

# GOLDEN GATE ANALYSIS

By CHUCK DYBDAL



## **BEST BET: Dixie Lucky (1st race)**

### **First Race: 1. Dixie Lucky 2. Lady Amanda 3. Our Stardust**

DIXIE LUCKY comes north looking for her diploma. Has picked up checks down south but was really a factor only once. Not getting that big a drop, but, with the exception of that mile try, she's been pretty consistent. Field is filled with question marks. LADY AMANDA is the first of multiple stakes winner Profound Secret's offspring to race. He was very good around here, winning and placing in stakes from age two to eight. Dam went 4-for-16, which is the best credentials of any dams in this field, which includes three first-time starters. Runner is her first foal and wound up preparations with nice bullet work. OUR STARDUST has earned checks in both starts against better. Her dam's other two foals are a combined 0-for-16.

### **Second Race: 1. Must Be Joking 2. Quite the Man 3. Ramon Simone**

MUST BE JOKING returned north, dropping to this level last time. He set the pace as the favorite and continued gamely in the stretch after being headed. Rail draw should work nicely for him as he saves ground up front. QUITE THE MAN also dropped to this level last time and ran evenly while finishing third as the odds-on choice. Has run four races here and has been favored in three. He has stalking speed and has never failed to pick up a check here. RAMON SIMONE makes his third start after 15 months on the sidelines. Showed improvement last time when he challenged the top pick before both were passed. More improvement seems likely.

### **Third Race: 1. Rave Rave Rave 2. Pecan Nut 3. Jinete**

RAVE RAVE RAVE was sent to Los Alamitos to get a confidence-building win and won by six. Returned here and has lost a pair of photos. Was claimed by the top barn when losing by a nose last time at this tag. Leading rider gets the call and did ride him once in the past, although he's going in much better form now. PECAN NUT has consistency on his side. He was a good second last time, losing to a runner that came back to win again Thursday while winning a three-way photo for second. He'll be a threat in the lane. JINETE has been picking up checks at this level of late. Doesn't really have a defined style. Has found himself battling up front but has come from off the pace more lately. Has a nice work since his last start.

### **Fourth Race: 1. Mother Bronson 2. Acekingqueenjacten 3. Warren's Adventure**

MOTHER BRONSON has been an exacta finisher in her past five starts, running second in her past two starts after running off a three-race win streak. Claimed two back and ran well again last time for the new barn when stretched out. Back in a sprint today and should get a great trip. ACEKINGQUEENJACTEN missed by a nose last time as she gave up the lead but battled on gamely and was inching up when the wire came. Nice combination of speed and staying power and has hit the board in six of her past seven starts. WARREN'S ADVENTURE was the beaten favorite when facing the top pick last time and drops again here as she makes her third start since her arrival from Southern California. Has never won at this distance and needs a bit of help up front.

### **Fifth Race: 1. Maggie's Patches 2. Maria La O 3. Drivn Miss Barbara**

MAGGIE'S PATCHES is the lone winner in this field, but she was a bad girl that day against straight maidens and was disqualified when she drifted out late to bother one of her rivals. She's been dropping down the claiming ladder since then and returns to the races today following two months on the sidelines. Barn is good off this type of layoff and has given her four works. Has good speed and has run well fresh in the past. MARIA LA O has some speed and a rail draw. Showed improvement in her second start but will need to show more improvement today. Has an easy maintenance drill since raced. DRIVN MISS BARBARA is a stablemate of the top pick. She has a bit of speed and an outside draw that can work to her advantage strategically. Comes off a good try at this distance and has an easy maintenance drill since the career-best effort.

### **Sixth Race: 1. Alabama Boy 2. Danny James 3. Delmando**

If you look at his recent pattern, ALABAMA BOY might be a pass today as he runs second one time, falls back the next. He's coming off a second-place finish and has three works since. Broke slowly from the rail last time and could find himself a bit closer early here. DANNY JAMES has shown some speed in both starts, flashing a bit more while holding on better last time. Drawn to the outside, he'll take advantage of his speed and the good post to get a good trip. Tab the jockey switch with leading rider taking over the mount. He wins 30 percent with this barn. DELMANDO is a full brother to three winners, one stakes placed, out of an unraced dam. Found a good nick with Bertrando, who is an excellent debut sire. Worked steadily down south and has a pair of works here to get ready for his debut.

### **Seventh Race: 1. Heroism 2. Adriatic Moon 3. Trainspotting**

HEROISM, a \$300,000 purchase won as expected in his debut despite getting away a step slowly while breaking from the rail. Got in to gear quickly enough and had an open lead by the quarter pole. Expect a better break here. Has worked nicely in the seven weeks since his debut. ADRIATIC MOON may be better going around two turns where he won his debut and then finished second in the Gold Rush Stakes. Faded in the California Derby. He should finish strong. TRAINSPOTTING set the pace before settling for second in his first start for a new barn. Looks to have the best speed in the field and gets coveted outside draw. Beam Me Up Topper is 2-for-2, while Silent Salute won his debut. Both are worth a long look.

### **Eighth Race: 1. Newport Topper 2. Skimpressive 3. Princess Susan M**

NEWPORT TOPPER beat better earlier in the meet. She's turned in a pair of steady efforts while picking up two checks in her past two starts. Has nice maintenance drill since running third last time. SKIMPRESSIVE has run first or second in four of her five starts here. Has run second and gotten a win in her two previous tries at this level. Picks up a top veteran rider here, who will keep her in good position early. PRINCESS SUSAN M has hit the board in her past nine starts. She's been alternating wins and thirds of late and is due for a win if the pattern holds. May need some help up front, but she always finishes aggressively.

### **Ninth Race: 1. Foggy Haze 2. Ai Se Va 3. Ursulita**

FOGGY HAZE has been a beaten favorite in her past two starts with the leading rider aboard. Has run second in four of five starts at this distance. Two maintenance drills should allow her to keep her current form. Ranks as a contender on turf or Tapeta. AI SE VA has good speed and should be able to set the pace here. Was passed by the top pick two back despite coasting on an easy lead. May have gone a bit too fast that day and paid the price late. URSULITA was never a factor but did make up a bit of ground late in a comeback sprint. Two-turning is her game, and she graduated at this distance.