



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.

MONDAY, JULY 3, 2017

Best Bets: GROUPTHINK (7th)-- READY FOR SUMMER (8th)

Race 1

- 7** R POWER GRID – Hard used pressing eventual winner after early trouble and ran into tiger in previous defeat.
- 1** PURRIN' PROUD – Lost ground in good effort behind top choice and moves to inside; contested pace would aid.
- 3** LON'S TRUE PASSION – Beaten favorite against similar but remains in peak form winning two prior attempts.
- 2** MARBLE FALLS – New Yorker switches turf to dirt and takes plunge; only cost little more than this in March.

Race 2

- 3** ACTIN TIZ – Narrowly missed for higher tag so difficult to like or ignore drop; Carlos Guerrero barn clicking at 23%.
- 2** WIND SPIRIT– Sharp in softer version of this spot after defeating next-out winner previously; prefers front-end.
- 5** JOHN'S AFLEET – Dangerous if disregard latest and Vazquez barn sizzling in past week; romped here in debut.
- 7** TIPIT – Bothered early at Belmont when remote fourth in “key” race; under new management and won here before.

Race 3

- 3** BANG THE DRUM – Closed big gap behind favored loose pacesetter in debut; improvement anticipated for DeMasi.
- 5** KLAATU – Pursued runaway stablemate in second outing after layoff; that rival ran big again on Saturday.
- 1** EXTRASEXYMAZZERATI – Eventful trip against talented “open” maidens in route and showed promise in debut.
- 6** BIG SHACK – By terrific sire Shackleford and training over deeper surface at Fair Hill; stable won here over weekend.

Race 4

- 4** WE CAN DANCE – Third behind much quicker pair and hits bottom for aggressive Pino barn; can handle these.
- 6** CHILL PHIL – Lacked expected when failing as 6-5 chalk but prior outing stamps threat; earlier losses elsewhere.
- 5** DUEL AT DUSK – Speedy and hampered by stamina issues but merits consideration at this level.
- 1** NILE GOLD – Hinted at interest when dropped to this spot after shipping from New York; upset possibility.

Race 5

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| 6 | WHITE BLUFF – Captured two of last three starts in decisive style and Guerrero barn excels with fresh horse. |
| 7 | STUDENT UNION – Rallied after slow start against pair of next-out winners; shorter break between outings. |
| 4 | IN THE BEAT – Overcame severe traffic problems to prevail when claimed; needs help with pace scenario. |
| 2 | BROWNEYED BACHELOR – Good try in very compact field at Monmouth and shows closing kick on occasion. |

Race 6

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| 2 | ZARTAX – Dueled long way in finish dominated by stretch-runners; passes rare stamina test with softer fractions. |
| 4 | SIMPLY TIZWAY – Switches from turf to dirt and plunges for high percentage Ness barn; yet to fire on main track. |
| 9 | BUBBA CHUB – Distant third in quickly run event; stretching out first time with addition of Lasix. |
| 10 | FIFTEEN CENTS – Improved with blinkers removed in seemingly softer version and must overcome post. |

Race 7

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| 1 | GROUPTHINK – Big route effort following Kantarmaci claim and set up nicely for seven furlong sprint from rail. |
| 5 | PROFESSOR ZOOM – Maryland invader drops to realistic level and might appreciate extra yardage with late kick. |
| 2B | RUNAWAY MISTRESS – Edged three-year-olds in open company and ran into tiger previously when claimed. |
| 1A | GETUP STAYUP – Vied long way before yielding behind entrymate; good form this distance and set for best. |

Race 8

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| 4 | READY FOR SUMMER – Powerful rally despite slow start after sidelined 22 months; fitter now and should progress. |
| 6 | PINK PRINCESS – Controlled pace throughout in decisive score this spot; obvious front-running threat again. |
| 5 | BLAVASTKI – Very quick and exits victory over top selection when Farro took; should ensure hot fractions. |
| 9 | HAUNTED VISION – Sharper in past but bumped and carried out on backstretch in last; can't dismiss yet. |

Race 9

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| 7 | JAZZ AGE – Veteran with 9-for-39 career mark stumbled behind runaway winner in return; Vazquez barn heating up. |
| 2 | GRANDPA LEN – Anticipated better in last and must adjust to rare sprint but ample ability and merits attention. |
| 5 | TUCKED IN FRONT – Rediscovered talent when dueling and holding on with determination but rarely connects. |
| 6 | SUNNY PUZZLE – Serious contender with shelved since September and still eligible for non-winners of four. |