

BOB IKE'S SANTA ANITA SELECTIONS

SATURDAY, MAR. 24

SATURDAY SELECTIONS, BETTING STRATEGY AND PICK 4 TICKET

Friday Results: Hit 4 top choice winners but went 0-for-3 on my Best Plays.

Today's Best Plays: Races 8, 9, 10 and a \$72 Pick 4 ticket.

1st race--

1. YODELADYTOO (2) 2. ARGENTINISIMA (1) 3. SO LONG SONOMA (3)

2nd race--

1. UP THE LIMIT (3) 2. FIVE STAR CHARM (8) 3. BEHIND THE MAGIC (6)

3rd race--

1. JACK'S KID (2) 2. TURNBOLT (5) 3. BROOKER (3)

4th race--

1. SOUL CITY SLEW (4) 2. ROI CHARMANT (5) 3. I'LL PREY FOR YOU (3)

5th race--

1. LADY LE BELLE (5) 2. SUGAR DOLL (7) 3. BRITE RED STATE (4)

6th race--

1. VALIANT EFFORT (3) 2. LAINIES LION (6) 3. UNUSUAL TREASURE (9) 4. MASTER HEAT (5)

7th race--

1. LARRY'S GIRL (7) 2. YES I'M READY (2) 3. MERGER MANIA (1)

*****8th race--**

1. ONE OFF (1) 2. A. P. XCELLENT (6) 3. PHAR TO WIN (2) 4. NOTABLE GUEST (8)

With the expected scratch of Phar to Win (who is entered in a softer spot tomorrow), I think the gamble in the race is A. P. XCELLENT (10-1). Catching a paceless field, 'XCELLENT should be able to dictate the pace like he did last time when running second at this distance behind sharp On the Acorn. Don't know if he's good enough, but the price will be right to take a shot. Also, play the trifecta keying ONE OFF (4-1), who is razor sharp for Drysdale right now, and 'XCELLENT on a pair of trifecta tickets.

Trifecta numbers: 1,6/1,6,/ALL=\$12 and 1,6/ALL/1,6=\$12

*****9th race--**

1. GOLDEN WAGER (5) 2. POWERFUL SUMMER (1) 3. DIAMOND MINER (9) 4. PHANTOM GRAY (7)

GOLDEN WAGER (3-1) has two wins and a second from his last three starts for Mullins. The sharp gelding shortens up a half-furlong in distance and should get an ideal stalking trip off a couple speedsters to his inside. I will "single" him in the late Pick 4 and play the trifecta keying 'WAGER over POWERFUL SUMMER (8-1), MAJESTIC AMERICAN (6-1), PHANTOM GRAY (12-1) and DIAMOND MINER (5-1) for second, then use ALL for third. Also, play a second ticket using those four on top, with 'WAGER for second, then ALL for third.

Trifecta numbers: 5/1,4,7,9/ALL=\$36 and 1,4,7,9/5/ALL=\$36

*****10th race--**

1. MR. LOGAN (7) 2. GAME A. P. (5) 3. HURRY HOME WARREN (10) 4. KING'S CAUSEWAY (9)

In the finale, I will key favorite MR. LOGAN (8-5) on a pair of trifecta plays. The Mandella-trainee returned from a six-month layoff to run a good second over this layout after getting fanned extremely wide into the lane. With a repeat of that effort, he should be the one to beat in here. Play the tri keying 'LOGAN over five horses in the second and third spots: SMART OF WAR (30-1), COME OVER AGAIN (15-1), GAME A. P. (6-1), KING'S CAUSEWAY (5-1) and HURRY HOME WARREN (5-2). Also, play a second ticket using those five in the first and third spots, with 'LOGAN in the middle.

Trifecta numbers: 7/2,3,5,9,10/2,3,5,9,10=\$20 and 2,3,5,9,10/7/2,3,5,9,10=\$20

*****\$72 PICK 4 TICKET (races 7-10):**

7th race--MERGER MANIA, YES I'M READY, MIMITHEMIDGET, SIDEPOCKET WIN, LARRY'S GIRL, SCHAGHTICOKE HILL

8th race--ONE OFF, A. P. XCELLENT

9th race--GOLDEN WAGER

10th race--SMART OF WAR, COME OVER AGAIN, GAME A. P., MR. LOGAN, KING'S CAUSEWAY, HURRY HOME WARREN

Pick 4 numbers: 1,2,3,4,7,9/1,6/5/2,3,5,7,9,10=\$72

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