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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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**SUNDAY, MAY 26, 2019**

Best Bets: ARTISTIC DRIFTER (3<sup>rd</sup>)-- SHAMROCKED (7<sup>th</sup>)

### Race 1

- 3** SHACKLED ROMANCE– Big effort against rapid newcomer at Monmouth; chased stakes-winner last local start.
- 1** COUNTRY CODE– Rookie by top sire City Zip sold for \$360,000 at auction; barn excels with youngsters.
- 5** MANIPULATE– Shown ability every outing but finished behind top choice last month; back in sprint.
- 2** JW'S THIRD MISCHIE– Easily second best behind capable favorite vs. state-breds; sharp previously in “key” race.

### Race 2

- 4** CLASSIC LINES– Drops after weakening late on wet surface; chased huge favorite in prior try this yardage.
- 1** TREASURY STOCK– Nosed this level in seemingly softer version; frequently close at various distances.
- 7** TOMMY'S TOP CAT– Failed to give true measure on sloppy track and better anticipated; often hits board.
- 2** SUNSHINE DANDY– Sharp last pair at Penn National but outrun last few local starts; Lake barn been rolling.

### Race 3

- 6** ARTISTIC DRIFTER– Traffic problems behind decisive winner and excels at this yardage; seeks ninth local score.
- 2** FIRE SPARX– Rallied from last to first in 18-1 upset after claim; steps up again after third straight.
- 4** DRAXHALL WOODS– Nine-year-old with over half million in earnings often formidable and changed barns again.
- 1A** MR. ROMANCE– Last dull but prior try encouraging; bit difficult to guess but can't be dismissed.

### Race 4

- 11** SPANKY– Far behind three times since return but capable in past and takes significant drop; clear sailing outside.
- 5** IRON LILLY– Good effort chasing loose leader in just second start since November; much shorter break a plus.
- 8** ENIGMATICA– Failed at short odds in slop and lone victory last two years in March at Penn National.
- 2** LA BELLA PINA– Prevailed after seven month's layoff at Delaware when taking plunge; here for state-bred bonus.

<b>Race 5</b>	
<b>1A</b>	<b>NINETYEIGHTOCTANE</b> – Rallied behind impressive winner when easily second best; should be ready for route.
<b>9</b>	<b>CONTROLLED FURY</b> – Held rivals safe despite race-long pressure following claim; speedy and determined.
<b>8</b>	<b>VEGAS STRIP</b> – Overmatched on road trip after winning pair locally with Haddock aboard.
<b>4</b>	<b>GENERAL BELLAMY</b> – Wired cheaper despite drifting out as usual through stretch; ensures lively pace.
<b>Race 6</b>	
<b>5</b>	<b>MIDNIGHT BOUNTY</b> – Veteran appears in peak form again after big effort vs. solid opponent; Dandy barn hot.
<b>2</b>	<b>SPECIAL INCLUDED</b> – Edged by 1-2 favorite when far ahead of remainder of field this spot; prior loss on turf.
<b>4</b>	<b>MAGICALLY DISCREET</b> – Very consistent at Laurel and early trouble in lone local try last year.
<b>7</b>	<b>FLIPPITY FLOP</b> – Good try following claim in compact field but conqueror fared poorly in next outing.
<b>Race 7</b>	
<b>6</b>	<b>SHAMROCKED</b> – Led all way in return but lost via disqualification; likely fitter now and usually fires.
<b>3</b>	<b>NOTTOWAY</b> – Prominent throughout for new barn after arriving from Keeneland; quick Laurel work for this.
<b>9</b>	<b>COOP TRIES HARDER</b> – Advanced behind runaway winner in Gulfstream finale and appears to fit nicely.
<b>4</b>	<b>COWBOY NIGHT</b> – Wired this spot around two turns when just lasting as 2-5 chalk; rare sprint attempt.
<b>Race 8</b>	
<b>1</b>	<b>ATINA SALSA</b> – Game filly set pace to final furlong in route; speedy and likely better suited this distance.
<b>8</b>	<b>CRAZY DAISY</b> – Chased then caught top choice late in slop and runs big race on occasion sprinting.
<b>3</b>	<b>ANNIKA GOLD</b> – Very wide trip this spot after crushing state-breds previously; makes presence felt early.
<b>9</b>	<b>SHEMAKESMEHAPPY</b> – Sidelined since August but ample ability including two local romps; encouraging preps.