

BOB IKE'S SANTA ANITA SELECTIONS

WEDNESDAY, APR. 18

WEDNESDAY SELECTIONS, BETTING STRATEGY AND PICK 4 PLAY

Sunday Results: Hit 3 top choice winners, including Best Play winner CELTIC WAY (\$5.60--bet down from 6/1 ML) and small trifecta in 3rd race; also hit Pick 4 for \$235 on an \$81 ticket.

Today's Best Plays: Races 4, 6, 8 and a \$64 Pick 4 ticket.

1st race--

1. LORD ALBION (1) 2. BEECHMONT (6) 3. LITE MAN (3)

2nd race--

1. BELTLINE JACK (5) 2. MY MAN MURF (3) 3. PAPAGO ROAD (6)

3rd race--

1. SILVERS SURPRISE (7) 2. LARRY'S GIRL (5) 3. TESSALUCI (4)

*****4th race--**

1. RING OF FRIENDSHIP (3) 2. DRIVEN BY EXCESS (1) 3. GET OFF THE SUGAR (2) 4. AZAROUAK (5)

Despite finding a turf race with an unusual amount of early speed, I like the chances of RING OF FRIENDSHIP (9-5). The Mitchell-trained gelding faded badly when returning in his first start in 14 months but should be much tighter today. Although the potential fast pace is a concern, he is the best horse on his best day. I will play the trifecta keying 'FRIENDSHIP over DRIVEN BY EXCESS (12-1), GET OFF THE SUGAR (5-1) and AZAROUAK (15-1) for second, then use ALL for third. Also, play a second ticket using those three on top, with 'FRIENDSHIP for second, then ALL for third.

Trifecta numbers: 3/1,2,5/ALL=\$18 and 1,2,5/3/ALL=\$18

5th race--

1. JAKE SKATE (3) 2. AIR RACE (2) 3. EASY MILLION (1)

*****6th race--**

1. GOODTOBEHOME (11) 2. TOP POP PRINCESS (10) 3. COURT OF QUEENS (2) 4. SPORTIE'S SQUEEZE (4)

In a full field of maiden claimers, I will give the edge to lukewarm favorite GOODTOBEHOME (5-2). The Orman-trained filly has been freshened since opening day when chasing much better straight maidens. She drops into a claimer for the first time and is drawn favorably outside, so

she should be ready to show her best today. Play the trifecta keying 'HOME over COURT OF QUEENS (20-1), SPORTIE'S SQUEEZE (7-2) and TOP POP PRINCESS (3-1) for second, then use ALL for third. Also, play a second ticket using those three on top, with 'HOME for second, then ALL for third.

Trifecta numbers: 11/2,4,10/ALL=\$30 and 2,4,10/11/ALL=\$30

7th race--

1. LEMON FLOWER (1A) 2. WICKERSHAM (2) 3. DARKNESS NIGHT (1) 4. HIGH SPEED GOLDIE (4)

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

1. KICKIN BACK (3) 2. YVETT'S PRIDE (1) 3. WHY KNOT US (5) 4. MR. WARREN (2)

Same trifecta strategy as in the two previous Best Play races. I will key KICKIN BACK (4-1), who returns to the MC\$40,000 level after facing better down the hill. Although he's had nine previous chances (four seconds), his race one back vs. similar was excellent. Make a Win Bet on 'BACK and key him in the trifecta over YVETT'S PRIDE (3-1), MR. WARREN (10-1) and WHY KNOT US (7-2) for second, then use ALL for third. Also, play a second ticket using those three on top, with 'BACK for second, then ALL for third.

Trifecta numbers: 3/1,2,5/ALL=\$21 and 1,2,5/3/ALL=\$21

*****\$64 PICK 4 TICKET (races 5-8):**

5th race--AIR RACE, JAKE SKATE

6th race--COURT OF QUEENS, SPORTIE'S SQUEEZE, TOP POP PRINCESS, GOODTOBEHOME

7th race--DARKNESS NIGHT/LEMON FLOWER (entry), WICKERSHAM

8th race--YVETT'S PRIDE, MR. WARREN, KICKIN BACK, WHY KNOT US

Pick 4 numbers: 2,3/2,4,10,11/1,2/1,2,3,5=\$64

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