



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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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2019

Best Bets: DIRT IN YOUR FACE (7th)-- WINNING THE MEDAL (8th)

Race 1

- 1** TO THE FLAG – Just over two lengths behind in tougher company and Lake barn heating up; duel would help.
- 6** THATTA BOY GIRL – Repelled challenge then caught late by stretch-runner as heavy favorite this spot.
- 4** MISSES KNIGHT – Vied long way after two month's absence following claim and terrific lifetime record.
- 2** COUPELLA – Not much since layoff but takes significant drop and shows powerful late kick on occasion.

Race 2

- 2** BATTLE TAP – Dueled eventual winner before tiring in sprint and likely prefers route; often claimed recent months.
- 1A** DIMENSION – Battled throughout in narrow loss at longer distance and part of exacta 27 times.
- 2B** KEY CHEYNE – Roughed early in sprint when making first attempt in four months; progress anticipated.
- 9** HIGH DOLLAR KITTEN – Veteran with 10 victories but lone success last season at Penn National.

Race 3

- 2** TU EXAGERES – Hampered by bad start behind runaway winner and prior outing encouraging.
- 5** MOSES SUPPOSES – Difficult to support off latest but crushed single-winners in prior start.
- 4** SILVER ASSAULT – Trailed for higher tag after upsetting lesser on road trip; possibility on best.
- 3** TCHAIKOVSKY – From same stable as top choice and lightly raced but often close elsewhere.

Race 4

- 8** HE'S COTTON – Sat out "jail" and drops after Danny Velazquez claim; outside post could help avoid trouble.
- 5** NO HIDING PLACE – Edged away in solid effort last out and not far behind top pick here in December.
- 3** FLEET GOLD DIGGER – Improved lately and continued nicely after dueling against second selection.
- 6** CINCO Y CINCO – Overmatched since hiatus and rare attempt sprinting; has surprised at long odds in past.

Race 5

8	NELLIE MAC – Led to late stages in finish dominated by stretch-runners; shorter break between starts.
4	TIZ SUPER – Crushed slightly softer group recently and popular at claiming box last season.
3	DANCING COOL – Broke slowly in quicker field after Taylor re-claimed; should be gaining late.
7	NOTHIN BUT TROUBLE – Moves from “open” to “beaten” company and tries blinkers with upset chance.

Race 6

1A	RESONATE – Nosed in determined effort this level in route and romped in last fast track appearance.
9	FIRE COMMAND – Roughed early then rallied for new management; third try since shipping East.
5	NOT IN THE MOOD – Advanced behind repeat winner this yardage after edging maidens previously.
4	SOMETHINGWITHLILLY – Improved speed as longshot after arriving from New York; may lead long way.

Race 7

1	DIRT IN YOUR FACE – Dueled talented rival when Pino claimed for higher tag; similar effort sufficient.
11	KLAATU – Hard used forcing pace at loftier level over surface that favored closers; tricky post again.
2	BUD FOX – Big effort this spot after disliking wet track as usual in prior outing; re-claimed earlier by DeMasi.
3	CHAMPAGNE CHUCK – Came up empty for higher tag and prefers wet footing but 6 for 15 at this yardage.

Race 8

6	WINNING THE MEDAL – Prone to early trouble but rallied strongly despite very poor start; just missed previously.
2	THOMAS KNIGHT – Survived pressure from top pick after Guerrero re-claimed; remains eligible with tag.
3	WENTZ – Disappointed in route but ample ability and better suited this distance; speed along inside.
5	YEAH ROCKY – Game showing last month when rebounding from poor try; contributes to lively pace.

Race 9

6	SMOOTH DON B – Lost momentum when blocked in stretch this level; gets edge with more favorable trip.
7	D'YER MAK'ER – Set pace then dueled with heavy favorite in classier field; wide-margin score earlier.
4	TEMPESTUOUS ANGEL – Ensures contested fractions and yielded late in race taken by stretch-runner.
10	FAMILY CREST – Improved effort when fouling rival in stretch as longshot; merits some attention.