JASON BLEWITT'S
Race Analysis

RACE 1:   2 – 7 – 6 – 1

RACE 2:   6 – 7 – 9 – 4

RACE 3:   6 – 5 – 3 – 8

RACE 4:   3 – 5 – 10 – 6

RACE 5:   7 – 1 – 3 – 8

RACE 6:   1 – 6 – 4 – 7

RACE 7:   4 – 3 – 7 – 2

RACE 8:   10 – 3 – 2 – 7

RACE 9:   4 – 7 – 10 – 1

RACE 10: 7 – 6 – 9 – 4

RACE 11: 6 – 1 – 5 – 2

RACE 12: 8 – 10 – 3 – 6

Saturday, July 20, 2019

Second Timers Clash in the Ninth

Horseplayers and handicappers would be wise to set aside a little extra prep work time before tackling Saturday's 9th race at Gulfstream Park. For the record, this 12-race program will begin around 12:50 ET; the $75,000 Sea of Tranquility Stakes sits as the featured 11th race. Race 9, meanwhile, features a near-capacity cast of 12 two-year-old colts that are gunning for the winners' share of a $65k maiden special purse. Tons of Gold is one of four second-time starters in the field and in many respects, is the most important – and shortest-priced. This Tonalist colt exits an "inside trip, no response" career debut here late last month in the Kodiak Island Stake. Yes, Tons of Gold did no impactful running behind the Florida Sire Stakes-bound Positively Awesome but unless someone really steps forward – think a second timer or one of the eight firsters – Tons of Gold will likely and simply exit a stronger field in the talent department. Trainer Kathy Ritvo appears very dangerous with her second-time starting Macho Uno colt Forceful One. Forceful One got bet first-time out – 9/2 in a seven-horse field – but was never able to shift or move into a comfortable spot over an extremely sloppy / sealed racetrack. Here's my trip note: "jammed between foes while chasing hard into the turn, no response outside stretch." I'd expect him to improve against this field over a dry track and have always liked this outfit with second-time starters. Trainer Mark Casse entered two firsters in Opportunist and Mountain Breeze. Opportunist, a New York-bred by Ghostzapper, is the priciest runner in the race thanks to his $400k tag. His dam won six dirt sprints for more than $350,000. This is her second foal.

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