

MEET THE CONTENDERS

2026

RISSEN STAR STAKES

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UNIVERSE



PRO: Ran well below par at Oaklawn; three times graded-placed before that.
CON: Should get stronger pace here but gives vibe of being a cut below.

GOLDEN TEMPO



PRO: Deep closer was up in time to win Lecomte (G3); added distance will suit.
CON: Best of the locals, but quick enough to outrun Paladin?

CARSON STREET



PRO: Outran expectations in Lecomte exiting off-track maiden win.
CON: Nine furlongs might not be best for him, given running style.

PALADIN



PRO: Strong looking win in Remsen (G2); one to beat off that performance.
CON: Stands out less than Sierra Leone, who followed similar path.

CHIP HONCHO



PRO: On the pace throughout in Lecomte; might rate more here with blinkers off.
CON: Has pretty much run the same race all four starts; must move forward.

COLT FORTY SEVEN



PRO: Showed some improvement at big odds last time, albeit against softer.
CON: Both wins have been at the expense of claimers.

COURTING



PRO: Off poorly in Remsen; blinkers on for barn that's 2-for-2 here.
CON: Lone win came against stablemate who is now 0-for-5.

QUALITY MISCHIEF



PRO: Fell too far behind in Lecomte, capable of showing more early foot.
CON: Appears a cut below better local contenders.