JASON BLEWITT'S Race Analysis

RACE 1:	2 – 4 – 6 – 5
RACE 2:	6 – 1 – 5 – 2
RACE 3:	5 – 8 – 3 – 4
RACE 4:	2 – 3 – 4 – 1
RACE 5:	9 – 2 – 8 – 7
RACE 6:	3 – 6 – 7 – 8
RACE 7:	9 – 1 – 8 – 3
RACE 8:	7 – 5 – 4 – 1
RACE 9:	6 – 8 – 7 – 5

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GPW, Day 24 of 40: Talk about an awesome Friday afternoon at the races. First and most notable, of course, is the 35th Breeders' Cup returning to Churchill Downs for the first time since 2011. Second is the latest round of the Stronach 5, the very popular 12% takeout wager linking races from Gulfstream Park West (Friday's 9th race finale), Santa Anita Park, Laurel Park and Golden Gate Fields. Please remember that free Stronach 5 past performances are available over at: gulfstreampark.com. And speaking of Gulfstream Park, well, there is no better place to watch and wager on the Breeders' Cup than GP's "Silks" simulcast room. See you there!

Phish Fan Drops: Race 2 favorite **Phish Fan** is a tough, hard-nosed 46-race veteran, a lunch pail, time clock horse if there ever was one. This soon to be 9yo son of Sharp Humor appears very well meant in Friday's 2nd race as he dips in class to $10,000 claiming. He's coming in off an 89-day layoff for trainer Monte Thomas and might also be a heavy favorite to get claimed for the 10k. Leading rider Edgard Zayas entered the new week here Wednesday with 26 wins, has the mount on Phish Fan. Note first post Friday at GPW is about 12:40 p.m. ET. Best of luck!

Kitten Battle: Race 3 Friday, a 2yo maiden claimer on turf, features two key first-time starters by Kitten's Joy. One, **Go Poke the Bear** is trained by Todd Pletcher. The other, **Spunky Kitten**, starts for Mike Maker. Here is a quick pedigree / background rundown of both. Take your pick.

Go Poke the Bear – Purchased for $40,000 at OBS April upon working a furlong in :10 3/5. This colt's dam, Memories Made, won four of 19 over the turf. Go Poke the Bear is the second foal of the family and the first to race. He was a $14,000 RNA as a yearling.

Spunky Kitten – Bred by Ken Ramsey (he campaigned Kitten's Joy), Spunky Kitten hails from an unraced Giant's Causeway dam. He is the 4th foal in the family; two siblings have raced and are a combined one for 21.