

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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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2025 - FIRST POST 12:05 P.M.

Best Bets: MAVILUS (4th) – LEFTOVER SUSHI (9th)

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- 9 ALWAYS IN PLAY Forced pace in vastly better company after shipping from Gulfstream.
- 4 IN THE BIZ Prominent this far in route this level and likely better suited this distance.
- 8 TUSH PUSH Weakened at two turns after layoff but dangerous competing cheapest yet.
- UPTOWN ART Flashed speed at top state-bred maiden level in debut and adding blinkers.

Race 2

- B DAVOLA Lightly raced but romped here in lone local try; rapid half mile workout for this.
- 4 SOAR RICHARD Set pace to final yards in longer test as odds-on chalk; conqueror fired again.
- STILLWATER MOON Outrun by second pick but sharp as longshot earlier; hot "bug" aboard.
- 5 FASTIDIOUS Contributes to lively pace but stamina woes persist; progress necessary.

Race 3

- IT'S GAME TIME Nine-year-old won by double-digits in 20th victory; slight raise not obstacle.
- **YOUBETTERBEJOKING Trounced three-time winners after hiatus for new management.**
- **5** COBBLE ROAD Easily second best to favored Saratoga invader this spot; veteran still game.
- RACKATAPTAP Overmatched last pair but narrow score this spot when claimed last month.

Race 4

- MAVILUS Big effort for higher tag despite difficult post; often closer than odds predicted.
- **2** ALWAYS LAUGHING Speedy road warrior with good form elsewhere; 8-for-32 lifetime.
- THEGODDESSOFSNAKES Solid effort after three month's absence when claimed by Arce.
- RACEY RUBY Far behind last pair but sharp drop and formidable earlier; can't dismiss yet.

Race 5

- COALVILLE By leading sire Into Mischief out of Kentucky Oaks winner Cathryn Sophia.
- **2** WE MISS NEIL On decline lately but drops again and merits attention this level for Linder.
- AU SOME WARRIOR Faded over synthetic but faced better in prior local outing; Kulp 29%.
- CRACK THE CODE Trailed throughout after sidelined year; some progress anticipated.

Race 6

- 5 DRUNKLE Plunges switching to Pino barn and adds blinkers in first attempt on main track.
- 2 GUAIO Narrowed gap in improved effort after claim and second finisher won last week.
- SCUDETTO Fair showing this spot after idle two months; lone victory this year at Monmouth.
- BAD ADVICE Only one length behind despite trouble near top of stretch; inconsistent lately.

Race 7 8 EASY ACTION – Survived taxing duel in decisive score and won three of four races since return. DIAMOND HEIST – Rallied behind top choice when claimed; often forms bottom of exacta. PRACTICAL COACH - Hard-hitter fired all six outings this season; Aristone buy retains Sanchez. TRACK OF MY TEAR – Adds to lively fractions and prevailed at this yardage despite pressure. Race 8 SOUTHERN DREAM – Decent showing with classier in route; late kick likely returning to sprint. LEGENDARY THUNDER – Appears to prefer turf but also handles dirt; sharp first try for Lake. CAP STEAK ROBBERY – Finished ahead of top pick as longshot and conqueror scored again. LEO'S LEGACY – Early excuse at Penn and shorter break between races likely plus. Race 9 LEFTOVER SUSHI – Used up chasing rapid pacesetter after ducking out at start; fits this level. REE NEE'S SIX – Dueled throughout this spot and back in Brown barn; on rare losing streak. 8 UMBRAL - Game filly seeks fourth straight and up another notch as major contender. COULD BE A COUGAR – Crushed lesser last pair and moves to Moore barn; retains Rivera. Race 10 **BOLD ENDEAVOR – Switches to Ness barn after stumbling start in New York; terrific veteran.**

ASMODEUS – Battled to final furlong at higher level and fourth outing since hiatus; dangerous.

AMEDEUS MUSIC – Drops below amount of claim and offers closing kick with ample targets.

KHOPESH – Trio of wide-margin romps in recent months but outrun by pair above in September.