



# Craig Donnelly's

## ANALY\$!\$

### @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 6, 2025 – FIRST POST 12:40 P.M.**

**Best Bets: TROTSKY (1<sup>st</sup>) – CENTRE COURT CHAMP (8<sup>th</sup>)**

#### Race 1

- 5** TROTSKY – Narrowly missed this spot when easily second best after arriving from California.
- 6** LEX – Very quick and capable but stamina issues lately; series of strong outings previously.
- 9** CAPTAIN FANCY – Hard-earned maiden score in 12<sup>th</sup> attempt and taking logical next step.
- 1** POSSUM – Faced tougher in routes for high percentage Lupe Preciado barn; must adjust sprint.

#### Race 2

- 3** CYNTHIA GAIL – Rallied wide behind smashing winner at Colonial; here to test Pa.-breds.
- 5** WEST SIDE DIVA – Used up initial half mile with quicker after layoff; fitter now stretching out.
- 1** ALICE FANTASTIC – Competed well this spot in local bow in just third try over main track.
- 7** FAUX PAS – Just over three lengths behind last week in sprint; busy schedule in 27<sup>th</sup> outing.

#### Race 3

- 5** RIVER'S GAMBLE – Humbled by frequent runaway winner but drops for Pino-Sanchez combo.
- 3** CARCHAROTH – Good effort behind easy Ness barn winner and often forms bottom of exacta.
- 1** GREAT COMPOSER – Drops in first local attempt and double-digit score earlier on main track.
- 6** KING DEIVYS – Soundly beaten by top choice and winless this year; some progress necessary.

#### Race 4

- 3** CHECKITUP – Determined effort to end losing skid and handles next step with similar try.
- 4** SHOULDHAVEBEENGONE – Prominent this level but numerous chances and case of seconditis.
- 5** HUMBLE JOE – Often close with similar and Padilla-Preciado barn clicking at 29% this year.
- 1** TAKEMETOTHEMOON – Poor showing when claimed by Pino but speed inside poses threat.

#### Race 5

- 1** HEY PORTER – Game stretch-runner victim of early trouble when claimed again; ample targets.
- 2** ROB THE RICH – Veteran with 13 victories crushed lesser in Jersey slop and 9-for-23 locally.
- 3** ENGLISH PAINTER – Absent couple months but captured three straight at Monmouth; new barn.
- 4** SAL N LOUIE – Claimed back again by Wyner barn after rough trip in last; upset possibility.

#### Race 6

- 4** COOL MILLION – Closed strongly when runner-up; third and fourth finishers won next time.
- 7** RONS GONE WRONG – Sidelined since September but impressed in debut and adding Lasix.
- 8** DARK DEVIL – Throw out last and signs of talent on New York circuit; danger despite 16 losses.
- 1** LION IN THE SUN – Improving gelding sharp with blinkers and hit board six of eight outings.

### Race 7

<b>5</b>	MR. ROUNDTREE – Probably needed first race in over year; benefits from helpful pace set-up.
<b>8</b>	FAST BOB – Closed big gap this spot but might prefer more distance; should be flying late.
<b>6</b>	NO NO JOE – Opened long lead in hand then faded in longer test; one to catch for new barn.
<b>2</b>	NEIGH DUDE – Shelved since June but much ability and threat if ready for 22% Moore stable.

### Race 8

<b>2</b>	CENTRE COURT CHAMP – Looked like old self in awesome score when re-claimed by Mosco.
<b>3</b>	COCOA'S VIVIAN – Circled bulky field with powerful rally after claim and figures close again.
<b>4</b>	DEWEY DOIT – Sharp effort when humbled by top pick and outran lesser in prior attempt.
<b>1</b>	OUR UPTOWN GIRL – Game mare back home and formed part of exacta in 21 of 37 starts.

### Race 9

<b>4</b>	MENDELSFLY – Hampered by early trouble in latest and should continue progress with good trip
<b>6</b>	DARVESH – Improved this level in second race after hiatus; Perez stable has them firing.
<b>13</b>	NIXON JOY – Gained late for higher tag after arriving from Gulfstream; tricky post if draws in.
<b>3</b>	PREACH IT WARRIOR – From leading barn at Penn and wired better twice earlier; must consider