



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.

SUNDAY, MAY 7, 2017

Best Bets: HEY BRACIOLE (3rd)-- MODACIOUS (7th)

Race 1

- 4** SWEET HENRIETTA– Nearly ran down loose pacesetter to complete Farro exacta; race lacks true front-runner.
- 7** WINK FOR ME– Sidelined since October then moved to Guerrero; yet another stretch-runner in field.
- 6** MISS DAYNA LEE– Less than four lengths behind in sprint return and handled two turns in past.
- 5** CHEEKY GAL– Distant fourth when changing hands nearly two months ago; most probable pacesetter.

Race 2

- 1** SAINT BERNADINE– Pressed eventual winner in good effort and offers inside speed; all three victories in Jersey.
- 2** PERSUASIVE GIRL– Waited out “jail” and drops following Pino claim; familiar with role of runner-up.
- 6** HOUSE WINE– Veteran closes well at times but rare journey around two turns; merits some attention.
- 5** FANCY MALKA– Excuses in recent poor showings and vastly better in past but can’t dismiss this level.

Race 3

- 2** HEY BRACIOLE– Hooked tigress when easily second best this spot and nearly always gives her best.
- 6** POLITE PEARL– Outrun by top pick but formidable before and shorter break between starts for hot barn.
- 3** SHE’S ALL READY– Failed to give true measure as heavy favorite in slop and stakes-placed in past.
- 1** CELESSE– Cruised past easier after Butch Reid barn claimed and wants lively pace scenario.

Race 4

- 4** FIRSHAND REPORT– Not quite good enough as 2-5 chalk after layoff but fitter now and survives pressure.
- 2** FIND THE MONEY– Dueled top choice and held on determinedly; just three weeks absence this time.
- 5** WILMA LYNN– Rapid filly reached lead in eight of nine starts but competed only once in past year; rapid preps.
- 1** RAPIDEZ– Faded in recent route but prior sprint attempt offers hope; likely to be long odds again.

Race 5

2 LOVE ON FIRE– Clobbered easier field in confidence booster; handles extra furlong with softer fractions.

4 CONGAREE ROAD– Proven effective off pace or on lead and recent conqueror next raced well in stake.

7 SAINT MAIN EVENT– Disappointed as route favorite but sharp in prior sprint and back against 3-year-olds.

1 ANNIKA GOLD– Used up after early problems when finishing behind third selection; some progress required.

Race 6

7 FIRE ALARM– Rallied strongly behind runaway winner when Pino claimed; sufficient early targets for late kick.

4 HE'S SO FINE– Hampered by awkward start in sprint and takes significant drop; edged top choice in October.

1 I LOVE YOU HONEY– Far behind in last few but just second outing of season and awesome here in September romp.

3 ECONOMIC DATA– Strong try after four month's freshening and changed hands; back in open company.

Race 7

1 MODACIOUS– Signs of talent in graded stakes at Gulfstream and impressive local debut in December.

4 BILLY NO SABAY– Victim of early trouble as odds-on chalk; versatile and often forms part of exacta.

5 BRAZILIAN SYMPHONY– Set pace and battled determinedly when Lake took; formidable here in past.

6 CHECKBOUNCIN BILLY– Humbled by runaway winner in sprint and should make presence felt early.

Race 8

4 OK NOW– Drops after decent try against double-digit winner; should benefit from contested pace.

5 PORT MORE– Plunges after close up at Aqueduct and now in Lake barn; meets older rivals first time.

2 COMBEE– Lightly raced but drops and capable on occasion; could fire at square price if ready.

6 RETURN OF A GIANT– Determined effort again despite eventful trip but idle since February.