

GOLDEN GATE ANALYSIS

By **CHUCK DYBDAL**



BEST BET: Niccolo Dream (1st race)

First Race: 1. Niccolo Dream 2. Toy Toy Toy 3. Mystery Hunter

NICCOLO DREAM is on an uptick and looms the one to beat here despite a 1-for-22 career record. Took 21 tries before winning. First against winners came at this level last time. He opened in the lane, tired and was outnodded on the wire. Will appreciate cutting back to one mile here. TOY TOY TOY has had almost as many chances (20) as the top pick. Has hit the board in his past six starts, but he's winless here. He has run second seven times in 10 starts here and has nine seconds to go with his one career win. MYSTERY HUNTER has turned in good efforts in both his main-track starts here. Has speed and the rail. Led last time before being overhauled by the top pick.

Second Race: 1. Gotham Glory 2. Empress Court 3. Tip Toe Topper

GOTHAM GLORY continues to descend down the class ladder. Set the pace last time in an improved effort, settling for third. Dropping a notch here. Qualifies for conditioned company, but this is not a particularly deep heat with only two runners than have posted victories against winners. Outside post should help here, and she should offer some value. EMPRESS COURT cuts back in distance, returning to a sprint after hitting the board twice when routing. Adds blinkers to keep her a bit closer early. Two easy maintenance works since her last start. Has enjoyed success sprinting and has hit the board in five of six starts here. TIP TOE TOPPER is one of two, along with Venadita, who has two wins in this field. Didn't do much last time when dropped to this level, but leading rider takes the call again for high-percentage barn.

Third Race: 1. Gather de Justice 2. El Cugat 3. Raising Memo

GATHER DE JUSTICE bids for a hat trick here running a distance at which he is undefeated. Stepping up here but comes off a victory when he was odds-on. Very sharp right now and seems to be improving. EL CUGAT stretches out for the first time today. Has breeding for this distance and got a big jump off his maiden win, running second despite a wide trip. Drops a notch here as he stretches out. Barn shows big flat-bet profit when stretching runners out. RAISING MEMO finished behind the top two picks in his past two starts, running second in a mile race on the turf behind the top pick and third behind the second choice when that one was a runner-up last time. Has hit the board in all six career starts.

Fourth Race: 1. Uintah 2. North of Time 3. Dixiedoodledude

UINTAH was twice a runner-up here at this distance last year. Had some problems early last time, rushed up but faded late in his turf debut. Has decent work since raced and figures to be a pace factor here. Getting a five-pound weight break. NORTH OF TIME improved last time when stretched out and placed on the turf. Think it was more a case of appreciating the distance than liking the turf. Has a pair of works since for solid barn and will be meeting easier here. DIXIEDOODLEDUDE is a stablemate of the second choice. He takes off blinkers as he stretches out. Should appreciate the added distance here, which could be reason leading rider stays aboard. Has pair of easy five-furlong works to maintain conditioning.

Fifth Race: 1. No Boundaries 2. Jinete 3. Coyote Moon

NO BOUNDARIES has hit the board in his past three starts but drops a notch here despite showing improvement last time. Willing to sit back but has enough speed to sit closer if situation dictates. Has enjoyed success at distance and over this track. JINETE has turned in improved efforts in his past two starts, picking up a pair of checks for this tag and running second last time. Has run well on the lead and gets top speed rider to guide him today. COYOTE MOON has scored both career victories here. Just missed last time against better for this tag, rallying wide. Similar effort here puts in the thick of things in the lane.

Sixth Race: 1. China Cat 2. Bunny At the Lake 3. Miss Kelly Green

CHINA CAT has hit the board in both career starts. Returns to the bottom level here despite showing mild improvement in her last start. Barn and rider are both ready to get hot, and this filly could get them going as she looms the one to catch. BUNNY AT THE LAKE beat the top pick two back, but the top pick was making her debut that day. Didn't follow up with as good a race, although she did finish well. Rail draw doesn't work in her favor as she may get shuffled back a bit and face traffic problems. MISS KELLY GREEN broke slowly and was immediately eliminated in her debut. Like the way she finished and expect an improved try here. Should offer enough value to be attractive in exotics.

Seventh Race: 1. Teacher's Rule 2. Dixie Magic 3. Special Venture

TEACHER'S RULE is bidding for a hat trick here. The extra 16th shouldn't prove a problem the way she's opening in the lane in her two wins. Set new career best in first start for new barn and seems capable of matching or even improving on that effort. DIXIE MAGIC was the last runner to beat the top pick and ran second to her last time out. She got the lead at the quarter pole and led in the lane but was outfinished. Has speed to get a good trip from the rail. SPECIAL VENTURE has hit the board in seven straight as she steps up again here. Favored in a win two back and just missed as the favorite stepping up last time. Has notched exacta finishes in four of five starts here.

Eighth Race: 1. Reality Now 2. Devils Afleet 3. Vadheim

REALITY NOW makes his third start following nine months on the sidelines. Has shown improve and scored a nice victory last time. He's 4-for-6 with a second here and has a pair of works since his last start. Can put good ones together, and leading barn has him very sharp. Will need to be sharp as he meets better today. DEVILS AFLEET opened a big lead last time and fell apart late at this level. Rail draw will encourage stablemate of top pick to use his speed early again. VADHEIM has chased the second choice in his past two start. Doesn't have the keenest of speed but didn't get into gear at all early last time. Expect him to be a little closer here. El Camino Real Derby winner Autism Awareness set the pace before tiring in his comeback and cuts back from a route to a sprint here.

Ninth Race: 1. Quan's Girl 2. Bien Amour 3. Sweet Wine

QUAN'S GIRL has run second in both starts at this level. She has decent speed so the rail draw will work to her advantage. Top rider back today after those two runner-up efforts. BIEN AMOUR returned from nearly a year on the sidelines to run third, closing nicely after racing very wide on the turf in a sprint. Showed talent in her two tries at this distance last year, running first and third. Barn 0-for-7 in the second start off a layoff over the past two years, but this one seemed to come back well. SWEET WINE hasn't won in ages but could get a piece at a price in this field. Strictly a value play, but she has picked up a number of checks despite her low win percentage.