

JEFF RUBY STEAKS CONTENDERS

LIKE THE KING



PRO: Game second in Battaglia Memoria; improving colt owns good tactical speed

CON: Inside post may force hand; class hike and added distance also possible issues

1

HUSH OF A STORM



PRO: Three straight local wins for Battaglia Memorial hero; favorable trip projected

CON: Didn't run straight in stretch last time, faces deeper company Saturday

2

KING'S OVATION



PRO: Grade 3 runner-up makes third start off layoff for Dale Romans

CON: Fared poorly in lone two-turn effort, nine furlongs probably not a good fit

3

AWESOME GERRY



PRO: Multiple stakes-placed colt invades from South Florida for Saffie Joseph

CON: Looks like more of a one-turn type based upon his last two outings

4

SAINTHOOD



PRO: Can't dismiss last-out winner for three-time Jeff Ruby winner Todd Pletcher

CON: Fair Grounds maiden scorer faces difficult test jumping to stakes competition

5

SMILEY SOBOTKA



PRO: Kentucky Jockey Club runner-up eligible to show more in second start back

CON: Must improve upon a dreadful ninth in Sam F. Davis; tough read

6

TARANTINO



PRO: Two-time turf winner and Holy Bull runner-up a major player on switch to Tapeta

CON: Forwardly-placed colt must work out a trip in speed-heavy field

7

MOONLIGHT STRIKE



PRO: Adds blinkers after a good third in Tampa Bay Derby; front-end threat for Joseph

CON: Likely to face pressure, distance concerns on stretch out to 1 1/8 miles

8

HARD RYE GUY



PRO: Packed a late punch recording a troubled fourth in Battaglia Memorial

CON: Brisnet Speed ratings appear light; minor award may be his ceiling

9

GRETZKY THE GREAT



PRO: Grade 1 turf winner may appreciate switch to stalking tactics

CON: Middle-distance specialist has weakened late in last two efforts

10

DYN O MITE



PRO: Speedy type just missed against turf stakes foes in last two appearances

CON: Tough to envision a favorable trip from outside post at this distance

11

HOCKEY DAD



PRO: Southern California-based colt brings three-race win streak to stakes debut

CON: Been facing California-bred foes at shorter distances; imposing outside draw

12