

DEL MAR FEATURED RACE OF THE DAY

By Frank R. Scatoni

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Date: 8/29/25

Race 7: \$100K allowance/optional-claimer for fillies & mares going 5F on turf (rails at 24-ft.)

Post: approx. post 6:01 p.m. PDT

OVERVIEW

It's Flagship Friday for "Double Trouble Live," as Ciaran and I go live to discuss today's online contest race, Race 7, which is the first leg of the \$5 Late Double. We've got an over-subscribed field of 10 horses going 5-furlongs on the lawn with the rails at 24-feet in this \$100K allowance/optional-claimer for fillies and mares. Note that it's a high-level allowance, so it's basically an N3X, but it's also for horses who have not won \$65K since April 29, 2025.

To watch the "Double Trouble Live" pregame show at 1:00 p.m./PDT, which covers the eight-race Friday card, click here:

https://www.youtube.com/live/3EIItKgOwcus?si=xoADi0TO4UIt_ne5.

To watch "Double Trouble Live" at 5:40 p.m./PDT, with live coverage of R7/R8, click here:

https://www.youtube.com/live/haGM3m4H_m4?si=XBg_YgldIWa8Cbwr.

#1 LOVIN' ON THE RUN (20/1) finished behind a few of these in the Daisycutter, so she'll need to do a lot better today. At least you know O'Neill, who took her for \$32K four back, thinks she still has some upside because he scratched her out of a \$50K claimer yesterday to run protected today. Still, she'll need a career-best. GRADE: X.

#2 IMABOUTAGO (IRE) (5/1) finished fourth behind a few of these in the Daisycutter, but she was sent off as the 2/1 favorite despite coming off a December layoff. She ran like a horse who needed one, so I'm expecting a big step forward today for a trainer who does well with these types. I also like the jock change to a much more aggressive rider. Also note that she sneaks into the race because of the "non-winners since [date]" condition. GRADE: A.

#3 HOME GAME (12/1) makes her first start for D'Amato after a mixed bag of races back East for William Morey. It's interesting that he promptly puts her on turf even though this 4-year-old has never run on the grass before. Her dirt races are perfectly fine, but they do look a bit slow.

She's also racing above condition, since she's eligible for an N2X. It's nice to see J.J. take the call, but I'm tempted to watch one. GRADE: X.

#4 VISUALLY (15/1) almost blew up the tote in the Daisycutter when she ran a good third at 64/1. She came on with a nice late run, but she ran out of room. That closing style makes things tricky for her in here, especially since she's in the four-hole, whereas last time, she broke from the rail and just hugged it all the way. This gal owes me nothing, since she helped me win a tournament when she upset the apple cart in the Senorita (G3) down the hill back in May 2024, at 17/1. And therein lies the rub: she needs a little more ground beyond 5-furlongs. That said, ignore this barn at your own peril. GRADE: B.

#5 THE WILD GRAZER (IRE) (8/1) brings some back-class to the proceedings, but she has been away from the races since May 2024, and that's a pretty long layoff to overcome. Mullins is average with these types of comebackers, so she's not without a shot, but you never know how a 5-year-old mare is going to come back after such a long break. She does have a win over this course and at this distance, so she knows what it takes to win here, but I'm okay watching one today. GRADE: X.

#6 UNCORKED (AUS) (4/1), the second D'Amato runner, is a graded-stakes winner who just lost a heartbreaker in the Daisycutter when missing by a nose for top honors. She was coming off a freshening, so you can expect her to move forward big-time today. That's the good news. The bad news is that there is no way she'll be 4/1 after that really good last race and all of her previous graded-stakes form. She's the most likely winner. GRADE: A.

#7 EGYPTIAN MAU (SAF) (15/1) is a 5-year-old mare who has spent most of her career in South Africa, where she won a Group 3 in a 7-furlong turf sprint back in 2023. She made her U.S. debut down the hill at Santa Anita back in January, and she ran a decent third, losing to a next-out winner. But then she disappeared, and that's not a good thing. I trust Drysdale to bring her back healthy and ready, but she was off the pace in a longer sprint last time, so how far back will she be with Mike Smith today? I'm fine watching one. GRADE: X.

#8 BARBARA T (9/2) finally gets to string together two races after a couple of fits and starts for this lightly raced 4-year-old. All of her wins have come on dirt, where she was forwardly placed before taking over and drawing off in sharp efforts. Toss her last race where she tried to keep up with arguably the best distaff sprinter on the West Coast, Sweet Azteca. I'm sure she got a lot out of that race, so I'm expecting a solid performance today, especially since she'll be prominent early with the addition of blinkers. The only concern is the surface; she's never raced on turf before. GRADE: B.

#9 MISS ROBERTS (GB) (7/2), the second Mullins runner, ran a corker last time when coming off a freshening to beat seven other N2X foes over this course and at this distance at 6/1. She got a great ride by Berrios, and that made the difference, as she edged out Nay V Belle. She was able to make an inside move that day, while today, that same move might not come as easy: she's

parked all the way out here, and she's facing some tougher horses. A repeat of that last race puts her in the frame—but can she repeat that race? Hmmm. GRADE: C.

#10 NAY V BELLE (5/1) (AE) lost a heartbreaker last time when she just missed at 13/1, finishing behind Miss Roberts (GB). Of course, she was my Spot Play for my “Frankly Speaking” column for In the Money Media, and that's how my meet has been going! She didn't get the best trip, and that was the difference. I'm not sure what kind of trip she'll get from out here, but she does have more speed than she showed last time. Still, this is a tougher group. GRADE: C.

CONCLUSION

#6 UNCORKED (AUS) (4/1) should be very tough in here, so the 4/1 price is just a pipe dream. She should be way shorter than that; if she's not, run away! She'll get a good tracking trip, while #2 IMABOUTAGO (IRE) (5/1) will be prominent early, giving her a big shot as well, second off the bench with a positive jock change. It really looks like a two-horse race to me.

Be sure to check out the new “Double Trouble Live” show on YouTube @DoubleTroubleLive: <http://bit.ly/4mqfQSz>.

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