



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.

*Sponsored and Distributed by the Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horseman's Association*

## **SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2019—PREAKNESS SELECTIONS INCLUDED**

Best Bets: STROLL ACTION (5<sup>th</sup>)-- FREE KITTY (8<sup>th</sup>)

### **Race 1**

- 4** HEAT DOME – Significant drop to this level and should get favorable stalking trip behind contested fractions.
- 6** GLASS BRIDGE – Used up forcing pace when competing notch higher than necessary; conqueror fired again.
- 2** SIX BLADE – Improving stretch-runner tries route again and close around two turns in October.
- 5** MUSTANG POWER – Stopped in sloppy sprint after arriving from Tampa but obviously capable of better.

### **Race 2**

- 9** REIGNING FIRE – Led early at top maiden level vs. state-breds and softest spot yet in sixth attempt.
- 3** NOT INTERESTED – Signs of ability in two turf outings at Gulfstream and owner won final two races Tuesday.
- 6** I TOOK A SHOT – Last dull but prior outing encouraging and probable pacesetter in test of stamina.
- 4** TIZ A TRIBUTE – Chased runaway winner this level in slop; \$65,000 yearling purchase.

### **Race 3**

- 1** PROPER PRINCESS – Overmatched since arriving from Florida and could find cure for seconditis this spot.
- 2** BETTY'S FAVORITE – Wired slightly easier and rallied from off pace previously; takes realistic next step.
- 3** TRAPPE PLAY – Nearly sprang upset despite early trouble and also just missed in prior start.
- 6** CARRY YOUR HEELS – Lost ample ground from extreme outside post and likely to press pace.

### **Race 4**

- 3** RECANTED – Looked bit like old self battling throughout as longshot in slop; returns after 13 days.
- 1** J R JELLYBEAN – Absent since February but six local victories and Guerrero barn excels with fresh horse.
- 2** BELLY DANCER – Gained in marathon for new connections despite clipping heels early; needs aid of pace set-up.
- 8** VIBE – Weakened in quicker sprint fractions and used up dueling in previous route; upset possibility.

**Race 5****1** STROLL ACTION – Dominated cheaper last pair and holds advantage with lone speed along inside.**4** STORMBEAM – Captured Tampa finale and success last season at Woodbine; likely gaining late.**3** BAD NANA – Claimed for higher amount at Laurel in February; fits well but might prefer more yardage.**5** LAGRATS – Far behind in route after claim but won prior sprint on wet surface; deserves second look.**Race 6****1** STUDENT UNION – Claimed from tougher version this spot and nine-year-old retains enough to handle these.**5** SALT IT HERE – Led to late yards over wet footing and speedy threat; recent successes at Penn National.**2** KING DUBLIN – Shelved since December but ample ability and likes to win; comes out flying near inside.**8** BLUEGRASS DEMON – Moves from “open” to “beaten” company and re-claimed earlier by Lupe Guerrero.**Race 7****7** SWEETEST YET – Runner-up in stake after outdueling capable colts in prior outing; seems well-spotted.**3** DOCTORSOFMISCHIEF – Scored from off pace this spot when defeating heavily-favored Maryland shipper.**4** BOW TOWN CAT – Crushed rivals in slop when Joe Taylor barn bought back, rebounding from dull showing.**6** DAN’S GIRL – Terrific this season and nearly wired similar after changing hands for third straight time.**Race 8****3** FREE KITTY – Nearly always fires in New York and defeated classier field last month; barn perfect locally.**5** JUMPIN JETT – Used up early against smashing winner but speedy and determined; retains Gonzalez as rider.**6** CREATIVE PRINCESS – Walloped vastly easier group and likely tested with this kind following claim.**4** SPECIAL INCLUDED – Failed turf experiment but returns home where she has run big race on occasion.**Race 9****5** ALL IN GIRL – Shows 19 losses with numerous defeats at short odds but hits bottom again and ready to graduate.**8** DANCINGTHENYDAWAY – Humbled by smashing winner after changing barns again; key threat this level.**1** IWASBORNAWINNER – Hampered by early trouble in last and hits board if avoids excuses.**7** DEVIL’S FLAIR – New Yorker seems possibility if throw out slop outing; best efforts over fast tracks.**Race 13—PIMLICO-- THE \$1,500,000 PREAKNESS STAKES****4** IMPROBABLE – Failed to give true measure when pocketed long way in sloppy Derby; prior outings terrific.**2** BOURBON WAR – Explosive stretch-runner compromised by uncontested slow pace in Fla; adding blinkers.**1** WAR OF WILL – Appeared in midst of rally when bothered by first-place finisher in Derby; draws inside again.**3** WARRIOR’S CHARGE – Developing rapidly this season with speed nearest inside; big jump but can’t ignore.