

GOLDEN GATE ANALYSIS

By **CHUCK DYBDAL**



BEST BET: Exclusive Game (4th race)

First Race: 1. Time to Honor 2. I Am Thor 3. Cover Magic

TIME TO HONOR has turned in three solid efforts since returning from a two-month break. Likes to win but getting a hefty boost up the claiming ladder here. He's sharp and should be able to sit in good position with his early speed. **I AM THOR** was favored last time in an optional claimer for this tag. It marked his return to the main track after a pair of turf tries. He can handle any surface and should get a nice stalking trip here. He has an easy maintenance drill since raced. **COVER MAGIC** has never won over the Tapeta but is getting a big drop today which could serve as a wake-up call. Hasn't won in a long time but has been a consistent check earner.

Second Race: 1. Star Diva 2. Da Heat 3. Sierra Silver Cat

STAR DIVA steps up to the third condition after an odds-on victory at the second level for this tag last time. She's a good fit at this level and has hit the board in all three starts since dropping to this bottom claiming level. Lost to **DA HEAT** three back but has shown marked improvement since then. **DA HEAT** and **SIERRA SILVER CAT** have taken turns beating each other in their past two starts. They have similar styles with the running getting the first jump on the other winning the duel. Outside draw could give **Da Heat** the tactical advantage in the rematch.

Third Race: 1. Defensive Move 2. Premier Diablo 3. Nina's Benchmark

DEFENSIVE MOVE battled on the lead against better last time before tiring and fading a bit in the lane. Has run well here in the past. Loves the synthetic surface and is an accomplished sprinter. Picking up the leading rider who guided him to his last victory. **PREMIER DIABLO** stepped up to this level and scored a solid victory last time out. Got off slowly from the rail and trailed the field last time before rallying. Doesn't have keen early foot anyway, but he is usually a factor in the lane. **NINA'S BENCHMARK** scored a game victory last time. Was sitting close down the backstretch but had to check and fell back into the turn. Rallied late and got up by a nose. Dropping a notch for this and has three good works since that victory.

Fourth Race: 1. Exclusive Game 2. Mistical Dream 3. One for the Money

EXCLUSIVE GAME has hit the board in all seven of her starts. She's been the runner-up the past two times while wearing blinkers and sheds them today. She tired last time as she got reaccustomed to the pace of sprinting after a series of routes. Draws the rail but has enough natural speed that the post shouldn't prove a problem. **MISTICAL DREAM** ran evenly while finishing directly behind the top pick last time. She's a half to graded stakes-placed Mysterious Cat and has shown improvement in her past two starts. **ONE FOR THE MONEY** is by a good debut sire out of a stakes-placed dam. Has been working steadily at Pleasanton and like the fact he has several six-furlong works to suggest he'll be plenty fit for his debut.

Fifth Race: 1. Real Coffee 2. Look to the Sky 3. Super Likit

REAL COFFEE had a two-race win streak snapped when favored against better on the turf last time. Has run well on the turf but has also won on Tapeta. She has an easy work while getting a brief break since her runner-up effort last time. Mare is a real trier, and trainer-jockey combo is a successful one. **LOOK TO THE SKY** was odds-on against cheaper last time and finished strongly to pull clear late. Her two most recent wins have come against easier, but she's been competitive against better. She's sharp and could offer a bit of value here. **SUPER LIKIT** romped on the front end against easier last time out when she stole one against easier. Won't get away with easy fractions like that here, but she's probably better when she stalks.

Sixth Race: 1. Ra'a Action 2. Pen and Sword 3. Global Destiny

RA'A ACTION has run second in both starts at this distance, once on Tapeta and once on turf. Has no speed but will have no trouble getting a ground-saving trip with his rail draw. Has a solid work since his last start. Not really dropping since he was running at the bottom turf level in his recent starts. **PEN AND SWORD** did little in his debut sprinting. When he returned in a route seven weeks later, he found his preferred distance. Likes two turns and has been second in both his route tries. He's able to get into position in the lane and has finished evenly. May be able to kick home better at this slightly shorter distance. **GLOBAL DESTINY** just ran second at this level in his return to the main track. Has shown consistent improvement and should be effective at this level.

Seventh Race: 1. Perfect Hostess 2. Dixieland Classic 3. Quickly Gone

PERFECT HOSTESS had a three-race win streak snapped last time when she was given a slight drop. Still ran well, although the Beyer did decrease. She's dropping again here. She looms the one to catch and to beat, but maybe there's a reason why she's dropping. **DIXIELAND CLASSIC** trailed the top pick last time after she got into trouble and lost her rider in her previous start. She beat easier in her start prior to that. Has run well here and looks competitive at this level. **QUICKLY GONE** steps up a notch here after winning her debut here in wire-to-wire style. She doesn't need the lead to win but will be asked early with her rail draw. Beat better down south and is currently going in good form.

Eighth Race: 1. Classic Alley Kat 2. Sultry Voice 3. Rathsallagh Bride

CLASSIC ALLEY KAT gets a significant drop after running well against better in her first two tries here. Won by the proverbial length of the grandstand in her two starts at Portland, and this drop will put her against company similar to the type she beat at Portland. **SULTRY VOICE** draws the rail, which isn't advantageous for a runner who comes from off the pace. She has a win and missed by only a head last time in her previous two sprint tries. She's running over her condition here, but she's been showing steady improvement and seems a good fit here. **RATHSALLAGH BRIDE** makes her third start following a 17-month layoff. Showed improvement in her second start and has worked twice since. Should be set for her best this time.