



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, JUNE 1, 2026 – FIRST POST 12:40 P.M.

Best Bets: FIELDING (6th) – LIGHT MY WAY (7th)

Race 1

- 1** SPOOKY GAL – Sidelined since September but working well and Coletti barn won pair last week.
- 4** MISS TIFEYE – Idle few months and slow fuse but drops after competing at top meets; hot barn.
- 5** OURDAYDREAMINGMISS – Plunges after trailing much tougher group; third start since layoff.
- 2** SISTER MARJORIE – Flashes of interest in routes but must adjust to sprint and best needed.

Race 2

- 4** THISGIRLSGOTCHILL – Chased heavily-favored loose pacesetter this spot when second best.
- 6** MAUREEN'S EMPIRE – Sire won graded stake and worked rapid half mile two weeks ago.
- 2** RECKLESS ABANDON – Rapid sire captured 2019 Preakness; owner with many top runners.
- 1** CATCH ME A CATCH – Sire won Travers and Belmont among others; earned \$2.7 million.

Race 3

- 1** SEVEN P R C – Easily second best this spot to heavy favorite and speed inside with Lopez up.
- 5** AMERICAN PEACHES – Passed numerous rivals racing wide when claimed; needs pace set-up.
- 2** ALWAYS IN PLAY – Held big favorite safe throughout in route maiden score; logical next step.
- 4** BROAD STROKES – Retreated behind top choice when taking drop and first time blinkers.

Race 4

- 6** NOTTURNO – Makes first start of season but encouraging works and possible ability advantage.
- 5** CENTAUR CENTRAL – Rallied wide behind smashing winner when dropped to this level.
- 4** KING DEIVYS – Realistic drop after fading in route and should be gaining late with Lopez.
- 1** PRAIRIE DUNES – Frequently hits board and exits good effort this spot; must be considered.

Race 5

- 3** SHE'S BANKABLE – Prominent throughout this spot in local bow and taken by DeMasi.
- 5** DISCO HOPP – Last couple discouraging but competed well in debut and threat this level.
- 6** XIMENA – Making progress and dueled winner in last; just behind top choice previously.
- 2** STAY LOYAL – Soundly beaten as expected in return when adding Lasix; drops notch for this.

Race 6

- 8** FIELDING – Just three lengths behind despite severe trouble and changes management again.
- 3** SAMS AFTER PARTY – Lost all chance when crowded in early stages; numerous good efforts.
- 1** CAP STEAK ROBBERY – Clipped heels and bobbed but continued gamely; keeps on firing.
- 5** HUGGY – Claimed from this spot by high percentage Padilla stable; heels clipped opening yards.

Race 7

1	LIGHT MY WAY – Dueled eventual winner in tougher version this spot when Mosco claimed.
4	UNION EXPRESS – Not far behind top choice last pair; effective in front or from off pace.
3	GOLDEN PLATE – Overmatched in last at Aqueduct but won prior outing and fits well this spot.
2	AUTHENTIC KINGDOM – Third behind solid duo on wet footing last week; merits attention.

Race 8

5	MORE RANSOM – Determined score after claim and flattered when third finisher romped in next.
2	CENTER STAGE – Game mare just missed when claimed again part of exacta in 18 of 42 tries.
4	BREEZY DANCE – Lightly raced but trounced easier for third victory in last four outings.
6	ROWSIE EXPRESS – Responded well to drop when defeating slightly cheaper; possibility again.

Race 9

7	AMBITIONOUSLY PLACED – Amazing veteran with 20 victories and nearly half million in earnings.
5	MOOR STRENGTH – Appears in peak form and close up again despite traffic woes top stretch.
3	SHEZA BERNARDINI – Drops notch and won this spot in March; Rivera hot pilot last week.
8	LA GROTTA – Benefited from contested pace to upset again with Ocasio up; tested with these.