PAU [R-H] - 23 January

Race 1 - PRIX DE LASSEUBE - 1600m CL2. Purse EUR €22,000.

- 1. **ZESTFUL** Victorious by 0.75L over 1800m in a Lyon-la-Soie newcomers race six weeks ago. Leading contender.
- 2. **MOHAWK WARRIOR** Fair 4.75L fifth over 1500m in a claimer at Pont-de-Vivaux in November. Debuting for a new trainer.
- 3. **CATAPUM** Good 3L fourth over 1700m at Pornichet 25 days ago. Strong claims.
- 4. **LOUBEISIEN** Given a break since finishing 9.25L sixth over 1600m in the Listed Prix Isonomy at Deauville in October. Top chance.
- 5. **CORCOVADO** Triumphed by 0.75L in a 1500m newcomers event at Tarbes in October. Bold show expected.
- 6. **SIMPLY SOUTHERN** Off the mark at the second attempt when defeating a subsequent winner by 1.25L over this track and trip six weeks ago. Notable runner.
- 7. **EL OJANCANO** Fifth over 1600m at San Sebastian (Spain) in October. Making his first French start since July.
- 8. **HARIASA** Fair 3.5L sixth over 1600m at Toulouse on handicap debut. More needed.

Summary: ZESTFUL (1) can complete a double having debuted with a 0.75L victory over 1800m at Lyon-la-Soie. Top selection. LOUBEISIEN (4) is shortlisted having finished 9.25L sixth in the Listed Prix Isonomy tackling 1600m at Deauville. CORCOVADO (5) could play a hand in the finish following a 0.75L triumph over 1500m at Tarbes first up. CATAPUM (3) is another to consider on the back of a 3L fourth attempting 1700m at Pornichet.

Selections

ZESTFUL (1) - LOUBEISIEN (4) - CORCOVADO (5) - CATAPUM (3)

Race 2 - PRIX DE PONTACQ - 1400m CLM. Purse EUR €15,000.

- 1. **SHAMASUN** Fair 4.25L sixth over 1600m at this venue when debuting five weeks ago. Improvement likely.
- 2. HUAYARA Good 1.5L third over 1500m at Pont-de-Vivaux last month. Top chance.
- 3. LARRY C Held 6.75L sixth over 1300m at Deauville AW two weeks ago. More required.
- 4. **PRINCE DE GALLES** Disappointing 9.25L eighth over 1600m at Toulouse in November. Claims on earlier form.
- 5. **EASY SKANKING** Faded late on when 1.75L sixth over 1200m in a maiden at Agen in October. One to note.
- 6. LUARCA Unraced Kodiac filly. Of note on debut.
- 7. PILOTA Unraced Pedro The Great filly. Claims on debut.
- 8. **GREAT CHIEF** Good 1L second in a 1500m claimer at Pont-de-Vivaux last month. Bold show expected on stable debut.
- 9. **YE GUD THING** Last of six when beaten 6L over 1300m in a Class Two at Deauville AW eleven days ago. Leading contender down in grade.
- 10. **ANTIGUA** Runner-up beaten a short-head in a claimer over 1600m here ten days ago. Strong claims.

Summary: HUAYARA (2) may deliver a victory following a 1.5L third tackling 1500m at Pont-de-Vivaux. Serious player. YE GUD THING (9) can play a part in the finish back in a claimer having been beaten 6L last of six over 1300m at Deauville AW. GREAT CHIEF (8) is shortlisted having finished 1L second over 1500m at Pont-de-Vivaux. ANTIGUA (10) is another to consider following a short-head defeat when runner-up attempting 1600m here.

Selections

HUAYARA (2) - YE GUD THING (9) - GREAT CHIEF (8) - ANTIGUA (10)

Race 3 - PRIX DU CERCLE DE L'UNION - 2000m UNR. Purse EUR €18,000.

- 1. KOTARI Unraced Nathaniel colt. Top chance for a leading trainer in great form.
- 2. ASCOT CHOP Unraced Kheleyf colt. Likely to find a few too good on debut.
- 3. PATHFINDER Unraced Machucambo gelding. Minor role likely.
- 4. I EXCEL Unraced Exceed and Excel colt. Bold show expected.
- 5. LIEBE KINDER Unraced Shalaa colt. Others make more appeal.
- 6. **LOUVETOT** Unraced Ectot gelding. Likely to improve for the experience.
- 7. **SPIRIT OF GLORY** Unraced Olympic Glory gelding. One to note.
- 8. EXHIT Unraced Dariyan colt. Strong claims.
- 9. START UP Unraced Mastercraftsman colt. Leading contender.
- 10. ALANYA Unraced Le Havre filly. Of note.
- 11. **JOANIS** Unraced Panis filly. Others preferred.
- 12. SEERCES Unraced Ouilly filly. Best watched.
- 13. LUMI LOL Unraced Herald The Dawn filly. Minor role likely.
- 14. SLICE AND DICE Unraced Gengis filly. Yard better known for their exploits with jumpers.

Summary: An intriguing newcomers race that can go the way of the Nathaniel colt KOTARI (1) who represents top connections. Similar comments apply to Mastercraftsman colt START UP (9). Could deliver a big effort first up. Stablemate EXHIT (8) is shortlisted to make a winning debut. Exceed and Excel newcomer I EXCEL (4) is another to consider.

Selections

KOTARI (1) - **START UP** (9) - **EXHIT** (8) - **I EXCEL** (4)

- 1. **GOKENOR** 1.5L third in a 1200m maiden at Nimes in November. Not ruled out on stable and AW debut.
- 2. HAPPY HARRY 12L eighth on debut over 1700m at Pornichet AW. More needed but may improve.
- 3. **LUCTOR** Narrowly beat Triptajika when successful in a course and distance claimer two starts ago. Leading chance back up in trip.
- 4. **SANS ATTENDRE** Promise in both starts to date. Solid fourth in a 2150m maiden at Lyon-la-Soie latest. Key player for a top yard.
- 5. LOUIS SKI Close third behind Luctor and Triptajika in a course and distance claimer. Noted.
- 6. MIA MI Showed ability in four starts to date and holds each-way claims on ratings.
- 7. **CORNYEU** Moderate ninth behind a trio of re-opposing rivals over this track and trip. More required.
- 8. **PRINCESSE CHARLINE** 2L third behind a subsequent winner in a course and distance maiden latest. Interesting.
- 9. GHIZLAN Tailed off on debut. Impossible to recommend.
- 10. LA MALAGUETA Flying too high in a Class Two conditions race latest. Eased in grade.
- 11. **TRIPTAJIKA** Head second to Luctor in a course and distance claimer 20 days ago. Involved on stable debut.
- 12. ARACENA Kool Kompany filly from Astra Hall making her debut. Market check needed.
- 13. ESTOKENIA 1.5L fifth behind some of these in a recent track and trip claimer. Place claims.

Summary: The unexposed SANS ATTENDRE (4) has shown more than enough promise in both starts to date. His fourth in a 2150m maiden at Lyon-la-Soie latest looks solid for this grade. Leading chance for a top stable. LUCTOR (3) beat TRIPTAJIKA (11) by a head in a course and distance claimer twenty days ago. The former subsequently finished fifth over 1600m and rates highly back up in trip whilst the latter must be respected if replicating. PRINCESSE CHARLINE (8) finished third to a subsequent winner over track and trip. Dangerous to dismiss now dropped to claiming level.

Selections

SANS ATTENDRE (4) - LUCTOR (3) - TRIPTAJIKA (11) - PRINCESSE CHARLINE (8)

Race 5 - PRIX JEAN ET RENE COUETIL - 4100m P2P CL3. Purse EUR €28,000.

- 1. **HEMEVOICI** Fair 8.25L fourth over 3900m in a chase here last month. Of note on cross-country debut.
- 2. **HIP HOP CONTI** Pulled up in a 3900m handicap chase here early last month. Good form prior and a top jockey up for cross-country debut.
- 3. **GRAND FRISSON** Fifth beaten 9.25L over course and distance three weeks ago. Step forward required.
- 4. **HARD ROC DE KERSER** Fourth beaten 5.25L over track and trip earlier this month. Likely to find a few too good.
- 5. **HISTORY DE CHOISEL** Good 5L third over course and distance at the start of the month. Bold show expected.
- 6. **MYSTICAL NIGHT** Held 24L seventh in a 3500m claiming hurdle here eighteen days ago. Cross-country debut.
- 7. **HARMONIE ROQUE** Good 2.5L second in a track and trip cross-country chase three weeks ago. Strong claims.
- 8. **HOZORA** Returning from a break when pulled up here three weeks ago. Improvement needed.
- 9. **LITTLE WINNER** Held 15L fifth in a 3500m hurdle here at the end of last month. Making her cross-country debut.
- 10. **WALKIN OUT** Held 21L sixth over 3500m in a hurdle here 23 days ago. Supplemented for her cross-country debut.

Summary: HIP HOP CONTI (2) can deliver a winning effort on cross-country debut having finished 9L third in a 3800m handicap hurdle at Lyon-Parilly on his penultimate start. Leading contender. HISTORY DE CHOISEL (5) is shortlisted following a 5L third over this course and distance. Main danger. HARMONIE ROQUE (7) gets a chance following a 2.5L second that day. In the mix. HEMEVOICI (1) is considered on the back of an 8.25L fourth in a 3900m chase here. Holds claims.

Selections

HIP HOP CONTI (2) - HISTORY DE CHOISEL (5) - HARMONIE ROQUE (7) - HEMEVOICI (1)

Race 6 - PRIX SECTION PALOISE BEARN PYRENEES (PX LEON DARAN) - 3500m HDLE CL2. Purse EUR €35,000.

- 1. ILOA CONTI Head second in a 3400m maiden hurdle at Angers six weeks ago. Top chance.
- 2. **YAMAZETHA** Held 21L fourth in a 3500m hurdle at Nantes in November. Delivered a 2.5L second to a subsequent winner over 3600m at Argentan on debut prior.
- 3. SWEDIX Tailed off sixth in a 3500m hurdle here on debut two weeks ago. Improvement needed.
- 4. **KAP SKY** Fifth beaten 4.75L in a 3400m maiden hurdle at Angers on jumps debut. Bit to find with lloa Conti on that form.
- 5. IDYLE ROQUE Unraced Masked Marvel filly. Strong claims for a jockey worth noting.
- 6. **ODELA** Placed three times on the flat including when 5.25L third over 2900m at Durtal at the start of November. Notable contender on hurdling debut.
- 7. **BLUE LOU** Pulled up on both previous starts including in a 3500m hurdle at Vichy in May last year. Changed trainer since.
- 8. HOYA Unraced Doctor Dino filly. Of note first up.

Summary: ILOA CONTI (1) can go one place better than when a head second over 3400m at Angers. Makes plenty of appeal. Unraced Masked Marvel filly IDYLE ROQUE (5) could play a part in the finish with a leading jockey up on debut. YAMAZETHA (2) may go well having finished 2.5L second in a 3600m hurdle at Argentan on her penultimate start. ODELA (6) is considered on jumping debut having finished 5.25L third in a 2900m maiden at Durtal.

Selections

ILOA CONTI (1) - IDYLE ROQUE (5) - YAMAZETHA (2) - ODELA (6)

- 1. **CALLIOPE** Fair 4.25L sixth tackling 2000m here six weeks ago. Had won a conditions race over the same trip at Toulouse prior.
- 2. **JET ITO** Fair 4L fifth over track and trip six weeks ago. One to note.
- 3. **VERDINA** Completed a double when scoring by 0.75L over course and distance six weeks ago. Leading contender.
- 4. LOUVE SAPHIR Good 4L fourth over 2000m here three weeks ago. Of note.
- 5. WAIPA Held 6.25L seventh in a track and trip handicap earlier this month. More required.
- 6. ANAZ Placed third when beaten 2.25L over course and distance three weeks ago. Claims.
- 7. **CERRADO** Making her handicap debut following a 6.25L sixth over 2400m in a La Teste maiden in September.
- 8. **IZANA BERE** Good 3L fourth tackling 2600m at Pont-de-Vivaux last month. Top chance down in trip.
- 9. **BOUJOC** Struggled in recent times including when 10L eleventh over this track and trip at the start of the month. Best watched.
- 10. ALMERIAC Head winner of a 2400m event here two weeks ago. Strong claims.
- 11. MYTH STYLE 11L twelfth over this track and trip three weeks ago. Others preferred.
- 12. **OUR FIRST LADY** Good form prior to a 4.5L eleventh over 1900m at Chantilly AW eight days ago. Claims if putting that effort behind her.
- 13. **NED** 11L tenth over 1700m at Pornichet on handicap debut. Stamina to prove stepping up in distance.
- 14. **SILVERSTONE** Good 2L third over 2500m in a maiden at Deauville AW. Of note with blinkers tried for the first time on handicap debut.
- 15. A GIBRALTAR Held 7.5L fifth over 2100m at Pornichet twelve days ago. Improvement needed.
- 16. **APRES LA GUERRE** Faded 23L last of nine over 2100m at Pornichet earlier this month. Others make more appeal.

Summary: IZANA BERE (8) can register a victory down in trip following a 3L fourth attempting 2600m at Pont-de-Vivaux. Serious contender. VERDINA (3) could deliver a big effort having won over course and distance on her two most recent starts. Makes plenty of appeal. ALMERIAC (10) may challenge for the win having registered a head success over 2400m here. OUR FIRST LADY (12) demonstrated good placed form prior to a 4.5L eleventh tackling 1900m at Chantilly AW. Shortlisted.

Selections

IZANA BERE (8) - VERDINA (3) - ALMERIAC (10) - OUR FIRST LADY (12)

- 1. NUIT D'ALIENOR Victorious by 1.25L over 1600m here three weeks ago. Bold show expected.
- 2. **ORANDI** Runner-up beaten 1L over 1600m at Chantilly AW four weeks ago. Debuting for a new trainer.
- 3. **TAWHIRI** Fourth beaten 1.5L over 1200m here six days ago. Supplemented for this race.
- 4. **EL INGRATO** Held 4.75L ninth over 2000m here earlier this month. Dropping in trip.
- 5. IDAHO JAMES Good 0.5L second over 1200m here two weeks ago. Step up in trip is no issue.
- 6. **BORN TO BE** Held 5.75L seventh over 1500m at Deauville AW last month. Blinkers replace the cheekpieces worn that day.
- 7. ATLANTICA Last of thirteen over 1600m here first up. Best watched.
- 8. **HEDWIG** 7.75L eleventh over 1200m here two weeks ago. Others hold more obvious claims.
- 9. GIMS Midfield finish when 7L seventh over 1600m here eighteen days ago. Improvement required.
- 10. **BEYOND MY DREAMS** Caught the eye when 3L seventh over 1200m here two weeks ago. Notable contender upped in trip.
- 11. **LOU MCDOWELL** 13L fourteenth over 1200m here earlier this month. Cheekpieces tried for the first time.
- 12. MISTY CAT Successful by 2L over 1300m at Deauville AW last month. Strong claims.
- 13. CIRCLE OF HANDS Good 2.75L fourth over 1200m here six weeks ago. Claims.
- 14. FORCE CAT Faded 5L tenth over 1600m here two weeks ago. More required.
- 15. **VERBENA** Below par 5.5L eleventh over 1600m here earlier this month. Drop in trip looks likely to suit.

Summary: NUIT D'ALIENOR (1) can deliver a victory having scored by 1.25L in a 1600m conditions race here. Top chance. MISTY CAT (12) could play a part in the finish having won by 2L over 1300m at Deauville AW. Main danger. IDAHO JAMES (5) may produce a big effort on the back of a 0.5L second in a 1200m handicap at this venue. In the mix. BEYOND MY DREAMS (10) caught the eye when 3L seventh in that contest. Shortlisted.

Selections

NUIT D'ALIENOR (1) - MISTY CAT (12) - IDAHO JAMES (5) - BEYOND MY DREAMS (10)

Race 9 - 135EME GRAND PRIX DE PAU - BIRABEN FOIE GRAS (PRIX ANDRE LABAR - 5300m STPLE. Purse EUR €140,000.

- 1. **POLINUIT** Impressive 4.5L winner of the Listed Prix de Chantegrive chase over 5300m at Bordeaux in November. Of note.
- 2. **SPANISH ONE** Victorious by 1.5L in the Listed Prix Bernard de Dufau chase over 4700m here three weeks ago. Bold show expected.
- 3. **DARLING DES BORDES** Held 24L fifth in the G2 Prix Georges Courtois chase over 4400m at Auteuil in November. Capable of better.
- 4. LATERANITO Faded 15L fifth in a 4000m chase at this venue last month. Improvement needed.
- 5. **HAPPY MONARCH** Third beaten 11L over 4000m here last month. Notable contender.
- 6. **EDDY DE BALME** Faller in the G1 Prix La Haye Jousselin chase over 5500m at Auteuil in November. Top chance to bounce back.
- 7. **FLYING STARTANDCO** Fourth beaten 5.25L over 4700m in the Listed Prix Bernard de Dufau chase here three weeks ago. Claims.
- 8. **FERRONNIERE** Runner-up beaten 1.5L over 4700m in the Listed Prix Bernard de Dufau chase here at the start of the month. Claims if replicating.
- 9. FINES AILES Faded 18L fifth in a 4000m chase here at the start of last month. Others preferred.
- 10. **DEO GRATIAS** Victorious by 0.75L in a 3800m handicap hurdle here three weeks ago. Improvement required upped in grade.
- 11. **HISPANIC MOON** Successful by 5L in a 3500m hurdle at this venue just under four weeks ago. Stepping up in trip and grade.

Summary: EDDY DE BALME (6) can put a fall in the G1 Prix La Haye Jousselin chase tackling 5500m at Auteuil behind him to deliver a victory down in grade. Produced strong form prior. SPANISH ONE (2) may play a hand in the finish following a 1.5L victory in the Listed Prix Bernard de Dufau chase over 4700m here. HAPPY MONARCH (5) is shortlisted following an 11L third in a 4000m chase at this venue. POLINUIT (1) is another to consider having won the Listed Prix de Chantegrive attempting this trip at Bordeaux. FLYING STARTANDCO (7) is not dismissed.

Selections

EDDY DE BALME (6) - SPANISH ONE (2) - HAPPY MONARCH (5) - POLINUIT (1) - FLYING STARTANDCO (7)

Race 10 - PRIX AL CAPONE II - 3500m HDLE CL3. Purse EUR €31,000.

- 1. I CAN DO IT SIR Good 2.25L third over 3500m here on jumping debut three weeks ago. Leading contender.
- 2. **IMAC WOOD** Fourth beaten 4.75L over 3500m here on hurdling debut three weeks back. Claims.
- 3. ICARIOS Held 26L eighth over 3500m here on jumps debut. Best watched.
- 4. INCA DE THAIX Unraced Masked Marvel gelding. Of note.
- 5. **INSTANT PRECIEUX** Victorious by 1L in a 2400m flat event at Pornichet three weeks ago. Claims switched to hurdles.
- 6. **INSTANT DECISIF** Fair 23L fourth in a 3300m claiming hurdle at this track at the end of last month. Step forward required.
- 7. **IVRE DE TOI** Runner-up beaten 0.75L in a 2400m flat race at Granville on debut in August. Likely to improve for his first start over jumps.
- 8. INTERDIT DE JEU Unraced Jeu St Eloi gelding. Represents a useful stable on debut.
- 9. **IMAGE DE MARQUE** Held 17L tenth over 2400m at Craon when debuting seven weeks ago. Step forward needed.
- 10. INOTTE Unraced Choeur du Nord filly. Likely to find a few too good first up.
- 11. ILLUSTREE Unraced Coastal Path filly. Likely to improve for the experience.
- 12. ILLICO ALLEN Fair 7.25L fifth in a 3000m flat race at Angers in November. Hurdling debut.

Summary: I CAN DO IT SIR (1) could deliver a victory following a 2.25L third over this course and distance on hurdling debut. Leading contender. INSTANT PRECIEUX (5) can produce a big effort on first jumps attempt having won an AW event over 2400m at Pornichet by 1L. Include. Unraced Masked Marvel gelding INCA DE THAIX (4) gets a chance to shine on racecourse debut. IMAC WOOD (2) may go well following a 4.75L fourth at this track and trip on first jumping outing. Consider.

Selections

I CAN DO IT SIR (1) - INSTANT PRECIEUX (5) - INCA DE THAIX (4) - IMAC WOOD (2)

Race 11 - PRIX ROBERT LABOUCHE - 3800m STPLE CL2. Purse EUR €34,000.

- 1. **LULU AU TOGO** Held 23L fifth over 3900m in a handicap chase here earlier this month. Capable of better.
- 2. **SAINT DUBAWI** Good 8L second in a 3800m handicap chase at Nantes in November. Leading contender.
- 3. **LORD OF WORLD** Fourth beaten 2.5L in a 3800m chase at Bordeaux two months ago. Bold show expected.
- 4. **ALWAYS LOVE YOU** Bidding to complete a hat-trick when 18L fifth in a 3800m handicap chase at Nantes in November. Cheekpieces tried for the first time.
- 5. LADY HANWELL Pulled up in a 3900m handicap chase here earlier this month. Others preferred.
- 6. **STAR OF DESTINY** Pulled up in a 3800m chase at Angers six weeks ago. Needs to put that effort behind him.
- 7. **HELEN D'ALENE** Returning from a break when 6.75L third in a 3900m chase at this track a month ago. Of note.
- 8. **RAFFLES LOX** Pulled up in a 3500m handicap chase at Auteuil at the start of last month. Strong claims on earlier form.
- 9. MASTER YUM Pulled up in a 3500m hurdle at this track ten days ago. Chase debut.
- 10. **JACAREPAGUA** Pulled up on both previous starts including in a 3500m hurdle at Toulouse in September. Best watched.

Summary: The consistent SAINT DUBAWI (2) could deliver a winning effort following an 8L second in a 3800m handicap chase at Nantes. Leading chance. LORD OF WORLD (3) is shortlisted following a 2.5L fourth over 3800m at Bordeaux. RAFFLES LOX (8) can go well having finished a neck second in a 3600m chase at Fontainebleau on her penultimate start. ALWAYS LOVE YOU (4) enters calculations having recorded a double prior to an 18L fifth tackling 3800m at Nantes. Consider.

Selections

SAINT DUBAWI (2) - LORD OF WORLD (3) - RAFFLES LOX (8) - ALWAYS LOVE YOU (4)