

GOLDEN GATE ANALYSIS

By **CHUCK DYBDAL**



BEST BET: Direct Connect (1st race)

First Race:1.Direct Connect 2.The Supply Program 3.Tiz Us

DIRECT CONNECT is bidding for a hat trick. He started the winning streak at this level, then won a photo against better last time. Has worked nicely since. Stretching out here, but he's won at this distance in the past and was a good second running at this distance off a nearly eight-month layoff before winning his past two starts while sprinting. **THE SUPPLY PROGRAM** was re-claimed last time by high-percentage barn that does very well off the claim even when it isn't familiar with the runner. Figures to be a good stalking trip here. **TIZ US** has enjoyed success here in the past and does like to win. Set pace and faded a bit last time to end a winning streak as he trailed the second choice. Has been off for six weeks, but has some decent works of late and should be a contender here.

Second Race:1.Defensive Move 2. Peace Accord 3.Crimson Cowboy

DEFENSIVE MOVE was claimed from a win last time. He's sharp and has an easy maintenance drill for his new barn. Barn retains jockey who has enjoyed success with mount winning three of past five starts while hitting the board each time. Solid sprinter has good record here. All we are saying is give **PEACE ACCORD** a chance as he cuts his claiming price in half here. Was claimed by the top barn three back and has picked up checks in both starts since. Consistent performer, and drop could be all it takes for return to winner's circle. Outside draw works well for stalker. **CRIMSON COWBOY** flashed speed to better last time. Getting a big drop today and could have an easy lead. Getting in light and only needs to relax a bit up front in order to carry his speed all the way.

Third Race:1.Got the Hang of It 2.Rich Mocha 3.Roaring Times

GOT THE HANG OF IT may be living up to his name. He's shown improvement in each start and is making his third start here following a nearly six-month layoff following a dismal debut. Been showing speed and can take good advantage of his early foot with his outside post. **RICH MOCHA** makes his first start for barn that shows flat-bet profit with first-timers. Has been working steadily and may have tipped his hand with that bullet in his final prep. **ROARING TIMES** made a good move in his comeback and actually stuck his head in front between calls in the lane before losing a photo. With two works since that start, he should show improvement here.

Fourth Race:1.Dam Near Freezing 2. Toy Toy Toy 3.Mixed Berries

DAM NEAR FREEZING has been running well and turned in a solid effort last time when he graduated. Barn wisely enters him at the bottom level for winners, and his recent form suggests he'll be able to handle himself well in this company. **TOY TOY TOY** is 1-for-21, which is a red flag. He has 10 seconds on his resume, and has been second in six of his past seven starts, running third the other time. He's a contender and key play in exotics, but chance for winner's circle seems somewhat suspect. **MIXED BERRIES** was sent north for the first time and just missed at this level. Was close all the way and got the lead at the quarter pole. Fell a head short in a stretch-long duel in a good race for the level. Can't be ignored here and is getting a five-pound break.

Fifth Race:1.Top Rockette 2.Cloud Strider 3.American Avenue

TOP ROCKETTE adds blinkers here after showing speed while running second in both starts this year. She battled head-and-head all the way last time before losing a photo and drops back to the bottom level where she also ran second in her previous start here after coming north. Barn does well when adding blinkers, and she'll be the one to catch. **CLOUD STRIDER** hung around through a good opening half-mile against better in her debut down south. Getting a big drop as she comes north. Willing to give her a long look based on her early work in her debut rather than the big fade late. **AMERICAN AVENUE** was no match for the top pick last time, but she's been picking up paychecks recently and is worth a look in exotics.

Sixth Race:1.Cavanaugh 2.Jinete 3.Wrench It

CAVANAUGH couldn't hold on to the lead in the lane when dropped to this level last time but was a solid second. Made a big step up in easier company, and sometimes big improvements like that lead to big bounces in the next start. He's run that well before, though, so maybe it was the outing two starts back that was the aberration. **JINETE** sheds blinkers after taking the lead in his past two starts and then fading. Fell to the top pick last time. May feel more comfortable in a stalking role. Has a pair of easy maintenance drills since raced. **WRENCH IT** makes his first start since 2006. He won his only start here in pre-Tapeta days but is only 2-for-37 in his career. Had shown speed in the past and does have a six-furlong bullet gate drill for his comeback for barn that is good with layoff runners.

Seventh Race:1.Magic Potion 2.Meant for You 3.Blackestofbeauties

MAGIC POTION draws the rail again for her second start. Stalked and run second in her debut but lost ground in the stretch. Has three works in six weeks since for barn that wins 30 percent and shows a good flat-bet profit with second-timers. Should offer plenty of value. **MEANT FOR YOU** draws a good post for her debut. Like the strong six-furlong drills to prepare for this. She won't be short, and her sire has decent success with first-timers. She's the first foal of a 2-for-6 dam. **BLAKESTOFBEAUTIES** comes north for this as she makes her third start off a layoff. Never a factor on the major circuit down there, but did register a second at Fairplex.

Eighth Race:1.Christmas Lady 2.Empress Court 3.Come On Mama

CHRISTMAS LADY was overmatched in her first start against winners and gets big drop here. She lucks out in a way, moving into an open heat, but none of her rivals has beaten winners either. Figures to stalk and pounce late. **EMPRESS COURT** has bounced around different claiming levels since graduating. She won third in back-to-back starts against better but didn't fare as well when she dropped into a sprint last time. Will appreciate the return to a route. **COME ON MAMA** has never run for this cheap a tag before. Dropped to score her maiden win, then met better in her debut against winners. This big drop should make her a definite contender here.

Ninth Race:1.No Sense of Humor 2.Kathleen M 3.Baba Zula

NO SENSE OF HUMOR returns to a sprint here and should be a value play. Had decent fractions in her first route two back, but did nothing going a mile last time. Did hit the board at Hastings going 6 1/2 furlongs. Will be sitting back early but could be a surprise factor in the lane. **KATHLEEN M** comes north for her first start in 10 1/2 months. Moving to new barn and has worked up to this in steady fashion, including a pair of six-furlong works to win up preparations. Drop and weak company make her one to watch here. **BABA ZULA** has been routing on the turf. Making comeback after 11-week layoff and does have one bullet work. Fractions aren't bad and has run second in four of nine starts.