

COMMENTS & SELECTIONS – NEWCASTLE

RACE 1: TALKSPORT BURRADON STAKES (LISTED)

Rousing Encore Dear My Friend Obelix

Dear My Friend made the frame in the Zetland Stakes at Newmarket last autumn, and also took third behind subsequent Breeders' Cup winner Victoria Road in France, and he sets the standard on official ratings. However, ROUSING ENCORE's second in the Mill Reef just shades things when it comes to prestige and the Richard Fahey-trained colt could be the one to side with now he steps up in trip. Obelix holds a 2000 Guineas entry and also has to be feared.

NO. HORSE NAME

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| 1 | ARABIAN STORM | Won on his latest outing when 1-4fav here over 7f last month, beating Old Smoke by 3l. |
| 2 | BENACRE | He has won three times at 7f. A winner at 10-3 at Goodwood over 7f (good to soft) on his latest outing in October last year, beating Solutre by 2 3/4l. Having his first run for a new stable today, previously with Charlie & Mark Johnston. |
| 3 | CHUZZLEWIT | Won on his latest outing when 11-10fav at Ayr over 7f (good) in September last year, beating Beyond Reproach by a head. |
| 4 | DARK THIRTY | A winner at 6f. Beaten 7l behind Tyrone's Poppy at 33-1 when seventh of 9 on his latest outing at Chester over 7f (good to soft) in September last year. |
| 5 | DEAR MY FRIEND | Successful at 6f and 7f. Third of 9 behind Flying Honours beaten 4 1/2l at 11-2 on his latest outing in the Group 3 Zetland Stakes at Newmarket over 1m 2f (good) in October last year. Having his first run for a new stable today, previously with Charlie & Mark Johnston. |
| 6 | FLIGHT PLAN | Won on his latest outing when 11-10fav here over 7f in November last year, beating Yotarid by 2 1/4l. |
| 7 | GALERON | Successful at 6f and 7f. A winner at 16-1 at Curragh over 7f (soft) on his latest outing in September last year, beating Hellsing by 1/2l. |
| 8 | OBELIX | Won on his latest outing when 1-4fav over this course and distance in September last year, beating Dubai Crystal by 8l. |
| 9 | OVIEDO | A winner at 7f. Beaten 11l behind Knight at 18-1 when eighth of 9 on his latest outing in the Group 3 Horris Hill Stakes at Newbury over 7f (heavy) in October last year. |
| 10 | ROUSING ENCORE | Successful at 5f and 6f. Finished 4l behind Alpha Capture when fourth of 8 at 8-1 on his latest outing at York over 6f (good to soft) in October last year. |
| 11 | TENJIN | A winner at 6f on polytrack. Third of 7 behind Brave Emperor beaten 3/4l at 14-1 on his latest outing at Kempton over 1m last month. |

RACE 2: TALKSPORT ALL-WEATHER 3 YEAR OLD CHAMPIONSHIPS CONDITIONS STAKES (GBB RACE)

Perdika Shouldvebeenaring Shaquille

PERDIKA has already faced some stiff tests on her travels this year but she has coped with them admirably, as is testified by her Listed triumph in France last month. This is tougher back against the boys, but her sex allowance creates strong hope that she will again rise to the challenge. Shouldvebeenaring, who wasn't beaten far in the Spring Cup at Lingfield, has progressed well and should be capable of another bold showing. Shaquille heads the remainder.

NO. HORSE NAME

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| 1 | DANGER ALERT | Successful at 5f and 6f on the all-weather (1 PO). A winner at 5-2 at Kempton over 6f on his latest outing last month, beating Hiatus by a head. Has also won at Wolverhampton this season. |
| 2 | DESERT COP | A winner at 11-2 at Kempton over 6f on his latest outing in February, beating Sharp Power by 1 3/4l. |
| 3 | MICHAELA'S BOY | He has won three times at 5f including 2 wins on the all-weather (1 PO). Beaten 13l behind Perdika when eighth of 9 on his latest outing at Chantilly over 5f (heavy) last month. |
| 4 | NEW DEFINITION | Successful at 6f and 7f on polytrack. Beaten 17l behind Bold Act at 16-1 when last of 10 on his latest outing at Chelmsford City over 1m earlier this month. |
| 5 | SHAQUILLE | He has won three times from 6f to 7f including a win on the all-weather. Won on his latest outing when 2-1fav at Wolverhampton over 6f in December last year, beating Harry Magnus by 1l. |
| 6 | SHOULDBEENARING | He has won four times at 6f including a win on the all-weather. Finished 1 1/4l behind Iconic Moment when fifth of 7 at 3-1 on his latest outing at Lingfield over 7f last month. |
| 7 | THE X O | Successful twice at 6f on the all-weather. Finished 2l behind Danger Alert when fifth of 8 at 10-3 on his latest outing at Kempton over 6f last month. Has won twice at Southwell this season. |
| 8 | GLORIOUS ANGEL | Winner of five races from 5f to 7f including 3 wins on the all-weather. Finished 1 3/4l behind River Pride when fifth of 7 at 7-1 on her latest outing at Wolverhampton over 7f last month. Has won 3 times this season. |
| 9 | HELLO QUEEN | Successful twice at 6f on the all-weather. A winner at 17-2 over this course and distance on her latest outing last month, beating Alpha Zulu by 1/2l. Has also won at Wolverhampton this season. |
| 10 | PERDIKA | Winner of five races from 5f to 7f including 4 wins on the all-weather (2 PO). A winner at Chantilly over 5f (heavy) last month, beating Whistle And Flute by a head. Having her first run for a new stable today, previously with G Boughey. |

RACE 3: BETUK ALL-WEATHER MARATHON CHAMPIONSHIPS CONDITIONS STAKES

Berkshire Rocco

Earlofthecotswolds

Nolton Cross

BERKSHIRE ROCCO has a touch of class and has scope to go further now he's proven he has the stamina. His last two performances suggest a race of this nature is within his compass and, with the in-form Oisin Murphy back in the saddle, all the pieces fit together well enough to expect a big run from the six-year-old. Earlofthecotswolds doesn't have much to find with the selection judged on their encounter at Kempton in February, while Nolton Cross is also fancied to be thereabouts.

NO. HORSE NAME

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| 1 | ACED IT | He has won three times from 1m 4f to 2m including 2 wins on polytrack. Finished 3 1/2l behind Bandinelli when fourth of 6 at 8-1 on his latest outing at Kempton over 2m earlier this month. |
| 2 | BARENBOIM | Winner of five races from 1m 2f to 1m 4f on the all-weather (3 PO). A winner at 7-2 here over 1m 4f on his latest outing last month, beating Vega Sicilia by 1l. Has also won at Lingfield this season. |
| 3 | BERKSHIRE ROCCO | He has won three times from 7f to 2m including a win on the all-weather. Beaten 2 1/4l by Earl Of Tyrone when second of 8 at 3-1jt-fav on his latest outing at Kempton over 2m in February. |
| 4 | EARLOFTHECOTSWOLDS | He has won four times from 1m 4f to 2m on the all-weather (2 PO). A winner at 6-1 at Wolverhampton over 2m on his latest outing last month, beating Fleurman by a head. |
| 5 | FLEURMAN | He has won four times from 1m 4f to 2m including 2 wins on the all-weather. Beaten a head by Earlofthecotswolds when second of 5 at 8-1 on his latest outing at Wolverhampton over 2m last month. Has won at Newcastle and Wolverhampton this season. |
| 6 | RAINBOW DREAMER | Has won ten races from 1m to 2m 2f including 8 wins on the all-weather (1 FB, 5 PO). Beaten 5l behind Earl Of Tyrone at 9-2 when seventh of 8 on his latest outing at Kempton over 2m in February. |
| 7 | SOLENT GATEWAY | He has won three times from 1m 2f to 2m including a win on the all-weather. Finished 3 1/2l behind Aztec Empire when fourth of 10 at 17-2 on his latest outing at Kempton over 2m in February. |
| 8 | WITHHOLD | Winner of seven races from 1m 5f to 2m 2f including a win on the all-weather, but last win was over two years ago. Beaten 1 1/2l by Aztec Empire when second of 10 at 28-1 on his latest outing at Kempton over 2m in February. |
| 9 | NOLTON CROSS | He has won four times from 1m 1f to 1m 4f on the all-weather. A winner at 10-3 at Wolverhampton over 1m 4f on his latest outing last month, beating Obsidian Knight by 3 1/2l. Has won 3 times this season. |

RACE 4: BETUK ALL-WEATHER EASTER CLASSIC MIDDLE DISTANCE CHAMPIONSHIPS CONDITIONS STAKES

Forest Of Dean Harrovian Freescape

Freescape has failed to make much of an impact out in Dubai, but he shouldn't be underestimated now back home and he warrants respect. However, FOREST OF DEAN shaped better than the bare form when weakening into sixth in the Winter Derby - a prize he claimed in 2021 - and the John Gosden-trained seven-year-old is fancied to regain the winning thread in these calmer waters. His stablemate Harrovian finished ahead in fourth on that occasion, but could only manage third when the selection struck over this C&D in January.

NO. HORSE NAME

- 1 BASE NOTE He has won four times from 1m 2f to 1m 4f on the all-weather (2 PO). Finished 2 1/2l behind Prydwen when fifth of 6 at 9-1 on his latest outing at Wolverhampton over 1m 4f last month.
- 2 FOREST OF DEAN Winner of six races at 1m 2f including 3 wins on the all-weather (1 PO). Finished 6l behind Lord North when sixth of 8 at 17-2 on his latest outing in the Group 3 BetUK Winter Derby Stakes at Lingfield over 1m 2f in February.
- 3 FREESCAPE Winner of six races from 6f to 1m 3f on polytrack. Beaten 11l behind Nations Pride when eighth of 12 on his latest outing in the Group 3 Dubai Millennium Stakes - Turf at Meydan over 1m 2f (good) in February.
- 4 HARROVIAN He has won four times at 1m 2f. Finished 6l behind Lord North when fourth of 8 at 17-2 on his latest outing in the Group 3 BetUK Winter Derby Stakes at Lingfield over 1m 2f in February.
- 5 NOTRE BELLE BETE He has won three times from 1m to 1m 1f on the all-weather (2 PO). Third of 13 behind Alrehb beaten 3/4l at 10-3 on his latest outing at Wolverhampton over 1m 1f last month.
- 6 UNITED FRONT Winner of five races from 6f to 1m 2f on the all-weather (4 PO). Third of 11 behind Street Mood beaten 1 1/2l on his latest outing at Meydan over 1m (good) in February.

RACE 5: SPREADEX ALL-WEATHER MILE CHAMPIONSHIPS CONDITIONS STAKES

Berkshire Shadow Positive San Andreas

BERKSHIRE SHADOW looked back to his best when winning the Lady Wulfruna Stakes at Wolverhampton last month and the 2021 Coventry Stakes hero can stamp his class on this contest too. Positive is rated 5lb inferior to the selection, but is clearly in good heart having completed a brace of handicap victories. He is feared most, ahead of Irish raider San Andreas, who struck over this distance in taking fashion at Dundalk last time out.

NO. HORSE NAME

- 1 **BERKSHIRE SHADOW** He has won three times from 5f to 7f including a win on the all-weather. Won on his latest outing when 5-2fav at Wolverhampton over 7f last month, beating Angel Bleu by 1 1/4l.
- 2 **CHICHESTER** Winner of five races from 1m to 1m 2f including 3 wins on the all-weather (1 PO). Beaten a neck by Capital Theory when second of 5 at 13-2 on his latest outing at Chelmsford City over 1m 2f last month.
- 3 **LORD OF THE LODGE** Winner of seven races from 6f to 7f including 5 wins on the all-weather (2 PO). Beaten 3/4l by Mums Tipple when second of 10 at 4-1 on his latest outing at Chelmsford City over 7f last month.
- 4 **POSITIVE** He has won four times from 7f to 1m 1f including 2 wins on the all-weather (1 PO). Won on his latest outing when 9-4fav at Kempton over 1m in February, beating Naval Commander by a short head.
- 5 **SAN ANDREAS** Winner of seven races from 6f to 1m including 5 wins on polytrack. Won on his latest outing when 5-4fav at Dundalk over 1m last month, beating Angels Wrath by 6l.
- 6 **THE WIZARD OF EYE** Successful at 6f and 1m including a win on polytrack. A winner at 20-1 at Kempton over 1m on his latest outing in November last year, beating Tinker Toy by 3 1/2l.