

## Today's NY Hot List races to watch – Saturday, June 8, 2024 – Belmont at Saratoga

By Matt Shifman and Bob Ehalt

1<sup>st</sup> race – [ALW 110000 N1X, 1 mi] - (3) **General Partner** makes his first start of the year after last being seen running sixth in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile (G1). He was also second in the Champagne (G1) and gets first-time Lasix for this race. (8) **Classic Legacy** ran second in all three of his starts this year in first-level allowances at Churchill Downs, Keeneland, and Gulfstream Park. (5) **Quick to Access** is in excellent form having won both of the NY-bred allowance levels in his last two starts for Brad Cox and moves to open company now. (1) **Black Rain** will make his 2024 debut after breaking his maiden at Aqueduct in September beating a horse that won his next start.

2<sup>nd</sup> race – [OC 80k/N1X, 1 mi TURF] - (5) **Lady de Berry** will get Lasix for the first time as she drops back to an allowance for her 2024 debut for Chad Brown. At the end of last year, she was second in the Jimmy Durante (G3) at Del Mar in December. (6) **Spaliday** is another Brown runner and she just broke her maiden at Aqueduct last month in her third try. (1) **Camera** will try the turf for the first time after breaking her maiden at Aqueduct and then running second in an allowance. Remember that she was a \$1.05 million yearling purchase. (11) **Agra** returned to the turf and a four-month layoff to run third in an allowance at the Big A.

3<sup>rd</sup> race – [OC 62k/N2X, 6 ½ F] – (6) **Awesome Native** will make her first start of the year after a first-level allowance victory followed by a neck loss in the next condition back in December. (8) **Full Screen** made two starts in 2024 in second-level allowances and had the lead before finishing second going a mile at the Big A. (2) **Mandatory** won three races in a row moving up the ladder from a claimer to a starter allowance to a first-level allowance. He ran last month and was fourth while continuing to move up to tougher competition. (5) **Subrogate** won an allowance in April following a nine-month layoff.

4<sup>th</sup> race – [True North (G2), 6 ½ F] – (6) **Gun It** went to the lead in his first race of the year and won by two lengths for Linda Rice. (5) **Gun Pilot** won 3 out of his last 4 starts including the Churchill Downs (G1) earning the best speed figure of his career and actually his numbers went up in his last five starts. He probably will get the right set-up for his late running style and his regular rider comes up from Kentucky to take the mount (2) **Rotknee** is a fast NY-bred whose last three victories were in state-bred stakes. (1) **Ninetypercentmaddie** shipped to New York from Parx Racing and just missed winning the Runhappy (G3) by a neck.

5<sup>th</sup> race – [Poker (G3), 1 mi TURF] – (2) **Casa Creed** will run in the Poker (G3) for the third year in a row with a victory in 2022 and a third last year. The 8-year-old has nine victories and earnings of \$2.6 million and has run at Saratoga seven years in a row. He won four times at Saratoga and five times at the mile distance on the grass. (3) **Carl Spackler** returned from an eight-month layoff that went through the winter and won the Opening Verse at Churchill last month. He won his last three starts and 4 out of his last 5 including the Hall of Fame (G2). (7) **Talk of the Nation** also came back from a layoff and was second by a head in the Opening Verse after setting the pace. (6) **Kubrick** made two starts in America for Chad Brown after racing in France where he was a Group 3 winner at Longchamp.

6<sup>th</sup> race – [Suburban (G2), 1 ¼ mi] – (4) **Charge It** was third in his first start of the year in the Westchester (G3). In 2023 he raced exclusively in Grade 1 and 2 stakes and won the Suburban last year at Belmont Park. (7) **Crupi** won 4 out of 6 races before trying the Dubai World Cup (G1). He was third in the Pegasus World Cup (G1) and had two stakes victories. (8) **Bendoog** moved from Meydan to the barn of Bill Mott and won a pair of allowances with improving speed figures that fit in this group. (3) **Masquerparade** won a long-distance stakes race at Oaklawn Park in March.

7<sup>th</sup> race – [Ogden Phipps (G1), 1 1/8 mi] – (5) **Idiomatic** is a superstar as an older mare with 9 wins in her last 10 starts and 6 victories in a row. Her last four starts produced first-place finishes in only Grade 1s at four different tracks across the country. (3) **Pretty Mischievous** won three Grade 1s in a row last year in the Ky. Oaks, the Acorn, and the Test. Her last two starts were on sloppy and sealed tracks. (6) **Raging Sea** won her last races for Chad Brown in the Doubledogdare (G3) and the Comely (G3). (1) **Randomized** won three stakes in a row as a 3-year-old including the Alabama (G1) and the Beldame (G2). She was second behind Idiomatic in the Breeders' Cup Distaff (B1) and then was second in her 2024 debut.

8<sup>th</sup> race – [Woody Stephens (G1), 7F] - (1) **Book'em Danno** lost by a nose in the Saudi Cup (G1) to Forever Young. Before that the NJ-bred won 4 out of 5 races with three stakes wins and a second. He is probably best as a sprinter. (4) **Valentine Candy** has 4 stakes wins in his last 5 starts in sprints at Oaklawn. That defeat was at Turfway Park on the artificial surface. (7) **Prince of Monaco** won his first three starts as a 2-year-old for Bob Baffert including the Del Mar Futurity (G1). This will be his first start of the year. (6) **Reasoned Analysis** won the Bay Shore at Aqueduct in April after a seven-wide trip.

9<sup>th</sup> race – [Jaipur (G1), 5 ½ F TURF] – (10) **Alogon** (C) was bet down in his 2024 debut from 12-1 to 8-1 and ran third after a wide trip. (8) **Cogburn** won 4 out of his last 5 starts which were all in stakes races. There were victories in the Turf Sprint (G2) at Churchill last month and the Troy (G3) at Saratoga. (2) **Arzak** won his first start of the year in the Shakertown (G2) at Keeneland. (6) **Star of Mystery** will make his first American start for Godolphin and Charlie Appleby. Last seen he was second in the Al Quoz Sprint (G1).

10<sup>th</sup> race – [Met Mile (G1), 1 mi] – (2) **National Treasure** was fourth in the Saudi Cup (G1) after winning the Pegasus World Cup (G1) and getting beat by a nose in the Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile by Cody's Wish. The mile from the Wilson Chute might be ideal for National Treasure. (6) **White Abarrio** did very little running in the Saudi Cup but before that won the Breeders' Cup Classic and the Whitney (G1) which was at Saratoga. (4) **Blazing Sevens** won an allowance in his only 2024 race. He won the Champagne (G1) last year and was just a head away from winning the Preakness. (5) **Hoist the Gold** was also in the Saudi Cup but was last. His victory in the Cigar Mile (G2) was his best with a very fast speed figure. He made his 2024 debut in a Grade 1 and was fifth.

11<sup>th</sup> race – [Manhattan (G1), 1 3/16 mi TURF] – (5) **Program Trading** is the winner of 5 out of 6 career starts for Chad Brown with a second-place when he had to go wide the entire race. His last two victories were in Grade 1s at Churchill Downs last month and at Del Mar in December. (7) **Nations Pride** was third in his first start of the year for Charlie Appleby. He is a multiple Grade 1 winner in Canada, Saratoga, and Europe. (6) **Al Riffa** is a past Group 1 winner in Ireland and was last seen running fourth in the Prix Ganay (G1) at Longchamps beaten by less than a length. (9) **Measure Time** is another Appleby runner but this one will be making his first American start. He is a Group 1 and 2 winner at Meydan.

12<sup>th</sup> race – [Belmont Stakes (G1), 1 1/4 mi] - (10) **Mindframe** was brilliant in his only two starts with a pair of open-length wins for Todd Pletcher. His maiden score was very fast and by almost 14 lengths. This son of Constitution has the breeding to go ten furlongs and could be any kind. On the chance that he is a budding superstar, he is the top choice. (9) **Sierra Leone** lost by a nose twice and is that small margin from being undefeated in five starts. He just missed in the Kentucky Derby and gets an equipment change to help his tendency to lug in. (5) **Antiquarian** is another late developing 3-year-old that earned a spot in the Belmont Stakes with his victory in the Peter Pan (G3). Trainer Todd Pletcher will try and win this race for the fifth time. (1) **Seize the Grey** heads to the Belmont with a Preakness win and the Pat Day Mile. Breaking from the rail he has a chance to get loose on the lead as he did in the second leg of the Triple Crown. Seize the Grey has the most starts and victories of any horse in the field.

13<sup>th</sup> race – [NY, Md Sp Wt, 1 1/16 mi TURF] – (4) **In All My Dreams** (B) had an excellent debut where he was beaten by less than a length and finished well clear of the rest. (3) **Alette d'Oro** (D) was bet down from 6-1 to 4-1 and finished as part of a blanket finish for second, third, and fourth. (6) **Autumn** got back on the grass and improved significantly to miss the win by a neck. (7) **Splashy** has good turf form and keeps Irad Ortiz for his 2024 debut.

14<sup>th</sup> race – [Alw 110000 N1X, 5 ½ F TURF] – (6) **Yarrow** pressed the pace and finished a close third in his first start of the year. (2) **Salt Spray** pressed the pace, had the lead, and finished third in his 2024 debut which was at Keeneland for Wesley Ward. (10) **Twenty Six Black** has three career victories and just completed his NY-bred allowance conditions. (3) **Roi Soleil** was a first out winner last summer at Monmouth Park. In his first race of this year he was second in an allowance at Gulfstream and then was second in a stakes race at Woodbine on their synthetic track.