

Date: July 23rd, 2021**Track:** Del Mar**By Brad Free****BEST BET: We All Agree (1st race)****First Race****1. We All Agree****2. Blame It On Rose****3. Your Ringer**

WE ALL AGREE drops to \$50k maiden-claiming after a creditable runner-up finish in a maiden special-weight. She chased a fast pace, held second, and now meets easier. Favorites trained by Luis Mendez have been automatic: his last 10 favorites produced 8 wins, one second and one third. **BLAME IT ON ROSE** showed speed in her career debut at Belterra Park; she chased the odds-on favorite and tired to fourth. Decent debut. She drops in for a tag second out, and should be forwardly placed. **YOUR RINGER** and **I'M A GIRAFFE** are first-time starters trained by Peter Miller. Rail-drawn **RINGER** appears to have worked well at San Luis Rey; debut 2yos sired by Speightster have won 15 percent. **I'M A GIRAFFE** has not worked as fast as her stablemate, but drew a more desirable post near the outside.

Second Race**1. Optimistic Valor****2. Vantage Point****3. Man Friday**

Kentucky shipper **OPTIMISTIC VALOR** gets the nod in a competitive turf mile for claiming 3yos. 'VALOR has been facing decent older rivals; the race trainer Bill Morey claimed him from produced two next-out winners. Prior to Morey relocating to the Midwest, he and jockey Kent Desormeaux were a hot combo: 11-for-38 from late 2016 to early 2019. 'VALOR has tactical speed, he can finish, and he is the field's only multiple winner. **VANTAGE POINT** misfired last out, but that was against tougher allowance company. The winner Hudson Ridge was a stakes winner; runner-up Flashiest won the Oceanside Stakes last week. Easier spot here for **VANTAGE POINT**, whose maiden-claiming win two back is among the fastest recent races by any in the field. **MAN FRIDAY** finished in front of 'POINT last out, and therefore also fits on the drop. **CAPPER** adds Lasix while returning from a layoff; she ran her final quarter-mile in a sharp :23.81 winning a maiden-claiming turf mile last out, in February.

Third Race**1. Mad Catter****2. Union Bliss****3. Vaporized**

Front-runner **MAD CATTER** can be long gone shortening to six furlongs after chasing a sizzling pace and fading against similar maiden-20 foes at 6.5f. The runner-up speedster that he chased won next out by open lengths; 'CATTER can make the lead and be gone under young apprentice rider Diego Herrera. **UNION BLISS** may not have liked the inside post in his fourth-place comeback, but he finished evenly and galloped out fairly well after the wire. He moves from the rail to a post near the outside; his speed figure ties for the highest last-out fig in the field. **VAPORIZED** ran well finishing third in his debut, then regressed second start without an apparent alibi. Blinkers on, improvement possible. **SIR FLATTER** goes route to sprint and will be rolling late; **THE ROAN RANGER** is racing at the maiden-20 bottom for the first time.

Fourth Race**1. Bold Endeavor****2. Family Biz****3. Order and Law**

Runner-up as favorite his last four starts, **BOLD ENDEAVOR** continues to run figures fast enough to win this N2X level. The horse that beat him a half-length last out (Tripoli) returned Saturday to finish second in a Grade 2. 'ENDEAVOR has always liked the Del Mar main track (two wins here), and is overdue at this level. He can set the pace, or rally from off. **FAMILY BIZ**, claimed for \$50k from a third at Belmont Park, makes his California debut for a top stable. His speed figures are fast enough for this level, the uncertainty is two turns. Most of his 6-for-33 career has been in one-turn races; he has not won a two-turn route (this is his third try). **ORDER AND LAW** won three of his last four, all at this N2X class level, on turf and dirt. From the inside post, he must use his speed. He could be pressured by **UNION DANCE**.

Fifth Race**1. Twilight Rider****2. Rookie Year****3. Tacoflavoredkisses**

Northern California shipper **TWILIGHT RIDER**, claimed from a runner-up finish in a productive race by high-percent f.o.c. trainer

Jonathan Wong, can win this competitive claiming mile for 3yos. 'RIDER missed by a length last out; the first- and fourth-place finishers returned to win. Wong's f.o.c. stats are about 30 percent long term. **ROOKIE YEAR** fits off his runaway maiden sprint win two back. He finished sixth last out against tougher older rivals on turf, and now returns to dirt and drops into an age-restricted claiming race. Possibly the speed of the field, come catch him. **TACOFLAVOREDKISSES** has never raced at a class level this low; he won a maiden race on this track last summer. Last-out maiden winner **TRIBAL NATIONS** has an up-front running style; he could keep **ROOKIE YEAR** honest.

Sixth Race

1. Tilted Towers

2. Commander

3. Distant Vista

Turf sprinter **TILTED TOWERS** can post a mild upset shortening from six and one-half furlongs to five. He also returns to the course on which he won twice last summer. Last out he was compromised by pace; he dueled and tired in a race that saw the 1-2-3 finishers rally from the back. With his pressing style, he will get the first run on the closers. All three turf sprints opening week (rails down) were won by forwardly placed runners. The rails move to 12 feet this week. **COMMANDER** is the recent "class" of the field, runner-up in a stakes race last out and third two back in a Grade 3. Although the shorter distance of this 5f dash might compromise his chances, the closer did win a claiming turf race here last summer at this trip. **DISTANT VISTA**, Phil D'Amato-trained stablemate of the top choice, will rally late while making his first start since last summer. He runs well fresh. Three-time Cal-bred stakes winner **LIEUTENANT DAN** returns from a 15-month layoff. **LOVE MY JIMMY**, the only 3yo, adds speed.

Seventh Race

1. Fi Fi Pharoah

2. Closing Remarks

3. Respectfully

FI FI PHAROAH and **CLOSING REMARKS** are compromised by inside posts in this sprint stakes for Cal-bred fillies, but they are the class of the field. The call is 'PHAROAH, whose improvement, including a stakes win, coincides with her stretching to a route. Trouble is, this race is seven furlongs around one turn. Winner of a \$150k route stakes last out, 'PHAROAH worked well over the Del Mar main track. She can sit, wait and blast home for the win. **CLOSING REMARKS** is the most accomplished in the field, graded stakes placed both recent starts on turf. Although she has never raced on dirt, she posted a blazing dirt work here last week. **RESPECTFULLY** has something the top pair lack. That is, speed. She might be the quickest in the field. Come and catch her? **EDDIE'S NEW DREAM** gave top choice **FI FI PHAROAH** a scare last out. Improving each start, 'DREAM figures for a perfect trip pressing the pace outside **RESPECTFULLY**.

Eighth Race

1. Eagle in the Sky

2. Really Big News

3. Donner Lake

Close call between **EAGLE IN THE SKY** and stretch-out **REALLY BIG NEWS** in this Cal-bred maiden turf mile. The call is 'SKY, whose recent fourth in a turf mile was his first start since last summer. He made a run at the leader into the lane, then lost his punch. He ran like a horse that needed a start. Solid work pattern since, prep race under his belt, set to fire second start back. **REALLY BIG NEWS** finished second in both sprints and is bred for two turns. He finished willingly last out, has a two-turn pedigree, and figures as a contender despite post 12. **DONNER LAKE** stretches out from an okay fourth-place sprint debut. He also is bred to stay two turns. Also-eligible **TALLEMARK** finished in the money both recent against similar Cal-bred maidens.