



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.

### TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 2017

**Best Bets: SARAAB (3<sup>rd</sup>)-- HE'S SO FINE (8<sup>th</sup>)**

#### Race 1

- 2** SUPERLING – Chased streaking route winner after Farro re-claimed; could benefit from hotly-contested pace.
- 6** EXCLUSIVE SYMPHONY – Frequently close and taken by Velazquez barn; “bug boy” Garcia won pair on Sunday.
- 3** ARNHEM – Speedy mare seeks third consecutive victory with realistic next step; terrific 9 for 26 lifetime.
- 1** STARSHIP PLEASANT – Adds to lively fractions from inside and exits hard-earned score; merits attention.

#### Race 2

- 5** ALTURIST – Improving Canadian edged single-winners and capable of repeating with similar showing.
- 2** SOUND CHECK – Stumbled at start in sprint after arriving from series of turf outings at Gulfstream; route may help.
- 4** EDGER JONES – Decent showing in better version of this spot from which second and third finishers won next time.
- 3** POWER GENERATION – Rallied nicely behind loose pacesetter to complete large exacta; needs aid of pace set-up.

#### Race 3

- 4** SARAAB – Advanced wide following stumbling break at Aqueduct and very encouraging debut at Tampa Bay.
- 6** BASELINE – Lightly raced but hinted at ability and moved to Motion stable; competing first time since gelded.
- 1** JAMMINWITHBRANDON – Good effort behind formidable duo and fired all three starts during winter.
- 3** J.J.'S CANDY – No match for impressive winner and lost prior race via disqualification; battled pair above earlier.

#### Race 4

- 1** EL GRILLO – Sharp against similar when rebounding from poor showing; inside trips appeared favorable on weekend.
- 9** M J'S KNIGHT – Back from road trip and chased smashing winner last local try; likely to revert to rating tactics.
- 10** CAPTAIN CARCHY – Dueled more numerous winners in last so steps up in tag but down in class; tricky post.
- 6** CASIGUAPO – Finished behind top choice with no apparent excuses; yet to justify heavy backing.

**Race 5**

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| <b>5</b> | <b>PACHANGA PARTY</b> – Hard used dueling eventual winner when claimed and capable in past; could surprise.       |
| <b>7</b> | <b>BROTHERSOFTHETIME</b> – Vied early, bid clear, then nailed at wire following layoff; fitter now and dangerous. |
| <b>6</b> | <b>UNTETHERED</b> – Overmatched on road trip after several good local outings; romped twice as longshot earlier.  |
| <b>8</b> | <b>SEVE</b> – Wore down solid group in local bow and very competitive at Laurel; fits well in competitive field.  |

**Race 6**

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| <b>2</b> | <b>LETHAL SHOT</b> – Dueled to late stages for higher tag and drops again; faces severe early pressure as chalk.          |
| <b>7</b> | <b>I AIN'T KITTEN</b> – Led early but retreated in better field and stamina woes persist; began career with big effort.   |
| <b>6</b> | <b>THE SILENT ONE</b> – West Coast purchase sidelined over year and likely needs this but sufficient ability.             |
| <b>3</b> | <b>WAR AT SUNRISE</b> – Numerous losses at short odds and making 13 <sup>th</sup> try for new connections as possibility. |

**Race 7**

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| <b>1A</b> | <b>BENEVOLENT GIFT</b> – Used up early when overmatched but crushed maidens in prior start; fits well this level.     |
| <b>3</b>  | <b>YES MZ ADAH</b> – Faltered as heavy favorite at Laurel but just missed locally in route for sizzling Zulueta barn. |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>BETTER THAN RUBIES</b> – Repulsed repeated challenges before tiring late in route; speed along inside.             |
| <b>6</b>  | <b>CONFIRM</b> – Slow fuse this distance and lone score from 22 attempts but should be picking off rivals in stretch. |

**Race 8**

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| <b>6</b> | <b>HE'S SO FINE</b> – Looked like old self in strong route score after moving to Zulueta barn; also effective sprinting. |
| <b>2</b> | <b>SOMEDAY JONES</b> – Failed to give true measure behind top choice as 1-2 favorite; won prior race after layoff.       |
| <b>4</b> | <b>SARATOGA HEATER</b> – Battled talented rivals lately in Maryland and three race winning streak last season.           |
| <b>5</b> | <b>AT GUARD</b> – Sidelined since defeating single-winners in May and prepared for comeback in Florida.                  |

**Race 9**

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| <b>9</b>  | <b>MAGIC HARBOR</b> – Closed gap in local return and changed hands to Dunn stable; ample success here in past.        |
| <b>10</b> | <b>GADGET MAN</b> – Ran into tiger in Penn National slop but fits against this kind; hot apprentice aboard in Ocasio. |
| <b>6</b>  | <b>BLITZENSMAJIKREIGN</b> – Victim of traffic problems when taking plunge and Lake took; deserves second look.        |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>CHORONI</b> – Lags far behind early but often makes big late rally; Milian stable having excellent year.           |