



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, MAY 2, 2017

Best Bets: ZIPPER'S HERO (6th)-- FUNNY SURPRISE (7th)

Race 1

- 3** VIBRANT GINGER – Disappointed as 1-2 chalk at Penn National after battling Pletcher barn winner locally.
- 1** REGAL ANTICIPATION – Similar profile to first selection with recent odds-on loss; shortens up to sprint.
- 2** I'M SLEEPING IN – Awkward break and retreated in route but prior conqueror next competed well in stake.
- 6** AUSSIE MIST – Chased uncoupled stablemate when showing some progress against open company.

Race 2

- 4** CASS IN STONE – Overmatched on road trip and disqualified after finishing first locally; should fire this level.
- 6** PHAROAH'S CITY – No match for runaway winner in route after ducking out at start when offering improvement.
- 2** BAYCHIMO – Easily second best in sloppy route when Pino took but ages since lone victory.
- 3** GALAXY EXPRESS – Distant runner-up when adding Lasix in just second race since layoff; continues progress.

Race 3

- 1** MR. CHARLES – Narrowly beaten after long battle this spot and similar try sufficient in softer version.
- 6** CURLY'S PAL – Improved at huge odds behind repeat winner and often close in past despite one for 35 mark.
- 4** STRONG DUDE – Shown flashes of ability against similar and possibility if able to produce best effort.
- 7** EXTROVERT – Likely far behind early this yardage but gets blinkers and should be gaining late.

Race 4

- 3** RUNAWAY MISTRESS – Trailed in vastly tougher company after holding on against solid group in prior outing.
- 2** THE SCHWAM – Used up dueling eventual runaway winner but that rival next disappointed as odds-on chalk.
- 1** METAL MAGIC – New Yorker makes third attempt since comeback and Klesaris very successful here in past.
- 5** MADE OF STEEL – Crushed single-winners despite hard-pressed early; threat with renewed confidence.

Race 5

8	WEST SHORE DRIVE – Nice try behind smashing winner after arriving from Tampa; stretching out again.
7	FIFTEEN CENTS – Spotty form but runs well on occasion and might revert to rating tactics.
2	COURAGEOUS COLONEL – Set pace in improved showing when adding Lasix against heavy favorite.
1	SAINTS BE PRAISED – Closer than anticipated when trying route first time but further progress required.

Race 6

4	ZIPPER'S HERO – Terrific effort against huge favorite in seemingly tougher version of this spot.
1	AUTHORITATIVE – Eventful trips last pair but makes third start since return for hot trainer and rider.
6	NATURAL WARRIOR – Used up setting fractions in classier company and posted upset before off pace.
5	BELLA LOU – Weakened after chasing eventual runaway winner in route; improved and versatile.

Race 7

5	FUNNY SURPRISE – Good effort against repeat winner and making progress; Lake barn has them firing.
7	WAKE UP MAMA – Ages since last victory but takes realistic drop and familiar with role of runner-up.
2	LIKE A LION – Hampered by awkward start when claimed and very capable in past; also from Lake barn.
6	SMOKIN RED HOT – Good form at Tampa with closing kick and handles variety of surfaces.

Race 8

6	BAGEMMA – Battled throughout in narrow loss when Pino claimed and four pound weight shift in her favor.
4	HIDE A ROSE – Edged top choice in determined try after Montoya re-claimed; obvious threat again.
5	PRESTONS PRINCESS – Retreated following hiatus on wet surface but drops and success in past.
3	PAPA'S MISSILE – Very quick and rich earnings for Martinez barn; especially formidable if shakes loose.

Race 9

5	MOON RIVER LADY – Vied long way when humbled by talented newcomer; appears set for maximum effort.
8	SECJECTORY – Caught top pick late after hitting goose on first turn; needs help with pace scenario.
9	A PRINCESS SHE IS – Progress as major longshot in last and chance to sneak into trifecta in 20 th try.
3	RHYTHM AND MOVES – Weakened under pressure again but speed nearest inside could assist,