



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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THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 2026 – FIRST POST 12:05 P.M.

Best Bets: FIGHT FIERCELY (9th) – JACKSON'S LEGACY (10th)

Race 1

- 6** STAR MAN BOB – Disappointed after hiatus but drops again; enough left to handle these.
- 1** BACKTRACK – Remote third behind smashing winner; three straight losses as odds-on chalk.
- 5** WE MISS NEIL – Hard used dueling but easily second best this spot; conqueror dull next time.
- 4** BOOTED UP – Unruly prior to start when claimed again; \$250,000 yearling purchase.

Race 2

- 3** SPIRITED RIDE – Sharp last pair this level and finds cure for seconditis with soft opposition.
- 4** MIKEY'S SONG – Difficult trip with routers last week and showed closing kick in earlier sprint.
- 5** MELITTLEFROSTGIRL – Gave up early in latest following decisive score in slop after Lake took.
- 6** VIOLETS SMILE – Faded after forcing pace but fired prior two outings after layoff; Ness-Sanchez

Race 3

- 3** AMATERASU – Veteran narrowly missed this spot after long absence; fitter now, overruns these.
- 4** PACIFIC PRINCESS – Disappointed twice as 7-5 favorite and bulk of losses earlier in Florida.
- 1** GIRLFROMOUTERSPACE – Led then yielded to smashing route winner last week; outrun sprint.
- 6** HARD SPICE – Fair try with routers but lone victory from 24 attempts; some progress needed.

Race 4

- 7** ADIOS JERSEY – Rebounded from poor efforts to dominate single-winners; capable of repeat.
- 4** SOUTHERN DREAM – Bothered early in tougher field and edged this spot in past; gains late.
- 1** COALVILLE – Cruised past slightly easier to end losing skid; threat with logical next step.
- 3** GUAIO – Even effort this spot last week but fired all four outings since Arce claimed.

Race 5

- 3** AUTHENTIC KINGDOM – Finished strongly twice this level and additional yardage appears plus.
- 7** EXTRASEXYMCSTEEMEE – Very wide with better group around two turns; regains closing kick.
- 1** LOVEMEAKAREN – Offers speed inside and competing better than odds suggest this spot.
- 2** JADON'S HONOR – Sidelined since summer but good effort on occasion and fits if ready.

Race 6

- 4** LINO AND ME – Blocked on final turn in sharp effort; double-digit score in prior outing.
- 8** DON'T POST IT – Rediscovered ability wiring two-time winners at 26-1; must put pair together.
- 5** EVERHEART – Led under pressure for three quarters then faded behind top selection.
- 7** ALMA BRILHA – Very slow fuse but should be picking off rivals aided by contested fractions.

Race 7

1	YODEL E.A. WHO – Easily second best for higher tag after Pino claimed; amazing 21 victories.
3	AHSAD – Another game veteran with 17-for-108 career mark; much success in Kirby barn.
7	BOLD ENDEAVOR – Yet another 10-year-old outrun by second pick as favorite for Ness barn.
2	HE'S GOT SWAGGER – Narrowed big gap in key race after Aro took; needs aid with pace set-up.

Race 8

7	GURT'S REWARD – Good effort when adding Lasix and blinkers at top maiden level; top stable.
5	DALE – Sharp try behind rapid newcomer after shipping from Kentucky; continues improvement.
2	DISCO HOPP – Half-sister to stakes winning Disco Chick which earned \$735,250; must guess.
1	THEY GOT CURRY – Rookie bought as yearling for mere \$4,000; sire runner-up 2014 Pa. Derby.

Race 9

5	FIGHT FIERCELY – Hampered by traffic problems on turn in better field; edged this spot before.
2	BET N WIN – Closed big gap after arriving from Canada following private buy for Linder barn.
3	BOURBON AFICIONADO – Hard to support off last but fair showing behind top pick prior try.
8	TALLAHATCHIEBRIDGE – Nice effort after idle four months at Penn; avoids claim tag here.

Race 10

3	JACKSON'S LEGACY – Very wide advance behind smashing winner in tougher version this spot
4	WYATT HUNTER – Quick early but stamina issues persist; lost all seven since debut score.
5	COMPA – Faded last pair and best showing after layoff in November; needs to shake loose.
2	FAST N SWEET – Forced pace nearly this far in route; just second attempt sprinting.