



JASON BLEWITT'S

Race Analysis

Saturday, June 9, 2018

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

A Fresh Galleon Mast: It will take a while to get to Saturday's Blewitt Best Bet – The Triple B – but the race 8-bound **Galleon Mast** will be worth the wait (I know, I know, famous last words.) Galleon Mast was one of South Florida's most improved horses in 2017 – he finished the season with a strong and solid record of 5-3-2 from 10 starts. And he's a deserving favorite Saturday, Belmont Stakes Day in South Florida, in the GP feature, the 100k Soldier's Dancer. I'd argue Galleon Mast is simply the class of the field in this 8.5 furlong turf stake. He's also returning to his favorite turf course – he was beaten a brutal nose 76 days ago at Tampa Bay Downs – and his best distance; this Mizzen Mast gelding is 4-1-1 from six prior starts at 1 1/16 miles over the turf. Galleon Mast will be making his second consecutive appearance in the Soldier's Dancer, as he was beaten narrowly when fourth in this race a year ago. I would argue Galleon Mast is significantly better and much improved from even last June.

Late Pick 5 is Quality: The Soldier's Dancer is the lone stakes race on Saturday at GP, but the 9th race deserves top billing as well. It really is a strong entry-level allowance / optional claimer. **Front Loaded** ran so well off a near 8 ½-month layoff here last month and is the horse to beat for trainer Jose Pinchin (despite the rail.) This Kantharos gelding was good last year – he peaked May to July – but might be even faster this go-round considering his tough neck defeat last out against Reason to Soar. Reason to Soar, of course, notched his third straight win here Wednesday with a gritty score (92 Beyer) against an excellent field. The Grade 3 Smile Sprint, part of GP's June 30th Summit of Speed, should be next for Reason to Soar; bring on X Y Jet!

Belmont Day Late Pick 5 Play...at GP: Best of luck to Justify in his quest to become America's 13th Triple Crown champion. I would love to see him do it. I really would. Seriously, I was so lucky to be at Belmont Park three years ago (third floor, centered on the finish line with my binoculars) the day American Pharoah won the Triple Crown. It was one of the purest and most exhilarating moments of my life. Anyway, here's to a great Belmont Saturday. Shooting for a \$24 late Pick 5 at GP for 50 cents. It's a ticket that goes a little something like this...

R8: 3,7 -Nearly singled Galleon Mast, but opted to cover Driven by Thunder (speed, sharp)
R9: 1 -Excellent return a month ago; flattered by Reason to Soar here Wednesday
R10: 3,7,8 -Good race with many potential 'live' options
R11: 6,7 -It's all about dropdown Peart although Miss Casuarina looks dangerous
R12: 3,7,8,9 -Trickiest race in the sequence; very little turf form to go on; coverage, please