



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, OCTOBER 12, 2026 – FIRST POST 12:40 P.M.

Best Bets: STANFORD DROPOUT (6th) – COCOA'S VIVIAN (7th)

Race 1

- 4** SYNOPTIC – Chased runaway winner at loftier level in Delaware after competing in Kentucky.
- 7** LEGAL LIGHTNING – Humbled by drop-down winner at Laurel after strong local outings.
- 9** SEA EFF P T O – Responded well to drop crushing maidens last month in confidence booster.
- 2** MISKITA – Speedy filly hampered by stamina woes; extra sixteenth mile for new management.

Race 2

- 6** PERUGIA – Overmatched at Belmont after series of big efforts; showed route prowess August.
- 3** SISTER SUPREAM – Walloped cheaper with energy in reserve when claimed; seeks 10th win.
- 4** MARY'S REWARD – Led throughout in powerful score and avoids tag for new connections.
- 5** STASSI – Wired slightly easier at Delaware when dropping with aggressive tactics change.

Race 3

- 1** TARA'S TALENT – Ten-year-old mare with over half million in bank returns to Moore stable.
- 2** BRIGHT KOHANA – Defeated next-out winner when Pino took and retains leading rider Sanchez.
- 4** SHUDABEENACOWGIRL – Hard used forcing pace in finish dominated by stretch-runners.
- 7** DON'T TELL TAMMO – Never involved in local bow after upset score in softer Monmouth field.

Race 4

- 1** CARNABY – Led then raced erratic course through stretch likely costing victory when claimed.
- 5** MISSION ARTEMIS – Gamely wired bulky field of three-time winners; fired each local attempt.
- 3** BROADCASTER – Odds-on winner won and re-claimed soon as possible; logical next step.
- 2** MIDLANER – Veteran seen better days but often claimed and still threat against this kind.

Race 5

- 4** SLIM SLOW SLIDER – Drops notch after Ness took; recent conqueror stepped up and repeated.
- 7** ROYAL 'N RANDO – Overmatched in Del Mar finale but should regain closing kick for new barn.
- 3** BOB JOHN RAY – Nearly wore down loose pacesetter; won prior try decisively, hot Vega barn.
- 1** PREACH IT WARRIOR- Bit difficult to guess but often quick and likes to win; rail might help.

Race 6

- 4** STANFORD DROPOUT – Overcame traffic woes in Del Mar romp and appears ideally-spotted.
- 5** GREAT COMPOSER – Speedy gelding much-improved and often closer than odds predict.
- 3** THUNDER CHUCK – Defeated compact group in Jersey finale and Delgado barn clicking at 22%.
- 1** CONNOR'S CREW – Led briefly then stopped abruptly in mud; hard to like or dismiss plunge.

Race 7

5	COCOA'S VIVIAN – Powerful score when Pino claimed after victim of bad start in prior outing.
2	POPOVER GAL – Game mare usually gives her best and Freddy Velazquez barn having big year.
7	THELASTBULLETS MINE – Gives solid effort on occasion and threat if repeats July attempt.
6	GOLDEN PHILLY – Anticipated better last time and Gallimore claim merits upset chance.

Race 8

3	LASTING QUALITY – Improved effort this spot after arriving from Ellis and trying blinkers.
4	SPARTACUS – Used up dueling as 7-5 chalk in return when finishing behind top selection.
2	CASH ACCOUNT – Sire won 8 of 11 races and \$2 million; Chad Brown newcomer \$335,000 buy.
5	HONOR BOUND – Forced pace when fading behind top pick in summer; encouraging works.

Race 9

4	WHISPER ROAR – Hard-earned score over determined rival and well-spotted to continue streak.
6	CONCORD BRIDGE – Retreated in West Coast route but likely better suited this distance.
7	PARKER BOONE – Set pace then weakened after long absence; began career impressively.
2	STORMBREAKER – Trounced slightly softer after claim in 54-1 shocker; speed to pose threat.

Race 10

1	MISS MA'AM – New Yorker switches turf to dirt and takes significant drop; can overrun these.
8	SHE RUNS HOT – Sire lightly raced stakes-winning son of Nyquist; several encouraging works.
4	YOU DON'T GRAB ME – By fourth leading sire in Maryland but works offering few clues.
3	BLESS YOUR SOUL – Rookie from Ness barn cost just \$10,000 at auction; guessing race.