



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 9, 2017

Best Bets: OUR FIRST CANDY (3rd)-- PACHANGA PARTY (9th)

Race 1

- 2** ABETS ABET – Improved speed in open company against rival taking steep drop; tigerish on occasion.
- 1** MISS LAUREN ANN – Trounced slightly softer five weeks ago and weight off for new connections as threat.
- 3** BIG GALLY'S ANSWER – Surprised for higher tag in mud when Wong barn took; most prior success in routes.
- 5** SHOPAHOLIC – Capable in past but not at her best lately and soundly outrun by top selection.

Race 2

- 1** STONERAGEOUS – Prominent throughout this spot and bulk of previous losses against better or on turf.
- 6** BALTIMORE BEAUTY – Moves turf to dirt and third behind pair locally which ran big again next time.
- 7** NOVEMBER TO REMEMBER – Weakened after setting brisk pace in Gulfstream finale; Servis barn rolling.
- 3** OFFICE SECRETARY – Just behind top choice as extreme longshot and still maiden after 26 attempts.

Race 3

- 6** OUR FIRST CANDY – Returns to main track where she crushed Laurel rivals; competed in tougher version locally.
- 2** NERVE LINE – Gulfstream shipper shortening up and sharp in prior outing; threat if puts it all together.
- 3** MIDNIGHT SKIES – Disappointing since maiden victory but capable of competing with best against these.
- 4** HALLUCINATION – Moves turf to dirt and competed well over local main track; suited by yardage.

Race 4

- 7** PICOZZA – Hard to like or ignore plunge after costing \$16,000 in January but Jason Servis barn excels here.
- 4** GRANDPA LEN – Sharper in past but hits bottom after minor trouble in latest; should complete exacta.
- 5** TURN TO TRAVIS – Lags far behind early but racing into shape again and should be picking off rivals late.
- 2** WILLOW BOB – Retreated with sprinters but chance to set pace with softer route fractions as longshot.

Race 5

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| 2 | CHORONI – Easily second best in latest and recently eligible to drop within same claiming tag; figures to fire. |
| 1 | GADGET MAN – Capable in past and returns to level of January claim; should be gaining late. |
| 3 | THIS CAT HAS BLING – Stopped after leading for half mile in comeback; fitter now and taking plunge. |
| 5 | NICE SURPRISE – Penn National shipper drops and ample local success in past; yet another stretch-runner. |

Race 6

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| 4 | BAD SCOOTER – Improved effort behind drop-down winner despite traffic woes on turn; might overrun these. |
| 7 | THEMALOIKSON BILLY – Shelved since July after showing brief speed in better company; comes out flying. |
| 2 | JIM THE BEAST – Hard used early when making first start since January; continues progress at square price. |
| 1 | WALKING ON WATER – Hits bottom tag in third outing since departing West Coast; possibility this level. |

Race 7

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| 4 | FEELING SUPER – Daughter of good sire Super Saver outrun by much quicker in bow; improvement anticipated. |
| 5 | COMFORTABLE CAT – Set pace to stretch in debut for hot DeMasi barn; likely difficult to catch. |
| 6 | MIGHT BE – Outrun with state-breds at Aqueduct but could progress with addition of blinkers. |
| 7 | CAT GIUMARELLO – Numerous losses despite heavy support last season but given time to develop. |

Race 8

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| 3 | EMBID – Came up empty in tougher field after romping against maidens locally; must avoid prolonged duel. |
| 7 | ONE PROUD WILDCAT – Competing well at Laurel and likely ready for two turns with Pennington aboard. |
| 1 | SECRET SECRET – Dull behind smashing winner but sharp this spot in prior outings; figures close on best. |
| 2 | LORI'S FOLLY – Victim of loose pacesetter in improved showing and heads back up claiming ladder. |

Race 9

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| 6 | PACHANGA PARTY – Looked bit like old self in good try against decisive winner; enough left to handle these. |
| 1 | ELEVATED – Advanced wide after early trouble in blanket finish; always threat with this kind. |
| 5 | PESCI TO DE NIRO – Sat out “jail” after taken by hot Milian barn; often hits board without winning. |
| 7 | RICHIE'S RICH – Holds ability advantage but must guess taking plunge after layoff; difficult to dismiss. |