



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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MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2024 – FIRST POST 12:40 P.M.

Best Bets: REAL TALK (6th)-- PACHELBEL (8th)

Race 1

- 5** BAILINTIN – Back home taking steep drop seeking to end losing skid; Moore barn clicks at 19%.
- 2** NAMORA – Claimed from “key” race by Ness stable with top pair scoring next time; key threat.
- 1** SIRANI – Weakened in better field and cost twice this amount in July; speed along inside.
- 3** PROBLEMS ABOUND – Far behind twice since maiden score; weight off competing cheaper.

Race 2

- 4** AMBITIOUSLY PLACED – Game mare with 11 victories plunges to level of claim for Pino barn.
- 2** CATTI LA BELLE – Usually makes up ground and drops notch; Gallimore barn having solid year.
- 3** CLASSY MISS – Prominent throughout again and effective in front or from off pace.
- 5** LIPLOCK – Versatile filly likely prefers turf but should be gaining late despite loss streak.

Race 3

- 7** BAHAMA PEARL – Speedy mare facing softer version; should shake loose at suitable yardage.
- 2** HEART LIGHT – Makes first start of season with ability advantage; obvious danger if ready.
- 1** MORGANS COVE – Defeated lesser at Penn National after claim; fits with renewed confidence.
- 5** SIRENETTA – Long losing streak and just 3-for-47 career but could be picking off rivals late.

Race 4

- 5** LEVEL UP – Edged away from capable group after claim by sizzling Irving Rodriguez stable.
- 3** MELT WITH YOU – Captured pair of races switched to dirt since Ness took; late kick likely.
- 2** PRINCE COLTON – Good effort just six days ago; speedy contender shown plenty of heart.
- 4** TRAFFIC MASTER – Faltered when claimed back soon as possible; series of sharp tries before.

Race 5

- 7** JACKSON ROAD – Battled throughout in sprint and passed stamina test in past; one to catch.
- 2** SECURED LANDING – Lightly raced but ample heart and determination; just missed this spot.
- 6** THE GATEKEEPER – Making progress and competed better than odds predicted again.
- 3** AARAJ – Lightly raced Dutrow runner sharp at Spa and rare chance to race with shorter break.

Race 6

- 5** REAL TALK – Dueled throughout with salty field at Laurel after impressive romp locally.
- 1** MAGICNTHEMOONLIGHT – Rapid and game Lake runner absent couple months; gives his best.
- 3** DON'T WAIT UP – Humbled by fleet repeat winner on wet footing at Delaware; romped in May.
- 4** DR. STEVE – Quick gelding with excellent record but far behind in two of three local outings.

Race 7

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| 7 | DIVINE MIRACLE – Claimed nearly every time he competes and just boosted mark to 12-for-28. |
| 3 | PIT BOSS – Failed to offer true measure on road trip but pair of scores after Arce barn took. |
| 6 | HOKU – Sufficient ability but raced nearly exclusively on turf and synthetic; hard to guess. |
| 4 | MY REDEMPTION – Sharp in narrow loss at Penn National but trounced by top pick locally. |

Race 8

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| 4 | PACHELBEL – Major step forward when just length behind in classy field at 64-1 after claim. |
| 6 | CENTER STAGE – Switches turf to dirt after \$40,000 buy at Churchill; merits much attention. |
| 7 | TYRONA – Crushed rivals in local bow when voided claim; just second outing since April. |
| 1 | TRUE PHENOMENON – Bargain claim keeps firing and tries route again; won twice with Adorno. |

Race 9

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| 2 | MORETHANAFEELING – Lightly raced this year; used up dueling in Jersey but 22-1 Big A win. |
| 1 | WINNIN'ONWEEKENDS – Improving gelding seeks third straight after beating state-breds July. |
| 5 | EXIT RIGHT – Amazing veteran with 19 victories, many for Ness barn; idle since voided claim. |
| 6 | CHELONIAN – Fair showing on road trip after winning locally and claimed; fits nicely again. |

Race 10

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| 1 | ROYAL UPSTART – Pushed heavy favorite to limit when easily second best; ready for two turns. |
| 2 | ALMA BRILHA – Good effort this distance when changing barns; often forms bottom of exacta. |
| 8 | FAUX PAS – Absent three months but edged only route attempt; finished just behind top pick. |
| 7 | APOLLONIA VITELLI – Returns to main track for new management; same stable as top choice. |