

PAU [R-H] - 31 December

Race 1 - PRIX CHARLES DAGUILHON-PUJOL - 3400m STPLE UNR. Purse EUR €34,000.

1. **MISTER KARWIN** - One start last when seventh at La Teste in a hurdle in May 25. Likely to have admirers.
2. **BESAN D'OR** - Finished fourth two back in a hurdle (3550m) at Fontainebleau then again missed out in a hurdle (3800m) at Fontainebleau last start. From leading stable. Good chance.
3. **BEST PATH** - Did well to finish third two back in a hurdle (3550m) at Fontainebleau but could only manage fifth in a LR hurdle (3600m) at Auteuil last time arriving 10 lengths behind the winner. All set to reverse the recent form.
4. **GRANDSON** - Unplaced on debut then finished eighth at the latest appearance in a hurdle (3550m) at Fontainebleau. Tough task ahead.
5. **JAZZ FESTIVAL** - Sixth on hurdle (3600m) debut at Argentan. Wait to see how he performs over taller fences.
6. **JACKSON DU GRANIT** - Pulled up on debut. Doubt he will play a substantial role here.
7. **PARIOLI** - Didn't threaten on debut at this track 13 days back when pulled up. Happy to watch this time.
8. **JAVA DE L'ITON** - Unplaced when resuming two back on the flat then filled a minor prize last time in a hurdle (3600m) at Argentan. Will take some stopping.
9. **IN THE SIXTIES** - Pulled up when on debut two starts back. Turned things around immediately with a solid third in a hurdle (3600m) at Saint Briec last time out. Hard to hold out.

Summary: BESAN D'OR (2) probably performed slightly below par when fifth in a Class Three conditions hurdle at Fontainebleau earlier in the month. Notable claims now sent chasing for a top yard. There should be more to come from IN THE SIXTIES (9) on chase debut having displayed ability when third over hurdles at Saint-Briec. BEST PATH (3) finished a good in the Listed Prix Fifrelet handicap hurdle at Auteuil last outing. Interesting contender over fences for the first time. MISTER KARWIN (1) requires a market check.

Selections

BESAN D'OR (2) - IN THE SIXTIES (9) - BEST PATH (3) - MISTER KARWIN (1)

Race 2 - PRIX DE PARDIES - 4000m STPLE CL3. Purse EUR €33,000.

1. **EDIBOUM** - Resumed after a 270-day spell last start with a strong win in a steeplechase (3800m) at Angers. Big chance to go two-for-two this prep.
2. **VINGTCOEURS** - Comes here off a nice win at Meslay-du-Maine. That result was on the back of a solid third in a steeplechase (3400m) at Pontchateau. Can add to the recent impressive results.
3. **ZEPLY** - Resumes after a break of a year. Finished off last campaign with a eighth in a steeplechase (4000m) at this track. Should be thereabouts.
4. **GAMER** - Missed the frame when fresh from a spell two back in a steeplechase (4200m) at Maure-de-Bretagne. Turned things around last time for third at Mont-de-Marsan. Place claims.
5. **EASTER BOY** - Two runs this prep have been on the flat. Resumed with an unplaced effort at Nancy then improved last start and won over 3200m at Le Croise-Laroche by 4 lengths. Certainly worth including back over the jumps.
6. **ANABAKO DU BEARN** - Returned from a spell last start with a modest eighth in a hurdle (3800m) at Nancy. Will strip fitter but needs to go up a notch.
7. **DOLLAR DES MOTTES** - Failed to finish at the last two runs of last campaign the most recent when he pulled up over 3800m at Compiegne. Resuming and happy to watch this time.

Summary: VINGTCOEURS (2) got off the mark at the second time of asking over fences when taking out a Class Four conditions chase at Meslay-du-Maine. Strong contender with further progress possible. A 2kg rise in the weights looks fair for EDIBOUM (1) handicap chase success at Angers on reappearance. Can go well. ZEPLY (3) has the form to be involved and must be of interest on reappearance down in grade. Recent Le Croise-Laroche flat winner EASTER BOY (5) is not dismissed back chasing under James Reveley.

Selections

VINGTCOEURS (2) - EDIBOUM (1) - ZEPLY (3) - EASTER BOY (5)

Race 3 - PRIX FRANCOIS DE JUGE MONTESPIEU - 4100m P2P CL2. Purse EUR €28,000.

1. **HARD ROC DE KERSER** - Went for a break after finishing fourth in a cross-country (5300m) at Saumur two months ago. Expecting a big run while fresh.
2. **HISTORY DE CHOISEL** - Wasn't disgraced when second two runs ago at Nancy then lost the rider at Lyon-Parilly. Use the good effort back as a proper guide.
3. **HEMEVOICI** - Missed the frame the start before last in a Listed race at Compiegne. Bounced back last time when he won at Craon. From top yard. Tough to stop again.
4. **HARMONIE ROQUE** - Was unplaced when fresh from a spell two back in a hurdle (3800m) at Compiegne. Bounced back last time for second at this track beaten 5 lengths. Tough to stop.
5. **HALCO DE SARTI** - Did a good job to finish second two back at Agen then fourth. Thereabouts and is a place hope.
6. **I'M WALKIN'** - Finished third two back at Agen then could only manage ninth last time at this track beaten 19 lengths. Big task ahead.
7. **HAPPYBOUM LIDA** - In the money two runs ago at Paray-le-Monial. Repeated last time when third. Right in the mix if she is at her best.
8. **HOZORA** - Returned from a layoff last time out at this track finishing eighth. Others rate better.
9. **HILLICO** - Two starts ago finished seventh in a steeplechase (4200m) at Maure-de-Bretagne then lost rider at this track. Hard to recommend.
10. **HAUT DE GAMME** - Opened campaign with a solid third in a steeplechase (4200m) at Maure-de-Bretagne then last start missed the placings at this track. Not sure he is up to this.
11. **SOLINGEN** - Lost the rider two starts back. Bounced back and wasn't beaten far when second at this track most recently. Right in the mix on best form.

Summary: There could yet be more to come from HEMEVOICI (3) in this sphere who displayed a good attitude when recording a first cross-country success over 4900m at Craon. Leading hope. HISTORY DE CHOISEL (2) displayed some very solid cross-country form prior to unseating in a Class One conditions event at Lyon-Parilly last month. Can bounce back and be firmly involved. HARMONIE ROQUE (4) goes well at this venue and commands consideration following a sound second in a Class One cross-country event over 4700m here recently. SOLINGEN (11) is also worth including after a promising cross-country debut second over course and distance.

Selections
HEMEVOICI (3) - HISTORY DE CHOISEL (2) - HARMONIE ROQUE (4) - SOLINGEN (11)

Race 4 - PRIX DE BAUDREIX - 3500m CLM HDLE. Purse EUR €18,000.

1. **ICARE D'ILLIAT** - Tenth in a hurdle (3400m) at Cagnes-sur-Mer last time out following a win (3650m) at Mont-de-Marsan. Cannot be written off based on the last performance.
2. **LE LASCAR** - Gelding by Lord Du Sud out of Scarla. Market watch advised.
3. **MILTON** - Was at long odds last time in a hurdle (4000m) at Craon but failed to finish. Isn't among the top hopes.
4. **VINTACLERA** - Returned with a sixth in a hurdle (3600m) at Argentan then was 9 lengths adrift in a hurdle (3800m) at Compiègne four weeks ago. Will take stopping if anywhere near her peak.
5. **QUEEN DOCTOR** - Unplaced in a hurdle (3550m) at Fontainebleau two starts back when resuming. Improved last time when she finished third in a hurdle (3600m) at Argentan beaten 11 lengths. Sure to prove hard to beat.
6. **MR LULU** - Not seen for ten months. Maiden but has shown ability in the past.
7. **CAPTAIN FALCO** - Made just the one appearance last campaign and finished third in a hurdle (3700m) at Bordeaux beaten 2.5 lengths. Should be about the mark.
8. **IMPHYCOIS LORD** - Second two starts back in a cross-country (4500m) at Saumur then could only manage tenth last time at this track. Might find this a bit too tough.
9. **AME NOTTI** - Returns from a break of three months. Yet to make it to the line in two starts to date the latest when pulled up in a hurdle (3550m) at Fontainebleau. Might find this a bit tough.
10. **MUTINE DE LISBOA** - Unplaced two starts ago in a hurdle (4000m) at Craon then improved last time when she finished fourth in a hurdle (4000m) at Craon but well held. Won't find this easy.

Summary: QUEEN DOCTOR (5) is three from eight over hurdles and arrives on the back of a solid 11L third in a similar claiming event at Argentan. Can regain the winning thread for a leading stable. VINTACLERA (4) shaped nicely when fourth in what was probably a stronger claiming hurdle at Compiègne a month ago. Hard to ignore. CAPTAIN FALCO (7) finished third behind a subsequent winner in a Class Two conditions hurdle at Bordeaux back in February. Interesting on reappearance. MR LULU (6) could be involved.

Selections

QUEEN DOCTOR (5) - VINTACLERA (4) - CAPTAIN FALCO (7) - MR LULU (6)
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Race 5 - PRIX DE MONEIN - 3500m HDLE UNR. Purse EUR €34,000.

1. **IYENGAR DE PAIL** - Gelding by Kapparde out of Regina Maresca. Will be better for the outing.
2. **JERIKO DE KERSER** - Gelding by Cokoriko out of Une Vie De Kerser. Patrice Quinton trained debutant who profiles nicely. Pay to keep him very safe. Market watch advised.
3. **MARVIN FLIGHT** - Gelding by Spider Flight out of Marvel Flight. Market watch advised.
4. **LE GARDE ROYAL** - Gelding by Martaline out of La Garde Royale. Was a EUR50,000 (Arqana 2022 The Grand Steeple Sale) purchase. The in-form David Cottin stable is likely have him primed. Worth watching closely.
5. **GRINGO DU BERLAIS** - Gelding by Zarak out of Chica Du Berlais. H Lageneste & G Macaire trained debutant who profiles nicely. Pay to keep him very safe. Market watch advised.
6. **ZARAKHAN** - Not seen since finishing seventh over 2100m at Toulouse on October 14. Lining up in a hurdle for the first time. Key chance who looks sure to be hard to beat.
7. **HELLO VIF** - Three-year-old gelding who made his debut on the flat at Strasbourg finishing 11th. Likely improver now in a hurdle.
8. **SPILOU** - Gelding by Spider Flight out of Loulane. Was a EUR16,000 (Arqana 2020 Autumn Sale) purchase. Tough to line up and betting is likely to provide the best guide.
9. **SKYLINE** - Gelding by Saint Des Saints out of Former Line. Daniela Mele trained debutant who profiles nicely. Pay to keep him very safe. Market watch advised.
10. **SCHWYZ** - Making debut in a hurdle and not raced since September when third on the flat over 3000m at Toulouse. Has moved to the François Nicolle yard since the last run. Key chance who looks sure to be right in the finish.
11. **FALKO DES FLOS** - Gelding by Balko out of Marie Royale. Comes from a leading yard and profiles well for this. Keep very safe.

Summary: No hurdling form on offer and a whole host of interesting newcomers on show so the market is expected to prove informative. Martaline gelding LE GARDE ROYAL (4) catches the eye on paper and is given a tentative vote on debut for top connections. Son of Balko FALKO DES FLOS (11) can go well on debut under James Reveley while SCHWYZ (10) is of interest having joined a top yard for a hurdling campaign. ZARAKHAN (6) showed decent form on the level and cannot be discounted.

Selections

LE GARDE ROYAL (4) - FALKO DES FLOS (11) - SCHWYZ (10) - ZARAKHAN (6)
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Race 6 - PRIX DE BILHERES - 1600m CL2. Purse EUR €27,000.

1. **JONH SIX** - Went down by half a length when second at this track over 1400m last time out. Winning chance.
2. **SONGSTER** - Lightly raced colt who was beaten one length into second last start over 1600m at Chantilly All Weather. Sure to measure up here.
3. **MACHITO** - Reliable colt with a solid top-three strike rate. Scored comfortably last time out over 1500m at Marseille Vivaux. Hard to go past.
4. **L'IMPREVUE** - Resumed at this track over 2000m last time out and finished fifth beaten 5 lengths. Strips fitter and should be in the mix.
5. **SKADI** - Won her maiden two back at Toulouse then could only manage fourth last start over 1600m at Chantilly All Weather. Better than the last run suggests and can feature in the finish.
6. **GOOD VICTORY** - Easily beaten on debut last prep and didn't fare any better when resuming over 2000m at this track three weeks ago beaten 7 lengths into sixth. Can't recommend.
7. **STRAY BULLET** - Son of Johnny Barnes from Dinka making his debut. Happy to watch this time.
8. **EVAMIS** - Resumes today after filling a minor placing four times from eight starts in her maiden campaign. At the latest outing she finished fourth over 1600m at Toulouse on October 14.
9. **POKERINA** - Unraced filly by Gengis out of Poca. Faces a tough test.

Summary: SONGSTER (2) finished runner-up to a next-time-out winner in a decent looking 1600m claimer at Chantilly on AW debut. Major appeal on the figures. JONH SIX (1) looms the chief threat following a good 0.5L second in a similar Class Two conditions event over 1400m here. Notable chance upped in trip. Comfortable Marseille-Vivaux AW (1500m) maiden winner MACHITO (3) remains unexposed in France and must be respected. L'IMPREVUE (4) needs including dropped in distance.

Selections

SONGSTER (2) - JONH SIX (1) - MACHITO (3) - L'IMPREVUE (4)

Race 7 - PRIX FERNAND ROY - 3500m HDLE CL3. Purse EUR €30,000.

1. **GOLD TWEET** - Opened the campaign with a solid third in a hurdle (3500m) at Toulouse then last start won a hurdle (3800m) at Fontainebleau 46 days ago. In form and will take some stopping.
2. **TROU NORMAND** - Varying fortunes this prep. Lost the rider two runs back when resuming. Bounced back with a 3.5 lengths win in a hurdle (3800m) at Fontainebleau last time. Must be a chance again.
3. **ROSARIO BARON** - Returns after a spell of nine months. Was in strong form last time in recording three wins from 10 starts finishing it off with a fifth in a G3 steeplechase (4100m) at Compiegne. Looks a winning chance.
4. **MAESTRO SEM** - Returns from a break under the care of a new trainer. Has ability but best watched.
5. **ROYAL CAYMAN** - Returns from a spell of two years. Concluded last campaign with a minor placing in a hurdle (3500m) at this track. Has since switched to the Erwan Grall stable.
6. **BOUTE EN TRAIN** - Resuming here 635 days after a very ordinary debut at Paray-le-Monial. Hard to enthuse off the first run and happy to overlook.
7. **FURIOSO** - Not seen since finishing eighth over 3200m at Baden Baden on September 4. Lining up over the jumps for the first time. Has moved to the Gabriel Leenders yard since the last appearance. Can feature with the right run.
8. **KAPKING** - Impressed when he winning two runs ago in a steeplechase (3850m) at Fontainebleau and then second second beaten 5 lengths. Go on the good win two back.
9. **DRAGEES AUX POIVRE** - Still without a placing after two runs this time in work. Pulled up last time out in a hurdle (3650m) at Mont-de-Marsan.

Summary: GOLD TWEET (1) held some classy form in Graded company in 2021 and returned to winning ways when scoring in a Class Three conditions hurdle at Fontainebleau last outing. Top hope and could have too much for his rivals. TROU NORMAND (2) recorded a third hurdling success when winning by 3.5L at Fontainebleau in this class last start. Hard to ignore. ROSARIO BARON (3) was last seen finishing a good fifth in the G3 Prix Journaliste (chase) at Compiegne in April. Notable player back hurdling on reappearance. KAPKING (8) must enter calculations on the back of a solid second in a handicap chase at Fontainebleau last month.

Selections
GOLD TWEET (1) - TROU NORMAND (2) - ROSARIO BARON (3) - KAPKING (8)

Race 8 - PRIX DE BEOST - 2000m HCP. Purse EUR €19,000.

1. **DABIRADJA** - One win from five starts and last start fourth last time out over 2000m at this track following fourth at Deauville. hard to beat.
2. **GOLDENSIM** - Returned from a spell last start with a solid second beaten 3 lengths at this track over 2000m. Fitter and is a leading contender.
3. **FASHION BARNES** - Finished midfield last start at Toulouse over 1600m 10 lengths from the winner. Stretches out over further today. Place.
4. **GREEN PERFUME** - Three-start maiden yet to fill a placing last start finishing 12th over 1600m at Chantilly All Weather.
5. **PIANINO** - Has not been far away in recent runs. Has enjoyed a let-up since finishing second at Toulouse over 1600m on November 27. Big chance to find winning form.
6. **SANBER** - Yet to fill a placing in two runs since resuming from a spell the latest effort a sixth over 1600m at this track three-and-a-half weeks ago.
7. **KERDINA** - Battled last start to finish seventh over 2000m at this track adding to a sequence of plain results. Struggling to make an impact and happy to risk again.
8. **SHANGHAI ME** - Unplaced at all three runs this prep the latest when ninth over 1900m at Chantilly All Weather three-and-a-half weeks ago.
9. **ARTSVELT** - Eight-start maiden who was seventh last start beaten 9 lengths over 2000m at this track. Place at best.
10. **KOLPLET** - Has had one run back from a break and was well held in eighth over 1600m at this track three-and-a-half weeks ago. Fitter but unlikely to threaten.
11. **L'INATTENDU** - Yet to fill a placing in two runs since resuming from a spell the latest effort a 12th over 2000m at this track two-and-a-half weeks ago. Likely to find this out of reach.
12. **ZOKOA** - Finished 11 lengths from the winner in seventh last time out over 1600m at Toulouse adding to a long run of plain performances. Not expecting anything more this time.

Summary: DABIRADJA (1) produced a good effort when finishing a 2.5L fourth in a Class Two conditions event over course and distance last outing. Open to further progress on handicap debut and taken to record a second career success by defying top-weight. PIANINO (5) finished runner-up off this mark at Toulouse (1600m) and must be of interest stepping up in trip on AW debut. Last start track and trip maiden second GOLDENSIM (2) is not ruled out now handicapping and SANBER (6) makes for each-way appeal.

Selections

DABIRADJA (1) - PIANINO (5) - GOLDENSIM (2) - SANBER (6)
