



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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MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2025 – FIRST POST 12:05 P.M.

Best Bets: LOVER BOY NESS (6th) – RINGER CARD (8th)

Race 1

- 7** SUNNY MAGIC – Set up nicely for elongated sprint forcing pace in routes; 3rd race since return
- 2** POP NEIGH – Remote fourth when claimed from debut for higher tag; winning barn adds Lasix.
- 9** PASTERO – Fair showing when dropped to this level; taken for large sums twice earlier.
- 6** CRAIGH NA DUN – Last couple discouraging but good effort on occasion; upset possibility.

Race 2

- 1** MAX FORWARD SPEED – Victim of bad start in October when claimed again; romped prior try.
- 6** GUAIO – Easily second best as heavy favorite this spot; fired twice with this “bug” aboard.
- 2** ALEAH ALEAH – Speedy gelding plunges after eased in Big A route; hard to like or dismiss.
- 9** I CAN DO MAGIC – Retreated with routers when claimed and won last attempt at this yardage.

Race 3

- 2** TAVERN TIME – Good effort after six month’s absence when Ness took; back in same spot.
- 7** HUGGY – Finished first this spot but lost via disqualification; outside stalking trip as key threat.
- 6** CENTAUR CENTRAL – Outrun by second choice but fired three prior attempts; best needed.
- 5** REELIN N DEALIN – Frequently close but lone victory from 16 outings; likely gaining late.

Race 4

- 4** JOYFUL JOYCE – Chased huge favorite as major longshot in return; back at level of claim.
- 5** SHINES MADELIN – Walloped soft field of maidens in confidence booster; realistic next step.
- 6** HARD SPICE – Ensures contested fractions stretching out again; lone score from 21 tries.
- 7** FLAMING EYES – Racing into shape again and already shown two-turn ability; upset chance.

Race 5

- 2** CURIOUS SOUL – Faded from difficult post and closer than anticipated with classier prior try.
- 3** SCUDETTO – Several encouraging efforts during summer; upset win with Martinez in Jersey
- 7** COACH KNIGHT – Overcame traffic problems to win when claimed; stays eligible as 3-year-old.
- 4** TWENTY ONE KID – Drops for new management and prevailed earlier this year at Aqueduct.

Race 6

- 5** LOVER BOY NESS – Primed for this yardage forcing pace in Laurel route; lone poor try on turf.
- 6** RAGING CAJUN – Drops from top maiden ranks at Delaware and returns to sprint as threat.
- 4** PEACH SMOOTHIE – Signs of ability at Penn and drops into claimer for 29% Kulp stable.
- 10** CAP’N CATS – Runner-up last three starts and early trouble again; outside post might help.

Race 7

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| 9 | BAILOUT BILLY – Extremely quick filly captured four straight and wired colts with mild urging. |
| 8 | ANGEL OF HOPE – Hard used early when humbled by smashing winner; early pressure again. |
| 5 | SHETALKSTOMUCH – Powerful stretch-runner rallied from last to first in bulky field. |
| 6 | MISSY SIXTYSIX – Nearly always fires but exits series of frustrating losses; fits well again. |

Race 8

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| 5 | RINGER CARD – Ample early speed and three sharp efforts since hiatus; rare try vs Pa.-breds. |
| 7 | VIXENZHYPNOTKHONEY – Good form since taken back by prior ownership; retains Pennington. |
| 2 | CAITLIN THE GREAT – Slow fuse but close up all four attempts; sufficient early targets. |
| 6 | LITTLE COCOA BEAN – Hard used setting pace against impressive winner; stamina issues. |

Race 9

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| 2 | SUNNY BREEZE – Chased rival which next won Md. stake in return; nearly won rich local stake. |
| 6 | BOUNCER – Battled to mid-stretch in graded stake and excellent form elsewhere; 8-for-27 mark. |
| 4 | TWISTED RIDE – Veteran boasts 10-for-24 local record and strong score here in October. |
| 9 | DROPLINE – Lightly raced but very fast and determined; best needed in talented field. |

Race 10

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| 14 | JUSTTAKETHECANNOLI – Big effort in tougher version this spot at Laurel after competing in Ky |
| 1 | NOHAI – Advanced outside and second finisher won next easily; good form at Delaware. |
| 5 | SUPERSONIC BETTY – Very slow fuse but only two defeats and adds Lasix and blinkers. |
| 11 | SANDY GIRL – Hit board five times this season but had 18 chances; some progress necessary. |