

GOLDEN GATE ANALYSIS

By CHUCK DYBDAL



BEST BET: Madame Hook (2nd race)

First Race: 1.Storm Sayer 2.Cloudbreaker 3.Luck Is Fleeting

STORM SAYER just missed last time, closing nicely after a good stalking trip. Effort encouraged the barn to give him a boost here. Set the pace in his previous start, fading late so showing the ability to stalk is a positive. Has had a number of chance but is adept around two turns and has run third in all three starts at this distance. CLOUDBREAKER is dropping for this. Comes off a pair of third-place turf finishes but has run well on synthetic surfaces as well. One-time stakes participant has never run for this low a tag. LUCK IS FLEETING comes north and takes off blinkers today. Moves from one good barn to another that wins 35 percent with new faces. Battled through contentious pace duel before stopping last time at the bottom Social level.

Second Race: 1.Madame Hook 2.Oh the Joy 3.We Love L.A.

MADAME HOOK will be loving life here. There is a ton of speed, which makes her off-the-pace style perfect in this spot. With three confirmed front runners, there should be quite a battle, and this one just scored a win here. She loves the track and distance and could be tough to hold off in the lane. OH THE JOY gets a big drop for this. She, too, will benefit from the pace battled and she won for twice this price earlier in the meet. May be able to get first run on the top pick. WE LOVE L. A. draws the advantageous outside position among the three speedsters, giving her the strategic advantage. She's primarily a needs-the-lead type but did win while sitting close earlier this year at Los Al. Getting seven pounds doesn't hurt either, and trainer-jockey combo has been effective in the past.

Third Race: 1.Prime Ruler 2.Defensive Move 3.Code Red

PRIME RULER came north and got a big drop after three months on the sidelines, proving best late as the favorite. Drops another notch here in first start for new barn and could prove even tougher with a race under his belt. DEFENSIVE MOVE has won two of his past three and finished third the other time since dropping to this level. Has speed but is content to stalk. He, too, comes off a nice win as the favorite. CODE RED showed improvement last time in his second start off a layoff. Couldn't catch the second choice, but this is his third start, and he's had a work since that race. Don't know if he can handle the top pair, but he shouldn't be ignored in exotics.

Fourth Race: 1.For Sure for Sure 2.Sing for Gold 3.Fergie's Fantasy

FOR SURE FOR SURE stepped up to this level last time after a solid win against easier. She missed by a head, suffering her first loss in five starts here. Stalker will kick it into gear heading for home and could prove tough here. SING FOR GOLD won a sprint against cheaper two back. She stepped up a notch and tried a route last time, sitting close the whole way before settling for second. Has finished in an exacta placing in her past four starts and 10 of her 17 lifetime tries. FERGIE'S FANTASY has run second in three of her past four starts, including two at this tag. She had an excuse in the one race where she missed the board and is worth a look because of her consistency.

Fifth Race: 1.Moscato 2.Supersecretdevice 3.Dry Man's Gulch

MOSCATO has had a six-week fresher since putting together back-to-back wins for this tag. Stepping up a bit to a high condition but has shown that he loves two turns. Has a pair of six-furlong bullet works since his last start as well as a bullet half-mile drill. SUPERSECRETDEVICE dropped down to this level for a conditioned win last time. The margin wasn't great, but the performance was solid, and he stays at the same level, moving up only one condition. DRY MAN'S GULCH will seek to do something new today — win on the main track. Both his victories have come on the turf. The Tapeta is kind to turf lovers, and he's never run for this cheap a tag.

Sixth Race: 1.Joyce's Gift 2.Dawnterri 3.Gail Force Wins

JOYCE'S GIFT set the pace before facing in her first try against winners. She faded badly late, but is cutting her claiming in price in half here. Has the perfect rider aboard for her pacesetting style and has a solid work since raced. DAWNTERRI meets the easiest competition of her career here. She's hit the board in all four starts she's made against winners so this drop should prove important. Has good stalking style and should get a first-run trip. GAIL FORCE WINS is coming back from eight months on the sidelines. May need a race, but she's worked steadily for her comeback. Ran all right in her debut last year, and she's used to meeting much better. Recognize, though, that this is primarily a prep.

Seventh Race: 1.Like a Tiger 2.Side to Side 3.Starcast

LIKE A TIGER is aptly named the way he pounces on foes in the lane. He's won four straight and is an absolute monster on the turf. Has been claimed in his past three starts as two top barns have engaged in a claiming war, but who wouldn't want a professional like this in the barn? Has won four of six starts over the Lakeside Turf Course and has four strong works in the six weeks since his last start. SIDE TO SIDE has also been on the sidelines for six weeks. Ran second to the top pick in his past two starts. Has good speed and has set the pace before giving way late. He's the one the top pick has to catch. STARCAST is a definite fit here. Comes off a game allowance win, just getting his nose to the wire first. Stalking style and ability to close make him a threat.

Eighth Race: 1.Tripp to Glory 2.Dance to My Lou 3.Ax Me a Question

TRIPP TO GLORY has been meeting better and gets a drop after closing well after a brief fresher. Today's drop is significant. She's run for this tag three times in her career, and after running second the first time, she's scored both her career wins at this level. Off-the-pace style isn't hindered by the surface here, and she has a three-furlong bullet to sharpen her speed a bit since her last start. DANCE TO MY LOU has been unlucky of late, twice losing photos after putting together a two-race win streak. Ran third as the favorite last time after being forced wide. Kept to her business but was outfinished. A little more luck could be all she needs here. Has hit the board in all four starts here. AX ME A QUESTION stuck her head in front of the second pick last time when dropped back to this level. Like the top pick, both her victories have come for this tag, and she may be tighter in her second start after a layoff.