

DRF Picks



Expert selections from DRF handicappers

Belmont Park

Wednesday, May 4, 2011

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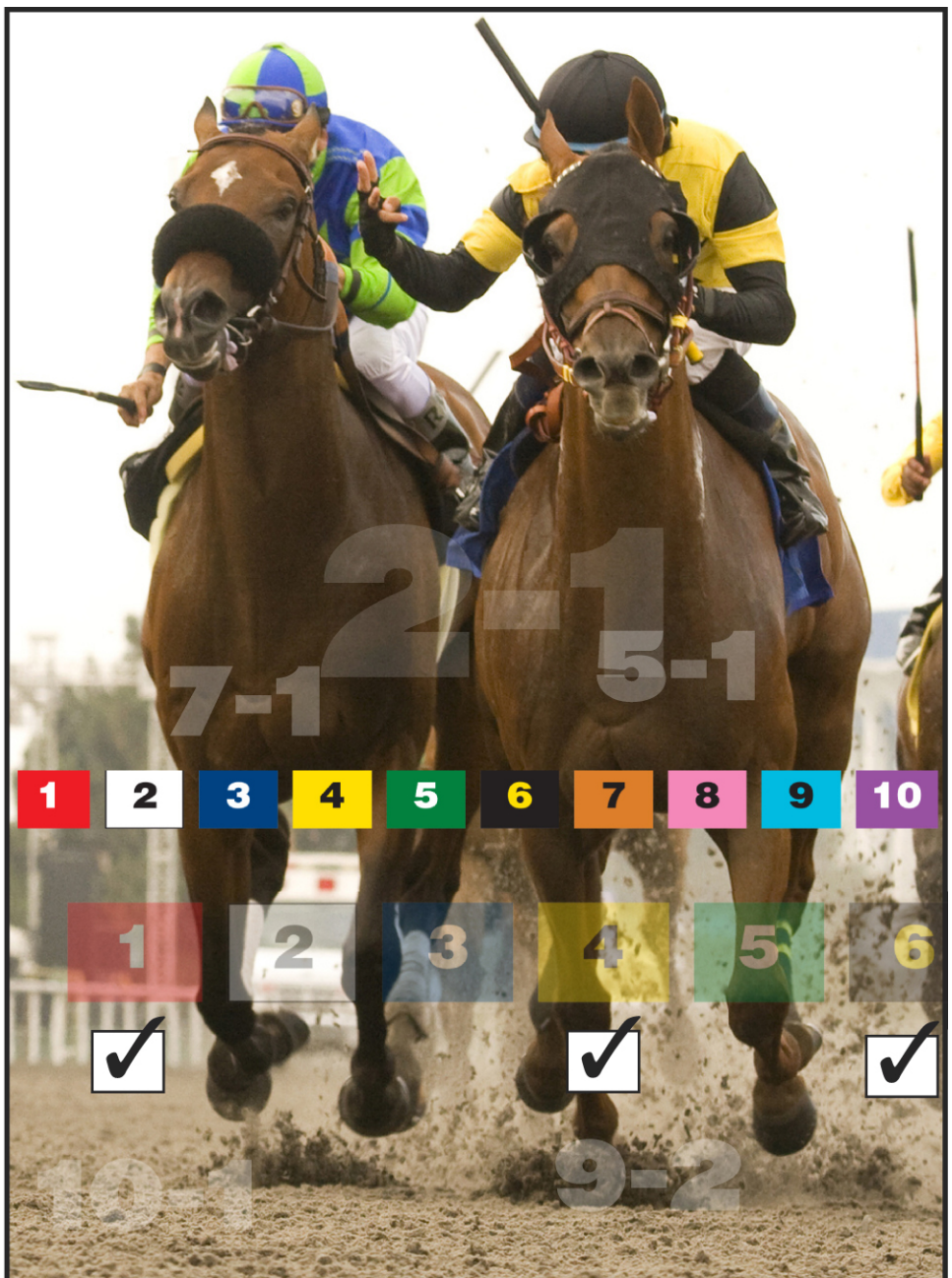
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Belmont Park Betting Information

Wednesday, May 4, 2011

Best Bets: Lots of Stones (6TH Race), Amirahy (9TH Race)

Horses listed in Post Position order

RACE 1
 Probable Post: 1:00 EDT
 6 Furlongs. 3YO. Clm 10000 Purse: \$21,000
Exacta, Trifecta, Super (.10), Pick 3 (1-3), Daily Double
DRF Picks: 5-2-1 Beyer Edge: 5-1-6

Prg.#	ML	Horse	Med/EqChg	Jockey	Wgt	Trainer	Last 3 Beyers
1	5/1	Memory Motel	L	Lezcano A	118	Arriaga A	58-43-45
2	5/2	Dreamingof Lillian	L	Rodriguez J ⁵	110	Galluscio D	42-62-24
3	20/1	Make My Day Karen	L	Pedroza B ⁵	113	Shivmangal D	40-25-40
4	20/1	Tommy Karakorum	U	Davis J	118	Odintz J	0-35-29
5	7/5	Awesome Merger	L	Dominguez R A	120	Brown B	74-30-58
6	6/1	Malibu Mystery	L	Castro E	120	Farro P	60-50-22
7	15/1	Market Analysis	L	Curatolo R ⁷	111	Martin C	58-10-48
8	12/1	Captain Fertoli	L	Studart M	118	Sciaccia G	46-32-51

RACE 2
 Probable Post: 1:32 EDT
 6 Furlongs. 3YO & Up. OC 75k/N3X Purse: \$56,000
Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Pick 3 (2-4), Pick 4 (.50) (2-5) / Daily Double
DRF Picks: 5-2-1 Beyer Edge: 2-5-1

Prg.#	ML	Horse	Med/EqChg	Jockey	Wgt	Trainer	Last 3 Beyers
1	3/1	General Maximus	L	Prado E S	121	Terranova J II	83-91-98
2	9/5	Be Bullish	L	Lezcano J	123	Dutrow R Jr	102-96-95
3	6/1	Driven by Solar	L	Dominguez R A	121	Pletcher T	89-79-90
4	15/1	Kruger Park	L	Castro E	121	Moreno C	77-87-80
5	8/5	Giant Ryan	L	Velasquez C	123	Parboo B	103-94-76

RACE 3
 Probable Post: 2:04 EDT
 6 Furlongs. 3YO & Up. New York-bred. OC 35k/N2X Purse: \$44,000
Exacta, Trifecta, Super (.10), Pick 3 (3-5), Daily Double
DRF Picks: 3-2-4 Beyer Edge: 2-3-4 Live Longshot: 6

Prg.#	ML	Horse	Med/EqChg	Jockey	Wgt	Trainer	Last 3 Beyers
1	15/1	Make Note	L	Studart M	122	Chatterpaul N	72-81-79
2	5/2	Won Great Classic	L	Cohen D	124	Brown B	87-88-86
3	2/1	Raynick's Jet	L	Dominguez R A	122	Asmussen S	83-90-87
4	3/1	Quick Money	L	Velasquez C	124	Rice L	73-87-88
5	6/1	City Trooper	L	Castro E	122	Weaver G	82-30-61
6	10/1	Game Token	L	Pedroza B ⁵	119	Lalman D	87-75-65
7	12/1	Scorch the Torch	L	Rosendo I J	124	Barker E	81-73-76

RACE 4
 Probable Post: 2:36 EDT
 6 Furlongs. Inner turf. 3YO & Up. Alw 50000s
Exacta, Quinella, Trifecta, Super (.10), Pick 3 (4-6) / Pick 6 (4-9), Daily Double
DRF Picks: 2-4-3 Beyer Edge: 7-8-3 Live Longshot: 9

Prg.#	ML	Horse	Med/EqChg	Jockey	Wgt	Trainer	Last 3 Beyers
1	12/1	Khan of Khans	L	Studart M	121	Chatterpaul N	84-72-86
2	3/1	City Sneakers	L	Dominguez R A	121	Rice L	72-81-80
3	7/2	Don't Fooli Houli	L	Prado E S	121	Morrison J	79-83-73
4	12/1	Super Doc	L/b-off	Serpa A	121	Farro P	74-81-79
5	15/1	Pax	L	Fragoso P	121	Turner W Jr	76-70-74
6	6/1	Pete's Parley	L	Castro E	121	Aquilino J	73-87-84
7	5/1	Strictly Society	L	Curatolo R ⁷	114	Serpe P	83-82-81
8	6/1	Crown the Chief	L	Cohen D	121	Klesaris S	80-81-84
9	10/1	Targee Pass	L	Velasquez C	121	Jerkens H	77-75-76
10	50/1	Pavoratti's Soul	L	Espinoza J L	121	Kelly P	32-26-52
11-MTO	15/1	Seeking Anita	L	No Rider	121	Sciaccia G	31-55-68

RACE 5
 Probable Post: 3:08 EDT
 1 Mile. 3YO & Up. F & M. Clm 10000N2L Purse: \$21,000
Exacta, Trifecta, Super (.10), Pick 3 (5-7), Grand Slam (5-8) / Daily Double
DRF Picks: 8-1-5 Beyer Edge: 4-1-2

Prg.#	ML	Horse	Med/EqChg	Jockey	Wgt	Trainer	Last 3 Beyers
1	5/2	Red to Positive	L	Hill C	118	Arriaga A	61-47-42
2	20/1	Donna's Sandee	L	Husbands S P	121	DeMola J	45-44-51
3	8/1	No Goal	L	Pedroza B ⁵	116	Hennig M	39-45-45
4	12/1	Wise Choice	L	Rodriguez J ⁵	116	Sciaccia G	52-46-56
5	3/1	Mint Juliet	L	Luzzi M J	116	Violette R Jr	48-48-39
6	5/1	Sweethearts Kiss	L	Prado E S	121	Ferraro J	43-50-18
7	10/1	There Goes Molly	L	Castro E	116	Persaud R	49-41-30
8	7/2	Up Up Away	L	Cohen D	121	Kimmel J	49-50-17

RACE 6
 Probable Post: 3:40 EDT
 7 Furlongs. 3YO & Up. F & M. New York-bred. CUPIDSWAY60k
Exacta, Trifecta, Super (.10), Pick 3 (6-8), Pick 4 (.50) (6-9) / Daily Double
DRF Picks: 3-4-6 Beyer Edge: 3-4-7

Prg.#	ML	Horse	Med/EqChg	Jockey	Wgt	Trainer	Last 3 Beyers
1	10/1	Devilish Spirit	L	Cohen D	122	Brown B	76-53-79
2	8/1	Laylaben	L	Prado E S	120	Schosberg R	77-67-58
3	8/5	Lots of Stones	L	Dominguez R A	124	Levine B	91-84-86
4	5/2	Cuff Me	L	Velasquez C	122	Dutrow A	82-79-72
1A	10/1	Freud's Notebook	L	Cohen D	120	Brown B	74-53-68
5	10/1	Banker's Buy	L	Lezcano J	122	Zito N	62-59-82
6	5/1	Big Brownie	L	Castro E	124	Gyarmati L	78-90-45
7	8/1	Spa City Princess	L	Solis A	124	Kelly P	85-74-70

RACE 7
 Probable Post: 4:12 EDT
 7 Furlongs. Turf. 3YO & Up. F & M. Alw 52000N1X
Exacta, Trifecta, Super (.10), Pick 3 (7-9), Daily Double
DRF Picks: 3-2-6 Beyer Edge: 2-3-1

Prg.#	ML	Horse	Med/EqChg	Jockey	Wgt	Trainer	Last 3 Beyers
1	6/1	Exchange Funds	L	Santiago V	121	Hennig M	66-81-80
2	7/2	Friulous Buck	L	Castro E	121	Weaver G	84-84-82
3	3/1	Cosset	L	Prado E S	121	Mott W	57-82-79
4	12/1	Sotique	L	Hill C	121	Ribaldo R	67-64-77
5	12/1	Storm Showers	L	Solis A	121	McGaughey III	C73-76-73
6	5/1	Princess Maura	L	Velasquez C	121	Schosberg R	82-70-78
7	20/1	Cedar Grove	L	Lezcano J	116	Brown C	61-59-64
8	15/1	Christina d'Oro	L	Valdivia J Jr	116	Duggan D	74-63-76
9	8/1	Golden Galleon	L	Dominguez R A	121	Pletcher T	11-77-71
10	8/1	Let's Get Fiscal	L	Cohen D	116	Violette R Jr	76-67-37
11-MTO	8/1	Victoria Lynn	L	No Rider	121	Friedman M	68-62-66
12-MTO	12/1	Rose's Turn	L	No Rider	118	Schosberg R	63-54-67
13-MTO	7/2	Curlina	L	Dominguez R A	123	Gullo G	77-74-75

RACE 8
 Probable Post: 4:45 EDT
 1 1/16 Miles. Inner turf. 3YO & Up. New York-bred. Alw ---s
Exacta, Trifecta, Super (.10), Daily Double
DRF Picks: 1-3-5 Beyer Edge: 1-5-7

Prg.#	ML	Horse	Med/EqChg	Jockey	Wgt	Trainer	Last 3 Beyers
1	3/1	Pocket Cowboys	L	Prado E S	121	Schwartz S	93-89-90
2	15/1	Midnight Billy	L	Santiago V	121	Ortiz J	74-79-82
3	2/1	Writingonthewall	L	Dominguez R A	121	Pletcher T	94-90-95
4	12/1	Bishop of Nola	L	Cohen D	121	Brown B	85-78-75
5	5/2	Lubash	L	Lezcano J	121	Ryerson J	91-88-90
6	20/1	J L Bernstein	L	Espinoza J L	121	Chatterpaul N	72-67-72
7	5/1	Gimme Credit	L	Solis A	121	Brown C	83-87-79
8	30/1	Piazza Di Spagna	L	Velasquez C	121	Sciaccia G	75-77-78
9-MTO	5/2	Ruffino	L	Castro E	121	Bond H	81-83-97
10-MTO	7/2	Whateveritakes	L	Velasquez C	121	Schosberg R	86-85-80

RACE 9
 Probable Post: 5:17 EDT
 7 Furlongs. Turf. 3YO & Up. F & M. Md 25000 Purse: \$22,000
Exacta, Trifecta, Super (.10)
DRF Picks: 5-2-3 Beyer Edge: 5-2-3 Live Longshot: 1

Prg.#	ML	Horse	Med/EqChg	Jockey	Wgt	Trainer	Last 3 Beyers
1	8/1	A Walk Above	L/b-off	Curatolo R ⁷	111	Martin C	38-52-x
2	3/1	Siwanoy Lila	L	Cohen D	123	Zito N	33-50-62
3	5/1	One Spring Storm	L	Pezua J M	123	Sedlacek R	61-28-21
4	15/1	Stars in Her Eyes	L	Espinoza J L	118	Barker E	20-20-34
5	6/5	Amirahy	L	Lezcano J	123	Toner J	71-62-72
6	12/1	Boro Kid	L	Studart M	118	Ubillo R	28-x-x
7	50/1	Miss Crabtree	L	Husbands S P	118	Lotruglio E	18-1-0
8	50/1	Glance My Way	L	Rodriguez J ⁵	118	Martin F Sr	23-0-2
9	20/1	His Precious Lady	L	Davis J	123	DeMola J	24-0-11
10	20/1	Galaxy Jet	L	Lezcano A	118	Campo J Jr	32-40-6
11-MTO	5/1	Dean Avenue	L	No Rider	118	Callejas B	41-42-4



Picks Panel

Consensus Totals Based on 5 points for First (7 for Best Bet), 2 for 2nd, 1 for 3rd. Best Bet in **Bold Type**.

Dave Litfin 29-11(20)	HANDICAP Kenny Peck	HERMIS™ Michael Hammersly	SWEEP™	CONSENSUS	
1	Awesome Merger	Dreamingof Lillian	Awesome Merger	Awesome Merger	17
	Dreamingof Lillian	Awesome Merger	Dreamingof Lillian	Dreamingof Lillian	9
	Malibu Mystery	Memory Motel	Memory Motel	Memory Motel	3
2	Giant Ryan	Be Bullish	Giant Ryan	Giant Ryan	17
	Be Bullish	Giant Ryan	Be Bullish	Be Bullish	11
	General Maximus	General Maximus	General Maximus	General Maximus	3
3	Raynick's Jet	Raynick's Jet	Raynick's Jet	Raynick's Jet	15
	Won Great Classic	Won Great Classic	Won Great Classic	Won Great Classic	7
	Game Token	Game Token	Quick Money	Quick Money	6
4	City Sneakers	City Sneakers	City Sneakers	City Sneakers	15
	Targhee Pass	Crown the Chief	Don't Fooli Houli	Super Doc	5
	Crown the Chief	Don't Fooli Houli	Strictly Society	Don't Fooli Houli	5
5	Up Up Away	Red to Positive	Red to Positive	Up Up Away	12
	Mint Juliet	Sweethearts Kiss	Mint Juliet	Red to Positive	11
	Red to Positive	Mint Juliet	Up Up Away	Mint Juliet	5
6	Lots of Stones	Lots of Stones	Lots of Stones	Lots of Stones	20
	Cuff Me	Spa City Princess	Big Brownie	Cuff Me	5
	Banker's Buy	Big Brownie	Cuff Me	Big Brownie	4
7	Frivolous Buck	Cosset	Cosset	Cosset	18
	Princess Maura	Frivolous Buck	Frivolous Buck	Frivolous Buck	11
	Cosset	Cedar Grove	Princess Maura	Curlina	3
8	Lubash	Pocket Cowboys	Pocket Cowboys	Pocket Cowboys	11
	Writingonthewall	Lubash	Gimme Credit	Writingonthewall	9
	Pocket Cowboys	Writingonthewall	Writingonthewall	Ruffino	9
9	Amirahy	Amirahy	Amirahy	Amirahy	26
	Siwanoy Lila	A Walk Above	Siwanoy Lila	Siwanoy Lila	6
	A Walk Above	One Spring Storm	One Spring Storm	One Spring Storm	3

Expert Analysis

By Dave Litfin

BEST BET: *Amirahy (9th race)*

First Race

1. Awesome Merger

2. Dreamingof Lillian

3. Malibu Mystery

AWESOME MERGER produced the fastest race of his career last out, only to be taken down for coming out in upper stretch; gets major rider switch for return to Belmont, where he won back-to-back starts last fall. DREAMINGOF LILLIAN wired N2L claiming sprinters first start for these connections; Florida shipper tries the boys after steadying out of tight quarters in starter allowance. MALIBU MYSTERY comes off a new Beyer top for Patricia Farro, who scored with Parx Racing invader Spangled Star (\$9.30) in Saturday's opener.

Second Race

1. Giant Ryan

2. Be Bullish

3. General Maximus

GIANT RYAN was sidelined almost a year after '09 Gotham, and was gone again after one start for another 11 months, but lightly raced 5-year-old really got good toward end of Aqueduct winning two in a row with Cornelio V.; nicely drawn outside for another stalking trip. BE BULLISH was back on short rest when edged by top pick at odds-on in overnight stake; gets favorable four-pound weight shift four weeks later. GENERAL MAXIMUS had excuse lone try over the winter; horse for the course came up from Fla. to win impressively off a similar break here last spring, before winning Hudson vs. older in the fall.

Third Race

1. Raynick's Jet

2. Won Great Classic

3. Game Token

RAYNICK'S JET met top New York-breds General Maximus (see 2nd race) and Empire Classic winner Friend Or Foe last year, before concluding 3-year-old season finishing fourth of 12 in N2x optional claimer vs. open company; goes well fresh. WON GREAT CLASSIC was a gem of consistency across town, winning or placing in six straight starts from November to April and recording figures mid-to-upper 80s first four starts of 2011; yet to hit the board at Belmont, however. GAME TOKEN improved first off the claim by crafty owner/trainer to edge mud lark SCORCH THE TORCH at 63-1 on Wood day; took another forward move when beaten just a length by \$573k earner Premium Wine 12 days later.

Fourth Race

1. City Sneakers

2. Targhee Pass

3. Crown the Chief

CITY SNEAKERS ran well at distances ranging from 5 1/2 furlongs to 1 3/16 miles in 2009-10, while hanging up Beyers of 80 or better six of eight starts on firm turf; gets benefit of the doubt for season-ender on yielding ground at Aqueduct. TARGHEE PASS was in the exacta all four starts on Widener and Inner courses here last year from six furlongs to a mile; stretch runner projects for favorable pace setup. CROWN THE CHIEF dueled vs. 6-5 Varsity through blazing fractions before weakening first off the claim; Gulf shipper looms strong part of early mix with KHAN OF KHANS, DON'T FOOLI HOULI and PETE'S PARLEY.

Fifth Race

1. Up Up Away

2. Mint Juliet

3. Red to Positive

UP UP AWAY had one start at Belmont last spring, resulting in stalking-trip maiden win with best figure of her career; nicely situated outside, may improve a few lengths off recent races at the Big A. MINT JULIET is susceptible to trouble at the start, but drops to \$10k following Beyer pair-up off the bench in March; likely to go well in wide-open affair where RED TO POSITIVE owns the top last-out Beyer, and the best recent three-race fig total belongs to the 1-for-47 WISE CHOICE.

Sixth Race

1. Lots of Stones

2. Cuff Me

3. Banker's Buy

Tough to separate LOTS OF STONES and CUFF ME, a couple of high-percentage winners with identical Beyer tops (91) and similar stalking styles trying 7 furlongs for the first time. Lots of Stones appeared well within herself in recent win over BIG BROWNIE (bled) and LAYLABEN, and keeps Dominguez - who was aboard for Cuff Me's first four wins. Cuff Me returned from year layoff for determined win vs. open company at Oaklawn; both losses in Grade 3 stakes, moves up if it's wet. BANKER'S BUY has factored in exacta all but one of seven starts at Belmont; may pay to forgive last two no-show performances, as she worked swiftly in between.

Seventh Race

1. Frivolous Buck

2. Princess Maura

3. Cosset

FRIVOLOUS BUCK came into her own at age 5, and it's worth noting that very productive campaign began with a two-move effort at 7 furlongs on this turf course to narrowly miss; handles any course condition. PRINCESS MAURA might've held off the choice had she not broken through gate prior to their Nov. 12 clash; potential controlling speed ran well under firm, good and yielding conditions at 4 (also starting off with sharp try on Widener), and has never been out of the money in five starts with Cornelio Velasquez, who is riding in top form. COSSET returns to scene of maiden win last May; four-time beaten favorite on turf and Polytrack in 2011 is running out of excuses.

Eighth Race

1. Lubash

2. Writingonthewall

3. Pocket Cowboys

In a recurring theme of early-season grass racing, several contenders make their seasonal debuts in this starter allowance, among them LUBASH, who kept surprising folks all throughout 2010 and finished things off with a score over Little Mike - now 7 for 9 on grass after winning trio of Grade 3 stakes at Gulfstream; versatile colt handles any footing, projects to be pressing WRITINGONTHEWALL early. The latter has proven capable of putting up mid-90 figures on turf or dirt; set fast pace and remained clear by well-measured margin out of Big A chute second off the claim. POCKET COWBOYS won on turf here last May, albeit with the benefit of a couple comeback runs on dirt; Mohawk winner may find this a trifle short, yet certainly bears watching for upcoming stakes.

Ninth Race

1. Amirahy

2. Siwanoy Lila

3. A Walk Above

A chance of recurring showers means there may still be some cut in the ground, and that would suit AMIRAHY, whose best number was recorded on "good" Belmont turf early at the 2010 spring meet; meets softer group after beating 19 horses in two \$35k maiden-claiming starts at Gulfstream with different pace tactics. SIWANOY LILA was involved in four consecutive all-out stretch drives last spring before finally regressing in June and being shelved the rest of the year; flashed speed in off-the-turf return for Zito, a .300 hitter second time back from long layoffs 2010-11. A WALK ABOVE is the only special-weight dropdown in the field, a situation made all the more notable by Carlos Martin's current 5-for-11 record with such types; may take to turf, but becomes the one to beat if race comes off.