



JASON BLEWITT'S

Race Analysis

Thursday, January 10, 2019

RACE 1: 7 – 6 – 8 – 9

RACE 2: 3 – 2 – 1 – 4

RACE 3: 1 – 3 – 6 – 4

RACE 4: 8 – 2 – 5 – 3

RACE 5: 6 – 1 – 12 – 8

RACE 6: 8 – 2 – 6 – 1

RACE 7: 6 – 2 – 1 – 8

RACE 8: 7 – 1 – 2 – 4

RACE 9: 2 – 6 – 5 – 1

RACE 10: 9 – 8 – 1 – 7

Plays to 'Make' Your Thursday: It's time to get tied on for another 10-race Thursday at glorious Gulfstream Park. First post, in sticking with the laidback South Florida vibe, is "around" 12:40 p.m. ET. I have been a huge Mike Maker proponent over the years and think the Michigan-born trainer could have a memorable Thursday at GP. Maker, who owns 2,218 career victories and more than \$88 million in winning cash, sees action in four of the day's 10 races on this January 10th. His best horse on the day, the Irish-bred Race Me Home, battles in the first. And the opener, for what it's worth, is my favorite race on the card. Indeed, race 1 features an excellent and deep 25k optional claiming field on turf, a race composed of razor-sharp horses. Race Me Home will vie for favoritism with Uncle B (more on him in a minute) as he exits a good try – with an excellent ride from Jose Ortiz in the process – third here late last month. My 12/22 trip note for this son of Oasis Dream: inside trip, very smooth four-wide angle at the top of the stretch while splitting horses, game try, out-finished late. The "small bit of shade" I see with Race Me Home Thursday is the drop in claim price of \$25,000; this 6yo was claimed four months ago for 50k in Kentucky and has run admirably well in three So-Flo races for Maker. Race Me Home is 6-1-2 from 18 starts.

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Uncle B Exits CC Emerald: The notion that Uncle B had simply tailed off and was nowhere near the horse he was late last winter through early summer evaporated in about 100 seconds. That 1:41 was the time it took Uncle B, one of South Florida's best claims last year, to score a memorable 36-1 upset victory (against a stellar field of turf runners) here opening day in the Claiming Crown Emerald. Since being claimed by trainer Lilli Kurtinecz for a mere \$16,000 one year ago, Uncle B has banked more than \$130,000 while winning four-of-eight races for Kurtinecz. This Zensational gelding relished an outstanding trip, ride and stroke of good fortune in the Emerald. My personal trip note for that 12/1, \$75 upset victory reads: sat the pocket while tracking a 3-way pace battle, four-wide move turning for home, drew clear with a determined run. I'm anxious to see him return Thursday.