



THE GREEN SHEET

Full-Card Analysis and Selections

John M. Gaver III

www.johngaver.com

CHURCHILL DOWNS, FALL 2016 MEET

Wednesday, November 9

RACE ONE:

CAP TRICK figures to benefit from the time off, as he had been running with regularity without a break since last winter. Six-year-old ran well off the claim while moving up in class for his new connections and has finished in the money in eight-of-11 starts this year; comes running in the stretch drive. **MANHATTAN MISCHIEF**'s form was suspect before he was stopped on back in September, and he will be making his first start off the claim for Mike Maker, always a good betting angle. He drops in class and is capable of a winning effort off the sidelines; lots to like. **BELVIN** has shown some early lick in the past, and may find himself on the front-end from his inside draw this paceless extended sprint. He just missed the win facing open claiming types for a quarter in the slop under the Twin Spires back in the spring, and he drops in class for a solid barn in this spot. He's finished in the money in four-of-seven starts locally; contender for \$16K. Four of **BEAR'S BIG BOY**'s five lifetime wins have been on a synthetic surface, but he drops in class off his last start and was only a neck off the win facing similar company three starts back at this seven-furlong trip; threat in a contentious affair.

SELECTIONS: 4-3-1-6

RACE TWO:

The chestnut daughter of Flatter, **TOBY GIRL**, will be a deserved favorite in this sprint for juvenile fillies, as she is the controlling speed in a heat lacking front-runners. She broke running in her debut at Keeneland, made all the pace and hung around for third, beaten two and a half lengths in a seven-furlong heat that went in 1:23 3/5, pretty quick for two-year-old fillies. Her adversaries will have to run her down to beat her; choice.

LANDS DOWN STREET has yet to run a bad race from two previous starts,

and will return to the main track in this spot off a solid effort on the grass in Chicago in her last outing. The addition of blinkers seemed to help a bit last time, and she's 10-1 on the morning line; likely overlay. **SISTER KAN**'s form turned around when she dropped in for \$40K, the blinkers came off and she tried dirt for the first time at Keeneland in her last outing; contends if able to replicate her last start. **THIRTYDAYSINJUNE** has shown little in three previous starts, but she has hooked some live maiden allowance fields in the past and creeps in for a high-end tag in this spot. Returns to the dirt and turns back in distance; on the fringes.

SELECTIONS: 4-5-1-8

RACE THREE:

The nine-year-old veteran **UNION BOWMAN** is better on the main track and may have needed his last start on the grass off a seven-week plus layoff. Bay has finished in the money in three-of-five starts in Louisville and drops in class in this affair. He seems well-meant in for \$7,500; tighter this time. **ACADEMY BAY** is capable of a winning effort off the sidelines, and he drops in for a \$7,500 tag after hooking restricted stakes company in Indiana in three of his past four starts. Bay colt likes to win and should appreciate the stretch out to a two-turn event. He's 4-1 on the morning line; don't ignore. **FLYIN TREY** will make start number 110 in this affair, and he's coming off a dominant wire-to-wire score against lesser stock at Indiana Grand. Consistent nine-year-old hasn't missed the trifecta in his past five starts on the main track and has a money finish locally; using in exotic wagers. The Mike Maker re-claim **TAPANNA** won his last main track start when in for a tag, and he's eligible for improvement making his second start off a freshening. Likes to stalk the pace on the main track; more interested as the price increases.

SELECTIONS: 5-6-7-9

RACE FOUR:

WAR POPPY has been the beaten favorite in four of her past five races, but she makes her first start for a new outfit in this affair. Discreet Cat filly should be forwardly placed stretching out around two-turns and has placed in fifty percent of her starts lifetime under the Twin Spires; contender. **OHEKA** drops in for a tag and gave a good account of herself in her first start for a new outfit, finishing fifth of 12, beaten six and a half lengths against maiden allowance types in Indiana. November 3rd bullet move in :48 4/5 over the deep going at The Thoroughbred Center noted; improvement expected. **CROWN ROYAL QUEEN** finished well in her first start in over a year facing maiden \$15K types in Lexington, where she rallied from off the pace to be beaten a length and a half for all the money. She figures to be on or near the early lead stretching out, and there isn't a

lot of early pace assembled in this soft main claiming heat; threat. **HARLAN'S ROSE** didn't care for the turf ion her last start, and she drops in for a tag for the first time. Lone prior money finish was on the main track, and she figures to be tighter in her second start off a lengthy layoff; exotics play.

SELECTIONS: 1-5-8-7

RACE FIVE:

The chestnut filly **CELTIC GOLD** ran a good race without blinkers in her career debut over the Tapeta surface at Presque Isle facing maiden allowance company, and the hood comes off today off a lackluster effort on the grass at Keeneland 18 days ago. Pure Prize filly takes a significant class drop and will appreciate turning back to a sprint; choice. **LINEUP FOR KISSES** returns to the races off a near five-month hiatus, and continues her descent in class in the spot. Line of David filly has shown some early speed in the past and catches a field that doesn't have a lot of early pop. She gets in light with the 10-pound bug named to ride; will be a pace factor –can't ignore. **WHISPERING DANCER** didn't show much in her career debut at Keeneland, however she gained some valuable racing experience and drops in class in this spot. She gets wheeled back off 11 days rest and Landeros stays put; figures for part. **MS ADVISOR** took action at the windows in her most recent start and didn't fire from off the pace when dropping in for a tag for the first time. Continues her class descent in this affair; minor award candidate.

SELECTIONS: 8-4-5-6

RACE SIX:

MUTATION was razor-sharp in his last start, where he wired a field of slightly lesser adversaries in rapid splits of :21 4/5, :44 1/5, :56 and 1:08 2/5 and won by daylight. Bay colt has won four-of-nine starts this year and has finished in the money in three-of-four starts lifetime under the Twin Spires. Like the fact that journeyman Perry Ouzts is named for the assignment, as he knows how to get one out of the gate. His mount doesn't have to be on the front-end to win, however; contender. **WINDSURFER** has finished in the money in all three of his sprint starts this year and will make his first start off then claim for trainer Chris Hartman in this affair. He has to overcome his zero-for-eight lifetime record at Churchill, but he is eligible for improvement in the third start of his current form cycle. Should get honest splits in front of him on which to close; comes running in the lane. **OFFICER GRIFFIN** has comparable speed to the top choice and he loves Churchill Downs, having finished in the money in eight-of-10 starts lifetime under the Twin Spires. Jockey Gilligan is at his best on speed and his mount can get game when hooked early, but he hasn't been able to hit

the board in his past two starts at this six and a half furlong trip; hangs on for part with a top effort. **BUCK MAGIC** is another that likes the main track at Churchill (in the money in eight-of-10 local starts), and he has won his past three starts for a tag, including a stalking win at Churchill back in the spring hooking similar rivals at 90 cents on the dollar. He's 5-1 on the morning line; has the looks of an overlay.

SELECTIONS: 2-8-3-9

RACE SEVEN:

STORM THE HILL has yet to put forth a poor effort from two prior starts one the grass, and her form improved when trying a "firm" turf course in her most recent start at Keeneland. She has plenty of room to move forward making just her third career start; contender. **UNFADING BEAUTY** didn't run poorly off a near seven-week layoff at Keeneland in her latest outing, especially when one considers she was unprepared at the start, made a move, then faded in the drive. Her turf form around two-turns is solid, and she has the tactical speed to overcome her wide post draw; threat. **GULL ISLAND** broke from the 11-hole, fell out of the gate, yet rallied to split a field of 12, beaten five and a half lengths for all the money in her most recent outing. Well-bred daughter of Giant's Causeway likely improves upon that effort in this spot making just her second career start; tighter this time. **MARKET TOP**'s form was improving before her connections stopped on her back in September. Bay daughter of Cape Blanco has been training forwardly during her time away from the races; minor award candidate.

SELECTIONS: 3-12-9-5

RACE EIGHT:

We'll take a shot with the longshot **CHIP VAN WINKLE** in this wide-open, second-tier conditioned claiming event going three-quarters of a mile on the main track, as he drops back in for a tag and will try the dirt—a surface he's bred top and bottom to handle—for the first time. He won his only previous start sprinting for fun; choice at 15-1 on the morning line. **CRUSH** has never missed the trifecta at this class level and has finished in the money in two-of-three prior starts at Churchill. Son of Colonel John should get a good trip stalking the pace under Borel; contender. **ATTRACTION** makes his first start off the claim for a new outfit and drops in class. Gelded son of Blame has a pair of good races under her belt from two previous starts in Louisville and may not have cared for the surface in Lexington in his last outing; wouldn't ignore. **AMERICAN ROMA** overcame a poor start in his most recent outing at Keeneland facing similar company and rallied from off the pace to finish fifth of 12, beaten six and half lengths for all the money. He moves up over a wet surface; comes running to flush out exotic wagers.

SELECTIONS: 8-9-3-1

RACE NINE:

The bay **SKY FLIGHT** is the class of the field but will be making his first start since January 16 in this spot. Son of Sky Mesa has won three of his past four starts outside of stakes company, and he has run well over the Matt Winn turf course in the past. His recent A.M. moves are sharp; class relief makes him a player in this affair. **CRONINTHEBHARBARIAN** also holds a back-class advantage, is a minor stakes winner on the weeds, and he has finished in the money in five of six starts lifetime on turf. Stroll colt overcame a troubled trip in the stretch in his last start to finish second at 40-1, beaten two lengths for all the money, hooking similar stock in Lexington, and he's eligible for improvement making the third start of his current form cycle; contender on the hedge. The late-running **R. GREAT ADVENTURE** loves a flat mile on grass (won four-of-nine starts lifetime at this eight-furlong trip) and generally runs his race to pick up a piece of the purse money; comes running in the lane. The stakes-winner **HIGH NOON RIDER** failed to menace in his first start off the claim and has managed a lone third-place finish from five starts in 2016. On the positive side, he should appreciate the slight turn-back in distance and Florent Geroux stays put; best effort yields minor award.

SELECTIONS: 6-1-10-2

RACE TEN:

GREEN GOLD returns to the conditioned claiming ranks off a one-paced effort facing starter-allowance company in his most recent outing. Chestnut gelding has placed in five-of-nine starts lifetime and his form has been sharp at the class level. He gets a significant weight-break with the bug-girl named for the riding assignment; choice. **INSPIRE COURAGE** wasn't a factor in his past tree starts over a synthetic surface at Presque Isle, but he won his last start on dirt hooking tougher company at Keeneland back in the spring at even money. He's run well turning back in distance in the past; Tapeta-to-dirt angle looks playable. **SCARECROW** gets wheeled back off a week's rest for an outfit that does well with quick turnarounds. Bay colt has finished in the money in four-of-six local starts and will appreciate the extra eighth of a mile in this affair; contender. **FULL CLIP** is a little cheap, but his recent form in Ohio has been solid and he's a healthy 15-1 on the morning line; useful when spreading in exotic wagers.

SELECTIONS: 6-7-10-4