



Craig Donnelly's

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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, JANUARY 6, 2026 – FIRST POST 12:05 P.M.

Best Bets: LERETHA (6th) – JAMIE DREAMS (8th)

Race 1

7	STAR MAN BOB – Lightly raced but battled vastly tougher rivals in October; Reid barn sizzling.
2	COALVILLE – Rallied then weakened with capable routers; remains above amount of claim.
4	LOVEMEAKAREN – Raced in closest pursuit of winner this spot and making progress.
3	AUTHENTIC KINGDOM – Narrowed gap when dropped to this level; contested pace would aid.

Race 2

1	SWEET MARIE – Passed rivals in better version this spot and showed speed in prior victory.
7	REINA MAR – Possibility if disregard latest; handled route in past but long losing streak.
8	YOU KNOW ME – Finished just behind top choice and also outrun by second choice lately.
4	MISS JONES – Difficult to support off last but numerous prior attempts stamp serious threat.

Race 3

4	AMBITIOUSLY PLACED – Far behind in latest but amazing mare with 19 wins back at price paid.
5	BRIGHT KOHANA – Speedy and frequently claimed; used up chasing repeat winner in last.
3	MISS EASY – Closer than anticipated in better field and won this spot prior try; late gain likely.
2	LEFOVER SUSHI – Hampered by stamina issues lately but very quick and often determined.

Race 4

2	VIOLETS SMILE – Strong rally despite slow start when possible best this spot; needs alert break.
9	SPIRITED RIDE – Improved effort when battling throughout when blinkers removed; key threat.
11	MOOR STRENGTH – Claimed by Padilla-Preciado from tougher field after arriving from Florida.
8	RED HEAD ITALIAN – Front-runner crushed Penn opposition last pair and logical next step.

Race 5

4	STARSHIP LEGEND – Weakened after dueling in longer test and upsets if able to reach front.
6	PADDY'S GIFT – Absent couple months after trailing at Gulfstream but won prior two outings.
7	SHUDABEENACOWGIRL – Rebounded from two poor showings when just over length behind.
5	ROSE OF SHARON – Gained late in blanket finish as major longshot; must put pair together.

Race 6

4	LERETHA – Hard used pressing heavily-favored winner after layoff; fitter now and shakes loose.
1	PEOPLE GET READY – Edged maidens at Churchill when claimed in November; well-spotted.
5	WINE AND ROSES – Stablemate of top pick closed big gap this spot and obvious contender.
2	JUDY'S FLYER – Very slow fuse but offers closing kick at times and extra sixteenth mile a plus.

Race 7

6	CAP STEAK ROBBERY – Fired all four attempts with steady progress and handles these if ready
2	NO MOR STONES – Primed for sprint following pair of sharp route efforts; taken at Keeneland.
5	DESERT AIRE – Forced pace this far at two turns after trouncing soft group in return.
3	BATTLE ANTHEM – Upset bulky field of maidens in first try for Danny Velazquez barn; steps up.

Race 8

8	JAMIE DREAMS – Pressed leader long way in stake and making key third outing since layoff.
6	IN SPADES – Looked bit like old self again for 30% Dunn stable; rates off pace if necessary.
5	SMILE MAKER – Earned dead-heat in game effort this yardage; entered with tag this time.
1	AWESOME FLAY – Last few discouraging but inside speed and formidable for Wyner before.

Race 9

4	QUASI WARRIOR – Pair of impressive local scores and within couple feet of perfect; major test.
2	COJELO PA TI – Extremely fast colt claimed in November; steps up but dangerous this yardage.
10	TUNISIAN SPRING – Back home on main track where he edged tough local foe; figures close.
1	HARP'S HOT CORNER – Failed at short odds again but terrific on best and 9-for-17 locally.

Race 10

6	PONTIFFANY – Shelved three months but back in Pino barn where she has achieved in past.
2	WINKIWINKI – Battled throughout latest and drops within same claim tag; serious contender.
1	ARUMA – Very quick when breaking from outside post but stamina woes continue.
3	FUHGEDDABOUDIT – Rallied after early roughing but soundly beaten by second pick prior try.