



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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WEDNESDAY, JULY 23, 2025 – FIRST POST 12:40 P.M.

Best Bets: LION IN THE SUN (5th) – NORMANDY HERO (8th)

Race 1

- 7** NICOLE'S KING – Narrowly missed this level and yardage in first outing since February.
- 2** PONTIAC – Failed to offer true measure on muddy surface after series of good efforts.
- 9** IT'S A PITY – Decent showing when dropped to this spot and continues progress as longshot.
- 5** THE GRAYT PUMPKIN – Rallied behind top choice and changed management again.

Race 2

- 3** CORONA CAMPIONE – Strong bid to lead then caught late by closer; third race since September
- 2** BRIGHT KOHANA – Rapid and game mare claimed from five straight outings; back in one week.
- 4** ROLLS ROYCE JOYCE – Hard to support off last but romped two prior starts; 18% Arce barn.
- 6** SONADORA GIRL – Middle move then retreated in route but better suited this distance.

Race 3

- 5** SUMMERSATTHESHORE – Primed for elongated sprint pushing heavy favorite to limit in route.
- 1** TOMARIE – Finished behind top choice but encouraging record this yardage; long losing skid.
- 6** SO SWELL – Case of seconditis lately but should be prepared for extra furlong with late kick.
- 4** THAT'S TONY'S SISTER – Probably needed first race since November in route; racing into shape.

Race 4

- 7** AHSAD – Strong late bid behind hotly-contested fractions; seeks 14th score in 100th attempt.
- 6** WE READY – Finished just behind top pick after forcing pace to final stages; key threat.
- 2** MY DEVILS CHILD – Determined upset score when pressured throughout in tight finish.
- 5** IRISH HONOR – Edged in compact field at Penn for higher tag; fourth race since voided claim.

Race 5

- 6** LION IN THE SUN – Shelved over year but ample preparation and holds major ability advantage
- 3** KEEPING THE FAITH – Fair try at loftier level after shipping from Kentucky; progress likely.
- 1** LORD SEABEE – Distant third behind smashing winner when claimed from 21st outing.
- 4** PRINCE LUCAS – Racing into shape after long absence and sheds nine pounds for this test.

Race 6

- 8** BOBBY'S CANDY – Hampered by traffic problems better field after claim; finds seconditis cure.
- 5** SAM WHEAT – Improved effort with similar 16 days ago and success with Bowman up in past.
- 4** HUMBLE JOE – Closer than odds predicted this spot for winning Esteban Padilla stable.
- 7** FINANCIAL STRENGTH – Gamely prevailed in first outing since April; takes logical next step.

Race 7

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| 4 | LEFTOVER SUSHI – Led to final furlong in route and battled when hooked; edged this distance. |
| 5 | CHIPOTLE PEPPER – Dueled to stretch in solid company at Delaware; decisive score prior try. |
| 7 | AWESOME ANNMARIE – Veteran with terrific career mark with 10 victories; switches to Pino. |
| 6 | THEGODDESSOFSNAKES – Drops notch after even effort in mud; fast footing would be helpful. |

Race 8

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| 6 | NORMANDY HERO – Showed liking for turf at Laurel after trouncing cheaper locally; classy past. |
| 2 | GRAHMALAMADINGDONG – Much-improved gelding with closing punch; sufficient early targets |
| 1 | NO EASY DAYS- Edged away after prolonged duel in Jersey and battled tigress locally in May. |
| 5 | ROAN BURGUNDY – Continues to get close despite bearing out in stretch; fits if runs straight. |

Race 9

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| 1 | BIG DREAMER – Sidelined since September after winning four straight; barn gets them ready. |
| 5 | TARA'S TALENT – Nine-year-old mare lightly raced but still formidable; won two of last three. |
| 6 | CHICKIENESS – Speedy mare led to final yards this level in mud; contributes to lively pace. |
| 4 | DEWEY DOIT – Rediscovered ability when just missing as longshot; third race since return. |

Race 10

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| 9 | SILENT MODE – Claimed for higher tag from solid sprint by Pino; back at preferred distance. |
| 3 | DEPLANE – Absent over year but sufficient ability and threat with this kind if ready. |
| 8 | SHOULDHAVEBEENGONE – Easily second best behind odds-on winner this spot; dangerous. |
| 1 | FAST PAYDAY – Back on main track where he posted upset previously; frequently gets close. |