DEL MAR FEATURED RACE OF THE DAY
By Frank R. Scatoni
X: Frank R. Scatoni (@ScatoniSureShot) / X
www.FrankScatoni.com
www.OptixEQ.com
YouTube @DoubleTroubleLive: http://bit.ly/4mqfQSz

Date: 11/29/25
Race 9: $300K Hollywood Derby (G1) for 3-year-olds going 9-furlongs on the lawn (rails at 12-ft.)
Approx. Post: 3:32 p.m. PST

OVERVIEW

We've got two contest races to tackle on this fine 11-race Saturday card with an early first post of 11:30 a.m./PST. We kick things off with the prestigious $300K Hollywood Derby (G1) a 9-furlong turf affair for 3-year-olds with the rails at 12-feet. It's nice to see a few East Coast invaders, making this a really neat race.

Note: we are not doing a "Double Trouble Live" show today, but please like and subscribe for all show notifications on our YouTube channel here.

***

#1 MAAZ (FR) (5/1) ran a good second to Test Score in the Twilight Derby (G2), finishing up nicely in his first graded-stakes try, but he was no match for that rival he's facing again today. He's in good hands with Michael McCarthy as a lightly raced 3-year-old, so it wouldn't shock me if he took a big step forward today, but he seems better suited for underneath. GRADE: C.

#2 FRIENDLY CONFINES (6/1) tried to wire restricted stakes foes last time in the one-mile Let It Ride, and he was run down late by one of today's foes. The added distance and tougher competition should make things very tough for this guy. GRADE: X.

#3 TEST SCORE (5/2) added blinkers last time and absolutely dominated the Twilight Derby (G2) as the 3/5 favorite. I see no reason why this Grade One winner won't be tough again right back. GRADE: A.

#4 SALAMIS (9/2) goes out for Chad Brown, who will finally try this guy at 9-furlongs after a few one-mile races where he showed some strong interest late. I think he'll be just fine with more added ground, and even though he couldn't beat Grade 3 foes last time, he ran better than his running line looks. GRADE: B.

#5 KOKOSAN (20/1) is still a maiden—but the bigger concern is that he had the lead last time going 8.5-furlongs yet got overtaken late. If he wins, I lose. GRADE: X.

#6 NOBLE CONFESSOR—program scratch.

#7 COPP (20/1), the second Michael McCarthy entrant, took a while to break his maiden, and then he faltered in his first try against winners, finishing fifth in an N1X. This seems like a very ambitious spot for a usually conservative trainer. GRADE: X.

#8 TEMPUS VOLAT (5/1) looked good winning the restricted Let It Ride last time going one mile. He stalked, pounced, and won with determination. His tactical speed means he's looking at a similar trip today, but will he have the same punch going an extra furlong? He should be in front at the sixteenth, but I do think someone runs him down late. GRADE: B.

#9 TOM'S MAGIC (7/2) is pretty versatile, and you have to like that his last win came going 12-furlongs, so stamina won't be an issue at all for a horse who is coming off a September freshening. He was no match for Test Score this spring, but he's improved a lot since then, so I'm expecting him to run a competitive race for a trainer who rarely ships to the West Coast. GRADE: B.

CONCLUSION
As we saw yesterday with Truly Quality in the Hollywood Turf Cup (G2), sometimes the best horse in the race does win—and that honor goes to **#3 TEST SCORE (5/2)**. If you don't fancy the favorite, I've listed several "B" horses who could offer value depending on how the board shakes out.

Be sure to check out the new "Double Trouble Live" show on **YouTube @DoubleTroubleLive:** htdtp://bit.ly/4mqfQSz. *If you'd like to learn more about* **OptixEQ**, *visit* www.optixeq.com. *Visit* www.frankscatoni.com *for more content.*

[SCROLL DOWN FOR RACE 11 ANALYSIS]

[SCROLL DOWN FOR RACE 11 ANALYSIS]

[SCROLL DOWN FOR RACE 11 ANALYSIS]

[SCROLL DOWN FOR RACE 11 ANALYSIS]

[SCROLL DOWN FOR RACE 11 ANALYSIS]

[SCROLL DOWN FOR RACE 11 ANALYSIS]

[SCROLL DOWN FOR RACE 11 ANALYSIS]

DEL MAR FEATURED RACE OF THE DAY
By Frank R. Scatoni
X: **Frank R. Scatoni (@ScatoniSureShot) / X**
www.FrankScatoni.com
www.OptixEQ.com
YouTube @DoubleTroubleLive: http://bit.ly/4mqfQSz

Date: 11/29/25
Race 11: $50K optional-claiming/N1X contested at 8-furlongs on the turf (rails at 12-feet)
Approx. Post: 4:32 p.m. PST

OVERVIEW
Today's second contest race is a very competitive $50K optional-claiming/N1X contested at one mile on the lawn with the rails at 12-feet. I think this one is going to come down to pace and trip because there are a lot of evenly matched horses in here with no real standouts.

Note: we are not doing a "Double Trouble Live" show today, but please like and subscribe for all show notifications on our YouTube channel here.

***
#1 DEL MAR JERRY—program scratch.

#2 UNCLE HAPPY (12/1) was claimed for $32K three back, so it's encouraging that Powell has been racing him above that level, but he couldn't beat $40K claimers last time, getting outfinished late; while two back, he was 5/1 at this level and distance and never threatened after an eventful early journey. I like that Powell keeps the faith, but this one's best chance is to go hard from the rail, and I'm expecting someone to overtake him late. GRADE: X.

#3 WE CAP (30/1) was 27/1 at this level last time, and he was never involved after being a brat off the long layoff. He's better than that last race, and he should move forward today second off the bench, but he's a Cal-bred who might find this level a bridge too far. GRADE: X.

#4 LYLE THE CROCODILE (IRE) (7/2) is a bit of a head case, but he's been very close on his best day, and that includes two very good races against stakes types. That said, Kimura will try his luck for the first time, so we'll see if he can get the most out of a horse who has been his own worst enemy. GRADE: B.

#5 TARIFF (9/2) was claimed for $40K two back out of a win, and I like that Mullins ran him right back for $100K, and he did not disgrace himself, finishing fourth at 6/1, but showing a very strong late run after a tardy beginning. Mullins must have been impressed because this 3-year-old is now protected. GRADE: A.

#6 FINAL EDITION (IRE) (12/1) put it all together last time to break his maiden with a strong late run from off the pace in an 8.5-furlong event as the 2/1 favorite. Can he find enough room late to get up in time again while going a shorter distance and facing winners for the first time? Note that win-rider Rispoli bails, and that concerns me. GRADE: C.

#7 ONE OF THESE DAYS (IRE) (8/1) was overmatched at this level last time, showing no punch when the real running started, despite saving ground. I'm surprised that J.J. keeps the faith on a horse whose best work was against weaker restricted starter foes. Maybe he thinks the cutback from 8.5-furlongs will help? I'm not seeing it, but J.J.'s loyalty should not be ignored. GRADE: C.

#8 BIG BET JAFINSAFA (30/1) is a Cal-bred who has a respectable late kick—but he's been way too far off the pace to have any impact at this open condition. I'm afraid a similar fate awaits. GRADE: X.

#9 MONGOLIAN APPLE (12/1) should be fit, cutting back from a 10-furlong affair where he showed the way and weakened late. He still held on for fourth, outrunning his 12/1 odds. He now cuts back and makes the second start of his form cycle, so a move forward is not out of the question—but his class is a big question. I don't like that he couldn't beat starter foes over the summer, and this is a much tougher group. GRADE: X.

#10 HURRICANE CLOUD (GB) (12/1) is a hard-knocker, but this 8-year-old couldn't beat $25K claimers two back under these same circumstances, so I can't really see him moving forward enough to beat this group today. GRADE: X.

#11 HIDING IN HONDURAS (5/1) outran his 21/1 odds last time in the restricted Let It Ride when he finished fourth after a tough start. That was just his second career race, so he figures to improve big-time today. Will it be enough? GRADE: B.

#12 HOTROCKET (IRE) (5/1) looks to be sitting on a peak effort, third off the bench for a trainer who often races them into shape. His race two back off a long layoff was a much better-than-looked fourth; while last time, he was likely just going through the motions in a 6-furlong turf sprint, using that race as a public workout. It's go-time today for a horse who can finish above par for this level. Of course, he'll need to work out the right trip. GRADE: A.

#13 EL REY REY—program scratch.

#14 DAKOTA COUNTRY (12/1) won two in a row, so he's in great form, but those races came against much weaker conditional-claimers. New trainer Steve Sherman shows confidence by protecting him after that recent $25K claim, but is this spot too ambitious? I prefer others. GRADE: X.

CONCLUSION
I like **#12 HOTROCKET (IRE) (5/1)** the best, but I would want at least 5/1 from this outside post, and I'm expecting him to take a decent amount of action. I also like **#5 TARIFF (9/2)**, but I'm not excited about his morning-line price either.

Be sure to check out the new "Double Trouble Live" show on **YouTube @DoubleTroubleLive:** htdtp://bit.ly/4mqfQSz. *If you'd like to learn more about* **OptixEQ**, *visit* www.optixeq.com. *Visit* www.frankscatoni.com *for more content.*