



JASON BLEWITT'S

Race Analysis

Friday, January 11, 2019

RACE 1: 1 – 6 – 3 – 2

RACE 2: 1 – 5 – 2 – 6

RACE 3: 4 – 1 – 5 – 7

RACE 4: 5 – 6 – 8 – 9

RACE 5: 6 – 2 – 5 – 1

RACE 6: 3 – 6 – 7 – 4

RACE 7: 2 – 1 – 3 – 6

RACE 8: 6 – 7 – 9 – 4

RACE 9: 3 – 5 – 8 – 7

RACE 10: 3 – 10 – 1 – 6

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Tough-Trip Bet back: Some good and a whole lot of bad basically encapsulates Eyeinthesky's most recent race at Gulfstream Park. And off such a rough n' tumble trip, I'd imagine many handicappers are excited about Eyeinthesky's prospects early Friday afternoon. In fact, this newly-turned 3yo filly faces six rivals in race 2 – a high-priced optional claimer at five furlongs on the turf. Seven entered the field, which starts the day's early Pick 4. In terms of Eyeinthesky, this filly entered her Gulfstream debut last month off a stake-faced 2yo campaign; she won her career debut at Churchill Downs in late May and followed that up with tries in four consecutive stakes races. That includes Saratoga's history-rich Schuylerville and Woodbine's Grade 1 Natalma. Her December 15th trip at Gulfstream Park appears to be going decently enough for Eyeinthesky during the first three, three-and-a-half furlongs. That good fortune, however, evaporated in mid-stretch when Towa (entered back in this race for trainer Allen Iwinski) refused to let Eyeinthesky outside of horses. In fact, here is my trip note after I brushed up on the replay Wednesday morning: Eyeinthesky was hustled inside, pulled an inside-running trip on the far turn, launched a 5-wide move at the top of the stretch but was blindswitched by Towa and could not get outside and into the clear. Eyeinthesky steadied hard and abruptly but still managed to finish third in a solid effort. Trainer Mark Casse teams up with jockey Tyler Gaffalione here.

Really Proud Returns: Trainer Christophe Clement has laid relatively low the first month and change of this Championship Meet at Gulfstream Park. That could definitely change in Friday's 6th race with Clement's returning layoff filly, Really Proud. This daughter of Kitten's Joy broke her maiden at GP – going Friday's niche-like and specialized five furlong turf distance – last February. She would race just twice after leaving South Florida in early May, finishing fourth at Belmont Park and sixth at Saratoga (opening weekend, July 21st.) In fact, the 2018 Gulfstream finale for Really Proud would turn out to be a super-live race: winner Miz Mayhem went on to win a bunch of turf stakes over the summer while Auldwood Lane returned to score, too. Irad Ortiz Jr., named a finalist for 2018's champion jockey along with brother Jose and Hall of Famer Mike Smith, has the ride from post 3.