



# 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, MAY 26, 2025 – FIRST POST 12:40 P.M. – MEMORIAL DAY**

Best Bets: RON CORY RUN (6<sup>th</sup>) – SMOOTH FLYIN MIKE (8<sup>th</sup>)

#### Race 1

- 6** KATE'S GOLDEN DUDE – Amazing 10-year-old with 19 victories; always speedy and determined.
- 2** ICONIC LEGACY – Difficult to like or ignore plunge after chasing runaway repeat winner Jersey.
- 4** TAP IN FORMATION – Trounced lesser last pair and changed barns; distance may be obstacle.
- 5** FENWICK JACK – Slow fuse but shows powerful closing kick at times; ample early targets.

#### Race 2

- 6** STILLWATER MOON – Much improved effort when adding Lasix and blinkers; wires soft group.
- 4** MAX FORWARD SPEED – Humbled by smashing winner in route; better suited this yardage.
- 5** CHILLING TIME – Possibility if throw out latest; just four lengths behind this spot previously.
- 1** LORD SEABEE – Hit board last four but had 19 chances with similar; some progress necessary.

#### Race 3

- 5** BUCKS SOME – Old-timer hard used dueling and conqueror scored again last week.
- 4** CICI UNIFIED – Passed top choice late and hinted at improvement lately; just 4-for-41 career.
- 1** SO SWELL – Remote fourth in route and likely far behind early this yardage; likely gains late.
- 3** HAPPY UNION – Retreated around two turns but third race since layoff and sheds 10 pounds.

#### Race 4

- 2** SUE ELLEN MISHKIN – Used up after bad start and takes plunger after \$10,000 claim prior outing
- 5** CREME CARAMEL – Flashes of interest recent months but lost 10 chances at this level.
- 6** DESIGNATED – Idle couple months since poor showing in slop; defeated tougher in past.
- 4** FOREST MAIDEN – Trailed latest and prior two losses at Penn; under new management.

#### Race 5

- 4** SUNDAY SPIRIT – Nearly always fires and difficult to handle as odds-on chalk this spot for Solis.
- 3** MR. BOGAN – Humbled by Gulfstream shipper in good try last week; vastly improved recently.
- 2** HEAT ALERT – Within few feet of perfect this season and threat taking logical next step.
- 1** EXCLUSIVE DANCER – Finished behind top pair but upset third pick in March; upset chance.

#### Race 6

- 5** RUN CORY RUN – Improved tries going short and long since claim and drops notch after week
- 4** RACKATAPTAP – Closed strongly wide at lower level and posted 27-1 surprise here in March.
- 2** ASSEMBLY POINT – Soundly beaten in last but takes plunge and terrific here during winter.
- 8** DR BAYTER – Wired cheaper when claimed yet again and retains Haddock as contender.

**Race 7**

<b>2</b>	<b>NINJA PRIZE – Speedy and capable veteran crushed solid field and claimed by hot Pino stable.</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>ENFORCER – Nailed at wire last week when nearly pressured throughout; avoids tag this time.</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>DEVIL’S CAY – Faced tougher in New York and romped once there earlier; threat this level.</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>WHITEWALKER – Wore down slightly easier and could receive helpful pace scenario.</b>

**Race 8**

<b>4</b>	<b>SMOOTH FLYIN MIKE – Pulled away impressively after arriving from Florida; testing stamina.</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>BIG BOYS ANSWER – Versatile and game gelding firing every time and chased rocket in last.</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>WAR MASTER – Chased runaway winner in slop and much success at Laurel for Ness barn.</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>JUST STEP ON IT – Overmatched in Aqueduct stake after prevailing gamely after layoff locally.</b>

**Race 9**

<b>6</b>	<b>UTILITY – Eventful trip when heavily-backed this spot; often close with Ruiz aboard.</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>JUST BE HONEST – Failed turf experiment but back in dirt route for high percentage stable.</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>FLASHY DUDE – Drops after far behind in Maryland; might regain closing rally this level.</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>ONE LAST KISS – Walloped maidens in 13<sup>th</sup> attempt; contributes to lively pace stretching out.</b>