

BOB SELVIN'S FAIR ODDS ANALYSIS AT SANTA ANITA for FRIDAY

<u>COMMENTS</u>: All numbers shown are official program numbers. Exotic plays are based on \$2 wagers except for trifectas which are designated. Morning line and projected odds are definitely considered in my handicapping.

PASSING RACES: When you see "**PASS or**" first, my suggestion is to **PASS** the race because I feel that race is either boring, valueless, is too complicated or has too many question marks. The play is up to you. When I suggest a play *first* and then indicate **or PASS**, my suggestion is to lean toward playing, but I'm obviously not crazy about or very interested in that race and it can easily be passed.

<u>BEST PLAYS</u>: Whenever possible and determined by the card, my Best Plays are hopefully *NOT* the most logical, high percentage races, but those that offer the best betting value.

<u>PICK 3, PICK 4 OR PICK 5:</u> I also do not play these horizontal wagers randomly, but judiciously. Sometimes I don't play them at all. I don't suggest these plays just so I can claim that I hit one the next day.

TOP CHOICES, CO-TOP CHOICES or RACES with NO TOP CHOICES: Top choices or co-top choices are win bets at fair odds or higher. If there are any scratches, you have to project a shorter price on one or both. No top choice means I feel an exacta play is more worthwhile. However, that shouldn't stop you from win betting if any overlays develop in the betting even if I don't have a top choice.

MORNING LINE UNDERLAYS: These are horses at 4/1 or less on the morning line who I think are underlays on the morning line and thus, do not represent good value in my estimation. Doesn't mean they can't win, but as I've tracked them, about 80% are third or worse. Identifying these underlays (bet againsts?) should be very helpful in your wagering strategy, especially trying to beat them in the exacta. Obviously, a late scratch of another horse in the same race could change the complexion of the race and can negate the status of an MLU.

IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS TO GET THE MOST OUT OF MY SEMINAR: I provide you with my own FAIR BETTING ODDS on my main contenders in a race. This game is based on VALUE. Comparing the actual track odds to my fair odds and deciding on a play means SOME JUDGMENT ON YOUR PART IS REQUIRED!! A winning player needs to be flexible. OFTEN my top choice(s) could be overbet well below my fair odds and my secondary contenders then could offer much better value. Don't hesitate to play a nice overlay or PASS races when my choices are being overbet! (Unfortunately, any LATE

SCRATCHES of contenders within a given race will make my fair odds INACCURATE.) Always remember... "if you don't get it, don't bet it."

*** There are many cases when my top pick gets overbet (well below my fair odds) OR sometimes I don't have a top pick (and just recommend exactas). In that case, you should wisely **DISREGARD** my overbet top pick or co-top choice and look for an overlay. If I don't make a pick in the race and just offer exactas, my top horses I'm using in the exacta are MANDATORY WIN BETS if they are 20% higher than my fair odds. Mandatory win bet on any horses that are about 50% (double) higher than my listed fair odds if I set odds for them in the race, even if they are NOT among my top picks. And there is nothing wrong with betting two horses to win in the same race. There are MANY examples of this that commonly happen, so pay attention!

<u>ALWAYS LET FAIR ODDS BE YOUR GUIDE</u>: However, keep in mind that late scratches within the body of a race after you access this report can DRAMATICALLY change the complexion of the race AND also negate my fair odds, in particular if one of my contenders is scratched.

WHAT ARE FAIR ODDS ?: This is my assessment of a fair price on each contender. Fair odds mean exactly that. You are getting the odds you should be getting if you decide to bet. Below fair odds and the play is less worthwhile and less valuable. Any horse above fair odds should be looked at closely, especially if they are 10-20% higher. When they get 25% higher, I'm calling them very good bets (VGB) as a very generous overlay. ALL horses, even those I don't select, should be considered as a WIN play at 25% above fair odds by comparing the actual odds on the board to the odds on the far right column. It's that easy. My selections aren't as relevant when they go below fair odds and there is a very good bet contender or contenders in the race. When the crowd overbets a favorite, I want to be on top of the overlays that often creates. *Unfortunately, key scratches can negate my fair odds.*

TRIFECTAS PLAYS CAN BE MADE MORE AFFORDABLE: They can be turned into fractions of \$1 by purchasing .10 cent superfectas instead and including the horses in the third (or show) position in the four position as well. This also makes it more affordable for you to include horses you like.

WHAT SEPARATES MY PRODUCT FROM OTHER PURCHASABLE SO. CALIF. HANDICAPPING PRODUCTS AND THE EDGE YOU GET: My fair odds take the entire field into consideration, including non contenders, and normally balance out at 112%. I purposely do this to insure that my fair odds are OVERLAYS after factoring in the state takeout on win wagers which is 15.3%. Racetrack morning lines are normally made by adding 100% probability + 15.3% for takeout + 1% per horse for breakage. In other words, an eight-horse field should total about 124-125% when converting odds to

probability percentages. By considering my fair odds in your handicapping, or, better yet, the adjacent VGB odds, you should be getting at least a 10% edge or more. At Santa Anita, don't be surprised at major discrepancies in the actual pari-mutuel odds vs. VGB odds, especially among the third, fourth and fifth odds choices. The Santa Anita morning line is balanced at 130%-134%...above reality... unlike at Del Mar.

What other purchasable So. Calif. handicapping products put their balls on the line and offer BOTH their own BALANCED, fair odds line AND incisive notes, commentary, stats and workout tidbits from colleague clocker Andy Harrington's workout report?

RACES THAT HAVE A SHADED BACKGROUND: These are the races of most interest and hopefully present the best betting value on this particular card today. However, these are NOT Best Plays.

ABOUT THE SANTA ANITA MORNING LINE: The morning line at Santa Anita is balanced differently (higher) than at Del Mar. <u>Please read shaded paragraph above</u>.

<u>DEMAND WIN:</u> This is not offered to confuse you! It is offered to lead you to the *best value*. Suggested demand win fair odds means just that = demand the given suggested fair odds to make a win play. Some races there will be more than one win play. Others none at all. If two horses are both at suggested demand win odds, check the board for the one with better odds or bet them both to win or do not bet to win. Some judgment on your part is required.

REMINDER: This product purposely comes out LATE to incorporate whatever scratches and changes I find out about so that I can provide the best fair odds line I can (and write the copy that I do). It is not to inconvenience anyone.

*In order to expedite publishing FOA and hopefully make it available a little earlier, commentary may be limited depending on the race.

FRIDAY HIGHLIGHTS...

I had no Best Plays today, but two shaded races. *No worthy horizontals on a pretty dead card marred by some late scratches after Fair Odds was published*. Hence incorrect fair odds in those races. I passed three of the nine races, including the 6th when Platinum Nights was scratched at the gate. *In the other six:*

- (1st) 8-4 exacta paid \$30.60;
- (2nd) **Sea Glass paid \$6.80**;
- (4th) Shaded 5-3 exacta paid \$29.80

"THE PRICE IS RIGHT" COMMENTS: Including scratches through 10:30 a.m., 60 horses go in nine races...less than seven per race. No Best Plays. Two shaded races. No worthy horizontals.

*** ATTENTION: Most of the money comes in LATE. Due to frequent late odds changes, suggested demand win fair odds are ACCEPTABLE at two ticks lower than fair odds through 11/1. Example: suggested demand win fair odds 3/1...are ACCEPTABLE at 2/1. Suggested demand win fair odds of 12/1 or higher are ACCEPTABLE at three ticks lower than fair odds. Example: demand win fair odds of >12/1...are ACCEPTABLE at 9/1 and so forth. >> Thus, the term "ABOUT FAIR" is now used instead of just FAIR.

In cases where the top horses are close in odds, take the one that is the best price, bet both to win, or just play the exacta.

1st - No demand win play. Exactas 1-4, 1-6, 1-8, 8-1, 8-4, 8-6; extra ticket(s) 1-4, 1-6, 1-8, 8-1

Weak race with the key principles having lost for maiden \$20,000 /\$30,000 several times already. BIG BASE has been off two months, but comes back with a quite favorable work tab for a cheap sort. Buoying that is Rosario takes the mount. Look for 'BASE to rally from behind. GIA LULA, generally a speed type, is third start

into her form cycle and draws outside post. Two back, she showed her speed dueling inside at Del Mar in a race she possibly needed. Last out, she was taken out of her usual game plan early and was too far back early.

BET THE OVERLAYS!

#	HORSE	E/L/G	ABOUT	VERY GOOD
			FAIR	BET
1	BIG BASE		5/2	3/1
2	CRACKLING BREAD		6/1	8/1
4	WHATA FLIRT		3/1	4/1
5	SECRET OFFER (MLU)		8/1	10/1
6	ENCOUNTRESS		12/1	15/1
8	GIA LULA		7/2	9/2

2nd - Demand win 5 SEA GLASS; exacta box 4-5, 5-4

Here's a terrible \$12,500 nw-2 for fillies and mares. No fair odds. SEA GLASS routes for the first time. Coming out of sprints, she should be on or near the lead. She's only lost ten times compared to most of her rivals. PROPER DRINK, blinkers back off that went on for Jan. 1 race, drops down in class. She had worked well going into that Jan. 1 race in which she ran flat after a slow start. Willing to give her another chance for Powell barn (won two yesterday, three at meet so far). The six entrants in this race have started a total 109 times and have won six races.

BET THE OVERLAYS!

#	HORSE	E/L/G	ABOUT FAIR	VERY GOOD BET
2	>> SCR <<			
3	REINAHERMOSA			
4	PROPER DRINK	Boff		
5	SEA GLASS			
7	CEE SAM'S GIRL			

ALWAYS DOUBLE CHECK THE COPY I WRITE WITH NUMBERS AGAINST PROGRAM NUMBERS:

*** It is your job and VERY IMPORTANT to ALWAYS DOUBLE CHECK my numbers below against the official program numbers. AND, make sure the copy (names of horses) jives with the numbers. I can't stress that enough. Occasional inadvertent mistakes or typos can and do occur.

3rd - PASS.

Willing to sit out this five-horse field...one of the five is a big price. So four main contenders. Don't care if Qahira wins at a short price or one of the Miller entrants. Calf Moon Bay is a threat, but doesn't look 5/2

BET THE OVERLAYS!

#	HORSE	E/L/G	ABOUT	VERY GOOD
			FAIR	BET
1	BOUJIE GIRL		7/2	9/2
2	QAHIRA		7/5	8/5
3	KOOKIE GAL		5/2	3/1
4	CALF MOON BAY (MLU)		6/1	8/1
5	NOBLE CONTESSA		15/1	19/1

4th – Demand win 3 CONFIDENTIALLY >8/1 (6/1 is acceptable) and 6 DECORATING >3/1 (2/1 is acceptable); exacta box 3-5-6; also play 3-7, 5-7, 6-7 combos

CONFIDENTIALLY stretches out to two turns on turf. Very good turf and distance pedigree. Removes the blinkers, a positive sign, and Rosario rides back. Good post. DECORATING has only four starts. Finished close behind favored SUTRO in last. I'll take the better price of the two who has a couple of fewer starts. SUTRO must be considered in the mix, but she's been second three times in a row. Journal Entry is worth using underneath at a price. Hasn't got the best of trips in last pair.

BET THE OVERLAYS!

#	HORSE	E/L/G	ABOUT	VERY GOOD
			FAIR	BET
1	SEE THAT KAT		12/1	15/1
2	WAZE READY		17/1	21/1
3	CONFIDENTIALLY	Boff	8/1	10/1
5	SUTRO		5/2	3/1
6	DECORATING		3/1	4/1
7	JOURNAL ENTRY		10/1	13/1

5th - Demand win 4 MONYDONTSPENITSELF > 5/1 (4/1 is acceptable); no exactas

If 'SELF doesn't get into a speed duel, he's got a good shot to spring a minor upset. His last three wins were won stalking. So if big dropper Little Scotty goes, 'SELF can sit behind him and/or watch what Van Dyke does with Conqueror early.

Three of 'SELF's four wins have been on dirt, yet he's only run once on dirt (his last start) since last May. Conqueror was big dropped to \$20,000 by Cerin on Dec. 16. What's disturbing about that is Conqueror was favored yet ran poorly considering and drifted out. Moreover, Cerin used Ruben Fuentes as the jock, who he rarely uses. Miller dipped in to claim him and is now running him back for \$20,000. In the last 26 days, Conqueror shows only one workout. In fact, if you'll note, Conqueror has four workouts since Nov. 5 with his calendar clear from his Sept. 6 race gapped to that workout on Nov. 5. If the real Conqueror shows up, he'll beat this field. But his recent history makes him questionable if you're thinking about playing him. Even so, we know that Miller is very shrewd and has major stats first off the claim.

BET THE OVERLAYS!

#	HORSE	E/L/G	ABOUT	VERY GOOD
			FAIR	BET
1	MUCHO BESOS		9/2	6/1
2	CONQUEROR		5/2	3/1
3	CROWN THE KITTEN		9/2	6/1
4	MONYDONTSPENITSELF		5/1	7/1
5	LITTLE SCOTTY		3/1	4/1
6	KAWARA	G	15/1	19/1

IMPORTANT NOTE: I realize that you are paying for this seminar to get educated selections. However, I can't control how the public bets them. And the crowd in So. Calif. loves to pound and overbet favorites. Demand win odds = at or greater than

Any selections that I have made that are bet below my fair odds more than two ticks should be NEGATED in favor of any 25% or higher overlays on my other contenders that I have assigned fair odds to. Or you may consider betting my top selection(s) and/or any 25% overlays. Pay attention. The crowd often makes mistakes! Some JUDGMENT on YOUR PART is REQUIRED!

I will try to point these out in the archived recaps "How We Did in Recent Past Days" whenever possible.

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6th – 7 PLATINUM NIGHTS on top, exacta box 5-7, 7-5 or PASS.

With four of the seven entrants first or second starters, no fair odds. PLATINUM NIGHTS comes off a break and has been worked well up to his return with a couple of B grade recent drills from Andy's watch. Outside draw and tactical speed. In his last start on Nov. 30, he lost by daylight to Keith Desormeaux hotshot Easy Shot, but note he was 3 ½ lengths clear of third horse. ASANO is a route to sprint

turnback returning in only seven days. The speed he has shown should serve him well going shorter. The quick return is positive sign, especially how ASANO has faltered in his previous two routes. Palaleo, blinkers on, and Moonoverthebayou are also threats, but don't want to spread more in the exacta. It's really not much to play here.

BET THE OVERLAYS!

#	HORSE	E/L/G	ABOUT	VERY GOOD
			FAIR	BET
1	BLAME IT ON RIO			
2	PALALEO	Bon		
5	ASANO			
6	MOONOVERTHEBAYOU			
7	PLATINUM NIGHTS			

7th - Demand win 9 VANTASTIC >5/2 (9/5 is acceptable); exactas 9-2, 2-9, 9-3, 3-9, 9-5, 5-9

Three Euros spice the race with decent looking credentials, but they'll have to beat VANTASTIC, who has sharp early speed and is turning back to 6 ½ down the hill from an outside post. The Dialed In colt has back to back B grade recent drills on Dec. 28 and Jan. 4. As we normally see, the Euros are mostly late run / rally types. Advantage VANTASTIC who is also helped by breaking his maiden coming down the hill on Oct. 20...and beat next out winner Bob and Jackie. Of the three Euros, URBAN LIGHT and EAGLE SONG seem the best two. HAYDEN'S HAVOC showed promise this past fall and returns with a sketchy work tab for Miller...only three works since Nov. 25, though still must consider.

BET THE OVERLAYS!

#	HORSE	E/L/G	ABOUT	VERY GOOD
			FAIR	BET
1	>> SCR <<			
2	HAYDEN'S HAVOC		7/2	9/2
3	URBAN LIGHT	L	5/1	6/1
5	EAGLE SONG	L	7/1	9/1
8	SEVEN SCENTS	Boff	6/1	8/1
9	VANTASTIC		2/1	5/2

8th -- PASS.

No interest in playing this race itself. Short price MO SEE CAL looks like a probable single if you're playing the horizontal wagers that go through this race. JUST A SMIDGE, training strongly for her return, looks to be the next option. Fool's Paradise may outrun her form as those last three were graded stakes. She's

actually training very nicely per Andy with B grades, but has only four works since Dec. 12 with a gap dating back to Nov. 2.

BET THE OVERLAYS!

#	HORSE	E/L/G	ABOUT	VERY GOOD
			FAIR	BET
1	FOOL'S PARADISE		6/1	8/1
2	MO SEE CAL		7/5	8/5
3	JUST A SMIDGE		7/2	9/2
4	BLAZINBEAUTY		12/1	15/1
5	DANUSKA'S MY GIRL		9/2	6/1
6	JAZAALAH		10/1	13/1

9th – 3 BELLA CHICA and 8 PERFECT ICE STORM co-top choice win bets; exacta box 3-6-8; also play 3-2, 6-2, 8-2 combos

With eight of the ten entrants first or second starters, no fair odds. Wide open turf sprint down the hill for 3-year-old fillies. Get out the dart board. BELLA CHICCA is a stab on turf pedigree. Good turf sire City Zip out of sprinter dam Bella Viaggia, who won four times in career, including two turf sprints with a second and a third sprinting on turf as week. Also, Puype shows a nice flat bet profit using Van Dyke. SCARLET HEAT was an expensive purchase but has a modest work tab. Blacker is 4/45 winning with firsters since 2015. I'll throw 'HEAT in due to presence of Rosario on board. I think 'HEAT may be prepping for a route. PERFECT ICE STORM showed little in two starts last fall, but took some money and may be better than shown. Her recent works have been favorable (B-). Gutierrez doesn't ride back because he's first call for Reddam / O'Neill on Settle It, who I'm using underneath. Settle It was a beaten favorite twice and 5/2 in her third start and didn't show as much as she should of. She's had time off and may be an improved type with the rest she's had dating back to June 14.

BET THE OVERLAYS!

#	HORSE	E/L/G	ABOUT FAIR	VERY GOOD BET
2	SETTLE IT			
3	BELLA CHICA			
5	LUCKY STEPPER			
6	SCARLET HEAT			
7	LUCKY LATELY			
8	PERFECT ICE STORM			

THURSDAY HIGHLIGHTS...

I had one Best Play plus three shaded races. I didn't get involved with the horizontal wagers except for one DD. I passed two of the nine races. In the other seven:

- (1st) Shaded Halo Darlin, 2/1 acceptable on my Fair Odds Line, paid a hefty \$11.80. Speaker was a losing win play at 5/1. A \$20 win play on both netted \$78 profit. Too bad that Speaker missed the place spot.
- (3rd) Best Play \$3.00 winner and probable single Slewgoodtobetrue was a tick over 3/5 Fair Odds acceptable. The 1-6 exacta paid \$9.80.
- (4th) Emmy and I was a losing win bet. Girl Downstairs was unacceptable at 4/5.
- (5th) Ran 1-2-3 with the Dyf to Drink 7-3 exacta paying \$47.60.
- (6th) Shaded Sheza Chattykat was acceptable at 8/5, paid \$5.20.