



JASON BLEWITT'S Race Analysis

Thursday, February 8, 2018

Race 1: 1 – 6 – 3 – 5

Race 2: 1 – 6 – 4 – 5

Race 3: 4 – 3 – 2 – 7

Race 4: 5 – 1 – 6 – 7

Race 5: 4 – 8 – 5 – 1

Race 6: 1 – 8 – 5 – 2

Race 7: 4 – 2 – 3 – 5

Race 8: 7 – 2 – 1 – 6

Race 9: 3 – 4 – 1 – 7

Race 10: 4 – 11 – 5 – 12

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JB's Thursday Firsters: A couple of good-looking maiden special weight fields highlight Thursday's 10-race offering at the ol' "GP by the sea." Three-year-old filly maidens are up first in race 4, a 6 1/2-furlong dirt sprint worth 50k. I think there is more than enough evidence in the corner of **Mi Chiquita**. This Majesticperfection filly debuts for Gold Square and trainer Jeremiah Englehart with nine published Palm Meadows-based workouts. As for the backstory, Mi Chiquita first sold as a yearling for 52k, months before her OBS March Sale (2017) appearance. She worked a furlong in that 2yo-in-training sale in :10 1/5, bringing a winning bid of 140k. This filly's unraced, 12yo dam (Triumphantly, by Mr. Greeley) has produced four previous foals. All four are winners. The star of the family is undoubtedly Trouble Kid, a multiple dirt-sprint winner of more than 535k. The works for Englehart are solid and the fact that top-jock Jose Ortiz has the mount is a big deal in my opinion.

The Great Scatsby: Two races later Thursday, **The Great Scatsby** makes his long-awaited career debut. He is one of two key, seemingly well-meant runners for top trainer Chad Brown in the 6th, a 50k maiden turf race. It has taken The Great Scatsby (awesome name, by the way) quite a bit of time to make it to the entry box. This now 4yo colt by the late Scat Daddy sold to e Five Racing about 23 months ago at the Fasig-Tipton March of '16 sale. He had worked a furlong in :10 1/5, before the hammer fell at a cool 500k winning bid. The Great Scatsby proved to be a cheeky pinhook-type investment, as he originally sold as a yearling for 220k. His 11yo dam, W W American (by Quiet American) has two other foals, both winners themselves. She was pretty good on the track too, a five-time winner on both dirt and synthetic. Brown's other runner, **Battle of Blenheim**, has Johnny V. riding and will likely go favored off a good but tough defeat 55 days ago.

Solid Quality in Thursday's Late P5: Count me in as a fan of races 6 and 7 Thursday. I already wrote a bit about the 6th (slight glance above, please) and could go on at length on the day's featured 7th race, a high-level optional claimer on turf. For the record, I fully expect **Platinum Prince** to make amends for a brutal nose-defeat on Dec. 17; he looks like the 7th's right horse while exiting the deep-fielded Janus New Year's Day. Anyway, this is my \$36 Pick 5 play – with race-by-race comments – for 50 cents. Best of luck!

- R6: 1,5,8 -Could see 'pressing' Battle of Blenheim but opted for all three top choices to start
- R7: 4 -Love Javier C. with the re-ride and can see a great trip *and* slight class edge
- R8: 1,2,6,7 -Obviously using four in this tricky leg; each filly is dropping in class
- R9: 1,3,4 -Want horses that can lay close (Hangry plods) but do admit I might be light in coverage
- R10: 4,11 -No cuteness here; Order In best of locals; Keg Stand (day of Eagles parade) well-meant