

Presque Isle Downs Selections and Analysis by Dick Powell Thursday 10/22/20

Race One:

- 1st: **(7) BUSCH LATTE** – did nothing in two starts here last year but has improved big time when blinkers were added in August. He just missed in his first two starts of the year and now after two poor starts, he drops way down in class for Lance Stokes.
- 2nd: **(3) BREVET OFFICER** – just missed here last out against slightly better company but in all the years I have been handicapping PID, I have never seen leading rider Pablo Morales ride for Wayne Rice. Not sure what it means, if anything.
- 3rd: **(8) KOALA BEAR** – speedball couldn't hang on going two turns off the long layoff and ran much better going short last out.

Race Two:

- 1st: **(1) U KNOW I B LION** – has done her best running going two turns so throw out her recent sprints and her form is quite acceptable. Last out, she was right there in the deep stretch before weakening after chasing a fast pace and she gets Morales back aboard.
- 2nd: **(5) LITTLE SNIP** – horse for the course ran well going two turns so throw out her poor effort going two turns two starts back. She showed good speed last out before weakening late against these. Erin Walker rides back.
- 3rd: **(3) TROIS PONTS** – rallied from left field to just miss as the lukewarm favorite last out here against one class better.

Race Three:

- 1st: **(1) COOLER SCHEDULE** – missed by a neck two starts back when she chased a brutal pace going two turns then she waltzed on the front end and went gate to wire. She meets open bottom-level claimers which is a move up in class but it looks like she can handle it.
- 2nd: **(6) NEW FOUND TREASURE** – turf horse making her Tapeta debut for Mark Salvaggio who wins 29% dropping down two or more class levels and 14% with his overall claimers. She won two of four starts coming in here and gets Harry Hernandez.
- 3rd: **(7) OUR CLOSURE** – beat this claiming level three starts back then won here last out when moved up in class.

Race Four:

- 1st: **(10) VALENTINE BUG** – was soundly beaten in his first four career starts then broke his maiden here in a long sprint when he sat just off the pace. He came back against this allowance level and was a good second. Teresa Connelly wins 23% with her allowance runners.
- 2nd: **(1A) GENEVIEVE'S Z VA** – speedy filly went gate to wire three starts back then moved up to this state-bred allowance level and held well to be third. She was out of her league last out against open \$40K optional claimers but picks up Willie Martinez.
- 3rd: **(6) SWEET N SILVER** – one-dimensional closer moved up to this allowance level and raced evenly both times.

Race Five:

- 1st: **(5) CARAVEL** – won her first two career starts in tur sprints at Penn National then shipped here and beat open company stakes foes from just off the pace. She went back to the turf last out but caught yielding ground going two turns and tired late.
- 2nd: **(6) MADAM MEENA** – ran well on the dirt against open allowance foes at Park Racing then romped in a stakes race on a sloppy track at Delaware Park. Daughter of Include makes her Tapeta debut for Jamie Ness who wins 23% first start after a win.
- 3rd: **(1) REMAIN ANONYMOUS** – returned to the races off a 10-month layoff and just missed by a length from post 12 in her Tapeta debut.

Race Six:

- 1st: **(6) STUCK UP** – broke his maiden here last year in his career debut. After racing mostly on the turf this year, he was an even fourth two starts back then came back with a wide-trip second against similar claiming company with Huber Villa-Gomez.
- 2nd: **(1) LEXATOGA** – broke his maiden on the turf two starts back on the turf at Delaware Park when blinkers were added then could not overcome a poor start at Parx Racing. He tries Tapeta for the first time but has been training on it at Fair Hill for Ricky Hendriks.
- 3rd: **(9) DOMINANT STRANGER** – has yet to win here in ten tries but has yet to run a poor race as she just missed last out.

Race Seven:

- 1st: **(8) F F ROCKET** – broke her maiden here in her Tapeta debut but then went to Woodbine for the Queen's plate where he was outrun. He stayed up there and ran poorly at 1 ¼ miles in an off-the-turf event and now returns to a more realistic spot for Joe Martin.
- 2nd: **(6) PEPPER** – took her eight starts to break here maiden which she did going six furlongs then she moved up to this allowance level and rallied for third. She takes on males but her last two races were strong enough to fit with these.
- 3rd: **(7) ALPHALFA** – almost went gate to wire three starts back here then did nothing on the dirt at Churchill. He came back here with a good second last out.

Race Eight:

- 1st: **(3) J BERESFORD TIPTON** – one-dimensional closer raced evenly on the turf two starts back at Laurel then came back there against the same group and just missed. Son of Animal Kingdom, who won the Dubai World Cup (G1) on Tapeta, is training on it at Fair Hill.
- 2nd: **(11) THAT'S BUCKBEAK** – horse for the course just missed with these here two starts back and then tired last out when blinkers were removed. They come back on and he should be a major pace factor with Nate Vickers.
- 3rd: **(5) ANIMAL KINGSTON** – tries Tapeta for the first time after winning a steeplechase race last out.

Race Nine:

1st: **(11) STEVIS MAN** – horse for the course has won 17 times in 34 tries over the years at the age of 10. He just missed last out against better company and now drops down in class for John Bourke who wins 18% with his overall synthetic-track starters.

2nd: **(5) NEVERLOOKBACK** – showed good speed two starts back then missed by a head against this level after opening up a huge lead in the stretch. Ed Rojas wins 20% with his synthetic-track starters and 29% when he rides Eddie Dominguez.

3rd: **(6) RED HOT LOOKS** – speedball could be tough to catch dropping in class and picking up Pablo Morales.

Race Ten:

1st: **(6) FIELD OF COURAGE** – rallied for third in his Tapeta debut then he dropped a bit and just missed. He came back to win as the odds-on favorite and now drops down in class for Lance Stokes who wins 33% first start after a win.

2nd: **(7) GOLDEN EMPEROR** – went gate to wire two starts back against these in fast time then just missed from post 10 going 5 ½ furlongs. Horse for the course tries a long sprint with Willie Martinez riding back.

3rd: **(10) BIG CHICKEN MAN** – has dangerous speed on occasion and should hang on for a piece against these.

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