

GOLDEN GATE ANALYSIS

By CHUCK DYBDAL



BEST BET: Dancing Erin (7th race)

First Race:1.Chief Bill 2.Chauncey 3.Whatsamillion

CHIEF BILL graduated smartly last time at this distance as the odds-on pick and drops to the bottom claiming level and lowest condition for his debut against winners. Based on current form, he's a logical selection. He's hit the board in three of four starts at this distance and has hit the board in four of five starts here. CHAUNCEY is only 1-for-30, but he's hit the board 15 other times. Has been sprinting well against better. Stretching out today and has tried the distance unsuccessfully once a long time ago. WHATSAMILLION turned in a decent try sprinting when moved to a new barn last time. He scored his lone career victory at this distance and has run well here in the past. Has route speed so rail draw should prove helpful.

Second Race:1.Leo the Cat 2.Haraka Haraka 3.Roaring Springs

LEO THE CAT just won a conditioned race at this level by six after dueling head and head for the first half mile. Stays at the same level but moves up one condition to nonwinners of three here. Has a nice work since raced. HARAKA HARAKA flashed speed and just missed after dropping to this level and condition last time. Has scored both career wins here. He's another with speed and does have the advantage of drawing outside the top pick. ROARING SPRINGS returned from a six-week break and earned the highest Beyer of his career. Wish he weren't drawn on the rail with his lack of early foot. But that style should play well here in a race with the potential for a heated pace duel.

Third Race:1.Moon Moment 2.Sweetwaterwind 3.Astraea

MOON MOMENT dropped to this level last time, stalked nicely and missed by head. Will appreciate the rail to save ground as she gets another good stalking trip here. Has a pair of easy works since that start. SWEETWATERWIND has been a runner-up in her past two starts and was favored last time. She's dropping a notch here and adding blinkers as she comes north for the first time. Has four route tries and has run second each time. ASTRAEA comes north and drops a notch for this. Hasn't really threatened down south so today's drop should work well for her.

Fourth Race:1.Thoughtuknew 2.Dancewiththedevil 3.Corvallis Dee

THOUGHTUKNEW dropped to this level last time, opening a big lead as the odds-on favorite. Tired badly and shortened stride in the lane and was gobbled up late. Wound up second. Can't figure out the reason he didn't show much late last time, but he can improve here. DANCEWITHTHEDEVIL was a close third by behind a pair of horses that won their next start in his last appearance for this tag. Tried cheaper last time but got shuffled back on the backstretch to compromise his chances. CORVALLIS DEE is better routing, but he's won at this distance before. Better going longer, but he has a chance to make a real impact late in what seems to be a contentious heat that also includes Headed for Home and Code Red.

Fifth Race:1.Grey Storm 2.Joshua's Dream 3.Happy Go Lucky

GREY STORM bids for a hat trick here. He was claimed from a win at Santa Anita and came north to score a win for this tag in his first start for his new barn. Two of his three career victories have come here, and he's undefeated routing around two turns. JOSHUA'S DREAM is also seeking a hat trick today, taking another big step of the claiming ladder, doubling his claiming price for the second time in a row. He's another that loves this track with three wins and a second in five career starts here. Will be sitting behind top pick, who may get first run on him. HAPPY GO LUCKY ran evenly but didn't threaten here when boosted to this level last time. Prior to that he had two wins against easier here at this distance. Will offer good value, which may make him a better play than Sacred Light, who is dropping and did win at this level here last fall.

Sixth Race:1.Niner Genius 2.Winning Vow 3.Illusive

NINER GENIUS is not nominated to the Triple Crown as are the other two horses to be mentioned here. He comes off a strong second-place finish at one mile and earlier ran second at a mile. Extra distance shouldn't work against him. Showed speed last time and also set the pace when running against winners, including the third-place finisher in Saturday's El Camino Real Derby. WINNING VOW comes off a strong third, rallying after a wide trip against high-priced claimers down south. Appears to like two turns and is definitely bred for the distance. ILLUSIVE makes his debut here, and has a mile work under his belt as well as a seven-furlong move. Barn doesn't usually start runners going long, but this one definitely wants two turns.

Seventh Race:1.Dancing Erin 2.Olive Queen 3.Penuche Royale

DANCING ERIN sneaks into this because she ran for a tag in her first start. She ran impressively, winning her second start, then set the pace before fading late in the Sunshine Millions Oaks. Has a pair of works since then. She's the one to catch and beat. OLIVE QUEEN has never been worse than second in three starts. She graduated in start No. 3 and has two works, one a five-furlong bullet since. She's shown improvement in each start. PENUCHE ROYALE was dropped in for a tag and graduated, beating the second choice. She's been off six weeks, but has worked nicely. Rail draw could work against her with a lack of keen early foot. She could be shuffled back if she doesn't break alertly.

Eighth Race:1.Good Time'n Dixie 2.Newport Lulu 3.Dixie Magic

This is a very contentious race for the level. GOOD TIME'N DIXIE stalked Shawklit Sundae, who breaks from just outside her today instead of from the rail, last time. She finally put her head in front between calls in the lane only to be nipped at the wire. She's showing improvement and will be able to sit behind a hot pace duel here. NEWPORT LULU has some pretty good gas and is drawn outside the probable early leader Shawklit Sundae. She's won three straight and steps up here off a claim. Very sharp and loves the track with four wins in six tries. DIXIE MAGIC is primarily a router, but she'll be flying late. Has won at this distance and has also run very well here.