



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, OCTOBER 22, 2025 – FIRST POST 12:40 P.M.

Best Bets: ORTHO STAR (4th) – ASMODEUS (7th)

Race 1

- 4** AMAZING WOO – Forced pace and continued gamely at loftier level; back at amount of claim.
- 5** TUFF CONSTITUTION – Pulled away after dueling and sharp twice since hiatus; claimed again.
- 3** I DON'T SEE COLORS – Shelved since voided claim in April; prior starts show ability edge.
- 2** DITHER – Aggressive drop for hot stable; returns to main track with one outing since April.

Race 2

- 1** TAVRIA – Claimed by Ness when distant runner-up to heavy favorite from same barn; drops.
- 3** RAGTAP GIRL - Fair showing when Arce took from this spot; earlier romps Jersey, Gulfstream.
- 4** STARSHIP LEGEND – Led throughout in sprint but yet to prove stamina ability; can set pace.
- 5** MELODY'S KISS – Frequently close and very wide trip this level after claim; fits nicely.

Race 3

- 5** DIAMOND HEIST – Nearly always fires and hard-earned score at Delaware when Ness claimed.
- 3** SOPHIA'S PRINCE – Pressed eventual winner long way; series of good efforts earlier in year.
- 1** EASY ACTION – Offers speed inside and captured two of last three outings; faces pressure.
- 2** JAKE BRAKE ALLEY – Returns from road trips with realistic drop; contributes to lively pace.

Race 4

- 4** ORTHO STAR – Edged by heavily-favored Colonial invader when easily second best this spot.
- 1** CARCHAROTH – Back in sprint following Arce claim and puts blinkers on again; seconditis.
- 3** ADIOS JERSEY – Far behind at loftier level when changing hands; yet to duplicate debut.
- 2** GREAT COMPOSER – Led nearly this far in route and tries sprinting first time in seven attempts.

Race 5

- 1** TRUE CONNECTION – New Yorker takes plunge moving to Padilla-Preciado barn; soft company.
- 6** WE LIVE THIS GAME – Far behind after decisive maiden score; Pino barn 32% off claim.
- 10** JUST CHEESY – Anticipated better last time after double-digit maiden score; hard to guess.
- 8** MODICA – Bulk of efforts on turf but competing cheapest ever and likely gaining late.

Race 6

- 2** PROJECT MAXIMUS – Caught in final stages in solid field at Delaware; romped locally in debut.
- 3** LAW SCHOOL – Speedy filly failed on road trips after double-digit score here in August bow.
- 1** CROWN ROYAL BABE – Defeated bulky field of state-breds in only try and obvious threat again.
- 4** DIVINE INTENTIONS – Pulled away from compact group in debut at Penn; tested with these.

Race 7

2	ASMODEUS – Chased formidable rival throughout and competes with tag again in good spot.
5	MISSOURI RIVER – Improved recent outings and adds blinkers as key threat in solid field.
7	ELOQUIST – Edged top pick when DeMasi re-claimed and sheds 7 pounds switching to “bug.”
10	PRINCE COLTON – Rapid gelding game in recent losses and fits nicely following Kirby claim.

Race 8 THE \$75,000 DISCO CHICK

5	NATURE’S CANDY – Impressive route score in best yet and set up well for elongated sprint.
6	PACHELBEL – Humbled by top choice when victim of slow fractions; \$100,000 claim by Moore.
8	AOIFE’S MAGIC – Extremely game try in comeback and 2023 local Horse of the Year improves.
9	CONFIRMED STAR – Always gives her best and Butch Reid barn won \$400,000 stake in Ky.

Race 9 THE \$75,000 JUMP START STAKES

6	DROPLINE – Set blistering fractions in route and continued gamely; often difficult to catch.
3	FAR MO POWER – Wide advance in route and excellent form this yardage; late kick likely.
7	NINETYPRCENTMADDIE – Ended losing streak in determined score when adding blinkers.
9	WILD VINE – Exits pair of frustrating losses and must adjust to rare sprint for leading stable.

Race 10

10	ENGLISH PAINTER – Consistent stretch-runner claimed from 5 straight starts; stalks outside.
4	MELT WITH YOU – Led to final furlong at Delaware and takes aggressive drop as key threat.
11	HEY PORTER – Powerful finish to win last and dangerous again seeking tenth victory.
2	TIME TO CRUISE – May have needed first outing since May and drops again after wide trip.