

GOLDEN GATE ANALYSIS

By **CHUCK DYBDAL**



BEST BET: Will O Way (8th race)

First Race: 1.R Mattie 2.Thisonesforbart 3.Lockitup

R MATTIE seems to be coming up to a good try. She's run steadily at this level, picking up checks in her past two starts. Rail won't bother her at all, and she'll be able to get a ground-saving trip. May offer some value, and this is something of a wide-open event. THISONESFORBART drops down for this. She has hit the board in 11 of 15 starts here, finishing second eight times. So, as they said in 'The Sting,' place it on Thisonesforbart, who should be making up ground late. LOCKITUP was claimed last time from a dismal race. Was sprinting and was forced wide. Look for her to bounce back as she stretches out again. Barn won first out with only other claimer it has had in past two years and has give this one a solid series of works in the nearly six weeks since claiming her.

Second Race: 1.Edski 2.Luck Be a Lily 3.Canadian Charm

EDSKI has shown improvement since her debut last October. She was given seven weeks before her next start and dropped to the bottom level. She responded with a wire-to-wire win and set the pace before tiring against better in her debut against winners when adding front wraps. She's now at the bottom level for winners, and she'll be a strong factor up front while being reunited with the jockey that guided her to victory two back. LUCK BE A LILY has been favored in all seven starts since her debut, hitting the board six times. She's consistent and figures to be in contention all the way with her stalking style. CANADIAN CHARM has had many chances — 25 — and only one win, but she's hit the board in 12 of the 24 starts she didn't win. Has to be played in exotics.

Third Race: 1.Dance With Gable 2.Big Red Tate 3.Full Power Ahead

DANCE WITH GABLE has good speed and is perfectly drawn to the outside where he can take full advantage of it. Doesn't need the lead to win, but he'll take it if no one else goes. Drew the rail last time when second as the favorite against similar. Had a consistent half-mile work since. BIG RED TATE battled head-and-head on the lead last time before losing by a head as the favorite. He was claimed that day and gets the obligatory step up here. Loves the distance and has run well here. FULL POWER AHEAD is not helped by the rail draw. He tends to sit back a bit, and it has been a while since he's won. Has been a consistent performer and should not be ignored in the exotics.

Fourth Race: 1.Evaluate 2. Trick of the North 3.Mississippi Gold

EVALUATE is stuck in the outside post, which is no plus. He'll take back, but he's likely to be wide early. Comes off a nice victory and has been purchased since. Making his first start here. Has run second twice in his three tries at this distance. TRICK OF THE NORTH makes his first start in seven months for barn that shows hefty flat-bet profit off long layoffs. Has won two of his three starts over this track and oldtimer seems to be working well for his comeback. MISSISSIPPI GOLD got in trouble early when mugged in his comeback after 9 1/2 months on the sidelines. He finish strong and has run well at this distance in the past. He won his lone start at this distance on the main track.

Fifth Race: 1.Steadfast Steve 2.Sword Beach 3.Mike the Kat

STEADFAST STEVE has seen his Beyers decrease along with his claiming price. He's run well enough early around two turns to worth a look here as he tries to make amends for his poorest race ever as the beaten favorite last time. Cut back in distance shouldn't bother, and he should finish strong. SWORD BEACH ran third when favored last time. He adds blinkers today and has a pair of works, including a three-furlong bullet, to keep him sharp. Barn wins 20 percent when adding blinkers. Leading rider returns to the saddle today. MIKE THE KAT ran well in his comeback, slosing nicely at this distance. Got shuffled back to last on the turn last time, which made all the difference. Only needs to stay in contention early, and his late kick could carry him to the winner's circle.

Sixth Race: 1.Crafty Power 2.Heated Rebel 3.Captain Roy

CRAFTY POWER heads up a strong entry with Sacred Light, and either is capable of winning. Crafty Power was a beaten favorite last time in his first start for the leading barn, which claimed him out of a win. Has speed, which he'll use to advantage from his outside post and should be able to get over to avoid losing ground on the first turn. HEATED REBEL won his last start of the track one year ago. He was second on the turf here in his first start in nine months, losing to a win machine, and he's worked nicely since. Equally adept on the main track or turf, and he certainly fits here. CAPTAIN ROY ran third here in his comeback earlier this month while making his first main-track start. The stakes-placed runner has a strong six-furlong work since his comeback and could offer good value here.

Seventh Race: 1.Mi Corredora 2.Good Thoughts 3.Stop the Humor

MI CORREDORA has put together two straight wins. She graduated in a maiden claimer in Florida, then came west after being purchased privately by leading barn and won her debut here in a starter allowance race. This is a natural progression, and she seems to be improving. Has a pair of maintenance drills since her victory. GOOD THOUGHTS has run well since stretching out, although both starts were on the turf. She battled gamely, alternating on the lead for this tag last time before losing late to a turf specialist that likes to win. Rail draw will help as she has the speed to maintain a good position while saving ground. May offer some value as well despite running very well over Tapeta. STOP THE HUMOR closed very well to be second last time in her first route. She has a way of picking up checks and has never finished off the board here.

Eighth Race: 1.Will O Way 2.Digestivo 3.Point of Reference

WILL O WAY has already won a stakes here and is stakes placed in Grade 1 and Grade 3 races. Was stuck between horses and boxed in last time but continued on to get third while showing some gameness. Should get a good stalking trip here. She's a half to Del Mar Derby winner Willow Wisp. DIGESTIVO ran third behind the top pick in her two-turn debut. She has since come back to win at a mile. She dominated a field, winning at 3-to-10 in wire-to-wire fashion. She's getting better and does like this track. POINT OF REFERENCE could surprise here with her rail draw. She has hit the board in every start. She's a sprinter stretching out for the first time, but the breeding suggests she'll like the distance. Has a solid six-furlong bullet since raced.

Ninth Race: 1.Avondelay 2.Gotham Spirit 3.Top Rockette

AVONDELAY comes north to meet easier and adds blinkers as she tries to graduate. Turnen in solid effort in her last start, fading a bit late while going longer. Moving to high-percentage barn that wins 20 percent with new faces. Tired last time but may not have to work so hard early here. GOTHAM SPIRIT has had plenty of time to grow up since making her debut at Hollypark last May. Has worked steadily for her comeback, and we always like to see a six-furlong work on the resume. Bobbled leaving the gate and was rushed a bit in her debut. TOP ROCKETTE was a well-beaten second last time in her GGF debut. She showed enough that barn is moving her up the ladder today. She did have a bit of self-induced trouble last time so seems capable of better.