



# 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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Best Bets: RAGATONY (6<sup>th</sup>) – NEIGH DUDE (8<sup>th</sup>)

### Race 1

- 2** BRENTWOOD – Strong runner-up in second race after layoff; broke slowly in prior outing.
- 1** WARHEADED- Progressed with wide trip behind smashing winner; moves outside to rail.
- 6** CHANGE YOUR NAME – Good effort against runaway winner after hiatus; making 18<sup>th</sup> attempt.
- 5** CHASER RACER – Heavily-backed but stopped after half mile in debut when far behind top pick.

### Race 2

- 5** HALFTIME SHOW – Won and claimed by top barn and Turfway shippers excelling locally.
- 3** GRANDE FELINO – Significant drop and adding blinkers as key threat; second time Lasix.
- 6** HOUSEBUSTER DUDE – Trounced routers two months ago; yardage suits and lures Carmouche.
- 4** INTROUBLEAGAIN – Defeated pair of next-out winners in local bow; moves to John Servis barn.

### Race 3

- 5** WINNING SONG – Closed big gap in 16<sup>th</sup> try and should overrun soft opposition with Haddock.
- 3** LITTLE SNECKDRAW – Exits best effort yet when just one length behind top choice; key threat.
- 6** THOMAS BENJAMIN – Responded well to drop in first route try and possible pacesetter.
- 4** EL HUIRRO – Trailed both starts sprinting and tries route competing cheapest yet.

### Race 4

- 2** ZEENA SWIFT – Plunges in first start of season and should handle this kind if ready.
- 1** MELODY'S KISS – Advanced behind decisive winner in mud this distance when 1-2 chalk.
- 6** WEST SIDE DIVA – Used up chasing runaway winner and romped previously in route.
- 3** BREEZETHRUTIME – Outran soft company and claimed from route; humbled by third pick.

### Race 5

- 6** GOLDCREST – Re-claimed from tougher field by Ramirez barn where she won easily in January.
- 1** CLASSY MISS – Faced better recent outings and crushed rivals this spot earlier for Bullock.
- 4** OBSTINATE – Fair showing this spot after upsetting lesser in mud; 10 lifetime victories.
- 3** AMY MULE – Slow fuse and numerous losses at short odds but likely to be gaining late again.

### Race 6

- 5** RAGATONY – Narrowly beaten on wet footing when claimed from debut by Pino for \$40,000.
- 7** BUFF GARY – Battled heavy favorite throughout in best yet; pedigree to continue improvement.
- 3** ONCEINAWHILE – Hard used dueling this spot when adding Lasix; stamina woes persist.
- 2** SAM'S GLORY – Flashes of interest in five attempts and removes blinkers as possibility.

**Race 7**

<b>4</b>	<b>GINGERSAYSCHILL – Rallied strongly after idle nearly four months; sufficient early targets.</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>PERSUASIVE – Sidelined since June but double-digit score in May; figures close if ready.</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>JUDY’S FLYER – Fare behind in match race route; versatile and often forms bottom of exacta.</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>SERENE SPIRIT – Road warrior absent three months and tests conventional dirt first time.</b>

**Race 8**

<b>3</b>	<b>NEIGH DUDE – Bold wide move on turn then weakened late in better field after hiatus.</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>A VOTRE SAINT – Improving gelding dueled and finished just behind top pick; speed outside.</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>EASY ACTION – Amazing runner captured 8 of last 9 starts and claimed back by Padilla barn.</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>MAC DADDY TOO – Competed well again and re-claimed on raise by Lupe Guerrero stable.</b>

**Race 9**

<b>8</b>	<b>HEAT ALERT – Hard to like or dismiss plunge after distant third; cost \$16,000 prior outing.</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>TRUE CONNECTION – Prominent throughout this level three weeks ago; often bet heavily.</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>FULLY COMMITTED – Fair showing with similar and best recent effort on muddy surface.</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>ASMODEUS – Led for half mile then stopped abruptly as 9-5 favorite; lost all nine locally.</b>