

LA TESTE DE BUCH - 28 May

Race 1

1. **GIBRALFARO** - Victorious by 6.5L in a 3500m hurdle at Royan (soft) just under three weeks ago. Top chance.
2. **BET ON YOURSELF** - Pulled up in a 3500m newcomers hurdle at Dax (very heavy) earlier this month. Step forward needed.
3. **MATERA** - Put a debut fall behind her when making all to win by 15L in a 3400m hurdle at Nimes (good) five weeks ago. Leading contender.
4. **EASTER SUNDAY** - Held 81L 11th in a 3200m conditions race at Nort-sur-Erdre (good) just under three weeks back. Best watched on hurdling debut.
5. **HEKTOR** - Last of twelve in a 2500m maiden at Agen (soft) when debuting in March. First hurdles attempt.
6. **CHATAIGNIER** - Debuted with a 2L victory in a 2400m AW maiden at Pornichet in March. Bold show expected.

Summary

CHATAIGNIER (6) makes his debut over hurdles following a 2L success in a 2400m AW maiden at Pornichet. Contender. GIBRALFARO (1) can follow up his 6.5L triumph over 3500m at Royan. Harder level but should be included. MATERA (3) is considered having made all when winning by 15L in a 3400m hurdle at Nimes. In the mix. HEKTOR (5) is a rare jumps runner for his top flat trainer. Do not be surprised to see an improved effort following a 19L last of twelve in a 2500m maiden at Agen on debut.

Selections

CHATAIGNIER (6) - GIBRALFARO (1) - MATERA (3) - HEKTOR (5)

Race 2

1. **EXTAZ** - Held 38L eighth in a 4200m cross-country event at Angouleme (soft) last November. Likely to improve for the run.
2. **GERICO DE PALMAS** - Fair 7.25L fourth in a 2650m Flat race at Auch (soft) last month. Step forward needed.
3. **FULLMONTY** - Pulled up in a 2400m maiden at Prunelli (good) in September 2019. Joined a top yard for a hurdling career.
4. **HAUTE CORREZE** - Fifth beaten 13L over 3500m in a chase at Dax (very heavy) twelve days ago. Likely to find a few too good.
5. **KISSMELANDE** - Three-time Flat winner finished a good 7L third in a 2400m conditions race at Toulouse (soft) in November. Top chance on debut over hurdles.
6. **FIREFOX DU PECOS** - Debuting for a top trainer following a 5.5L fifth in a 2400m conditions race at Prunelli (good) in November.
7. **GARRIGOL** - Given a break since finishing 1.5L third in a 2400m conditions race at Bordeaux (soft) in November. Bold show expected.
8. **GIPSY DE CHENOUR** - Fourth beaten 9.5L in a 2400m conditions race at Limoges (good) at the start of this month. One to note.
9. **HAKANTE TROIS** - Held 49L eighth over 3700m hurdle at Bordeaux (good-to-soft) a month ago. Minor role likely.
10. **FEROE DU PECOS** - Returning from over a year off when 19L eighth over 2450m at Mont-de-Marsan (good) in March. Making his first hurdle start.
11. **FELIZ DU PECOS** - Unraced Fairplay du Pecos filly. Notable runner for a top yard.

Summary

The booking of Kevin Nabet catches the eye for KISSMELANDE (5) who may debut over hurdles with a victory following a 7L third tackling 2400m at Toulouse. Shortlisted. FIREFOX DU PECOS (6) has had a change of stables for his jumping career. Produced a 5.5L fifth in a 2400m flat race at Prunelli last autumn. Watch market. GARRIGOL (7) ran well when 1.5L third over 2400m at Bordeaux in November and is debuting for a leading jumps trainer. Holds claims. FULLMONTY (3) is considered despite pulling up in a maiden on his sole flat attempt.

Selections

KISSMELANDE (5) - FIREFOX DU PECOS (6) - GARRIGOL (7) - FULLMONTY (3)

Race 3

1. **MY JOKER** - Unraced Free Eagle colt. Likely to find a few too good.
2. **CATAPUM** - Unraced Ectot colt. Likely to improve for the experience.
3. **RUMESNIL** - Two year old Shamalgan colt. Others preferred.
4. **L'AVVOCATO** - Unraced Frankel colt. Leading contender.
5. **JUBILE** - Two year old Recorder colt. Strong claims.
6. **ASAD ZABEEL** - Unraced Dubawi colt. Top chance for leading connections.
7. **STARFIX** - Two year old Dabirsim colt. Supplemented for this event. Holds claims.

Summary

There are some well-bred unraced horses engaged. Market is the best guide. L'AVVOCATO (4) is an unraced Frankel colt who may debut with a victory for a top local trainer. Expected to be well fancied. Dubawi newcomer ASAD ZABEEL (6) also comes from a leading stable. Should be included. JUBILE (5) an unraced Recorder colt is considered for the win. Supplemented runner STARFIX (7) a son of Dabirsim and is a second horse from the Christophe Ferland stable. Enters calculations.

Selections

L'AVVOCATO (4) - ASAD ZABEEL (6) - JUBILE (5) - STARFIX (7)

Race 4

1. **OURAIKA** - Unraced Zelzal filly. Strong claims on debut for a trainer who does well with his youngsters.
2. **ASTSELLA** - Unraced Dabirsim filly. Notable runner.
3. **FULLDITCH** - Two year old Cockney Rebel filly. Likely to improve for the experience.
4. **ZELDA** - Unraced Zelzal filly. Leading contender for an eye-catching trainer and jockey combination.
5. **CLAUDIA PEPITA** - Two year old Penny's Picnic filly. Bold show expected.
6. **DEAR RUBY** - Unraced Camacho filly. One to note.
7. **ABELIE** - Unraced Johnny Barnes filly. Others preferred.
8. **ACCAKABA** - Two year old Acclamation filly. Top chance for a notable jockey and trainer.

Summary

Another tricky newcomers event where the market can be a helpful guide. ZELDA (4) an unraced Zelzal filly can make a winning debut for a top trainer. Check for ongoing market support. ACCAKABA (8) is an Acclamation debutant and may play a hand in the finish for top connections. Trainer Didier Guillemin's OURAIKA (1) is an unraced Zelzal filly and coming from a yard who get plenty of juvenile winners. Include. Penny's Picnic filly CLAUDIA PEPITA (5) is a second Guillemin runner is also considered.

Selections

ZELDA (4) - ACCAKABA (8) - OURAIKA (1) - CLAUDIA PEPITA (5)

Race 5

1. **MAESTRO** - Fair 4L fifth in a 2000m maiden at Le Pin-au-Haras (good) on debut at the start of the month. One to note.
2. **TWIN BOY** - Nineteen race maiden beaten 5.5L fourth over 1600m at Nantes (very heavy) just under two weeks ago. Notable contender.
3. **BABY GROOM** - Held 8.5L fifth in a 2400m maiden at Toulouse (soft) on debut two weeks ago. Best watched.
4. **O GRE DES SAISONS** - Good 3L fourth in a 1900m newcomers race at Bordeaux (good-to-soft) just under six weeks ago. Notable contender.
5. **ALLEGORIE** - Making her seasonal debut when 11L 12th over 1600m in a Saint-Cloud (good) handicap eighteen days ago. Strong claims back against maidens.
6. **KATCHI** - Good 2.5L third over 2100m in a Tarbes (soft) handicap just under four weeks ago. Bold show expected.
7. **ILLIRIHA** - Unraced Footstepsinthesand filly. Likely to improve for the experience.
8. **HOLYMPICA** - Promising 3.75L fifth in a 1900m newcomers contest at Bordeaux (good) when debuting nineteen days ago. Step forward required.
9. **SILVERSTONE** - Unraced Style Vendome colt. Others make more appeal.
10. **IALTA SAINT FRAY** - Unraced Law Deputy filly. Minor role likely.

Summary

ALLEGORIE (5) can win racing against fellow maidens having been beaten 11L 12th in a Saint-Cloud 1600m handicap on seasonal return. Expect improvement. KATCHI (6) supplemented for this and could be involved having finished 2.5L third in a 2100m handicap at Tarbes. O GRE DES SAISONS (4) is second up and will be fitter and better experienced following a debut run when 3L fourth over 1900m in a Bordeaux newcomers race. TWIN BOY (2) also enters calculations having finished 5.5L fourth in a 1600m maiden at Nantes.

Selections

ALLEGORIE (5) - KATCHI (6) - O GRE DES SAISONS (4) - TWIN BOY (2)

Race 6

1. **JALWA** - Held 5.75L fifth in the Listed Prix Caravelle over 2100m at Toulouse (good) last month. Likely capable of better.
2. **RUE DES IRLANDAIS** - Debuted with a 1.25L victory in an 1800m maiden on soft going here just under a month ago. Runner-up has boosted the form since. Strong claims.
3. **PRIVILEGE** - Fair 3.75L fifth in a good ground 1400m handicap at Bordeaux earlier this month. More required.
4. **WIND OF LIGHT** - Last of eight beaten 10L over 2000m at Marseille-Borely (good-to-soft) a month ago. Minor role likely.
5. **POMAHAKA** - Faded late on when 2.75L fourth in a 1900m conditions race at Bordeaux (good) nineteen days ago. One to note.
6. **L'AMOUR CODE** - Making his seasonal debut when 2L third over 1800m in a good-to-soft ground conditions race here six weeks ago. Top chance.
7. **QUARTZDARGENT** - Close second having raced from the front in a 2100m conditions race at Dax (good-to-soft) just under three weeks ago. Bold show expected.
8. **MARIA AMALIA** - Successful by a neck in a maiden over 1700m at Montlucon (good-to-soft) four weeks back. Of note for top connections.
9. **BELHARRA** - Nose second over 1800m in a good-to-soft ground conditions race here six weeks ago. Leading contender.

Summary

BELHARRA (9) can go one place better than when beaten a nose over 1800m at this circuit. Good chance. L'AMOUR CODE (6) finished 2L third in the aforementioned contest. Cannot be left out. QUARTZDARGENT (7) was collared late on when runner-up having raced from the front over 2100m at Dax. Opportunity to make amends with success today. RUE DES IRLANDAIS (2) is unbeaten following a 1.25L victory in a 1800m maiden here on debut. Harder level now but holds claims.

Selections

BELHARRA (9) - L'AMOUR CODE (6) - QUARTZDARGENT (7) - RUE DES IRLANDAIS (2)

Race 7

1. **LARIS** - Held 4L ninth over 1600m at Bordeaux (good-to-soft) a month ago. More needed.
2. **NORDESTE** - Head second over 1600m at Chantilly AW at the start of last month. Strong claims.
3. **DISINCANTO** - Runner-up beaten 1.5L over 2000m in a Toulouse (good) conditions race in November. Of note on handicap debut.
4. **CHARM KING** - Held 8L fifth over 2250m at Longchamp (good-to-soft) just over three weeks ago. Claims on earlier form.
5. **TRIMLIGHT** - Below par 9.25L ninth over 1950m at Chateaubriant (soft) last month. Best watched.
6. **SPATIAL MERIT** - Successful by 2L in a 2200m conditions race at Vannes (good-to-soft) just under three weeks ago. Claims back in a handicap.
7. **RIZZICHOP** - Head second over 1600m at Toulouse (good) early last month. Notable runner.
8. **URBAN ROCK** - Good form of late including when winning by a narrow margin over 2100m at Dax (good-to-soft) just under three weeks ago. Top chance.
9. **SAGANO** - Struggled two most recent starts including 14L 15th over 2400m at Longchamp (good) six weeks ago. Best watched.
10. **CRISALSA** - 20L sixth over 3700m in a Bordeaux (soft) hurdle at the start of last month. Claims on the form he showed on the AW prior.
11. **GONERIL** - Good 0.75L second in a 2100m conditions race at Toulouse (good) end of March. Bold show expected having won and placed from two previous starts at this track.
12. **BAILEYS BALLE** - Last of thirteen over 1600m at Toulouse (soft) thirteen days ago. Others hold more obvious claims.
13. **PANDEMONIUM** - 27L 12th over 3000m in a handicap at Dax (good-to-soft) just under three weeks ago. Minor role likely.
14. **HAGWAAT** - Held 7.25L sixth in a 1600m handicap at Toulouse (soft) two weeks ago. More required.
15. **CAFE SAIGON** - Fair 6L sixth over 1800m at Langon-Libourne (good) in a conditions contest at the start of the month. Others preferred.
16. **HEAVEN CITY** - Making his seasonal debut when 3.25L fourth in an 1800m conditions contest at Langon-Libourne (good) four weeks ago. Improvement expected.
17. **RACING BAY** - Held 8.75L over 2200m at Vannes (good-to-soft) earlier this month. Others preferred.
18. **DANN** - Successful by a head over 1600m at Bordeaux (good-to-soft) a month ago. Has to defy a 2.5kg rise in the weights.

Summary

URBAN ROCK (8) won by a narrow margin in a 2100m handicap at Dax. May follow up. NORDESTE (2) was beaten a head second over 1600m on the AW at Chantilly. That form is good enough to be on the shortlist. GONERIL (11) has run well on both previous starts here. Finished 0.75L second tackling 2100m at Toulouse. Close to a win. RIZZICHOP (7) is also noted following a head defeat when runner-up in a 1600m handicap at Toulouse.

Selections

URBAN ROCK (8) - NORDESTE (2) - GONERIL (11) - RIZZICHOP (7)

Race 8

1. **LE RAFALE** - Down the field ninth over 1400m at Dax (good-to-soft) earlier this month. Others preferred.
2. **BECQUANON** - Successful by 2L in a 1900m handicap at Bordeaux (good-to-soft) just under six weeks ago. Strong claims.
3. **BODNAKOV** - Last of seven over 2600m on the AW at Pont-de-Vivax in March. Others preferred.
4. **VESPAMAN** - Down the field twice since winning at Toulouse early last month including last of twelve over 1600m on soft going at that track two weeks back.
5. **MOSCA D'OR** - Frontrunner finished 1.5L third over 2000m on good-to-soft going here six weeks ago. Bold show expected.
6. **SIWAY** - Sixth beaten 1.75L over 2100m at Dax (good-to-soft) 20 days ago. Looking for a first victory at the 12th time of asking.
7. **MACHISTADOR** - Midfield finish when 10L seventh over 2200m on soft going here two weeks ago. Claims on earlier form.
8. **SAHAR** - Fair 4.5L eighth over 2400m at Compiegne (good-to-soft) last month. Step forward required.
9. **TREGUISS** - Good 2.5L fourth in a 2100m handicap on very heavy going at Saint-Cloud ten days ago. One to note.
10. **ULTIMATUM** - 21 race maiden finished a held 4.25L tenth over 1900m at Chantilly AW last month.
11. **AZORIN** - Struggled of late including when 6.25L 12th over 2300m at Tarbes (soft) early last month. Best watched.
12. **SOLITARY MAN** - Sixth beaten 8.75L in an 1800m conditions race at Langon-Libourne (very heavy) twelve days ago. More needed.
13. **CARDIEL** - Good 2L third over 2400m on soft ground here just under a month ago. Claims if replicating.
14. **JOE BLINING** - Failed to shine when 15L tenth in a 2400m handicap on soft going here last month. Others preferred.
15. **LARANZA** - Good 2L fifth in an eighteen runner 2000m handicap on good-to-soft ground here six weeks ago. Of note.
16. **GENERALIFE** - Midfield finish when 2L ninth over 1900m at Chantilly AW in February. Claims on 2000m AW success at Pau prior.
17. **CURLY CHOP** - 38L 13th over 2200m on soft ground here earlier this month. Others make more appeal.
18. **ROYAL BOWL** - Faded 11L ninth over 3000m at Dax (good-to-soft) earlier this month. Minor role likely.

Summary

MOSCA D'OR (5) may make all the running having faded late on when 1.5L third over 2000m at this track. Can be expected to run well if applying similar tactics. BECQUANON (2) can complete a double following a 2L success tackling 1900m in first time blinkers at Bordeaux. TREGUISS (9) could play a hand in the finish on the back of a 2.5L fourth attempting 2100m at Saint-Cloud. LARANZA (15) is considered having been beaten 2L fifth over 2000m here.

Selections

MOSCA D'OR (5) - BECQUANON (2) - TREGUISS (9) - LARANZA (15)