



# JASON BLEWITT'S

## Race Analysis

*Saturday, May 4, 2019*

### Derby Day Action at Gulfstream Park

RACE 1: 1 – 7 – 4 – 2  
RACE 2: 4 – 2 – 8 – 3  
RACE 3: 4 – 2 – 7 – 1  
RACE 4: 6 – 4 – 3 – 1  
RACE 5: 3 – 1 – 6 – 4  
RACE 6: 1 – 2 – 5 – 6  
RACE 7: 6 – 7 – 9 – 10  
RACE 8: 6 – 1 – 2 – 4  
RACE 9: 5 – 7 – 6 – 3  
RACE 10: 3 – 10 – 11 – 13  
RACE 11: 7 – 4 – 6 – 5  
RACE 12: 6 – 1 – 9 – 5

Gulfstream Park will be rocking this Saturday, Kentucky Derby Day, thanks to a 12-race program that is anchored by a pair of late afternoon turf stakes. Note that first-race post time at GP is a little after 12:30 p.m. ET. As for the big one, give me Game Winner in Kentucky Derby 144 for Bob Baffert. Here's to a big run as well from Florida Derby winner Maximum Security. Meanwhile, Gulfstream Park's all-time leading trainer, Todd Pletcher, doesn't have any GP starters here Saturday but he did manage to train English Channel and Honey Ryder to a combined 26 wins (a baker's dozen apiece) a little more than a decade ago. English Channel won the biggest race of his career in the in the 2007 Breeders' Cup Turf (over a soaked Monmouth Park grass course) and was named 2007's Eclipse Award Turf Champion. As for his stakes, the English Channel (three-year-olds) carries a \$75,000 purse and runs as the Saturday nightcap, race 12 of 12. The 75k Honey Ryder, for three-year-old fillies, was carded as race 10. I like the Christophe Clement-trained Sea of Hope as my top selection in the English Channel. He's obviously talented (record is 1-1-1 from three starts) and appears to be trending upward on the ability scale; this is a colt that is still improving with each race. Topping off the appeal package is that his sire, Quality Road, has been blazing hot the last year or so – just look at City of Light in the Pegasus World Cup Dirt! Earlier, I am predicting a scorching pace in the Honey Ryder thanks to Trenchtown Cat's tough outside draw (post 13) as well as the presence of Peaceful Feeling and Bello Porte. Panther Hit shares a number of parallels with Sea of Hope in that she's bred well (Giant's Causeway) and has run solidly in both starts to date. Watch out!

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