



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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## MONDAY, MAY 27, 2019— MEMORIAL DAY

Best Bets: SHANGHAI CHECK (4<sup>th</sup>)-- HELOTES (5<sup>th</sup>)

### Race 1

- 4** SPECIAL RISK – Closer than anticipated in last and likely gains favorable trip returning to level of March claim.
- 1** INITFORTHELONGHAUL – Regained confidence in decisive score and steps up within same claiming tag.
- 2** NATALIE LA ROSE – Sidelined since re-claimed by Pearce barn in November; 10 lifetime victories.
- 7** LITTLEMISSBUSINESS – Trailed after layoff over wet surface but holds likely ability advantage.

### Race 2

- 1A** ROANIE – Trounced single-winners as huge favorite when claimed for this amount; appears likely repeater.
- 5** FLASHONFORTY – Cruised past lesser with circling move and often forms bottom half of exacta.
- 3** JOHNNY BANKS – Significant drop in just second sprint attempt; from leading stable in Maryland.
- 1** REBEL VOW – Disliked wet footing as usual but prior try stamps contender; completes strong entry.

### Race 3

- 2** HER DIVINENESS – Overmatched in last but prior outing would be sufficient; good form since comeback.
- 1** THIRSTY GAL – Distant third in quicker company and much shorter time between starts seems a plus.
- 6** ANISSA – Faced tougher in route but fits this level and should be gaining late for hot connections.
- 4** BOURBON HONEY – Signs of interest against similar but some progress necessary as longshot.

### Race 4

- 5** SHANGHAI CHECK – Gained maiden victory in 22<sup>nd</sup> attempt taking plunge and should repeat for new barn.
- 2** HEY PREZ – Crushed bulky field at Keeneland when claimed for \$20,000; barn won big purse here yesterday.
- 6** MARCH SCREAMER – Outrun with routers following claim but seems better suited this yardage.
- 4** FIVE MORE MINUTES – Used up chasing rapid fractions in slop and frequently close this distance.

**Race 5**

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| <b>1</b> | HELOTES – Awkward break then wide trip in classier field and impressed previously surviving long duel. |
| <b>2</b> | CONGAREE ROSE – Improved effort chasing 8-5 winner after layoff; sheds 11 pounds as key threat.        |
| <b>8</b> | DISCREET CATHY – Overmatched at Tampa in February but returns to Coletti barn with realistic drop.     |
| <b>4</b> | LAWN DART – Trailed after stumbling start in Delaware return; good form earlier and fits nicely.       |

**Race 6**

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| <b>8</b> | PRINCESS PALOMAR – Overmatched following Ness claim but determined winner this yardage in prior try.          |
| <b>7</b> | DEAN'S TICKET – Less than three lengths behind in first-tier allowance test; responded well to plunge before. |
| <b>1</b> | BAD NANA – Prominent throughout when edged by streaking winner; captured 8 of 34 career starts.               |
| <b>6</b> | IGNITE – Long losing streak but drops notch and could be picking off pacesetters through stretch.             |

**Race 7**

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| <b>4</b> | FIRST DEAL – Ran into tiger in Gulfstream finale after winning initial three starts; heavy favorite hard to fault. |
| <b>6</b> | SUNMAN – Advanced from last to first at Laurel and runner-up romped next time; likely continues progress.          |
| <b>1</b> | TBTWELVE – Big effort in solid field over sloppy footing and won two of four outings since Ness claim.             |
| <b>3</b> | THREE PHASE – Hit board in 12 of 13 attempts with only one victory; sire getting numerous top runners.             |

**Race 8**

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| <b>1</b> | COWBOY MZ – Led this far in stake at seven furlongs and impressed previously despite long absence.                 |
| <b>4</b> | WINNING THE MEDAL – Powerful rally to edge solid opponent when claimed for \$40,000; may need set-up.              |
| <b>5</b> | LIFE IN SHAMBLES – Exits series of graded stakes and upset Fall Highweight last year; top barn and obvious threat. |
| <b>7</b> | LONG MAY YOU RUN – Amazing eight-year-old with half million in bank and gives his best every time.                 |

**Race 9**

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| <b>6</b> | DAMOCLES SWORD – Hard used chasing loose pacesetter for higher tag; sharp previously in marathon.          |
| <b>2</b> | WHEELBARRELBROTHERS – Outran top pick and likely difficult to beat but numerous losses at very short odds. |
| <b>5</b> | KING'S GOLD – Well-bred gelding far behind after layoff on wet footing but faster surface might help.      |
| <b>1</b> | OBVIOUSLY DRAMATIC – Just behind top choice in last and chased runaway winner in prior start this level.   |