

BOB IKE'S SANTA ANITA SELECTIONS

THURSDAY, DEC. 28

THURSDAY SELECTIONS AND BETTING STRATEGY:

Tuesday Results: Hit 3 top choice winners but went 0-for-3 on my Best Plays.

Today's Best Plays: Races 4, 5, 6 and a \$64 Pick 4 ticket.

1st race--

1. JUMP ON IN (6) 2. FREE BIRD FLY (1) 3. COM EASY (2) 4. ALEXSAYNO (4)

2nd race--

1. MOVIE STAR (3) 2. MAXXI ARTE (1) 3. ROUND HEELS (2)

3rd race--

1. TACTICS (1) 2. EL FALCON (8) 3. TOMCAT ROW (9) 4. ANOTHER BROTHER (3)

*****4th race--**

1. RATIBOR (7) 2. STARTALE (1) 3. C'MON TIGER (2) 4. BALLADO'S GOLD (8)

I will play the trifecta keying around favorite RATIBOR (5-2), who lost all chance at the start in his U.S. debut. The Frankel-trained colt dwelt at the break to race far back early, then still wound up last despite closing well in the lane. He adds blinkers and probably beats these with a better start. Play the trifecta keying RATIBOR over STARTALE (4-1), C'MON TIGER (5-1) and BALLADO'S GOLD (7-2) for second, then use ALL for third. On a second ticket, use those three on top, with RATIBOR for second, then ALL for third.

Trifecta numbers: 7/1,2,8/ALL=\$21 and 1,2,8/7/ALL=\$21

*****5th race--**

1. ICE LEMON AND RUM (7) 2. ADAMANT (12) 3. BLACKJACK GAMBLER (1) 4. LITE MAN (11)

In a very difficult start to the late Pick 4, I will box my top four horses in the exacta and trifecta. In post position order, use BLACKJACK GAMBLER (8-1), who hasn't won in ages but gets a pivotal trainer change off the Sadler claim; ICE LEMON AND RUM (4-1), who drops in half after pressing a hot pace going long and now shortens back up in distance; LITE MAN (6-1), who chased much better before tiring last time and drops to his lowest level ever; and ADAMANT (5-1), who is yet another dropper but definitely hits hard with these if he's okay.

Exacta/Trifecta Box: 1-7-11-12

*****6th race--**

**1. AMERICAN ALL STAR (1) 2. YES MASTER (3) 3. MARGARITALOSFLORES (7)
4. WITNESS THIS (9)**

I liked AMERICAN ALL STAR (2-1) last time when he got the money at nearly 5-1 and there is no reason he won't fire another good shot in here. The Machowsky-trainee does his best work in turf sprints and is proven over the downhill layout. I will key him in the trifecta over YES MASTER (5-1), MARGARITALOSFLORES (6-1) and WITNESS THIS (8-1) for second, then use ALL for third. Play a second ticket using those three on top, with 'STAR for second, then ALL for third.

Trifecta numbers: 1/3,7,9/ALL=\$24 and 3,7,9/1/ALL=\$24

7th race--

1. INDIAN FLARE (4) 2. SOMETHINABOUTLAURA (3) 3. RUNNING BOBCATS (2)

8th race--

1. SKIP TRUE (13) 2. SLEWS THE BELIEVER (1) 3. HOOT (10) 4. WAR GAEL (4)

*****\$64 PICK 4 TICKET (races 5-8):**

5th race--BLACKJACK GAMBLER, ICE LEMON AND RUM, LITE MAN, ADAMANT

6th race--AMERICAN ALL STAR, YES MASTER, MARGARITALOSFLORES, WITNESS THIS

7th race--INDIAN FLARE

8th race--SLEWS THE BELIEVER, WAR GAEL, HOOT, SKIP TRUE

Pick 4 numbers: 1,7,11,12/1,3,7,9/4/1,4,10,13=\$64