BREEDERS' CUP TIPS

Saturday, October 31st







Your Handicappers







Kathryn Sharp

Iulio Garrido

Justin Nicholson







#makeyourheartrace

Race 3 - Juvenile Fillies

Nickname broke last in her debut three races ago but still managed to finish a decent fourth in a field of eight, which included fellow rival Rachel's Valentina. Nickname followed that up with back-to-back wins including a clear victory in the Grade 1 Frizette in her first try at a mile distance. She's got enough speed to stay close to the leaders early on and that should allow her to be in good striking position throughout the race. - Jose Contreras

#7 Nickname (4/1) #9 Rachel's Valentina (7/2) #2 Tap to It (8/1) #10 Songbird (7/5)

DAN - Land Over Sea • VINCE - Tap to It • JOSE - Nickname • KATHRYN - Rachel's Valentina • JULIO - Tap to It • JUSTIN - Tap To It

Race 4 - Turf Sprint .

The TwinSpires Turf Sprint figures to be a mad scramble, with any number of horses having a legitimate chance of winning the race. Lady Shipman may prove to be the fastest in the early stages of the race, but I am picking Green Mask to run her down in the final furlang. I like the fact that Green Mask will be doing his best running from off the pace, and his trainer (Wesley Ward) does very well in these tricky sprints on the turf. - Vince Matthews

#7 Green Mask (15/1) #5 Lady Shipman (5/2) #14 Mongolian Saturday (15/1) #12 Ready for Rye (10/1)

DAN - The Great War • VINCE - Green Mask • JOSE - Pure Sensation • KATHRYN - Pure Sensation • JULIO - Lady Shipman • JUSTIN - Something Extra

Race 5 - Filly and Mare Sprint

In a race loaded with "need-the-lead" types, among them La Verdad, Stonetastic and Super Majesty, the Filly and Mare Sprint should set up for a horse sitting just off of them. I'm not sure how interested Taris will be in rating off the pace but that seems to be the approach they've taken with her since Gary Stevens started riding her in August. The best race of her career was going 7 furlongs in the Raven Run Stakes at Keeneland last year. That's exactly what she'll be asked to do here. You can't overlook Judy the Beauty, the mare who won this race last year. However, I do think she's looks a step slower this year. Cavorting had an amazing summer at Saratoga but the 14 post could be a major obstacle. - Dan Tordjman

#3 Taris (12/1) #11 Judy the Beauty (6/1) #14 Cavorting (3/1) #5 Artemis Agrotera (20/1)

DAN - Taris • VINCE - Wavell Avenue • JOSE - Taris • KATHRYN - Taris • JULIO - Dame Dorothy • JUSTIN - Taris

Race 6 - Filly and Mare Turf

The Breeders' Cup Filly and Mare Turf includes several decorated American campaigners facing off against a talented group of invaders, not only from Europe but South America as well. I landed on the very talented, and quite durable, 6-year-old, Stephanie's Kitten. She relishes softer ground, and could find herself fairly close to the pace in this one. Legatissimo has the most clout of the foreign horses, but I'll put her just behind Secret Gesture, who has already shown she can handle the ship to the US. - Justin Nicholson

#11 Stephanie's Kitten (10/1) #12 Secret Gesture (8/1) #3 Legatissimo (8/5)

#2 Sentiero Italia (15/1)

DAN - Dacita • VINCE - Dacita • JOSE - Secret Gesture • KATHRYN - Sentiero Italia • JULIO - Hard Not to Like • JUSTIN - Stephanie's Kitten

Race 7 - Sprint

As always, there is a great deal of early speed signed up to compete in the TwinSpires Sprint, and for that reason, I am going to take a chance with a longshot who should be doing his best running late. Stallwalkin' Dude has a nice inside post position in the TwinSpires Sprint, and most recently ran very well to finish 2nd in the Vosburgh Invitational at Belmont Park. Should speedsters such as Runhappy and Private Zone tire each other out early, I think Stallwalkin' Dude has a good chance to win the race late. - Vince Matthews

#3 Stallwalkin' Dude (15/1) #13 Private Zone (5/2) #5 Runhappy (3/1) #10 Salutos Amigos (12/1)

DAN - Runhappy • VINCE - Stallwalkin' Dude • JOSE - Masochistic • KATHRYN - Runhappy • JULIO - Runhappy • JUSTIN - Stallwalkin' Dude

Race 8 - Mile

The last time the Breeders' Cup was held in Kentucky, over at Churchill Downs, the Woodbine Mile supplied the top two finishers in the Breeders' Cup Mile. I'm going the same direction this year, and picking Mondialiste, the Woodbine Mile winner on top. She made a huge late run through traffic over yielding ground, and should get a similar setup on Saturday. Make Believe's only bad race came on rock hard ground at Royal Ascot. Grand Arch has never missed the exacta at Keeneland in 6 starts on the turf course there. Tourist is improving and could be coming up to a career best race. - Justin Nicholson

#4 Mondialiste (15/1) #3 Make Believe (3/1) #1 Grand Arch (15/1) #6 Tourist (15/1)

DAN - Time Test • VINCE - Esoterique • JOSE - Obviously • KATHRYN - Mondialiste • JULIO - Esoterique • JUSTIN - Mondialiste

Race 9 - Juvenile

Fourteen youngsters contest Saturday's 9th race, the mile and a sixteenth Sentient Jet Juvenile. While I expect heavy money to come in on California shipper Nyquist, his margins of victory have been steadily shrinking as the going has gotten longer, so I will look to beat him in this spot. This race is loaded with speedsters who should jockey for early position, and possibly the only horse to be there if the speed falls apart is deserving ML favorite Brody's Cause, who won a G1 over the course earlier this month. For a long shot, I like Unbridled Outlaw, who went off at low odds in the G3 Iroquois but was checked hard in the final turn and still made it up for a gutsy 3rd. With a nice 5F work leading into this race, and a solid excuse for his performance last out, he seems poised for a big improvement. - *Kathryn Sharp*

#7 Brody's Cause (7/2)

#4 Unbridled Outlaw (15/1)

#3 Greenpointcrusader (4/1)

#9 Exaggerator (6/1)

DAN - Unbridled Outlaw • VINCE - Exaggerator • JOSE - Greenpointcrusader • KATHRYN - Brody's Cause • JULIO - Nyquist • JUSTIN - Exaggerator

Race 10 - Turf

Ordak Dan arrives from Argentina with a record of six wins from thirteen starts on the turf including two of those victories at the 1 1/2 mile distance of the Breeders' Cup Turf. The far outside post should allow him to break cleanly and drop into a comfortable position after analyzing what all the runners to his inside do going into the first turn. I like a couple of his local workouts and he's racing as a first time gelding at the age of seven years old. - Jose Contreras

#12 Ordak Dan (30/1) #1 Golden Horn (4/5) #11 Red Rifle (10/1) #9 Found (8/1)

DAN - Golden Horn • VINCE - The Pizza Man • JOSE - Ordak Dan • KATHRYN - Big Blue Kitten • JULIO - Golden Horn • JUSTIN - The Pizza Man

Race 11 - Classic

The American Pharoah vs. Beholder matchup makes for a great storyline but I'm going to side with the Triple Crown winner - and I don't think it'll even be close. American Pharoah hasn't run a bad race all year and his Travers loss to Keen Ice was more than forgivable, given the amount of pace pressure he faced throughout. He's been working lights out and could draw away and win his final career race in style. Honor Code didn't thrive in the slop at Belmont last out in the Kelso but that was merely a tuneup for this race. Expect him to be flying late for the runner-up spot. You can also look for Beholder to run well and fight all the way to the wire. However, you can't compare the competition she's been beating up on in California with the multiple graded stakes winners she'll be facing here in the Classic. Finally, I'd expect another strong showing from Keen Ice. I don't think he'll get quite the setup he got when defeating American Pharoah at Saratoga. - Dan Tordjman

#4 American Pharoah (6/5) #9 Honor Code (6/1) #10 Beholder (3/1)

#2 Keen Ice (12/1)

DAN - American Pharoah • VINCE - Gleneagles • JOSE - Beholder • KATHRYN - American Pharoah • JULIO - Honor Code • JUSTIN - Honor Code