



JASON BLEWITT'S

Race Analysis

Thursday, June 7, 2018

RACE 1: 6 – 7 – 2 – 5

RACE 2: 4 – 1 – 3 – 2

RACE 3: 5 – 6 – 8 – 4

RACE 4: 1 – 4 – 8 – 2

RACE 5: 3 – 8 – 5 – 4

RACE 6: 6 – 7 – 3 – 2

RACE 7: 2 – 3 – 4 – 1

RACE 8: 2 – 3 – 6 – 5

RACE 9: 10 – 6 – 3 – 12

Uncle B Set: Belmont Stakes Week here in sunny South Florida continues Thursday with a nine-race Gulfstream Park card. First-race post is a relaxed 1:15 p.m. – hey, we're on tropical beach time! Thursday also marks the latest round of Summit of Speed prep: 3yo sprinters take center stage in the featured 8th race, the 75k Ocala Flame. The Ocala Flame, at 6.5 furlongs over the dirt, serves as a launching pad for the Carry Back on Summit of Speed Day, Saturday, June 30th. But I'm getting ahead of myself just a bit because the best horse competing Thursday in South Florida runs in the race just before the Ocala Flame. That would be **Uncle B**, the favorite in race 7 and the Blewitt Best Bet of the day. Uncle B's ascension in the local turf ranks has been swift and impressive. He was claimed for a now-bargain price of 16k by trainer Lilli Kurtinecz about six months ago and has since reeled off a stellar record of 3-0-1 from four starts. This 4yo Zensational gelding did not win his stakes debut for Kurtinecz most recently in the Miesque's Approval, but he ran well to finish a narrow third behind two very, very solid turf runners in Conquest Sandman (another great GP claim recently) and Fast and Accurate. Keep in mind that Uncle B returned on just two weeks rest in the Miesque's Approval and now, especially with the recent rainy South Florida weather in tow (Uncle B was recently scratched from an off-the-turf race here) has 40 days between starts. I'm expecting a giant effort from Uncle B Thursday, even against the likes of the much-improved **Archer Road** and former stablemate – now with trainer Kathy Ritvo off a private purchase – **Nauti Buoy**.

*Make sure to join us at Gulfstream Saturday for live GP racing and the simulcast of Belmont Stakes Day and Justify!

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Legit Chalks in the Ocala Flame: There is a very good chance the Ocala Flame will boil down to a two-horse affair between **King Humor** (I still look at his insanely fast maiden win Beyer of 98 with a wide-open skeptical eye) and **Noble Drama**. King Humor will go favored here off a perfect two-for-two record. He definitely turned heads in a very fast career debut win (at a quirky dirt distance of 5.5F) but came way down to earth with a hard fought allowance win April 1st at \$2.40. He needs, at least in my opinion, to walk to the walk against better horses before I climb on the bandwagon. I do love, however, Edgard Zayas taking over the controls. Noble Drama, meanwhile, is my play for trainer David Fawkes. This gelding by Gone Astray is a half bro to Fawkes' 2010 Champion Sprinter, Big Drama (awesome BC Sprint victory that season, by the way) and owns significantly more seasoning and foundation than King Humor. Of course, he'll also be a slightly better price than his chief rival. The other four Ocala Flame runners look overmatched.