



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, APRIL 13, 2026 – FIRST POST 12:40 P.M.

Best Bets: COURAGEOUS FERGIE (6th) – PLAY THE GRAY (8th)

Race 1

- 4** MATZOBALL MUHAMMET – Sidelined since July but ability advantage; able to avoid claim tag.
- 5** TWO DOLLAR BILL – Faced better over wet surface after arriving from Turfway; blinkers on.
- 6** FOIL – Yet to show much and shelved since May; \$500,000 auction buy changes barns again.
- 7** CRAIGH NA DUN – Dueled when easily second best at Penn; back home in 26th attempt.

Race 2

- 1** NOULIKEABOOK – Outran another Kentucky invader when winning; Lake claimed for \$25,000.
- 2** SAMANTHA'S CAPO – Improving filly exits big effort this spot and showed ability every outing.
- 3** SOUNDSMISCHIEVOUS – Rallied then weakened behind second pick as 6-5 chalk; fits nicely.
- 6** MADDIE'S GARDEN – Turfway shippers excelling locally and back in sprint; won at Fair Grounds

Race 3

- 4** SLASH ALLEY – Finished strongly despite stumbling badly at start; avoids tag this time.
- 1** THISGIRLSGOTCHILL – Encouraging try after slow start in debut; draw rail again as threat.
- 5** SOUTH BOUNDARY – Speedy filly tired again in late stages; Pino-Sanchez duo dangerous.
- 3** MISCHIEF STORM – Offered little in bow but pedigree to make progress; upset possibility.

Race 4

- 5** LIGHT MY WAY – Significant drop after remote third in compact field; won prior two outings.
- 4** MODICA – Humbled by impressive winner in local bow and shown closing kick in past.
- 2** PRAETORIAN GUARD – Classy in past but long losing streak and lacked rally when claimed.
- 6** UNION EXPRESS – Decisive score when able to control pace and taking realistic next step.

Race 5

- 6** THE BEACH GOES ON – Returns after 14 month's absence with rapid works; can wire if ready.
- 5** MIGHTY LINDSEY – Gained late after stumbling start at Laurel; romped locally in January debut.
- 4** OURDAYDREAMINGMISS – Overcame early trouble after layoff when adding Lasix; threat again.
- 1** GIVE HER ANOTHER – Roughed early in solid version this spot; \$30,000 claim at Churchill.

Race 6

- 2** COURAGEOUS FERGIE – Improving filly game against 3-5 winner; making third start since layoff
- 6** MON CHER AMOUR – Surged late after early trouble in muddy debut; should like added yardage.
- 5** LIGHTEN – Outrun twice at Turfway and moves from Cox to Ness barn; first time in claimer.
- 4** DREAMING OF BELLA – Hard used early in sprint and weakened in prior two route attempts.

Race 7

9	SAUCY HAM – Primed for elongated sprint forcing pace long way in route; outside stalking trip.
5	ROCKET NIGHT – Frequently close but numerous losses at short odds; often bottom of exacta.
4	WE MISS NEIL – Speedy with signs of interest recent races; must put it all together.
8	SAY SAY TWO K – Awkward break when overmatched; Lasix and won prior try after layoff.

Race 8

5	PLAY THE GRAY – Easily second best to Maryland tiger in first race of year; aggressive drop.
8	SHALLUS – Geared down trouncing compact group at Penn for new barn just 10 days ago.
3	REAL MEN VIOLIN – Failed as heavy favorite when Arce took; outrun by top pick previously.
4	IMPERIAL SPY – Cruised past maidens in 15 th try and stretching out again with upset chance.

Race 9

1	HALO HOTTIE – Led to final yards in stake after layoff; gets Lasix from rail with \$75,000 tag.
2	COURAGE ON TAP – Failed to give true measure in slop and prior route score impressive.
5	RANTING AND RAVING – Responded to drop in driving score; outrun by top pair previously.
4	SPOONBILL – Disliked wet surface after romping initial route effort; difficult to guess.

Race 10

4	PADDY'S GIFT – Prominent throughout when second to odds-on winner; shorter time plus.
1	CHANNEL LOOP – Crushed soft field of single-winners in confidence booster; hot apprentice.
3	SHE CAN SCAT – Upset chance if disregard latest; posted 35-1 shocker here in February.
6	DOWNANDDIRTYDONNA – Failed to run to backing last week when taking drop; can't dismiss.