

BOB IKE'S OAK TREE SELECTIONS

SATURDAY, OCT. 27

SATURDAY SELECTIONS, BETTING STRATEGY AND PICK 4 TICKET

Friday Results: Hit 2 top choice winners and 8th race trifecta for \$107 on a \$30 play.

Today's Best Plays: Races 2, 5, 6, and a \$60 Pick 4 ticket.

1st race--

1. RICHER GEAR (4) 2. ARNONE (7) 3. BLACK MALLOU (1)

*****2nd race--**

1. BEYOND LOADED (12) 2. ONE ON THE HOUSE (7) 3. SPOILS OF EXCESS (8) 4. SMART HIT (5)

In such competitive hillside races with evenly-matched contenders, it can be just as valuable to key a horse in the trifecta you think has a better chance of hitting the board than actually winning. I like BEYOND LOADED (7-2) on top but don't consider him a standout here, and ONE ON THE HOUSE (9-2) sure looks like the kind of animal who can again be relied upon to land in the exotics but fall short of the win as his lifetime ledger indicates. Key 'HOUSE in the second and third spots on two different trifecta tickets while filling the other two spots with my top pick, SPOILS OF EXCESS (6-1) as he tries the hill in search of his ideal trip, SMART HIT (8-1), who stays in the field for O'Neill while his stablemate was scratched, and SCANDALOUS (6-1) as he gets back on grass following a Cushion Track debacle around two turns.

Trifecta numbers: 5,8,10,12/7/5,8,10,12 and 5,8,10,12/5,8,10,12/7=\$24

3rd race--

1. BOSTONER (4) 2. LARRY'S REVENGE (3) 3. COPPER SHADOW (1)

4th race--

1. TIZFIZ (1) 2. KARLEE'S KITTEN (8) 3. ITSAWONDERFULLIFE (2)

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

1. TEQUILA MADNESS (12) 2. FIRST OPPORTUNITY (8) 3. NATE' N ED (13) 4. LUCKY HONEY (6)

Trainer Wesley Ward continues to click at an amazing rate with his first time starters and may well have another live ticket in TEQUILA MADNESS (7-2), who had trained in Florida this spring and is a Cal-bred by the promising young stallion Tribal Rule. Make a **Win Bet on 'MADNESS** and try to hit the trifecta by keying him on top and hoping for some chaos. Use 'MADNESS over four horses for second and hit 'ALL' for third, the four for second being obvious contender FIRST OPPORTUNITY (5-1), NATE' N ED (12-1) who offers value and is

no stranger to landing in the exotics, LUCKY HONEY (6-1) off a pair of even fourth-place efforts, and THUNDER ALLIANCE (6-1) who landed in the exacta at 97-1 in his debut.

Trifecta numbers: 12/6,8,11,13/ALL=\$44

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

1. BECRUX (3) 2. GET FUNKY (6) 3. NIGHT CHAPTER (7) 4. MCCANN'S MOJAVE (1)

The Morvich Handicap came up tough this year and presents a fantastic betting opportunity. BECRUX (5-1) disappointed at Woodbine last out but the Grade I winner is bubbling right under the million-dollar mark in career earnings and may have the class to pull him through as he cuts back to the hillside turf course, a layout which many milers seem to relish. Make a **Win Bet on BECRUX** at that price and box him up in the trifecta with some other viable contenders. GET FUNKY (9-2) came within a length of The Tin Man this year and won nicely over this course in the spring, NIGHT CHAPTER (7-2) is hard to knock as he seeks his fourth straight, MCCANN'S MOJAVE (8-1) has been freshened and is certainly good enough when feeling right, while CLINET (20-1) offers real knockout value coming off a brutal trip in her last which is likely to be overlooked.

Trifecta Box numbers: 1,3,6,7,11=\$60

7th race--

1. EDEN SIMONE (8) 2. MISS MELISSA (2) 3. O BEE NAKI (1)

*****\$60 PICK 4 TICKET (races 4-7):**

4th race--TIZFIZ, ITSAWONDERFULLIFE, KARLEE'S KITTEN

(Alternate: BLANCHE SWEET)

5th race--TEQUILA MADNESS

(Alternate: FIRST OPPORTUNITY)

6th race--MCCANN'S MOJAVE, BECRUX, GET FUNKY, NIGHT CHAPTER, CLINET

(Alternate: HEATSEEKER)

7th race--O BEE NAKI, MISS MELISSA, HOME ALONA, EDEN SIMONE

(Alternate: SHE'S SO VAIN)

Pick 4 numbers: 1,2,8/12/1,3,6,7,11/1,2,3,8=\$60

BREEDERS' CUP

*****JUVENILE FILLIES**

1. INDIAN BLESSING (4) 2. GRACE ANATOMY (12) 3. IZARRA (8)

Day 2 of Breeders' Cup will be run under very wet conditions, with a sloppy main track and a yielding turf course. I will kick off the day by playing the trifecta and starting a Pick 4 ticket by using my top three selections. In post position order, use INDIAN BLESSING (3-1), who is two-for-two and seems like the most talented runner in the race for Baffert; IZARRA (6-1), who came up a nose short at Oak Tree but will be charging in the lane and is bred to like the mud; and GRACE ANATOMY (10-1), who ran a huge third in the Alcibiades after breaking slowly and racing wide on the first turn.

Trifecta numbers: 4,8,12/4,8,12/ALL=\$72

plus, trifecta box 4-8-12

JUVENILE--

1. TALE OF EKATI (10) 2. WAR PASS (2) 3. WICKED STYLE (13)

***FILLY & MARE TURF--

1. NASHOBA'S KEY (3) 2. PRECIOUS KITTEN (12) 3. HONEY RYDER (2) 4. PASSAGE OF TIME (4)

Over a yielding course, I will play this race by boxing my top four horses in the exacta/trifecta. In post position order, use HONEY RYDER (9-2), who ran poorly last time in the Beverly D but has run a number of good races on soft courses and ran a strong second vs. English Channel one back; NASHOBA'S KEY (3-1), who is undefeated in seven starts while handling every surface thrown at her; PASSAGE OF TIME (7-2), who is a four-for-seven European invader who reportedly relishes soft going; and bomber PRECIOUS KITTEN (30-1), who is a ridiculously big price on the morning line considering she will be in front on a very slow pace.

Exacta/Trifecta Box: 2-3-4-12

SPRINT--

1. IDIOT PROOF (7) 2. MIDNIGHT LUTE (2) 3. SMOKEY STOVER (1) 4. TALENT SEARCH (4)

***MILE--

1. COSMONAUT (7) 2. KIP DEVILLE (8) 3. EXCELLENT ART (13) 4. JEREMY (5)

I think COSMONAUT (15-1) has an excellent chance in this spot. Moved prematurely last time before opening up in mid-stretch, 'NAUT got run down late while running very well in defeat. He is sharp and proven over a soft course, so let's make a **Win Bet on COSMONAUT** and key him in the trifecta over six horses in the second and third spots: HOST (30-1), JEREMY (5-1), KIP DEVILLE (6-1), SILENT NAME (30-1), PURIM (20-1) and EXCELLENT ART (3-1). Play a second ticket using those six in the first and third spots, with 'NAUT in the two-hole.

Trifecta numbers: 7/4,5,8,11,12,13/4,5,8,11,12,13=\$30; 4,5,8,11,12,13/7/4,5,8,11,12,13=\$30

DISTAFF--

1. UNBRIDLED BELLE (11) 2. INDIAN VALE (10) 3. LADY JOANNE (5) 4. LEAR'S PRINCESS (7)

TURF--

1. DYLAN THOMAS (7) 2. ENGLISH CHANNEL (6) 3. BETTER TALK NOW (3)

CLASSIC--

1. ANY GIVEN SATURDAY (3) 2. LAWYER RON (1) 3. STREET SENSE (2) 4. CURLIN (4)

***\$144 PICK 4 TICKET (races 4-7):

4th race--INDIAN BLESSING, IZARRA, GRACE ANATOMY

5th race--WAR PASS, TALE OF EKATI, WICKED STYLE

6th race--HONEY RYDER, NASHOBA'S KEY, PASSAGE OF TIME, PRECIOUS KITTEN

7th race--SMOKEY STOVER, MIDNIGHT LUTE, TALENT SEARCH, IDIOT PROOF

Pick 4 numbers: 4,8,12/2,10,13/2,3,4,12/1,2,4,7=\$144