

WEDNESDAY, 18/02/26

R3 LAVAL [L-H]

**C1 - PRIX DU VIEUX LAVAL - 2850m (a2m) - Class E - Harness - EUR €
21,000**

1. LA DIVINE ECUS - Delivered for Matthieu Abrivard in an Angers Class E on 28 January, and this should again prove a question of all-or-nothing

2. LILOU DES LANDES - Starts for the first time since running 5th in a Vincennes Class E on 7 December. Shoes fitted for the occasion and not a concern

3. LOLLIPOP CHANLECY - Has a pair of runs under her belt following a year-long hiatus. Is known more for her monte aptitude, but will be barefoot for the first time and could pleasantly surprise

4. LINKIA DES APRES - Surprising 3rd in a Nantes Class D on 25 January, however a repeat seems most unlikely

5. LUCIA DE LA CRIERE - Missed out by little in a Nantes Class E on 12 January, accounting for LIBERTE DE L'AUNAY (13) that day. Seldom disappoints with her partner and can compete for a place in the frame once more

6. LOVE ME BERRY - Has not been seen out since securing an Enghien Class E last September. Is barefoot for the occasion but looks a minor place prospect at best

7. LAGUNA SECA - Took no time getting back in the game, running 2nd in an Argentan Class E early last month. Will have been kept on the boil and should prove competitive for a step on the podium

8. LILOU TREMBLADAISE - Respectable monte mare using this race as a conditioner and can be confidently disregarded

9. LELIZIA - Makes first appearance since winning an Enghien Class E 4 months ago and is not about to set off any fireworks

10. LUTTE DE COSSE - Disappointing on the whole since the autumn. Is competitively-shod this time but cannot be considered a contender

11. LOLA DU CLOS - Eliminated on comeback 10 days ago in a 2175m Vincennes monte Class D. Is capable in both codes however, and will be expected to play a prominent role

12. LADY DE GREZ - Starts for first time since last September. Is barefoot for re-entry but would still be preferred in the other discipline

13. LIBERTE DE L'AUNAY - Beaten only by a good mare at Saint-Brieuc on 23 January. Trainer could not have wished for a better entry and Eric Raffin will be keen to deliver. Claim

Summary: As faithful as you like and plainly close to her race, LIBERTE DE L'AUNAY (13) has yet to win for Eric Raffin, but she has been reconfigured and benefits from a very good entry. LA DIVINE ECUS (1) put a pair of winter eliminations behind her to impose at Angers late last month and will be sporting pads this time. LAGUNA SECA (7) gave an excellent account on her Argentan re-entry and will be reined by Alexandre Abrivard. LUCIA DE LA CRIERE (5) has done nothing but improve recently and finished ahead of Raffin's mare at Nantes.

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SELECTIONS

**LIBERTE DE L'AUNAY (13) - LA DIVINE ECUS (1) - LAGUNA SECA (7) - LUCIA DE LA
CRIERE (5)**

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C2 - PRIX DU TERTRE - 2850m (a2m) - Class E - Harness - EUR € 21,000

- 1. LUXOR DE MARZY** - Has just the one race under his belt since the Christmas break but is still being conditioned and best to wait
- 2. L'IDEALISTE** - Starts for the first time since faulting under the saddle at Vincennes on Christmas Eve and will have other ambitions
- 3. LISTEL D'URZY** - Gave a good account on lone start here but is unraced since October and, in this company, has no possible chance
- 4. LEADER BEACH** - Good, versatile sort that has won 2 of 3 barefoot starts, is reunited with Eric Raffin who won with him in September, and will not be far off the mark if he takes to the new conditions
- 5. LEWIS DE GINAI** - Unseen since 9 December when flopping in Paris. Is shod for re-entry and would be preferred racing clockwise
- 6. LUKARI DE FONTAINE** - Modest 5th in a 2700m Vincennes Class E on 14 January. Has references at this level but has shown little liking for the venue and can expect to have few friends
- 7. LOOK DES ECUS** - Lost his way after imposing at Le Mont-Saint-Michel last summer. Has not been seen out since early-November and will be fitted with pads. No chance
- 8. LOOK AT ME D'AIRZA** - Gave a good account on return from a spell when 4th of 17 in a 2875m Argentan Class E earlier in the month. Will have come on for the run, has form here and, if applied, can finish in the mix
- 9. LITTLE CASH** - Courageous winner of a 2175m Vincennes Class E late last month. Has shoes on this time and is new to the venue, but seldom lets the side down and the Laval profile should suit him to a tee
- 10. LORD DE CHENU** - Progressive element that made short work of a 2700m Vincennes Class E on 20 January. Will have no issue with the new conditions and has a legitimate claim on the race
- 11. LARABIEN** - Blows hot and cold but is not devoid of talent. Is barefoot for first start since running 2nd in a Vincennes Class E in early-December and, if sufficiently fit, can pick up some prizemoney
- 12. LEBOSS D'HAVAROCHE** - Complicated type facing first objective of the season after a pair of return runs. Will be competitively-shod but still no more than a minor place chance
- 13. LOOK PEJI** - Unexceptional trotter making first appearance since early-November and is unlikely to generate much interest
- 14. L'ESPOIR BELRI** - Bit off more than he could chew at Vincennes 3 weeks ago but will be barefoot for his Laval debut and should not be underrated
- 15. LUIGI PAULCA** - Somewhat unlucky in a 3000m Nantes Class E mid-January. Has bags of ability, is confirmed here, and with stride in check can trot his way onto the podium
- 16. LET'S GO LANDEMER** - Unseen since 1 December but is plainly in race-mode. Is unbeaten in 2 starts over course and distance and has a decent chance of keeping his perfect run going

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Summary: Winner of 5 of his last 6 starts, most recently a Vincennes Class E with authority, LORD DE CHENU (10) has been re-shod for his Laval bow and is easy to fancy for the 4-timer. LET'S GO LANDEMER (16) has demonstrated fine aptitude for the game and even though unraced since early-December, he is shod for competition and benefits from a terrific entry. Also well-engaged, LUIGI PAULCA (15) returns to a track he appreciates and, if applied, can finish close. LITTLE CASH (9) has not put a foot wrong since returning to France and even though shod this time still looks a player.

SELECTIONS

LORD DE CHENU (10) - LET'S GO LANDEMER (16) - LUIGI PAULCA (15) - LITTLE CASH
(9)

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**C3 - PRIX DU VAL DE BOOTZ - 2850m (a2m) - Class F - Harness - EUR €
21,000**

- 1. KEMILLA DE BRION** - Complicated mare but has considerable ability. Has not been seen out since late-December but has a particular liking for Laval and will be expected to play an active role
- 2. KALINE DE COSSE** - Steps up in category after winning 2 of last 3 starts. Has placed in 2 of 3 here, runs unshod-behind, and cannot be discounted
- 3. KYA D'ERABLE** - 4th of 12 to KALINE DE COSSE (2) on re-entry in a 2850m Class E at Maure-de-Bretagne 10 days ago. Takes on an even better lot this time but still has the wherewithal to get a look in
- 4. KYRA D'ESSARTS** - Moderate mare returning to competition after 2.5 months off. Is barefoot for the occasion, takes a dip in category, but others still preferred
- 5. KASTA DU RIB** - Back under harness after flopping in the other code late last month and will have nothing to offer
- 6. KALINKA DU BREUIL** - In the frame in last 2, most recently 3rd behind KATINKA COTON (15) in a 2850m Mauquenchy Class E 3.5 weeks ago. Has evident ability but appears to be taking on too much
- 7. INTRIGUE DE VIETTE** - Unraced since winning a Cherbourg Class F on 23 November. Is shod for comeback though and best to keep one's powder dry
- 8. KABALVA** - Ran 10th of 13 finishers behind KATINKA COTON (15) in a 2100m Vincennes Class D 10 days ago, and even in this category looks to be out of her depth
- 9. KASSIOPEE DREAM** - Eliminated on re-entry 10 days ago in race of reference. Capable when fit but nevertheless looks a race shy
- 10. KINDY DU VIVIER** - Returns to racing barefoot following a pair of necessary conditioners. Is new to the venue, but should nevertheless find these conditions more to her liking, and can compete for a first-5 payout
- 11. KOREA** - Unraced since coming 2nd in a 2700m Vincennes monte Class D in late-December. Is barefoot for the occasion but will have other priorities
- 12. KILLARNEY** - Unraced for 2.5 months and not easy to use at the best of times, but has bags of ability and must not be underestimated
- 13. KOTKITA GIRL** - Won a pair in Paris before being stepped up in category. In more suitable company here and with the champion driver reining, can return to competitive ways. Chance
- 14. KOSY D'ERONVILLE** - 11th of 13 finishers behind KATINKA COTON (15) in a 2100m Vincennes Class D 10 days ago. Will have progressed for the race but others still easier to recommend
- 15. KATINKA COTON** - Has been on a progressively good run of form since the turn of the year. Is nicely-engaged, ran 2nd on sole Laval start, and will be competitive for a place on the podium
- 16. KALINDA DU PARC** - Was starting to show her form when unlucky 7th in a 2100m Vincennes Class D 10 days ago. Benefits from a superb engagement and enjoys a realistic chance of bringing home the bacon

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Summary: Nicely-engaged close to the limit of earnings, KALINDA DU PARC (16) was denied a run, when competitive, in Paris recently and with Guillaume Martin reining this time will be expected to set the record straight. KOTKITA GIRL (13) returns to a more reasonable level after failing to deliver recently at Vincennes and will be entrusted to Eric Raffin for the first time. KATINKA COTON (15) did not enjoy the best of trips here earlier in the month but nevertheless held her own and should be taken more seriously this time. KILLARNEY (12) has not been seen out since early-December, but races barefoot on her first appearance for the Bazire stable and could well get straight back in the game.

SELECTIONS

KALINDA DU PARC (16) - KOTKITA GIRL (13) - KATINKA COTON (15) - KILLARNEY (12)

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**C4 - PRIX D'AVESNIERES - 2850m (a2m) - Class D - Harness - EUR €
35,000**

- 1. IENISSE DE BARBRAY** - Ended 2026 in good order, running 2nd at Cherbourg on 23 November, but is shod for return and will have little to contribute
- 2. JAMAICA PHEDO** - Known more for her monte exploits, and recently dominated a Vincennes Class C, but is patently at the top of her game and, if form transitions, can confirm
- 3. INSTALL D'ALOUETTE** - Tough campaigner making just 2nd appearance following a lengthy absence. Remains shod and can be ruled out
- 4. DIVINA TRIO** - Would have defied her odds last time out had she not been denied a run. Will be fully fit by now and will have her chances if kept out of trouble
- 5. JOY JENILOU** - Out of the picture in 2 since imposing at Vincennes in early-January, but returns to a track she adores and must be taken seriously
- 6. JUNKIE (SWE)** - Is no champion but is better than recent numbers would suggest. Has been reconfigured for the occasion and, in this field, should not be far from the action
- 7. HOWDY QUICK** - Previously a very good sort but starts for the first time since August 2023 and is going to need the race
- 8. VALLATONIAN** - Takes a notable dip in category after running a valiant 5th of 16 in a Vincennes Class B on 22 January. Should take well to Laval conditions and, in this company, looks competitively well in
- 9. LUCKY GUY BOKO** - Put away after running 4th at Mauquenchy 2 months ago. Is clearly still in conditioning-mode and is not a concern this time
- 10. IN RACE LORRAINE** - Lost her way after a briefly productive stint this winter. Out of the picture in 2 here and with shoes fitted will have nothing to offer
- 11. JESTA BUISSONAY** - Unremarkable mare that has failed to make the frame in last 8 starts. Is less competitively-shod this time and will have few friends
- 12. JERICHO DU RIB** - Won a Class D at Vincennes on 27 January before losing his action on 22 January at same venue. Has never delivered at Laval and is unlikely to start now
- 13. HUDSON BAIE** - Honest mare but has placed just one in 3 Laval appearances. Is unraced since early-October and, even though barefoot, still looks an outsider
- 14. DESTINO D.J.** - Serious trotter starting for first time since mid-September. Is barefoot for comeback though, with Eric Raffin in the bike, and the good entry will do his prospects not harm
- 15. JETIDA** - Won like a good thing in an Angers Class F on 28 January. Change of driver this time but has a lot going for her all the same, and considering her liking for Laval, a place in the frame would be no surprise
- 16. JERENAL D'HAMELINE** - Made it 2 for 2 at Angers on 11 November. Has not ben seen since, races shod for the occasion, and the hat-trick is unlikely to materialise

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Summary: JAMAICA PHEDO (2) may be as capricious as they get but she has talent to burn. She recently flew up under the saddle and, even though reconfigured, still has a decent chance of repeating. Franck Nivard can nevertheless still expect resistance from DIVINA TRIO (4) who was never afforded a run in Paris early this month, and VALLATONIAN (8) who will appreciate the drop in category. JETIDA (15) benefits from an excellent entry here and showed off her form at Angers 3 weeks ago.

SELECTIONS

JAMAICA PHEDO (2) - DIVINA TRIO (4) - VALLATONIAN (8) - JETIDA (15)

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C5 - PRIX DU BOURG HERSENT - 2850m (a2m) - Class F Amateur Riders - Mounted - EUR € 24,000

- 1. INDIGO GEDE** - Has been a complete write-off since September 2024 and will first need to re-establish his credentials
- 2. INDIANA TESS** - Imposed at Nantes on 19 January, then repeated 2 weeks later at Graignes. Would be preferred barefoot but in current condition is hard to fault. First 3
- 3. JIL** - Complicated at the best of times but held her own in a Vincennes Class C 3 weeks ago, and will have her chances if Eva Bouclet keeps her focused
- 4. IZAAC D'HAVAROCHE** - Delicate individual returning to the discipline after a pair of modest harness runs, but races shod and can be ignored
- 5. JADE VENESI** - Has taken particularly well to her new vocation, placing in last 3, most recently 3rd in a Bordeaux Class E on 26 January. Sports 4 pads this time and clearly has the capacity to make first 5
- 6. GERONIMO STARDUST** - Distant 4th to INDIANA TESS (2) in a Graignes Class F 2.5 weeks ago, and appears to have little chance this time either
- 7. JACK DES MALBERAUX** - Disappointing under the saddle for some time. Sports pads after running 4th in a Vincennes harness claimer 3 weeks ago, but still not a concern
- 8. ILLICO DE LOU** - Looked decidedly ordinary on re-entry when last but one in a Class D at Maure-de-Bretagne on 2 February, and will need to find significantly more
- 9. IBIZA DE CONNEE** - Showed marked improvement when 2nd to INDIANA TESS (2) in a Graignes Class F 2.5 weeks ago. Has ground to make up, and races shod, but can still trot her way into the money
- 10. IDEFIX DES LANDES** - Makes monte debut after holding his own in a Cherbourg Class F 2.5 weeks ago. Is not about to shake things up but should nevertheless acquit himself honourably
- 11. JAVA DU CHERISAY** - Showed her form despite being put out of the race at Vincennes earlier in the month. Is not about to win this but can finish in the mix if she stays in stride
- 12. JIRI PACHA** - Useful sort with just the one run under his belt since the autumn break. Will have progressed for the race, takes a dip in category, and cannot be ruled out
- 13. JUST BIRD** - Has not put a foot out of line since returning to competition. Ran good 4th in a 2700m Vincennes Class D 2 weeks ago and looks thoroughly capable of winning a race of this nature
- 14. ISUTAH** - Previously a good sort but has yet to convince this term and is unlikely to have many takers

Summary: JUST BIRD (13) has taken his game on since beginning to race in his current configuration and, given the entry, can run a way with this. JIL (3) may be difficult to use but she reassured in a Vincennes Class C late last month, sports 4 pads this time, and at this level should prove considerably more competitive. INDIANA TESS (2) is unbeaten in 2 barefoot starts under the saddle and even though fitted with pads this time, still looks a major player. Most unlucky in Paris a fortnight ago, the reconfigured JAVA DU CHERISAY (11) will appreciate the change of scenery and can start to get back in the game.

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SELECTIONS

JUST BIRD (13) - JIL (3) - INDIANA TESS (2) - JAVA DU CHERISAY (11)

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**C6 - PRIX DU VAL DE MAYENNE - 2850m (a2m) - Class E - Harness - EUR
€ 21,000**

- 1. MONTH DE BEAUM** - Has yet to demonstrate any particular flair for the game and can be confidently discounted
- 2. MYSTERIEUX** - Pleasant 6th of 10 on comeback here a fortnight ago. Will logically have come on for the run and, if sufficiently-fit, can make the frame
- 3. MOTLEY CRUE** - Unexceptional individual making first appearance since last October and has no realistic chance
- 4. MY LOVE JULMA** - Quality element that is competitively-shod for return from his spell. Ran 3rd in a Class E here on penultimate start and, reunited with Matthieu Abrivard, can contest the finish this time
- 5. MOGADOR** - Back under harness, and debuts at the venue, after a modest effort under the saddle at Vincennes earlier in the month. Sports a fresh configuration but still not a priority
- 6. MEILLEUR KURYS** - Gave a good account on first goal of the season, running 2nd in a Graignes Class E on 9 February. Will be hard to ignore with shoes off and Alexandre Abrivard in the bike. Attention
- 7. MIROS** - Useful type starting for first time since running 3rd in a Nantes Class E last October. Can play a small role but is unlikely to upset the status quo
- 8. MIRACLE D'ALEXIANE** - Got off the mark with a certain ease in a Nantes Class F on 16 January. Eric Raffin in the bike this time and will be well-backed to repeat
- 9. MOMO DES CARREAUX** - Respectable sort but will need to show more than he did at Mauquenchy last week. Is competitively-configured for the first time but is still unlikely to influence the result

Summary: Unopposed winner of a Nantes Class F to lose his maiden status mid-January, MIRACLE D'ALEXIANE (8) will be reined by Eric Raffin this time, and is in with a realistic shout of repeating. MY LOVE JULMA (4) showed considerable promise last autumn, is confirmed here, and with hind shoes off for the first time must be considered a leading player. MYSTERIEUX (2) was by no means disgraced on re-entry here earlier in the month and, although unlikely to impose, can nevertheless finish in the mix. MEILLEUR KURYS (6) showed marked improvement at Graignes 9 days ago and races barefoot for the first time in his career.

SELECTIONS

**MIRACLE D'ALEXIANE (8) - MY LOVE JULMA (4) - MYSTERIEUX (2) - MEILLEUR KURYS
(6)**

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C7 - PRIX DU HAUT ROCHER - 2850m (a2m) - Class F Amateur Riders - Harness - EUR € 19,000

1. **INVECTUS JELOCA** - Has not been seen out since pleasing in an Argentan amateurs Class G in mid-December. Runs shod this time and not a concern
2. **KASSKOU CLEMAXELLE** - Reliability not his strong suit but can trot. Has references in both codes here and even though shod, can nevertheless make his presence felt
3. **INDIRISS** - Has done nothing noteworthy on the track since December 2024 and is unlikely to create an upset
4. **I PLAY POKER** - Faces first objective of the winter after a pair of return runs. Won shod over course and distance last time here and, while not a priority, still cannot be discounted
5. **JOKER DES ISLES** - Handy sort in both disciplines but has not been seen out since October and will not be given a hard race
6. **KRONO DU TRIO** - Has turned a corner since starting to race barefoot, and has yet to disappoint for his driver. Is plainly better than most here and can wrap this up
7. **JOB KERVILOU** - Has not been seen out for 2.5 months, and will be shod for comeback, but ran 3rd when shod on sole start here and is unlikely to be going home empty-handed
8. **KHEOPS DE FREDLAU** - Better under the saddle but encouraged at Agen on 22 January and will be barefoot this time. First 5
9. **I LOVE DU CHERISAY** - Beaten only by the good I KEEP CALM in a Cherbourg Class F 2.5 weeks ago. Will be similarly-shod and should prove competitive when it matters
10. **IBAN DE KARA** - Modest element that made no impact on re-entry at Nantes on 12 January and is plainly out of his depth
11. **JAZZ VERONE** - Encouraged in an amateurs event before failing to deliver at Angers mid-January, and is unlikely to spring any surprises
12. **JOW PIQUENARD** - Ran 3rd at Graignes 2.5 weeks ago but eliminated a week later. Will be at peak fitness by now though and will not be far from the action if Max Beauvais gets him off on the right foot
13. **JOCDOR** - Failed to make any impact last year following time on the sidelines. Trounced on only Laval start and is unlikely to influence the result
14. **IDEAL FOUR** - 4th behind JOW PIQUENARD (12) in a Graignes Class E 2.5 weeks ago but failed to repeat a week later and can be passed over
15. **KING DE LARRE** - Capable on a good day but has just one race under his belt since the spell and races with shoes this time. Disregard
16. **I LOVE LATAL** - Lost his way last summer but impressed on re-entry 10 days ago at Challans. Races barefoot for the first time since June and, given the entry, must be considered a contender

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Summary: Revitalised since starting to race barefoot with Gilles D'Haenens reining, KRONO DU TRIO (6) makes his Laval debut with every chance of making it a successful one. Second only to a very good horse on his first goal of the winter, I LOVE DU CHERISAY (9) will have come on for the race and looks dangerous. I LOVE LATAL (16) has not won since 2024 but he gave a fine account on his recent Challans comeback and, with shoes off this time, looks a player. JOW PIQUENARD (12) is not easy to knock when focused, has form here, and warrants respect.

SELECTIONS

KRONO DU TRIO (6) - I LOVE DU CHERISAY (9) - I LOVE LATAL (16) - JOW PIQUENARD (12)

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**C8 - PRIX DE LA CROIX DES LANDES - 2850m (a2m) - Class F - Harness -
EUR € 15,000**

- 1. NAEL D'AVEL** - Qualified in 1'20'1 here in early-October. Alexis Collette in the bike and can be assured a competitive drive
- 2. NEW STAR DE JALE** - Left a good impression in Caen qualification last December, coming in at 1'18'6. Takes on a better lot but is here more for experience and can be passed over
- 3. NEWCASTLE DE JED** - Qualified in 1'19'7 at Caen on 18 December. Like stablemate NEW STAR DE JALE (2), is here for a recce, and best to hold off
- 4. NICOS BLEU** - Wonderfully-related colt whose pedigree alone is worth backing here. Top driver gets the nod and it would be no surprise were he to win this
- 5. NOCCATO D'ORLY** - Qualified unexceptionally here last May, but will have been held back for good reason and has a decent chance of heading home with a cheque in his pocket
- 6. NOTHINGELSEMATTERS** - Qualified in 1'19 at Le Mans last June. Market will guide
- 7. NOTTINGHAM PLACE** - Has not been seen in public since qualifying at Caen in 1'19'7 last summer. Half-brother to the good Kassya though and Franck Nivard's expectations will be legitimately high
- 8. NINA DE VANDEL** - Unraced since finishing last on debut at Cherbourg last November and in this category, can be ruled out
- 9. NEW DELO** - Came last of 6 finishers at Cherbourg 2.5 weeks ago on racecourse debut, and is not about to take Laval by storm
- 10. NALIANO D'ECHAL** - Was not the most fortunate in a Bordeaux Class F earlier in the month but is plainly in form and, in the hands of Matthieu Abrivard, must be taken seriously
- 11. NORMA DE CAHOT** - Unraced since giving a good account of herself in a Nantes Class F in mid-November. Will have progressed during her time off and must not be discounted
- 12. NEW STAR QUICK** - Did everything right on debut when 2nd in a 2700m Machecoul Class F 2.5 weeks ago. Champion pilot at the helm this time and will be expected to contest the finish

Summary: Untried but respectable in qualification during the autumn, NICOS BLEU (4) hails from a very talented family, and with Alexandre Abrivard in the bike can get straight down to business. Eric Raffin takes charge of a padded NEW STAR QUICK (12) who gave a very good account on debut earlier this month and is unlikely to go down without a fight. NALIANO D'ECHAL (10) would have been competitive in Bordeaux 10 days ago had he not been eliminated, but Matthieu Abrivard's services have been engaged in order to put things right. NORMA DE CAHOT (11) gave a fine account of herself at Nantes last November, first time out, and even though unseen since, will have been prepared for this and should prove competitive at the business end of the race.

SELECTIONS

NICOS BLEU (4) - NEW STAR QUICK (12) - NALIANO D'ECHAL (10) - NORMA DE CAHOT (11)