Megan Devine's Selections

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*Selections are subject to change. Tune in to the simulcast and Twitter for the most up to date information and check program numbers for accuracy.

Race 1:   2-7-12-4
#2 BELIEVEINHOLDAYS gets the ultimate class drop from Maiden Special Weight to Maiden Claiming. He's finished well in a number of his races and comes in fit today. #12 YONDERING hasn't done much running yet, but is in 3rd off the layoff after showing more speed in his 2nd start back, an angle I really like. #7 MJOLNIR also gets a drop in class and an excuse for the last race after bobbling at the start. Wondering if that 2nd start was just a product of 1st time Lasix… #4 BLUE LUTE runs for last meet's leading trainer, Mike Maker, for the first time. #3 STUART HALL has some form, but all of it has been on dirt and Dallas Stewart wins at only 5% with 1st time turf horses.

Race 2:   2-6-5-3-10
#2 RESTLESS RAMBLER has experience sprinting on the turf, albeit at 5 ½, not 6 ½ furlongs and has faced tougher than most in here. #6 HICKORY HILL finds himself in an easier spot after a good 3rd at Ellis. We just have to see if he can handle the turf for the 1st time. #5 HE'S NO SAINT cuts back in distance today but his trainer wins at 17% from Route to Sprint. #3 NOMINAL DOLLARS is 0 for 2 on the turf but breaks for a generally turf savvy barn and gets a rider who wins at 20% with Maker. #10 ALIEN SEASON comes in off a win and has won ½ of his career races. Love that bullet work over the Keeneland track on August 31.

Race 3:   6-8-5-2
#6 FOGGY KITTEN, a filly against the colts, has an out already, which should help against first time starters. Wesley Ward wins at 26% with 2 year olds. #8 MUSICAL MAN seems to be impressive in his morning drills but the trainer wins at just 12% with debut runners. #5 HAWAIIAN NOISES, see above Ward stat, plus trainer wins at 30% with first time starters. Jockey/trainer combo hits at 41%. #2 VEHEMENT also has a race under his girth and is well bred for a turf sprint.

Race 4:   10-5-3-8
#10 GALTON finished 3rd in a stakes race in August and now drops in for the tag. His off efforts can be attributed to bad starts and tougher fields. #5 COMPASS ZONE also gets a drop in class after trying Grade 3 company. He's done well at this level before and with last meet's leading rider. #3 HONOVI has a race and a win here at Kentucky Downs and runs 3rd off the layoff after showing more speed last out. #8 CLEAR N CONVINCING has won his last 2 races and runs for a jockey/trainer combo who win at 36% for the year.

Race 5:   10-9-11-4
#10 FAYETTE WARRIOR debuted on turf and has shown fitness in his morning routine since then. Ward wins with 25% of maidens in their 2nd starts. #9 LOVE POINT gets Lasix for the 1st time in his 2nd career start and has the experience of an out on grass. #11 WORLD has finished in the top 3 in his only 2 starts but those were on dirt. It looks like the light bulb has come on for #4 BRITTAS BAY, who has the most experience in the field. Workouts have been impressive.

Race 6:   1-10-6-(13 if in)
#1 DEADLINE gets a much needed class drop. Her best efforts have come over longer distances. #10 MAXIMUS BEAUTY did well when the last race was taken off the turf, note that she bested the rest of the field by 11 lengths. Getting back to grass today should help. #6 SMART TOGETHER only has 1 start in the USA and it was an ok effort. She has experience going long on turf. #13 BLOSSOM TRAIL MISS gets California jockey Drayden Van Dyke and improved with added distance last out.

Race 7:   2-10-8-1-(13 if in)
#2 NAUGHTY JOKER has consistently been firing bullets over the Keeneland surface to prep for this. Ward very successful with first time starters and 2 year old horses. #10 ARMONY'S ANGEL gets Lasix for the 1st time in her 3rd career start. Can't fault her for finishing 2nd in her only 2 races. #8 PRINCESS CAUSEWAY really improved on grass 2nd time out, jockey change to Landeros who wins at 15% for this barn. #1 MACABRE breaks for a barn that only wins at 8% first time but is off to a hot start at the meet. #13 PAPER CLIP should improve on grass and in her second start. Trust in Ward.

Race 8:   6-5-8-1
#6 SHE'S ALL SKEET is well measured at this level. She has decent experience on turf and gets Sharp's first call rider. #5 PSALMODY has been ultra consistent and Joe Sharp wins at 15% when horses run for him for the first time. Wondering about fitness off the layoff. #8 FAIRYLAND has already been 2nd in a stakes race and traveled to Royal Ascot. Has been very carefully placed and looks fit. #1 CHEEKY CHERUB was overmatched last time, but fits well here. Her best efforts have been on turf.

Race 9:   5-12-7-4
#5 NEXT SHARES has run very well against some very tough California turf horses. He does need pace to run at but he brings in a lot of back class. #12 MASTER MERION was scratched from the $750k Tourist Mile (won by a Ward horse) on Opening Day. He has a win over this turf course and has been hard to fault throughout his career. #7 SIEM RIEP has early speed, and with Graham aboard should be hustled to the front early. #4 COWBOY CULTURE will sit off the pace and has won 50% of his career races.

Race 10:   11-9-1
#11 COEXISTENCE, on numbers alone could be a single. He's also a potential lone speed horse. If they let him sneak away with it and he can get the distance he should be tough. #9 KALLIO may be fitter after the race at Ellis. Respect the connections that win together at 21% of the time. #1 GENTLE RULER has the experience over longer distances, which could make or break this race. Seems like she's adjustable, can sit well off the pace or be a bit closer to the leaders, as well.