

GOLDEN GATE ANALYSIS

By CHUCK DYBDAL



BEST BET: *Serpineserpentine* (3rd race)

First Race: 1.Senor Afortunado 2.Rogue Racer 3.C. T. Zee

SENOR AFORTUNADO comes north for his first try against winners. He rallied late to graduate at seven furlongs and shouldn't mind the distance, although he'll be trying two turns for the first time. Has a pair of decent works since his victory. Although the claiming price is lower, remember he was running at the bottom level down south. ROGUE RACER dropped to this level last time and was a solid second after setting the pace. Although he couldn't hold on late, he was still 3 1/2 lengths in front of his nearest rival, Grey Alycatta, who is running here today. C. T. ZEE is also coming north for this. He's run three times since spending more than a year and a half on the sidelines. Good enough as a 3 YO to lose the \$250,000 Snow Chief by only a nose, he ran all right in his first two starts but regressed last time, prompting the trip north.

Second Race: 1.Rule the Storm 2.Carissa 3.Screamin Express

RULE THE STORM has run second in two tries at this level since graduating earlier this year. Held the lead in the lane in both races but couldn't hold on. Has a maintenance drill since raced and will take advantage of her speed and the rail to get a ground-saving trip. CARISSA was second in six straight starts before running third behind the top pick last time after setting the early pace in her first start around two turns. Should improve with that one under her belt. Leading rider takes the call again. SCREAMIN EXPRESS is stepping up for this, but note that she ran second routing at this level in December. Will sit back a bit and make her presence felt late. Has twice been second on Tapeta but may be better on turf.

Third Race: 1.Serpineserpentine 2.Flamingo Princess 3.Miss Caper

SERPINESERPENTINE moves to a new barn after running second as the favorite last time out. She has hit the board in each start here and has a couple decent works for her new barn. Was in high-percentage barn, but new barn shows a flat-bet profit with runners off the claim. Step up the claiming ladder may lead to a little value. FLAMINGO PRINCESS returned from 11 weeks on the sideline to turn in a good effort last time out. She put her head in front in the lane before tiring and has a decent maintenance drill since raced. Should be tighter today. MISS CAPER steps up as she guns for a hat trick. Graduated at the bottom level, then beat bottom-level winners despite racing wide on the turn. Meets tough here but progressing in positive manner.

Fourth Race: 1.Peace Accord 2.Refinery 3.Portland Storm

PEACE ACCORD ran second at this level two back, dropped a notch and picked up a win. With that confidence builder, he steps back up here. Content to sit back early, he makes his presence felt in the lane. Rider seems to get the most out of him and shows a profit when riding for the leading barn. REFINERY is always in the hunt as evidenced by three seconds and a win in his past four starts. Doubled his claiming price to this level last time as he narrowed the gap late. Outside post should allow him to settle in wherever he wants. PORTLAND STORM is gunning for a hat trick here after winning a pair of starts at \$6,250. Won sprinting and then got up to win in his debut around two turns. Cuts back to a sprint here and is another who should be in contention throughout.

Fifth Race: 1.Laser Logic 2.Rooftop 3.Preacherboys Prize

LASER LOGIC has shown improvement in each start, running his best race last time in his first try around two turns. Has the speed to get position and will save ground with his rail trip. Had problems last time when rallying wide and getting bumped into the lane. Couldn't maintain his momentum but should do better with that one under his belt. ROOFTOP has run second and third at this level and seems to like two turns. Doesn't do much early but has shown that he comes to life on the second turn. Raced very wide last time and could get a better trip here. PREACHERBOYS PRIZE has turned in even efforts on the Tapeta after making his debut on the turf. Has a nice drill since raced. Must improve, but there's no reason he can't.

Sixth Race: 1.Tudor Blue 2.Hammurabi 3.Alpakapaluza

TUDOR BLUE comes north for the first time after running second against a similar crew down south. Took a while to earn his diploma, but he was meeting tougher company early in his career. Gets good outside draw, which will allow his rider to place him in a trouble-free spot. Wish he had a bit more speed, but see him as a factor at a price in the lane. HAMMURABI has been claimed in his past two starts. Jumped up to score a solid win last time and has three solid drills for his new barn. Leading rider takes the call on Social import. ALPAKAPALUZA makes his first start in nine months and wound up preparations with a six-furlong bullet work. Showed ability at Emerald Downs last year and ran well in first start before winning second time out when moved up to straight maiden company. Barn wins 22 percent off the claim and is doing well right now.

Seventh Race: 1.Raising Memo 2. Pamperos Edge 3.Got the Hang of It

RAISING MEMO cuts his claiming price in half here. Was going in good form when barn took shot in El Camino Real Derby. Did nothing in that race, then hooked hot horse that ran in Oregon Derby on Monday in his next assignment. Seems a better fit at this level. PAMPEROS EDGE ran all right in his first start following three-plus months on the sideline, notching a career-best Beyer in the process. Comes north and drops as he searches for his second win. GOT THE HANG OF IT has won two straight, going wire-to-wire sprinting and then right back at this route. Stablemate of top pick is stepping up here but proved he could handle the distance last time.