



[Video Race Replay](#)

CHURCHILL DOWNS - September 11, 2025 - Race 1

CLAIMING - Thoroughbred

FOR THREE YEAR OLDS AND UPWARD. Three Year Olds, 120 lbs.; Older, 124 lbs. Non-winners Of A Race At A Mile Or Over Since August 11 Allowed 2 lbs. Claiming Price \$12,500 (Races Where Entered For \$8,000 Or Less Not Considered In Allowances).

Claiming Price: \$12,500

Distance: One Mile On The Dirt **Current Track Record:** (Fruit Ludt - 1:33.26 - November 21, 2014)

Purse: \$45,000

Includes: \$5,800 KTDF - Kentucky TB Devt Fund

Plus: \$1,175 Other Sources

Available Money: \$46,175

Value of Race: \$45,267 1st \$25,432, 2nd \$9,000, 3rd \$3,920, 4th \$1,960, 5th \$1,350, 6th \$608, 7th \$588, 8th \$607, 9th \$607, 10th \$588, 11th \$607

Weather: Clear, 83° **Track:** Fast

Off at: 5:01 **Start:** Good for all **Timing Method:** Electronic

Last Raced	Pgm	Horse Name (Jockey)	Wgt M/E	PP	Start	1/4	1/2	3/4	Str	Fin	Odds	Comments
4Aug25 ² ELP ¹	6	Air of Defiance (Leparoux, Julien)	122 L	6	4	2 ²	1 ^{1/2}	1 ^{1/2}	1 ³	1 ³ 1/2	0.65*	ins pair,cleared upper
18Aug25 ⁵ IND ³	1	Daddy Justify (Saez, Gabriel)	122 L bf	1	1	6 ^{Head}	4 ¹	4 ¹	2 ^{Head}	2 ² 1/2	9.15	ins,4p upr,2nd best
13Aug25 ³ IND ⁵	5	Paynter's Canvas (Elliott, Jane)	122 L b	5	2	9 ^{1/2}	6 ^{1/2}	5 ² 1/2	4 ¹	3 ² 1/4	116.14	2p,5p1/4,willingly
22Aug25 ² ELP ⁴	4	Agent Creed (Morales, Edgar)	122 L bf	4	3	3 ^{Head}	5 ^{Head}	2 ¹ 1/2	3 ²	4 ^{1/2}	37.67	bid 3wd-4p3/8, tired
1Aug25 ⁶ ELP ⁵	2	Ember (Asmussen, Keith)	122 L b	2	10	11	11	9 ³	7 ²	5 ¹	19.34	ins,3p5/16,moved up
22Aug25 ⁶ RP ⁴	7	Proven Hope (Torres, Cristian)	122 L bf	7	7	5 ^{Head}	3 ^{1/2}	3 ^{1/2}	5 ²	6 ¹ 1/2	6.07	brsh st,prompt 3p,fade
18Aug25 ⁵ IND ⁸	3	Mission Mike (Machado, Luan)	122 L	3	6	10 ³	9 ¹	7 ^{1/2}	6 ^{Head}	7 ⁵ 1/2	20.19	3p turn, no menace
13Jul25 ⁴ ELP ⁵	12	Sittin On Go (Hernandez, Jr., Brian)	122 L b	11	11	8 ^{1/2}	7 ^{1/2}	6 ¹	8 ⁴	8 ¹³	14.64	4p btwn, no factor
23Aug25 ⁵ BTP ¹	11	Succession Gold (Villarreal, Oscar)	122 L bf	10	9	7 ¹ 1/2	10 ¹	10 ⁴	10 ¹⁸	9 ¹⁰	75.20	6-4p, never involved
23Aug25 ¹ BTP ⁴	10	Noahs Ark (Concepcion, Axel)	122 L b	9	8	4 ^{Head}	8 ¹	8 ¹	9 ²	10	64.38	5-7p,wknd,eased
4Apr25 ² OP ⁵	9	Synthesis (Gaffalione, Tyler)	122 L b	8	5	1 ^{Head}	2 ^{Head}	11	11	---	5.88	vied 2w,wknd,easd,walk

Fractional Times: 23.44 46.75 1:11.44 1:23.48 **Final Time:** 1:35.92

Split Times: (23:31) (24:69) (12:04) (12:44)

Run-Up: 40 feet

Winner: Air of Defiance, Bay Gelding, by [Quality Road](#) out of Faypien, by Ghostzapper. Foaled Feb 11, 2021 in Kentucky.

Winner's sire standing at Lane's End

Breeder: Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC

Owner: Baron Racing Stables (Dwight D. Baron)

Trainer: Sharp, Joe

2 Claimed Horse(s): **Air of Defiance**
Daddy Justify

New Trainer: Mark Simms, Jr.

New Trainer: Gregory D. Foley

New Owner: Cubbedge, W. D. and Simms Jr. Racing

New Owner: Saints or Sinners

Voided Claims: Proven Hope(Vet)

Claiming Prices: 6 - Air of Defiance: \$12,500; 1 - Daddy Justify: \$12,500; 5 - Paynter's Canvas: \$12,500; 4 - Agent Creed: \$12,500; 2 - Ember: \$12,500; 7 - Proven Hope: \$12,500; 3 - Mission Mike: \$12,500; 12 - Sittin On Go: \$12,500; 11 - Succession Gold: \$12,500; 10 - Noahs Ark: \$12,500; 9 - Synthesis: \$12,500;

Scratched Horse(s): Nikolaou (RegVet-Unsound)

Total WPS Pool: \$165,583

Pgm	Horse	Win	Place	Show	Wager Type	Winning Numbers	Payoff	Pool	Carryover
6	Air of Defiance	3.30	2.54	2.56	\$2.00 Exacta	6-1	19.52	105,758	
1	Daddy Justify		6.06	4.80	\$0.10 Superfecta	6-1-5-4	193.69	36,049	
5	Paynter's Canvas			15.18	\$0.50 Trifecta	6-1-5	134.03	56,630	
					\$1.00 Z-5 Super Hi-5	6-1-5-4-2		782	599

Past Performance Running Line Preview

Pgm	Horse Name	Start	1/4	1/2	3/4	Str	Fin
6	Air of Defiance	4	2 ^{Head}	1 ^{1/2}	1 ^{1/2}	1 ³	1 ³ 1/2
1	Daddy Justify	1	6 ² 1/2	4 ¹	4 ² 1/2	2 ³	2 ³ 1/2
5	Paynter's Canvas	2	9 ⁴ 1/2	6 ² 1/4	5 ³ 1/2	4 ⁵	3 ⁶
4	Agent Creed	3	3 ²	5 ²	2 ^{1/2}	3 ³	4 ⁸ 1/4
2	Ember	10	11 ⁸	11 ⁶ 1/4	9 ⁸ 1/2	7 ⁸ 1/4	5 ⁸ 3/4
7	Proven Hope	7	5 ² 1/4	3 ^{1/2}	3 ²	5 ⁶	6 ⁹ 3/4
3	Mission Mike	6	10 ⁵	9 ⁴ 1/4	7 ⁷	6 ⁸	7 ¹¹ 1/4
12	Sittin On Go	11	8 ⁴	7 ² 3/4	6 ⁶	8 ¹⁰ 1/4	8 ¹⁶ 3/4
11	Succession Gold	9	7 ² 1/2	10 ⁵ 1/4	10 ¹¹ 1/2	10 ¹⁶ 1/4	9 ²⁹ 3/4
10	Noahs Ark	8	4 ² 1/4	8 ³ 1/4	8 ⁷ 1/2	9 ¹⁴ 1/4	10 ³⁹ 3/4
9	Synthesis	5	1 ^{Head}	2 ^{1/2}	11 ¹⁵ 1/2	11 ³⁴ 1/4	---

Trainers: 6 - Sharp, Joe; 1 - Santamaria, Carlos; 5 - Lauer, Michael; 4 - Troiani, Niccolo; 2 - Asmussen, Steven; 7 - Diodoro, Robertino; 3 - Cahill, Steven; 12 - Hartman, Chris; 11 - Orantes, Jose; 10 - Norris, Mike; 9 - Jacobson, David

Owners: 6 - Baron Racing Stables (Dwight D. Baron); 1 -Chester Storthz; 5 -Penny S. Lauer; 4 - P B and J Stable; 2 -Steven M. Asmussen; 7 - Pension Pennies Stables; 3 -Dennis F. Smith; 12 - JD Thoroughbreds LLC; 11 - Cano, Ester and 3 Hermanos Orantes LLC; 10 -Steve Alec Rhodes; 9 -David Jacobson;

Footnotes | [View Glossary Of Terms](#)

AIR OF DEFIANCE was brushed by an outer rival at the start, showed the way as a pair of outer rivals applied pressure around the turn, drew clear in upper

stretch and held sway under a drive. DADDY JUSTIFY stalked along the inside, shifted out to the four path in upper stretch, ran on to claim place at the furlong grounds and was second best. PAYNTER'S CANVAS pursued from midpack in the two path, shifted out to the five path into the lane and stayed on willingly. AGENT CREED tracked in the three path and between horses, tipped out to bid outside of the top pair and from the four path at the three furlong pole, vied nearing the lane, but was turned away in upper stretch and faded. EMBER trailed along the inside, shifted out to the three path turning for home and moved up. PROVEN HOPE brushed an inner rival leaving the gate, prompted three wide, then two wide and between horses while taking the turn in the three path, but gave way nearing the quarter pole. MISSION MIKE raced off of the pace in the three path and failed to menace. SITTING ON GO pursued from midpack in the four path and between horses but failed to factor. SUCCESSION GOLD lacked speed in the six to four path into the turn and never got involved. NOAHS ARK raced off of the pace in the five to seven path, weakened and was eased through the final furlong. SYNTHESIS vied two wide, weakened between horses into the turn, wilted around the bend, was eased through the lane, jogged across the wire and walked off.

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