



# 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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MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2024 – FIRST POST 12:40 P.M.

Best Bets: CHASING STARDOM (1<sup>st</sup>) -- ITWASTHEDEVILSIDEA (8<sup>th</sup>)

### Race 1

- 1** CHASING STARDOM – Used up dueling in latest and drops again; chance to shake loose early.
- 7** COMMINGLING – Took step forward and shorter break between starts plus; first time blinkers.
- 9** FINANCIAL STRENGTH – Rallied behind repeat winner this spot; should be picking off rivals.
- 11** SCAMP WALKER – Perfect trip to defeat single-winners and threat with logical next step.

### Race 2

- 4** INCAN MOON GODDESS – Heavily-backed and closed well in debut; Lasix and extra yardage aid
- 1** MARYVIC – Speedy but hampered by stamina issues at Monmouth; Soto-Martinez barn at 23%.
- 10** DIXIE MUSIC – Advanced behind decisive winner then sold privately; making 14<sup>th</sup> attempt.
- 3** BAHAMIAN BABY – Close despite trouble in Jersey finale as major longshot; first local try.

### Race 3

- 1** PESADILLA CHANEL – Exits solid effort on turf and romped in prior dirt outing; well-spotted.
- 6** SHUDABEENACOWGIRL – Battled throughout this spot when splitting pair of prior race winners
- 7** NAMORA – Disappointing try in last and bad start when runner-up to stablemate previously.
- 4** NEIGHBELLINE – Absent nearly four months but takes significant drop and merits attention.

### Race 4

- 7** PEACELOVENKARMA – Very slow fuse but powerful finishing kick; extra furlong should help.
- 9** EXPECT TO BE READY – Capable in past and drops on rare losing streak; promising “bug” up.
- 1** LEAN ON E – Game veteran just missed in last and suitable yardage; serious threat.
- 2** CAPTIVATING CARA – Just half length behind after traffic trouble in stretch; fits nicely.

### Race 5

- 10** JOVA – Chased much quicker group when re-claimed by Padilla-Preciado barn; 13 career wins.
- 2** AHSAD – Primed for elongated sprint after good effort in route; must put it all together.
- 3** LEMON CREEK LOUIE – Overmatched after Jersey claim and competed in several stakes before.
- 6** MINXHIPPSDONTLEYE – Flashes of interest lately and Moore stable excellent 27% after claim.

### Race 6

- 2** FAST BOB – Powerful stretch-runner difficult to like or ignore off another drop; yardage helps.
- 1** DALTON – Dueled to final furlong in race taken by stretch-runner; faces pressure from outside.
- 3** PYLON – Speedy and sharp lately for 30% Irving Rodriguez barn; can soften other front-runners.
- 7** SEA TRIDENT – Erratic lately but formidable at times and must be considered this level.

### Race 7

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| <b>1</b> | SANSA ARIEL – Back on main track where she won decisively after hiatus; soft opposition. |
| <b>6</b> | ANGELIC STORM – Fair showing this spot after trouncing two-time winners; major threat.   |
| <b>7</b> | CINQUE AMORE – Rapid mare ships from Ohio for third outing since layoff; yardage suits.  |
| <b>3</b> | AKNA – Reasonably close with similar and sheds weight switching to apprentice Martinez.  |

### Race 8

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| <b>2</b> | ITWASTHEDEVILSIDEA – Prominent long way in marathon and impressed here in June romp.          |
| <b>4</b> | YES SIR COLONEL – Aggressive drop as serious contender and big closing kick on occasion.      |
| <b>5</b> | ASSEMBLY POINT – Weakened late after long duel in bulky field; retains Lopez as danger.       |
| <b>1</b> | BRILLIANT CHASE – Over quarter million in local earnings; idle two months since voided claim. |

### Race 9

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| <b>5</b> | DIANE'S MERLOT – Numerous frustrating losses this season but stretches out as pacesetter.   |
| <b>7</b> | AMY MULE – Nearly wore down loose pacesetter in improved try after claim; obvious threat.   |
| <b>2</b> | SNOW LAKE – Strong rally to defeat sprinters at Delaware and shown route prowess locally.   |
| <b>6</b> | MISS CINNAMON – Soundly outrun by second pick after beating third pick; consistently fires. |

### Race 10

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|-----------|---|
| <b>11</b> | KINGSVILLE – Veteran takes plunge returning to sprint; should regain closing kick this level. |
| <b>7</b>  | BRINDISI – Signs of ability with tougher in sprints; just behind top choice here in March.    |
| <b>10</b> | CHAIN REACTION – Pressed heavy favorite and continued gamely this level; Penn National foe.   |
| <b>9</b>  | UP AGAINST IT – May have needed recent outing at Timonium; 12-time winner changes barns.      |