

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, NOVEMBER 11, 2025 – FIRST POST 12:05 P.M.- VETERANS DAY

Best Bets: SHOUT TO THE LORD (9th) - SAL N LOUIE (10th)

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- HARD SPICE Set up nicely for this yardage forcing pace in route taken by drop-down rival.
- MELITTLEFROSTGIRL Nailed at wire this level last week and also lost photo in September.
- 9 LAUGH LIKE LUCY Finished just behind top choice and lone victory this distance earlier.
- RAVENITE Retreated at longer but likely better suited this yardage; capable but hard to guess.

Race 2

- 5 CENTER STAGE Looked more like old self crushing cheaper and ready to handle tougher.
- **8** SUMMARY JUDGMENT Speedy and determined mare with 15 victories, 13 locally as threat.
- **2** PEACH PERFECT Difficult to support off last but re-claimed soon as possible by Abrams.
- DIVINE GRACE Far behind last three but takes realistic drop and tigress in past for Ness.

Race 3

- TRULLI WARRIOR Competed well this spot after trouncing maidens prior try; 33% Padilla barn
- GUNG HO Drew away from maidens at Laurel for top Fair Hill stable; \$360,000 buy last year.
- 2 TROTSKY Lacked speed when failing as 8-5 chalk this level; edged by repeat winner prior try.
- CAPTAIN FANCY Close up with similar in blanket finish despite traffic problems; upset shot.

Race 4

- 4 SONADORA GIRL Led throughout in decisive score; one to catch with realistic next step.
- 8 WHY NOT BABE Nosed heavy favorite following hiatus and ample success for Curry barn.
- MISS M M Advanced behind loose pacesetter this level but just 1-for-17 this season.
- **2** DENALI RAE Faded after half mile in first try for Pino barn; captured this spot in July.

Race 5

- I CAN DO MAGIC Keeps on firing and re-bid for higher tag; offered speed in prior outings.
- GET LIKE MIKE Led to final yards after idle three months since voided claim at Monmouth.
- SIR CUPID Edged this yardage but actual drop in class but raise in claiming tag.
- DARVESH Close all four outings since hiatus but ages since last victory; Perez barn hot.

Race 6

- 2 CURLINS CRUZIN Battled 21-time winner when easily second best in improved effort.
- FIRST MONEY Narrowed big gap after layoff and drops again returning to sprint as danger.
- JAKE ROCKS Veteran exits hard-earned score at Delaware and moves to Padilla-Preciado barn
- SOPHIA'S PRINCE Competed well at loftier level after shoe repair in paddock; merits attention.

Race 7 DR. STEVE – Terrific veteran raced sparingly but nearly always fires; three local victories. MIDLANER - Gained strongly late when Pino claimed for \$25,000; formidable on best. FINAL SHOT – Defeated second pick in 10th career score and nearing half million in earnings. GORDIAN KNOT – Sharper last season including stakes win but can't dismiss this level. Race 8 PEARLS AND HEELS – Game mare taken back by prior connections and seems well-spotted. SNAPPY RIDE – Rallied strongly to surprise quality opposition; needs to put pair together. 5 OUR UPTOWN GIRL – Last couple discouraging but shorter break and excellent at times. 3 SWEET LAURA – Slow fuse but 11-time winner shows closing kick; needs aid of pace set-up. Race 9 3 SHOUT TO THE LORD - Powerful move in impressive Laurel score after layoff; ships from Penn. 9 UP N RUNNIN – Caught late in big effort against capable state-breds; has beaten older foes. PAM PAM – Often game when reaches front early and fits nicely for Ness-Sanchez combo. 8 DAZZY – Road warrior faced tough company elsewhere and frequently close here in past. Race 10 SAL N LOUIE – Chased smashing winner in route when claimed again; finds ideal spot. FIGHT FIERCELY – Fired all six outings at Delaware with similar and latest in bulky field.

BIG JOHN – Absent few months but capable on occasion and gains late at square odds.

THREE CAPTAINS – Dueled to final furlong with 3-time winners and speed to pose threat.