



# JASON BLEWITT'S

## Race Analysis

*Friday, April 3, 2020*

RACE 1: 6 – 3 – 1 – 2

RACE 2: 4 – 7 – 8 – 3

RACE 3: 11 – 3 – 8 – 2

RACE 4: 6 – 3 – 1 – 2

RACE 5: 2 – 8 – 7 – 6

RACE 6: 3 – 4 – 2 – 5

RACE 7: 2 – 9 – 7 – 4

RACE 8: 4 – 7 – 3 – 2

RACE 9: 3 – 11 – 2 – 7

**Race 6:** Flashy pedigrees, big-money purchase prices and an Eclipse Award collection worthy of a (large) trophy case are on display in Friday's 6<sup>th</sup> race, a (three-and-up) maiden special weight at 1 1/16 miles over the dirt. Chad Brown, a four-time champion trainer, saddles a deserving favorite in Candy Machine. This Candy Ride colt earned a solid figure in his first start and is an obvious candidate to springboard forward as he tries a route of ground for the first time. Candy Machine also faced a good one first out in I'll Fight Dempsey, a well-bet Todd Pletcher colt who wired the field. Only one horse has come out of the I'll Fight Dempsey race and was a non-factor at 50-1 odds. Speaking of Pletcher, this seven-time Eclipse Award winner is in the mix with Ellis Island and Fried Rice King. I prefer Fried Rice King, who may own the field's best DNA for dirt route success. This Bernardini colt exits a Fountain of Youth undercard race won by Mister Candy Ride; horses are 0/4 thus far from the field. Ellis Island, meanwhile, is likely to improve off a good-close in his first and only race behind his odds-on winning stablemate, Liam's Point. I appreciate Ellis Island's solid run and late interest at a demanding seven furlongs back but don't like the race he exits. Five horses have returned from the Liam's Point crew with no winners. What really turned me off was the 8<sup>th</sup>-place finish here Sunday by Mud Pie, who didn't lift a hoof at 2-1 odds behind the Pletcher-trained Dr Post. Mark Hennig seems to have Or'effice moving in the right direction and although this pricey Medaglia d'Oro colt exits an off-the-turf race – he ran well in a narrow defeat – that race may have some quality to it, certainly more than the average off turf maiden race. He'll go from post 2 with Joe Bravo. Christophe Clement hit a major milestone last Friday when his barn won its 2,000 career race. And he promptly followed that with a two-win showing Florida Derby Day. Here, Clement saddles Wind Ridge. I have a feeling this Tonalist colt will either need a slightly easier field or just more racing in general but he exits a salty Tampa Bay race from Feb. 8. True, Wind Ridge was not bet at 14-1 and finished 5<sup>th</sup> but that race has since produced three next-out winners while winner Texas Swing returned to run third in the Tampa Bay Derby.

*Spring Meet, Day 2*  
*Post Time: 1 p.m. ET*

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