



Steam's Play of the Day

Gulfstream Park: Wednesday, January 9, 2019

Race: 9

Post Time: 4:37 P.M. (Eastern)

The More Than Ready filly (#7) **ESCAPADE** has been first-or-second in three-of-four turf starts lifetime and is a mere neck shy of winning all three of her starts for trainer Jonathan Thomas. She's capable of reeling off a :21 and change opening quarter, is tractable enough to settle and finish, and this outfit hits at a gaudy 41 percent strike rate (decent sample size) with horses returning off 61-180 day layoffs. She set a quick pace but stayed on and was beaten just a neck versus a similar field at Gulfstream Park West in her last start, and she gets reunited with jockey Javier Castellano in this spot. I'll pass on the gimmicks in this compact field and play (#7) **ESCAPADE** straight—to win—at odds of 9-5 or greater (3-1 morning line). —**JG**