



We ARE Pennsylvania Racing

Craig Donnelly's ANALY\$I\$ @parxracing



Craig has been involved in horseracing for 50 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.

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TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2019

Best Bets: THATTA BOY GIRL (4th)-- SMOKINPADDYLASSIE (7th)

Race 1

- 4** GILGIMESH – Used up dueling after changing hands again; chance to shake loose in race lacking front-runners.
- 5** SIX BLADE – Closed big gap when finishing ahead of top choice; extra eighth of a mile to his advantage.
- 8** MATCH THE POT – Possibility if disregard latest; led to final yards previously but one-for-42 discouraging.
- 3** ARCH CONTENDER – Balked at loading last time but figures close on best and likely suited by distance.

Race 2

- 6** NO MORE STRIPPERS – Rested since distant third vs. faster group when Lupe Guerrero took; seeks 13th score.
- 2** JACK O LIAM – Used up forcing pace in race won easily by huge favorite; finds softest spot in ages.
- 5** FOREST BLUE – Obvious ability edge but raced sparingly and absent since September; likely big favorite.
- 1A** S.S. MINNOW – Absentee formidable in past but absent since summer; competed only three times last year.

Race 3

- 5** CINCO Y CINCO – Ended losing skid with decisive romp in November; may repeat with renewed confidence.
- 4** CAR FIFTY FOUR – Drops with effective closing kick on occasion; best races last season on wet tracks.
- 6** GOTTA GET AWAY – Unruly prior to start when changing barns; tries blinkers and capable in past.
- 3** ONLY YOU – Re-claimed by Wyner stable but difficult to guess; upset possibility with best showing.

Race 4

- 4** THATTA BOY GIRL – Dominated from start in impressive score and won back-to-back during summer.
- 3** HIDE A ROSE – Looked bit like old self in narrow loss and usually fires; part of exacta in 26 of 55 attempts.
- 5** GADWALL – Faded against routers when Joe Taylor barn claimed; must rally from off pace this distance.
- 1** LIGHT MY PATH – Rallied from far behind last pair at Woodbine with moderate success at this yardage.

Race 5

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| 5 | VERMEER – Used up after bad start when adding blinkers and only prior try encouraging; drops into claimer. |
| 2 | SURFER BOY GEORGE – Easily second best behind huge favorite this level and third finisher scored next time. |
| 3 | VIXSINFANTASTKFOX – Just ahead of top choice in last and chased rapid newcomer in previous defeat. |
| 6 | STRICTLY THE BEST – Made wide middle move as longshot and merits some attention at square price. |

Race 6

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| 7 | APPEALING HENRY – Victim of early trouble at Aqueduct and takes significant drop for new management. |
| 5 | D.S. BOYD – Made up ground too late and likely needs aid of contested fractions; hot rider aboard. |
| 3 | DISRUPTOR – Hard used dueling in improved effort and shorter distance may offer some relief. |
| 6 | INSIDER – Ran down single-winners and possibility again with realistic next spot. |

Race 7

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| 7 | SMOKINPADDYLASSIE – Weakened late as odds-on chalk this spot but improves with third race since hiatus. |
| 3 | ROSIE'S NOTION – Rallied from last to first in mud and appears in peak form for Ramon Martin stable. |
| 1 | SWEET MAGGIE MAE – Veteran changed barns again with slow fuse sprinting; terrific late kick at times. |
| 5 | ROLL ON BIG MAMA – Faded behind top selection but best race at this yardage and capable of improving. |

Race 8

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| 10 | MR. FIXIT – Excellent form in Maryland and aggressive drop by high percentage barn; outside stalking trip. |
| 3 | HE'S COTTON – Strong closing kick last pair and claimed by Aristone; hotly-contested pace can help. |
| 8 | CREDO – Speedy and drops to level where he trounced rivals in slop; effective over various surfaces. |
| 6 | FARA'S KID – Full of run too late after swinging wide into stretch; re-claimed earlier by McCaslin barn. |

Race 9

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| 2 | IT'S GOOD TO BE US – Son of Tapit cost \$650,000 at auction and showed promise in summer; flying here in a.m. |
| 5 | WINNING THE MEDAL – Just missed after extended duel vs. eventual winner in big effort; slow starts are chronic. |
| 8 | WILL MUNNINGS – Trounced lesser when Ness claimed and much shorter break between starts. |
| 7 | TIGHTEN UP – Pino claim formidable when reaches front early and good record at this distance. |

Race 10

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| 1 | JERSEYMOOSEISLOOSE – Pushed heavy favorite to limit in best yet and should wire these from inside. |
| 5 | YES IT'S DYNA – Hits bottom in third try since arriving from Canada; likely makes up ground with this kind. |
| 6 | RIGEL'S HALO – Showed good speed despite early trouble in route; upset chance in 15 th attempt. |
| 4 | DEEP CANYON – Gave up early in latest but soundly defeated top pick previously; must overcome pressure. |