

BOB IKE'S SANTA ANITA SELECTIONS

THURSDAY, JAN. 11

THURSDAY SELECTIONS, BETTING STRATEGY AND PICK 4 PLAY:

Wednesday Results: Hit 4 top choice winners but went 0-for-3 on my Best Plays; hit 4 of 6 on my suggested \$72 (after scratch) Pick Six ticket.

Today's Best Plays: Races 2, 3, 8 and a \$64 Pick 4 ticket.

1st race--

1. SILVER Z (6) 2. MS. OLYMPIO (4) 3. PROUD OF MY CURLS (8)

***2nd race--

1. HARD WOMAN (8) 2. SWISS SONGBIRD (4) 3. RESPECTED (10) 4. SHE'S ALL MAGIC (6)

With a full field of Cal-bred maiden claimers going in here, I like the chances of HARD WOMAN (7-2). The Sherman-trained filly comes off a decent third-place effort across town (in a race where the winner came back to score again) and should fall into a good spot here. Make a Win Bet on 'WOMAN and key her in the trifecta over five horses in the second and third spots: SWISS SONGBIRD (8-1), SHE'S ALL MAGIC (4-1), MS ZENNA'S ROYAL (8-1), RESPECTED (5-2) and FLORIRLANDES (30-1). Also, play a second ticket using those five in the first and third spots, with 'WOMAN in the middle.

Trifecta numbers: 8/4,6,9,11,12/4,6,9,11,12=\$20 and 4,6,9,11,12/8/4,6,9,11,12=\$20

***3rd race--

1. NEIMAN THE SAINT (9) 2. EPIC COMMANDER (8) 3. ACCOUNTABLE EVENT (1)

Bottom level claimers go postward in this abbreviated sprint. I will make a Win Bet on top choice NEIMAN THE SAINT (4-1) and play the trifecta keying my top three selections in the first and second spots, then using ALL for third. 'SAINT comes off a pair of wins up north (both under 10-pound bug Eulices Gomez, who is down to ride) and certainly hits hard with at this level. In the trifecta, use ACCOUNTABLE EVENT (5-1), who comes back at the basement after returning from an 11-month layoff; EPIC COMMANDER (3-1), who is always a strong factor at this level despite his weak recent winning percentage; and NEIMAN THE SAINT (4-1).

Trifecta numbers: 1,8,9/1,8,9/ALL=\$54 plus, trifecta box 1-8-9

4th race--

1. SHE'S SO VAIN (3) 2. RAPID ROMANCE (5) 3. SMOOTH SIS (2) 4. MADAME BLACKFOOT (1)

5th race--

1. IVY LEAGUE GENIUS (2) 2. THE CASE QUEEN (8) 3. POPSICLE GAL (6)

6th race--

1. OVERLY TEMPTING (8) 2. PERFECT RHYME (5) 3. O BEE NAKI (2)

7th race--

1. CRESTED (5) 2. VICTORY SIGN (6) 3. POTENTIAL (1) 4. LIKE RUNNING WATER (3)

*****8th race--**

1. THROW DOWN BOY (12) 2. BROADWAY PLAYER (5) 3. OLIVER TWISTED (8) 4. NORTHERN DIPLOMAT (4)

I will make a four-horse exacta and trifecta box to close out the card. In post position order, use NORTHERN DIPLOMAT (12-1), who has yet to show anything but takes a steep class drop, removes blinkers and has trained well over the track since his last; BROADWAY PLAYER (9-2), who has been the beaten favorite in four straight but figures right there again; OLIVER TWISTED (6-1), who got trounced in his debut vs. straight maidens but should go much better with these; and THROW DOWN BOY (7-2), who raced evenly in his comeback race and might get the right trip.

Exacta/Trifecta Box: 4-5-8-12

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

5th race--IVY LEAGUE GENIUS, THE CASE QUEEN

6th race--PERFECT RHYME, OVERLY TEMPTING

7th race--POTENTIAL, LIKE RUNNING WATER, CRESTED, VICTORY SIGN

8th race--NORTHERN DIPLOMAT, BROADWAY PLAYER, OLIVER TWISTED, THROW DOWN BOY

Pick 4 numbers: 2,8/5,8/1,3,5,6/4,5,8,12=\$64

*****Please check out my new website at www.BobIkePicks.com featuring:**

--Graded Handicap Selections

--Premium Plays (identical to this sheet)

--Free Pick of the Day

--"Notes on a Program" Blog, with daily wrap up, observations and commentary

--Extensive Santa Anita data on "Racing Info" page

--Useful Resources at "Links" page