DEL MAR FEATURED RACE OF THE DAY
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Date: 9/4/22
Race 11: $40K optional-claiming/N1X for fillies & mares going 8-furlongs on the turf
Post: approx. post 6:10 p.m. PDT

<u>OVERVIEW</u>
We've got a tough contest race today in the nightcap of this 11-race card: a $40K optional-claiming/N1X for fillies and mares going one mile on the lawn. But first: reminder that the "Best Bet" livestream will air at 11:00 a.m. on Del Mar's social media channels, and this week's guest will be my long-time friend James Leal, a real sharpie. Then at 12:00 p.m. outside the Hacienda Room, my Sunday Handicapping Seminar features Brandi Goode, a former exercise rider (Sweet Catomine, Yankee Gentleman) who also knows how to handicap a race! Come join us.

#1 AAS DE FAUST (GB) (30/1) had all manner of trouble last time when coming off a freshening and finishing seventh at this level and distance when sent off at 72/1. She now gets a jock upgrade and makes the second start of her form cycle, so she figures to run better, but she lacks early speed, and her jock doesn't like being stuck down at the rail, so the ride might not be optimal. GRADE: X.

#2 BICAMERAL (8/1), the first Papaprodromou entrant, was well-beaten at this level last time while racing on dirt. In fact, all of this 3-year-old's races have come on dirt, but now she will try turf for the first time, since her dirt races aren't fast enough to win at this level. I'm not seeing much here, but her trainer has been on fire this meet, and the best turf jock in the colony bothers to ride, so that must count for something. GRADE: C.

#3 BUZZ OF NEW YORK (IRE) (4/1) is your lukewarm morning-line favorite, but I can see her going off a little shorter, since she was 5/2 at this level last time and she came on with a decent late run to finish third. She figures to move forward second off the bench, but it's possible that this grinder will run out of room in this mile race. Still, leave D'Amato off at your own peril. GRADE: A.

#4 MY KENTUCKY GIRL (5/1) will get slight wise-guy consideration in here, since I'm going to draw a line through her last race where she had an eventful journey and bled after attending the pace. Wong knows what he's doing, so the fact that this gal is right back in this race while drawing a better post makes me think she is going to run much better today—though she is a 3-year-old against older and there is other speed. GRADE: B.

#5 KLEEN KARMA (20/1) is a pretty cool 5-year-old mare who picks up plenty of checks, but her best work has come against cheaper animals, while her tries in the allowance ranks haven't been very good. GRADE: X.

#6 AGREETODISAGREE (15/1) was 14/1 at this level and distance last time, and she ran a decent fifth, coming from off the pace. She should be running on late again, but she's a former starter-allowance winner who will need to show she can beat open allowance company. GRADE: C.

#7 OVER ATTRACTED (30/1) makes the second start of her form cycle while stretching back out, and that's a good thing, since she does her best work around two turns. That said, her best work has also come against claimers, so she'll need to show she belongs against these. GRADE: X.

#8 LADY JAE (6/1) showed a very nice closing kick last time when beating $25K claimers. She got a great ground-saving trip by Berrios, who is having a terrific meet, and I'm sure he'll try to find the rail again today despite breaking from the 8-hole. This gal faces a class test, but if she runs the same race as last time, she's a contender. GRADE: B.

#9 KARAKATSIE (5/1), the second Papaprodromou runner, makes her first start for that trainer after just running seventh at this level and distance last time at 4/1. These connections are more reliable, so it wouldn't shock me if this gal fired big today. GRADE: A.

#10 INVESTMENTSTRATEGY (GB) (12/1) was 6/1 at this level and distance last time, and she ran an even fifth. It wasn't a bad race, but I'm concerned that she couldn't win back East while trained by Chad Brown, so we'll see if O'Neill can get her to the winner's circle out here. She figures to improve, but she'll have to work out a trip from all the way out here. GRADE: C.

#11 GET ON THE BUS (6/1), the second O'Neill entrant, is another one who figures to improve, stretching out and making the second start of her form cycle. She has some decent races from her 3-year-old campaign to run back to, so there is still upside here. The concern is the post, but I think I'll get compensated in here with a great price. I wish she were drawn inside, since I really think she's sitting on a big one today. GRADE: A.

#12 ANNIE'S SON (IRE) (6/1) is a 3-year-old who has speed, so Baze will have to use that speed to angle over and get position, and I think that softens this one up late. That said, I like that Sadler took her for $75K two back and has now protected her twice. Still, she'll need to improve. GRADE: X.

#13 FEATHERS (IRE) (5/1) (AE) looked good last time when beating $25K claimers at nearly 4/1. I liked her that day, and I think that was the time to have her. She does love this course, but circumstances are different today. GRADE: X.

#14 MAGICAL PATH—program scratch.

CONCLUSION
This is a tough race. Throw a dart! Seriously, there are so many places to land, but I'm just going to plant a flag with a horse whom I think will be an overlay because of her brutal post: **#11 GET ON THE BUS (6/1)**. Good luck having the winner of this race!

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