

GOLDEN GATE ANALYSIS

By CHUCK DYBDAL



BEST BET: Stanford Dolly (8th race)

First Race: 1. Skypsy 2. Premier Diablo 3. Big Red Tate

SKYSPY takes another jump up the class ladder as he seeks a hat trick here. The past classer was given a severe drop and responded with a wake-up win while being claimed. He was given a quadruple jump and won, running even better and now is stepped up again here. He's sharp and has worked nicely since his last start. He, obviously, likes this track and is back at the top of his game. PREMIER DIABLO will sit back and wait to the stretch to unleash his strong kick. Turned in solid second at this level last time when stepping up off a win. He's been very consistent here, picking up a check in each start. BIG RED TATE exploded when given a big drop last time. Barn was looking for confidence builder and got it. Meeting tougher here, but didn't have it easy early last time before shaking clear. Better suited sprinting than routing.

Second Race: 1. Rydell 2. Bullish Yield 3. Daytona

RYDELL gets a drop here after a series of decent tries. Has nice patient style, establishing good position early and finishing well. Coming off a solid year, and he's had a pair of easy maintenance drills since his last start. BULLISH YIELD did beat the top pick last time and moves from one high-percentage barn to another as he was claimed from the second straight race. Despite the claims, he's been on the down escalator and hits the bargain basement here. Has three works for new trainer that wins 34 percent off the claim. Also adding blinkers, which has been a profitable move. DAYTONA has paid off in exactas in his past four starts here, finally snapping a string of seconds with a solid win last time in a conditioned race at this level. He's sharp and worth a look.

Third Race: 1. He's in Charge 2. Lindsey's Storm 3. Old Mason

HE'S IN CHARGE ran big at this level in his debut. He was easily second best in a decent race, hanging a bit late. Has a maintenance drill since and should be tighter here, but his debut was better than any race most of his rivals have run. Expect a bit of value from him. LINDSEY'S STORM is the likely favorite here after being well bet in his past two starts. Went off as the odds-on pick last time. Has enough speed to gain a good position and an outside draw to take full advantage of it. Has hit board in five of seven career starts so you'll ignore this one at your own risk. OLD MASON steps up a notch here. Was involved in contentious pace duel on New Year's Day, edged away in the lane and was caught in the final stride. Has to go farther here, but he figures to be dictating the pace and may be able to save a bit for the lane.

Fourth Race: 1. Refinery 2. Senator Matty 3. Blues Reason

REFINERY didn't do much last time, but we're willing to forgive him considering he was routing and prefers to sprint. Check out the two races before that, and you'll see form that can win here. Outside draw may hurt a bit as he could end up a bit wide, but he'll also be running in the clear. SENATOR MATTY has not finished worse than second since returning from a three-month freshener. Didn't show his usual early foot last time and wound up racing wide. Still finished nicely and may not leave himself as much to do here. BLUES REASON faded late in his comeback after three months on the sidelines. Has a pair of works since, including a four-furlong bullet drill. That last marked his first loss here in three tries. Expect better today.

Fifth Race: 1. Gastown Lady 2. Pokermom 3. Zia Zoom Zoom

First-timer GASTOWN LADY would be hard pressed to find an easier spot for her debut. Sire is solid debut sire and winless dam's only other to race was a multiple winner. Barn shows flat-bet profit with debut runners, and her drills have been steady, first at Hastings and then after her arrival here. Should be fit and ready. What happened to POKERMOM last time? After a pair of decent efforts down south, including an improve try her second time out, she came north and dropped. Led early but stopped on the proverbial dime in the lane. Dropping again here and does have easy work over the track since raced. Could be tough if matches her Social form. ZIA ZOOM ZOOM showed improvement in her second start when dropped to this level. Has a leisurely six-furlong drill since her last start and hails from sharp barn that is ready to heat up.

Sixth Race: 1. Coconut Telegraph 2. Maggie's Patches 3. Buttermilk Falls

COCONUT TELEGRAPH comes north after setting the pace down south in an improved second start. She gets an outside post here, which can work to her advantage. Has pair of decent works since her improved try. Running against bottom-level claimers here but was also at the bottom level down south. MAGGIE'S PATCHES was disqualified from a win early in her career and has been trying to get her nose under the finish line first since then. She returned from six weeks on the sidelines to run second here when dropped to this level last time. She made a good move into the lane before hanging as the favorite. BUTTERMILK FALLS improved in start No. 2. Runner finishing just in front of her came back to win last time. Has series of three easy drills since raced.

Seventh Race: 1. Muqs Quest 2. Anatolian Gold 3. Quarterback Crunch

With his second drop in a row, and this one into conditioned rather than open company, MUQS QUEST could be a value play here. Note that his lone career win came at this level as he battled from gate to wire before inching ahead late. Will appreciate the chance to go two turns again today. ANATOLIAN GOLD could not catch Galahad, one of today's rivals, in his debut here last time. Wound up racing wide last time and faded in the lane. Race was encouraging and may get better trip here. QUARTERBACK CRUNCH is another value play here. Graduated at the bottom level two back. Tried to rally wide on the second turn but wound up getting pushed wide and tiring. Blinkers on her, and he did graduate in wire-to-wire style so barn may be trying to get him to show a bit more speed.

Eighth Race: 1. Stanford Dolly 2. Arashi 3. Lunar Mystery

STANFORD DOLLY has been attracting cheers with her recent winning routines. Steps up off a claim as she bids for a hat trick here. Has been meeting easier but did only miss by nose in start one notch above this, but that came five months ago. She's sharp and undefeated at the distance. Rail draw should help her. ARASHI is also bidding for a hat trick. She just went wire-to-wire at this distance, shaking off a strong challenge and pulling away late. She, too, is moving up for this, getting a double jump like the top pick. LUNAR MYSTERY is likely to grab the lead from the second choice. Faded last time, but that was on the turf. Should appreciate the distance and will be glad for the surface switch.

Ninth Race: 1. Tijuana Tuesday 2. Spark's Lake 3. Baby Gotham

TIJUANA TUESDAY makes her debut here. She's by a good win-early sire. Lone sibling is a multiple winner. Like the two six-furlong works that are part of her preparations for her first start. Seems to have a bit of lick. SPARK'S LAKE was rushed up last time in her first start in 9 1/2 months. She tired late to fall out of contention. She'll be tighter here, and her pattern has been to run better second time out. Speed to be dangerous throughout. BABY GOTHAM has had a number of chances, most coming against better down south. Settling in at the bottom level here. Don't like the 0-for-20 but think she has a chance to make the playoffs. Seems worth a play at the right price.