

Race 5

3	EXTRASEXYEXOTKMINX – Weakened late after taxing sprint duel and extremely game in previous route victory.
2	A PLACE TO SHINE – Sidelined since December but ample talent and performed well twice locally in past.
5	PONYTAIL – Racing into shape again following hiatus and formidable closing punch when in peak form.
6	TIZ RUDE – Hard-earned victory after layoff at Delaware and tackles next rung on allowance ladder for John Servis.

Race 6

5	I LOVE YOU HONEY – Used up early when finishing behind some of these but terrific at times and could surprise.
3	BROADWAY BAY – Impressive stretch-runner too late in last but captured half of 18 local starts and poses threat.
4	FIRE ALARM – Eight-year-old seeks third consecutive score after pair of upsets; needs aid of pace set-up.
8	RONNIE ROAM – Fading since return but just fourth outing since layoff and taking significant drop as possibility.

Race 7

4	DAY BY DAY – Roughed early behind smashing winner at Monmouth after powerful maiden score at this track.
5	MISS AVALON – Nearly wore down heavy favorite at Penn National in solid field; part of exacta in 9 of 16 local tries.
3	CHECKBOUNCIN BILLY – Good effort despite interference on first turn when hinting at route prowess.
6	LETTHEMOOSELOOSE – Fired first two outings then failed to offer true measure in June; merits some attention.

Race 8

1	UNCLE MOJO – Determined maiden victory at Saratoga in July and pedigree to continue development.
9	DIRT IN YOUR FACE – Excellent form since arriving from West Coast and within inches of taking four straight.
3	J.J.'S CANDY – Dominated from start on sloppy surface and dangerous taking realistic next step for Vazquez barn.
4	UNDERPRESSURE – Stakes-winning Midwest invader faces difficult task but could benefit from lively fractions.

Race 9

5	MOVIE NIGHT – Best stride too late when dropped to this level and just 2-for-40 career but faced classier in past.
4	LEDBETTER – Fired at Delaware after surviving traffic problems locally with Garcia aboard in July; dangerous.
1A	WE CAN DANCE – Earned dead-heat sprinting and tests stamina again seeking third consecutive victory.
1	CHEYNE OF EVENTS – Idle since June score when claimed for higher amount; switches to “bug” and factor if ready.



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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, SEPTEMBER 3, 2017

Best Bets: FINGLAS (4th)-- DAY BY DAY (7th)

Race 1

- 5** PROMISE THE SKY – Ran down loose pacesetter and runner-up far in front of remainder of field in return.
- 11** SHIPTHEGRIP – Drops and stretches out again and already fired this spot; extreme outside post biggest obstacle.
- 9** CRUSHING POWDER – Used up pressing sprinters following claim and likely better suited at this distance.
- 2** CURLY'S PAL – Signs of interest in recent months against similar while competing better than odds predict.

Race 2

- 7** TILDEATH DO USPART – Idle couple months since overmatched but moves to Guerrero barn at realistic level.
- 4** FRIDAY MASS – Runs well on occasion and merits attention this spot shedding eight pounds; square price again.
- 2** TAMPA BAY BLUE – Lone victory from 49 attempts but bulk of defeats in quicker company and can't be dismissed.
- 1** SPARTAN PRIDE – Strong rally to front then outfinished when claimed from route; hot rider aboard in Sanchez.

Race 3

- 1A** JUMPMASER – Battled eventual winner to final yards in determined and encouraging debut for Lupe Preciado barn.
- 8** NAVY COMMANDER – Sire was among top sprinters on circuit and dam began brief career with ample promise.
- 3** OUR LUNATIC – Sweeping move behind top choice following slow start in bow; progress anticipated.
- 2** WAIT FOR IT – Unlucky behind smashing winner only start and that conqueror next stakes-placed at Delaware.

Race 4

- 2** FINGLAS – Passed numerous opponents in slop but even stronger showing in previous trip over Jersey turf.
- 4** LAST SHANI – Circled field and made late surge when just missing in blanket finish; experience should help.
- 8** CONQUEST FALCON – Less than three lengths behind at Arlington and sharp over this course in prior attempt.
- 5** NOT IN CHARGE – Signs of improvement while lightly campaigned by top turf stable; threat but possibly overbet.