



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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MONDAY, AUGUST 31, 2026 – FIRST POST 12:40 P.M.

Best Bets: BONAFIDE (7th) – SPIDEY MAN (8th)

Race 1

- 9** WEEK'S STRONG – Difficult wide trip in better field after re-claimed by Tyler Servis stable.
- 1** WE MISS NEIL – Used up forcing pace in finish dominated by stretch-runner; just 1-for-32.
- 4** BASIN BAY – Shown little since return but competing cheapest ever; began career with promise.
- 8** LORDEN'S PRIDE – Crushed compact group of maidens at Penn but winless 7 local tries.

Race 2

- 3** CRAVING CARBS – Dueled long way with quicker in longer test; returns to amount of claim.
- 6** BECTIVE ABBEY – Trailed latest but takes significant drop and lone victory with Lopez up.
- 8** NOULIKEABOOK – Drops again after fair showing in bulky field; must put it all together.
- 5** BREEZEFROMTHEEAST – Chased streaking winner as extreme longshot; fits with this kind.

Race 3

- 5** LITTLE LANCE – Battled to final yards at Delaware after Freddy Velazquez barn took back.
- 7** CLEVER TIGER – Narrowly missed in last then absent couple months; dangerous if ready.
- 2** OMAHA EIGHT – Capable in past and possibly best when edged here in June; must consider.
- 4** SOPHIA'S PRINCE – Faded after half mile in April return; competed only once since December.

Race 4

- 7** KING DEIVYS – Close big gap in mud and returns to level of claim; sufficient early targets.
- 3** POSSUM – Realistic drop after sluggish start at Delaware; back home for hot Lupe Preciado barn.
- 5** STINGER BEE – Speed to pose threat if disregard last; boasts pair of wide margin romps.
- 2** CHUBASCO SAUCE – Proven he fits with this kind and changed barns again; threat on best.

Race 5

- 4** STARLORD – Easily third best in tougher field after Abrams claimed; should end losing streak.
- 2** ONE IMPROBABLE – Weakened on road trip after hampered by poor break after hiatus locally.
- 8** BAD ADVICE – Prone to early trouble but flashes of ability before; absent couple months.
- 5** BOURBON AFICIONADO – Closed gap after sluggish break at Penn; lost all 11 local outings.

Race 6

- 2** ASTRID – Much closer than odds predicted behind drop-down winner; upset prior try at Penn.
- 8** SUGAR PRINCESS – Battled throughout route and adjusted to sprint before; obvious threat.
- 4** NO MO MUFFINS – Hard used dueling for higher tag; best chance if able to shake loose early.
- 5** LADY CATALINA – Very slow fuse but may have needed last; Pino barn clicking at 30%.

Race 7

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| 1 | BONAFIDE – Humbled by smashing winner at Penn after strong local effort in better field. |
| 7 | IMPERIAL SPY - Rallied from last to first in decisive score and taking logical next step. |
| 2 | SMALLCHANGE GEEP – Nosed heavy favorite after Tapsas claim; hot “bug” up in Torres. |
| 8 | EXTRASEXYMCSTEEMEE – Soundly beaten by top choice twice but returns to amount paid. |

Race 8

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| 3 | SPIDEY MAN – Rapid colt shown ability on various surfaces; pressured lead Colonial stake. |
| 2 | PARKER BOONE – Sidelined since December but Montoya barn romped with absentee last week |
| 5 | SMOKED BOURBON – Shelved since fading in November stake after encouraging debut. |
| 6 | RESPIGHI – Good efforts earlier but failed again with state-breds; some progress needed. |

Race 9

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| 2 | MORE THAN GRACE – Captured six straight by combined 36 3/4 lengths; difficult to fault. |
| 6 | SISTER EVE – Rallied strongly behind streaking winner after Kirby claim; in peak form. |
| 7 | I AM RUE – Remote third in solid field but humbled by top pick earlier; Padilla barn at 23%. |
| 3 | JUMP A FOX – Stretch-runner returns from road trips but on long losing streak. |

Race 10

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| 3 | PASTERO – Shows ample closing kick on occasion and likely contested pace in his favor. |
| 8 | STORMBREAKER – Used up dueling in quick fractions and prior loss on turf; needs his best. |
| 1 | TIZ THE COAST – Vied this far with routers and faded chasing runaway winner previously. |
| 5 | DISCO RHODES – Lightly raced but possibility if disregard latest; fired in two of four outings. |