Saint-Cloud [L-H] - 18 March

Race 1 - PRIX FRANCOIS MATHET - 2100m OPEN. Purse EUR €55.000.

- 1. **HARRY WAY** Runner-up when beaten a head in a 2000m Class One contest on the AW at Cagnes-sur-Mer at the start of last month. Bold show expected.
- 2. **BACK TO BLACK** Winner of two of his last three starts including by 1.5L in a 2000m Class Two event at Marseille-Borely twelve days ago. Strong claims.
- 3. **WINTER PUDDING** Saw off a subsequent winner when victorious by 1.25L in a 1900m maiden at Chantilly AW. One to note on turf debut.
- 4. **MONONOF** Ended last year with a 0.75L victory in an 1800m maiden at Lyon-la-Soie in November. Tackles a tougher contest here.
- 5. **CTE D'ESCARBAGNAS** Failed to shine when 31L last of six in the G3 Prix des Chenes over 1600m at Longchamp in September. Likely capable of better than he showed that day.
- 6. **SIRTAKI** Changed trainer since winning by a neck over 1900m in a conditions event at Bordeaux last October. Leading contender.
- 7. **NOT ALONE** Supplemented runner followed up a 2000m maiden win on the AW at Cagnes-sur-Mer in January with a 1.75L third over the same track and trip three weeks ago. Notable runner.
- 8. **IMMENSITUDE** Deauville AW winner on debut in December but failed to back that up when 2.25L last of six in an 1800m Class One event at Chantilly AW five weeks ago. More required.

Summary: SIRTAKI (6) won by a neck in a 1900m conditions race at Bordeaux. Selected to deliver a victory debuting for a new trainer. HARRY WAY (1) looks a big threat following a head second in a 2000m conditions event on the AW at Cagnes-sur-Mer. BACK TO BLACK (2) performed well when winning by 1.5L in a 2000m race at Marseille-Borely. Shortlist. NOT ALONE (7) registered a 1.75L third in a 2000m race at Cagnes-sur-Mer. Warrants close consideration.

Selections

SIRTAKI (6) - HARRY WAY (1) - BACK TO BLACK (2) - NOT ALONE (7)

- 1. **DENVER CHOP** Faded when 8L sixth in a 1300m Class One event at Chantilly AW four weeks ago. Stamina to prove stepping up in distance.
- 2. **KIZMAMBO** Neck second to Duc de Kent in a 1500m maiden at Cagnes-sur-Mer last month. Not written off despite a defeat in a 1600m maiden on the AW subsequently.
- 3. **KENDLY** Impressive when drawing 5.5L clear of his four rivals in a 1400m Class Two conditions race at Bordeaux 23 days ago. Strong claims.
- 4. **DUC DE KENT** Unbeaten in two starts in 2023 including when winning by 0.75L over 2000m in a Class One on the AW at Cagnes-sur-Mer three weeks ago. Bold show expected.
- 5. **BIRR CASTLE** Off the mark at the second attempt when victorious by 0.75L in a 1600m maiden at Compiegne in September. Top chance.
- 6. **STRAKO** Successful at this level in the Criterium de Lyon over 1600m at Lyon-Parilly last September. Failed to shine over 2000m when last of nine in the G1 Criterium de Saint-Cloud subsequently however.
- 7. **AMERICAN FLAG** Saw off a subsequent winner when winning by 6L in a Class Two conditions race over this course and distance in November. One to note.
- 8. **ANGERS** Ended last year with a 1.5L third in a valuable sales race over 1600m at Longchamp at the start of October. Not written off.
- 9. **SOSINO** Maiden winner by 2L on heavy going over 1500m at this venue last October. Claims with improvement likely.

Summary: BIRR CASTLE (5) won by 0.75L in a 1600m maiden at Compiegne. Selected to make a winning seasonal debut. KENDLY (3) is expected to challenge for the following a 5.5L triumph in a 1400m conditions race at Bordeaux. DUC DE KENT (4) holds strong claims having triumphed by 0.75L in a 2000m AW contest at Cagnes-sur-Mer. AMERICAN FLAG (7) registered a 6L success in a 1600m conditions race here. Dangerous with the runner-up that day scoring subsequently.

Selections

BIRR CASTLE (5) - KENDLY (3) - DUC DE KENT (4) - AMERICAN FLAG (7)

Race 3 - PRIX D'ESTIMAUVILLE - 2100m HCP. Purse EUR €25,000.

- 1. **KLIFF BERE** Resumes today. Last appeared at Angers over 2000m when fifth four months ago. Looks tested in this field.
- 2. **SHEMBALA** Lightly raced filly who was beaten 3L into third last start over 2100m at Pornichet. Sure to measure up here.
- 3. **YOU JUST ROCK** Returned from a spell last start with a solid third at Cagnes-sur-Mer over 2150m. Fitter for that run.
- 4. **GREAT PROMISE** Has progressed with each run culminating in a third last time out over 1900m at Deauville All Weather. Needs more.
- 5. **NEKOLETO** Last appeared three-and-a-half months ago when he finished 3L from the winner in third over 1900m at Chantilly All Weather. Sure to be thereabouts.
- 6. **MANDEGA** Broke a long drought last time when he scored by a long neck at Fontainebleau over 2000m. Hard to beat again.
- 7. **HERMANO** Won his maiden two back at Pornichet then could only manage fifth last start over 2100m at Pornichet. Better than the last run suggests and can do better.
- 8. **ONE POINT** Scored her maiden win last time out over 2150m at Cagnes-sur-Mer. Shapes as a chance again.

Summary: MANDEGA (6) is taken to complete a double following a neck victory in a 2000m claimer at Fontainebleau. YOU JUST ROCK (3) is expected to play a hand in the finish after a 2.25L third over 2150m at Cagnes-sur-Mer. SHEMBALA (2) placed third when beaten 3L in a 2100m conditions race at Pornichet. Shortlist on handicap debut. ONE POINT (8) won by 1.5L in a 2150m handicap at Cagnes-sur-Mer. Of note in this field.

Selections

MANDEGA (6) - YOU JUST ROCK (3) - SHEMBALA (2) - ONE POINT (8)

- 1. **AMEDRAS** Won three times earlier on in the campaign and most recently finished third at Cagnes-sur-Mer over 1500m. Can contest the finish.
- 2. **SHINNING OCEAN** Was beaten just 0.9L when fifth on his latest appearance at Deauville All Weather over 1500m. Winning chance.
- 3. **LEV** Hasn't raced since finishing fourth over 1600m at Longchamp five months ago. Can return in good order.
- 4. **PASSALITO** Winner two back at Pau All Weather then repeated over 1400m at Mont-de-Marsan. Current form hard to go past.
- 5. MEMORY DREAM Has not raced since finishing fourth over 1400m at Dieppe on November 1. Place.
- 6. COUR DU ROI Not firing at all recently. Winner will come from elsewhere.
- 7. **LUPO NERO** Has not raced since finishing sixth over 1400m at Chantilly All Weather on January 14. See how he returns.
- 8. **OFFRANVILLE** Has been out of the money in recent runs including last time out when fifth over 1500m at Cagnes-sur-Mer three-and-a-half weeks ago. Not keen on her chances.
- 9. **WHITE PLATIN** Has not raced since finishing 4L away in fifth over 1400m at Longchamp on October 27. Needs more time.
- 10. **PUERTO MADERO** Yet to break through this campaign but hasn't been far away including a last start fourth over 1600m at Chantilly All Weather. One of the chances.
- 11. NORWEGIAN SIR Yet to find the frame in two runs since resuming from a spell. More required.
- 12. TARIDA Last start finished eleventh at Cagnes-sur-Mer. Looks tested this line-up.
- 13. **MR GOODNIGHT** Finished a close third at Cagnes-sur-Mer All Weather over 1300m. Leo Roussel retains the ride. Expected to finish in the mix.
- 14. **MASTERBOY** Resumes from a break of 12 weeks. Finished seventh on his most recent appearance over 1500m at Deauville All Weather. Goes well first up.
- 15. **ETATIQUE** Latest form hasn't been up to scratch and he is now out to 485 days without a win. Finished eighth on his latest appearance over 1500m at Cagnes-sur-Mer. Can't recommend on that performance.
- 16. **NOCE D'OR** Has a poor win strike and failed to improve on it last start when he finished third over 1300m at Chantilly All Weather. Top-three hope.

Summary: PASSALITO (4) completed a double when winning by a head over 1400m at Mont-de-Marsan. Selected to continue his winning run. SHINNING OCEAN (2) looks a threat on the back of a 0.75L fifth in a 1500m handicap at Deauville AW. MEMORY DREAM (5) enters calculations back in a handicap having delivered a 4.25L fourth in a 1400m conditions race at Dieppe. MR GOODNIGHT (13) gets in off a nice weight following a 0.5L third over 1300m on the AW at Cagnes-sur-Mer. Claims back on turf. LEV (3) completes the shortlist.

Selections

PASSALITO (4) - SHINNING OCEAN (2) - MEMORY DREAM (5) - MR GOODNIGHT (13) - LEV (3)

- 1. **BAKHCHISARAY** Fifth when beaten 1.75L in a 2000m Class Three event on the AW at Cagnes-sur-Mer. Capable of better.
- 2. **HAYA ZARK** Off the track since a 14L last of seven in the G2 Prix Eugene Adam over 2000m here last July. Ran well first up last spell.
- 3. **VIRTUAL ROCK** Raced from the front when 2.25L third in the G3 Prix de Lutece over 3000m at Longchamp at the start of September. Of note down in trip on seasonal debut.
- 4. **SKALLETI** Winner of this race two years ago and ended last year with a 0.75L success in the Listed Prix Tantieme over 1600m here in November. Leading player.
- 5. **SURREY MIST** Impressed when winning by 4L in the Listed Prix Vulcain over 2500m at Deauville in October. Strong claims.
- 6. KERTEZ Good 1.5L third in the 2200m G2 Prix du Conseil de Paris at Longchamp in October. Top chance.
- 7. **CRAPS** Raced from off the pace prior to winning by 1.25L in a 2150m handicap at Cagnes-sur-Mer last month. Not written off stepping up in grade.
- 8. **FLYINGBEAUTY** Successful by 0.75L in the Listed Grand Prix de Fontainebleau over 2000m at Fontainebleau in November. Has won three times here in the past.

Summary: Dual course winner SKALLETI (4) looks capable of taking this following a 0.75L victory in the Listed Prix Tantieme over 1600m at this circuit. Won at Group One level in Germany and Group Two standard in France last season. KERTEZ (6) registered a 1.5L third in the G2 Prix du Conseil de Paris over 2200m at Longchamp. Danger to all dropping in distance. SURREY MIST (5) impressed with a 4L win in the 2500m Listed Prix Vulcain at Deauville last October. Bold show looks likely. VIRTUAL ROCK (3) is another with claims following a 2.25L third in the G3 Prix de Lutece over 3000m at Longchamp.

Selections

SKALLETI (4) - KERTEZ (6) - SURREY MIST (5) - VIRTUAL ROCK (3)

- 1. **HEAVENLY BREATH** Runner-up when beaten 1.5L by a subsequent G1 scorer in the G3 Prix d'Aumale over 1600m at Longchamp in September. Top chance.
- 2. **KNOCK ON** Unbeaten in two starts including by 0.75L in a 1500m Class Two at Cagnes-sur-Mer last month. Notable runner.
- 3. **QUEEN SAO** Held 5L fourth in the Listed Prix Herod over 1400m here in November. Noted on seasonal debut.
- 4. **HOXTON** Placed in Class Two contests on all three starts this spell including when beaten 1.25L into third over 1500m at Cagnes-sur-Mer. This looks a tougher affair.
- 5. **PALERMA** Held 4.5L fourth in the Listed Criterium du Languedoc over 1600m at Toulouse in November. More required.
- 6. **AXDALIVA** Fourth when beaten 11L in a 1600m contest at Meydan three weeks ago. Others hold more obvious claims.
- 7. **AUTUMN STARLIGHT** Debuted with a 0.75L victory in a 1500m newcomers event here in October. Strong claims of maintaining her unbeaten record.
- 8. **ANGELABA** Good 1L third in the G3 Prix des Reservoirs over 1600m at Deauville in October. Bold show expected for top connections.

Summary: HEAVENLY BREATH (1) placed second when beaten 1.5L by a subsequent G1 winner in the 1600m Prix d'Aumale at Longchamp. Expected to resume with a victory. ANGELABA (8) delivered a 1L third in the G3 Prix des Reservoirs over 1600m at Deauville. Likely to challenge for the win. AUTUMN STARLIGHT (7) debuted with a 0.75L victory in a 1500m newcomers race here. Shortlist. KNOCK ON (2) maintained her unbeaten record when winning by 0.75L over 1500m at Cagnes-sur-Mer. Warrants close consideration.

Selections

HEAVENLY BREATH (1) - ANGELABA (8) - AUTUMN STARLIGHT (7) - KNOCK ON (2)

- 1. **SIM CARD** Made it seven minor placings this prep two back at Pornichet but didn't repeat when fourth over 2000m at this track. Strong chance.
- 2. BLEUSKY Struggled last start over 1900m at Chantilly All Weather. Prepared to risk.
- 3. **MANDLEFT** Has not raced since she was safely held in eighth over 2400m at Pornichet on January 8. Will be better for this run.
- 4. **SANDSTORM** Last appeared three-and-a-half months ago when he finished 16L from the winner in fourteenth over 2500m at Deauville All Weather. Prefer to see how he returns.
- 5. **BOURDAIN** Has been out of the money recently including last time out when fifth over 2400m at Pornichet five-and-a-half weeks ago. Needs more.
- 6. **CRUELLA DE VIL** Nice return last start when third at Fontainebleau over 2200m on March 8. Fitter and worth following up.
- 7. **SILVER SCHNOK** Plain of late including last start when well held over 2150m at Cagnes-sur-Mer. This looks a nice assignment so she can bounce back.
- 8. **ILDOUCE FLECHOIS** Was a first-up winner last start at Bordeaux scoring by 1.3 lengths over 1900m. Back in great shape and is likely to feature.
- 9. **PERFECT ROSE** Scored three runs back but has been disappointing in two subsequent efforts. Better than recent form suggests and deserves another chance.
- 10. **FIRST CREATION** Broke through for an overdue win last time over 2450m at Mont-de-Marsan. Back in form and is expected to run well again.
- 11. **PUTUMAYO** Eight-year-old gelding with multiple wins at this journey. Got the prize last time out by 3.5L over 2000m at Mont-de-Marsan. Tougher test.
- 12. **CRISALSA** Last appeared nine weeks ago when he finished 4L from the winner in sixth over 1900m at Deauville All Weather. Will struggle against these.
- 13. **IL VINCITORE** Has been very ordinary since winning at Salon-de-Provence four starts back. Prepared to overlook.
- 14. **DOWNEVA** Lines up for the first time since November 16. Plenty of more attractive propositions in this race.
- 15. **BONNIE HOPPS** Finished a modest tenth over 1900m at Chantilly All Weather three weeks ago. Hard to get too confident until she shows a little more.
- 16. **CHARLOTTE TAGADA** Not a prolific winner with just two victories from 22 starts. Last start finished fourth over 1900m at Chantilly All Weather.

Summary: CRUELLA DE VIL (6) placed third when beaten 3L in a 2200m claiming handicap at Fontainebleau. Selected to register her first career success. SIM CARD (1) looks a threat to all following a 3L fourth in a track and trip handicap. FIRST CREATION (10) delivered a 1.25L victory in a 2450m handicap at Mont-de-Marsan. Enters calculations despite a 2kg rise in the weights. ILDOUCE FLECHOIS (8) is another to consider following a 1.25L success when racing from the front over 1900m at Bordeaux.

Selections

CRUELLA DE VIL (6) - SIM CARD (1) - FIRST CREATION (10) - ILDOUCE FLECHOIS (8)

- 1. **AGDUNE** Hasn't won in 16 months. Finished fourth last start over 2150m at Cagnes-sur-Mer. Better placed and expected to be in the finish.
- 2. **PARFAITE MERILL** Ran a better race last start to finish third at Chantilly All Weather over 2700m. Nicely placed and rates highly off that run. Top chance.
- 3. **DANDY COOL** Resuming from a spell. Yet to find the placings in three first-up runs. Hard to recommend at this stage.
- 4. **NOBLE ANGEL** Has not raced since finishing 18L away in fifteenth over 1700m at Chantilly All Weather on December 23. Others make more appeal.
- 5. **AMERICAN LILY** Last start finished seventh over 2500m at Deauville All Weather. Has recorded just 4 victories from 51 starts.
- 6. MAXI BELLO Two runs back from a lengthy spell have been plain. Cannot see him troubling these.
- 7. **AYANA** Placed two back then ran below her best last time when twelfth and beaten 5.5L at Chantilly All Weather over 1900m. Needs to lift.
- 8. **NEHOU** Has not raced since finishing 4L away in fifth over 2500m at this track on June 21. Form last time in not good enough.
- 9. **GRACE OF CLIFFS** Has not raced since finishing a nose away in second over 2000m at Nancy on November 27. Expected to play a major role.
- 10. **GOUTTE DE LUNE** Last appeared three months ago when she finished 12L from the winner in eleventh over 1700m at Pornichet. Worth keeping in mind.
- 11. **BELEAVE YOU** Fitter for recent racing and looks close to a win after finishing third over 1900m at Chantilly All Weather last time. Rates highly and can measure up.
- 12. **TAAL** Has a poor strike and failed to improve on it last start when she finished tenth over 1600m at Fontainebleau. Place.
- 13. **DARENIX** Finished just 2.25L away in fifth last start over 2150m at Cagnes-sur-Mer. One of the major players.
- 14. **MONSIEUR EMILE** Has been out of the money of late including last time out when eighth over 2150m at Cagnes-sur-Mer two-and-a-half weeks ago. Will need to do a bit more.
- 15. **BOKRA FIL MISHMISH** Plain of late including last start when well held over 2400m at Pornichet. Hard to ignore the recent efforts so happy to overlook.

Summary: BELEAVE YOU (11) placed third when beaten 1.5L over 1900m at Chantilly AW. Taken to triumph on his return to turf. PARFAITE MERILL (2) registered a 0.5L third in a 2700m handicap at Chantilly AW. Strong claims of registering a third career success. GRACE OF CLIFFS (9) enters calculations on her first start since a nose second over 2000m at Nancy in November. DARENIX (13) caught the eye when 2L fifth in a 2150m handicap at Cagnes-sur-Mer. Gets a chance to register his first victory.

Selections

BELEAVE YOU (11) - PARFAITE MERILL (2) - GRACE OF CLIFFS (9) - DARENIX (13)

- 1. SEASCAPE GIRL Placed two back then ran below her best last time when eighth. Better than last start.
- 2. **REGALIEN** Prepared to risk in this line-up.
- 3. **ABELARD F** Resumes from a break of ten weeks. Finished fourth on his most recent appearance over 1300m at Deauville All Weather. Looks capable.
- 4. MILLFIELD Finds it hard to win. Needs to show more after a fourteenth.
- 5. **AFGHANY** Average effort last start. Can turn things around.
- 6. **EL BNOUD** Stepping out at this course for the first time. Last appeared when she finished tenth over 1300m at Chantilly All Weather on January 21.
- 7. **JACK O'BOY** Last appeared 12 weeks ago when he finished 6L from the winner in twelfth over 1500m at Deauville All Weather. Prefer to see how he returns.
- 8. **AUTUMN TWILIGHT** Had been about the mark but disappointed last time out when 12L from the winner over 1500m at Cagnes-sur-Mer. Rates highly in this field and is a leading contender.
- 9. PETERHOF Well held resuming last start over 1600m at Fontainebleau. Doesn't appeal.
- 10. **SCARFACE** Just one career win from 31 starts. Last start finished 5.5L away in sixth over 1600m at Fontainebleau. Place on best form.
- 11. **KENDRA** Finding it hard to break through. Most recently finishing ninth last time out over 1600m at Fontainebleau.
- 12. **SEE YOU PINK** Returned from a layoff last start and was beaten 6L into sixth over 1400m at Chantilly All Weather. Should improve sharply.
- 13. PRIMO VIOLINO Resuming today. Doesn't usually fire early in the campaign.
- 14. **BIG RIVER** Won two starts back at Deauville All Weather but couldn't back that up when unplaced over 1300m at Chantilly All Weather last time. Best form stacks up nicely so worth another chance.
- 15. **SWEET DAMIANA** Has been out of the money recently including last start when ninth over 1400m at Deauville All Weather a week ago. Worth following up.
- 16. **TWIN BOY** Finished fourth when fresh from a spell last start but wasn't disgraced beaten just 0.8L over 1400m at Deauville All Weather. Will come on from that run and is likely to feature.
- 17. **NEVER WITHOUT YOU** Well held on the last couple of outings. Struggling of late and looking to others.
- 18. **SHAMSOUN** Finished a mile back last start when unwanted in betting over 1700m at Pornichet. Happy to risk.

Summary: AUTUMN TWILIGHT (8) showed good form prior to a below par eleventh over 1500m at Cagnessur-Mer. Can put that disappointment behind him to score here. BELARD F (3) registered a 1.5L fourth over 1300m at Deauville AW. Enters calculations returning to turf. TWIN BOY (16) looks to hold strong claims following a 0.75L fourth over 1400m at Deauville AW. SEE YOU PINK (12) came home 6L sixth in a 1400m maiden at Chantilly AW. Looks capable of going well back in a handicap.

Selections

AUTUMN TWILIGHT (8) - ABELARD F (3) - TWIN BOY (16) - SEE YOU PINK (12)