THE PICK 4 MATRIX
featuring the Santa Anita Late P4
&
the Golden Hour P4

By Frank R. Scatoni

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NOTE: Because this analysis is posted in advance, always check my Twitter feed @ScatoniSureShot for real-time updates based on scratches and track conditions—as this analysis is written for surfaces that are fast and firm. Thanks!

INTRO
It's Big Cap weekend, so there's a lot to look forward to this race week—but before we even talk about Saturday's stellar card, let's look at today's 8-race cards from both Santa Anita and Golden Gate. The SA Late P4 begins in Race 5, while the low-takeout Golden Hour Pick 4 consists of SA7/GG7/SA8/GG8.

SA LATE P4 LEG 1 (SA R5):
We start things off with the first of three Cal-bred races for fillies/mares in the sequence, and this one is filled with some really unreliable animals: 3-year-old fillies, all of them about as fast as molasses. It's a Cal-bred $50K maiden-claimer contested at 8-furlongs on the main track for sophomores of the female persuasion. Expect a stagger-fest in the lane—and if you can spread, spread!

> #1 COMPLETE CONTROL (3/1) has speed, removes the hood, breaks from the rail, and gets a 7-pound weight-break. She'll run as fast as she can for as far as she can. Stamina remains a question to answer on the stretch-out, but she'll have every chance to wire this weak group. Note: her one two-turn try (on turf) was no good, though she did have a troubled trip. GRADE: B.

> #2 SMOOTHLIKEBUTTAH (7/2) also stretches out after failing as the 11/10 favorite at this level last time when sprinting and having to break from the rail. Her two-turn turf tries aren't anything special either, so she's another one who will have to show some stamina late. GRADE: B.

> #3 SIDEWAYS SUANCES (12/1) ran well against $30K maidens two back when going a mile, but last time, against $40K foes, she was well-beaten after an eventful beginning. She doesn't look like much on paper, but at least she's been running around two turns, so Mullins must think she can handle this trip. GRADE: B.

> #4 SUGAR KISSES (10/1) had to break from the 11-hole in each of her turf races against better, so I won't be so harsh on her, even though she didn't show much in either of those starts. She now makes her third career start while moving to dirt and stretching out…and dropping in class. She should get a wake-up call today—but as I've always said, when Gaines runs them for a tag, it means they usually can't run (though at least this isn't the very bottom, yet). GRADE: B.

#5 HERE COMES RALPHIE (4/1) ran second going a mile against $30K foes last time at 25/1. It was a career-best for her, but she really just passed tired horses, running on late from well off a very fast pace. She'll need to do better today. GRADE: B.

#6 SUPERSONIC FLYER (5/1) was 90/1 in her debut against Cal-bred MSWs going 6-furlongs on turf, and she ran to those long odds while never being a factor—but she did come home in under 12-seconds, so maybe she can do better today stretching out for the first time and dropping in for a tag. In a field as bad as this one, why not? GRADE: A.

#7 HALF HOPING (5/2) has run second twice at this level while sprinting, but she has shown decent enough interest late to make me think that a stretch-out today will do her some good. She's obvious, but I wouldn't trust her! GRADE: A.

SA LATE P4 LEG 2 (SA R6):
Today's second leg is another Cal-bred maiden-claimer that looks just as unreliable as the previous one: a Cal-bred $50K maiden-claimer contested at 6.5-furlongs on the main track.

#1 FURSACE (3/1) debuted last time against winners, which makes no sense to me, but maybe there wasn't a race for her and Koriner wanted to give her an educational spin for this spot. She was 12/1 in a 7-horse field, and she showed a little run before weakening. She'll be much tighter today, but the rail forces her hand. GRADE: B.

#2 DUAL REALITY (15/1) cost $4K back in 2019 and goes out for a trainer who is starting his first Thoroughbred in the last year. I'll watch one. GRADE: X.

#3 HUMOR ME HARPER (30/1) was 74/1 in her debut against tougher Cal-bred MSWs while going a mile on turf, and she was well-beaten. The drop, cutback, and move to the main track all make sense, but I fear she might need even weaker to shine. GRADE: X.

#4 LADY DOC (6/1) debuts for Kruljac the elder, and he can pop every now and again with a first-time starter, though I'm not sure if this one is going to be ready off just Los Al works. GRADE: X.

#5 SLEWPYS LAST SONG (30/1) is a 5-year-old mare who is making her first career start. I'm sure she'll be fully cranked for her unveiling, but this barn isn't really known for winning first-time out, so maybe we should watch one, even though that last work looks pretty solid. GRADE: X.

#6 TWENTYSEVENTROUTS (5/2) was the 5/2 favorite in her debut back in July 2019 when going 5.5-furlongs on the Del Mar dirt. She broke like a shot, made the lead, and ended up finishing second. She hasn't been seen since, but Puype can bring them back locked and loaded, and the drop makes perfect sense today. GRADE: A.

#7 MY TIGRESS (9/5) was 10/1 in her debut going 5.5-furlongs at Los Al back in December. She stalked the pace and ran evenly to the wire to hold second. It wasn't a bad race, but I don't like that she hasn't been seen since—but at least she comes back with Prat taking the call. GRADE: B.

#8 ELGOFRANCO (4/1) ran second at this level two back when going 5.5-furlongs at Del Mar. She stalked the pace, was right there into the lane, but was outfinished. In fact, that seems to be her M.O. no matter what level she races at: she lacks the necessary oomph in the lane. That said, she catches a really weak group today, so if she doesn't get the job done, she should really drop to the bottom after this. GRADE: B.

SA LATE P4 LEG 3/GOLDEN HOUR P4 LEG 1 (SA R7):
Today's third leg—yet another Cal-bred affair but this one being a Cal-bred $20K optional-claiming/N1X for fillies and mares going 6-furlongs on the main track—is also the first leg of the Golden Hour Pick 4, so we'll see if we can get out of here alive.

#1 LOVELY FINISH (12/1) survived the horrific fires a few years ago, so she will always have a soft spot in my heart. I also like that she's never finished off the board in any of her starts, which is remarkable when you think about it. That said, this tough lady just graduated in an $11K maiden race at Los Al going 1,000-yards, while coming off a June 2020 layoff. The waters get deeper today facing winners and having to break from the rail, but you know she'll be running her heart out every step of the way. GRADE: X.

#2 JAN JAN CAN (8/1) is in good form, having won two in a row, including her maiden-breaker at the $20K level followed by a sharp win against $16K/N2L conditional-claimers last time, where she rallied wide from off the pace, despite having no pace to close into. Ellis saw fit to claim her, and I like that he brings her back protected. Also, Hernandez rides through the claim. Expect her on the scene late, but do realize that this is a big class test for her today. GRADE: X.

#3 KRISTI'S TIGER (2/1) should be sitting on a peak effort, second off the bench and cutting back from a 7-furlong affair, where she ran well but couldn't quite get to the loose-on-the-lead winner, who got away with a glacial pace. This gal has run well at this level plenty of times before, but she's also been a beaten-favorite twice, so she'll need to show more heart today. I like that Rispoli stays put. GRADE: A.

#4 SING IN THE WIND (5/2) has done really good work up north on synth against N1X foes, so we'll see how she fares down here on dirt. I like that she's facing restricted foes today, but I don't like that she lacks early speed and is winless on dirt. I'm tempted to watch one, but I wouldn't be surprised if someone claimed this 6-year-old mare. GRADE: C.

#5 LI'L GRAZEN (5/2) has races on her form from last year that would make her very tough in here—especially when you consider the fact that she's already won at this level three times before, hence the $20K tag today. That said, she's a 7-year-old mare who hasn't been able to string together a campaign ever since she left the Miller barn when Ortiz claimed her for $20K last summer. She came off a December layoff a few weeks ago and ran half a race against starter foes, chasing the pace and weakening. She should be tighter today, but can she get back to her winning ways? GRADE: B.

#6 TIME FOR EBBY (6/1) is a cool old gal who always shows up for work and tries hard all the way to the wire—but her best hasn't been good enough at this level for a long time. Check out her 2020 record: 12 starts, 0 wins, and 10 placings. In other words, she's always right around the wire, but someone always proves better. GRADE: C.

#7 HOMEHOME (6/1) was a top pick for me last time when she was sent off at 4/1 in a 7-furlong event at this level, but she had an uncomfortable journey in a race that had no pace, and she finished a dull fourth. The race was won by her frontrunning stablemate. I'm willing to toss that race and focus on the fact that she hinted at ability last year and should be ready to bounce back while making the third start of her form cycle and shortening up a bit. Also note that she cleared this condition before on turf. GRADE: A.

SA LATE P4 LEG 4/GOLDEN HOUR P4 LEG 3 (SA R8):
We end the Santa Anita card (and pick back up in the Golden Hour P4 with Leg 3 of that bet) with the SA nightcap: a competitive $25K open-claimer contested at 9-furlongs on the turf with the rails at 30-feet.

#1 FULL OF LUCK (CHI) (4/1) is capable of running some decent races, so we'll see if he can move forward today making his second start off the bench, dropping in class, and stretching out. He has a win at the $20K level up north, so this seems like a good spot for him, since anything higher than this level would have him overmatched. He's not impossible here, but it's hard to trust a 1-for-52 jock in a 9-furlong turf race—unless he just sends hard and hopes for the best. GRADE: C.

#2 NEW YEAR (20/1) has decent come-home times, so you can expect him to be grinding away to the wire, but this guy has had his chances at this level, and he really hasn't been able to make an impact. Blinkers off and a positive jock change could help his cause today, but will it be enough? GRADE: X.

#3 MARCKIE'S WATER (4/1) has races on his form that would destroy these, but is this 7-year-old able to run a winning race again? He failed to menace in any of his recent races, though they have come against tougher. Note that Yakteen claimed him for $40K two back and then ran him in a stakes race, thinking he could maybe get this old boy back to his winning ways—but he never threatened. Now he drops below the claim price, which is never a good sign—but at least the class relief gives him a shot today. GRADE: B.

#4 NOBLE THOUGHT (5/2) was 9/1 against tougher starter foes last time, and he put in a mild late bid to finish sixth. That was a salty group, so he's in a much softer spot today—and note that he won at this level and against tougher foes back East, so he should be able to make some serious noise today in his second start off the bench. Also, Rispoli rides, so that tells you everything. GRADE: A.

#5 MO BOB (12/1) was 47/1 at this level last time, and he ran a blah fourth. He'll need to do a lot better today, but at least you know he can get the distance, since he captured an $8K starter race up north going 9-furlongs. Still, he seems to need lesser on this circuit. GRADE: X.

#6 MOVE OVER (GB) (12/1) is going to win one of these days, since he's always shown an above-average ability to come home—but he usually leaves himself with too much to do, and that has been a problem for this 6-year-old. He's better than his last few races have shown, and I think you can certainly use him in your exotics—but this guy will need to show a will to win today. GRADE: C.

#7 FABOZZI (6/1) won at this $25K level last year when sprinting on dirt. He's been racing against much softer the last few months, but he's done winning work, beating up on $8K and $12.5K claimers while going a mile on dirt. Last time, he couldn't transfer his form to the synth, so it remains to be seen how he'll do on turf today while going 9-furlongs. He does have turf form from back in the day, and Mulhall is making all the right moves these days, but I can see this one setting the pace and getting reeled in late. At least the rail setting will help his cause. GRADE: C.

#8 FRENCH GETAWAY (7/2) has done good work against similar foes, so he's always a contender in a spot like this, but don't you get the feeling that this guy would have a lot more wins recently if he had a more aggressive jock? As it is, this guy (who has above-average come-home times) has been left with too much to do. His best race is certainly good enough, but his jock will have to do a better job than he has been doing on this cool old warrior. GRADE: B.

#9 WORTHY TURK (15/1) was 24/1 at this level last time, and he ran to those long odds. In fact, he's lost several times at this $25K level before, so he'll need to do much better today. Note that he's regressed in every race ever since coming off a freshening last October when he finished second at this level. Since then, he's gone downhill, and his most recent race (which was his first since leaving the Miller barn) was his worst. If he can reverse form, he's a contender, but is that going to happen today? GRADE: X.

GOLDEN HOUR P4 LEG 2 (GG R7):
Let's move to the Gate for the second leg of the Golden Hour P4 (GG R7): an open $32K claimer contested at 8-furlongs on the main synthetic track.

#1 NOWHERE MAN (8/1), the first Delima entrant, has tactical speed and gets to save all the ground today while breaking from the rail, but where does this one fit in the claiming ranks? He missed twice against $8K starter foes the last two times, and his most recent win came at the $20K level while

racing on turf. In fact, both his wins since 2020 have come on the lawn. Maybe he can grind away for a slice. GRADE: X.

#2 FUENTE (GB) (6/1) is another whose best recent races have come on the lawn, so this one will need to do better today, especially since he has now lost twice in a row to a few of these, including Harmon, who has him squarely on form. That said, he does have tactical speed, so he can either dictate the pace or sit off whoever wants to make the lead. GRADE: X.

#3 OF GOOD REPORT (5/2) was the 2/1 favorite against a few of these two back when he ran third at the $25K level, losing to Harmon after having some slight early trouble and a wide journey in that 8.5-furlong race. It's no surprise that he did the business against $20K foes after that and was claimed by Markle. This guy likes the 8-furlong distance, and he's right there with the top few in here—but can he take a step forward off the barn change? Frey rides through the claim, which is a positive. GRADE: B.

#4 RIVER ROSE (15/1) has tactical speed and gets some class relief after facing off against N1X foes for his entire 2020 campaign. The drop into the claiming ranks surely will help, but he is another horse who likes to do his best work on turf, so it's hard to overlook that 0-for-5 synth record. GRADE: X.

#5 POUR ON THE COLE (7/2) is in good form, having won twice at the $20K level before trying N1X foes and running a decent fourth after weakening late in an 8.5-furlong race. The slight cutback will help today, and it's hard to ignore this one's sharp form—but he's facing better horses than the ones he beat two and three races back. Still, he should get a good trip in here. GRADE: C.

#6 HARMON (3/1) has won two in a row at the $25K level while facing off against a bunch of these. He's run the same race each time, tracking from off the pace and showing a gritty stretch run and a will to win to get to the wire. He should run another good one today. GRADE: A.

#7 MANILA MISCHIEF (4/1), the second Delima runner, is interesting as the new face in the crowd, since he has races on his form against better animals that would make him tough in here. I also like that he makes the third start of his form cycle after prepping in two sprints where he couldn't be claimed. This seems like the money run today while racing for the $32K tag. GRADE: A.

GOLDEN HOUR P4 LEG 4 (GG R8):
We close out the Golden Hour P4 with a competitive $50K starter-allowance contested at 8.5-furlongs on the main synthetic surface.

#1 COMBAT ZONE (7/2) makes his first synth start on this circuit after plying his trade down south against seemingly tougher animals. Back in 2019, this one did good work around two turns, so you can just go ahead an ex-out his 2020 form, where he exclusively ran in turf sprints. Mathis knows what he's doing, so I think this one will show up today. GRADE: A.

#2 IRISH DECLARATION (12/1) was fifty-cents on the dollar in his maiden-breaker against $12.5K foes. He came from off the pace and won fairly easily. It was a nice effort, and he was claimed out of that race by a high-percentage trainer—but this newly turned 4-year-old will need to run a lot faster today. GRADE: X.

#3 HUGE BIGLY (8/1) was 8/1 at this level last time, and he put in a mild late bid to finish fourth to a few of these while going 8-furlongs. I think he can do better today getting more ground and making the third start of his form cycle, but he will need to turn the tables on two who just beat him pretty easily. GRADE: X.

#4 GALLANT WARREN (10/1) was 7/1 at this level last time against a few of these, and he ran fifth, racing off the pace and never really kicking on. Before that, he ran third at this level with some trouble—but in each of his starter races, Union Dance has proven better than him. On the plus side, he

has a win at 9-furlongs, so maybe he can turn the tables with extra ground today. Note: he races with hind shoes off today. GRADE: X.

#5 UNION DANCE (5/2) has done good work ever since Tamayo stretched him out to a mile, including an easy win last time against a few of these while being sent off at 5/2. He came home strongly in that race, suggesting that today's extra half-furlong shouldn't be an issue at all. Note that he's the only horse in the race with two wins, since his maiden-breaker for $20K doesn't count toward eligibility in this starter event, which is why he's allowed to run right back at the level he just won at. GRADE: A.

#6 HE BE MOJO RISIN (15/1) was 4/5 against $16K maiden-claimers last time, and he did what he was supposed to do, tracking from off the pace and running on late to win fairly easily. It wasn't a bad-looking race, but it was kind of slow so he's going to need to do much better today against winners. GRADE: X.

#7 ORCZY (IRE) (9/2) was 10/1 in his stateside debut against $25K claimers, and he ran fourth, tracking the pace, making a middle move, and then flattening out to come home in pretty slow time. That said, his second quarter was really quick, so maybe he can improve with a better-timed ride. Will it be good enough against starter foes? GRADE: C.

#8 MECKLENBURG (IRE) (4/1) was 5/1 at this level last time when making his first start here at the Gate after racing on the turf down south. He got a good stalking trip but lacked the necessary oomph to get the job done, finishing third behind Union Dance. I suppose he can improve with that experience under his belt, but will he be able to outkick that foe this time after having no real excuse last time? GRADE: B.

#9 IMPERATOR (20/1) hasn't been able to beat lesser foes, so this seems like an ambitious spot for a horse who has also had a few tries at this level, to no avail. Franko legs up a 5-pound bug to gain every advantage, but I don't think that will be enough to get this one the W today. GRADE: X.

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SANTA ANITA LATE P4 MATRIX (SA5 through SA8)

We are dealing with some unreliable females in the sequence, but I still think there's possibility here, so I'm okay playing the **MATRIX** for **$70.50** to cover all the combos. If you want to spend less, **$62.50** will get you all "A's" with two "B's" while **$18** will get you all "A's" with one "B."

Keep in mind: I don't add "Also Eligibles" to the Matrix, so if they draw in, be sure to include them on all of your tickets!

☑ **All A's**			
1 6,7 / 6 / 3,7 / 4		0.50	2.00
☐ **All A's / All B's**			
2 1,2,3,4,5,6,7 / 1,6,7,8 / 3,5,7 / 3,4,8		0	0
☑ **A's with One B**			
3 1,2,3,4,5 / 6 / 3,7 / 4		0.50	5.00
4 6,7 / 1,7,8 / 3,7 / 4		0.50	6.00
5 6,7 / 6 / 5 / 4		0.50	1.00
6 6,7 / 6 / 3,7 / 3,8		0.50	4.00
☑ **A's with Two B**			
7 1,2,3,4,5 / 1,7,8 / 3,7 / 4		0.50	15.00
8 1,2,3,4,5 / 6 / 5 / 4		0.50	2.50
9 1,2,3,4,5 / 6 / 3,7 / 3,8		0.50	10.00
10 6,7 / 1,7,8 / 5 / 4		0.50	3.00
11 6,7 / 1,7,8 / 3,7 / 3,8		0.50	12.00
12 6,7 / 6 / 5 / 3,8		0.50	2.00
☑ **A's with One C**			
13 6,7 / 6 / 4,6 / 4		0.50	2.00
14 6,7 / 6 / 3,7 / 1,6,7		0.50	6.00

	Total Wager
By using TicketMaker, you have saved **$349.5** compared to the "caveman" ticket	**$70.5**
By using TicketMaker, you have bet your "A" opinions 4 times	

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Today's **MATRIX** is a little over-budget at **$106**, so if you want to spend less, you can eliminate the "C's" and just play all "A's" with two "B's" for **$66**...or all "A's" with one "B" for **$36**.

Keep in mind: I don't add "Also Eligibles" to the Matrix, so if they draw in, be sure to include them on all of your tickets!

☑ **All A's**			
1 3,7 / 6,7 / 4 / 1,5		1.00	8.00
☐ **All A's / All B's**			
2 3,5,7 / 3,6,7 / 3,4,8 / 1,5,8		0	0
☑ **A's with One B**			
3 5 / 6,7 / 4 / 1,5		1.00	4.00
4 3,7 / 3 / 4 / 1,5		1.00	4.00
5 3,7 / 6,7 / 3,8 / 1,5		1.00	16.00
6 3,7 / 6,7 / 4 / 8		1.00	4.00
☑ **A's with Two B**			
7 5 / 3 / 4 / 1,5		1.00	2.00
8 5 / 6,7 / 3,8 / 1,5		1.00	8.00
9 5 / 6,7 / 4 / 8		1.00	2.00
10 3,7 / 3 / 3,8 / 1,5		1.00	8.00
11 3,7 / 3 / 4 / 8		1.00	2.00
12 3,7 / 6,7 / 3,8 / 8		1.00	8.00
☑ **A's with One C**			
13 4,6 / 6,7 / 4 / 1,5		1.00	8.00
14 3,7 / 5 / 4 / 1,5		1.00	4.00
15 3,7 / 6,7 / 1,6,7 / 1,5		1.00	24.00
16 3,7 / 6,7 / 4 / 7		1.00	4.00

By using TicketMaker, you have saved **$374** compared to the "caveman" ticket	Total Wager
By using TicketMaker, you have bet your "A" opinions 8 times	$106