



CRAIG DONNELLY'S ANALYSIS @parxracin

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, MARCH 24, 2025 – FIRST POST 12:40 P.M. – ENTICED DAY AT RACES

Best Bets: MISCHIEF MAXEY (5th) – APOLLONIA VITELLI (8th)

Race 1

- 2** PEACE CRUSADER – Solid effort at Charles Town despite sidelined since 2022; progress likely.
- 4** AVES MAKIN' WAVES – Used up chasing smashing winner in 30th attempt; threat to shake loose
- 5** HOPPY TIME – Often close and pair of local outings encouraging; must put it all together.
- 3** LORD SEABEE – Slow fuse and 18 defeats but improved recent months and should gain late.

Race 2

- 5** IFEELUCKY TONITE – Flashes of ability in tougher versions of this spot and adding blinkers.
- 4** ZOPPI FISCHBEIN – Making progress and finished ahead of top pick last week; just 2-for-42.
- 1** TAKEMETOTHEMOON – Crushed lesser in confidence booster and offers speed along inside.
- 6** PATRIARCHAL – Stretching out again and usually hits board; leading rider aboard in Sanchez.

Race 3

- 2** CLASSY MISS – Led to final yards as favorite this spot and claiming by sizzling Pino stable.
- 5** BEYOND A MILLION – Capable in past and racing into shape again after layoff; key threat.
- 4** TOMARIE – Soundly bumped at steadied into first turn; nine-year-old with 13 scores and \$400k.
- 1** COLOR CRUSH – Last poor and yet to win on conventional dirt; maybe later on the turf.

Race 4

- 2** LIBERTY RUNNER – Progressed last pair and could finally get second victory vs. soft opposition
- 7** SHEER DOMINANCE – Bothered rival in stretch when issue decided; should be closing late.
- 5** MARINE PATROL – Edged weak maidens in 18th attempt and takes logical next step in route.
- 3** SOCIAL JOE – Poor record and failed last three at Penn but Gallimore barn has them firing.

Race 5

- 5** MISCHIEF MAXEY – Speedy filly pushed heavy favorite to limit when adding Lasix; faces rookies
- 3** ALYVIA MAVIS – Excellent effort when easily second best to awesome newcomer; 14th attempt.
- 1** CHAMPAGNE MISCHIEF – Sire won Ky. Derby and Breeders' Classic; dam stakes-placed turf.
- 2** UNTOUCHABLE – Half-sister to \$600,000 earner Prince Lucky; ample preparation for debut.

Race 6

- 6** JUSTINSPEIGHTOFIT – Upset much tougher field last week and should repeat at this level.
- 3** SLEIPNIR – Dominated three-time winners in latest and chance to control pace as key threat.
- 7** OLLIEMEISTER – Plunges after early roughing and boasts pair of decisive romps earlier.
- 5** SPOTTED BULL – Stablemate of second pick takes significant drop; outrun by top pick earlier.

Race 7

5	MARILYN M – Used up dueling in debut this spot in finish dominated by stretch-runners.
7	E T'S GYPSY ROSE – Encouraging effort in debut and avoids tag this time; clear sailing outside.
2	NITTANY LIONESS – By top stallion Distorted Humor; dam won 16 races and over half million.
3	GINGERSAYSCHILL – Failed to run to backing after layoff but fitter now with progress likely.

Race 8

1	APOLLONIA VITELLI – Series of sharp efforts and closed gamely this spot; works out rail rally.
2	LERETHA – Finished one length ahead of top pick after DeMasi claim; speed to pose threat.
7	BREEZY DANCE – Making third start after layoff for high percentage Moore barn; upset shot.
5	EMILY'S ON FIRE – Often quick and promising “bug” aboard in Elliott; needs to reach front.

Race 9

5	JUMP A FOX – Advanced behind easy Ness barn winner and additional distance in her favor.
6	SUNNY SIDE UP – Survived early pressure in recent score; likely one to catch again for Rosado.
7	TOOTSIE TOES – Just behind top choice and signs of interest lately; merits some attention.
4	WIKI LIO – Stopped in sprint in first start of season; tests stamina again and capable in past.