Date: November 15th, 2026 **Track:** Del Mar

By Kenny Peck

BEST BET: Nomorebuttafingers (1st race)

First Race

1. Nomorebuttafingers	2. Boss Man Bolt	3. Iron Sand

Thought **NOMOREBUTTAFINGERS** was very game in defeat in that debut run at Santa Anita at this same distance, when he put away **BOSS MAN BOLT** and then weakened only in the late stages; he'll have to deal with that same rival in the early stages once again but given expected improvement in his second career start he should be able to stave off the closers. BOSS MAN BOLT is the main danger, both in terms of winning the race but also where pace pressure is concerned; doesn't necessarily need the lead, and he could rate off the top pick this time and make one run. **IRON SAND** was behind the top pick in his bow but he is another who stands to benefit from that experience, and can improve in his second career start.

Second Race

1. Miss Mo Brown	2. Ms Grainger Danger	3. Big Blast

MISS MO BROWN has improved with each start, culminating with that maiden score in her latest when she took full advantage of ideal position behind a quick pace and drive clear in the late stages; clearly dangerous in her first start vs. winners with a similar set up and trip. **MS GRAINGER DANGER** was a game winner against maidens when last on the turf; stakes try sprinting on the dirt is easily forgiven and she can rebound today if she can shake loose in the opening stages. **BIG BLAST** beat the top pick two back to graduate from the maiden ranks and she returned to run a surprising third against stakes company in her latest, with a big step forward Beyer-wise; that maiden figure may be a bit light, as both she and MISS MO BROWN (and several others in that field) moved way up in their returns, and she's an obvious threat today off that last figure and running line, though it could also mean a relatively short price.

Third Race

1. Melba Montgomery	2. Dancing With Shari	3. Godbless Her

MELBA MONTGOMERY was second in each of her last two starts, and that clearly makes her a threat back at this same level, but the fact that she was off the pace and against speed-favoring race flows in both of those starts adds to the appeal; eligible to make the last run given any kind of help from the pacesetters. **DANCING WITH SHARI** has steady Beyers and she ran well enough the last time she returned from a layoff; has the speed to stay close, and that should mean she's able to get early position. **GODBLESS HER** is an upgrade candidate after pushing the early pace against a closer-friendly race flow in her latest; drop in price adds to the appeal.

Fourth Race

1. Medjugorje	2. Christel Clean	3. Shared Future

MEDJUGORJE adds blinkers after racing off the pace in her last few races, which didn't feature all that much early zip; stands to improve if the race flow is in her favor this time around, and the Beyers she posted three and four back could well be good enough to win this. **CHRISTEL CLEAN** merits a long look on the strength of that win two back, when she was able to shake loose and control the issue from the start, posting what was easily the best Beyer of her career; not likely to run back to that figure without another loose lead but if she can get clear she could be tough to run down once again. **SHARED FUTURE** has back figures good enough to make her a serious threat in her first start off the claim; she's hit the board in five straight races and she's shown some tactical speed as well as a decent closing kick.

Fifth Race

1. Suomenlinna	2. Ubi	3. Vintage Queen

Willing to take a shot with **SUOMENLINNA** in her U. S. debut for trainer Phil D'Amato, who has decent stats with such runners, as well as with runners stretching out from sprints to routes; could prove to be the one to catch from her inside post. **UBI** comes out of sprints as well and she is another who stands to benefit from a forward trip; obvious threat after running 2nd in each of her first two starts, both sprints. **VINTAGE QUEEN** was shelved after the August debut but she's been training forwardly for this return, and the figure she posted in that race gives her strong credibility.

Sixth Race

1. Berry Valley	2. Scary Fast Ride	3. Sacred Sound

BERRY VALLEY will be looking to win this from off the pace and she should get that opportunity to make a strong impact in the lane given the presence of several speeds to her inside, as the pace could be quick and contested; she closed with some interest when last seen and now gets more ground, which could work to her advantage. **SCARY FAST RIDE** disappointed as the 6/5 favorite in her latest and the resulting Beyer was a disappointment, but she has lots of room to improve in her first start off the Ron Ellis claim; she's another who figures to benefit from a lively pace up front. **SACRED SOUND** has won two straight,on dirt and on turf, and that maiden score on the main track two back was sharp; she'll face pressure on the lead once again but may be good enough to shake it off and win another in her current form.

Seventh Race

1. Twirling Point	2. First Peace	3. Scipio

TWIRLING POINT regressed just a bit in the Lure Stakes but that can be attributed to the poor race flow, as that was a race devoid of pace and he was just off the pace in that short field; given a better pace scenario he can be expected to revert to his better figures, and this move into an optional claimer is another plus. **FIRST PEACE** is another dropping back into an optional claimer and his back figures make him a clear threat; he didn't run badly in the Grade 2 Eddie D Stakes but he certainly

figures to rebound here given the class drop and the added ground. **SCIPIO** was off slowly in that last one, and the dull effort at Kentucky Downs can easily be forgiven due to that course's unique challenges; back at a flat mile, which could be his best game.

Eighth Race

1. Sip It	2. Domus	3. Kivo

SIP IT tries dirt for the first time in this Bob Hope Stakes but his dam was at her best on the main track, as were her other offspring, and trainer Doug O'Neill wins at a solid 18% with horses moving from turf to dirt; he showed a strong late run in that maiden score, and if that form translates to this surface he may be able to run them all down late, with a little assist from the pacesetters. **DOMUS** and **KIVO** are a potent pair for trainer Bob Baffert; the former is the one to beat, exiting a pair of Grade 1 races where he flashed good early foot, while the latter comes off a maiden win where he posted a Beyer (73) that makes him a clear threat in his first start against winners.

Ninth Race

1. Knowhere	2. Oracle of Paradise	3. No Poking Around

KNOWHERE has some of the better recent turf Beyers in this field, and though he has proven early zip he also showed two back that he can rate and make a run if need be; that could prove important, with the presence of LET SEAMUS GO to his inside, and he could be the one to get first run on that expected pacesetter. **ORACLE OF PARADISE** was well off the early pace in his latest but that was a race featuring a fair amount of speed; likely to be closer to the early pace in this one, which is light on early zip. **NO POKING AROUND** fits well enough based on his best figures and should be forwardly placed from the outset, which figures to be an edge given the expected pace scenario.