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# 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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## TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2019

Best Bets: JOYCEE'S SPIRIT (2<sup>nd</sup>)-- HAIL TO THE KING (5<sup>th</sup>)

### Race 1

- 8** TOMARIE – Prominent long way at top maiden level in route; speed in prior start and closed gap on turf.
- 3** AWESOME ALAINA – Good effort this level behind winner dropping in class; battled rapid newcomer previously.
- 7** YELLOW CHICK – Slow fuse but should be gaining late for high percentage barn; claimed from bow for this tag.
- 6** TERPEYE – Rallied from far behind in return when trying blinkers; possibility but had nine chances.

### Race 2

- 3** JOYCEE'S SPIRIT – Overmatched in 2018 finale but fired this spot previously when competing first time with tag.
- 6** PARTY PANTS – Speedy filly lost three consecutive photos and claimed by Bryant Taylor barn as threat.
- 4** MISS HOT STONES – Excellent record and probable ability edge but sidelined since December of 2017.
- 1** CRYSTAL CLEAR – Idle since taken for this amount in November by Lake; several encouraging outings.

### Race 3

- 1** VALIANT SPIRIT – Disappointing try with wide trip after impressing in prior start; may work out good trip inside.
- 7** IRON LILLY – Significant drop moving to Carlos Guerrero barn while racing only once since June in Midwest.
- 2** CHESSEN – Dull for higher tag after surprising at 11-1 in prior start following Jones claim; possibility on best.
- 6** MISS RACEY BIKE – Swerved to avoid fallen rival near top of stretch; only neck behind in slop previously.

### Race 4

- 1** STAYNSIDETHECIRCLE – Appears in peak form and scored decisively last month; likely inside stalking trip.
- 3** COUNTRY SQUIRE – Marching through conditions seeking fourth straight; major threat for Mosco barn.
- 4** BANKER'S ISLAND – Improved when dueling long way and finishing ahead of top pick; might shake loose.
- 5** BEST CHOICE – All out to defeat two-time winners after chasing top choice in previous race; frequently close.

**Race 5**

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| <b>5</b> | <b>HAIL TO THE KING</b> – Realistic drop after fading upon arrival from Florida; just third race since May.   |
| <b>4</b> | <b>LITTLE SIETE</b> – Numerous losses at short prices but returns to level of September claim stretching out. |
| <b>2</b> | <b>LIL DUDE L DO IT</b> – Easily second best behind runaway winner this spot; speed nearest inside.           |
| <b>8</b> | <b>KOWBOY KENNY</b> – Lags far behind early but offers closing kick at times; lone victory from 22 starts.    |

**Race 6**

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| <b>7</b> | <b>CURTIS</b> – Eliminated by severe early trouble in last and prior tries encouraging; raced very sparingly.     |
| <b>2</b> | <b>ELEVATED</b> – Weakened as 1-2 favorite vs. state-breds and drops below amount of claim; tigerish at times.    |
| <b>8</b> | <b>DODDSPRIVATELABEL</b> – Looked bit like old self closing gap in narrow loss; nearing half million in earnings. |
| <b>5</b> | <b>ADUMATO</b> – Dueled throughout in very game effort but heading back up claiming ladder.                       |

**Race 7**

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| <b>8</b> | <b>TRAINFOURTWENTYONE</b> – Hard used dueling in another game effort; edge with outside stalking trip.        |
| <b>7</b> | <b>DANZ A REBEL</b> – Very wide trip when beaten favorite at Laurel; ample early targets for finishing punch. |
| <b>4</b> | <b>THISCATCANJUMP</b> – Outran first choice when adding blinkers and overcame rough trip in maiden score.     |
| <b>6</b> | <b>OUR PHILLY SPECIAL</b> – Crushed compact field after early trouble at Penn National; fired every attempt.  |

**Race 8**

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| <b>6</b> | <b>PROMISED STORM</b> – Exploded past rivals in wide-margin romp this spot; developed nicely in Brennan barn.    |
| <b>7</b> | <b>HELL OF AFIRE</b> – Fair Hill shipper absent couple months but runs big race on occasion; dangerous if ready. |
| <b>3</b> | <b>SILVER EXCESS</b> – Closed big gap as longshot and encouraging try here in November; adds blinkers.           |
| <b>1</b> | <b>SPECIAL INCLUDED</b> – Soundly outrun by top selection as 3-2 favorite but capable of better.                 |

**Race 9**

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| <b>1</b>  | <b>PATTY MAC'S GIRL</b> – Menacing move while very wide on turn as longshot; contested pace should aid.                |
| <b>10</b> | <b>SIERRA FOREST</b> – Very quick from outside and captured three straight earlier; Danny Velazquez barn won pair Sat. |
| <b>8</b>  | <b>ENCHANTABULL</b> – Freshened couple months after posting two 9-1 scores in November; possibility if ready.          |
| <b>9</b>  | <b>CARRY YOUR HEELS</b> – Just failed to last in return and much shorter break between races this time.                |