

DEL MAR FEATURED RACE OF THE DAY

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Date: 7/29/22

Race 6: \$100K Daisycutter Handicap for fillies & mares going 5-furlongs on the turf

Post: approx. post 6:27 p.m. PDT

OVERVIEW

It's the first late 4 o'clock post of the meet, so pace yourselves! Today's contest race goes off at 6:27 p.m., and it's the always interesting \$100K Daisycutter Handicap for fillies and mares going 5-furlongs on the turf with the rails at 24-feet.

#1 ROYAL ADDRESS (IRE) (3/1) is a decent horse who has picked up some minor awards in graded-stakes races, so this is a good spot for her—but she did just lose to Leggs Galore, and it seems like her best work in the States has come in slightly longer sprints. That said, she did win at today's short distance overseas, so it's not like she can't handle it—but will she be good enough to beat the top few in here? At least she's drawn well, and she should get a good stalking trip from the inside. GRADE: B.

#2 XMAS SURPRISE (15/1) just lost to a few of these back in May. She's now coming off a freshening while shortening up a smidge, which I don't think will help her cause. She will need a career best. GRADE: X.

#3 SADIE BLUEGRASS (15/1) is a 5-furlong specialist who has run some really nice races up north, showing versatility while doing it. You have to admire her consistency and willingness to win, but this is a tough spot for her as she makes her Del Mar debut against better animals. GRADE: X.

#4 SHE'S SO NICE (IRE) (8/1), the first D'Amato entrant, will be overshadowed by her more accomplished stablemate, but this gal is not in without a shot, as she comes off a May freshening after beating N2X foes fairly easily going 6-furlongs. She is tactical, so I can see her stalking the pace in here, and I actually think today's shorter distance will be just fine for her. She'll need a career best, however. GRADE: B.

#5 LEGGS GALORE (8/5) is the one to beat, a veritable win-machine whose only bad race came outside of California. She'll be fit off the cutback from a mile, and she has done fine work at this distance and over this course. There's no way she'll be 8/5, but if she is, that's great value. GRADE: A.

#6 HAVANA LOVE (IRE) (12/1) will add blinkers, looking to show more punch late in the lane after a couple of okay placings against N2X foes. She's So Nice has her on form, and I'm having a hard time seeing this gal beat the best in here. Note that Hernandez ends up on the invader. GRADE: X.

#7 TWILIGHT GLEAMING (IRE) (9/5) is a well-traveled 3-year-old filly who has danced quite a few big dances and has looked good while doing it. But she is a 3-year-old facing elders for the first time, so we'll see how she does against older foes. I can't knock a gal who has beaten the boys a few times, including a win in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf Sprint (G2), and who has won overseas against some quality runners, but she'll have to show she's matured enough to beat more mature animals. Also note

that she's giving weight to some older runners in here, and that's a tough thing to do for a sophomore.
GRADE: B.

CONCLUSION

#5 LEGGS GALORE is definitely the one to beat, but I can't see her being any value unless the Ward filly, TWILIGHT GLEAMING (IRE), gets bet off the board (which is possible). If that's the case, then maybe LEGGS GALORE will be worth a contest play, but I somehow doubt it. If you want an alternative, I suppose #1 ROYAL ADDRESS (IRE) could be considered, but 3/1 seems really short on her with the top two looking like a clear cut above what this gal is capable of—but if you get 5/1 or more...then maybe! #4 SHE'S SO NICE might be worth looking at as the "other" D'Amato in case the top two hook up and duel each other into submission.

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