DEL MAR FEATURED RACE OF THE DAY
By Frank R. Scatoni
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Date: 8/21/25
Race 6: Cal-bred $20K optional-claiming/N1X for fillies & mares going 5F on turf (rails: 30-ft.)
Post: approx. post 4:38 p.m. PDT

OVERVIEW

We are back at it for another fine week of racing here at Del Mar! We've got an eight-race Thursday card on tap, with today's online contest race taking place in Race 6: a Cal-bred optional-claiming/N1X for fillies and mares going 5-furlongs on the lawn with the rails at 30-feet. Note that it's the start of the low-takeout $3 Late Pick 3.

Before we dig in, here's your friendly reminder that Ciaran Thornton and I will be going live for a "Double Trouble Live" pop-up show at 4:45 p.m./PDT to talk about the $5 Late Double, which begins in Race 7. Please tune in: https://bit.ly/4fKh0WD.

#1 QUICK OMEN (15/1) outran her 38/1 odds last time at this level and distance when finishing fourth from this same rail draw. She can certainly spice up the superfecta yet again with a similar trip, but a win seems a bit of a stretch, considering a few who just beat her are right back on the beam. GRADE: X.

#2 PETIT FILET (6/1) should get the same exact inside stalking trip as she did last time when finishing second at 14/1 at this same level and distance. She lost to a pretty nice gal who came back to win her next start as well, so that race is probably better than her low Beyer Speed Figure (BSF) of 60 indicates. That said, she's winless on turf in five tries, so she'll need to come through with a breakout effort today. Note that Fresu hops on board, and the last time he rode this gal, they won (albeit in an age-restricted $32K claimer last June on the dirt at Santa Anita). GRADE: C.

#3 FREYA (5/2) was last seen breaking her maiden last November in start number two. She made the lead here at Del Mar, and she held on by a neck to win that 5-furlong turf sprint. It was a nice effort, but this gal hasn't been seen since, and now she has to come off a long layoff as a 3-year-old facing older runners (and winners!) for the first time. Sure, she can be competitive, but I'm not too interested in her at 5/2. She got away with slow splits that day, but she should face some heat today. (Though do note that the gal she beat later came back to finish second in a Grade 3 at 9-furlongs on turf a few starts later.) GRADE: C.

#4 DARLIN TAMI (12/1) had a rough start last time, and that took her out of her game, since she likes to be forwardly placed. Still, she tried hard despite that poor beginning, and even though she could only manage fifth, it was a useful race, and I'm sure she can do much better with a clean beginning today. Will it be enough? I prefer others slightly more, but it would not shock me if this gal won, and I would certainly use her in your exotics. GRADE: B.

#5 NO CAP (4/1) was 9/2 at this level and distance last time against a few of these, and she just ran evenly around the track while stalking wide the whole time. She can do much better today with a better trip under a better jock—and while making the second start of her form cycle—so I'm expecting her to be in the frame late. Note that she cleared this condition on dirt, so she's allowed to race back at this level here on turf. GRADE: A.

#6 GOODNIGHT NELLIE (6/1) was sent hard from the outside last time to challenge an open-length winner at this level and distance, finishing second and outrunning her 11/1 odds (and beating my "A" pick inside of her, No Cap). That was her first turf try, so she's eligible to improve with that experience run under her belt. Her speed will come in handy, but she still has a class question to answer, since Mathis was fine losing her to Periban for $25K two back. GRADE: B.

#7 PRESS YOUR LUCK (10/1) ran well against her own age group at Santa Anita, but she faced elders for the first time last time, and she ran half a race, finishing sixth at 8/1. O'Neill will try taking off the hood today after adding it last time for that poor effort. She's a bit of a grinder, so she'll need some help up front if she's going to get the W today. GRADE: X.

#8 MIRINDA (3/1) was 5/2 against a few of these last time, but she never had a chance after a rough beginning. No surprise that Gary Mandella opts for a jock change to Hernandez for today. This gal has good form against open foes, so this is some class relief for her, but it should be noted that she's a much better dirt horse than she is on turf. Still, she should get a great trip under J.J., making her the most logical winner on paper. GRADE: A.

#9 MAGICAL MISS (5/1) (AE) was 10/1 in her debut, but she sure didn't run like it. She looked very professional, stalking behind the speed and responding when asked to win going away against ten other maidens in that 5-furlong turf sprint. Baltas rarely has them fully cranked, so the fact that this gal won on debut makes me think that there is some quality here. That said, no one from that race has come back to run, so it's hard to know just how good or how bad that field was. GRADE: B.

#10 CORALGABLESKAYLIN (12/1) (AE) cuts back after a one-mile affair where she tried to wire $25K/N2L conditional-claimers, to no avail. Her 5-furlong turf sprint before that wasn't half-bad, running an even third against open $32K claimers at 31/1. There were some hard-knockers in that field, so I would upgrade that performance. That said, she got a perfect stalking trip, while today, she's likely looking at a very wide journey. GRADE: X.

#11 FANCY FACTS (7/2) (AE) made the lead and never looked back when she broke her maiden last time against seven other gals, including the odds-on favorite, in that 5-furlong turf affair. Because of that, she was a great price at 5/2, since she looked to be primed for a winning effort, making her second career start after a useful dirt debut back in June. She still has plenty of upside, but she now has to face winners for the first time, and she'll have to use a lot of her energy to angle over and be prominent from the bell. GRADE: C.

#12 ONLY REPUTATION (8/1) (AE) won at first-asking over this course and at this distance last summer, tracking the pace and powering home nicely to beat seven other maidens at 24/1. Something must have gone amiss in her second start when they tried stretching her out, because she ran half a race and disappeared from October until now. Clearly, she can fire fresh, and you have to like the fact that this 4-year-old can sit off the pace and pass horses, but the post is no picnic, and this is a pretty tough layoff to overcome. GRADE: X.

CONCLUSION
I don't love anyone in here, but I especially don't love the 5/2 morning-line favorite, so perhaps there will be some value with the two obvious ones who look decent to me: **#5 NO CAP (4/1)** and **#8 MIRINDA (3/1)**. If you want a price, **#4 DARLIN TAMI (12/1)** is surely better than her last race, and at least you know she'll be prominent from the bell, so long as she breaks alertly.

Be sure to check out the new "Double Trouble Live" show on **YouTube @DoubleTroubleLive:** http://bit.ly/4mqfQSz.

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