

**Date:** August 28th, 2022

**Track:** Del Mar

**By Brad Free**

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

**First Race**

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**1. Warren's Paradise**

**2. Loyal to a Fault**

**3. Grazed My Heart**

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**WARREN'S PARADICE** improved a ton second out and is the logical choice to win this Cal-bred maiden turf mile. Despite heavy traffic turning for home, she rallied to finish third by less than two lengths. She gets a rider switch to meet leader Juan Hernandez, and can win with a clean trip. **LOYAL TO A FAULT** finished a half-length in front of the top choice last out, runner-up with a pressing trip in her first try around two turns. The effort by 'FAULT' was a marked improvement over her earlier starts, although it is uncertain if she really wants to run two turns. Second preference nonetheless against a modest field. **GRAZED MY HEART** looms an upset candidate, wheeling back nine days after a runner-up sprint from which she was claimed for \$50k. She switches to turf, which she is bred to relish. She is by Grazen, and produced by a Scat Daddy mare whose first runner is turf specialist Dendera.

**Second Race**

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**1. Stay Happy**

**2. Bear Chum**

**3. Cajun Brother**

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**STAY HAPPY**, a 7-for-17 pro, can win this \$10k claiming sprint. He cruised by more than two lengths the last time he ran at this level in May at Santa Anita, then regressed two starts after. Claimed last out, he posted three sharp recent works and figures for an up-front trip in a sprint light on speed. Long gone. **BEAR CHUM**, a 12-win veteran, drops from a fourth for \$16k claiming. The 9yo gelding would prefer a field with more pace to flatter his late rally, but his recent races against better put him in the hunt. **CAJUN BROTHER** shows up at the bottom for his first start since January. He won a stake and was stakes-placed early in his career, and returns for the low tag. Uncertain where he actually fits these days. **STORMSIDE** should be forwardly placed in a sprint that could unfold at a tepid pace.

**Third Race**

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**1. Grazen Touch**

**2. Adam's Creed**

**3. Scary Fast Ride**

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**GRAZEN TOUCH** is racing into condition, and ready to win this Cal-bred maiden turf sprint third start back from a layoff. Fifth in her comeback, she improved last out with a runner-up finish after waiting for room through the turn. She angled outside, and finished well. With a clean run, she should be tough from just off the pace. First-time starter **ADAM'S CREED** debuts with a series of sharp works that suggest she is live first out. Her dam won first out, and produced a debut winner. Jimmy Creed progeny win at more than 16 percent first out. Although maidens from this stable typically race into shape rather than fire first out, 'CREED could be an exception. First-time starter **SCARY FAST RIDE** also has posted fast works, while comeback distance filly LA DEUXIEME ETOILE may be prepping for long, but she will rally late.

**Fourth Race**

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**1. American Cat**

**2. L'Enfant Dit**

**3. Leyas Candy**

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**AMERICAN CAT** ran well in his fourth-place debut, a race that sets him up for a second-start maiden win. 'CAT pressed odds-on favorite Thorne House (his stablemate) to near the furlong pole before he tired. Solid effort against a formidable rival. Now 'CAT shortens from six furlongs to five and a half, has a race under his belt, and can be long gone on the front end. **L'ENFANT DIT** makes his career debut with decent works including a team gate drill Aug. 22 with G3 winner Newgrange (viewed online). 'DIT is by win-early sire Straight Fire; his dam Silver Swallow placed in multiple graded stakes and produced four multiple winners including a debut winner, debut runner-up, and debut third-by-a-head. This point is, 3yo L'ENFANT DIT is bred to win early. **LEYAS CANDY** gets a beneficial outside post after a troubled runner-up finish from post 2. She steadied and was shuffled early, then ran well to finish more than three lengths in front of the top choice. Blinkers on LEYAS CANDY. First-time starter MARS ON FIRE appears to have trained well at Los Alamitos.

**Fifth Race**

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**1. Deise Delight**

**2. R Girl's Werth It**

**3. Va Va Voom**

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Plenty of pace in this turf sprint to set it up for the versatile mare **DEISE DELIGHT**, who typically runs well with a pressing/stalking trip she figures to get here. Runner-up last out at a mile, she ran well at this five-furlong turf trip here last summer and is making just her third

start following a layoff. Logical choice from off the pace. **R GIRL'S WERTH IT** is comeback speed, drawn inside where she has no option except bust to the lead and try to run them into the ground. She was quick early this year in Florida. **VA VA VOOM** missed by a head last out in a Cal-bred allowance comeback, similar to the starter allowance foes she meets here. The consistent mare is always close, but rarely wins (1 win, 6 seconds from 16 starts). Front-runners **CAL**, **SWEET CALIFORNIA** and **TWENTYSEVENTROUTS** insure legit fractions.

#### Sixth Race

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**1. Lovesick Blues****2. Continental Divide****3. Nolongerahobby**

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Two turns might be farther than preferred for **LOVESICK BLUES**, but the gelding fired all three starts this year and stretches out in the best form of his career. Decisive winner last out in a Cal-bred turf sprint, he retains Cal-bred eligibility switching to dirt. He has run well on dirt; the challenge is distance. His only previous two-turn try was a third-place finish after setting the pace. He is better now than he was then. **CONTINENTAL DIVIDE** is likely to vie for favoritism after a runner-up finish one month ago in a similar Cal-bred allowance/optional claiming route. He did lose ground racing wide, but the track was biased to the outside lanes on July 30. 'DIVIDE is in form, and will be chugging away late. **NOLONGERAHOBBY** won a Cal-bred allowance three weeks ago and now moves to dirt at the same level. He handles all surfaces and figures to be forwardly placed. **DOC ADAMS** will rally late.

#### Seventh Race

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**1. Big Summer****2. Current Mood****3. Opening Buzz**

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First start since November, **BIG SUMMER** is working like a filly who will fire first start back in this Cal-bred N1X turf sprint. She ran well fresh on the DMR turf course last summer; she figures for a ground-saving trip tucked just off the speed. **CURRENT MOOD** shortens from a mile race in which she came up empty in the stretch. Her first three starts were sprints, she ran well all three. A late-runner in a sprint, 'MOOD will be running late. **OPENING BUZZ** is fast. She crushed maidens first out, then set a fast pace and faded against Cal-bred stakes fillies last out. She drops to allowance, and might be the quickest of the quick. This is her first start on turf, same as front-running comebacker **O'NEILL'S LEGACY**.

#### Eighth Race

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**1. Slammed****2. Edgeway****3. Dance to the Music**

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Based on her highly rated Del Mar allowance win, **SLAMMED** can upset **EDGEWAY** in this sprint stake. **SLAMMED** won 7 of 9 in the Southwest including five stakes before arriving in California. In her first DMR start, she crushed a good field with a display of speed while earning the highest figure of the summer meet by a filly or mare, a 98 Beyer that is higher than the top career figure of her main rival. Two solid works since suggest **SLAMMED** maintains form; she can wire the field again. **EDGEWAY** is the class of the field. She won this race last year, finished second in the Breeders' Cup F&M Sprint, and has worked well for her first start since misfiring this spring in Kentucky. Good showdown between two top sprinters. The upset candidate is **DANCE TO THE MUSIC**, who got banged around at the break last out and finished far back. 'MUSIC is better than that race. **PRIVATE MISSION** is a graded winner whose best races have been around two turns.

#### Ninth Race

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**1. Feathers****2. Above All Names****3. Floral Essence**

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Third start following a layoff, **FEATHERS** drops to \$25k claiming and switches to the meet's leading rider. The last time **FEATHERS** ran for a tag, she scored an upset last summer over this turf course. **ABOVE ALL NAMES** made the lead too soon and got run over in deep stretch to finish third at this level last out. She will be rolling late, while **FLORAL ESSENCE** will be rolling early. First start in more than three months, 'ESSENCE should be among the early leaders. **BESTRELLA** won last time out at this level, but that was three months ago. Contender nonetheless.