



We ARE Pennsylvania Racing

Craig Donnelly's

parx racing Analysis\$

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Craig has been involved in horse racing for 40 years as a handicapper, journalist, linemaker, and analyst. He began his career in 1969 handicapping the races for the Miami Beach Sun. Beginning in 1971 he began picking winners for the Philadelphia Inquirer, where he remained for 37 years. Craig has also been a linemaker for the Atlantic City Racecourse and The Meadowlands, where he was the program oddsmaker and television co-host for seven seasons.

MONDAY, APRIL 17, 2017

Best Bets: GREAT ILLUSION (5th)-- LONG MAY YOU RUN (7th)

Race 1

- 5** BOA SORTE – Exits good effort on road trip and nearly survived local duel against rival which has romped since.
- 4** AXE CAPITAL – Distant third after stumbling start behind runaway winner at top maiden level in 12th attempt.
- 6** AUSSIE MIST – Hard used early in debut and takes significant drop; progress likely and also from Farro barn.
- 1** HIGH MATH – Tends to bear out and stepping up again but improved in recent outing; speed from inside.

Race 2

- 7** SURFING U S A – Offered wide middle move in tougher field; benefits from contested pace at square price.
- 3** TIPYOURWAITERWELL – Prominent throughout again with more numerous winners; must overcome hot pace.
- 6** STONE BANDIT – Faded to rear of pack after dueling eventual winner; very quick and scored previously.
- 2** TOT – Hampered by slow star in solid field and fits nicely on best; likely stalking trip with alert break.

Race 3

- 2** WIZARDLY – Faced more frequent winners in improved try at Aqueduct and cures seconditis with this kind.
- 3** ALAAPATIQUE – Handled next-out winner in decisive fashion; usually fires and takes realistic next step.
- 4** QUIEN SABE – Overmatched in latest but trio of victories this season with formidable closing kick.
- 9** BLITZENSMAJIKREIGN – Soundly outrun after claim but actual drop within identical claiming tag.

Race 4

- 7** MOON RIVER BABY – Encouraging try in just second outing in over year; fitter now against soft opposition.
- 6** SHENANGO VALLEY – Given several months vacation following poor showing and prior two starts makes threat.
- 5** RHYTHM AND MOVES – Dueled long way in improved effort when finishing behind top pick; early pressure again.
- 2** PAPER MOON – Making debut at age four but need not be much and Saville barn had easy winner here Saturday.

Race 5

4 GREAT ILLUSION – Cruised past solid claimers and re-claimed twice by Serey barn; ready for loftier level.

6 BILLY NO SABAY – Humbled by smashing winner in sprint and battled huge favorite in previous route.

2 SWEET LIKE CANDY – Rushed to front despite slow start to upset state-breds; initial route attempt.

3 STAY SPECIAL – Trounced maidens at Penn National after pair of local defeats; shorter time between starts.

Race 6

3 FAR OUT WEST – Vied to final furlong in quick field and several big efforts in past; can wire after freshener.

1 COLLIN'S SMILE – Banked over quarter million with 11 victories; bit erratic this season but formidable on best.

2 HE'S SO FINE – Retreated after awkward beginning and prior outing excellent; barn winning with third of starters.

5 JACK D LIAM – Determined runner shows good speed in routes but must adjust to rare sprint.

Race 7

2 LONG MAY YOU RUN – Bargain claim crushed similar last month and responded well to rating tactics.

5 BECAUSE HE CAN – Captured five of seven starts since Castillo took in September; beat top pick before.

4 FOREIGN POTENTIAL – Walloped cheaper taking plunge in comeback and changed hands; classy in past.

7 SYNCHRONOUS – Seeks third straight after pair of determined outings; possibility with continued progress.

Race 8

7 FIRSHAND REPORT – Speedy filly competed but once since October but ability edge and wires these if ready.

1 FIND THE MONEY – Led to final yards in longer test when trying blinkers and Butch Reid stable hot recent weeks.

2 ITEM – Began career with pair of victories then lost series of stakes; adding blinkers in return.

4 WAKE UP MAMA – Retreated after half mile with similar and long losing skid but sufficient ability to pose factor.

Race 9

1 ALL DAY LAWN – Used up forcing pace when overmatched in New York; crushed two-time winners locally.

6 STINA – Significant drop following good effort and key danger this spot; posted major upset here in January.

2 PRETTY COOL CAT – Prominent throughout in another game showing and boasts six victories over this track.

3 PLAY IT FORWARD – Competed well against this type and often runs better than odds might predict.