



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, MARCH 16, 2019

Best Bets: MARCH SCREAMER (4<sup>th</sup>)-- SWEETEST YET (7<sup>th</sup>)

### Race 1

- 4** YELLOW CHICK – Narrowly missed this spot when defeating rival she faces again today; best of known runners.
- 6** TOMARIE – Closed well behind top choice in mud when returning to sprint; Montoya stable has them firing.
- 7** IRISH JONAH – Overmatched in last when trying blinkers after claimed from debut; lures Pennington again.
- 3** NEW JERSEY – Absent couple months since losing rider and flashed talent here in November route.

### Race 2

- 5** SHANGHAI GLORY – Dueled then pulled away as 3-5 chalk when shipping from New York and taking plunge.
- 2** BERBERSLILBRIEBRIE – Victim of traffic problems through stretch when changing barns; faced classier before,
- 7** HIBERNIA DIAMOND – On decline but drops again and sheds seven pounds; can't dismiss yet this level.
- 1** GLOWING STAR – Gained after slow start and claimed from three of just five attempts with good record

### Race 3

- 4** SLOT – Early excuses when far behind as 7-5 favorite in slop at Aqueduct; much shorter break between starts.
- 5** SUPER FLEET – Sharp effort despite very wide trip at Laurel but spotty record locally; best try after layoff.
- 3** TEW WAYS – Disappointing try when forcing pace long way in sprint; probable pacesetter with slower fractions.
- 1** SEEKING BLAME – Once outran five opponents ink 2016 Ohio Derby but competed only once since in ages.

### Race 4

- 5** MARCH SCREAMER – Prominent to mid-stretch on turf in return and drops into claimer first time.
- 1** CYCLOBOMB – Hampered by stumbling break at Laurel but displayed talent in past; third race since summer.
- 9** PELLAGRINO – Improved with addition of blinkers dueling very wide journey; pedigree to make further progress.
- 8** LUCKY LOVER BOY – Continued nicely after stumbling badly at start; conqueror ran big again Monday.

**Race 5**

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| <b>4</b>  | <b>FIRE SPARK</b> – Dueled this far against tougher in December route; worked best of 29 at half mile for this. |
| <b>5</b>  | <b>FAMILY CREST</b> – Narrowly beaten despite lunged at start this spot; effective in front or from off pace.   |
| <b>7</b>  | <b>SMOOTH DON B</b> – Anticipated more success in recent attempts following impressive romp in December.        |
| <b>10</b> | <b>FIFTY</b> – Speedy but hampered by stamina issues at Aqueduct and vanned off there in January.               |

**Race 6**

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| <b>5</b> | <b>MATTER OF FACTOR</b> – Quicker before but drops in class while stepping up in claiming tag; posts mild upset.       |
| <b>1</b> | <b>ARCTIC SCHILLER</b> – Dueled to final stages in improved try when competing first time since summer.                |
| <b>4</b> | <b>GIFTED JUSTICE</b> – Plunges after awkward break; first start of season but Guerrero barn had \$109 winner Tuesday. |
| <b>2</b> | <b>D'YER MAKER</b> – Overmatched in return but boasts wide-margin score in November when changing barns.               |

**Race 7**

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| <b>4</b> | <b>SWEETEST YET</b> – Improving mare edged in solid effort when claimed for third consecutive outing.      |
| <b>7</b> | <b>TIZ FAIR</b> – Crushed slightly easier at 13-1 and tackles next rung on state-bred allowance level.     |
| <b>2</b> | <b>SMOKINPADDYLASSIE</b> – Speedy filly shows numerous strong attempts; won this distance around one turn. |
| <b>1</b> | <b>MILL AND GLORIA</b> – Absent nearly three months but sufficient ability and gains good position inside. |

**Race 8**

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| <b>6</b> | <b>WONDERFULLY TUNED</b> – Among top claims of last season seeking fifth straight score for Pino stable.         |
| <b>7</b> | <b>MIDNIGHT POKER</b> – Lightly raced but amble talent and already stakes-winner; nearly perfect this course.    |
| <b>1</b> | <b>THEY SHOT SONNY</b> – Rallied against solid rivals at Penn National and consistently hits aboard for Zulueta. |
| <b>3</b> | <b>D T GOODIE</b> – Battled throughout route in race taken by stretch-runner; crushed softer in prior outing.    |

**Race 9**

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| <b>4</b>  | <b>JACK O LIAM</b> – Altered running style and finished strongly when claimed just one week ago; wide-open race. |
| <b>10</b> | <b>IRONBOUND</b> – Led throughout as seemingly “softer” half of coupling; prior poor showing around two turns.   |
| <b>8</b>  | <b>PRODIGIOUS</b> – Advanced from off pace after used up dueling previously; threat if puts it all together.     |
| <b>11</b> | <b>TEXAS TWO STEP</b> – Drops after poor outing but formidable when in mood; ample earnings last serason.        |