



# 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: LITTLE LANCE (6<sup>th</sup>) – DEVILS ARROW (8<sup>th</sup>)

## Race 1

- 1** SON OF THOR – Very capable in past and drops again after claim; significant ability advantage.
- 6** CAPITAL CONQUEST – Progressed when dropped to this spot; key threat despite losing streak.
- 3** BIG BROWN SHOES – Veteran retains early zip and possibly aided by shorter distance.
- 8** OMAMA EIGHT – Outrun all four attempts this season and wide trip likely again; must improve.

## Race 2

- 4** CHUBASCO SAUCE – Battled repeat winner throughout this spot after claim; merits edge.
- 7** ACCELERATED DATING – Finished behind top choice when claimed again; threat with Lopez.
- 5** CENTAUR CENTRAL – Used up early when changing tactics; reverts to rating with upset chance
- 6** EASTER BLESSING – Discovered ability in narrow maiden score at 29-1; realistic next step.

## Race 3

- 3** UMBRAL – Wore down loose pacesetter after Penaloza took and takes logical next step.
- 6** OBSTINATE – Nine-year-old mare led and resisted when collared by winner; often runner-up.
- 2** BREEZY DANCE – Speedy mare back on bottom and posted double-digit romp this spot in May.
- 4** MISS CHAMITA – Defeated top choice to end long losing skid; seeking tenth career score.

## Race 4

- 6** DAKOTA SPRINGS – Speedy mare weakened at short odds; Pino claim drops and tries blinkers.
- 3** FAST MOTION – Pressed smashing winner in another good effort; pressures top pick early.
- 2** STASSI – Failed turf experiment but back on dirt competing cheapest ever; can't dismiss yet.
- 4** GOLDEN PHILLY – Formidable in past but hampered by stamina issues this season.

## Race 5

- 8** HIGHER SENSE – Bulk of sound defeats in stakes but numerous strong efforts various venues.
- 7** PSALMIST – Humbled by impressive runaway winner in last and offered closing kick earlier.
- 4** PARTY WITH SMARTY – Ness shipper usually close but just one-for-31 lifetime; fits with these.
- 2** PENN FRANKLIN – Often better than odds predicted and battled heavy favorite; stamina tested.

## Race 6

- 3** LITTLE LANCE – Drops within same claim tag after Ness claim; top pair from last ran big again.
- 8** FAST BOB – Veteran back in sprint after changing barns again; closing kick in past over years.
- 7** FACE DOWN – Good effort despite traffic woes and just one length behind in previous outing.
- 4** YOUNG SQUIRE – Not what he used to be and prone to early excuses; changed hands again.

**Race 7**

<b>1</b>	<b>FINE DIAMOND – Rediscovered ability in decisive upset with lesser; might continue progress.</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>AZTECA WARRIOR – Sharp despite early roughing at Monmouth and earlier success at Oaklawn</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>STINGER BEE – Speedy gelding weakened in tough version this spot; pair of wide margin romps</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>KING DEIVYS – Rough trip when claimed by high percentage barn; steps up but possibility.</b>

**Race 8**

<b>5</b>	<b>DEVILS ARROW – Lightly raced but ample ability and fired twice in N.Y.; strong local record.</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>BANG BANG FURY – Hard used chasing impressive rival in local bow; Ness runner key threat.</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>MAXIMUS ANGELICUS – Prominent to late stages against talented Pa.-breds; edged prior try.</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>PERSIAN – Failed on road trips and chased tigress last local attempt; merits some attention.</b>

**Race 9**

<b>3</b>	<b>AGGRO – Responded well to drop to this level when claimed; just third outing since January.</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>PATIENT FI – Drops and stretches out again in first try for Pino barn; double-digit score April.</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>WEST SIDE DIVA – Just missed this level after poor sprint showing; likely speed along inside.</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>SUNLIT – Retreated with similar after crushing compact group at Penn; new management.</b>