



JASON BLEWITT'S

Race Analysis

Saturday, March 30, 2019

RACE 1: 6 – 7 – 10 – 12

RACE 2: 5 – 4 – 9 – 11

RACE 3: 3 – 1 – 7 – 6

RACE 4: 4 – 1 – 3 – 6

RACE 5: 3 – 1 – 4 – 2

RACE 6: 3 – 6 – 4 – 2

RACE 7: 7 – 3 – 2 – 12

RACE 8: 6 – 3 – 7 – 5

RACE 9: 8 – 10 – 2 – 1

RACE 10: 9 – 5 – 6 – 2

RACE 11: 5 – 11 – 3 – 4

RACE 12: 8 – 4 – 1 – 7

RACE 13: 8 – 9 – 1 – 6

RACE 14: 4 – 1 – 9 – 3

FOY Grudge Match in the 68th Florida Derby

Wow. A lot went on within the 104 or so seconds it took to run the Fountain of Youth earlier this month. From 6/5 favorite Hidden Scroll's searing and race-costing speed duel (with 500-1 shot Gladiator King,) Bourbon War's strong finish and Code of Honor's 9-1 upset win for Shug, the '19 Fountain of Youth offers handicappers a plethora of different-trip / luck scenarios to digest. Saturday, three of the FOY's top four finishers return on a collision course with one another in the 68th running of the \$1 million Xpressbet.com Florida Derby. This Florida Derby drew 11 three-year-olds, making it the biggest Florida Derby field since Ice Box in 2010 for Hall of Fame trainer Nick Zito. The Florida Derby goes as race 14 of 14 here Saturday and will cap a \$500,000 guaranteed late Pick 5, a \$750,000 guaranteed late Pick 4 and mandatory Rainbow 6 payout. As for the win, I like Bourbon War, the fast closing runner-up in the FOY. This Mark Hennig-trained son of Tapit has run exceptionally well in two starts over the GP main track this winter and I believe benefits the most from the Florida Derby's nine-furlong layout. Definitely note that the Fountain of Youth was contested back on March 2nd at 1 1/16 miles, meaning it was a "first finish line" race, a race with a shorter homestretch run. For me, the added real estate and longer run home play as major positives for Bourbon War. I'll be curious to see how strongly Bourbon War is bet – I believe he'll be a shorter price than the Fountain of Youth upset winner, Code of Honor. Hidden Scroll is talented, but remains a bit of an unknown over a dry track. I worry he'll get hooked by 500-1 Hard Belle and/or Maximum Security early from his rail post.