

Del Mar Bottom Line

By John Lies



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RACE ONE

#4 HALLJOY is cutting back in distance. She took a strong hold of the bit while under a hammerlock early in a turf marathon last out before she was crowded into the lane and gave way as the favorite. Her lone career win came here last summer going one mile.

#1 SWEET AS A ROSE lost the rider at the start of her last race. She was one of the favorites that day based on the strength of her most recent performance at the same level. She seems good enough to threaten this group, though the lack of pace is a concern.

#6 ODISSEIA could be the sleeper. She was claimed last out by an excellent trainer who switches to one of the top young jockeys in this colony. She fought against her rider last out but ran her best race in this country on the lead and may find herself in front early.

RACE TWO

#5 SCATASTIC could be the quickest of these early. That combined with his experience of four prior starts and a good third over this track may give him enough advantages to defeat this group today. The slightly shorter distance of today's race may also help him.

#6 CEE THE PREACHER was unprepared for the start of his career debut and failed to threaten after giving the field too much of a head start. Today he will race in blinkers for a trainer who wins more often with maidens that have raced before. He should improve.

#3 SMALL TOWN SHUFFLE raced once in June and missed a bit of time after that race judging by his workout pattern. His three most recent drills were compacted into a nine-day span and he completed a six-furlong workout here just four days ago.

RACE THREE

#6 GIMME DA LUTE will be heavily favored to win this stakes race for three year olds. He rides a three-race win streak into this event as a multiple graded stakes winner who romped in a race restricted to California-bred here last out. It is his race to lose.

#1 FAME AND POWER is capable of better than shown here last out when poorly piloted from an outside post at today's distance. Today he drew inside and switches to the leading rider. He is likely to bounce back today with a better and more speedy display.

#2 IRON FIST has shown progress this summer and fits well with these. He won his first two races around two turns before hitting the road and finishing fourth in a graded stakes race in West Virginia last out. His trainer is leading the current standings here.

RACE FOUR

#1 DR. PFEIFER could be dangerous today despite drawing the rail for his debut. His sire wins with a healthy share of juvenile first-time starters and his trainer can send one ready. His worktab has a couple gaps but this homebred could still be ready to roll.

#6 RECORD HIGHS hails from a productive family. This first-timer has six older siblings and all won including one stakes horse. His dam won many races and earned a hefty chunk of purse money. He capped off his series of drills with a bullet move.

#4 BUFF DUDE probably should not be ignored today. That is because the leading rider jumps up and takes the mount. He tried to rush up close early in his only start but was grabbed by the rider and backpedaled greenly before giving way. Tab for improvement.

RACE FIVE

#3 OIL has been second five times with only one win but may be too fast for these. His early quickness should be very effective over this abbreviated distance and he is bred top and bottom to excel at turf racing. None in this race seems able to match his early speed.

#4 LAW DOG has won four turf sprints at this distance in his career. That is a very important factor in a race like this. He has been freshened since April and is winless more than a year but may be able to turn that around coming off the bench for a hot barn.

#2 ODIN seems best on turf at this stage of his career and moves back to the grass this afternoon. His best races have come down a hillside turf course in the Los Angeles area though he has never tried this unique layout before. He ran very well two starts back.

RACE SIX

#6 BLUEGRASS SIGHT should be forgiven for his sixth-place finish last out in a tough race. He did not break well and advanced all the way to third before coming wide into the stretch and fading. The same top rider sticks with him and has won aboard him before.

#2 ONE MORE ROLL was a surprise victor here last month in a race at this same level. A repeat of that effort would probably make him a threat right back and he retains the same rider having a solid meet here this summer. He seems reliable for another good try.

#10 MYDANCINGSHADOW was sold for a song at the recent Paddock Sale at Del Mar for race-ready horses and returned quick dividends for his connections with a gate-to-wire win last out. He draws outside and again will be handled by the leading rider.

RACE SEVEN

#10 LITTLE BUT LUCKY has not raced at this low a level of competition until today. This will mark her first start since May and she returns to the main track while adding blinkers this afternoon. She could well fire fresh because she was a debut winner.

#6 MATTER OF LUCK is fresh off her maiden win here last out. She was equipped with blinkers for the first time and dueled on a hot pace before coming away for a convincing win. This seems like a good spot for her to try and make it back-to-back wins.

#12 GOLD JOURNEY needed ten tries to win for the first time and has faced winners only twice since. She finished in a dead heat for second while no match for the winner in her last start here at the same level. Look for her to be finishing from off the pace.

RACE EIGHT

#4 SEMPER FORTIS ran a very solid second in his career debut here earlier this month. He was up on the pace right from the start and defeated the rest of the field by a very wide margin. His older half brother is a multiple Grade I winner of over \$1.5-million.

#6 WHO'S OUT tired to fourth in his debut but is eligible to improve off that race today in his second start. This good-looking and pricey colt was bet to favoritism first out and may have either been dead short or is not the type of runner to gun for the early lead.

#2 SOUTH DETROIT left the gate terribly in his only start before finishing a distant third behind the top selection in here while narrowly ahead of the second pick. A good start this time would certainly give him half a chance to turn the tables on those two.

RACE NINE

#1 MISS BOOM BOOM ran very well when second in a stakes race for three-year-old fillies in Northern California last out. She got buffeted and outpositioned in the run to the first turn before making a circling move around those rivals and finishing a clear second.

#4 HOLOGRAEME also did quite well to finish third in her first look at winners here last out when given no advantage by her post position or subsequent journey. The lightly-raced filly still has some upside and seems to be improving with each race. Count her in.

#8 DADDY'S DUO was visually impressive winning a main track sprint here last out in a race restricted to non-winners of two races lifetime. Both of her wins have come in her only starts around one turn on dirt. Today she will try a turf route for the first time.

RACE TEN

#12 PARASAIL has been littering the track with bullet workouts in the morning. An outside draw is usually an advantage in a situation like this with a first-time starter in a sprint race. Her mother has produced five winners including a multiple stakes winner.

#8 DON'T TELL JUDY has a right to be live today first out. Her sire is a win-early type of stallion and her multiple stakes winning dam has also produced two stakes winners of her own including a full sibling to this filly. Watch the tote board for any betting action.

#1 KITTY'S KARMA landed the dreaded rail for her debut but also attracted the leading rider here at Del Mar. Those mixed signals are further muddled by the fact that her trainer is not known for winning with newcomers recently but can pop at a price.