

FAIR GROUNDS - January 8, 2026 - Race 9
MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT - Thoroughbred

FOR MAIDENS, THREE YEARS OLD. Weight, 120 lbs. (Preference To Horses That Have Not Started For Less Than \$50,000 In Their Last 3 Starts). (If deemed inadvisable by management to run this race over the turf course, it will be run on the main track at One Mile and One Sixteenth.) (Rail at 21 feet).

Distance: One And One Sixteenth Miles On The Turf **Current Track Record:** (Explosive Bid - 1:42.40 - January 13, 1983)

Purse: \$54,000

Includes: \$4,000 Other Sources

Plus: \$4,000 ALBSS-Accredited LA Bred Slot Supplement

Available Money: \$58,000

Value of Race: \$54,000 1st \$32,400, 2nd \$10,800, 3rd \$5,940, 4th \$3,240, 5th \$1,620

Weather: Cloudy, 77° **Track:** Firm

Off at: 4:49 **Start:** Good for all except 1 **Timing Method:** Electronic

[Video Race Replay](#)

Last Raced	Pgm	Horse Name (Jockey)	Wgt	M/E	PP	Start	1/4	1/2	3/4	Str	Fin	Odds	Comments
---	10	Touch of Fire (Pedroza, Jr., Marcelino)	120	L	9	2	2 ¹ 1/2	2 ¹	2 ²	1 ^{Head}	1 ⁷	4.10	close up, clear, best
29Nov25	1 ² CD ⁷	Robert Lee (Murrill, Mitchell)	120	L of	8	1	1 ¹ 1/2	1 ¹ 1/2	1 ^{1/2}	2 ³	2 ² 1/2	14.50	pace, yield, 2nd best
29Nov25	2 ^{CD} ²	Royal Causeway (Geroux, Florent)	120	L b	5	7	7 ¹	7 ¹	8 ^{Head}	6 ^{Head}	3 ^{Head}	2.20*	stdy, btw, 5w rally
---	1	Next Time (Graham, James)	120	L	1	3	3 ^{Head}	3 ^{1/2}	4 ¹	3 ^{1/2}	4 ¹ 1/2	13.60	inwrd, rated, no bid
4Dec25	8 ^{FG} ²	Fake Smart (Lopez, Paco)	120	L b	4	8	8 ^{1/2}	9	9	8 ^{Head}	5 ² 3/4	5.00	stdy, willingly outs
26Oct25	9 ^{CD} ⁸	Shuggy (Ortiz, Jose)	120	L	7	5	6 ²	6 ²	6 ²	5 ¹	6 ¹ 3/4	3.60	rated 3w, wknd
4Dec25	8 ^{FG} ³	Whatever (Loveberry, Jareth)	120	L b	6	4	4 ¹ 1/2	4 ¹	3 ^{1/2}	4 ^{1/2}	7 ³ 3/4	25.30	track3w, retreated
7Nov25	8 ^{CD} ⁸	Apollo Eleven (Concepcion, Axel)	120	L b	3	6	5 ^{Head}	5 ^{Head}	5 ^{Head}	7 ^{1/2}	8 ³	5.90	rated ins, wknd
13Dec25	3 ^{DED} ⁶	In the Gray (Rosier, Chris)	117	L b	2	9	9	8 ^{Head}	7 ^{Head}	9	9	110.60	no impact

Fractional Times: 23.40 49.08 1:14.24 1:37.68

Final Time: 1:43.85

Split Times: (25:68) (25:16) (23:44) (6:17)

Run-Up: 242 feet **Temporary Rail:** 21 feet

Winner: Touch of Fire, Dark Bay or Brown Colt, by Constitution out of Mexican Gold, by Medaglia d'Oro. Foaled Feb 10, 2023 in Kentucky.

Breeder: Juddmonte

Owner: Juddmonte

Trainer: Cox, Brad

Scratched Horse(s): Market Runner (Main-Track-Only), Swerve (Veterinarian)

Total WPS Pool: \$124,534

Pgm	Horse	Win	Place	Show	Wager Type	Winning Numbers	Payoff	Pool
10	Touch of Fire	10.20	5.80	3.20	\$1.00 Exacta	10-9	47.40	74,549
9	Robert Lee		13.00	6.60	\$0.50 Trifecta	10-9-6	68.45	40,086
6	Royal Causeway			2.80	\$0.50 Pick 3	7-5-10 (3 correct)	155.95	13,107
					\$0.10 Superfecta	10-9-6-1	156.55	29,776
					\$1.00 Daily Double	5-10	18.40	12,619
					\$0.50 Consolation Pick 3	7-5-4 (3 correct)	31.15	0
					\$1.00 Consolation	5-4	3.10	0
					Double			

Past Performance Running Line Preview

Pgm	Horse Name	Start	1/4	1/2	3/4	Str	Fin
10	Touch of Fire	2	2 ¹ 1/2	2 ¹ 1/2	2 ^{1/2}	1 ^{Head}	1 ⁷
9	Robert Lee	1	1 ¹ 1/2	1 ¹ 1/2	1 ^{1/2}	2 ^{Head}	2 ⁷
6	Royal Causeway	7	7 ⁶ 3/4	7 ⁶	8 ⁶ 1/4	6 ⁵	3 ⁹ 1/2
1	Next Time	3	3 ³	3 ² 1/2	4 ³	3 ³	4 ⁹ 1/2
5	Fake Smart	8	8 ⁷ 3/4	9 ⁷ 1/4	9 ⁶ 1/4	8 ⁵ 3/4	5 ¹¹
8	Shuggy	5	6 ⁴ 3/4	6 ⁴	6 ⁴	5 ⁴	6 ¹³ 3/4
7	Whatever	4	4 ³	4 ³	3 ² 1/2	4 ³ 1/2	7 ¹⁵ 1/2
3	Apollo Eleven	6	5 ⁴ 1/2	5 ⁴	5 ⁴	7 ⁵ 1/4	8 ¹⁹ 1/4
2	In the Gray	9	9 ⁸ 1/4	8 ⁷	7 ⁶	9 ⁵ 3/4	9 ²² 1/4

Trainers: 10 - Cox, Brad; 9 - Hartman, Chris; 6 - Stewart, Dallas; 1 - Asmussen, Steven; 5 - Sharp, Joe; 8 - DeVaux, Cherie; 7 - Block, Chris; 3 - Casse, Norm; 2 - Faul, Jason

Owners: 10 - Juddmonte; 9 -Mark T. Anderson; 6 - Gervais Racing LLC; 1 -John C. Oxley; 5 - Repole Stable; 8 - AHHA Stables, LLC; 7 -Richard Perkins; 3 - Small Batch Thoroughbreds; 2 -Alfred M. Romito;

Footnotes | [View Glossary Of Terms](#)

TOUCH OF FIRE sat just behind the early pace, moved up through the far turn to take command entering the stretch, drove clear to be much the best. ROBERT LEE was quick to set the early pace, continued up the backstretch uncontestedly, came under pressure in the far turn until giving way at the top of the stretch, clearly second best. ROYAL CAUSEWAY took hold shortly after the start, raced off the pace between rivals, angled out five wide to rally for the show award. NEXT TIME broke inward, found position a couple lengths back along the inside, made no bid. FAKE SMART steadied back to last shortly after the start, closed willingly along the outside of the stretch. SHUGGY found position three wide in the middle of the pack, weakened in the stretch. WHATEVER tracked the early pace three wide, retreated in the stretch. APOLLO ELEVEN was in tight quarters early, raced along the inside, weakened in the stretch. IN THE GRAY trailed after the first turn, moved up a couple spots in the backstretch but weakened back to last in the far turn.