

JASON BLEWITT'S Race Analysis

Sunday, January 6, 2019

RACE 1: 4-7-3-1

RACE 2: 4-2-1-3

RACE 3: 4-3-5-8

RACE 4: 6 - 3 - 2 - 4

RACE 5: 2-8-1-3

RACE 6: 2-4-1-7

RACE 7: 11 - 6 - 4 - 9

RACE 8: 3 - 12 - 7 - 11

RACE 9: 8 - 4 - 3 - 1

RACE 10: 7 - 3 - 2 - 4

RACE 11: 7 - 3 - 6 - 12

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Chad's Turf Maidens: Trainer Chad Brown began the week – and 2019 for that matter – in style thanks to an awesome-looking maiden turf winner here Wednesday in Cambier Parc. By Medaglia d'Oro, she's a filly undoubtedly bound for graded stakes. In fact. I'd love to see her run back in Gulfstream races like the Sweetest Chant and/or Hercomesthebride later this winter. In the meantime, Brown looks primed for the GP green Sunday afternoon, thanks to Doswell in the 5th and his two-pronged attack of Positive Skew and Whoopi in the 8th. Doswell, a newly-turned 4yo by the late Giant's Causeway, makes his first start for Brown and first domestically as the 5th race favorite. This gelding owns just one start – he fell a head shy of defeating nine rivals at a robust 20-1 in Great Britain in July of '17 – but sports a thorough string of Palm Meadows-based workouts in preparation for this Gulfstream Park debut. He's also got a quality-laden lineage to fall back on, considering his Minardi dam, Ballet Pacifica, won three turf races (including a pair overseas) and he has two multiple, six-figure winning siblings. In fact, Doswell's siblings have each won three turf races; Doswell, for the record, is the third foal in the family. Jockey Jose Ortiz has the call from post 2. By any and all metrics, Brown enters 2019 off an absolutely monstrous '18: he won 224 races and more than \$27.5 million in purse money.

Meanwhile, Positive Skew and Whoopi command serious respect in race 8, which shapes up as a terrific-looking 3yo filly maiden turf race at 7.5 furlongs. Whoopi debuts with jockey Paco Lopez as a Ghostzapper-Normandy's Nell, by Mt. Livermore filly. Note her dam went winless in nine career starts (and was 0/7 over turf) but has proved a solid producer: three of Whoopi's four siblings are winners; two are multiple dirt winners in the U.S. while a half-brother won on grass overseas. Switching gears, Positive Skew ran well in a narrow third-place finish in her first and only race about two months ago. By the late City Zip, she appears to want more ground than the six furlongs she got November 9th at Aqueduct. My trip note: reserved with no speed early while inside, taken wide mid-turn, good run while widest, out-finished late. Hall of Fame jockey Javier Castellano has the call.