



GULFSTREAM PARK (12:20)



Saturday, December 21 By Brian Nadeau (check @Brian_J_Nadeau for OFF turf updates)

Championship Meet Statistics (through 12/15):

GP Meet: 120-32-18-23 (\$1.80 /\$5.23) **Best Bet:** 12-4-1-2 (\$1.67/\$4.90) **Longshot:** 8-2-1-1 (\$3.63 /\$9.00)

Race 1: Pegasus Preview Day kicks off with a good one on the turf, and we'll give **8 TIZ READY** a chance to make amends for a dud in her return, as that tightener can help her get back to that strong 2nd on debut in June. The post hurts **2 SALTWATER TAFFY**, but she beat the pick last time, so she still merits plenty of success. Getting Irad helps the cause of **4 UNCAPTURED DOVE**, though the losses (10) are adding up.

SELECTIONS: 8-2-4-5

Race 2: Judging by the easy MCL win, the Tapeta agreed with **1 BOMB SQUAD**, and while she steps up, there's not much to be scared of here. They'll overbet **9 SHE TAKES CASH** on the drop for Saffie and Irad, so while she's a big threat, you're allowed to look elsewhere at better odds. If **7 SILENT MELODY** takes to the Tapeta she's a player, as she has some "fast" figure NY turf races.

SELECTIONS: 1-9-7-12

Race 3: The Lynch runners have been live and bet off the board so far at the meet, which means **8 INTO PLEASURE** may follow suit off a tightener in his CD debut, and that 12/7 bullet drill says to look out. The rail is no bargain, but **1 SENOR MARCELO** was a solid 3rd on debut for Crichton, who is 32% with second-time maidens, and note he

reaches for Irad too. If **2 WISTUCKY** improves on his comeback off the long break he's got a chance to wire these.

SELECTIONS: 8-1-2-9

Race 4: It's a big ask to win a stakes off a February layoff, but the way **6 SOCIALLY SELECTIVE** looked here last winter winning twice, and the way she's trained, both say she's ready to announce herself on the national scene after winning the Sugar Swirl. They all have to beat **7 MYSTIC LAKE** after a pair of graded wins this year, though the 6Fs today could be a tad short of her best. Not sure what to make of **2 INTREPID DAYDREAM** off a July layoff, though she was a fast 2nd in this race last year.

SELECTIONS: 6-7-2-1

Race 5: A drop and a return to Tapeta and two turns might get **8 UNRELENTLESS** back to the winner's circle against this soft group of 10ks that sees **2 CABERNET** a tepid favorite after winning 4-of-6, while cutting it close every time. That was a solid comeback for **9 DON'T GET PICKLED**, so she's in the mix as well.

SELECTIONS: 8-2-9-1

Race 6: It's Best Bet time with **10 CIPHER**, who was a solid 3rd on debut and catches an

iffy group on paper. Both **7 STEWBALL** and **5 NO MORE WAR** offer price alternatives, with the former bred to love two turns, and the latter bred top and bottom for the turf.

SELECTIONS: 10-7-5-4

Race 7: The Swezey barn has been firing, which says that **3 DONE ENOUGH** may be ready off a 355-day layoff, and Lasix and a strong work tab only add to the appeal. The rail did no favors for **1 PERSONAL CHOICE**, herself off a June break, but she's won both starts for fun and has also worked well.

Quite happy making **8 HERE'S THE KICKER** prove it at tiny odds, as her form and figures seems to be stuck in neutral.

SELECTIONS: 3-1-8-6

Race 8: The Janus looks all about **10 ARZAK**, as he's faced the best turf sprinters in the country this year, and more than held his own too. Getting back to the GP sod should perk up **11 COPPOLA**, who won a pair of stakes here last winter and has the speed to negate this wide draw. It's unlikely **8 AXTHELM** can get up in time at this short 5Fs, but he'll be flying late, as always.

SELECTIONS: 10-11-8-2

Race 9: Stabbing in the G3 Harlan's Holiday with **3 CAPE TRAFALGER**, who may shake loose, and while he's not as good as others, the short stretch may carry him home. The class of **2 TUMBARUMBA** makes him a deserved short price, and he's a G3 winner here too, though he has lost five straight. This seems a bit short for **1 TUSCAN SKY**, a grinder who needs longer, and is likely using this as a prep for a big run in the Pegasus.

SELECTIONS: 3-2-1-6

Race 10: The G2 Fort Lauderdale looks like **5 WIN FOR THE MONEY'S** race to lose, as he was awesome here in May, went on to win a G1, and now drops out of the BC Mile too. You should get some value underneath with **4 MAJOR DUDE**, which is rare for Pletcher and Irad, and while his class is in question, he's another who likes the local lawn (2-1-1-0). The more likely and fancied of the Pletcher duo is **2 GRAND SONATA**, who is 2-for-3 here, though this could be a bit sharp after a trio of 1 ½-mile runs.

SELECTIONS: 5-4-2-1

Race 11: It's Longshot time in the G3 Suwannee River, a wide-open turf tilt that may be a good spot for **9 GOLDEN HOSTESS** to stretch out off two solid U.S. sprint runs off the long layoff. The post and speed of **1 OCEAN CLUB** means she'll be tough if she clears early, a style she used to win a BAQ G3 when last seen. The post is horrific for **11 BREATH AWAY**, who is 2-for-3 here but will need some magic from way out here.

SELECTIONS: 9-1-11-8

Best Bet: R6: #10 Cipher (2-1)

- * Encouraging 3rd on debut for Pletcher
- * Experienced turfers don't seem much
- * Slew of firsters all could need a start

Longshot: R11: #9 Golden Hostess (8-1)

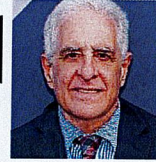
- * Impressed late in both sprints runs
- * Stretchout may have her closer early
- * Fits nicely with all of these on paper

 **GULFSTREAM
PARK**



GULFSTREAM PARK

(12:20)



Saturday, December 21 Ron Nicoletti

Race 1:

8 Tiz Ready
2 Saltwater Taffy
1 Blackfoot Daisy

Race 2:

9 She Takes Cash
12 Refugiada
7 Silent Melody

Race 3:

2 Wistucky
1 Senor Marcelo (IRE)
9 Tucson

Race 4: The Sugar Swirl

7 Mystic Lake
6 Socially Selective
1 R Harper Rose

Race 5:

8 Unrelentless
2 Cabernet
1 Dontmesswithtess

Race 6:

10 Cipher
5 No More War
2 Governing Party

Race 7:

8 Here's the Kicker
1 Personal Choice
4 Arch Street

Race 8 The Janus

5 Yes I Am Free (LS)
10 Arzak
2 Xy Speed

Race 9: The Harlan's Holiday (G3)

1 Tuscan Sky
2 Tumbarumba
6 Steal Sunshine

Race 10: The Fort Lauderdale (G2)

7 Siege of Boston
4 Major Dude
2 Grand Sonata

Race 11: The Suwannee River (G3)

11 Breath Away (GB) (BB)
1 Ocean Club
4 Papilio (IRE)

Best Bet: R11 11 Breath Away

Cuts back to a mile (8-3-2-2) after finishing 2nd in the 8 1/2-furlong Forever Together at The Big A. She sits the trip off the speed.

Longshot: R8 5 Yes I Am Free

Now in the B Cox barn, he should have the screws tightened after setting swift fractions and finishing 3rd vs similar. Barn is 37% with new additions.

Here are a few races I will be attacking on the Gulfstream Park program where it is Pegasus Preview Day in South Florida.

Race 4: Sugar Swirl S.

Trainer Saffie Joseph, Jr. holds an extremely strong hand in this year's Sugar Swirl with five of the seven set to go to post in this 6-furlong event over the main track. Obviously, jockey tactics in cases like this can play a large role in the race shape, but this race does give us an opportunity at knocking off one of the four exactas in a somewhat compact group. For that reason, I will attack it by keying #7 Mystic Lake on top. This Mo Town filly has taken on many of the best 3YO fillies in the country, including Thorpedo Anna in the Cotillion (G1) when we saw her last. She led early that day and tired late to finish fourth, but not only gets some class relief here but potentially a dream run on the cutback. The 5-time winner draws to the far outside in this group of seven, which should give Irad Ortiz Jr. options out of the gate. I expect Ortiz to sit a favorable mid-pack voyage in the clear assuming his mount relaxes off the three-month break. If so, she should be tough to hold off.

I will key her over #4 Spirit Wind and #6 Socially Selective in hopes of stealing an easy win without spending much of my budget.

Play: Exacta 7 with 4+6

Race 6:

This MSW event for 2YOs at 1 1/16-miles over the grass has some high-profile barns in it, including a pair of Chad Brown trainees and a second-time starter for Todd Pletcher. I am hopeful that leads to an inflated price on #7 Stewball. The Kitten's Joy gelding overcame a less-than-ideal voyage for a first-time starter going 5.5-furlongs on the sod at Laurel Park in late October. He was given an aggressive ride out of his rail draw that day by jockey Horacio Karamanos, but was beaten to the lead putting him in chase mode early. This is not a favorable position for a young horse to be in, yet he was able to overcome the early adversity to run a non-threatening fifth. Now. Trainer Michael Trombetta stretches him out to two turns, which he is bred to prefer. I expect him to love the added ground and therefore am willing to live and die with him in the Exacta-Thon.

I will box him with second-time starter #5 No More War who had a bit of trouble over the all-weather in his first start and #10 Cipher who attracts Irad Ortiz Jr. after a third place run to kick off his career in New York.

Play: Exacta Box 5+7 and Exacta Box 7+10

Race 9: Harlan's Holiday (G3)

If you have followed my work over the years you know #2 Tumbarumba is one of the horses I have a soft spot for. The Louisiana-bred simply tries as hard as any horse I can remember. This effort has led to more heartbreak than victories in 2024, but trust me it is not for a lack of effort. I will key Tumbarumba on top over #1 Tuscan Sky in his first start since losing by three-quarters of a length to Generous Tipper in the \$150k Discovery at Aqueduct and #5 Vitality who tries this surface for the first time after a half-length defeat at double-digit odds in a second-level allowance at Churchill Downs. **Play: Exacta 2 with 1+5**

Cumberland (Maine Harness) (10:55 a.m.)



1. 3-4

By Lucky Lou

2. 7-5-3

3. 3-6-2

4. 5-4-2

5. 7-1-6

6. 5-4-3

Best Bet Race 6 # 1 Rise Above

Big try last week - inside draw and Drew in the bike
should make him tough right back today

7. 3-2-6

8. 3-1-5

9. 1-6-7

Pick Four Play : Race 5

2,6 / 1 / 1,6 / 4,7

TAMPA BAY DOWNS (POST 12:10)

BEST BET: Ozzy (1st)

First Race **2.** Ozzy **4** Emmett **1** Bingo's Grind

OZZY aims to make it two in a row after dropping to the lowest level of his career and winning relatively easily as the 9-5-second choice on November 30. The Bernardini colt showed professionalism early in that first start over the Tampa sod relaxing well out of the gate and angling over to find a ground saving spot into the first turn. From there, there was no holding off this New York-bred. He appears poised to win right back. EMMETT gets some class relief after taking on state-bred stakes foes over the Gulfstream Park main track. He got off to a slow start and did not do much running in his lone start on the turf against better at Kentucky Downs, but the class relief obviously should help. BINGO'S GRIND beat a much softer field than he encounters today last month to earn his first career win. He should get a favorable ground saving trip in his first start against winners.

Second Race **5** Velocissima **6** Lady Quinn **4** Viking Queen

There is very little speed signed on in this 7-furlong affair over the main track, which should benefit VELOCISSIMA. The Violence mare is not a speed ball, but does appear to have more early zip than her competitors in this conditional claimer for fillies and mares. She also drops in from an open company event just eight days ago. Jockey Samy Camacho should be able to get this Rafael Romero trainee to the front and have enough left late to hang on for career victory number four.

Third Race **7** Tariba Dream **8** Chachita **9** Fortune Dreams

TARIBA DREAM disappointed as the public choice in her first start of the meet last month. The Audible filly had a ridiculous trip though, which lead to her finishing third beaten four lengths. She got out of the gates a bit slow as usual and then was caught five-wide into the first turn and four-wide on the backstretch before lacking the rally many expected. She has lacked a will to win thus far, so it is fair to question her desire for victory, but she meets a field she should handle.

Fourth Race **3** Bold Look **4** Shamu **1** One Violent Affair

The pace is likely to be contentious in this two-turn event for non-winners of two foes, which makes BOLD LOOK an intriguing option from off the pace. The Demarchelier filly raced in the Mid-Atlantic this summer and in upstate New York in the fall, but ran some solid races early on in the campaign in Florida. This includes a pair of underneath efforts in her two starts over the main track. She should love getting back to a route of ground after a pair of sprints when we saw her last at Finger Lakes.

Fifth Race **4** Shivaree **7** Nautilus **1** Venezuelan Triumph

There is an obvious lack of speed in this conditional claimer at two-turns. I am hopeful SHIVAREE takes advantage in his third start off the claim for owner/trainer Juan Arriagada. The Florida-bred ran in some big races as a three-year-old, including the Florida Derby (G1) and the Travers (G1), but is obviously nowhere that horse at the age of seven. That said, he goes two sprints to a route in his third start off the layoff for a barn that has clicked at well over 20% in 2024. Hopefully jockey Samuel Marin can get him out of the gates and into a good forward position.

Sixth Race 2. Fleetingly 5 Enchant 3. Forever Again

FLEETINGLY makes her first start in North America after a trio of runs going a route of ground in Ireland to kick off her career. The Justify filly appears in the Chad Brown barn and comes in off a long series of works in New York and Florida. Brown has clicked at 36% over the last five years with his MSW competitors at Tampa Bay Downs for an ROI of \$1.98. His filly looks to outclass this group. ENCHANT followed Betula around the turf course last time out in a race where the fillies from off the pace struggled to make an impression. She has hit the board in 3 of 4 and could control the pace, but I do not fully trust her on top. FOREVER AGAIN exits the same race as Enchant. She never got a fair shake. She should move forward here assuming they do not go too slow early on.

Seventh Race 6 Lace Up 3. Bahamian Native 1 Catire Vizcaya

LACE UP drops in class in his third start off the claim for trainer Carlos David. The son of Big Beast has been well-beaten in each of his last two starts at Gulfstream Park, but did not make the lead those days against a bit better. He should be able to control the pace in this seven-furlong dash over the main track and have plenty left late to handle this bunch.

Eighth Race 8. Divemaster 7. The Big Calico 4 Free Rambling Man

There is a lot of speed drawn down on the inside in this non-winners of two event at six-panels. This bodes well for DIVEMASTER in his second start off the long layoff for trainer Mary Lightner. There is no doubt that Mastery gelding needs to run better than he did in his return race over the grass last month, but that seems highly likely. Not only did he need the race off the seventeen-month break, but he took on better competition than he meets in this spot. Antonio Gallardo returns to ride.

Ninth Race 4. Miss Emily 7. Ms Kendrick B. 3. Gophers Axe

MISS EMILY drops in for a tag after breaking slow, but showing some life late in a maiden special weight affair over this racetrack on December 7. The Gunnevara filly finished a well-beaten sixth, but took on far better competition than she encounters today. She needs to figure out the gate issues, but if she does, she should be tough to handle late. MS KENDRICK B. moves up in class after disappointing as the 2-1-favorite on debut earlier this month. The Seeking the Soul filly was beaten out of the gate and dropped back oddly at one point on the backstretch before putting in a decent run to get third. She should hit the board, but will probably be over bet. GOPHERS AXE drops down to the \$16k ranks after chasing a wire-to-winner in her first start in Florida. She is capable of improving in her second start off the freshening.

5-9-2

Tenth Race BITTERLY broke well and flashed solid early speed in his debut run over the main track on December 7, but got caught up in an early tussle and tired badly. The son of Demarchelier though is bred to want more ground and run on the grass. He gets both this afternoon for a barn that does not have much success first time out, but has clicked for an ROI of \$2.48 with their last 25 runners trying the sod for the initial time. Hopefully, this gelding takes to the surface switch. CALVIN'S RIDE has competed against better than he meets in his first local start for veteran conditioner John Terranova. The outside draw could present a challenge, but he makes a ton of sense if Pablo Morales is able to avoid being caught wide throughout. NEW PLEX ran really well last out despite being floated extremely wide into the first turn.

Laurel (12:25)

By Dan Illman

BEST BET: Discreet Ops (6th race)

First Race **1.** Flatbed Ford **5.** Balance of Power **3.** Prince Praline

FLATBED FORD (928 lbs. on 12/1; +11 from prior start; updated weights posted on the simulcast feed during paddock and warmups) was bumped lightly leaving the gate over closer-friendly track, stalked in between, dropped inside, then finished evenly on the fence. This extra distance is a question mark, but he has shown improvement from start to start and should offer decent value. Barn sent out 12-1 winner Three Captains on 12/13 and 8-1 winner Artillery Gunnar on 12/14.

Second Race

6. Whiskeyinthejaro **7.** Brother Brad **5.** Collection Day

Perhaps last time was the time for WHISKEYINTHEJARO as he scored at 17-1 after suffering through two challenging trips on turf. Settled near the back over a closer-friendly track, advanced three wide on the turn, attacked four wide into the long stretch, and wore them down. Must now deal with a longer distance and a questionable race flow, but he's lightly raced with upside and enters in good form. Barn sent out two winners here since 12/6.

Third Race **3.** Bernie the Star **2.** Daring Venture **6.** Aikmans Audible

BERNIE THE STAR grabbed the lead in first start at this class level, put away the early bid from 55-1 Latin Rebel (finished ninth), was hard-ridden on the rail, then tired along the fence to place behind the two favorites. Shouldn't be too far away when the real racing commences. DARING VENTURE has excuses for both starts. He dumped the rider in the gate before his debut, then made an early bid before holding nicely for second. Lost all chance when stumbling to his knees at the start last time. Recovered to track three wide and in between, was bumped hard in upper stretch, then understandably tired. Very dangerous contender for barn that went 5 for the last 11 (45%, \$3.60 ROI) with third-out maidens. AIKMANS AUDIBLE broke sharp from far outside post in Parx debut, tracked a quick pace three wide, went after them from the outside, then was game between horses to procure the place. Expect early speed from SABRA'S SONG (1,150 lbs. on 11/30), who went fast on the lead in debut before tiring behind the two favorites.

Fourth Race **7.** Witty **6.** Play Like a Raven **3.** Celtic Contender

WITTY ran better than it looks when wired by odds-on Spikezone in Parx's Lets Give Thanks. Pulled hard at the back while racing well off the rail, made a four-wide bid on the turn, then missed grabbing third in the final strides. The fifth-finisher then captured a high-level allowance here with a 94 Beyer. Late-runner needs pace help, but seven furlongs should suit him just fine. PLAY LIKE A RAVEN (1,150 lbs. on 11/30; +34 from prior start) is back in with elders after a good try in the City of Laurel. Saved ground at the back behind a quick pace (22.43; 22.54), split rivals at the three-eighths, dropped back to the fence, then showed late life once easing off the rail. Like the top pick, he doesn't have much early zip, and might not get the same fast race flow as last time.

Fifth Race **4**. Sheilahs Warcloud **7**. Bourbon Bon Bay **5**. Spencerian

SHEILAHS WARCLOUD (1,081 lbs. on 11/30) saved ground at the back behind a quick pace (22.55; 22.77), tracked in between at the three-eighths, dropped inside in upper stretch, then ran on for a minor award. It will be interesting to see if she can stay closer to the leaders if the pace is slower. Briceno lands here instead of Bella Bettina. Good to see BOURBON BON BAY (1,122 lbs. on 11/29) back again on relatively short notice as she's missed loads of time throughout her career due to misfortune. Tracked a quick pace three wide last time, dropped down to the rail at the back of the compact field, split foes at the quarter pole, then got second after being late to change leads. Barn sent out a couple of winners here on 12/13.

Sixth Race **10** Discreet Ops **2** Oncourtcommentator **7**. Kissedbyanangel

DISCREET OPS (1,034 lbs. on 11/30; +46 from prior start) tracked a quick pace three wide in the Safely Kept, attacked favored Dazzling Move (finished fifth) from the outside on the turn, made the top turning for home, then stayed on for second despite being late to change leads. Barn went 4 for the last 20 (20%, \$7.27 ROI) moving sprint to route. Expect her to be ridden out of there to get forward from this outside post. ONCOURTCOMMENTATOR (980 lbs. on 10/27) was wired by a 15-1 shot over course and distance. Made an outside bid on the turn, then stayed strong for second despite being very late to change leads. The third-finisher then won a state-sired allowance by 10 1/2 lengths with an 83 Beyer. Late-runner needs pace help for a barn that went 24 for 87 (28%, \$2.36 ROI) between 10/31 and 12/15.

Seventh Race

6 Movie Moxy **3**. Evidencias. **1**. Miss New York

MOVIE MOXY is back on short notice after a hard-charging third behind the two favorites in Aqueduct's Grade 3 Go for Wand. Saved ground in midpack, tracked from the pocket entering the turn, altered course sharply to the far outside in the upper stretch, and ran on well to miss by less than a length. Tactical mare can sit a stalking trip for barn that went 7 for 21 (33%, \$2.77 ROI) between 12/8 and 12/18.

Eighth Race **5** Copper Tax **6**. Wild Vine **4**. Speedyness

COPPER TAX (1,128 lbs. on 11/29) tracked from the pocket, was on hold along the rail on the second turn, angled four wide inside the quarter pole, then got away from that group despite drifting out just a bit in the final sixteenth. Kicks hard in the stretch. WILD VINE seems much improved, as he earned Beyer tops in his last two races. Got second behind favored Tudox Opportunity in stakes debut at Penn National last time out, and might be set for best in third after short layoff. Barn sent out 19-1 winner Debit Card here on 12/6.

Ninth Race **4**. Gottahoppertunity **2**. Hot Boss **8**. Can Do

GOTTAHOPPERTUNITY (963 lbs. on 11/29; +6 from prior start) broke inward from the rail draw when dropped into a claimer, saved ground in midpack under urging, eased out in upper stretch, then showed some grit to get up for third in between rivals. New blinkers may enhance her speed and focus for a barn that went 3 for 10 (30%, \$5.88 ROI) between 11/30 and 12/15.

Fair Grounds (1:00)

FIRST RACE

3 Alvarado Cat 3-2-7-5

SECOND RACE

8 Undercover Girl 8-3-2-4

THIRD RACE

15 Mc Vay

10 My Boy Tony

13 Unleash the Power

3 Sand Pipes

FOURTH RACE

4 Tough Catch

6 Countthebrave

5 Contrabandist

FIFTH RACE

1 Her Laugh Concepcion A

7 Whata Moon Ortiz J L

2 Sycamore Shoals Morales E

SIXTH RACE Blushing K. D. Stakes. Purse: \$100,000

3 Stir Crazy Ortiz J L

1 Lute Warm Geroux F

2 Callie's Grit Hernandez B J Jr

4 Watch This Birdie Graham J

SEVENTH RACE Gun Runner Stakes. Purse: \$100,000

5 Admiral Dennis 3 Magnitude 2 Render Judgment

#5 ADMIRAL DENNIS (9-5): Top pick from the Brad Cox shedrow appreciated the move to a mile when dominating special weight foes at Churchill Downs second time out. The \$425,000 son of Constitution came home swiftly in his tally and seems poised to appreciate more ground for a barn that has been sensational with two-year-old runners this season. The Kentucky-bred retains Luis Saez and will take command in early stretch before pulling away late.

3 MAGNITUDE (2-1): Steve Asmussen pupil was dusted in his lone prior run with stakes foes, but the son of Not This Time came home a nice allowance winner at Churchill most recently, and the colt has to be given a chance with any improvement in this endeavor. The Winchell color bearer has solid early foot and also gets a nice rider upgrade with Jose Ortiz taking the reins. He will be forcing the tempo throughout.

EIGHTH RACE 7 One Timer 7-6-1-4

NINTH RACE 7 Saudi Crown 7-1-2-6

TENTH RACE Buddy Diliberto Memorial Stakes. Purse: \$100,000

2 Gigante Ortiz J L 118 9-5

3 Swiftsure Saez L 118 3-1

6 Another Mystery Hernandez B J Jr 124 4-1

ELEVENTH RACE Untapable Stakes. Purse: \$100,000

4 Golden Gamble Hernandez B J Jr

8 Drexel Hill Torres J A

5 California Sunset Geroux F

3 Her Laugh Concepcion A

4 Golden Gamble (5-2) is the morning-line choice off the strength of her nine-length romp at Churchill Downs second time out for conditioner Kenny McPeck. The \$200,000 Laoban filly ran well when a closing third in her unveiling beneath the Twin Spires and moved forward second out when sitting closer to the early pace. Brian Hernandez, Jr. retains the ride atop the smart prospect. I feel that the most intriguing contender outside of the favorite is Canadian invader #8 Drexel Hill (8-1), who will make her first run on the dirt in her initial attempt for trainer Whit Beckman. The dark bay daughter of Bolt d'Oro broke her maiden with authority following two second-place runs earlier in the season, and the Kentucky-bred could be any kind while making her local bow. The \$50,000 yearling purchase has posted three solid morning moves on the surface in preparation for Saturday and has to be given a chance at a price.

Wheeling Greyhounds (Post 1:00)



1 ST	2 5 7 6
2 ND	8 3 2 4
3 RD	3 7 8 1
4 TH	7 8 6 2
5 TH	4 2 3 5
6 TH	6 5 3 4
7 TH	3 6 4 5
8 TH	3 7 5 6
9 TH	6 4 7 2
10 TH	1 2 8 3
11 TH	6 3 5 7
12 TH	5 7 6 2
13 TH	5 2 1 3
14 TH	5 6 7 3
15 TH	3 8 1 6
16 TH	6 5 1 4
17 TH	7 4 5 1
18 TH	1 3 8

Best Bet : Race 17 7 Big Rig

BEST BET: Bolt's Treasure (1st race)

First Race **1.** Bolt's Treasure **3.** Riyadh Moon **4.** Seven Taylors

The card Saturday is led by the Poinsettia Stakes, which drew a diverse cast of fillies and mares who make their living sprinting. In the opener, BOLT'S TREASURE gets the nod off a good second at this distance last out at Del Mar. He also owns the field's best last-race Beyer Speed Figure. RIYADH MOON gives up recency to these, but ran some strong races over the local strip last season. SEVEN TAYLORS moves back two turns, site of his best career Beyer.

Second Race **6** Chaparrita **1A.** Be My Bestie **4.** Dixie Penny

CHAPARRITA moves back into the straight claiming ranks after running third against starter allowance foes and the last time she ran for a tag she was a winner. BE MY BESTIE is admirable for her consistent nature. DIXIE PENNY adds a set of blinkers, which is a high percentage move for Becker, according to statistics from Daily Racing Form.

Third Race **6** What a Blessing **4.** Gypsy Mischief **5.** Simovic

WHAT A BLESSING exits a quick maiden allowance and for this trip gets the services of a journeyman in Torres, who has won the last two titles at Oaklawn. GYPSY MISCHIEF comes out of same race as top choice, running a promising fourth. SIMOVIC is seeking to become the fifth next-out winner to emerge from a maiden race in which he finished second. LAMBO exits a maiden race from which the winner would go on to win the Preakness and the runner-up, the Belmont Stakes! More on each of the entrants in the Closer Looks feature in Daily Racing Form.

Fourth Race **3.** Worth Looking **10.** Mongolian Bee **1.** Principe Carlo

WORTH LOOKING was second last out in a key race, with the third-place finisher coming back to win a \$5K claiming race at 1,000 yards at LA, and the sixth-place finisher, Impossible Task, an \$8K claimer at SA, with a Beyer of 72. MONGOLIAN BEE returns to the straight claiming ranks, site of his last win. PRINCIPE CARLO has back class to call upon.

Fifth Race **4.** I Got Game **2.** Stormy At Midnight **3.** Bon Temps

I GOT GAME has faced some quality foes and owns the field's best collection of Beyer Speed Figures. He's also from a mare who was a stakes winner at 2. STORMY AT MIDNIGHT showed good speed on the cutback to one turn last out at Remington Park. The winner of the race BON TEMPS exits has since become a stakes winner. This one is from a multiple stakes-winning mare who overall won 14 races and ran out \$750K.

Sixth Race **6** Sister Kisses **4**. Intermittent Fast **8**. Malibu Smart

SISTER KISSES has been knocking on the door of late, with some of the field's best recent Beyer Speed Figures. INTERMITTENT FAST has won three of her last four starts - two of them at this six furlong trip. MALIBU SMART exits a key race, with fifth-place finisher Wildwood Bye coming back to take an N1X at OP with a Beyer of 79 and ninth-place finisher Faith Alone an overnight handicap at PrM, with a Beyer of 78.

Seventh Race **7**. Risk It **//**. Miracle Worker **8**. Whiskey Park

RISK IT was just edged last out in a race that went quite quick. For the effort, he earned what ranks as this field's best last-race Beyer Speed Figure. MIRACLE WORKER has an age edge on top choice, as well as some comparable Beyers. WHISKEY PARK was a promising debut winner who now returns to both one turn and dirt, the "conditions" of his impressive maiden win. Others of interest include RED PILL and WENDELSSOHN.

Eighth Race **1**. Raise Cain **8**. Denington **5**. Osbourne

Grade 3 winner RAISE CAIN shortens up some in distance in a move that seems to suit consistent sort. He also adds a set of blinkers in what is a high percentage equipment move for Colebrook, according to statistics from Daily Racing Form. DENINGTON has placed in three stakes in his career. He worked a sharp half-mile over the local strip the other morning in advance of shortening up a tad in distance. OSBOURNE moves back to two turns and like that he is stakes-placed at a mile. On the stretchout, he might be the one these will have to catch.

Ninth Race **7**. Spirit Wind **1**. Fibber **12** Royal Spa

Grade 2 winner SPIRIT WIND leads a large, accomplished field of fillies and mares for the Poinsettia. She was a troubled third last out in the Dream Supreme at CD - a race that has since become a key one. Accomplished Girl, who finished fourth, came back to win the \$100K Pan Zareta at FG with a Beyer of 93, and Awesome Treat, who was fifth, came back to win the \$250K Holiday Inaugural at Turfway with a Beyer of 92. FIBBER was Grade 2-placed two starts back in the Raven Run. ROYAL SPA figures to be strong through the stretch on the cutback in distance.

Tenth Race **12** Al's Romeo **2**. Brahms Image **6**. Stuck N Snow

AL'S ROMEO was a winner over open foes two back at Prairie Meadows and also has lined up against some quality Arkansas-breds. BRAHMS IMAGE is a consistent performer who owns some strong recent Beyer Speed Figures.



Turfway (5:55)

FIRST RACE	1	Jujubee	1-10-7-3
SECOND RACE	8	Junoesque	8-3-5-2
THIRD RACE	10	Might as Well	10-4-7-1
FOURTH RACE	2	Tough as Nails	2-11-10-1
FIFTH RACE	5	Walstib	5-8-2-4
SIXTH RACE	8	Epic Ride	8-4-2-1
SEVENTH RACE	9	Current Climate	9-5-8-10
EIGHTH RACE	10	Asmodeus	10-9-2-3
NINTH RACE	1	Creek	1-9-14-10



EVE. PICKS
- MDWLANDS
- TURFWAY
- LOS ALAMITOS

(Post 6:20) By Derick Giwner

BEST BET: J M MANDAMIN (7th) SPOT PLAY: GOOD ROCKIN (3rd)

Race 1: (2) COUNTRY MOUSE doesn't appear to be fast enough but let's take into consideration that he is coming out of a barn that is 1-for-65 the last four years (the win being with this guy last time) and moving into the best barn in North America. Unless he's odds-on I'll be taking my chances. (8) JK TOGETHER AGAIN, (7) LAZARUS STAR and (9) CAPTAIN BAZINGA all have early speed and form. Any of them could win if the top pick doesn't show up as I expect.

Race 2: (2) IGNATIUS A came over from Yonkers and won immediately. We've seen this guy get sharp and go some big miles over this track and I believe he'll still be fair value here. (1) SPORT SECRET raced well from outside posts at Philly and should appreciate the inside position here on the bigger track. (7) BONNIPRINCELOUIS N had a good trip but came up flat late in his first start for Burke. Perhaps with that race in hand he'll improve. (10) WISE THINKING hasn't been to the track for a betting race since June. That said, he's capable of a big mile at times. I'll probably just watch this week unless he comes out in the post parade looking super.

Race 3: (6) GOOD ROCKIN went an even mile from an impossible spot in his return to the Hernandez barn. It has been over two years since he's had this guy but he did well with him then and this looks like a great spot for a horse that has his issues but can beat these. (2) I'LL HUNT YOU DOWN raced well in his first start since June and can certainly move forward off that mile. (7) LUKE MCGOOK tucked and came uncovered last time while racing gamely until the wire. Another similar effort will put him in the running for the top spot.

Race 4: (9) HIGH FASHION STAR was super on the front two starts back and simply overmatched last time. If she is sent here a victory is within her grasp; Boyd's choice over #2. (1) PASS LINE is the best horse in the race but she hasn't been right in a long time. Can she put it all together against what is soft competition for her? (2) JM BETONSIX needs to keep her act together and get a decent trip. If those things come together she has a shot.

Race 5: (5) ORDAINED comes off a monster mile over this track and anything close to that effort will result in another victory. (3) HUSTLE NOMICS is certainly not the best horse in the field but he's racing as well as any of them right now. (9) SWANS EYE was last seen in the Breeders Crown and returns off a two month break. She obviously fits nicely and the qualifier was strong.

Race 6: (7) OAKWOOD HEYMIKI IR is undefeated in four starts since coming to the U.S. and there is no reason to believe that streak is going to end versus this group. (2) PRIMARY COLORS certainly faces an easier overall group this week outside of the top pick. (6) TIP TOP CAT has done well on mile tracks in his career so don't be shocked if he shows up with a better mile. 7-2-6-3

Race 7: (10) J M MANDAMIN remains in for a \$30,000 tag and I'm not sure they can beat him even from the outside draw. (9) HUNT FOR CASH was second best behind the top pick two weeks ago from the same posts. History may very well repeat itself. (2) LYONS LIBERTY has a post edge on the top pair and that may help him get second and at worst third.

Race 8: (5) ZEPPOLE HANOVER added Lasix and raced very well upon arrival. He could be even better in start two with the medication in place. (2) MAXIM HANOVER just added Lasix as well and qualified nicely. Three-year-old has kept some good company and is certainly good enough if ready. Note that Buter chose here over #5. (1) TARANAKI hasn't been seen since September when he was fourth in the NYSS final.

5-2-1

Race 9: This is a very soft NW12500 and perhaps (4) BELMONT ROYALE N can take advantage. He had no chance last time from post 10 versus a better group and lands in a great post to race from on or off the pace. (5) LUNAR has won two of four starts since joining this barn. (7) STELLAR YANKEE has done his best recent work down in class a bit but as mentioned, this is a softer field for this class.

Race 10: (2) SPRING INHIS STEP A tracks Ruthless Hanover last time and was able to sprint past in the lane. We should still get about 3-1 or so that he really is that good, so I'll stick with him. (5) RUTHLESS HANOVER is the class of the race on paper but I'd need closer to 9-5 to take a swing with him now and I doubt we'll get it. 2-5-6

Race 11: (6) NO TURNING BACK went down the road in his last try in this condition and certainly has a chance to do the same thing again in this field. (8) TOCCOA FALLS is extremely erratic and prone to break at any time, but he's also the fastest horse in the field. (4) MOCHA JAVA sat patiently along the cones and finished with some late life in the stretch while having no chance to get a big check. He gets a new driver here and I wouldn't be surprised if he was closer to the pace.

Race 12: (7) ROSE RUN ZEKE just missed in his first start for this barn and you can expect him to be even better in his second trip to the track after two months on the sidelines. (1) JD CAMDEN GB is worth a long look on the trainer change to Burke. (2) MAGNIFICO HANOVER is still winless on the year but he owns a number of decent efforts lately. Perhaps his second start on Lasix will provide improvement. 7-2-1-10

Race 13: (4) DA DELIGHTFUL two-moved to the front and got swallowed up in the shadow of the wire with the trainer in the bike. Boyd joins the team this week on the class drop! (2) SWEET JEFF IR is another horse moving into the Burke barn and this guy seems to be nicely classified. (10) GAITWAY GUY is too sharp to ignore despite the bad post and bump up in company. He has the early speed to overcome and get into the exotics.

Race 14: (6) IT'S IN THE STARS gets a similar drop to a few of these but also gets to move in from post 10 to sic tonight. With little early speed to his outside, he should have a real chance of controlling the action. 6-4-2

Los Alamitos (9:00)

By George Duarte

Race 1 4 Western Grit 4-6-7

Has set fast paces and run down in the lane in last two starts. Last out, led the way in a 22.87 opening quarter, was clear into the lane, and run down by improving runner in final hundred yards. Draws inside main speed rivals, removes the blinkers, but still expect him to be on the lead.

Race 2 2 Instinct D' Oro 2-5-4

Showed the way going longer a couple weeks ago, responded well and won with authority. Ran a strong clocking in lone try at this distance when defeating next out winner Took Charge. Can win on or off the pace and is in strong form.

Race 3 3-5-1

Race 4 4-5-2

Race 5 4 Docs Best Style 4-7-2

Corrected twice early last out and kept on well to the wire in a solid clocking. Came away cleanly, but completely lost his hind end in his second stride two back. A repeat effort is all that's needed to prevail on the drop in class.

Race 6 6 Hott Favorite 6-5-1

Returned off a five month layoff last out, came away a bit slow, bumped with rival at the start, and finished with strong strides to the wire. Worked well prior to that effort and draws the outside once again. Figures to get a good trip as rival who is to his direct inside tends to lug inward. The one to beat.

Race 7 2-4-1

Race 8 3-9-10-6