

Date: August 26th, 2021

Track: Del Mar

By Brad Free

**BEST BET: Chasingserendipity (8th race)**

First Race

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1. Mitigation

2. Censorship

3. Desert Dawn

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**MITIGATION** can win SoCal's first dirt route of the season for maiden fillies, based on her promising fourth-place debut in a sprint. She raced midfield, made a little move on the turn, and went evenly. She ran like a filly that wants more distance. She gets it, stretching from five and one-half furlongs to a mile. Trainer John Shirreffs is 4-for-7 with second-start maiden stretch-outs on dirt (all ages) the past two years. **CENSORSHIP** could start favored after an improved runner-up finish in her second start. She finished more than five lengths clear of third, will enter with the field's top figure and a route pedigree. **DESERT DAWN** finished third in her debut, a long way behind **CENSORSHIP**, but **DAWN** is likely to improve second time out. **HAUTE LADY** is another second-time starter eligible to improve off her fourth-place debut.

Second Race

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1. Rosenquist

2. Tiz Tact Toe

3. Moore Street Wise

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**ROSENQUIST** makes his California debut in a modest maiden-50 turf route. He would have faced several of these on Aug. 8, but he was an also-eligible and did not start. The third-place finish by **ROSENQUIST** last out was solid. It was June in Kentucky, first for trainer Bill Morey following a \$47k purchase at a horses-of-racing-age sale. Now listed as a first-time gelding, proven at the nine-furlong distance, he can mow them down late. **TIZ TACT TOE** ran well in the aforementioned Aug. 8 race, runner-up behind the odds-on favorite while making his first start in three months. **TOE** could vie for favoritism based on that runner-up finish in which he defeated three others in this field. **MOORE STREET WISE** prepped finishing third in Northern California, and drops in for a tag for his second U.S. start. **ME B BUBBA T** is first-time tag.

Third Race

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1. Vander Kelen

2. Bibleman

3. Mr. Dougie Fresh

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**VANDER KELEN** returns from a long layoff with solid works and established form last year vs. rivals similar to these \$16k claiming sprinters. His trainer's comebackers are typically ready to fire. Mark Glatt is 6-for-12 since June with horses returning from layoffs of six months or more. **BIBLEMAN** was claimed from a last-place finish for \$32k last month, and drops in for half the price. His runner-up finish two back for \$25k would make him tough. **MR. DOUGIE FRESH** scratched from a tougher race Saturday to run here. His close third two back puts him in the hunt. **AWHITESPORTSCOAT** is a 10-for-40 pro up in class from a third-place finish for \$12.5k.

Fourth Race

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1. Law Abiding

2. Frost Alert

3. Con On the Run

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Maiden 2yos race five furlongs on turf, most are first-time starters. **LAW ABIDING** gets the call based on sharp works at San Luis Rey Downs, win-early pedigree, and a trainer who occasionally fires with this type. **'ABIDING** is by Jimmy Creed, whose juvenile debut progeny win at an above-average 15 percent rate. The colt posted sharp works at SLR for trainer Richard Baltas, who went 3-for-6 at DMR last summer with turf-sprint firsters. **FROST ALERT**, a \$270k juvenile purchase, debuts with okay works. Juvenile debut progeny by Frosted won 11 percent (12 percent is average); the colt is the first runner produced by a Chilean Group 1 winner by Scat Daddy. Turf influence on the dam's side. **CON ON THE RUN** blazed a half-mile from the gate two weeks ago in a bullet :46.60. Seems he has speed, although debut 2yos by his sire won just 8 percent. **ANMER HALL** merits respect based on his productive trainer-jockey combo.

Fifth Race

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1. Tribal War Chant

2. Paint Me Lucky

3. Catbernay

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**TRIBAL WAR CHANT** drops to \$25k claiming N2L after a creditable third in a starter allowance that was his first in nine months. He should make a forward move second start back. **PAINT ME LUCKY** overcame an eventful trip to win a maiden-20 route more impressively than the margin or figure. Expected to set the pace, he did make the lead and was wrangled back, raced behind runners, rallied wide, opened up and won by more than a length. The overdue maiden win stamps the 6yo a contender vs. winners while shortening back to seven furlongs. **CATBERNAY** is speed. He improved first off the claim, setting the pace to deep stretch in a claiming race for 3yos at six furlongs. He stretches to seven furlongs while facing older, and is dangerous on the front end. **BLACK BELT** flashed brief speed and faded against better in his first over the track. Class drop second start on the surface could generate improvement.

Sixth Race

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1. Bulletproof One

2. Hear My Prayer

3. Candura

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After a promising third-place stakes comeback, **BULLETPROOF ONE** gets top billing dropping to allowance. She ran super in her return. She dueled, shook clear in the stretch, then got collared in a race dominated by closers. The 1-2-4-5 finishers rallied from 4-9-8-10. The challenge for **BULLETPROOF**

ONE is pace. She faces pace rival **HEAR MY PRAYER** and speedster RAKASSAH. With a race under her belt however, and outside post, BULLETPROOF ONE gets the call. HEAR MY PRAYER makes her local debut with an impressive record in turf sprints. She is 4-for-4 sprinting on "firm" and runs well fresh. Fast works, fast style, she has shown versatility rallying from behind. Based on her works for new trainer Vladimir Cerin, 'PRAYER looks "live" first since February. **CANDURA** was only prepping in a turf route last month, it was her first in nearly three months. Proven over the DMR course (debut win), she will rally late in a race that might unfold at a quick tempo. RAYMUNDOS SECRET routes like a mare that might like this shorter one-turn trip.

#### Seventh Race

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**1. Wilson Monk****2. Fly the Sky****3. Atomic Drop**

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Massive-sized, lightly raced 5yo **WILSON MONK** may relish two turns in this Cal-bred N1X as he stretches out from two sprints. He overcame the rail to win his debut, and finished a creditable third next out. Freshened five months, working regularly, speed for a forwardly placed trip and pedigree to route, he should fire first start back. **FLY THE SKY** scored a highly rated win in a Cal-bred turf sprint last out; he also has run well on dirt and around two turns. He has a current-condition edge over the top choice; each start this year has been better than the start before. **ATOMIC DROP**, stablemate of the top choice, looks like the speed. Not sure how far he will to run, but this is an easier spot than the stakes race he ran in last out. He dueled to the furlong pole and tired to fourth. Not bad, actually. If he reproduces his maiden sprint win two back, he could steal it. BETITO is back with state-breds after he was overmatched in a pair of open-company N1Xs. The only starter in for the optional \$20k tag, BETITO won this condition in June.

#### Eighth Race

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**1. Chasingserendipity****2. Majestic Steps****3. Lady Emily**

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**CHASINGSERENDIPITY** is the most probable winner on the card. She ran well in her local debut, third with trouble for a \$40k tag and claimed by Victor Garcia. 'SERENDIPITY got stalled behind runners on the far turn, blocked from the five-sixteenths to the furlong pole, rallied inside to make the lead between calls in deep stretch, but got collared by closers. Solid effort in defeat, 'SERENDIPITY moves up a notch to \$50k claiming as legit chalk. **MAJESTIC STEPS** has been banging heads with tougher, including graded stakes and/or allowance-caliber rivals. She drops to the lowest level of her career, gets the meet's leading rider and should be competitive at this level. Her figures will make her one of the favorites. **LADY EMILY** drops in for a tag for the first time. Two starts in spring at Gulfstream Park were creditable, but she did not show much run in her local debut vs. N1X foes. However, speed dominated the race, while closers made no impact. Class drop, rider change, pace to run at, contender.