



We ARE Pennsylvania Racing

# Craig Donnelly's

## parx racing Analysis\$

Sponsored and Distributed by the Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association



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, MAY 1, 2017

**Best Bets: UPLIFTING (7<sup>th</sup>)-- ROSE TREE (8<sup>th</sup>)**

#### Race 1

- 5** HERECOMESKAT – Set up nicely for elongated sprint chasing New York invader in route; key third start after layoff.
- 2** ROYAL DEL MAR – Improving filly finished behind top choice but romped in prior try and suited by distance.
- 6** RIBOT STAR – Hampered by early trouble and stretch traffic after Snyder re-claimed; should be gaining late.
- 1** DUSTY STREET – Removed blinkers and closed strongly to upset after hiatus; chance with continued progress.

#### Race 2

- 3** DOWN WITH THE KING – Gained confidence crushing maidens in 14<sup>th</sup> attempt and Curry stable on a roll.
- 6** ONLY THE TRUTH – Humbled by runaway winner in seemingly tougher version of this spot; threat at good price.
- 7** GRAY COZZENE – Sufficient ability but competed only once since summer; merits attention if ready.
- 5** ROCKY THE KID – Lost ground against routers and runs well on occasion; St Lewis barn impressed on Saturday.

#### Race 3

- 1** YOURCREDITISGOOD – Led throughout from this post in local bow and seeks third straight with logical next step.
- 4** GOODLOOKINWIFE – Retreated as favorite but takes significant drop and prior outings encouraging.
- 3** PRINCESS SKYLAR – Brief traffic woes when overmatched following claim and excellent form around two turns.
- 7** AVALANCHA – Pushed streaking winner to limit in sprint and previous loss on road trip; deserves second look.

#### Race 4

- 5** L X SUNRISE – Rallied behind repeat winner at Laurel and faced better last local defeat; contested pace can aid.
- 4** WHIRLYBIRD – Moving through conditions with determined efforts; dangerous again and might rate off leaders.
- 3** JUST A TASTE – Prone to awkward starts but realistic drop and perfect with Pennington aboard as contender.
- 1** APPEALING MISS – Captured last two local starts and victim of poor break at Penn National in March.

**Race 5**

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| <b>5</b> | <b>BLITZENSMAJIKREIGN</b> – Improved when humbled by smashing winner this spot and faced classier in past.   |
| <b>1</b> | <b>BIG MAN ROCKET</b> – Absent couple months and tends to bear out but speedy winner of three of six races.  |
| <b>2</b> | <b>J R JELLYBEAN</b> – Squeezed back soon after start when facing tougher and figures close with clean trip. |
| <b>8</b> | <b>ROYAL MILE</b> – Less than three lengths behind top choice in latest and posted upset here in January.    |

**Race 6**

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| <b>1</b> | <b>COMPLACENT</b> – Likely difficult to catch from inside this level despite drifting out in recent good efforts. |
| <b>9</b> | <b>WENDY WEND</b> – Ended losing streak leading throughout against single-winners; more pressure this time.       |
| <b>7</b> | <b>URBAN BURN</b> – Competed well but failed as heavy favorite this spot after long duel with eventual winner.    |
| <b>6</b> | <b>RENWICK</b> – Overmatched in sprint but sharp here previously; should be picking off rivals late.              |

**Race 7**

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| <b>8</b> | <b>UPLIFTING</b> – Defeated excellent field of maidens and game in every attempt; should continue progress.           |
| <b>9</b> | <b>TIGHTEN UP</b> – Caught late by formidable unbeaten rival after leading to late stages; fired this yardage before. |
| <b>5</b> | <b>UNBRIDLED GIFT</b> – Weakened after layoff when adding Lasix; fitter now and capable of better for hot barn.       |
| <b>6</b> | <b>VALHALLA</b> – Ran into tiger after changing hands again at Aqueduct and remains in high percentage stable.        |

**Race 8**

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| <b>1</b> | <b>ROSE TREE</b> – Pair of romps last season and working quickly in return with Lasix; scratched from stake to race here. |
| <b>5</b> | <b>JOE'S GIFT</b> – Drew away after dueling in impressive score and gave powerful effort in January debut.                |
| <b>4</b> | <b>BERTRANDA</b> – Found best stride too late in another encouraging outing and ample early targets for stretch kick.     |
| <b>9</b> | <b>INGRID</b> – Failed to offer true measure after layoff as odds-on chalk over muddy surface; first try open company.    |

**Race 9**

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| <b>7</b> | <b>HOLY BULLEX</b> – Oaklawn invader overmatched in recent races but should regain finishing punch this spot.       |
| <b>6</b> | <b>PURRIN' PROUD</b> – Chased more numerous winners when Aristone took and won decisively in prior outing.          |
| <b>2</b> | <b>QUIET MIRACLE</b> – Outrun by quicker group after Curry re-claimed soon as possible; hit board in many attempts. |
| <b>9</b> | <b>WHITE BLUFFS</b> – Competed well twice at Laurel and threat if able to put it all together for Guerrero stable.  |