

BOB IKE'S SANTA ANITA SELECTIONS

THURSDAY, JAN. 3

THURSDAY SELECTIONS, BETTING STRATEGY AND PICK 4 TICKET

Tuesday Results: Hit 4 top choice winners, including Pick Six "single" LA TORMENTA; and 5th race trifecta for \$79 (\$40 total investment).

Today's Best Plays: Races 1, 4, 7 and a \$48 Pick 4 ticket.

***1st race--

1. STEPPIN OUT ROSE (7) 2. CATEGORIZE (10) 3. MOOGIE (9) 4. ABBEY CAT (3)

Paying quick dividends off the Garcia claim last time, I like the chances of STEPPIN OUT ROSE (8-1) to score right back. The professional mare (six wins from 17 starts) catches a modest \$40,000 field as she switches to turf, which is the only real question here. She's plenty good enough on "class", so if she handles turf, she can win again. I will make a **Win/Place Bet on 'ROSE** and play **Daily Doubles to my top two choices (BEAR CREEK and GOOD MAN DAN) in the next race.**

Daily Double numbers: 7/2,6

2nd race--

1. BEAR CREEK (6) 2. GOOD MAN DAN (2) 3. POLISH PETE (1)

3rd race--

1. CARMAN (6) 2. LITTLEERIC'SSUNSET (2) 3. LEMON (4)

***4th race--

1. JUSTINPLACE (9) 2. MT. ORIENT (5) 3. OUR PARTNER (1) 4. GREGORIAN BAY (12)

Honest JUSTINPLACE (5-1) comes off a win for \$40,000 across town and was claimed out of the race by hot trainer Bill Spawr. He moves up a notch and should get a good trip behind the leaders. There's no reason he shouldn't fire again, so make a **Win Bet on JUSTINPLACE** and key him on a pair of trifecta tickets with OUR PARTNER (9-2), MR. ORIENT (7-2), ON OVERDRIVE (10-1) and GREGORIAN BAY (8-1).

Trifecta numbers: 9/1,5,6,12/ALL=\$36 and 1,5,6,12/9/ALL=\$36

5th race--

1. CITY HEAT (2) 2. MAHALO LANI (1) 3. LOVELY OLIVIA (5)

6th race--

1. CLOUDBREAKER (8) 2. HARLENE (6) 3. KIELBASA (1) 4. ROMANCE IS ZENON (2)

*****7th race--**

1. MONASTERY SCANDAL (3) 2. CINDER CONE (9) 3. MADE THE FINALS (7) 4. SKIMMETRY (8)

In what appears to be the toughest race on the card, I will take a shot with MONASTERY SCANDAL (8-1). The 4-year-old gelding broke his maiden at Oak Tree last time when switching to the downhill turf course. He stretches out around two turns but is bred to run long and the barn (Paco Gonzalez) seems to be coming out of its year-long funk. Make a **Win Bet on 'SCANDAL** and key him in the trifecta over five horses in the second and third spots: BRIAN THE BOLD (7-2), MADE THE FINALS (5-1), SKIMMETRY (6-1), CINDER CONE (8-1) and ROYAL VISION (6-1). Play a second ticket using those five in the first and third spots, with 'SCANDAL in the two-hole.

Trifecta numbers: 3/2,7,8,9,10/2,7,8,9,10=\$20 and 2,7,8,9,10/3/2,7,8,9,10=\$20

8th race--

1. BYBALLOT (7) 2. BACKSTROKE (6) 3. FOGGY HAZE (5) 4. HOTTODI (2)

*****\$48 PICK 4 TICKET (races 5-8):**

5th race--MAHALO LANI, CITY HEAT

(Alternate: LOVELY OLIVIA)

6th race--CLOUDBREAKER

7th race--BRIAN THE BOLD, MONASTERY SCANDAL, MADE THE FINALS, SKIMMETRY, CINDER CONE, ROYAL VISION

(Alternate: MANDATE TO FLY)

8th race--HOTTODI, FOGGY HAZE, BACKSTROKE, BYBALLOT

(Alternate: HARMONY CREATOR)

Pick 4 numbers: 1,2/8/2,3,7,8,9,10/2,5,6,7=\$48

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