



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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Best Bets: LIBERTY STAR (4th) – CHANCE (8th)

Race 1

- 7** CRUISE MISSILE – Set up nicely for this yardage forcing pace with better in route; fired this spot
- 4** MISS JONES – Split pair of next-out winners in route when claimed; double-digit romped prior.
- 1** PADDY'S GIFT – Quick filly showing good form this distance; taking logical next step.
- 5** ZEENA SWIFT – Hard-earned score after hiatus and threat again for Linder-Lopez combo.

Race 2

- 2** TAMMY'S CRUISER – New Yorker moves to Ness barn; numerous recent wins similar scenario.
- 7** MIDNIGHT FLIGHT – Edged this level when Smylie claimed and decisive score in prior sprint.
- 8** MADDIE'S GARDEN – Overmatched in last and takes realistic drop for high percentage barn.
- 4** CHAMBOURCIN – Roughed early when overmatched in return; can't dismiss yet with this kind.

Race 3

- 5** MACAW – Fired both outings this season and drops notch after Pino claim; terrific 6-for-14.
- 6** NUEDORF – Speedy gelding sharper in past and frequently claimed; 10 local victories.
- 2** BIAGIO – Wore down pacesetter when rebounding from poor showing; fits nicely again.
- 3** TOJO'S MOJO – Difficult to support off latest; won prior outing with softer opposition.

Race 4

- 4** LIBERTY STAR – Rallied behind decisive winner in last and survived long duel in prior victory.
- 2** YOUNG SQUIRE – Hampered by early trouble as heavy favorite when Diaz claimed; dangerous.
- 6** CONCEALED CARRY – Plunges after sidelined since November and obvious threat if ready.
- 5** DIAMOND HEIST – Used up chasing eventual winner in last; captured 3 of 4 prior outings.

Race 5

- 3** FIGHT FIERCELY – Strong rally after steadying early following hiatus; sufficient early targets.
- 1** TWENTYEIGHTTOTHREE – Claimed from this spot by 26% Padilla barn and late kick likely.
- 8** ADIOS JERSEY – Speedy gelding weakened after dueling and needs to shake loose.
- 4** BOURBON AFICIONADO – Advanced well again and fits well with these despite losing skid.

Race 6

- 5** MISS CHAMITA – Narrowed gap sprinting again and showed route ability in past; soft opposition
- 7** BATTLING TIME – Possibility if throw out last but bulk of success on turf; factor with Lopez.
- 3** PACIFIC PRINCESS – Soundly beaten by top choice in sprint but battled long way prior route.
- 6** BEYOND A MILLION – Fair try with even softer at Penn and veteran with rare local losing streak.

Race 7

4	FOCUSYN – Defeated two-time winners in second race after absence; ability edge in local bow.
1	BAD ADVICE – Prone to excuses but sufficient ability; often competes better than odds predict.
3	SAVE A PRAYER – Hampered by early bumping in last and key third outing since layoff.
2	MY KID SYD – Rediscovered ability to upset two-time winners and taking logical next step.

Race 8

1	CHANCE – Very wide advance sprinting after impressive romp previously at this distance.
7	ALL AMERICAN ROD – Bargain claim humbled by stablemate and speed to pose threat.
6	LUCKY DUDE – Game and consistent veteran takes rare stamina test for hot Kirby barn.
5	MODICA – Wired capable field with good handling but humbled by top pick in prior outing.

Race 9

8	AWESOME FLAY – Versatile gelding ran into odds-on rocket when easily second best in sprint.
1	IN SPADES – Looked like old self again in decisive score with similar; draws rail again as threat.
5	MARKET MAVEN – Returns to Ness barn and ample local success in past; top apprentice up.
6	MARGIN OF AIR – Claimed for this amount by Pino, lures Lopez; terrific 14-for-53 career mark.