



Craig Donnelly's

ANALY\$IS
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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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MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2026 – FIRST POST 12:40 P.M.

Best Bets: ZEENA SWIFT (5th) – JACKSON ROAD (8th)

Race 1

- 6** KING PHOENIX – Dominated early then drifted out costing victory; shorter yardage likely plus.
- 2** BATTLE ANTHEM – Responded well to drop but soundly beaten by top choice this spot.
- 5** CHASE A DREAM – Absentee often fired at Delaware and competes first time as gelding.
- 3** CARCHAROTH – Faltered after half mile in route and unlucky in prior sprint; barn heating up.

Race 2

- 1** DRAKE DRIVE – Hard used chasing vastly tougher rivals in first start of season; barn been hot.
- 3** WEEK'S STRONG – Crushed maidens in muddy return and threat taking realistic next step.
- 7** PASTERO – Rallied from last to first with powerful wide bid in mud; wet footing seems plus.
- 4** MUNYHUNGRY – Sufficient ability but shelved since July and lone victory from 20 attempts.

Race 3

- 2** NEZY'S GIRL – Runner-up to drop-down winner in tougher version this spot; steady progress.
- 1** CANDOTHS – Trounced maiden routers on wet footing and often close in previous sprints.
- 3** ROZZYROO – Competing for only second time this year but speed to pose threat this level.
- 6** BREEZETHRUTIME – Back against sprinters and often hits board but lone win in 17 tries.

Race 4 THE 70TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION FOR EILEEN LOFTUS & JIM MURPHY (45 YEARS)

- 4** JUDY'S FLYER – Gained late when edged by heavy favorite this spot; won Churchill route.
- 2** UNTOUCHABLE – Double-digit romp with maidens over two months ago; Pino barn 30% here.
- 6** PEOPLE GET READY – Outrun twice by top pick since arriving from Ky; rare test of stamina.
- 1** CYNTHIA GAIL – Decisive score in mud after claim but humbled by second choice prior try.

Race 5

- 5** ZEENA SWIFT – Significant drop to suitable yardage in first start of season; scores if ready.
- 1** MELODY'S KISS – Distant runner-up after difficult trip in muddy route; likely gaining late.
- 4** WEST SIDE DIVA – Pulled away from soft opposition after Gonzalez-Milian claim; back sprint.
- 2** QUIVIRA CRANE – Used up chasing runaway winner at loftier level following hiatus; speedy.

Race 6

- 4** J C'S LOVIN' LIFE – Absentee frequently close last season and heavily-backed three outings.
- 2** PEACEFULEZFEELING – Second to big favorite at Penn in 2026 bow; fitter now and main threat.
- 3** XMAS IN CAIRO – Roughed early when finishing behind top choice; should be flying late.
- 6** ELEGANT LASS – Half-sister to fantastic sprinter Twisted Ride makes debut for Moore stable.

Race 7

1	MR FLOWERS – Distant third to stablemate after layoff in slop; raced primarily on turf.
6	ALL AMERICAN ROD – Chased runaway repeat winner when Ness took; rare test of stamina.
4	DREAMBUILDER – Difficult to support off latest but quick and capable in past for Preciado.
5	SMILE MAKER – Used up early when failing to give true measure; determined try previously.

Race 8

3	JACKSON ROAD – Easily second best to Ness barn winner in strong effort on muddy surface.
5	WHISKEYROMEOSIERRA – Speedy and capable but frequent gaps between outings; major drop
1	ONE IMPROBABLE – Trounced lesser group and capable of rallying off pace if necessary.
2	AMORE D'ORO – Far from his best lately but shown closing kick in past; won muddy sprint.

Race 9

1	DREAMING OF GERRY – Gained late in narrow loss despite early trouble; decisive score prior.
3	GAMETIME GLADIATOR – Absent couple months but formidable when reaches front early.
2	HERMOSO HOMBRE – Nearly rallied last to first after Pino claimed with similar this spot.
4	YODEL E.A. WHO – Re-claimed by Ness and 10-year-old boasts 21 victories and \$800,186.

Race 10

7	THEGODDESSOFSNAKES – Good effort this spot on wet footing and Ness took back; soft spot.
1	PACIFIC PRINCESS – Disregard outing in spill-marred race; faced better in prior defeats.
3	MISS CHAMITA – Far behind top pick after layoff but should be gaining late with these.
5	BEYOND A MILLION – Humbled by smashing winner at Penn but poor record on wet surfaces.