turf could wake him up.