



We ARE Pennsylvania Racing

Craig Donnelly's

parx racing Analysis\$



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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.

SATURDAY, JULY 8, 2017

Best Bets: RECANTED (7th)-- QUICK THINKER (10th)

Race 1

- 8** UNSINKABLE – Led throughout in decisive romp this level and distance here last season; racing into peak form.
- 10** SIMENON – Ten-year-old makes third start since arriving from Europe with \$903,919 in bank; adjusts to flat.
- 5** FOR GOODNESS SAKE – Exits stakes victory over hurdles and successful last summer on turf in England.
- 7** SWOOP – Late kick over flat last season and just three lengths behind at Saratoga; third outing since layoff.

Race 2

- 9** GENERAL BELLAMY – Drops another notch after failing as 7-5 chalk in local bow; rider Lopez on a roll locally.
- 1** KINGSLAYER – Chased quick group sprinting after long absence and handled route in past; speed along inside.
- 2** GHOSTCATCHER – Bit erratic and dull as favorite but possibility if disregard latest; threat if puts it all together.
- 7** RAIL CITY – Slow fuse but passed numerous rivals when remote fourth; prior couple tries encouraging.

Race 3

- 3** SELECTION SUNDAY – Disregard loss of rider in three mile jump event; faced quality opposition in past at top meets.
- 9** ANY GIVEN ROYAL – Wired similar spot in second start after layoff and capable before at Keeneland and Woodbine.
- 4** DIPLOMAT – Adds blinkers in return to flat racing and fired locally two summers ago; chance at square price.
- 7** NO WUNDER – Good enough to capture second tier allowance test last year at Delaware; winning trainer-jockey duo.

Race 4

- 5** EXCLUSIVE SYMPHONY – Dueled long way in race controlled by stretch-runners; fifth finisher scored Tuesday.
- 2** BLUE HEN MADNESS – Boosted career mark to 7 for 36 in recent Delaware victory and often part of exacta here.
- 6** HY RAPID LADY – Responded well to plunge to this spot in second try after arriving from Gulfstream.
- 7** LITTLE CATON – Some progress following claim by high percentage Magee barn but eligible for NW's of four.

Race 5

1	MR. SENSIBILITY – Closed big gap in better field and Day stable having good year; second finisher won next easily.
10	DEMAND – Vied with eventual winner before tiring last week and figures close if able to overcome post.
7	SALEM LOOP – Soundly outrun by top pick for new connections but formidable closing punch on occasion.
3	SARATOGA SIGHT – Victim of loose pacesetter in latest after crushing two-time winners at Penn National.

Race 6

6	BUZZ WITH ALEX – Improving gelding defeated single-winners decisively and should take to the turf.
7	WINTER'S GIFT – Edged by repeater after layoff at Penn National; serious contender with anticipated progress.
3	HEROIC INDEED – Closer than expected in sprint prep return and frequently close on turf despite 2 for 65 record.
4	MAXIMUS MERIDIUS – Sufficient ability but sidelined since November upset at Laurel; dangerous if ready.

Race 7

6	RECANTED – Disliked mud again but very capable and drops into ideal spot; big effort locally in April.
7	LUST FOR MONEY – Early trouble when overmatched in comeback and possible pacesetter with slower fractions.
4	WATCH MY DUST – Lightly raced and dull in sprint but explosive late kick at times and can't dismiss yet.
8	UNBRIDLED ROCKET – Romped in Santa Anita finale and obvious threat but idle couple months for new barn.

Race 8

7	FLASHY KYEM – Strong finish despite getting squeezed back early in latest; racing into peak form again.
1	TAIRNEACH – Lightly raced but and captured this spot in just second start of season; remains eligible with claim tag.
6	GLORY STARS – Overmatched in graded route stake; back sprinting and appears to do his best locally.
8	MR. ROMANCE – Powerful stretch-runner suffered another frustrating defeat; crushed top choice in April.

Race 9 THE \$200,000 PARX DASH (Grade III)

8	AMELIA'S WILD RIDE – Close up despite traffic problems when making first outing in 14 months; progress anticipated.
10	PURE SENSATION – Romped in this event last season and just one length behind in Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint.
3	RICHARD'S BOY – Won Governor's Cup via disqualification and amazing 10 for 23 lifetime; always fires turf sprints.
4	MONGOLIAN SATURDAY – Battled pair above before failed international journey; competed well locally in past.

Race 10

1	QUICK THINKER – Idle since eventful trip behind September opponent which has won five straight; likely ready.
8	BIRD OF PREY – Pushed huge favorite in determined effort on main track; key threat if adjusts to turf.
12	SWEET SUMMER STAR – Just over three lengths behind after shelved over 17 months; fitter now but tricky post.
9	BALTIMORE BEAUTY – Overmatched on road trip last week and flashes of talent earlier; sneaks into superfecta.