Dean's Comments at THE MEADOWS TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2015

FIRST RACE

The racing week begins this week on Tuesday, after the Memorial Day holiday, with racing on Tue-Wed-Thu afternoons, and then Friday night: TSM PHOTO BUGGER made the top going into turn one, yielded 3/16 for the pocket, Lightning Lane, kicked in with 50 yards to go to win an exciting three-horse photo to get the week off to a fine competitive start. TAMARIND came raw off the second turn and trotted his third quarter in 27 to engage the leader throughout the last quarter, just getting edged to the far inside in the last couple of jumps. CLASSICALITY was parked 3/16 for command, went on with it in setting the pace, under pressure from the outside the entire last quarter and to the inside in the stretch, barely missed. CALL TO POST gapped slightly in the tail of the whirlwind backside by TAMARIND, wide and well to the wire. RUN AND TELL PAP got early position, couldn't keep up late. CANTAB LINDY moved out on the final turn but couldn't go this much today.

SECOND RACE

MADE WELL rushed out off the second turn and battled the leader hard the last 3/8, claimed the decision in the last few steps while in close quarters with EJ AND ORR. The latter was looped, refused the two-hole and went on to the lead at the quarter, set the pace, went back-and-forth with the winner before just coming up short while very tight with that one at the finish. There was an inquiry into the deep stretch activity, but no reason was found for placing. LIGHT AFTER TERROR swung four-wide late on the final turn and was narrowing in very rapidly. NIPPY was third-over, went three-wide, had DOUBLE LAUXMONT swing wide in front of him just as LIGHT AFTER TERROR started to go four-deep and had to wait in a blindswitch early stretch, then cleared between horses and finished well. DOUBLE LAUXMONT darted right out to command, yielded at the ¼, went out ¾ when it looked like the winner might sweep right on by, ducked back in, then came two-wide again, and then three-wide into the lane as described, stayed on gamely. OFFICIAL STRIPES was not heard from. DWALIN and DANCE LIFE WELL gapped inside and outside, respectively, down the backstretch.

THIRD RACE

MIKE THE TRADER probably trotted between the 5/8 and ¾ in the low-13s to thunder right up on a raw bid at the leader, had the advantage on that one much of the turn but never cleared, beat out both the pacesetter and MISS LILY closing to the outside. The latter was away in the pocket after SUMMER INDIAN broke early, moved out behind the winner midturn, wide and was narrowing in. BIG AND LITTLE cleared to the top after the inside leaver broke to the 1/8, stepped up the pace to meet the winner's challenge and battled to the line. SOUL TRAIN got a tuck third, stayed pretty well connected, although not gaining in the Lightning Lane late. JETT STAR gapped second-over. SUMMER INDIAN was fastest away, made a break shortly into turn one. THE OTHERS were not factors.

FOURTH RACE

KINGS BEACH was sent down the road, first fought off the first-over challenger to the ¾ and around the turn, then staved off KOI LAUXMONT closing in late. The latter backed out of third 5/8 in front of a gapper, wide headstretch, finished steadily under active urging. REFLECT ON TERROR gapped cover, then got better in the last 3/16, swinging four-wide early stretch and finishing with speed. GAMBLER LAUXMONT tucked then came first-up, went in 28 down the back to put pressure on the winner, held his ground fairly well in barely missing third. SJ'S DRAGON found room between horses early stretch and finished alertly. SHARKHART took the pocket past the 1/8, little left late. GO GO VERTIGO offered little. HOT ROD ICHABOD made a break at the 1/8.

FIFTH RACE

YAKEKTY HANOVER dashed right out to the lead and was in control of this one to the wire although perhaps getting a mite tired late. BOOZY SUZY tucked early, came out 9/16 and retucked in the pocket before the ¾, trotted well to stay close to the winner. WHIRLING DERVISH followed cover, uncovered on the turn, clear for third. HIGH SCORE MUSCILY left, got the pocket, gapped early, tightened, then gapped again down the back, evenly. LUANN DUNN was three-wide on the far turn to pick up the last check. ESCAPE TACTICS went evenly along the inside. ROMPAWAY GYPSY was never prominent. MAIN GATE TAM was four lengths off the gate. STATIC ELECTRICITY was outside but gapped before the ¾.

SIXTH RACE

BLACKJACK SPUR made the front right away, yielded into the second turn but came back to brush to the top 5/8, quickly opened an insurmountable lead. DONATO'S WISH had to take a 3-tuck to the 1/8, outside 5/16 to the lead into the clubhouse turn, yielded to the winner's big brush readily but kept on going to hold place. ELEGANTE ATTIRE lost cover when a foe broke, gradually made up ground to be third, just ahead of GETITWITHOUTAGUN. The latter kept the pocket closed early, sat third, out headstretch, couldn't maintain show late. DRINK AT LAST CALL was along for the last check. CANTABULOUS JULIE tucked fourth towards the ¼, came out raw 11/16 but didn't gain on the latter move. MAGIC GLIDE was going raw on the second turn, broke. THE REST had no say in this one.

SEVENTH RACE

MAXIMUM CREDIT left and sat the pocket, to the Lightning Lane and along safely. His biggest threat was from another horse who also used the Lightning Lane, BAR WINE, who raced behind him the last half, followed his gain, and then angled outside very late to continue gaining. AMERICAN GANGSTER was second-over, three-wide at the ¾, edged out a pair for third. WOODWAY came rocketing out of the gate and cut the pace, held on to midstretch. SHOW TICKET stacked five-wide early stretch and finished with good energy. BOOTSWITHTHEFUR was third-over and four-wide, good but outkicked home by SHOW TICKET. MAUREL N HARDY tucked third, then led the outer charge at the half, slowly gave ground the last quarter. AMPLIFY was never close. HOLLYWOOD RUSTY broke just past the start.

EIGHTH RACE

GUY FOX followed tight on fine cover, three-wide late turn, caught the leader midstretch in tandem with EMILENE'S FUTURE, then outbattled that one in the last 1/16. The latter backed out to third-over 11/16, swung four-wide headstretch, was on even terms with the winner much of the stretch, just missed. STRAY CUT STRUT set all the pace, briefly drew clear late on the turn and into the stretch, but was tired and caught midstretch. CONTEST HANOVER came uncovered on the second turn and trotted a 57.4 middle half to be even with the leader 5/8 and almost so to the ¾, faded a little the last ¼. FAWN DE J was out in a blindswitch late turn, not all that much in the stretch. TRADER was in the pocket, started gapping 11/16. WAR CHIEF got a slow start and broke early. JUSTICE DELIGHT was outside early, broke going up towards the lead off the first turn.

NINTH RACE

BOYTOWN was fourth at the start but, aided by HOOSIER PACO's break and track geometry, set the pace with a fast opener, drew away for fun the last ¼. FROST BITES K sat in, angled behind TROTALOT late turn, tipped wide around him past midstretch and was just up at the wire to tie him for second. TROTALOT came out behind the parked trying-to-recover breaker, three-wide ¾ to two-wide uncovered turn, did well to last for the DH2. DRIFT AWAY wound up in the pocket, was left behind from just past the ¾. UPFRONT CHARLIEBOY was no factor. CRAZOLO left, took back to third 3/16 with the inner two filling the upfront holes, little late. THEHOUSEISROCKIN broke at the quarter, regained gait and tried to go up uncovered but was ineffective. HOOSIER PACO was leaving well but made a mistake early.

TENTH RACE

GETTIN DURTTY took back to last, stayed in, angled out to five-wide to headstretch, and simply paced over the field through the lane. TAKE HEED was the initial leader, yielded to an early mover for the pocket, to the Lightning Lane and was along nicely for second. TROPICAL TERROR was second-over, gapped slightly, was briefly blindswitched then was able to ease three-wide at the top of the stretch, did OK+ late. THEYLUVMYCHERRIES settled into a tuck nearing the ¼, then was again out first-over on the second turn, battled the leader, grabbed the lead headstretch, held very well despite the tough trip. BETTOR BEAUTY briefly tucked second then quarter-moved, set the pace with pressure most of the back half, tired. IVORY COAST was caught in, angled out early stretch, found no opening, so angled back in, but was only fair late. MS WILMA came out third-over, three- and then four-wide on the far turn, flattened. HICKORY BIG BLACK left the gate, broke outside past the 1/8.

ELEVENTH RACE

SHIMMERING CROWN got away well and was third just before the half when going first-up, trotted his third quarter in 27.3 to go by before the ¾ and draw off to the easiest of triumphs. STARDUST MEMORIES took a while to settle to the inside early, left a gap down the back then moved outside on the turn and did better the closer they got to the wire, finishing well to be a distant second. TOUGH CALL flushed good cover, then couldn't stay with it and was eventually left raw, not bad. ITSMRBELLATOU forced a tuck and set the pace, went with the winner as long as he could down the back, just missed for third. DELMARY took the pocket to the ¾, came up empty the last ¾. EXPRESS

GLIDE was out in the cover flow but had some kind of problem the last half. THE OTHERS were too far back to factor in here.

TWELFTH RACE

I'M SO FANCY went to the lead into the first turn, set a fast pace on an open lead, was the second straight winner by 10+ lengths (after the first three races were decided by a nose, a head, and a head). REBEL SOUL was locked in and shuffled, came clear in the Lightning Lane and was a good if distant second. HS DONATABAY raced outside the mile, finally got cover nearing the 5/8 but then had to go three-wide around it late turn, very determined to get the show after the "long mile." HOLLYS GG sat a loose pocket, gave some ground late. RANNOCH MOOR sat in, shuffled, but not that much once clear in the stretch. SNAKE EYES was outside with cover, finished with "b.e." CYBER SHOT and STEP ON IT were always far back. HEARTS CONTENT was wide to almost the 1/8 and tucked third after that spot, came outside 5/8 as if to fill the gaping pocket but never advanced.

THIRTEENTH RACE

KNIGHT SKY went on to the lead nearing the ¼, yielded to the brusher, came back out 11/16 to challenge, had a short lead but not the inside around the far turn, established command in the lane but pesky RUFFLE UP would not go too far away. The latter left between horses to the front, yielded but then quarter-moved, tried to absorb the winner's challenge, could not but hung in there grittily to retain second. GENTLEMEN'S CARDS got position early, gapped before the ½ to that spot, briefly was raw then got cover from the winner 11/16, photoed out for second. WEEDY HANOVER sat fourth, "moved up to the theoretical pocket" when the 2-3 horses pulled but couldn't reach it, Lightning Lane, OK. JOHN PAUL was out raw 3/8, got cover, then gapped it down the back, regathered and finished with speed. THE OTHER FOUR were the four backmarkers at every call.

FOURTEENTH RACE

KIRSI HANOVER was third-widest of four leavers, two-wide to the 3/16 to the top, yielded at the ¼ but came out to reclaim the lead just past the 3/8, had no pressure from there until MISS FLORA challenged up the inside late, steadily urged to prevail. MISS FLORA left quickly but track geometry caught her four-wide going to the first turn and three-wide past the 1/8, made the lead just before the ¼ then yielded for the pocket just after the 3/8, took her shot in the Lightning Lane, gained inch by inch but not quite enough. SUSIE B settled in third at the 1/8, gapped the front two down the backstretch, held off SHEWONTKISSANDTELL, who sat right behind her most of the last half after breakers, for third. ONE COOL SWAN was outside but never got close; MOSHANNON MOTOWN was inside but never got close. PAD PRINCESS, away in good order, looked to be starting a first-over bid when she ran on the second turn; shortly after that, YOUTH GONE WILD looked to be starting a first-over bid when she ran 9/16. ENCORA was far back throughout.