



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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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 2025 – FIRST POST 12:40

Best Bets: WINNING TIME (6th) – CENTRE COURT CHAMP (7th)

Race 1

- 5** PATIENT FI – Tested various surfaces and returns home where she has faced better in past.
- 7** D'ORO ROAD – Distant third in tougher version this spot; been idle and new management.
- 6** SPANISH GIRL – Making some progress and easily second best this spot; just 1-for-43 career.
- 1** SISTER MARJORIE – Offers speed along inside and prevailed earlier with Gulfstream maidens.

Race 2

- 6** PONTIFFANY – Game mare with 14 victories scored decisively in last and takes logical next step.
- 3** GOLDIENESS – Romped last pair and claimed from 6 of last 7 outings; retains hot rider in Ruiz.
- 2** MAGGIE MISCHIEF – Rapid filly weakened in return but often formidable with wide-margin wins.
- 5** ROLLS ROYCE JOYCE – Good recent effort this spot and posted pair of upsets during winter.

Race 3

- 1** STINGER BEE – Rediscovered ability trouncing maidens two weeks ago; avoids tag this time.
- 3** LOST MY SHOE – Walloped compact field in powerful debut at Laurel; very difficult to fault.
- 6** GAVONE – Prominent throughout in both races since return; must overcome top pair.
- 7** CAPTAIN FANCY – Humbled by smashing winner after hiatus but just 1-for-17 lifetime.

Race 4

- 6** BAD TEMPER – Veteran ended losing streak in 3-horse field at Penn; soft opposition again.
- 1** MISS CHAMITA – Slow fuse but narrowed large gap last week; ample early targets helpful.
- 5** SIRANI – Used up early in latest and rallied off pace previously; must put it all together.
- 4** QUEEN WIGGY – Speedy mare failed with long lead on road trip; seeking 10th career score.

Race 5

- 5** SAINT EPHREM – Perfect in three attempts and makes steady progress with realistic next step.
- 1** MR PUNCTUALITY – Difficult to like or dismiss drop after crushing capable Pa.-breds February.
- 2** OKIE DEN DEN – Five lengths behind in very tough field and leading apprentice in Hazlewood.
- 6** MO SAYS – Stopped after forcing pace in Penn route; better suited this yardage as threat.

Race 6

- 3** WINNING TIME – Held on determinedly despite heated duel after long layoff; capable of wiring.
- 6** GORDIAN KNOT – Fired third straight outing despite early trouble this spot; major threat.
- 4** VEESON – Excuses last pair and offers strong closing kick on occasion; likely flying late.
- 7** CAPO – Possibility if disregard last; upset frequent winner in prior race after hiatus.

Race 7

5	CENTRE COURT CHAMP – Veteran mare raced sparingly but ample talent and determination.
1	CONFIRMED STAR – Hard used pressing eventual winner when Moore took for \$50,000.
4	PURE LURE – Stablemate of second pick capable but winless long time; third race since layoff.
6	COCKTAIL HUMOR – Wore down loose pacesetter last week; nearly always gives her best.

Race 8

4	DURATION – Excellent form since return and defeated next-out winner in decisive style.
2	PARADISE VALLEY – Rallied strongly at Aqueduct and numerous good tries locally in past.
3	FRIDAY SURPRISE – Developed nicely recent months for St Lewis barn; tested with these.
8	WINDSOR GOLD – Trailed over wet surface in first start of year but boasts huge local earnings.

Race 9

1	NEIGHBELLINE – Absentee shown flashes of ability and should handle this kind if ready.
2	POLECAT – Outran single-winners at Laurel and began career locally impressively; key threat.
3	SILVER CITY KITTY – Absent since November after chasing much-improved rival; speed fits.
5	MILA ROSE – Disappointing try for higher tag when claimed last month; faced classy opponents.