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Craig Donnelly's ANALY\$IS\$ @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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Best Bets: HITMEWTHURBESTSHOT (5th)-- PECAN PATTIE (8th)

Race 1

- 5** MUCHO MACHO EDDIE – Awkward start in Laurel debut when third behind pair of experienced favorites.
- 6** STAY HYDRATED – Hard used pressing rapid newcomer in good effort after \$20,000 Pearce claim.
- 2** DEE JAY – Sire was multiple graded stakes winner on turf earning over million; ships from Fair Hill.
- 3** PRATT – Failed to run to heavy backing in debut when performing greenly; Lasix likely to help.

Race 2

- 1** TRIPLE JUMP – Disliked wet footing again when overmatched in last; drop and addition of blinkers aid.
- 3** ANGEL RAPHAEL – Also from Coletti barn and returns home against own kind; fits well with these.
- 4** BRYCE'S PHILLY – Takes realistic drop and outran second pick earlier; chased eventual stakes winner in bow.
- 5** ALPHA GIRL – Remote third after hiatus at Laurel after beating maidens in slow clocking at Finger Lakes

Race 3

- 3** DIAMOND SQUARE – Dueled to final stages in big effort this spot; chance to shake loose this time.
- 4** HIS ROYAL MAJESTY – Easily second best behind frequent winner after DeMasi took; stakes winner last year.
- 2** YOU'RE NO SAINT – Strong bid to front when edged by repeat winner; Flores barn has them firing.
- 1** LOST IRON – Finished behind second choice in slop and lost 11 straight since October but upset chance.

Race 4

- 2** DON'T CALL ME MARY – Bumped on turn and carried out badly facing better in debut; waives claiming tag.
- 5** KIT KAT KATIE – Competed for higher tag at Aqueduct and making just third start since summer.
- 6** LUCKY OLIVIA ROSE – Rookie from Pletcher barn prepared during winter in Florida; difficult to guess.
- 7** PRINCESS MARISOL – Improved try despite stumbling start but further progress seems necessary.

Race 5

3	HITMEWTHURBESTSHOT – Responded well when dropped to this spot; Ness saddled 3,000 th winner on Tuesday.
7	MACHTREE – Strong runner-up in route when changing hands; all three victories on turf.
1	REGAL QUALITY – Chased smashing winner in route and should be gaining late this distance.
9	DELINQUENT – Fired three straight and ran into repeat winner when easily second and claimed again;

Race 6

9	BOSS OF BOURBON ST – Drops for ninth start after competing at seven consecutive different tracks; top barn.
7	OFFERHECANTREFUSE – Exploded past single-winners last week when claimed; needs pace set-up.
3	ARRIVE IN STYLE – Overmatched last pair but logical drop and stretching out again as possibility.
12	KAIROS – Slow fuse but closing kick on occasion and latest conqueror recently defeated much classier.

Race 7

8	FORMAN THE FOREMAN – Weakening late and under pressure again but favorable outside stalking trip.
4	LORD SIMBA – Improving gelding seeks third straight and Ness stable won five races over two days.
3	TOMATER GATOR – Possibility if disregard latest and could benefit from hotly-contested fractions.
5	BRIDGET'S BIG LUVY – Led this far against routers when claimed again and excellent 9-for-42 career.

Race 8

2	PECAN PATTIE – Late energy with solid sprinters and equally adept this yardage; actual drop in class.
6	NEOM – Outrun in Charles Town dash and testing stamina again; contributes to lively pace.
1	B B'S BUSTED – Close in softer version on road trip and often hits board; pace scenario in her favor.
8	DIVA DRAMA – Advanced behind impressive winner despite poor start; most success vs. state-breds.

Race 9

2	PATTY'S TEMPLE – Forced pace in better field when removing blinkers and back for bottom tag.
5	DRIVER'S LICENSE – Remote third behind pair of favorites in 19 th defeat; factor with further progress.
4	PAGE ELEVEN – Prone to early trouble but benefits from return to sprint; Soto barn going well.
7	WINSLOW HONEY – Making debut at age four and cost mere \$1,000 at auction; need not be much.