Date: July 19th, 2025   **Track:** Del Mar

By Brad Free

BEST BET: Thought Process (9th race)

First Race

1. Mohaven	2. Lady K Westfall	3. Coyote Cafe

Cal-bred 2yo maiden fillies sprint five furlongs; first-timer **MOHAVEN** has shown speed in workouts and is bred to win early. Progeny of first-crop sire Yaupon are off to a hot start this season: 5-for-15 first out according to Formulator. Come catch her. **LADY K WESTFALL** makes her debut for a productive trainer-jockey combo with works that suggest she also has speed. **COYOTE CAFE** is a Grazen filly whose full sister Ellen Jorth won her career debut early this year. WHAT'S A GOOD NAME split the field in her debut vs. open company at Churchill Downs, a race that produced at least two next-out winners. 'NAME adds blinkers and drops in class to face state-breds. Improvement likely second time out. She is trained by Peter Miller, who also entered first-time starter VIOLETS SONG.

Second Race

1. Twilight Empire	2. Unwritten Code	3. Isabel Ludlow

TWILIGHT EMPIRE returns to the $10k claiming level she won at two starts back at Santa Anita. She subsequently ran okay to split the field in a Cal-bred allowance, and now is back at her proper level A six-time winner, 'EMPIRE can reel in class-drop front-runner **UNWRITTEN CODE**, who nosedives from $32k claiming. The steep drop is reason to be skeptical, but 'CODE is quick enough to make the lead from the rail. She could be long gone on the drop. **ISABEL LUDLOW** has the highest last-start figure, a 65 Beyer she earned finishing second for a $20k claim tag at Los Alamitos. 'LUDLOW won her only previous Del Mar start last fall, and will be rolling from behind. PUTT FOR DOUGH, third last out for $8k claiming, goes first off the claim for a stable expected to fire often this summer.

Third Race

1. Arrakis	2. Reno	3. Burning Rubber

A promising comeback by **ARRAKIS** in his first start since being gelded stamps him tepid choice in this maiden turf sprint. Only four runners contested the race he exits, but the second- and fourth-place finishers both returned to win. ARRAKIS has speed for an up-front/pressing trip and looks best of a modest lot. **RENO** looms the upsetter. He reportedly trained exceptionally well into his debut last month on dirt at SA, but chased and cracked while racing wide. It was a forgettable debut, but he posted two decent drills since then and may improve switching to turf. His dam produced turf stakes winners Cariba and Cairo Memories, so the surface change makes sense. **BURNING RUBBER** ran the race of his career last out, runner-up in a maiden-50 turf sprint. He should be forwardly placed. Firster SEPTEMBERSIXTYFOUR appears to have worked well. A gelding by Omaha Beach, 'SIXTYFOUR is a sibling to a debut winner.

Fourth Race

1. Sagunto	2. Southern Melodee	3. Sammy Davis

Cal-bred 2yo maidens race five furlongs; the speed **SAGUNTO** showed in his July 7 gate work suggests he can come out firing. Juvenile progeny by Nyquist have won at an above-average 18-pecent clip. **SOUTHERN MELODEE** is probably better than his fourth-place debut when he did not break well and merely split the field. But he came back to work well including a gate drill June 25 in which he broke alertly (work viewed online). Firster **SAMMY DAVIS** showed speed in his recent gate drill. His dam won her career debut, and produced Cali Cat, a contender Friday in the Oceanside Stakes. BENNY AND THE JET is a Clubhouse Ride colt whose dam has produced three winners: one won first out, two won second out. The workouts by 'JET are faster than most Craig Lewis trainees. 'JET might be a good one. This race is a split of race 8.

Fifth Race

1. Tight Squeeze	2. Madonna of Loreto	3. Comeback Girl

The only two-time winner in the field, **TIGHT SQUEEZE** moves up in class to face open company after a decisive win vs. Cal-bred allowance fillies. 'SQUEEZE saved ground, angled out and powered home in visually impressive style. No reason she will not handle this tougher group. **MADONNA OF LORETO** wired maidens two months ago, appears to have trained well since, and last summer she ran well over the DMR turf course finishing a respectable third. The lightly raced filly was produced by a Chilean Group 1 winner and has

room to improve. **COMEBACK GIRL** might not get the same easy trip as last out when she wired maidens at 12-1, but maybe she does not require the lead. This is just her third start; she is well-bred. PROUD STARLET is speed, second start back from a layoff after a solid third in her comeback. She may benefit by the distance cutback from six furlongs to five.

Sixth Race

1. Cherry Cider	2. Super Corredora	3. La Wally

Fast-working debut 2yo fillies **CHERRY CIDER** and **SUPER CORREDORA** top this five-furlong maiden dash. 'CIDER sizzled a half-mile from the gate last weekend at SA and figures to come out running for win-early trainer Bob Baffert. Juvenile progeny of Tiz the Law have won 17 percent first time out. SUPER CORREDORA has shown above-average ability in morning works for trainer John Sadler. She is by Gun Runner, whose 2yo debut progeny have won at a 19 percent clip. The only runner produced by the dam of 'CORREDORA won her debut as a 2yo. **LA WALLY** is a well-regarded filly by Constitution who has been working well in company.

Seventh Race

1. Endlessly	2. Bran	3. Almendares

In a wide-open stakes at a mile on turf, **ENDLESSLY** gets the call despite the outside post in a field of 11. A multiple graded turf winner prior to splitting the field in the 2024 Kentucky Derby, ENDLESSLY is cycling back into form for his third start off a layoff. Third in a decent comeback at SA, he was compromised by circumstances (course condition, speed-friendly inner turf) finishing fifth last out in a G1 at Saratoga. He trained well since, drops into a restricted stakes, and he won twice at DMR as a 2yo. He has upside. If he gets pace to run at, he can tuck in from the outside post, and mow them down from off the pace. **BRAN** stretches out from two solid runner-up finishes in turf sprints at SA. BRAN can run long. He finished a close third in this race in 2022; and won an allowance route here last summer. BRAN has a pressing style, a cozy post near the inside, and figures for a pressing trip saving ground just off the speed. **ALMENDARES** will be rolling late; he missed by less than a length last out in a G1 at Santa Anita. AIR FORCE RED stretches back out as a potential pacesetter. His best routes are when he makes the lead. WATSONVILLE looms an upsetter. He was only prepping last out a sprint; two turns is his deal.

Eighth Race

1. No Joke Antares	2. Max Ciao	3. Thirsty Rebel

Cal-bred 2yo maidens go five furlongs in a split of race 4. The call to post a minor upset is **NO JOKE ANTARES**, whose third-place debut was better than it looks. He was not quick early, ate dirt saving ground, finished well and galloped out in front. If he can produce just a bit more speed, he can pop at a generous price. **MAX CIAO** also ran well in his debut. He broke slowly, hit traffic and steadied slightly and was shuffled into the turn, then finished evenly. Blinkers go on; he should move up with a race under his belt. **THIRSTY REBEL** debuts with quick works. He showed speed in his June 29 gate drill (viewed online). FOREVER BEN finished an okay third in his debut; maidens from this stable generally improve second time out.

Ninth Race

1. Thought Process	2. Will Then	3. As Catch Can

THOUGHT PROCESS figures to win this G2 turf mile at a short price based on outstanding form last year as a 2yo and a smashing recent comeback she won by nearly six lengths. 'PROCESS is a graded winner who runs fast (1:33.35 comeback mile) and is versatile. She can set the pace or tuck into a pressing trip just off the speed. The 4-for-6 filly has trained exceptionally well since her comeback; favorites won this stakes race five of the last six seasons. 'PROCESS can add to the total. **WILL THEN** is a graded winner who has run well fresh and won on DMR turf. But this mile race is merely a prep for the G1 DMR Oaks next month at a mile and one-eighth. 'THEN does not "have to" win this comeback prep, she only needs to finish well to set her up for the Oaks. Jonathan Thomas trains WILL THEN and **AS CATCH CAN**, who cuts back to a suitable distance after finishing third at a mile and one-eighth. 'CAN is multiple stakes-placed with a nine-race foundation. Upset chance from the off the pace? JUNGLE PEACE, Phil D'Amato-trained stablemate of THOUGHT PROCESS, is speed. 'PEACE shortens to a mile after setting the pace and finishing a close third in the mile and one-eighth race that AS CATCH CAN finished fourth in. JUNGLE PEACE is the likely pacesetter, but she must cope with comeback front-runner SILENT LAW.

Tenth Race

1. Concord Bridge	2. Tiz Secure	3. Indispensable

Three in a row for **CONCORD BRIDGE**? He crushed maidens and starter allowance rivals both recent starts at SA, earning speed figures high enough to handle this N1X dirt route. He has tactical speed, which is usually the winning style in DMR dirt routes. **TIZ SECURE**, gelded since raced, is a lightly raced 3yo facing older for the first time. The Kentucky race in which he finished third last out produced

three next-out winners; the race winner Goal Oriented subsequently finished fourth in the Preakness and is a contender Saturday in the G1 Haskell. **INDISPENSABLE** is better than his comeback suggests; the race was won in a romp by his stablemate Pony Express., INDISPENSABLE was very good over the DMR track last summer, and can improve second start back.

Eleventh Race

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1. She's a Joker   **2. Quick Brown Fox**   **3. Roselee May**

SHE'S A JOKER likes the DMR turf (one win, two seconds), she enters in peak form following a fast runner-up finish in a starter allowance, and she has tactical speed for a pressing trip in a N1X turf mile that does not have much pace. **QUICK BROWN FOX** stretches out from a respectable third-place sprint. Not sure how far she wants to run, but the well-bred filly (by Justify, from G1 winner Bast), is lightly raced with room to improve in just her fifth start. She figures to be forwardly placed on the stretch-out. **ROSELEE MAY** was unrelaxed last out racing a mile and one-eighth; she set the pace while keen and then tired late. She still ran well, missing by a less than a length, and has not run a bad race since switching to two turns on turf. Also-eligible LAUDATORY benefitted by the fast pace when she flew late for second in a promising comeback. The fractions look softer here, however.