



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 2, 2019

Best Bets: LOAN ME YOUR EAR (1<sup>st</sup>)-- PUMPKIN STAR (7<sup>th</sup>)

### Race 1

- 5** LOAN ME YOUR EAR – Wide middle move in route against tougher in route when adding Lasix; aggressive drop.
- 4** EQUUS NOVUS – Dueled eventual winner long way after arriving from Kentucky; speed to pose major threat.
- 1** CAPE MAY STYLE – Failed to run to backing vs. similar in bow but can't dismiss Reid-Pennington combo.
- 2** LT. COLUMBO – Lost ground in fair showing behind selection; some progress necessary.

### Race 2

- 2** BRAZILIAN SYMPHONY – Veteran plunges after dull try but enough left to wire this kind in rare sprint.
- 3** SHE'S RUNNING FREE – Closed strongly again when changing hands but pace scenario could prove obstacle.
- 6** DANCING COOL – Sharper several months ago and re-claimed in January; success for Taylor barn in past.
- 9** BALTIMORE BEAUTY – Late energy as longshot and encouraging record this yardage; merits attention.

### Race 3

- 6** CLOUDY SATURDAY – Rallied nicely after slow start in sprint in best yet; sire could run all day.
- 3** WHEELBARRELBROTHERS – Set pace when finishing just behind top choice; much slower fractions anticipated.
- 4** SUPER OWEN – Racing into shape following long absence and likely prominent long way.
- 8** ALEX'S FAST LANE – Advanced in compact field at Penn National and may be suited by this distance.

### Race 4

- 10** SIR SIDNEY – Faded setting pressured pace when Danny Velazquez barn bought back; chance to shake loose.
- 6** DIMENSION – Vied and continued well this spot and just missed previously; frequently forms part of exacta.
- 3** SUNSHINE WILD – Improved recent outing and now eligible to drop within same claiming tag as threat.
- 7** ACT OF MADNESS – Led in stretch as extreme longshot and very capable in past; needs to put pair together.

**Race 5**

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| <b>1</b> | <b>TOMARIE</b> – Within striking range this far at top maiden level in route; speed in prior start and closed gap on turf. |
| <b>7</b> | <b>AWESOME ALAINA</b> – Good effort this level behind winner dropping in class; battled rapid newcomer previously.         |
| <b>3</b> | <b>ALLEGRETTO</b> – Overmatched in route after closing big gap in bulky debut field sprinting; likely flying late.         |
| <b>2</b> | <b>DREAMER'S MOON</b> – Difficult time handling two turns in slop but flashes of ability earlier at highest level.         |

**Race 6**

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| <b>5</b> | <b>REIGNING FIRE</b> – Battled pair of rivals from high-profile barns when shipped to New York; local defeat in route. |
| <b>7</b> | <b>ISABELLA SMILE</b> – Forced to alter course in stretch after breaking slowly in bow; quick work for return.         |
| <b>1</b> | <b>CHARLY'S CHARM</b> – Good effort against heavy favorite in debut; high percentage stable adding Lasix.              |
| <b>6</b> | <b>WINNING KNOCKOUT</b> – Fired again when competing with tag in “open” company; comes out flying.                     |

**Race 7**

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| <b>2</b> | <b>PUMPKIN STAR</b> – Nearly always fires and battled solid opponent after Pino took back; inside stalking trip. |
| <b>4</b> | <b>PRINTER</b> – Exploded past cheaper after moving into Brown barn again; some big races on wet surfaces.       |
| <b>3</b> | <b>CHAMPAGNE CHUCK</b> – Outrun by top choice in last but likes to win and another “off” track specialist.       |
| <b>7</b> | <b>NO HIDING PLACE</b> – Dueled to late stages when claimed from sprint; probable pacesetter stretching out.     |

**Race 8**

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| <b>2</b> | <b>THEBIGFUNDAMENTAL</b> – Raced very sparingly but exits big effort in Aqueduct stake; third start since comeback. |
| <b>7</b> | <b>GRASSHOPPIN</b> – Terrific record locally including upset score in September stake; top stable in Maryland.      |
| <b>3</b> | <b>WAIT FOR IT</b> – Displayed fitness crushing Penn National rivals and numerous big local efforts.                |
| <b>6</b> | <b>SOMEDAY JONES</b> – Makes first start of year for Servis barn; boasts 5-for-11 mark over this course.            |

**Race 9**

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| <b>9</b>  | <b>MISS RAGE</b> – No match for smashing winner this spot and edged by huge favorite in prior outing.   |
| <b>1</b>  | <b>YES IT'S DYNA</b> – Used up early when finishing behind top pick; Linder stable heating up again.    |
| <b>10</b> | <b>JUSTENUFF HOPE</b> – Slow fuse and anticipated better last time; probably needs aid of pace set-up.  |
| <b>5</b>  | <b>YOU'RE MY LADY</b> – Outrun by pair above after slow start and best showing after layoff in January. |