

Craig Donnelly's





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, OCTOBER 21, 2025 – FIRST POST 12:40 P.M.

Best Bets: AULA (6th) – BAILOUT BILLY (7th)

Race 1

- 2 KATE'S GOLDEN DUDE Terrific 10-year-old with 20 victories; lightly raced but formidable.
- WE READY Fired at loftier levels last pair and formed bottom of exacta on 14 occasions.
- POGI Narrowly missed taking plunge and claimed by 32% Padilla-Preciado barn as threat.
- 5 COBBLE ROAD Used up dueling as heavy favorite but prior two outings encouraging.

Race 2

- 2 SIMPLY DISREGARDED Easily second best to heavy favorite when claimed; strong mdn score.
- ONE IMPROBABLE Hard used forcing pace in classier company; speedy threat this level.
- UNION PURRFECTION Re-claimed by Catalano barn from good effort; back with sprinters.
- WE MISS NEIL Trailed last pair but takes significant drop and Linder barn has them firing.

Race 3

- DATE NIGHT KISSES Cruised past easier taking plunge and taken back by Ferris Allen stable.
- SUMMARY JUDGMENT Veteran mare led throughout again for 15th career score; claimed again
- THEGODDESSOFSNAKES Narrowed gap sprinting when Wyner re-claimed; idle three months.
- EXPECT TO BE READY Faltered after forcing pace but 10-time winner dangerous on best.

Race 4

- 2 COURAGE ON TAP Competed well elsewhere and finished ahead of favorite at Colonial.
- HALO HOTTIE Drops from top maiden ranks and showed speed twice before; fits nicely.
- TUSH PUSH Flashed speed then faded in both starts and probable pacesetter from inside.
- PURIST Sire won two Grade I stakes and \$4 million; ample works offering few clues.

Race 5

- 2 I'M A LUCKY GIRL Nearly ran down loose pacesetter in route; ample early targets sprinting.
- DISCO FLASH Faded under pressure but solid race at times; extra yardage possible obstacle.
- 9 SHOOPTHEREITIS Switches from turf route to dirt sprint and last local try encouraging.
- LUCKY OPPORTUNITY Retreated after flashing speed in route and 51-1 shocker in April.

Race 6

- AULA Crushed lesser in confidence booster when Pino took; handles raise with similar effort.
- FIRST MONEY Broke slowly then finished strongly in return; progress anticipated same level.
- 2 SAL N LOUIE Very game try when edged after Wyner bought back again; speed nearest rail.
- ASSEMBLY POINT Middle move then weakened with similar two weeks ago; upset chance.

Race 7 BAILOUT BILLY - Extremely quick filly trounced rivals last pair and difficult to catch again. LEFTOVER SUSHI – Repelled challenger then caught late in game effort; avoids tag this spot. VIXENZHYPNOTKHONEY – Upset winner after owners claimed back; taking logical next step. MILDOON – Ended losing skid with easier when claimed; rapid fractions could help chances. Race 8 WHAT A BLAST – Exits possibly best race of career trouncing cheaper; might continue progress 4 AMEDEUS MUSIC – Solid effort this spot in local bow and shorter break between races a plus. AZTEC – Absent couple months since moving to hot Padilla barn; ages since last victory. 9 McCRAKENS GHOST – Failed last three tries with state-breds at Penn; moderate local success. Race 9 THE \$75,000 M.P. BALLEZZI APPRECIATION MILE DUKE OF GLOUCESTER – Exits good effort in rich stake; romped in 3 of 4 previous outings. ADERO – Nearly always gives his best and returns home after pair of sharp Delaware outings. BERNIE'S MITTS - Rapid gelding in peak form and testing stamina again; faces early pressure. FILM STAR – Captured pair of Saratoga races and claimed for \$100,000; sufficient ability. Race 10 KHOZANALL – Removes blinkers after poor showing; tries dirt again for high percentage barn. BROWNEYEDVALENTINE – Sidelined since January but showed promise in top level debut.

RAMA BAMA LANA – Weakened late as odds-on chalk when claimed on plunge at Delaware.

CAROLYN DORIS – Absent since May and competing cheapest ever for new management.