



Craig Donnelly's

ANALY\$IS\$
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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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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2024 – FIRST POST 12:05 P.M.

Best Bets: GROUP TICKET (4th) – SOZE (6th)

Race 1

- 5** PAINT ME BEAUTIFUL – Switches turf to dirt after pair of narrow losses in Jersey; Lopez up.
- 1** DIXIE MUSIC – Humbled by huge favorite in tougher version this spot; contested pace a plus.
- 2** DREAMINGOFFREEDOM – Dueled repeat winner this far in route; cost twice this much February.
- 3** HYACINTH BUCKET – Sidelined since January but races cheapest yet; Linder 30% absentees.

Race 2

- 4** JW'STRICKYMISCHIEF – Nine-year-old plunges seeking to end losing skid; suited by yardage.
- 5** JUSTINSPEIGHTOFIT – Used up early in field full of front-runners; won twice elsewhere recently.
- 2** RUSTYS GFIVEFIFTY – Nailed at wire in longer test with “open” company; stable heating up.
- 6** PYLON – Survived early pressure to defeat lesser and faces tough early challenges again.

Race 3

- 5** SCUDETTO – Hard used chasing loose pacesetter in route and facing soft sprint opposition.
- 6** WILD CAPTAIN – Overmatched in Delaware route and prior loss on turf; threat with this kind.
- 7** BERNIE GOES BOOM – Soundly beaten twice in classier company but can't dismiss this level.
- 2** MASTER OF TWEETS – Remote fourth in debut at Delaware and some progress necessary.

Race 4

- 1** GROUP TICKET – Early traffic trouble then weakened pressing better; remains above price paid.
- 2** MAJESTIC LION – Lags far behind then closed strongly after layoff; needs help with pace set-up.
- 6** FERRARI KID – Probable pacesetter hampered by stamina issues but runs big race on occasion.
- 5** DANCE A DINI – Remote fourth behind smashing winner and appeared sharper earlier in year.

Race 5

- 5** EXPLORATION – Idle since beaten length in Fair Grounds bow; \$900,000 buy in Russell barn.
- 2** ZANDUHOOC – Edged by repeat winner for new management; avoids claiming tag this time.
- 7** D DAY – Chased runaway favorite when claimed at Keeneland from bulky field; must respect.
- 8** JOLLY GREY GIANT – Ample promise in debut then sidelined since March; dangerous if ready.

Race 6

- 6** SOZE – Pulled away eagerly again after taxing duel in impressive score; should get extra furlong
- 3** SMOKE WAGON – Big effort behind decisive winner despite rough trip; nearly always fires.
- 5** CURLINS CRUZIN – Crushed easier when returned to sprint and retains Lopez as possibility.
- 4** EJTIMAA – Absentee romped twice at Tampa but far behind elsewhere; threat with Sanchez up.

Race 7

5	CELESTIAL MOON – Bargain claim by Ness closed strongly just missing in stake; terrific field.
3	EXCELLORATOR – Stablemate of top pick in excellent form in Maryland; 10-for-25 lifetime mark.
6	PRAETORIAN GUARD – Looked bit like old self rallying wide behind big favorite; upset threat.
2	MOVISITOR – Set pace and stopped as 8-5 chalk but prior races encouraging; lures Carmouche.

Race 8

1	FLAMINGO WAY – Difficult time defeating lesser but prior races excellent; stalking trip inside.
2	HOT FUDGE WARRIOR – Rapid filly wired capable group in Stanton; faces severe early pressure
7	DISCO EBO – Shelved three months since fading in stretch again; tigress when on her game.
8	EMPRESS DEONA – Among quickest mares around; back home where she won twice earlier.