



# CRAIG DONNELLY'S ANALYSIS @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.



Sponsored and Distributed by the Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horseman's Association & ENTICEDPA

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 2025 – FIRST POST 12:40 P.M.

Best Bets: SHADY NIGHTS (5<sup>th</sup>) – ALYVIA MAVIS (9<sup>th</sup>)

## Race 1

- 5** EXPECT TO BE READY – Weakened in pair of routes since return; drops and sharp this yardage.
- 4** OLD HEAD – Cruised past better and captured four of last five; hard to like or ignore plunge.
- 3** OBSTINATE – Set pace when overmatched in route after crushing lesser in prior outing.
- 8** PARISIAN VIBE – Ran into tigrass when easily second best and 7-for-35 record encouraging.

## Race 2

- 2** PRINCESS CUPID – Improved stamina recently and speedy mare aided by shorter distance.
- 5** BURNING EMBERS – Finished behind top choice as odds-on chalk; faced streaking winner prior.
- 6** DEL REY DOLLY – Bit difficult to guess lately but claimed again and runs solid race on occasion
- 3** GAVICHI – Rested since couple poor showings and veteran boasts 8 local victories.

## Race 3

- 5** ANNA ROCKS – Regained confidence crushing easier and logical next step; good form Castillo.
- 2** SHELL BELLE – Set pace again in finish dominated by stretch-runner; adds to lively fractions.
- 4** LIAM'S KISS – Nearly always fires and decisive score vs. three-time winners; merits attention.
- 3** SECRET TEMPTATION – Sharper last season but won with Sanchez and contributes to pace.

## Race 4

- 6** OKIE DEN DEN – Game off the pace effort against rival exiting easy score; back in one week.
- 4** BANJO – Humbled by repeat winner at Penn after good local outing in comeback.
- 7** I CAN DO MAGIC – Narrowly missed this spot for new connections and serious contender.
- 2** ENGLISH DADDY – Claimed from similar spot at Penn and possibility first local appearance.

## Race 5

- 5** SHADY NIGHTS – Distant third in better field when adding Lasix and blinkers; Pino barn sizzling.
- 3** MISS ANNA BELLA – Just over one length behind top pick in first route attempt and main threat.
- 6** UP N RUNNIN – Big effort against heavily-bet newcomer in best yet; initial test of stamina.
- 1** JOYFUL JOYCE – Advanced well behind slightly weaker when adding blinkers; stakes-placed.

## Race 6

- 1** APOLLONIA VITELLI – Anticipated more last time when failing on wet surface; fast track aids.
- 2** CHARM OF THE SONG – Pulled away from next-out winner to end loss skid; same barn top pick.
- 3** BE MY QUEEN – Rapid filly making third start since layoff with chance to shake loose early.
- 6** LOVE LIKE CRAZY – Forced pace this far in longer test; sheds 10 pounds but must improve.

**Race 7**

<b>7</b>	GET SET – Remote third in fair showing but solid effort vs. rocket previously; won with Paco.
<b>6</b>	KEITHSENDSHELLOOOO – Stablemate of top choice fair with similar but often part of exacta.
<b>2</b>	REAL TALK – Dueled to final eighth in return and claimed for this tag; formidable on best.
<b>8</b>	ENFORCER – Game and talented stretch-runner keeps firing and sufficient early targets.

**Race 8**

<b>4</b>	DREAM KNIGHT- Soundly beaten lately but showed ability earlier and significant drop in class.
<b>8</b>	DISTURBED – Exits good effort and Pino barn 30% off claim; extra furlong likely in his favor.
<b>5</b>	UP AGAINST IT – Survived early pressure to win last two weeks ago when claimed again; threat.
<b>1</b>	AHSAD – Eight-year-old walloped cheaper for 14 <sup>th</sup> score from 94 outings; renewed confidence.

**Race 9**

<b>1</b>	ALYVIA MAVIS – Chased series of impressive winners and appears best despite 14 chances.
<b>6</b>	DADOO – Faded in route and brutal trip previously; promising form early in brief career.
<b>3</b>	CAPTAIN WHINER – Absent couple months but adds Lasix and possibility if disregard latest.
<b>7</b>	CHARME DISCRET – Shelved since summer of 2023 but daughter of Munnings with rapid work.

**Race 10**

<b>2</b>	MY LAST MISSION – Sharp at Aqueduct after trouncing local opposition with Sanchez aboard.
<b>1</b>	PRAETORIAN GUARD – Looked bit like old self on road trip and fits well despite losing streak.
<b>3</b>	MALIBU STAR – Bumped off stride into first turn but continued well; defeated similar in past.
<b>7</b>	TIME TO CRUISE – Edged determined rival and second finisher far ahead of remainder of field.

**Race 11**

<b>4</b>	JUST BE HONEST – Chased much tougher in local bow sprinting; won even longer test Big A.
<b>7</b>	MARCHIN INTO APRIL – Prone to early trouble and trailed throughout last week but takes plunge
<b>3</b>	VIN SANTO – Competed well vs. similar last pair and runner-up from last won next easily.
<b>11</b>	FOUR DAYS EARLY – Roughed early then rallied nicely in blanket finish; draws extreme outside.



(12:00)

Courtesy of SARATOGA RACEWAY



MIKE SARDELLA at SARATOGA HARNESS Wednesday:

RACE #1

7- Belmar  
Looks to avenge a defeat at 1-9  
6- Big Sur Beach  
Two qualifiers as preps  
1- Free Flying Freddy  
Strong showing first over, moves to the rail  
2- JP Hoodini

RACE #2

3- Hunting For Kisses  
Best bet again  
6- Asset Station  
Two qualifiers to get ready for this one  
1- Jovitola  
Rail for her second start back  
7- Quite Beachy

RACE #3

2- Drink On It  
Finds a soft spot  
3- Awards Night  
Showed promise locally last season  
1- Doctor Strange  
Bound to need a start  
6- Let Em Be

RACE #4

2- Pondameri  
Has question marks but big time upside  
8- Miss You Richie  
Runner up in two straight  
4- Cold Beer Calling  
So ho-hum tries of late  
1- Gator At The Well

RACE #5

6- Sunni Red  
First time lasix following her best start of the year, upset try  
7- Bronx Mixer  
The likely favorite  
4- J Glo  
Improved third in last  
1- Not Worth It

RACE #6

3- Thunder Hunter Joe  
Invader has faced better out of town  
5- Pink Floyd Hanover  
First timer out of the Beckwith barn  
1- Mr Beast  
No factor as the favorite in last, expect better  
2- Nerve Of Steel N

RACE #7

5- Hank The Hunk  
Class relief could wake him up  
3- Little Fighter  
Tough trips since coming to town, the one to beat here  
2- The Big Aristotle  
Improved third in last  
7- Prairie Fenway

RACE #8

4- Steven Goldstein  
Strong closing second in his return, ready to win  
1- Valyrian Kemp  
Finally moves inside  
2- Dusty Lane Darby  
First time lasix  
6- Reel Busy

RACE #9

5- Swiss Cotton  
Has dominated this level  
1- Hugh Heston  
Will make the top one earn it  
2- Sand Dollar  
Longshot for exotics  
3- Skylight

RACE #10

4- Captain Catch  
Has gotten along well with Beckwith  
1- Better Crunch  
Steps up off a maiden win, another rail  
8- Shian Delight  
Trying to get this longshot in the number with early speed  
2- Crunchberry De Vie

RACE #11

1- Special Six Pack  
Adds hobbles and lasix as a big time wild card  
6- Cantab My Party  
Runner up in two straight  
5- Monetary Justice  
Thirds in two in a row  
7- Millcreeks Gal

RACE #12

1- Fern Hill Indigo  
Shook her bridesmaid status in last, builds on it  
6- Wayward Blue Chip  
Frontrunning winner in last  
4- Ladytario  
Probably a week or two away  
2- On A Whim

RACE #13

3- Bold Express  
Class relief off a solid building block start  
7- Cigar Smoking Joe  
Beckwith pilots this longshot invader  
1- Jimmy Jets  
Piece from the pole  
2- Twin B Crunch Time

RACE #14

1- Cattle Hipster  
Gets his chance on the lead after finally drawing in  
3- A Good Quest  
Runner up in two in a row  
5- Double My Chips  
Fast enough to close for a piece  
7- Slafko

RACE #15

4- Excursion  
Drops and pops  
1- JK Lucky Charms  
Veteran can factor from the rail in his return to town  
2- Easton Beach  
Gets a piece  
6- Hes Really Keen

best bets

RACE #2 3- Hunting For Kisses Best bet again  
RACE #15 4- Excursion Drops and pops

## MAHONING VALLEY ( 12:15 )

1. 5-7-2
2. 3-6-2
3. 5-1-3
4. 3-2-1-6
  
5. 2-5-6
6. 5-4-2
7. 6-3-2
8. 7-4-5-3

Best Bet: Race 7 # 6

MINESTRESS

Pick 3 Play Race 6    2,4,5 / 6 / 4,7

1<sup>st</sup> 6 INDULGE was well set up to beat non-winners of three in that last one but a similar scenario could unfold in this opener, as despite the short field there are a couple of confirmed speeds signed on. 5 COX CANYON is another rising off a win, and he also fits the projected race flow; should be running late. 1 CAMINO DE SANTIAGO has back figures that give him credibility.

## Race 2

2 KEEP ON ROCKIN has steady figures and seems to have the right running style as a closer, since there's a fair amount of early zip in this field; she's enjoyed a solid meet and she can win another with a clean trip and a contested pace to chase. 6 I BELIEVE IN MAGIC makes her local debut and should be well positioned just off the pacesetters; drop in class adds to the appeal. 8 TOP LOOK is another with the tactical speed to work out a favorable trip, despite the outside post; last couple of figures give her strong credibility.

## Race 3

6 OLD TOWN ROAD was well off the board as the favorite in that last one but a slow start cost him his best chance; down in class for this, and given a clean getaway he has every right to run to his best races, which are plenty good enough to win this. 2 GABAGOOOL makes his first start off the claim; he comes off a deceptively good try, going a little longer, as a race-long pace battle made it tough for him to last. 1 GONE NUTS has speed and the rail and comes off an improved Beyer; class drop makes him easy to like, though it could also lead to an underlaid price.

## Race 4

Best Bet 9 FIRSTFLASHOFMOON ran a big race in defeat in his latest, when he closed well through the lane in a race that lacked pace, and thus set up well for the speeds; adds blinkers today and could find himself closer to the lead. 5 HOTTAKEJAKE has never raced this cheaply, and his best figures put him squarely in the middle of this; has the speed to be a factor from the bell. 3 FOURTY FOUR was well off the board in his return from the layoff but he may have needed that race; improvement possible, as he has back Beyers that make him a threat here and he should be a decent price.

Race 5 1 BIBLICAL STRENGTH doesn't offer a lot of pedigree power when it comes to grass, as the dam's two winners were both best on dirt, but this filly lands in a seemingly soft spot for trainer Christopher Shaw; this barn scored with fellow turf firster Hymn of Heaven, also ridden by jockey Alonso Quinonez. 9 FRENCH BENEFITS certainly merits a long look on the strength of that last effort, a narrow loss; he showed high speed there and gave way only late despite setting some swift early splits. 4 ACT VIOLENTLY makes her turf debut but the dam posted her lone career win on this surface and she has produced at least two grass winners; has license to improve off those two dirt sprints to start her career.

Race 6 2 JUNTA impressed in that debut score, then was overmatched in the Suncoast; she was off the board in her latest but she was behind a controlled pace, and she could take a big step forward today if she gets a fast, pressured pace up front, as expected. 6 ANDREA is in for a tag for the first time, which can be construed as a negative, given the layoff, but it could also prove to be a needed drop in class; dangerous if able to void a race-long duel. 8 OBLIGING was at a disadvantage in terms of race flow in that last one, a sprint lacking speed, but she could be well spotted behind a contested pace today; if she can rate and make one run she could prove a big threat late.

Race 7 One more shot for 10 VINGATIVA , who has run well in defeat on several occasions at this meet; she was well up the course in her latest but she had to steady at a couple of different points of the race, and she can move way up today given a clean trip and honest fractions. 3 UP HER SLEEVE is an upgrade candidate off her latest, when she was caught off the pace in a paceless race, which set up well for the speeds (note inverted "S" symbol in pp line); prior Beyers and this drop in class very much make her a top contender. 4 ICE QUEEN may be the right value play; she could improve today off her latest pair, pace-filled races where she weakened in the lane after racing relatively close in the opening stages.

#### Race 8

5 GALACTIC EMPIRE might be worth using at a big price, as this drop in class is significant, and he's also had race flow excuses in recent losses; far back two back but the slow start gives him a legitimate excuse for that off-the-board finish. 7 HE'S A GOOD DANCER was just off the board in that last one but he ran a strong race in defeat, dueling for the lead from the break and wilting only late; win percentage is light and the price could be short but he'd certainly be no surprise. 1 H C HOLIDAY stretches back out but he's proven himself at this distance; figures to be running late, given clear sailing from the fence.

#### Race 9

8 LADY QUINN has speed but can also rate, and that could be an important consideration given the fact that there are several speeds lined up to her inside; rises in her first start off the claim but good enough given the right set up. 5 SASSY CHARLEE is another who could benefit from a favorable race flow; she was on the lead in her latest but she has rated effectively enough in the past. 3 EROS'S GIRL was no threat in her return, at seven furlongs, but she can be expected to improve with that race under her belt, and with this return to six furlongs.

#### Race 10

4 NELIDA switches to the grass, and while she was winless in three starts on the green she did run well on a couple of occasions, all over this course; has a decent late kick but also has the speed to stay close from the start. 1 THREE RUN BOLT get back on the grass, and this does seem to be her best surface; she's been in search of that elusive second career win for some time but she certainly has been running well in defeat in recent tries. 8 SHAKREVENGE settled for the show under similar conditions in her latest, perhaps moving a little too soon; dangerous here with a better-timed run.

## Wheeling Greyhounds ( Post 1:00)



1. 2-4-1
2. 8-1-7
3. 5-1-3
4. 7-3-1
5. 1-3-8
6. 8-2-6-7
7. 4-3-1
8. 5-1-3
9. 1-7-8
10. 4-5-8
11. 5-2-4
12. 5-7-3
13. 7-2-5
14. 4-8-2
15. 6-4-2
16. 5-4-2
17. 3-1-5

**Best Bets : Race 6 # 8 Kelsos Spot On**

**Race 9 # 1 Uncommon Ground**



## Will Rogers Downs ( 2:15 )

### FIRST RACE

2 Top of the World 2-1-5

### SECOND RACE

4 Mamashavnaflash 4-3-5

### THIRD RACE

5 I'm Enticing 5-2-4-1

### FOURTH RACE

6 Tee Burns 6-1-2-3

### FIFTH RACE

6 Woman's Intuition 6-1-2-3

### SIXTH RACE

1 Big Muckity 1-6-4-3

### EIGHTH RACE

### SEVENTH RACE

3 Lightning Struck 3-6-2-4

7 When Judy Calls 7-10-6-5



# Turf Paradise ( Post 3:55)

By Scott Ehlers

Race 1 8 Miss Sassy Corona 4 Torito Cash Cartel 2 Scoo B Shoes

Race 2 10 Cant Tell You Why 8 Whiskey Talkin 2 Lady Dealin Rogue

Race 3 1 IMA RASCAL just ran a Beyer top and did so from a tough post going ultra short. Added half furlong might help along with rail draw. This horse has beaten at least half the field home in three of his first five starts and even has a recent work. 6 WAR ECHO will try and be the speed of the speed. This gelding has never been headed at the first call and gets in light once again. Other speed is a big concern though. 4 TRACK ROBBER is the other speed. This gelding has gotten a ton of play in his last four starts but the results have been OK at best. He does put three races together while going for a new barn that is 1 for 2 off the claim.

Race 4 8 BALLYMORE GIRLS drops in class and picks up the leading rider all while getting in light. She tries this tricky distance for the third time and draws best. 1 LUPITA broke dead last two back but still rallied for fourth at 10-1. She ran evenly last out and now adds another half furlong. We would like her a tad more if there was more pace in this race. 3 SPAGHETTI TREE ran OK three back. She was a beaten favorite two back. She finally gets off the rail. Added distance has to help.

Race 5 Best Bet 1 SENT BY ANGELS took fourteen races to break her maiden but what if she got a taste of winning and liked it? This barn is 15% with horses that won their last race. Her last race came back key when 2 of 6 returned to win (only available Beyer as of this writing is 39). We like that connections want this five furlongs right back. 7 LULA BELLA has run better in two of her last three starts. We bet that she went too fast two back. Versatile style is always a plus. 8 COASTAL GIRL never got a breather last out and was trying the turf and two turns for the first time. New barn is 7% off the claim. This filly is a hard trier that has hit the board in 11 of 13 starts.

Race 6 4 STAMP MY PASSPORT shipped here and won like a good thing. What if he improves second time here like most runners do. Once again connections find a spot where this guy can't be claimed. This barn is 15% with their repeating winners. Race flow is more than fair if the 1 and 5 stay in. 3 YOU'RE THE CAUSE dropped in class and ran much better when 2nd at 6-1. New barn is 9% off the claim and are having a fantastic meet (team Marvin Buffalo). Can we say that jockey Glenn Corbett is the first call rider for this barn? Hmmm....they are 71% together. 4-3-1

### Race 7

3 SCOPELLO should be a big price. We like that distance try two back when this guy passed a runner to win at 8-1. Are these that much better? Losing Corbett hurts but Valenzuela is solid. This horse has never missed the exacta going this shortened sprint distance. 5 CHICKEN WING won two and four back and maybe that bodes well for today. Class drop has to help and this horse has good speed. Main pace foe draws next door but this gelding could still hold the rail. If you said he could stalk then we would like him a tad more. 6 STAN FROM MALIBU has speed and now gets in light with Americano up. He tries this dirt for the first time. You can forget about that 4-1 morning line as we bet this gelding goes favored.

### Race 8

6 BEL RAGAZZO just ran better and around here that is key. We like that he gets a weight break with the leading rider up. This gelding can pass a runner and that might be key as there is other speed in here. 2 SIDE STREET DAVE gets back to routing. We expect some speed from this inside draw. Current form isn't the best but we like that Harry Hernandez keeps the faith. 3 LAST MARTINI did run better only two back. He gets good race flow and draws fine. He is often a big price. He tried tougher not that long ago at Canterbury.

Race 9 9 JUSTIN AZTECA just went too fast previously and spit the bit early. He has bounced back from poor efforts before. He draws fine and has hit the exacta on this dirt in 8 of 13 starts. Jock switch is noted.

3 PICKING IT UP should be a good price. He was claimed two back when sent off at 48-1. He gets a softer pace today and second time this barn is a plus. 4 SHANKADOPOLOUS did run well in his only start on this dirt. The layoff is short and we spy a pair of recent works. Connections are easily in the black with a win and a claim. Second time here is another plus. Team Gleason is 1 for 4 off the claim.



## Western Fair Raceway Post – 5:50

### SUGAR'S SELECTIONS –

#### Race 1

4 WRITE ABOUT NOW sharp win last week

3 RUREDYFORAGOODTIME Exactor factor

5 ASHERS BASHER may be best of the rest

#### Race 2

5 LADIES FROM HELL starts up the PICK 4

3 CAUGHTSTEALINGHOME is worth a look

6 SAULSBROOK OLYMPIA outside chance

#### Race 3 **\*\* Best Bet \*\***

1 LAND OF PARADISE she can beat these

3 LOLAS SUNSHINE is one to think about

5 THIS GIRL RULES top 3 possibility here

#### Race 4

2 MAPLE meeting tougher, but very sharp

3 GIMMIE A CORONA she's fitting in well

1 STAY PUMPED rail helps her chances

**Race 5**

**3 TOOT TOOT N may top this SUPER HI5**  
**1 SPORTS SECTION could be in the mix**  
**8 SIR LUCKNOW worth a look with these**

**Race 6**

**1 LETJIMITAKEOVER remains very sharp**  
**2 BEACHOFANERA gets a good trip here**  
**6 ID IMAGINE strong finisher last week**

**Race 7**

**6 JAYS N TIGERS this could be the spot**  
**3 TORETTO he can roll with this group**  
**1 STATE OF TREASURE one to consider**

**Race 8**

**7 BILLIE JEAN QUEEN big drop in class**  
**3 IONIA she's worth a look with these**  
**6 SEVEN IRON may be best of the rest**

**Race 9**

**6 FIRE SHINE has 4 wins in her latest 5**  
**3 MOSTLY DALI she's a good fit in here**  
**1 DEL DIGGITY always in mix; beware**

**Race 10**

**2 DAKOTA SENA meeting much easier**  
**7 CHIEF OF STAFF drops in class here**  
**5 Z Aidans Luck is a top 3 possibility**

# TRI-STATE GREYHOUNDS ( POST 6:00)



1 <sup>ST</sup>	7 2 6 4
2 <sup>ND</sup>	6 3 2 5
3 <sup>RD</sup>	4 6 8 1
4 <sup>TH</sup>	4 8 2 1
5 <sup>TH</sup>	4 8 3 1
6 <sup>TH</sup>	1 6 7 2
7 <sup>TH</sup>	1 2 4 5
8 <sup>TH</sup>	1 2 4 6
9 <sup>TH</sup>	1 8 2 3
10 <sup>TH</sup>	2 1 5 8
11 <sup>TH</sup>	2 8 3 1
12 <sup>TH</sup>	8 1 3 2
13 <sup>TH</sup>	7 5 1 8
14 <sup>TH</sup>	5 1 6 3

**Best Bet 11-2 WW Flagher Down**

# YONKERS (6:45)

## The Empire Report – Wednesday, April 2, 2025 – Race Analysis

**RACE 1** – (5) BATH BOMB showed big ability right off that bat, and actually won her career debut right here at Yonkers last year, demolishing the field – she earned \$109K for the season, but did have her share of disappointment (made breaks in the \$300K OhSS Final AND the \$400K KySS Final) – she just qualified for her 4YO campaign right behind a trio of top Matchmaker mares, and will be tough to knock off here...assuming she paces cleanly. (8) PEACE TALKS was sent off at 1/2 for her seasonal debut last weeks but she's always been prone to clunkers, and certainly threw one that night – her price will be much higher tonight, and she MAY bounce back with one of her better efforts. (6) IM A BELIEVER hasn't WON here at Yonkers (so far) but she's hit board in 9 of her 12 starts (and all 3 this year) – always willing to use underneath. (4) MISS PERIGNON N was no factor in her first U.S. start, a no threat 5<sup>th</sup> – if she attracts some more tote action this week, she may be worth including in exotics. (3) MS FRANCES ASSISI has a win and a 2<sup>nd</sup> from her 3 career starts (across the river) – hard to really say how she'll fit with the locals but we'll get a clearer picture after tonight. (1) MAIDSWEET IR was ignored at the windows and no factor in her first U.S. start – she's missed a month since then, and feels pretty risky. (7) SHES EPIC has speed, but has gotten too hot on a couple of occasions and tired – tough draw for tonight, and she's also missed 3 weeks. (2) BULLVILLEVALENTINA was ok in a couple of her 2YO starts – prefer to just observe in her 3YO return

**RACE 2** – (2) EL PARRANDERO Q has been solid out of town vs. comparable to these, draws well with Gingras on board, and the homebred could have a tactical edge over his main rivals – worth a try in his Yonkers debut. (5) IT ALIAN DELIGHT N raced “ok” off the claim last week despite a less than stellar trip – may be handled more aggressively tonight, and that would make him a very live player. (7) DELIGHTFUL TERROR struggled to grab the bit last week but continued to try hard and eventually was able to rally by tired rivals in a slow mile – he's been in the hunt every start for a long time, but he MAY get a little lost from out here- at a fairly short price. (1) HELSINKI has struggled since the recent claim but the move all the way inside could help him find a better effort – playable in exotics. (8) QUICK SNAP fits with these for sure, but he's another that will need plenty of luck to come his way starting from the far outside. (4) ROSE RUN X CON was “meh” 2 back and weak in his last – needs to find one of his better efforts if he hopes to contend for a piece. (3) LUCIANO N has managed just one 3<sup>rd</sup> from his 10 starts this year – leaning elsewhere. (6) SWEET TROY has 4 starts under his belt in 2025 and hasn't been close yet

**RACE 3** – John Brennan Trotting Series Leg #1: (5) THE PRINCE exits the leading barn in the nation but lands in a barn that has exhibited the ability to take horses from anybody, and still excel – he broke before the start on 2/6 but otherwise has 4 wins and 3 seconds from his 7 other local starts, all vs. strong company – the one to beat tonight. (2) SAPPHIRERAINSTAR was hurt by terrible posts in her first 2 local tries but picked up a 2<sup>nd</sup> behind TIPSY MONI (from the pocket) after drawing better for her last– could be a solid player in here too. (6) GREEN PASTURES best effort would put him right in the picture here but he's made breaks in 3 of his last 5 starts and draws poorly tonight – iffy, for sure. (1) NYMERIA has done well at Yonkers (4-3-0-1) but facing easier than these – she qualified back nicely for her top connections, so we'll see if she's ready to contend right off the bench (4) CRAZY BROTHER JIM beat easier here 2 back but was a dullish 4<sup>th</sup> last week – will need to up his game to be a serious player tonight. (3) MEETMEATTHEBAR seems a bit overmatched in this field

**RACE 4** – John Brennan Trotting Series Leg #1: (2) BUSY MAKING MONI has won 3 of 4 local starts and raced big in the lone loss (sat 8<sup>th</sup> but less than 2 lengths back at the wire) – hard to imagine a better looking qualifier than the one he shows for tonight, and he draws well inside his main rival...deserves the edge. (6) GOLDEN RAIN S actually won the only Yonkers race that #2 lost (with a much better trip), then showed her class by easily winning her first attempt in the FM Invitational – the main danger, for sure. (5) COUNTRY MAMMA was a sharp winner in her local debut (for a new barn) but couldn't handle last week's big step up – she seems a bit overmatched by the top pair, but still may be able to handle the others. (3) CHEF ROCCO had no luck in 2 recent starts here but is capable of better – chance for a piece. (1) MOSQUITO showed plenty of a ability at 2 but missed his entire 3YO season – has just returned at 4 (for a new barn) and while he did show both speed and guts in winning off the long layoff, he also looked about an inch from making a break early on, and all through the lane – feels risky, especially way up in class tonight. (4) LOUS GAMBLER shows plenty of good Ohio lines but we'll see how he fares against some of these tougher ones (for his new barn)

**RACE 5** – (8) FAST APPROACH has hit board in 7 straight but he has only one win, and did disappoint a bit in a few of those 2nds and 3rds = he has enough speed to at least improve significantly at the start, and this really is a

field he SHOULD handle...but don't take too short a price! (3) KELLYS GREATEST has been a steady player in this class and a logical contender for a good piece tonight (with any decent trip). (2) WAVERLY HANOVER will attract attention with Bartlett driving tonight and she should be able to be part of the equation – note that she's just 1 for 16 locally before considering on top, at a shortish price. (5) OLIVER THE GREAT seems like a possibility for 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> if the trip goes his way – will need to be a bit better to contend for a bigger piece, however. (4) CHASING CR YSTALS tends to trot “evenly” and seems destined for minor spoils here. (1) NAUTILUS B has been somewhat unpredictable from week to week – if she can bring one of her better efforts, she'd have a chance for a small slice. (7) MA ISABELLE took some \$\$ for her local debut but broke on turn two after getting away 3<sup>rd</sup> – draws poorly tonight, and there's a good chance she'll be handled conservatively. (6) SHIV has struggled in her recent local tries

**RACE 6** - John Brennan Trotting Series Leg #1: (1) MYCROWNMYKINGDOM has a couple of recent powerful victories that would make him a big threat here (if he can replicate them) – he faces a field filled with question marks, and could have a big chance tonight. (2) CANTSTOP YANKEE was off a bad date last week, saw Bartlett choice off, and folded badly after cutting the mile – it seems like a good sign that he drops right back in the box, and IF he brings anything close to his best tonight he'll become a very dangerous player. (5) FOUR SIXES had a nice 3YO season but was stuck facing our Invitational field in his 4YO return – he shrugged off a trouncing that night to come back with a trio of sharp Saratoga efforts, and he could have a say here...if not affected by racing on 2 days' rest! (4) BLOCKCHAIN is 3 for 3 since the recent barn change but he was all out to hang on last week, and will be facing tougher tonight – hard to say how he'll handle tonight's class test. (3) LUCKY MUM N was a winning machine in the NWPM classes but has found life much tougher at these higher levels – we'll see if tonight's better post can help her chances at all. (6) DEADLINE HALL ships in sharp from Stga. but lands outside, and has only managed 4 thirds from his 8 local starts.

**RACE 7** – (4) TWIN B SPEED DIAL returned sharp in 2025, winning his first start off a 4 month layoff – tired a bit in his next (when handled very aggressively) but returned last week after a month off, and was a winner once more – has earned top billing. (1) MIKEY CAMDEN has some mixed recent form but he just missed in this class a couple of times, and is listed at 20-1 from the pole – has to be worth a look. (6) SMOKIN BY N hasn't been “bad”, but he also hasn't been “great” – he does love to win races, and would be worth a look if the price ends up decent (may not happen, as he's listed at 2-1 on the ML). (8) HELLO GORGEOUS got a big barn and driver change last week, took a lot of \$\$ and proved an easy winner (at PcD) for his new connections (2<sup>nd</sup> time Lasix) – brutal spot for his YR debut, but does have appeal at that 20-1 ML price. (2) MASTER MIKI has solid overall recent form (including a win in PA last week), but hasn't been better than 3<sup>rd</sup> in 10 local starts – willing to include underneath. (5) SNOUZE U LOUZE took no real \$\$ last week and turned in a dull try – inclined to stick with others tonight, but will at least glance at the tote board first. (3) NOWHERE CREEK A continues to drop, hoping to find a spot where he can get back on track – not ready to hop on his team at this point. (7) ON THE VIRG has been a beast at this level so it was a bad sign when he was sent off at 44-1 last week – he was no factor at all, and lands in a similarly poor spot tonight

**RACE 8** – John Brennan Trotting Series Leg #1: (5) ANTOGNONI S is 4 for 5 since arriving in the U.S., the lone loss being a 2<sup>nd</sup> to SOUTHWIND COORS (last week's Invitational winner) – his local debut was sensational and though he does land in with a couple of pretty nice horses tonight, we'll stay on his team. (6) SCOTTISH was a proven high-class player before arriving here last week but he couldn't have looked any better for his new barn, hitting the top and demolishing the field with an eye-catching 1:54.2 mile – would obviously be no surprise if he was able to take another. (4) BELLISSIMO FACE S was terrific here in 2024, winning 6 of 10 starts – started off '25 with another victory, was a bit disappointing in his next but added Lasix after that start, and rebounded with another very game win last week – he'll be ready and waiting should the top two falter here. (2) OPTRIX went some good efforts here last year and ships in sharp from PA – it's just unfortunate for him that he lands in such a stacked division! (3) FULL SCALE has been very solid all year, hitting boar in 7 of his 8 starts – this field is MUCH tougher than he's used to, however, and that will likely have him looking at only minor spoils for tonight. (1) JAKE Y JUMPUP is majorly overmatched in here

**RACE 9** – (7) WALKWHILEYOURTALKN showed some promise at 2, but only raced 4X at 3 – he's back now at 4, qualified ok and finished alertly (in NJ) in his 2025 return – tough draw for his Yonkers debut but he catches a soft bunch, and may be able to mow 'em down late. (2) BO SILAS was handled indifferently when 3<sup>rd</sup> last week – he's been a steady weekly player, and could be very dangerous tonight with Bartlett taking over the lines...he also figures to be overbet. (1) HIPPIE SHAKE has been a weekly player in this class, even picking up a couple of wins –

should be able to be a threat from start to finish from this spot. (3) HL OLMAYA has picked up a few pieces and the good draw should put her in the hunt for another tonight. (4) STOCKHOLM HANOVER felt like he was starting to sharpen a few starts back but he leveled off and is stuck on minor pieces...and may remain in that boat tonight. (8) IHAVEADREAM DE VIE hit board in her last pair but that was with much better draws – not sure she can be as successful from out here. (5) PAPA JOE LOZITO turned in an improved effort 3 back but tired in his next and broke in his last – little risky right now. (6) YOUMEANDWHISKEY gets a barn change and Gingras but his Stga. lines would make him hard to endorse here – suppose he's ok for longshot fans, shopping for an angle

**RACE 10** – (3) HECANDANCENCRUISE has been facing 10s across the river but he's very sharp, and the move to 15s here really shouldn't bother him– he'll also have Bartlett in the bike tonight, and the pair teamed up for victories the last 2X they were together. (1) ROCK THIS WAY was able to get away pretty well from the rail last week so hopefully he can do the same tonight – logical player for exotics. (2) SQUADRON SEELSTER was a decent 4<sup>th</sup> in his local debut despite a first over trip – no reason he can't grab a good piece tonight. (6) GINGER TREE PETE has become pretty unpredictable from week to week – even if on his game tonight, he'll need a lot to go his way starting from Post 6. (5) VELOCITY KOMODO doesn't seem like a serious threat for one of the top slots but an easy trip could see him rally for some minor spoils. (8) SHAKE IT shows a big rally for 2<sup>nd</sup> last week but he was one of the only ones with fresh legs in a race that fell apart completely – not sure he'll be as fortunate tonight. (7) THREE GR AND could probably be ok in this class from an inside draw, but hard to see him finding a way into the race from out here. (4) PINE BUSH UP DRAFT seems a bit overmatched, even at this bottom claiming level

**RACE 11** – (2) TIN ROOF RAIDER A is a classy veteran that just perked up at Pocono, and could be sharp enough to handle tonight's class jump – Herschberger gives him a vote of confidence (taking him over #3) and maybe he can pull off an upset in tonight's finale. (7) RECORD YEAR gets no luck with the draw but returns to the barn for whom he just won 3 in a row, and has to be considered a major threat, even from out here (1) DONTTELLMENOW picked up 3rds in his last pair, draws the pole and seems like a logical player for another piece tonight. (3) ARTIST BEST wasn't terrible from an impossible spot last week, moves inside a bit and is listed at 20-1 ML – not a bad bomb for underneath. (6) PRETTY HANDSOME is sharp right now, coming up a close 2<sup>nd</sup> in his last pair – he'd surely be no shock here, but the draw does figure to hurt his chances, and he'll probably still end up overbet, even with that 8-1 ML listing. (4) MOONLIGHT SHADOW gets a switch to Bartlett but that hardly seems to justify him being the ML favorite, in his current struggling form. (5) MEMPHISTENNESSEE N just can't seem to get his act together these days – waiting for better signs, (8) SAILBOAT HANOVER seems unlikely to sweep the field from last – just hasn't been sharp lately.