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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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## SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2019--- KENTUCKY DERBY SELECTIONS

Best Bets:    LOOKINGFORANEWSPOT (7<sup>th</sup>)-- MALANDRINA (9<sup>th</sup>)

### Race 1

- 2** WEE MISS DOROTHY – Forced pace this far in muddy route and likely better suited this yardage for 26% barn.
- 1** I AM ON MY WAY – Major speed along rail stamps serious contender but stamina issues persist.
- 5** MISS STAR LO – Much closer than odds predicted in recent outings and might rally behind contested pace.
- 4** TRAPPS STAR – Contributes to lively fractions but failed with clear stretch advantage at Penn National.

### Race 2

- 6** ROCHELA – Edged despite nearly nine month's absence at Tampa Bay; fitter now against soft opposition.
- 7** FIRE COMMAND – Closed big gap as longshot but prone to slow starts and must put pair together.
- 3** CANDY BOSS – Trailed turf experiment in New York but back against own kind; numerous losses short prices.
- 1** OURO VERDE – Dull as huge favorite when shipped from New York and claimed; earlier races encouraging.

### Race 3

- 4** LIGHTS DOWN LOW – Crushed similar when DeMasi claimed and very likely repeater at low odds.
- 1A** FIREY AND GORGEOUS – Racing well with late kick but yet to figure out top choice; completes exacta again.
- 6** SIDEREAL – Improving and movers to hot Soto barn; runner-up from last romped here on Tuesday.
- 2** IRISH JONAH – Overmatched in last but decisive score earlier and should adjust to sprint.

### Race 4

- 6** AMERICAN ALI – Easily second best behind Laurel shipper following Zulueta claim; survives early pressure.
- 2** SARATOGA MIST – Disappointing at loftier level but ran into tigress in debut and Coletti barn on a roll.
- 5** COWGIRL UP – Signs of life behind runaway winner in route debut when claimed; some progress necessary.
- 3** ALL IN GIRL – Soundly beaten by top pick and acute case of seconditis in 18 attempts; hard to recommend.

**Race 5**

**2** FLAT RATE – Crushed maidens at Aqueduct and now makes key third start since layoff as big favorite.

**6** BROTHER TEZ – Humbled by decisive winner again but in best form yet and back after short break.

**1** AWE MUN – Overmatched in last but captured two previous races in convincing style.

**4** BROWN ESSENCE – Dull on road trip but made up ground locally behind third selection.

**Race 6**

**3** RED WAGON – Closer than anticipated behind more numerous winners and hot rider aboard in Silvera.

**6** EMPTY HOUSE – Exits game efforts but several frustrating defeats; recent conqueror fared poorly next time.

**4** BILLY NO SABAY – Never contended sprinting after Ness barn took and yet to pass stamina test.

**1** PRETTY VENEZUELA – Outran compact field of two-time winners in March and frequently close.

**Race 7**

**3** LOOKINGFORANEWSPOT – Chased 3-5 New York shipper and third finisher won next easily; well-spotted.

**4** MARY COSTA – Angled out into stretch after lacking room on turn; six pound weight shift in her favor.

**9** ROLL ON BIG MAMA – Defeated second choice when DeMasi claimed from Lake; dangerous again.

**2** WHITNEY COVE – Just over five lengths behind in much classier field and prior winner next ran in stake.

**Race 8**

**8** GLOBAL CITIZEN – Within length of taking four straight at Laurel since hiatus and first but disqualified locally.

**5** FOREST RIVER – Led to final yards against favored New York invader in best yet; back at same level.

**3** SHAMROCKED – Lightly raced but speedy and capable threat; Handal stable won with last local starter.

**2** NOTTOWAY – Cruised away from lesser when taking significant drop at Oaklawn; tested with this kind.

**Race 9**

**2** MALANDRINA – Caught late by stretch-runner after repulsing rival following long duel; shakes loose and wires.

**5** COGNAC CUTIE – Less than six lengths behind in vastly tougher field and ample success in past at Finger Lakes.

**4** MARNESIA BIG GIRL – Remote fourth in route and conqueror stepped up and won again; slow fuse this yardage.

**6** BALTIMORE BEAUTY – Good on occasion but four victories from 37 outings; merits some attention.

**Race 12 CHURCHILL DOWNS—THE \$3,000,000 KENTUCKY DERBY**

**5** IMPROBABLE – Flawless as juvenile then just length behind early favorite but withdrawn Omaha Beach; blinkers off.

**8** TACITUS – Survived severe early trouble at capture Wood and set for peak effort behind contested fractions.

**13** CODE OF HONOR – Failed to offer true measure behind loose pacesetter in Fla. Derby; sire could run all day.

**16** GAME WINNER – Among trio of Baffert entrants in field and unlucky in last two defeats after champion two-year-old.