

1 BIGTIME BALL wasn't able to win two in a row last week when he made his second comeback start after being inactive for more than a year but he has beaten all of these rivals in one of those two races and will be favoured to take the \$25,000 winner's share tonight. If there is another minor setback (if you can call it that is beaten again, it wouldn't be an earth shattering development. Win or lose he will still be regarded as a very highly talented pacer. I expect a win and will predict it that way.

6 OK COMMANDER won the vote for the runner up rating despite the fact that he wasn't as good as some expected last week in the St Elmo Hero upset over the top selection. That pacer was at Lexington today. The two top drivers from our circuit were also in action in Kentucky and will be missing from tonight's program. Doug McNair was listed to drive this pacer but he also had appointments in Lexington. There might be a change. Father Gregg had a number of suitable replacements to choose from if one is necessary.

2 BROADIES SONG has the elder Zeron to drive as usual but a match up with son Scott isn't going to take place unless we have a driver change on the one below prior to the program being printed or on race night. We have to give him a "didn't fire" assessment for his last couple when results were lower than the top five. Whether he can perk up tonight is a tough guess to make but he does have the talent to finish in the top three if he is at his best.

7 ALSACE HANOVER earned the better part of half of his 2011 bankroll when he won the Adios Final that carried a purse of \$500,000. Those that were hoping for a better results last week when he was racing for the first time in more than a month didn't see it. There was little chance for them when he was so far back in the early stages with the pace as it was. It might be completely different tonight.

THE FOLLOWING LISTED IN POST POSITION ORDER

(3) GRIN FOR MONEY has been able to finish with a 26 second range final quarter in recent races. That's not crawling speed but others in the field also have the same ability. Last week he was a 38-1 item and should be in the top half of the field from a price standpoint with a price higher than at least three rivals and maybe more than that. I preferred other for the top ratings.

(4) MAJOR HOTTIE failed to beat one rival in each of his last two races for whatever reason. Christoforou, who has been his regular driver, was not listed when entries were originally published but that doesn't mean that he won't end with the drive again. He did have calls to drive four others on the program prior to scratch time changes. Needs to rebound back to better form to be an impact player.

(5) POWER OFF beat half of the field to finish fourth best in Bigtime Ball's return race on September 17. He might surprise again tonight to finish higher than rated if luck is on his side and/or some of the others race below par/expectations.

2 BARBIE AND KEN is my choice to upset the race favourite(s) in the first of eight O.S.S. grass roots championship events that make up most of tonight's program. Some of the others had more success this year but I can give her a chance to beat those rivals for what should be a bit of a surprise result. You should note that the judges did alter the racing conditions and the allowance given during last week's program from Sy-2 to Gd-1. Let's see if my guess works.

3 CAN I SAY was fastest of all the filly trotters last week with her 1:57.2 performance. That should make her the race favourite and the one to beat in the eyes of the majority of handicappers. Another win tonight almost doubles her purses won total for the year to put her over the \$100,000 mark in earnings. That's not such a bad amount if she makes it considering that only four of the gold division fillies have earned more than \$100,000 (one event left on the schedule).

8 THUNDERING OVATION has to be given a big chance to finish in the top three. She wasn't a serious threat to the winner last week. I'm hoping to see MacDonald have her up close again but not push too hard to ask her for more than she has to give. If he can do that she should be right in the thick of things again.

5 DAYPLANNER led the division in regular season action in both points and earnings. There wasn't much pressure last time when a fifth place finish guaranteed a starting spot tonight. She has a driver change to Zeron, which will be notable for the majority of handicappers. She could have been rated higher than this without much second guessing. Can make it interesting for the others.

THE FOLLOWING LISTED IN POST POSITION ORDER

(1) STARY IVES will have longshot status again in what looks to be a very difficult spot for her with all the 10 best from last week competing for the \$100,000 in prize money. She's one of three that driver Scott Coulter had to choose from.

(4) STRIKING FOREVER was a well-beaten third in the elimination round a week ago. Can't see her improving enough tonight to be a serious threat if the top rated rivals don't make any mistakes from a manners standpoint.

(6) JOYS MUTINEE is similar to the one above and can only be rated with a chance to earn one of the lesser awards. Some longshot players might give her a look.

(7) MARGARITA DE VIE had a second best result against Can I Say in the Sarnia leg on the grass roots tour and followed with another the same at Sudbury. Maybe a minor award.

(9) RANDOM CHOICE was a regular money maker during the regular season schedule. She picked off some rivals in the elimination round. You might consider for use in the bottom spot in triactor play.

(10) MAJESTIC TAGLET has good enough credentials that I have to think that I should have given her a higher rating. The only major flaw in her record for the year came on a night when she made a break. Post 10 hurts but she might overcome.

(11--ae1) WARRAWEE NUKE didn't have the stamina to go the distance last week. She might have a chance to share in the prize money if she does get to race from a favourable starting spot.'

(12--ae2) UNCOMMON GRACE can be assessed once we know whether or not she will have the opportunity to compete.

1 LIFE SIGNATURE would be my choice to upset if the decision was made on race night to play against the favourites or for use as in a back up role for the win position. In fact, after re-thinking I did decide to take that route and moved him up into the top spot with the hopes that he can get us a price boosting result to finish off the first pick 3 on the program.

6 HUXLEY didn't have what you would call a smooth trip but managed to beat the shuffle that cost him positions well enough to win again over the late closing Iwilldowhatido. The other division winner was faster when upsetting a 9-1. This fella will have to be all out and at his best if that rival can duplicate the performance from last week. Slight preference only. He was my original top selection but I changed that afterwards.

7 SECRETSOFTHEKNIGHT put on an impressive display a week ago to win his division in upset fashion to give his supporters a 9-1 score. If rival drivers were expecting him to stop after the setting the pace they had a surprise coming. He forgot to do that. He raced earlier on the program. The track might have better at that time than it was for race 12 if you want to consider that factor when comparing speed of the division winners. The same performance tonight will make him a key player again with a big chance to take the \$50,000 winner's share.

4 IWILLDOWHATIDO doesn't have Waples to drive tonight. He's at Lexington. His late kick a week ago put him within striking range of the leader but that one did get the jump and had his momentum working sooner. Saftic drove this pacer once previously when second best to Huxley by a wider margin than last time. He'll have to have his strategy working to perfection to beat either or both of the top two.

THE FOLLOWING LISTED IN POST POSITION ORDER

(2) ROCKY REGAL did some work in the middle half to assume the lead position a week ago but then faltered in the very late stages. He'd be another upset option to look at if your strategy was to play for that type of result.

(3) RETAIL is a second race for trainer Dave Menary in this race. Huxley will be more popular, I think, but let's not write him off completely. He might have more power tonight and does have Filion to drive.

(5) TRUE TO MACH finished right in the thick of things in the elimination round in a close photo. He doesn't have a poor record. The two major failures in his history were both caused by breaks.

(8) WHO DOESN'T tracked close enough throughout that he was in position to finish with a starting spot earned for this event when it was all over last week. He will have to step up tonight to be an impact player.

(9) RED CARPET DUDE might not beat them all but he might cause some grief for the leaders with his almost always aggressive driver. Be sure to factor in what Allard might do when guessing about how it might flow out.

(10) IN COMMAND failed as the race favourite last week. He would have save something that night when realizing that the leader was not going to give it up. Can Christoforou beat post 10 with him? That's the big question.

(11--ae1) JETTISON would need a favourable draw to have a chance at one of the major purse shares if he does get to race tonight.

(12--ae2) R GAUWITZ HANOVER went undefeated in grass roots races during the regular season. He didn't have it last week. A poor start was costly. Take a look at him if he does draw in to compete.

6 NORTHERN VICTORY had good enough credentials that I could consider for the top spot with an eye of clicking with what should be a mild upset winner if he does get it done. Some of tonight's grass roots championship events look to be fairly wide open contests. This one falls into that category from my viewpoint. Since three of the four legs of the pick 4 wager are made up of grass roots event the puzzle might be tough to solve--no different than any other night I guess.

2 TYMAL OH SO NICE raced very well from post 10 last week to give his trainer a sweep of the qualifying divisions. The noteworthy change in her profile for this try is the change in post position from 10 to 2. That can only help. MacDonald will substitute tonight. I didn't make a big deal of that change in the profile. If he's good enough he can get the job done.

7 MIKEY HANOVER closed late to finish a narrowly beaten second best a week ago. I have to give high marks for that performance plus a top three rating for this race. The racing strategy will have to work well enough to have him close enough/soon enough. If MacDonald can get that to work in his favour chances of a top three result are reasonable.

1 ILL BE THERE was driven with confidence last week to win his division of the preliminary round. That makes him one of the contenders but not a standout. I didn't see any that could be rated that way in this field. Several look to have a chance at finishing in the top three or four. Much will depend on driver strategy or racing luck, whichever term you like to use.

THE FOLLOWING LISTED IN POST POSITION ORDER

(3) SAN PIETRO had best results on or before August 11. Anything after that has not been up to par for him. He looks risky again tonight and should be one of the longshot items again.

(4) HOUSE MONEY has some upset potential to consider if you choose to try to beat the race favourites. His overall record the year isn't poor. Hudon can put them into best form when the money is on the line.

(5) OAKLEA UMPIRE had longshot status a week ago. That might change tonight after his near miss in a multi-horse photo that had little separating the top finishers. Don't write him off too quickly.

(8) MUTINYONTHEBOUNTY was inconvenienced last week with interference. He's another one that deserves to be given a look when planning your investment strategy.

(9) NORTHERN KINGDOM lost some of his chance at success when he had the poor luck of drawing the nine hole. That part of the profile played a role in him being rated lower than the top four.

(10) BALLYKEEL ULYSSES ended with second best results in the qualifying round after a placing by the judges. Mario has to give him some help tonight to overcome the post 10 situation.

(11--ae1) P L FANTASTIC has a chance to earn a share of the purse if he does get to race with a favourable post position draw.

(12--ae2) JAKE BE NIMBLE will have longshot status if he does have the chance to compete.

Pick 4 suggestion Race 4 (6/2/7) Race 5 (4/8/1) Race 6 (10/5/6) Race 7 (9/6/1)

4 REGALLY BLONDE was selected for the top spot partially because Christoforou is driving. He's capable of planning winning strategy if he has the talent at his disposal. Two recent finishes in the three slot were not difficult races for her. She might have a bit extra to offer this night with \$100,000 on the line. I'll guess that way.

8 EAT ME UP had her win streak snapped a week ago but raced well enough to win when the margin was only a foot or slightly more between her and the winner. Her never worse than second record is quite impressive. She was second best in this year's edition of the Battle Of The Belles at Grand River Raceway against open Ontario-sired competition. Have to give as much chance as any of the others.

1 PALM PATROL had to work to earn her win last week and needs more of the same tonight if she is going to double up on a night when big money is up for grabs. I don't mind the driver change. Zeron is always a threat when aboard a contender and this gal looks to fall into that category after that last performance. Her trainer doesn't have a high percentage but is very capable.

5 LYONS LUCK was best of the bunch last time and comes into this important event with solid recent form with the exception of one failure. She's been a high odds item recently but that should change tonight unless something unexpected happens. MacDonell had some racing good fortune a week ago when the trip worked in his favour. He'll need something similar tonight to repeat.

THE FOLLOWING LISTED IN POST POSITION ORDER

(2) STONEBRIDGE SASSY races from an improved post position tonight if you think that change is enough to put her back into the top three category. You might want to include her in either the triactor or superfecta.

(3) PREMIER INDIGO also has a more favourable starting off point tonight. An improved early position should be possible. That might be all that it takes to get her a better result this time.

(6) KATYS JET was the choice of the majority of bettors last week. How many of those supporters will come back to try again is debatable. She might make the most of a better trip if Zeron can provide it. Can't write her off too quickly.

(7) ALMOST MIDNIGHT had outside post positions in each of her last two races to make it difficult. Post 7 is slightly better this night. A longshot play for those willing to try for the higher return on investment.

(9) MACHINTOSH has been mostly a fringe player this year and with post 9 might have to settle for similar results again unless Moiseyev can somehow work out a trip advantage from a difficult post.

(10) MEMUMSNOTNICE would have been considered for a spot in the top four had she been luckier in the post position draw. Luc has some pressure on from post 10.

(11--ae1) WINE AFTER FIVE wasn't able to crack the top five last week. Results prior to that were good enough. Let's see if she does get to race and then assess her chances.

(12--ae2) REGAL ATTITUDE also had good results prior to last week's elimination round. Don't know what to think about her chances until we see what post position is available if she does race.

10 ZORGWIJK LUNAR is an against the odds top selection that I am going to try. Winning from post 10 in race such as this is going to be difficult to do and it will take some racing good fortune to make it work. The post position should put her into the double digit range from an odds standpoint. A win by this filly would certainly add some extra value to the pick 4 payoff if you want to play along.

5 HERE COMES JENNY looks to cap off a win streak with one more tonight with a \$50,000 pay cheque her reward if she can get the triple. She has had some disappointing result this year but there are enough better result in her history to suggest that she can play a big role in the outcome tonight with the help of driver Mario Baillargeon. Looks like a contender.

6 HONEY THORN can do better tonight with a smoother trip. I was very close to using her as my top selection and might still move her up higher in the ratings when race night rolls around. It wouldn't be too difficult to do that at the right price. I thought this race was fairly wide open without a standout and several options to consider.

8 SECOND AVENUE ended up with Zeron to drive. Filion chose the other Moreau trainee who happens to be my top selection. Maybe that development will get her more support than my guesstimate of 12-1. It looks like Moreau has a chance to collect more than one purse cheque from this event if both of his racers have any luck at all.

THE FOLLOWING LISTED IN POST POSITION ORDER

(1) DEFY TIME was rated as second favourite in the morning line. Her win last week was an upset but well-earned with an off the pace style that her passing rivals when it counted most.

(2) OUT OF THE KITCHEN wasn't beaten very much in a five/six wide finish last week. If longshot odds are offered again that would help offset some of the risk. Let's see how the wagering support turns out.

(3) SOME LIKE IT HOT improves in the post position department after starts from post 8 and post 9. That change can only help. If Moiseyev can add some extra help she has a chance to finish better than predicted.

(4) MAGICAL PAIGE did some good things this year on the grass roots tour. She too was part of that close finish last week when not very much separated the top finishers. Maybe?

(7) TROPICAL BREEZE AS has in the past used different racing styles. That gives Brewer options to consider when the first decision about racing strategy has to be made. In race where anything might happen I wasn't willing to dismiss any of the racers completely.

(9) QUANTUM VICTORIA puts another question mark onto the page when trying to guess about predictions. Post 9 isn't the best. That will make her task more difficult than most of her rivals.

(11--ae1) LADY IS A PIRATE had a before the start break to take her out of contention last week when she was a longshot item. She'll be in the same category tonight if competing.

(12--ae2) BARBIES KORVETT doesn't show enough to be considered for a high in the order rating if she does race tonight.

9 KINDLY POET ended up with the number one rating but I did look at two or three others more than once before I arrived at that decision. On a best night he can hold his own against competition such as this. He is moving up one notch following a runner-up result in his comeback race last week. There might be a bit of tapering off tonight or he could go forward with the help of that tightener. Much will depend on whether or not Zeron has maximum horsepower and if he can get him started up soon enough with his often used late closing style.

6 RED BUGLER was a twice in a row top selection for this handicapper but didn't provide the hoped for results either time. A third try tonight with the same status might have worked. I could have a change of mind on race night and move him up into the top position again depending on what I see at that time. Quite often the race night observations can provide clues on what to expect and are treated as an important factor.

1 HARE CRAFT broke the 1:50 barrier at least once this year in a winning performance. He won handily that night by a very comfortable margin over rivals that I would have to rate as not as good as the best in this group. With an everything works trip he can finish in the top three. Aaron Byron has been his regular partner in all but one recent race and gets to come back to try again.

3 UPFRONT HOOSIERBOY would be my choice if I was going to consider one of the two layoff performers in this contest but I'm not very confident that I would do that in a way other than with a small back up wager if the price is suitable to the risk. One race by this that sticks in my mind was in April when he came very close to being the first to beat St Elmo Hero. He lost a close three way photo that night but did race his eye balls out so to speak. Baillargeon has won with off the shelf racers previously on occasion.

THE FOLLOWING LISTED IN POST POSITION ORDER

(2) WAFFLES AND CREAM can only offer a single win this year from 15 races. I won't predict that his win production will double tonight but he might sneak into the top three.

(4) MR APPLES last race on Boxing Day 2010. Montini has given him three qualifiers to prepare for the comeback start that follows a \$200,000 season. Who knows how much speed might have been saved in those non-competitive races? Qualifiers can be very misleading at times. Let's wait to see what he looks like on Saturday and how the wagering is playing out.

(5) HYPERION HANOVER has his best days behind him (a former open class pacer) but can still win against suitable competition and with a dropping down profile he might be in that situation tonight if Fellows has him at his highest standard.

(7) PONTIAC LUCK had a win below this level last time but looks somewhat suspect to me against this group even after that lifetime best performance that might turn out to be a one shot deal.

(10) FANTADDY offers good enough credentials from his 3 year old campaign. Zeron/O'Sullivan team might have sights set on an upset from post position 10. Make a guess.

2 CAMERON LUCKY might strike a blow for the team of Bruce Richardson and trainer Marie St Chalres and owner Michael Hale. I'm willing to give her a chance at the top spot. Others might not do that since she doesn't have one of our circuit's every night drivers aboard. She did fine last week with an off the pace style. A similar closing kick gives her a good chance to wear them all down.

9 BACKYARD BABY has to be just as good tonight (or better) than she was a week ago when she upset in her division of the qualifying round. Baillargeon is going to drive tonight. His strategy has to be near perfect if she is going to double up to add another \$50,000 to her bankroll. This is the event that all that raced in the grass roots want to win with the big purse on the line.

8 PEARL HANDLEPISTOL had a trainer change long ago and was the choice that Filion made when he has a conflict with two options. That was an interesting development that you might want to play along with. I'd consider it but not go all out based on his decision. Others will disagree. I preferred the two above for the highest ratings.

7 THREE CHARMS just failed to go the distance a week ago when second best after being the leader for the better part of the one mile distance. She too has a driver that we don't see every night. That won't suit some handicappers but I wouldn't make it a big factor since she has been doing quite well for herself this year under the guidance of trainer Eric Adams.

THE FOLLOWING LISTED IN POST POSITION ORDER

(1) DAPPLE APPLE looks like a longshot item again tonight based on last week's result when she was fourth best. I can only give her a chance to earn one of the smaller purse shares.

(3) CHERYLS SURPRISE raced from mid pack on the outside a week ago. Moiseyev should be able to have her racing in the pylon lane tonight for the early stages. That can help.

(4) MONTENEGRO didn't look to be as appealing as those that are rated highest. Can't get too enthused about her chances at a 1-2-3 finish this night. She has had some better results than average on occasion but not consistently.

(5) MODERN CINDERELLA had a three race win streak halted last time. She does have the ability to establish a positioning advantage in the early stages if you think she might hold up better this time.

(6) BRUSH WITH ROYALTY was rated as the luke warm morning line favourite. That status might go to one of the others after Filion turned her down in favour of his other option.

(10) SMARTY GIRL has good enough recent form but will have to be good enough to overcome the post 10 handicap. Saftic doesn't do that very often but this is a \$100,000 race.

6 HERECOMESTHECHIEF hasn't yet shown that he can win against this type of competition. I was willing to take a flyer for a longshot winner but would have to use alternates in the win position just to be on the safe side in case my hunch doesn't pay off. He might not be good enough. An off the pace style might work if two or more of the major players hook up in a speed duel too early and for too long. Zeron excels when that happens.

3 HERE COMES NUMBERS rates as one of the major player and should be the race favourite again after three in a row wins including one last week in the eliminations. He had to work hard right to the end to last the distance. He might have early challengers if he does race on the lead in the middle half as he did last time and in races prior to that.

5 TYMAL RECAP has upgraded himself from his one time status as an \$8,000 claimer. After two wins he looks like he might hold his own again tonight with a reasonable chance to collect the \$50,000 winner's share of the purse. It isn't likely that he will see the claiming ranks anytime soon--at least not for such a low price now that he's tipped his hat.

7 COUNT STRIKE gives driver Bruce Richardson a chance to win two races tonight if Cameron Lucky proved to be the best in race eight. I thought there was a chance that she would. Wayne Preszcator has helped him bankroll more than \$100,000 this year, which is tops in the field in that column. That should earn him a few points.

THE FOLLOWING LISTED IN POST POSITION ORDER

(1) WINBAK HALL pushed Here Comes Numbers to the limit last week with a top level performance as a longshot item. His trainer doesn't race many horses but can be dangerous to overlook.

(2) FRILL SEEKER has also earned in excess of \$100,000 this year. The last two were not very successful. He needs to turn it around tonight to regain top three form.

(4) MANDINGA didn't look like one that I could recommend with much confidence and was rated as an upset prospect at best. MacDonald has his work cut out for him.

(8) MAX MONEY has Burgess training. I might have to rate him as one of the toughest trainers for this handicapper to predict. I could only give him a chance at a small prize.

(9) TYMAL COLUSSUS didn't have much luck again in the post position draw. That is going to hurt his chances. Be nice to see him get a portion of the purse however. I'll be rotting for him.

(10) MAJOR HERBIE could have and maybe should have been rated in the top four. Only post 10 prevented that from being a reality. He's another one that I'll be cheering for.

(11--ae1) DAILY BLOG looks far too risky for my liking. Wouldn't be able to get too enthused about his chances if he doest compete.

(12) CHUCKALO CADEN had one of those nothing worked trips last time. Let's wait to see if he gets to race before assessing any further.

7 MUSSELSFRMBRUSSELS put the hammer down again last week to post a mild upset. Tonight he should be the race favourite and rated as the one to beat but not without some competition good enough to produce an upset if he isn't in top form again. MacArthur when he thinks he should win will take an aggressive approach. That has been his trademark for as long as I can remember.

6 SONIC DANCER gets Zeron to drive tonight and has a reasonable chance to finish in any of the top three positions based on recent results that had him pacing in the 1:50-51 range. The race flow can help his chances if he uses the same racing style with mid-pack early positioning. I would have to consider one or two other options for the runner-up spot.

2 EASTEND EDDIE has not been able to beat Guns An Roses in recent match-ups. That rival has the post 10 handicap tonight to give him a chance to reverse the finish order. I could use him in either the second or third position if playing the single race wagers. The post 2 starting position gives him a chance to start quickly if MacDonald chooses that style.

10 GUNS N ROSES won races faster this year than is normal for this trainer but he has had a good string of success as the earnings show. He is just dollars away from the \$100,000 mark. That gives you a good idea of the talent that he has. Moiseyev won't be saving much tonight with \$100,000 on the line. With a more favourable starting spot he would have been 1-2 in the ratings.

THE FOLLOWING LISTED IN POST POSITION ORDER

(1) MACH WHEEL didn't have a poor season on the grass roots tour. He has banked close to \$75,000 for part owner/trainer Joe Hudon. He needs to be considered when formulating triactor/superfecta strategy.

(3) RILEYS LUCK picked up Hudon as his partner tonight when it became known that McNair was not going to be here. He rates as an upset prospect at best considering recent results.

(4) STOLEN CAR is similar to the one above in that I can only give him a chance to finish with a small share of the purse. Bryon will have to work a favourable trip to help him out.

(5) MACH IT BIG is on the Moreau team roster. He might fool me but I preferred others. He didn't get much respect last time if the 100-1 odds is not an error. Make a guess.

(8) OIL TUMBLES didn't look like a win candidate in this spot. Luc and Johnson might produce a minor share result but that's about the best that I can predict tonight.

(9) LIBERTYS BEST STAR might not be good enough to overcome post 9 well enough to finish in the top three or four. I'll have to say that he can only be played in one of the lowest positions.

7 BLENDED WHISKEY looked interesting enough that I can give him a slight preference for the number one rating. This is one race that I had too much second guessing going on to be very confident. Looks to me like it is going to be more about the drivers' strategy than the talent of the horses. I decided to put my faith on Zeron and hope that it works.

3 ALL TIGER N should fit in quite nicely with this group if he can produce at his highest level tonight. With his usual racing style and driver it isn't that difficult to assume that he will be on the lead or not far behind if one of the others does take the aggressive attitude to race on the front end in the controlling position. Luc should do okay if he doesn't come under pressure too early.

1 WORLD AWAY had a typical Saftic start from post 10 last time. I wasted a selection on him that night when hoping that just by chance he might have a result similar to what he had on August 20 from the same outside position. It didn't happen. Can't be overconfident that he'll beat them all this time but it is a possibility. Let's see what Saftic's body language is like and then decide.

8 FAUCON STENA has raced at different levels in five recent races with his best success during that string in a classification very similar to this one. He was one of two that MacDonell was listed to drive. It wouldn't matter much if he chose the other option as long as the replacement is suitable. He should be more popular tonight with the class relief working for him.

THE FOLLOWING LISTED IN POST POSITION ORDER

(2) ST PETE STAR was a popular winner two back when competing at the lowest level. The follow up wasn't so bad when he moved back up into the tougher category.

(4) BRADLEY SCOTT scored for the upset on September 17 with the help of a favourable trip and then was a non-factor a week later when he stepped up in the next highest classification. I'll watch tonight.

(5) MONSTER IN LAW might be one that I am underestimating. I thought competition tonight might be too tough for him when considering chances at a victory. I have had some success with him in the past but decided to rate him lower than the top four.

(6) HIGHBETA BLUE CHIP had third best status three back. The earnings limits had the same dollar amount that night but were based on three starts. Tonight it is five. Big difference. In the race just prior to that one he did beat Faucon Stena. He scares me enough that I am thinking he should have been rated higher than this.

(9) VAL AMERICA looks like he has a difficult task tonight with his post 9 starting position and with the competition as it is. Fillion had to choose between him and the one directly above.

(10) WHIPPET GOOD just missed last time to give him three in a row finishes in the 1-2-3 category. He's on schedule to duplicate production from 2010 when he had more than \$100,000 in earnings. A couple more wins and he will be at that level. Can he beat post 10?

3 RAVE ON is classified well enough that he has a big chance to win the final race of 2011 at Mohawk. We need to see Zeron keep him out of trouble throughout and not let one of the others get away on him to establish a lead that will give him too much work to do in the final stages of the race. I might be tempted to consider another option or two for the win position and also use this pacer in the second or third spot in regards to the single race wagers.

2 ROCK ME AMASTREOS was selected as one option to use in the runner up spot in the early stages of the assessment process with the hopes that his late closing style might work well enough tonight to put him into that position. He will have a replacement driver. The first choice was Zeron but he will stick with the O'Sullivan connection.

8 LAST CALL HANOVER might make a chance in racing strategy tonight and revert back to racing closer to the leaders or perhaps on the front end himself. I won't be very surprised if Filion shows the change up tonight. He was the driver last year when this pacer earned his lifetime best speed mark of 1:49.3. The money won profile is very playable. The most recent victory has dropped off into the archives as far as eligibility is concerned. Beware! Filion will start a short driving suspension tomorrow that causes him to miss one race night on this circuit out of three penalty days that were handed out by the judges. Good timing.

1 GRAVEL CRUSHER lived up to his name on September 18 but it wasn't gravel that he was crushing, it was the competition when he produced a big turnaround compared to previous races. He had help. A review of the replay showed five or six of the rival drivers taking back off the gate before the start to be at least two lengths in arrears and looking to make the inside lane. Terrible start even considering the sloppy track conditions. He coasted gate to wire to produce a \$76.00 payoff. Can he do it again?

THE FOLLOWING LISTED IN POST POSITION ORDER

(4) ACTIVATOR had his best recent result last week and will hopefully build on that result to do some better things again after a string of not very productive races leading up to that one. I'll watch to see if that is going to be the case.

(5) COLE DIDDY was a meant to win item on September 24 but not quite good enough to produce the 9-1 score for his backers. A similar performance tonight gives him a chance to finish higher than predicted.

(6) LUCKAMOTION didn't look as appealing as those rated highest and can wait for another night before I will consider for a top three/four prediction. Maybe next time.

(7) MCARACAS gets to drop down one notch when compared to his most recent race. That puts him back into a similar category to where he finished second best a week earlier. He could have replaced one of my top four choices easy enough.

(9) ART N CHARM offers four in a row top three results since starting his comeback. One night before too long we will see him pop for the first victory of the year. Watch him carefully.

(10) AMAZON ART lost some of his appeal when he had the poor luck to draw the outside position. Offsetting that negative factor is the classification drop. Another piece in the puzzle.