

Race by Race with Ellis Park Analyst, Megan Devine



Race 1:

ROYAL WARRANT has a lot of experience on the turf at Lone Star. He won with a slow pace back in May but hasn't been able to close since. TIZON raced on the turf at Ellis Park this July and was gaining to finish a close third. SHOBIZ STAR returns out of that same race where he finished 2nd over the good turf. He also has a closing style but trainer Jeff Barkley has yet to secure a win here. QUIETER AMERICA was the 5th place finisher in that Ellis Park race but may have needed that race off a short layoff.

Selections: 9-2-8-6

Race 2:

RED BLUE AND TRUE drops in class after a 4th place finish at Indiana. He last worked a bullet on July 6th at Churchill Downs and owner, Midwest Thoroughbreds, has continuously sent out competitive horses. STAX ON STACKS hasn't raced since October of last year but trainer Brad Cox wins at 21% off of a 180+ day layoff. CLEVER NOW last raced in March at a tough Oaklawn Park meet. Chris Hartman wins 25% of Maiden Claiming races and 23% off a 31-60 day layoff. CHRISTOPHER K was previously trained by George Arnold II and raced in tougher spots at Churchill Downs and Keeneland. He may appreciate the class relief here.

Selections: 3-1-4-8

Race 3:

PLENTIFUL was purchased by prominent owner WinStar Farm (owner of 2016 Belmont Stakes winner, Creator) for \$160,000. He looks to be professional in the mornings and his trainer does well with first time starters. MR. MISUNDERSTOOD is trained by Brad Cox who wins at 33% with 2 year olds and 31% in Maiden Special Weight races. DERECHO WARRIOR will be the first starter of the meet for trainer Donnie Von Hemel. His workout on July 6th shows that he's got some speed. LOOKIN AT LEE, also trained by Steve Asmussen had a 5f bullet work right here at Ellis Park.

Selections: 4-5-1-6

Race 4:

CONQUEST UNOHOMBRE was purchased last year for \$310,000. He starts for the first time for trainer Mark Casse who has been in the money with his Ellis Park starters so far and is on a hot streak winning big races across the country. CONSEQUENTIAL is also trained by Mark Casse and has clocked some very fast workouts at Keeneland. He seems to be very speedy and bred well for turf. FIRST BANK OF PAPA, sired by Uncle Mo, who also sired our 2016 KY Derby winner, has been working well at Lone Star and is best bred for this distance.

Selections: 5-3-4-9

Race 5:

SNOW LEOPARD raced here this month to finish 2nd, but has been in the money in his past 9 starts. He'll try to set the pace in here. ALMOST ENGLISH comes off a rest, having last raced at Keeneland, but has put in a few serious workouts since then. G G'S SECONDCHANCE will try to win from off of the pace for a trainer that has a small number of horses but a high win percentage. He's finished in the money 6/8 times on dirt and at this distance. DOUBLEDOWN AGAIN looks for a second chance at Ellis after finishing behind SNOW LEOPARD and a horse that ran next in a stake.

Selections: 7-6-1-2

Race 6:

DANCER DIANNE tries a Maiden Special Weight for the sixth time. She hopped the start last time, so throw out that race and consider her efforts in the other. STORMY WYN gets blinkers today for a trainer that is winning at 20% this year and at 27% with 31-60 day layoffs. She'll need a clean break. VICTORY'S SECRET was wide in her last race but still finished 2nd. Could improve. PARKING TICKET was off slow in her first start here at Ellis a few weeks ago, but still ran very competitive.

Selections: 11-1-4-8

Race 7:

AWESOME THOUGHT moves up for trainer Vicky Oliver. This gelding has tried Ellis Park twice before with one second place finish. He's also won at Keeneland at this distance on the turf. ZAPPERINI gets blinkers today in hopes of improving off his last 5th place finish. He hasn't had success since his first two starts, but has been training well. NESSY looks to have a lot of promise, finishing on the board in all of her four starts. She comes off of a win at Churchill Downs over the turf at this distance. ANGEL OF JOY drops in class but moves up in distance after tiring at a mile.

Selections: 4-5-8-2

Race 8:

AQTAAR will try to set the pace here after two wins over the grass at this distance in the winter. Seems to be bred for turf and two turns. OWL CREEK has been running on the synthetic track at Turfway and also comes off a bit of a layoff but moves down in class. BLAME ANGEL last won at Churchill Downs on the dirt but moves back to turf after a bullet work over 4 furlongs. This one has the versatility to make a late run or set the pace. DURSEY ISLAND has been working very well at Skylight Training Center over the synthetic surface. He hopes to improve with a bit of class relief today.

Selections: 10-5-2-4