



JASON BLEWITT'S

Race Analysis

Thursday, October 3, 2019

RACE 1: 5 – 2 – 1 – 3

RACE 2: 3 – 1 – 4 – 2

RACE 3: 7 – 4 – 8 – 6

RACE 4: 6 – 5 – 4 – 2

RACE 5: 6 – 1 – 2 – 5

RACE 6: 3 – 2 – 1 – 8

RACE 7: 7 – 6 – 5 – 1

RACE 8: 6 – 7 – 3 – 2

Welcome Home, Tiger Blood

A pile of winners' circle pictures, blazing speed, sharp consistency and a sizable dose of good ol' fashioned class runs right through the field in Thursday's 2nd race at Gulfstream Park West. This starter / optional claimer attracted six accomplished turf sprinters (in the body that is) at its five furlong distance. Tiger Blood will start as a monstrously short odds-on favorite as he looks to continue his ascent in the local turf sprint ranks. This six-year-old Cowtown Cat gelding was claimed right around Preakness Stakes Weekend for a now-bargain \$16,000 and has since rattled off two wickedly impressive turf victories for trainers Steve and Lillian Klesaris. Moreover, he's been unbeatable at 5/8ths on the turf with a dominant record of four for four. The distance is certainly part of the conversation because Tiger Blood recently tried 6.5 furlongs over the Kentucky Downs turf course in early last month. He finished second to Fast Boat as a heavy favorite but beat nine others in what was a bulky 11-horse field. Thursday's 2nd race obviously sees Tiger Blood returning to his best trip. "He came out of the race in great shape and it was a very good effort," said trainer Lillian Klesaris. "Tyler (Gaffalione) got off him and said the distance was probably a little too far. He's trained really well since getting back to Florida and we're anxious to get a race into him over that turf course." Tiger Blood raced three times last autumn over the GPW main track but is far better this season thanks to the addition of turf racing. Not only is he one of SoFla's best claims of 2019, he strikes me as a likely candidate for Gulfstream Park's Claiming Crown Championship on December 7th.

Gulfstream Park West Day 2
Post Time: 1 p.m. ET