

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 4, 2025 – FIRST POST 12:05 P.M.

Best Bets: FACE THE FACTS (5th) – SHETALKSTOMUCH (7th)

Race 1

- YOU KNOW ME Stretches out with aggressive drop and handled two turns in past.
- REINA MAR Rallied from last to first with strong rally after arriving from Gulfstream.
- 4 DON'T POST IT Rapid filly difficult to guess but convincing score in previous start.
- SUNNY SIDE UP Competing better than odds suggest lately; contributes to lively pace.

Race 2

- MONSTER MAX Hard used dueling eventual winner in encouraging debut; \$50,000 purchase.
- GREY BULL Rallied just behind top choice in bow and should benefit from experience.
- PARKER BOONE Sire runner-up in Breeders' Cup Juvenile and \$100,000 buy this year.
- PETEY MOTTO Outrun by top choice but encouraging try earlier; back with "bug" rider.

Race 3

- AMY MULE Exploded past cheaper when Gallimore re-claimed; retains Haddock in open race.
- CHELSEA WALL Distant third at loftier level and veteran mare with 12 victories as threat.
- **2** JUMP A FOX Stretch-runner faced classier company but absent nearly three months.
- 4 GIRLFROMOUTERSPACE Humbled by drop-down double-digit winner when claimed.

Race 4

- EARL OF DASSEL Closer than anticipated in better field and also fired this spot previously.
- EXCLUSIVE DANCER Responded well to drop when easily second best this spot September.
- 4 TORPEDO RUN Logical drop stretching out and capable in past; ensures honest fractions.
- RAMIEL Speedy gelding returns to level of claim after overmatched twice; romped earlier.

Race 5

- FACE THE FACTS Big effort despite early trouble with talented state-breds; shorter break.
- POSSUM Overran talented field to end losing skid and takes realistic next step for Preciado.
- BOYS OF SUMMER Ducked in sharply at start losing any chance in route; rare sprint attempt.
- CURIOUS SOUL Crushed easier group when returning to dirt; Arce claim retains Pennington.

Race 6

- 8 CONNOR'S CREW Solid effort behind pair of experienced rivals in debut; progress anticipated.
- **3** QUAKER CITY Heavily-backed when humbled by runaway winner in bow; also from Reid barn.
- 2 ALASTAR Pursued winner this far before fading in route; slow start in debut sprinting.
- OUR NOTION Finished behind top pick only start but tries blinkers; by top sire Great Notion.

Race 7 3 SHETALKSTOMUCH – Powerful stretch-runner claimed again and several targets for late kick. AEGEAN SEA – Rapid veteran with 8 local victories shelved since June but dangerous if ready. AMBITIOUSLY PLACED – Blocked repeatedly when best in narrow defeat; steps up again. MAJESTIC CREED – Re-claimed by Hawthorne and back sprinting on dirt; 6-for-21 local mark. Race 8 HAUNTING ECHOES – Used up chasing eventual winner; \$50,000 buy likely to progress. SAVOR IT – Overmatched in Delaware route stake after good local efforts sprinting. EXTRASEXYZQTEEPEYE – Distant third as heavy favorite but just missed in prior attempt. MOON HALORY – Sire won Santa Anita Derby and finished well behind top pick in debut. Race 9 DREAMING OF GERRY - Re-claimed by Ness where he won impressively in September. HERMOSO HOMBRE – Bounced back from poor showing to crush capable group at 17-1. GROUP TICKET – Exits quality field and nearly always fires; 3 local scores in 8 starts. SILENT MODE – Powerful wide rally on turn on way to major upset in talented field. Race 10 POPOVER GAL – Speedy and game and offers speed inside in wide-open finale. KAREN'S HONOR – Claimed from this spot by Abrams and could benefit from contested pace.

GOLDIENESS – Led to final yards in another solid try and defeated top choice in prior outing.

EMILY'S ON FIRE – Trounced easier after Pino claim and contributes to lively fractions.