

Del Mar Bottom Line

By John Lies



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RACE ONE

#5 BAYONET should be tough to beat. She won but got disqualified over this track at the end of the summer meet and came back to win again last out. She meets winners for the first time while representing a barn doing well of late and a rider having a strong year.

#4 SAYITRIGHT KAT is a threat to try and steal this on the front end. She has never run in a main track route before but showed enough speed sprinting to be dangerous in a short field without much zip at this distance. She broke her maiden here this summer.

#1 WATDIFRENZDZITMAKE is likely to finish in the money. She just finished second in a race of similar difficulty last out and finished well clear of third in the process. Her trainer wins plenty of races and she has never known any other jockey.

RACE TWO

#4 ZARQA STAR should benefit from a cutback in distance to a one-turn race today. He has finished second twice in main track sprints and failed to move forward in two recent route attempts including one on turf. One of his better prior efforts puts him in the hunt.

#1 I'LL PLAY MY HAND seems to be coming around. He was third two starts back, then stretched out to two turns and finished second in career best effort last out. He gets a seven-pound weight allowance and should have the speed and fitness to do well in here.

#5 ROTH is the x-factor and could be better than shown in just one start this spring. He is listed as a gelding this afternoon and comes from a running family. He also hails from a winning barn with positive stats bringing horses back off such layoffs. One to consider.

RACE THREE

#3 ACHIEVER'S LEGACY is one of two contenders in here entered by one of the best trainers in the business. She was last seen holding her own in graded stakes competition going two turns but also won first out in a sprint race. She may have a slight edge in here.

#5 DISTINTA is a new acquisition for her connections and a fresh face on this circuit. She was running in minor stakes races in Florida over the summer and has been in the exacta in over half of her eleven lifetime starts. This barn can improve private purchases.

#4 ULTIMATE HOLIDAY has done consistently well in main track sprints throughout her career. She seems better spotted today than she was in her last two races and did win nicely over this track in August. It would be no surprise if she bounced back strong today.

RACE FOUR

#2 NAHEM has an excellent chance to control the pace of this marathon turf event as the lone speed horse in the field. His lifetime wins and career bankroll top his rivals. He also ran well when third over a similarly long distance in his last start while adding blinkers.

#6 UNUSUALLY GREEN will be well supported and usually puts in a late bid. He has no early speed but did defeat the top selection in this race when second last out in a similar event. Both of his career wins came over this course and he has the leading rider.

#3 GIN RIKI seems like the kind of long-fused individual that would do well in a race like this. He has never beaten winners or older horses before but finished third at this distance here in a very similar event this summer. Look for him to fire down the lane.

RACE FIVE

#6 HENNYTHELOVEPENNY looks like the one to beat off her last race. She is easily the most experienced runner in the group and has been the runner-up in two of her last three starts. She will race without blinkers today and can press or stalk from the outside.

#3 ALYESKA is moving forward with each start. She ran well in both of her starts here this summer with a win and a close second in her first against winners. She was well beaten by the top selection last out but retains a rider who has proven himself locally.

#4 PONDER LEA has a big shot at this level. She broke her maiden after a prolonged drive last out in only her second start when dropped in for a claiming price. Two of the also-rans that day won next time out. Her new connections now turn to the leading rider.

RACE SIX

#2 CHEEKABOO is the one to beat in here. Her second-place finish behind a runaway winner in her only start came against open company while defeating a prompt next-out winner. This race is restricted to horses bred in California over a better distance for her.

#4 ROO'S VALENTINE is likely to set the pace and may prove tough to catch. She has finished in the money in all three of her starts to date in main track sprints. Many horses by her sire take to the grassy route she is attempting today for the first time and she is fit.

#6 LYNNE'S LEGACY improved in her second and most recent out when sent long on the turf and finished a distant third. Her immediate family includes five winners, three of which won on the turf, and her sire has certainly made his mark here in California.

RACE SEVEN

#5 GUNS LOADED has some class and seems ready to turn his form around. He will be adding blinkers while dropping one level off a claim and has rattled off some sharp workouts in the interim. The presence of a top rider adds to his chances to fire a big one.

#8 BASMATI has turned into a pro and been very consistent this year. He won here by a nose against lesser claimers in August before returning to win again first off the claim for his current connections. He has speed and should be a factor at every point. must use.

#6 SEEKING THE SHERIF made a lot of money last year and can be dangerous in here. The nine-time winner is seeking his proper level in current form but did win one under this jockey a few start back and slides again in class after finishing fourth last out.

RACE EIGHT

#9 LOOKINFORADANGER is a worthy gamble to close out the program. Her comeback was a complete throw out and she nearly won in her only other turf route. She may still have upside and there only appear to be a couple other contenders with speed.

#5 SEND ME A SIGN is the one to beat. She does break slowly but has run on and been second in her last two starts including her first around two turns last out. This will mark her first turf race and her Hall of Fame jockey can ride the turf as well as anybody.

#6 BOAT DRINKS has been second or third in six of her seven lifetime starts and in all of her races on the turf. She has never raced this far before but has the speed to be an early factor if asked to use it. She has had her share of chances but should run well here.