

MEET THE CONTENDERS

2025

SAN FELIPE STAKES

1



MELLENCAMP



PRO: Baffert must think highly of him entering against serious stablemates.
CON: Would be quite a surprise to see this maiden knock off the big guns.

2



JOURNALISM



PRO: Curlin colt ended juvenile campaign on high note easily winning Los Al Futurity (G2).
CON: Needs to quicken a bit to threaten the top duo from Baffert barn.

3



BARNES



PRO: Current Kentucky Derby (G1) favorite widely expected to handle step up in distance.
CON: Doesn't tower over this field on speed figures and will be no kind of price.

4



RODRIGUEZ



PRO: Earned big fig winning maiden two back; subsequent second to Citizen Bull was solid.
CON: Losing ground late in two of previous three a slightly discouraging trend.

5



SMOOTH CRUISEIN



PRO: Beat Journalism in his debut; capable of more than he showed in San Vicente.
CON: Has quite the gap to close on Barnes based on latter performance.

6



BERLIN WALL



PRO: Showed modest improvement second out, albeit against far inferior competition.
CON: Hard to endorse after failing to cross the wire first facing Cal-breds.