



JASON BLEWITT'S

Race Analysis

Friday, May 30, 2019

RACE 1: 3 – 4 – 2 – 5

RACE 2: 7 – 6 – 8 – 1

RACE 3: 4 – 2 – 7 – 5

RACE 4: 7 – 3 – 5 – 1

RACE 5: 10 – 4 – 9 – 6

RACE 6: 2 – 6 – 4 – 5

RACE 7: 4 – 7 – 2 – 1

RACE 8: 2 – 5 – 7 – 4

RACE 9: 1 – 10 – 11 – 2

GP Post Time: 1:15 ET

Excited to See More of Jalen Journey

The past, present and future look pretty darn bright for Jalen Journey. Thursday, this one-time maiden claimer turned (potential) box office star will shoot for his third win of the year in race 8, an entry-level allowance / \$16,000 optional claimer at one mile over the dirt. In many respects, Jalen Journey appeared from almost nowhere back in March. Running first time off a trainer change to Kathleen O'Connell – he had started once prior for a different barn last autumn at Gulfstream West – the gelding made quick work of an overmatched \$50,000 maiden claiming field. He would return three weeks later – naturally, there was no red-colored claiming tag in sight – with an even better effort in a Florida-bred allowance romp. And Jalen Journey did it at a demanding seven furlongs, with a gaudy 98 Beyer Speed Figure to boot. Thursday, he'll take another step forward, both in terms of the competition's quality (open company here) and distance – this is his first one mile test. From my vantage point, Jalen Journey currently sits as one of South Florida's most promising older horses as we head into summer. Leading rider Edgard Zayas has the call aboard Jalen Journey from post 2. As for the competition, the Jonathan Thomas-trained Stratosphere appears the main danger to the heavily favored Jalen Journey. Stratosphere, by Graydar, exits a fourth-place finish here late last month – it was the gelding's first race off a 536-day layoff – and played part in a wicked pace that eventually melted down. Note the winner, Fast Pass, returned here Sunday with a solid stakes victory over Cautious Giant in the Opening Lead.