

GOLDEN GATE ANALYSIS

By CHUCK DYBDAL



BEST BET: Control Seeker (3rd race)

First Race: 1.Sarah Got Even 2.Bear Market 3.Stormy Anna

SARAH GOT EVEN is the lone winner in this field, but she was disqualified from that victory because she was a bad girl, drifting out and bothering the runner-up. Her two best races have come on the turf at this level, and she will win here if she sticks to the straight and narrow. Has a nice stalking style and strong closing kick. BEAR MARKET has picked up a check in each of her turf starts, hitting the board in the past three. Couldn't catch Rosemarini, one of today's rivals last time, but that one may not get an easy lead here, and Bear Market was favored when they met. STORMY ANNA has natural speed and hung around pretty well despite a pace battle last time when she ran third behind the top pick. That was her best race, and, although she's had a number of chances, she could repeat that effort.

Second Race: 1.Crazy Thinking 2.Curvey Star 3.Swiftette

CRAZY THINKING has been running consistently but has turned things around in her past two starts with consecutive career-best Beyers. Loves the track and the distance and is at the top of her game with a nice maintenance drill since raced. CURVEY STAR couldn't catch the top pick two back, but she rallied for a nice win as the odds-on pick last time. She's another going in good form now and once would have horrified these. SWIFTETTE is ginning for a hat trick here. She's won two straight going a mile and has won at this distance, but she's sprinting because she's been on the sidelines nearly 10 months. Should offer value in exotics.

Third Race: 1.Control Seeker 2.Sudden Excess 3.Double Excesso

Taking advantage of his Cal-bred status, CONTROL SEEKER comes off an allowance victory and gets to run in the first allowance condition again today. Has done his best running on the turf for a high-percentage barn and seems to love this distance. Has sat back in his past two starts but is capable of sitting a bit closer if asked. SUD-DEN EXCESS had problems last time, lacking some room into the stretch while in the thick of the battle. Top pick rallied to win as he fell back in the lane, but he's turned in two solid efforts since being claimed and is going in good form. DOUBLE EXCESSO is by top turf sire In Excess as is the second choice. His lone victory came in his only two-turn turf try. Won off a sprint prep in his second start last year and then went to the sidelines. This is his second start after that layoff and comes following a sprint prep.

Fourth Race: 1.North of Time 2.Come Back Native 3.Phantom Warrior

NORTH OF TIME has finished in exactas in half his starts. Seven of those eight finishes, including his last start, have been runner-up efforts. He ran second at this level following a seven-week layoff last time and really only needs to match that effort to win here. COME BACK NATIVE is another who has had a number of chances. He's run third in his past two starts, the last coming against better in conditioned company and running third at this level and condition. PHANTOM WARRIOR adds blinkers again after taking them off last time against better down south. Comes north and runs at the bottom level for the first time in his career since he was a 2 YO maiden.

Fifth Race: 1.Silver Sparkster 2.Check Em Out 3.Barrel Knot

SILVER SPARKSTER stuck his head in front in the lane in his debut last time before fading late. He's come back with a bullet work for barn that wins at a good percentage while showing a flat-bet profit with second-timers. He's the first foal of an unraced dam. Sire doesn't have much success with first-timers but has a decent percentage of winners after that. CHECK EM OUT ran evenly in his debut as he edged the top pick despite steadying on the turn. Stakes-placed dam's first two foals were both winless, but he seems to have some talent. BARREL KNOT is 0-for-15, hardly a recommendation. Has shown improvement in his past two starts and will offer plenty of value.

Sixth Race: 1.Shou Win 2.Naux Faux Pas 3.Date With Fate

SHOU WIN has had three races since returning from a 14-month layoff. Dropped to this level last time and turned in a good effort as she split our first two choices in the second race. Obviously, take the results of that race into consideration here. Did win her comeback and bounced the second time out. Expect another good effort here. NAUX FAUX PAS was favored as she chased the top pick last time. She's run consistently, but the rail draw not a big help for someone who tends to sit back just a bit early. May be asked a little early as she was in her last victory. DATE WITH FATE dropped to the bottom level in her second start here and scored a nice victory. She runs for the same tag here, simply taking the natural progression up one condition.

Seventh Race: 1.Perfect Choice 2.Princess Lucayan 3.Marycrest

PERFECT CHOICE has been showing improvement and turned in her best try yet last time, missing by less than a length. Has shown she can handle turf and the distance. She's a half to Del Mar Ticket, who was stakes-placed on the turf. PRINCESS LUCAYAN and stablemate Princess Lucy, who is by the same sire, have been pretty consistent while showing improvement since stretching out around two turns. Lucayhan has a bit more tactical speed and gets the nod between the stablemates here. MARYCREST is by a productive mare and should like the distance as well as the turf. She ran second sprinting on the main track here in her prep. If the race is switched to the main track, beware Lookn Even Finer as she stretches out for the first time.

Eighth Race: 1.Honour N Defer 2.Tango Tango 3.Hetch

In the pecking order of race tracks, Portland Meadows ranks below Golden Gate Fields just as GGF rates below Santa Anita. HONOUR N DEFER comes her from Portland where he won his debut and then ran second in his second start to Oregon's best 2 YO in a Portland stakes race. Beyers don't match some of his rivals here, but he runs for a barn that has good success with new faces. Has three works over the track and will definitely offer value. TANGO TANGO was unlucky to lose the last. Favored, he got the lead in the lane after being forced four wide. He battled gamely but was worn down late. He's capable of improvement. HETCH took a while to get his act together but has won two straight. He's stepping up to allowance company here and has the best last-race Beyer. Note that he's a stablemate of the top pick and gets the rider who guided him to victory last time.

Ninth Race: 1.Desert Eagle 2.King of Bling 3.Warrens Mr Boswell

DESERT EAGLE was third in his only start at this level. He ran in a tough condition that day and set the early pace last time against open company. This drop should be all he needs to score his first U.S. victory. KING OF BLING is 1-for-27, reason enough not to pick him on top. He is probably better on the turf, but he returned from a seven-week layoff and didn't run that badly in his first start at this level last time. Expect improvement with a race under his belt. WARRENS MR BOSWELL looked good in his graduation two back. Met much tougher last time in his debut against winners. Set the early pace and then stopped badly. Expect him to hold on much better in this bottom-level affair.