

MEET THE CONTENDERS

2026

RISEN STAR STAKES

1



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.

2



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?

3



CARSON STREET



PRO: Outran expectations in Lecomte exiting off-track maiden win.

CON: Nine furlongs might not be best for him, given running style.

4



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.

5



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.

6



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.

7



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.

8



QUALITY MISCHIEF



PRO: Fell too far behind in Lecomte, capable of showing more early foot.

CON: Appears a cut below better local contenders.