

**Date:** July 29th, 2021**Track:** Del Mar**By Michael Hammersly****BEST BET: Madame Barbarian (5th race)****First Race****1. Morning Addiction****2. Flat Out Joy****3. Civil Suit**

**MORNING ADDICTION** stalked vs. cheaper N3L foes at SAS June 20 but was one-paced in the lane, ending up a non-threatening 3rd. Remember, though, that was her first start in over 10 months. She can benefit from that outing and while she's up a bit in price she goes from N3L company to N2L and that make the difference. **FLAT OUT JOY** was no factor at SA June 18 but was facing tougher and making her first start in a couple months. She now has that run under her belt, drops and has worked well. **CIVIL SUIT** was a non-threatening 4th at SA June 12 but not only was she facing tougher, she was making her first start in 13 months. She figures better with that run under her belt and certainly today's drop helps. Some strong works since bode well.

**Second Race****1. Scottish Star****2. Acting Out****3. Bella Vita**

**SCOTISH STAR** invades from Argentina with a big reputation as she won laughingly in her only 2 starts there last summer/fall, the 2nd romp coming in a G1. She hasn't run for a while (almost 10 months) and must deal with new surroundings but she's certainly worked well for this first start in the U.S. for her HOF trainer. **ACTING OUT** didn't show her customary speed on turf at SA May 16 but she's been freshened, returns to dirt and has worked well. If she comes back with her speed in tact she's scary up front. **BELLA VITA** ran 2nd in a G2 at LRC July 5, though she was no threat to champion Gamine. Of course, can anyone in here get any closer? Maybe not, and with her speed, some versatility and a drop she warrants respect.

**Third Race****1. So Very Smart****2. Seven Sisters****3. Supersonic Flyer**

**SO VERY SMART** was claimed for \$50K by O'Neill when 5th at SA May 15 and they next tried turf, routing and straight maidens there June 4. All that proved too much to handle but she's back to dirt, back to sprinting and back to her claimed level, all of which can add up to a significant move forward. She's been working well. **SEVEN SISTERS** invades off 2 smart efforts in NoCal including a 3rd vs. straight maidens on PLN dirt last time out June 25. That hints she'll handle this footing and the drop for this invasion makes her a threat, particularly when coupled with her speed. **SUPERSONIC FLYER** has been knocking on the door at this level and figures as one of the ones. She has speed and the rail, but **SEVEN SISTERS** and **ISLAND FLIGHT** have speed so that may translate to her being stuck on the rail in a duel from the start.

**Fourth Race****1. First Premio****2. Red Storm Risen****3. Irish Heatwave**

Tough race. **FIRST PREMIO** gets the call as the invader was once good enough to knock heads with graded stakes types and while he may not be that horse any longer still has game. Mullins saw fit to plunk down \$62,500 to claim him off a good 4th at CD last time out and is good off the claim. The drop doesn't hurt and the one time he and Rispoli teamed up at CD May 1 the result was a win. **RED STORM RISEN** was knocking on the door this spring in Florida and NY. He comes off a 2nd to the up-and-comer Dreams of Tomorrow who came right back to win. He has speed and versatility and has worked well for this. **IRISH HEATWAVE** shows up as a gelding, with blinkers and with Prat. The gelding fits well with these when on his game and maybe all those changes get him back on track. The last time he teamed with Prat he was a sharp 2nd at SA in January. **BLAMELESS** is an interesting new face as he showed plenty of good form back east and trainer Maker, who claimed him a few months ago, has brought some runners cranked and ready

**Fifth Race****1. Madame Barbarian****2. Chollima****3. Your Royal Coil**

**MADAME BARBARIAN** finished well to be a good 3rd vs. much more expensive at SA June 18. Not only did that come vs. tougher, it came on turf and after 3 months off. She gets a big drop, can benefit from that last run and today's surface switch. While she's run well on turf (2 wins) she's better on this ground (11 wins). **CHOLLIMA** continues her good form and comes into this having been claimed in her

last 3 starts. She was a game 2nd for \$12,500 at SA June 13, was claimed and gets a slight drop. She's worked well since and has run well here. **YOUR ROYAL COIL** was in over her head last time and is much better situated at this level. Three works since that last run bode well, particularly that sharp 4f move here last week.

### Sixth Race

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#### 1. American Bourbon

#### 2. Plum Sexy

#### 3. Cecile's Chapter

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**AMERICAN BOURBON** invades from GG sharp as a tack with a win, 2nd (by a nose) and a win, all on turf. She's been freshened a bit and must deal with new surroundings but she's been working splendidly since her last run May 28 and gets Prat. She has the speed to flee the far-outside post. **PLUM SEXY** has faced considerably tougher in all 7 starts vs. winners. She not was in too deep at SA May 30 when facing G2 foes, she was also making her first start on dirt. This is a much, much better situation for her both in terms of the footing and class level. **CECILE'S CHAPTER** invades from Kentucky off 2 smart races and appears a good fit. Trainer Maker, a fixture back East, has brought a number of runners to this meet and has been firing already so it looks like came with a bunch of horses ready to run.

### Seventh Race

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#### 1. Ginja

#### 2. Lucky Peridot

#### 3. Lady Mystify

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**GINJA** faces winners for the first time but usually once trainer Baffert gets his horses on the right track they tend to stay there. She's run well at this trip and has the speed and versatility to flee this outside post and get a good trip. **LUCKY PERIDOT** looked super blasting lesser at this trip at LRC July 3. That was her first start off the claim by Mulhall so it appears Mulhall may have bought at the right time. The trip suits her to a T (3 of her 4 wins have come at this trip). **LADY MYSTIFY** was monstrous romping over maidens by 18 lengths at SA Feb. 5. Trouble is, the Beyer didn't come back all that strong and she hasn't been seen since, and let's face it, you don't usually take a filly who's seemingly turning the corner and put her away for nearly 6 months without good reason. The good news is that big win came at this trip, she's worked strongly of late and top rider Prat stays with her. **DID I STUTTER** blossomed this winter/spring with 5 straight wins before being overmatched last time at PRX. She invades with good works, handles the trip and is reunited with McCarthy (they're 3 for 3 together).

### Eighth Race

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#### 1. Brittle and Yoo

#### 2. Starship Sky

#### 3. Navy Queen

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**BRITTLE AND YOO** finished 3rd just behind **STARSHIP SKY** when they met at SA June 18 but may be well situated to turn the tables. She has the tactical speed and versatility to get a good trip and that was her first run in 3 months so she may be fitter and tougher. Ellis also saw fit to claim her June 18, he has strong numbers off the claim and she worked big here July 19. As noted, **STARSHIP SKY** rallied to finish 2nd on SA turf June 18, finishing just a head of the top pick. That was her first start vs. winners and it appears she's getting things figured out. She isn't as tactical early as the top pick so she likely has to go get her. **NAVY QUEEN** has run just 2 smart races since last fall, but coincidentally those came the 2 times Pyfer did the steering. Pyfer stays and coming out of sprints where she showed speed likely translates to this filly being in the thick of it from the start. And while she's been sprinting of late her maiden win came at this distance.