

Race 7

Unless also-eligible Shaftesbury can somehow make it into this one-mile turf race with Irad Ortiz Jr. riding, there's no way to pinpoint a deserving favorite in the Rainbow 6 opener. Everesting ran well to be fifth in the same Jan. 16 race in which Shaftesbury was second, but he'll have to break from post 12 and faces first-time starters trained by Chad Brown (Tour of Duty), Christophe Clement (Q F Seventy Five), and Todd Pletcher (Golden Whim).

And then there's Saratoga Flash, regrouped by Barclay Tagg after being heavily touted last summer; Group Hug, who improved substantially with blinkers and Lasix last out; and Lord of War, newly gelded off the Mark Casse claim after being defeated by just a nose. Again, unless Shaftesbury draws in, this has the look of a mega-spread for bettors wanting to be alive after the first leg.