OAK TREE AT SANTA ANITA ANALYSIS

By BRAD FREE

Racing Daily Form

BEST BET: Bilo (6th race)

First Race:1.Fight On 2.Absolute Glory 3.Fenice

FIGHT ON was re-claimed last time by Jack Carava, and the 8-for-34 veteran takes advantage of a wrinkle in the conditons to drop from open $10k claiming into a $12.5k claiming race for nonwinners of a race this year. His forwardly placed running style shoud play well in a mile race that came up light on speed. ABSOLUTE GLORY dives off the class ladder, from N2X allowance into a restricted claimer. He also stretches from a sprint to a route, and figures to be on or near slow fractions. FENICE continues to slide in class. Beaten a length last time in an open $16k claimer, he drops to restricted company and switches to leading rider Rafael Bejarano. CAPT. SPARROW has never raced this low.

Second Race:1.Power Blitz 2.Dynamic Range 3.Candy Arches

POWER BLITZ won this condition on this course in March, and returns at the same level while entered for the $40k claiming tag. The "best horse" in the field, he retruns from a layoff of nearly six months and can win if he can stay a mile and a half. No reason he will not. DYNAMIC RANGE disappointed as the favorite two weeks ago, but that one-mile race was shorter than he prefers. He stretches to a distance he should like, and figures for a good trip racing alone in second. The potential lonely leader is CANDY ARCHES, third start back from a layoff. He set the pace and faded last time in a main-track race that was dominated by closers. But he should be loose out front in this paceless turf marathon. He could be long gone.

Third Race:1.Evening Jewel 2. Top Seeded 3.Stunning Ally

EVENING JEWEL improved second time out with a good runner-up effort and finishing like a filly who will like the additional half-furlong of this six and one-half furlong race. One more step forward ought to be enough. TOP SEEDED bucked a perceived anti-inside bias and finished third by a neck in a race from which the winner and fourth-place finisher returned to win. TOP SEEDED broke from post 10, but raced inside most of the trip and finished gamely between foes. She shows two good works since raced, and is likely to improve second time out. STUNNING ALLY had a troubled trip in her fourth-place debut. Maidens trained by Julio Canani typically improve with racing.

Fourth Race:1.Msty Aly 2.Dine At Nine 3.Sky Marni

MSTY ALY defeated 10 rivals last time in a $10k claimer, her fifth win from 15 starts. She strings together her good races, and from the outside post might tuck into a cozy trip just off the speed. The front end will be occupied by DINE AT NINE, whose game is pure speed. She set a fast pace last time, opened up a huge lead, and held for her third Santa Anita win in seven starts here. Win or lose, she is the one to catch. Interestingly, front-runners have not held particularly well this meet at five and a half. SKY MARNI will grind away late. She missed by a half-length last time in a $16k claimer, drops a notch, and gets a favorable pace scenario for her stalking style.

Fifth Race:1.Red Sun 2.Hot Damon 3.Amazombie

RED SUN showed promise his only career start here in January, finishing a closing second in a highly rated route (83 Beyer) on the main track. He has a sharp workout pattern for his return, is bred for grass, and figures tough to beat first start back, second start of his career. HOT DAMON broke slow in her debut a month ago, but he finished well for fourth, and can only move forward with a race under his belt. AMAZOMBIE ran super in his debut three starts back, then regressed in two subsequent starts. He cuts back to a sprint, and based on how he has lost his punch late going two turns, this downhill sprint might be perfect.

Sixth Race:1.Bilo 2.Ballistic Heat 3.Copa de Plata

BILO ran way too good to lose in his comeback one month ago. He dueled through a wicked pace, put away the speed, dug in, and only got worn down late. The back-class 9-year-old moves up two class levels, and catches a field void of speed. If the race unfolds on the track like it does on paper, BILO can make an uncontested lead and be long gone out front. BALLISTIC HEAT is on a roll, and seeking his third straight. If the top choice does not stay the trip, this race is anyone's from behind. No late-runner is sharper than BALLISTIC HEAT. COPA DE PLATA was in slightly over his head for a $25k tag last time.He won this race at this $16k claiming level one back.

Seventh Race:1.Niger River 2. Paddy's Magic 3.Megillah

This race is impossible. NIGER RIVER has not hit the board in four tries on grass, but he is in acceptable current form and swtiches to a top grass rider. PADDY'S MAGIC trounced maiden-claiming sprinters by nearly six lengths in his comebacK. Two turns, grass and wiinners are all new, but the lightly raced (three starts) gelding obviously has ability and his rivals in this maiden-40 starter allowance are soft. MEGILLAH missed by only three-quarters in a downhill sprint at this class level that will make him one of the favorites stretching out to two turns.

Eighth Race:1.Kays and Jays 2.Irish Gypsy 3.Saucey Evening

KAYS AND JAYS returns from a four-month layoff wiht a solid workout pattern for trainer Mike Mitchell. The G3-placed sprinter meets a field that came up light on speed, and if she breaks from the rail she can roll gate to wire as the lone front-runner. The knock is that seven furlongs has not been a good distance this meet for front-runners. IRISH GYPSY won a N2X against older last out, and these 3-year-old stakes fillies are not much tougher. If the top pick does not stay the distance, this race could fall apart nicely for her closing style. SAUCEY EVENING has won two stakes on this surface, but her midsummer form in Canada and Kentucky has not been up to par. First start since August, shortening to a sprint, she will be rolling from far back.

Ninth Race:1.Easy Ashley 2. Warren's R Ready 3.Onefunsonofagun

EASY ASHLEY set a wicked pace and tired late in a big comeback on the main track. The 5-for-12 speedster is proven on grass (4 of 6), she is the quickest in this bunch, and with a comeback race under her belt she can lead gate to wire. WARREN'S R READY set the pace to deep stretch in the $100k Cal Cup Distaff, before weakening to fourth. She drops in company, switches to jockey Rafael Bejarano, and might get a good trip positioned right behind the top choice. ONEFUNSONOFAGUN ran poorly last time without an obvious alibi. But her good win one start back at Fairplex makes her a logical contender.

Tenth Race:1.Flyinginformation 2.Flash Dance 3.Glory Forever

It is appropriate the final race of the 2009 Oak Tree meet is a $25k maiden-claimer. Too many races and not enough horses to fill the ambitious Oak Tree racing schedule made maiden-25s the staple of the season. FLYINGINFORMATION drops to the bottom after two good races at the maiden-40 level. Either of her last two starts are good enough to win it. FLASH DANCE is 0-for-15, but she has 10 thirds and three seconds, missed by only a neck last time out. GLORY FOREVER wasted an easy trip on the lead last time. But for the first time in her career, at least she was competitive. That's a wrap for the autumn racing season; the fall meet at Hollywood Park begins on Friday.