



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.

### SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 2017

**Best Bets: PURCELL (7<sup>th</sup>)-- NATALIE LA ROSE (9<sup>th</sup>)**

#### Race 1

- 2** THE MORNING GUYS – Altered former style ad closed well in last; just eligible for drop within same claiming tag.
- 8** FINDING CANDY – Prone to early trouble but could be aided by move from rail to outside post; likes this distance.
- 3** WILLOW BOB – Led routers long way in just second race after layoff; good form last year at Delaware.
- 5** BENNIE Y BENNY – Sat out “jail” following claim for this amount; long losing streak but frequently close.

#### Race 2

- 5** LON'S TRUE PASSION – Hard to like or ignore plunge but Curry barn going well and gets blinkers; suitable yardage.
- 7** WATCH THE TIE – Drops and switched to hot Guerrero barn with pair of local works; progress anticipated.
- 2** MARGARITA SUNRISE – Speedy New Yorker hampered by stamina issues and cost much more but threat this spot.
- 1A** SHIPTHEGRIP – Forced pace before retreating against routers but could, be set up nicely for rare sprint attempt.

#### Race 3

- 5** WE CAN DANCE – Stopped abruptly as heavy route favorite when Pino took but working quickly for sprint return.
- 6** RACE TO THE MOON – Heavily-backed in troubled debut at Turfway; son of top sire Malibu Moon now with Linder.
- 3** DUEL AT DUSK – Used up early after arriving from Gulfstream; best chance if able to shake loose early.
- 7** BURNUPTHEMOONLIGHT – Newcomer with encouraging signs in a.m. at Penn National; must guess.

#### Race 4

- 6** ZIPPED CODE – Crushed cheaper in confidence booster after Farro re-claimed; back up claiming ladder.
- 1** YOGOTTHATGOINFORU – Ran into tiger sprinting when changing hands again; might prove difficult to catch.
- 9** ANDREW L – Big effort this spot when easily second best for new connections; 10-year-old still formidable at times.
- 5** ECONOMIC DATA – Split pair of solid opponents for higher tag then idle three months; possibility if ready.

**Race 5**

<b>2</b>	<b>AVALANCHE ROCK</b> – Advanced behind New York shipper and hits bottom again; extra furlong might help
<b>8</b>	<b>MIDNIGHT TRYST</b> – Pressured most of trip but held on determinedly this yardage; might control fractions.
<b>6</b>	<b>WORLD RECORD</b> – Seen better days and just fair since returning from Canada but can't dismiss yet.
<b>9</b>	<b>MORE HUNDRED ACRE</b> – Beaten favorite against similar and draws extreme outside post again; merits attention.

**Race 6**

<b>7</b>	<b>YES MZ ADAH</b> – Nearly lasted against better company and taking aggressive drop for 33% locally Zulueta barn.
<b>2</b>	<b>KISS ME KENZIE</b> – Absent couple months and back sprinting; re-claimed earlier by DeMasi and dangerous on best.
<b>10</b>	<b>SHOPPINGFORSILVER</b> – Journeys from New York with slow fuse but drops notch and likely gaining late.
<b>4</b>	<b>KATY DRAMA</b> – Drops and returns to sprint but numerous losses at short odds discouraging.

**Race 7**

<b>5</b>	<b>PURCELL</b> – Dueled then pulled away impressively in wide-margin romp this spot; capable of repeating.
<b>3</b>	<b>NICARADALIC ROCKS</b> – Excellent form at Laurel including stake but several frustrating losses this season.
<b>6</b>	<b>GIANT TRICK</b> – Appears in peak form and pushed quality rival to limit 13 days ago; walloped claimers previously.
<b>1</b>	<b>IRISH COLONEL</b> – Flattened out late with routers and might prefer this yardage; needs carefully-timed rally.

**Race 8**

<b>9</b>	<b>EXTRASEXYEXOTKMINX</b> – Dominated lesser from start twice since layoff; next rung on allowance ladder challenge.
<b>2</b>	<b>ACAPELLA</b> – Battled throughout after arriving from Fair Grounds and making key third start since hiatus.
<b>5</b>	<b>DISTINCTIVE LADY</b> – Good effort despite wide trip and having heels clipped in stretch in first outing since summer.
<b>4</b>	<b>PINKOUT</b> – Close up again when rallying late behind eventual winner; contested fractions in her favor.

**Race 9**

<b>7</b>	<b>NATALIE LA ROSE</b> – Strong showing in quicker field in first start since October; fitter now and should progress.
<b>1</b>	<b>L X SUNRISE</b> – Often makes up ground but acute career case of seconditis; works out favorable inside trip.
<b>4</b>	<b>MONEY GAME</b> – Probably ability advantage but sidelined since July and might need this; should come out flying.
<b>11</b>	<b>NICE N' SWEET</b> – Distant runner-up to odds-on winner as longshot but stuck in this spot long time.