



JASON BLEWITT'S

Race Analysis

Saturday, May 18, 2019

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

Musical Romance: What a Racemare!

Opportunity knocks this Saturday at Gulfstream Park, thanks to a 12-race Preakness Day program in Hallandale Beach. The local action – and there is plenty to go around with chunky-sized fields scattered throughout the afternoon – is certainly anchored by the \$100,000 Musical Romance for Florida-bred fillies and mares. The Musical Romance, carded as race 10, drew a field of eight. Defending winner Stormy Embrace is back and will easily race as an overwhelming favorite for trainer Kathleen O'Connell and jockey Wilmer Garcia (who rode her to victory in the '18 Musical Romance.) Do note that Gulfstream Park owns an earlier-than-usual first-race post Saturday of 12:30 ET. As for the featured stakes race, I love the notion of Gulfstream honoring Musical Romance each and every May with her very own namesake race. Musical Romance embodied a tough, blue-collar Florida-bred in every way. She was an overachiever on the racetrack, a modestly-bred daughter of Concorde's Tune that went on to win more than \$1.6 million in prize money. Her finest moment came in front of a packed house at historic Churchill Downs in early November 2011. Given an outside 20-1 chance in the Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Sprint, Musical Romance and jockey Juan Leyva stormed home upset winners over Switch and 10 others in that championship race. Overall, Musical Romance went 12-6-8 from 41 career starts. Owned by Pinnacle Racing and trained by (the now retired) Bill Kaplan, Musical Romance evolved from an original \$22,000 two-year-old purchase to a \$1.6 million auction buy as a broodmare prospect.

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