

GOLDEN GATE ANALYSIS

By CHUCK DYBDAL



BEST BET: Newport Lulu (2nd race)

First Race:1.Comic Fool 2.Corozon Rojo 3.Sky Majestic

COMIC FOOL flashed good speed in his return after more than a year on the sidelines. He was claimed in his debut when he ran evenly while not having much chance to extend himself. He flashed speed in his debut for the new barn following the long layoff, fading a bit late. His five-furlong fraction was good enough to win here. COROZON ROJO is the logical choice, showing improvement in each start. Dropping a notch here after being forced wide last time. Should be able to stalk top pick and has enough speed that rail draw won't work against him. SKY MAJESTIC debuts for high-percentage barn that does not do well with first-timers. Like the work pattern, and he does get in light, but he seems best used to fill in exotics.

Second Race:1.Newport Lulu 2.Funky Chanteal 3.Afleet's Desire

NEWPORT LULU bids for a hat trick here. She has good speed and has won her past pair by daylight. She's sharp and runs for a hot barn. She hasn't missed a check since her arrival from Southern California and has three wins in five starts here. FUNKY CHANTEAL was nipped at the wire for second behind the top pick last time after winning a photo in her previous start. Has hit the board in four straight since a three-month layoff. Has always run well here and has the advantage of an outside draw. AFLEET'S DESIRE gets a rail draw which will force her to gun a bit early as she gets a significant drop for her third start off a layoff. Has been favored in her past four since her return here and has been dropping down the ladder while losing three straight. This spot could provide a wake-up call.

Third Race:1.Heroism 2.Timber Prince 3.Cascade Cruiser

HEROISM draws the rail for his debut. The \$300,000 purchase has worked steadily for his debut, winding up with a six-furlong work. He's a half to multiple graded stakes-winning millionaire Crafty Shaw and half to multiple stakes-winning Her She Kisses. Despite low percentage, barn sends out runners ready to win first time out. TIMBER PRINCE outran his odds, running second in his debut. Was quite wide and made good move into stretch. Lost ground to the winner but was easily second best. Lone sibling placed in minor stakes events. CASCADE CRUISER is from a multiple stakes-win dam whose three other foals are all winners. Like the six-furlong works in preparation for this.

Fourth Race:1.Mixed Berries 2.Alashir's Storm 3.Galahad

MIXED BERRIES comes north and gets a big drop after a dull but troubled try down south. High-percentage barn wins 32 percent with new faces. This is his third start following more than three months on the sidelines and is likely to better his last. ALASHIR'S STORM ran third last time when dropped to this level. Has been consistent enough to be considered a factor at this bottom level. Has two works since his last start. GALAHAD has hit the board in his past two starts and is adding blinkers for this. Lost to one of today's rivals, Silver Dust, last time but may not let that one get first run on him here.

Fifth Race:1.Spoolish 2.Rosiana 3.Campfire Wish

SPOOLISH showed improvement, setting the pace and hanging on better last time. She drops off that effort, which marked a drop from her debut level down south. Speed is always a key ingredient and is even stronger at this bottom level. Solid maintenance drills since the last start for a high-percentage barn. ROSIANA has the rail here. Fractions from last point out as a contender as does her sprint try three back when she was the runner-up after leading in the lane in a six-furlong heat. CAMPFIRE WISH switches barns today and has four nice works in the two months she's had since her last start. Barn statistics not strong for new faces and comebackers, but she certainly seems capable of getting a piece.

Sixth Race:1.Nail Polish 2.Miss Caper 3.Noel's Vixen

NAIL POLISH has been the runner-up in her past two starts while offering value to bettors. May not offer as much value here, but her consistency and the way she's been finishing make her the logical candidate here as the leading rider takes the call. MISS CAPER has yet to hit the board in eight career starts. She's trailed the top pick in her past two starts. She's capable of running better than her past two tries and has a speed-sharpening bullet drill since her last start. NOEL'S VIXEN was flying late in her first start following six weeks on the sidelines. Outran her 32-to-1 odds with a wide rally. May offer some value given her come-from-behind style and outside post.

Seventh Race:1.Continental Cream 2.Rule the Storm 3.Diamond Berries

CONTINENTAL CREAM has hit the board in five straight races and was second in her past two starts. Got big hike to this level last time and came flying in the lane. May be able to sit a little closer here. Has hit the board in each start here and has been showing improvement. RULE THE STORM returned from a brief freshener and broke her maiden last time when returned to the claiming ranks. Has an easy maintenance drill since and seems capable of improvement. DIAMOND BERRIES has picked up a check in each of her three starts at this level. She was stakes-placed at Emerald Downs last summer and was the beaten favorite in her last start when she trailed the top pick. Can bounce back today.

Eighth Race:1.Irish Harmony 2.Thecatchcheckraised 3.Got the Hang of It

IRISH HARMONY has shown improvement since returning to the sprint game. Showed vast improvement when dropped to the bottom level last time and is given a raise here. Should stalk nicely from the outside and only needs to repeat his last to win here. THECATCHCHECKRAISED dropped into the claiming ranks for the first time when he returned from an eight-month layoff. Stalked and tired a bit late but should benefit from that effort. Getting another drop here. GOT THE HANG OF IT is another that ran well off a layoff. Broke slowly and rushed up. Grabbed the lead on the turn in a head-and-head duel. Not surprisingly, he tired late, but he's another that should show improvement with a race under his belt.