



## GLOBEFORM ANALYSIS - BAYERN

**BAYERN** went gate to wire when California Chrome failed to fire in the 9-furlong Pennsylvania Derby (G2) at Parx in September, just like he had done also in the Haskell Invitational (G1) at Monmouth Park two months earlier. He hammered Albano – not at all a G1 horse – by 7 lengths at Monmouth, and he gave Tapiture – a slightly better runner than Albano – a similar drubbing at Parx. Two strong front-running performances, both when covering nine panels, made him one of the best in the three-year-old division. But what about his stamina? The answer may have seemed to be given in between these wins, when he flopped badly in the Travers Stakes (G1) over 10 furlongs at Saratoga, but don't jump to conclusions here; yes, he failed that day, but his run at the Spa was too bad to be true – and tackling the Classic distance at Saratoga is quite different to doing so at Santa Anita, where speed is a more valuable asset. Bayern has finished his races off really well when winning, and though 9 furlongs probably is his best trip, he could well go close in the BC Classic. Especially if he gets loose on the lead. Don't forget that guy called Fort Larned. He was a 9-furlong runner full stop at any other venue, but as Santa Anita he made all to win the Classic over ten, beating Mucho Macho Man, who came back to win the race a year later. Bayern is not far behind those horses in ability, and he could well improve again in future races. Now, whether such improvement will come over 10 furlongs or shorter, is of course debatable.

It is absolutely true that 'the pace makes the race' and everyone in Bayern's corner are fully aware of that. If he gets things his way, well then he may be the biggest threat to the favorite. If not, and the early pace gets too strong, the tables tilt in Tonalist's favor.

*Either way, Shared Belief appears to be in the best spot. **Globeform 124p***

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