

Analysis By: **Brad Free**

5 **OLLIE'S CANDY** has not won a race since this G1 a year ago, but she might be in the best form of her career based on outstanding recent performances. She ran winning races both recent G1 starts. She engaged in a kamikaze pace duel two back, shook off her rival, and got collared. Last out, similar. She chased a blazing pace, kicked away, but got worn down by a pair of late-runners. 'CANDY would benefit from more patient handling than either recent start, she figures to get it switching to Flavien Prat. Assuming she rations her speed, she can turn the tables on **2 CE CE**. The latter is legit, notwithstanding her odds-on third last. She previously won successive G1's and has had this race on her radar since early in the year. The closer is owned and bred Bo Hirsch; this race is named for his late father Clement L. Hirsch. CE CE will sit back, and rally late. 3 **HARD NOT TO LOVE** is a spooky but talented one-eyed filly whose shenanigans in the post parade last out caused a delay to the start of the G2 Santa Maria. She actually ran well, rallying from off the pace over a racetrack that was blatantly pro-speed. FIGHTING MAD exploited the bias to wire the Santa Mara field. Speed was not as effective the first two weeks of the Del Mar meet as it was the day FIGHTING MAD won at Santa Anita. Regardless, she is likely to set the pace with a chance to steal it.