

SATURDAY, 02/09/23

C1 - PRIX CARPENTER - FONDATION CLAUDE POMPIDOU (PRIX DU LUDE) - 1650m (a1m40y) - TURF - Condition Race - Maiden - Flat - EUR € 23.000

- 1. HIMYAN** - Yoann Barille rides this Olympic Glory newcomer for trainer Edouard Monfort. Probably for another day
- 2. DSCHINGIS JADE** - Yann Barberot-trained Dschingis Secret filly who finished a well-beaten 9th on debut. Must improve to feature
- 3. SALMA** - Improved in her latest outing and did better than her finishing position (5th) may suggest. Is likely to be a factor here
- 4. VELIA** - Showed enough to work with when an encouraging 5th on debut and is likely to improve with that experience under the belt. Respect
- 5. MARA WOOD** - The most experienced runner in the race. Improved to finish 4th last time but must raise her game to have a say
- 6. LET'S GO GIRL** - Open to improvement with the benefit of experience having finished 8th on debut. Could get a look in
- 7. EXIGENCE** - Confirmed the improvement of her previous outing by finishing 3rd last time and is unlikely to stop there. Keep safe
- 8. BELISE** - Finished an encouraging 6th on debut and would have gained plenty from that experience. Will have more to offer
- 9. BANSHIE** - Joël Boissard-trained Johnny Barnes debutante closely related to Prince De Paname who placed at Listed level. Not taken lightly
- 10. UNEXPECTED GIRL** - Shalaa filly on debut for trainer Mathieu Brasme who has engaged Tristan Baron to ride. For another day
- 11. TEARDROP EXPLODES** - Ludovic Gadbin-trained Seabhac newcomer to keep an eye on, with Maxime Guyon engaged to ride. Beware
- 12. HOCKA HEY** - Toronado filly trained by Joséphine Soudan and to be ridden on debut by Thomas Trullier. Best just to watch

Summary : SALMA (3), trained by Carlos & Yann Lerner who have enjoyed a fruitful summer campaign, improved with the benefit of an introductory outing to finish 5th at her next/last start and is likely to play a leading role here with further progress on the cards. She is, however, likely to face stiff competition from BELISE (8) who should have more to offer after her encouraging (6th) debut . Improving EXIGENCE (7) could also fight for victory after finishing 3rd last time. VELIA (4) and newcomer BANSHIE (9) are others to consider.

SELECTIONS

SALMA (3) - BELISE (8) - EXIGENCE (7) - VELIA (4)

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**C2 - PRIX DU HARAS DE BOUQUETOT (CRITERIUM DE L'OUEST) -
1650m (a1m40y) - TURF - Condition Race - Listed - Flat - EUR € 60.000**

- 1. ARIGATO** - Has done little wrong and proved his competitiveness when finishing 3rd 3rd last time having scored at his previous outing. Outsider
- 2. BATEAU BLANC** - Confirmed the promise of his debut 2nd by winning next/last time and should have more to offer. Keep safe
- 3. VODOO MAGIC** - Lost her unbeaten record last time when an unlucky 4th in a Group III event at Deauville in July. Sets the standard
- 4. VIVE LA REINE** - Rewarded for consistency with a last-start success and should remain competitive, even at this level. Dark horse
- 5. MAYMAY** - Finished 3rd over 1200m at Deauville last month but should have even more to offer over this trip. Makes obvious appeal
- 6. SHADY LADY** - Built on the promise of her debut (4th) by winning last time and ought to make further progress. Has claims
- 7. SANS VOIX** - Imposed herself when winning on debut at Le Lion d'Angers and, with the benefit of that experience, is open to any amount of improvement

Summary : Having won the last two editions of this Listed event, Jean-Claude Rouget looks likely to maintain his stranglehold with VODOO MAGIC (3), who lost her unbeaten record last time when an unlucky 4th in a Group III contest. MAYMAY (5) will fight for victory, though, as this distance ought to suit her interests. Debut winner SANS VOIX (7) is open to any amount of improvement so could also make her presence felt. Satoshi Kobayashi, winner of this race in 2020, relies on BATEAU BLANC (2) this time.

SELECTIONS

VOODOO MAGIC (3) - MAYMAY (5) - SANS VOIX (7) - BATEAU BLANC (2)

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C3 - PRIX DE LA VILLE DE CRAON (PRIX DU CHENE) - 2400m (a1 1/2m) - TURF - Handicap - Class 4 - Flat - EUR € 14.000

1. **ARGYRON** - Gets along well with Madeline Carney, who has a very good success rate, and should be competitive with the rider's 3,5kg allowance
2. **SHATTERHAND** - Finished unplaced on his reappearance but should do better with improved fitness on his side. Dark horse
3. **ILLUSTRE BERE** - Has not gone unnoticed in consecutive outings on the PSF at Deauville and did register the only win of his career under Maxime Guyon
4. **MARGUIT** - Last-start winner early last month at Rochefort-sur-Loire and has won twice with Astrid Peltier in the saddle. Chance
5. **PENNBLE** - Inconsistent but is not incapable of getting into the picture in a race of this nature. Place chance
6. **LE BOLERO** - Unreliable but seldom finishes far off the mark on a going day. Hard to trust but is as hard to rule out
7. **NORQUI DES ROSES** - Has maintained a respectable level of form consistency since winning four starts back. Could have a say
8. **RUUDJE** - Confirmed the improvement of his previous outing by winning last time. Has more to do but is not ruled out
9. **COMTESSE VERA** - Showed her form at Vichy recently (3rd) and should remain competitive here with a repeat of that performance
10. **VIGO** - Struggling to find form or maintain any consistency, so is unlikely to trouble the judge here. Can be ruled out
11. **WHITENIGHT** - Inconsistent but is not incapable of staking a claim. Finished a reassuring 3rd last time and will need to confirm
12. **UN SOIR D'ORAGE** - Won three starts back but has been largely inconsistent to this point. Capable but others make more appeal
13. **STORMY BAY** - Seldom far off the mark but has more of a place chance here than a winning one. Others make more appeal
14. **LEON** - Has run two encouraging comeback races and should be at peak fitness now, so ought to fight for victory
15. **NATHEPOLO** - Winner of a minor event on her comeback at Mauron last month but failed to confirm that form on the PSF last time. Outsider
16. **LADY STRAIGHT** - Runner-up at Le Lion d'Angers last month and ought to take advantage of her low weight by making her presence felt

Summary : LEON (14), off the track for more than 18 months, has resumed in good order. He finished 4th on his reappearance and confirmed his form and well-being by improving to finish 2nd last time, so is likely to fight for victory if making further progress. ILLUSTRE BERE (3) will, however, pose a threat under Maxime Guyon, with whom he scored the only success of his career. Last-start winner ARGYRON (1) remains competitive given his rider's 2,5kg allowance, while MARGUIT (4) is undefeated with Astrid Peltier so could also get into the picture.

SELECTIONS

LEON (14) - ILLUSTRE BERE (3) - ARGYRON (1) - MARGUIT (4)

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C4 - PRIX DIRICKX - GRAND PRIX DE CRAON - 11E ETAPE DU DEFI DU GALOP - 2400m (a1 1/2m) - TURF - Condition Race - Listed - Flat - EUR € 60.000

- 1. HAVE DANCER** - Consistent in claiming races before winning a Listed race at Vichy in mid-July. Remains competitive
- 2. ALWAYS WELCOME** - Consistent sort who finished a close-up 5th on his comeback at Clairefontaine and will have more to offer with improved fitness on his side
- 3. SRIFANELOGREEN** - Bounced back to form by winning last time but has a lot more on his plate in this grade/company. Outsider
- 4. ZAUR** - Unbeaten in four starts this year, albeit at a lower level, and must be respected in current form. Dark horse
- 5. PENDULUM VALLEY** - Finished 3rd in the Grand Prix d'Avenches at the end of July and should be competitive here on that form. Beware
- 6. LORD ACHILLES** - Has run encouraging races in both comeback outings at Clairefontaine and is likely to continue that momentum here
- 7. CRAPS** - Consistent for the most part with solid form references and will not be bothered by the softening of the track
- 8. SANTA ZOO** - Won her only outing this year but, although open to improvement, is not likely to repeat that feat here. Outsider
- 9. TIME LOCK** - Frankel filly who placed in Group races across the Channel. Should be formidable in her first start on French soil
- 10. AUDE** - Consistent for the most part and is not taken lightly with Maxime Guyon engaged to ride. Dark horse
- 11. GALIFA** - Made a winning start to the season and has remained consistent in both subsequent outings. For the lovers of outsiders
- 12. NOIR** - Made a winning start to the season but failed to build on that success in two starts since, finishing unplaced on both occasions

Summary : Harry and Roger Charlton-trained British filly TIME LOCK (9) proved her worth in Group races across the Channel and is traveling to France for the first time with the highest of ambitions. The French welcoming committee is likely to be led by ALWAYS WELCOME (2) who was a promising 5th on his return at Clairefontaine. CRAPS (7) has the means to make his presence felt, so too does LORD ACHILLES (6), having always finished in the first four in his last nine outings.

SELECTIONS

TIME LOCK (9) - ALWAYS WELCOME (2) - CRAPS (7) - LORD ACHILLES (6)

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**C5 - PRIX SPIE (PRIX CLAUDE DE LANGLE) - 1650m (a1m40y) - TURF -
Claiming - Flat - EUR € 17.000**

- 1. AMERICAN HOPE** - Undeniably capable but has been off the boil recently, finishing unplaced in consecutive outings. Needs to reaffirm
- 2. AROWN** - Won his only start in a claiming race and, despite finishing 9th last time, should be competitive here. Beware
- 3. MICHELANGELO** - Unreliable sort but remains quite capable of staking a claim in a race of this nature. Not taken lightly
- 4. FRAICHE** - Has never finished further than 5th and should play a leading role in her first outing in this category. Keep safe
- 5. WELCH FUSILIER** - Confirmed the improvement of his previous outing by recently opening his account. Should remain competitive
- 6. GHRAINNE** - Finished 6th in the Quinté+ of 24 July and on that form should be formidable in her first start at this level
- 7. RISE AND SHINE** - Unreliable but seldom finishes far off the mark on a going day. Hard to trust but is as hard to rule out
- 8. PURPLE RAIN** - Inconsistent but is not incapable of staking a making his presence felt debuting at this level. Respect
- 9. CLOSE TO YOU** - Last-start winner at Clairefontaine and has sufficient means to play a role here in her first start at this level
- 10. SZAFRAN** - Undeniably capable but has been off the boil recently, finishing 7th in consecutive outings. Needs to reaffirm

Summary : GHRAINNE (6) acquitted herself well in a Quinté+ at Compiègne in late July and on that form ought to be competitive in her first start at this level. She will, however, have to be wary of consistent FRAICHE (4) who is likely to fight for victory at this level of competition. PURPLE RAIN (8) has the means to redeem himself in this category and must be respected. AROWN (2) won a similar race at Le Lion d'Angers back in July so has claims too.

SELECTIONS

GHRAINNE (6) - FRAICHE (4) - PURPLE RAIN (8) - AROWN (2)

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**C6 - PRIX GENYBET (PRIX DES HALLES DE CRAON) - 1650m (a1m40y) -
TURF - Condition Race - Maiden - Flat - EUR € 23.000**

- 1. ZRYAN** - Showed enough quality in his two outings to be competitive here, especially with headgear fitted. Winning chance
- 2. SHERZAL** - Open to improvement after an encouraging debut 5th so should make his presence felt. Not taken lightly
- 3. PRINCE OF CLOUDS** - Was only a modest 8th on his introduction so will need to have improved a great deal to play a role here
- 4. TAHINI** - Finished 7th on debut but improved to finish 2nd next/last time and should have more to offer. Has claims
- 5. SERENITE DES ROSES** - Open to improvement after an encouraging debut 5th so should make his presence felt. Not taken lightly
- 6. RETOUCH** - Disappointed when only 7th on debut but would have come on appreciably with the benefit of that experience. Keep safe
- 7. TENYEARSATER** - Well-bred Wootton Bassett newcomer trained by Yann Barberot. Not taken lightly under just 52,5kg with Dorian Provost engaged

Summary : ZRYAN (1) failed to build on the promise of his debut 3rd, though wasn't disgraced in finishing 5th last time, and ought to confirm early encouragement by aiming for the top step of the podium. RETOUCH (6) was a disappointing 7th on his debut but will have more to offer with that experience under the belt so could pose a threat. TENYEARSATER (7) is one to note on debut, while TAHINI (4) is on the right track after an improved 2nd last time and could also have a say in the finish.

SELECTIONS

ZRYAN (1) - RETOUCH (6) - TENYEARSATER (7) - TAHINI (4)

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C7 - PRIX OSARUS (PRIX RENE COUETIL) - 4000m (a2 1/2m) - TURF - Handicap - Steeple Chase - EUR € 28.000

- 1. AVEL DE KERBARH** - Has reassured this summer at Vittel and should have a leading role to play here. The main danger
- 2. GRIOTTE DES CHAMPS** - Undefeated this season, winning recently in her first outing with Paul Lotout. Capable of continuing her momentum
- 3. JARRY WELLS** - Finished 5th over hurdles on his comeback and has already proven his aptitude for the steeplechase at Craon. Keep safe
- 4. BARCAROLLE** - Consistent performer who ought to make her presence felt even in a steeplechase race. Not one to take lightly
- 5. LIMPOPO HAS** - Undeniably capable but must certainly reassure on his reappearance. Has never experienced defeat in two associations with Earine Dubourg.
- 6. BUEN STAR** - Consistent for the most part and should remain competitive back in a steeplechase race. Not taken lightly
- 7. AMOUR D'UN JOUR** - Honest performer over obstacles but has more of a place chance here than a winning one. For lovers of outsiders

Summary : GRIOTTE DES CHAMPS (2) has quickly found the right rhythm after a lengthy absence and has not experienced defeat this season. She looks capable of winning again and is taken to get the better of experienced AVEL DE KERBARH (1), who has shown his best form recently at Vittel. JARRY WELLS (3) ought to improve after a comeback outing and can get into the picture along with LIMPOPO HAS (5).

SELECTIONS

GRIOTTE DES CHAMPS (2) - AVEL DE KERBARH (1) - JARRY WELLS (3) - LIMPOPO HAS (5)

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**C8 - PRIX JOURNAL "LE VEINARD" (PRIX DE L'OUEST) - 1650m (a1m40y)
- TURF - Condition Race - Maiden - Flat - EUR € 17.000**

1. FORRO EMERY - Undeniably capable but has been off the boil this year so will need to reaffirm. Others are preferred

2. MURCIANO - Experienced and obviously talented. Finds a very good opportunity to open his account in a race of this nature

3. OKAPINA'S LIGHT - Unreliable sort but remains quite capable of staking a claim in a race of this nature. Place chance

4. LUNA DAY - Has looked distinctly ordinary for some time now, so his chances are limited even at this level. Ignore

5. DAYSANIYA - Made no impression on debut and, although likely to improve, is best watched for now. Others make more appeal

6. SADIA - Runner-up last time out and should actively strive for success. Has a winning chance in a race of this nature

7. KORA DE TRUDUJOU - Made no impression on debut and, although likely to improve, is best watched for now. Others make more appeal

8. AMINATU - From a stable in good form and should not be condemned too quickly after a disappointing last start

9. ESHIYA - Newcomer from a good family and should be watched on her debut in competition. Not taken lightly

Summary : Having finished 3rd in the Quinté+ of August 17, MURCIANO (2) is by far the most experienced in this conditions race and can climb to the top step of the podium, but will face SADIA (6), who is likely to pose a threat on the form of her last run at Clairefontaine. Aga Khan's debutante ESHIYA (9) warrants respect on debut, while AMINATU (8) should not be condemned too hastily.

SELECTIONS

MURCIANO (2) - SADIA (6) - ESHIYA (9) - AMINATU (8)