

SAM HOUSTON RACE PARK - April 4, 2026 - Race 8

MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT - Thoroughbred

(PLUS UP TO \$6,600 ATB) FOR MAIDENS, FILLIES AND MARES THREE, FOUR, AND FIVE YEARS OLD. Three Year Olds, 119 lbs.; Older, 123 lbs. (Preference To Horses That Have Not Started For A Claiming Price Of Less Than \$25,000 in their last 3 starts).

Distance: Seven Furlongs On The Dirt **Current Track Record:** (Bucharest - 1:21.29 - May 4, 1996)

Purse: \$33,000

Available Money: \$33,000

Value of Race: \$33,000 1st \$19,740, 2nd \$6,580, 3rd \$3,619, 4th \$1,974, 5th \$987, 6th \$100

Weather: Cloudy, 82° **Track:** Fast

Off at: 3:56 **Start:** Good for all **Timing Method:** Electronic



[Video Race Replay](#)

Last Raced	Pgm	Horse Name (Jockey)	Wgt	M/E	PP	Start	1/4	1/2	Str	Fin	Odds	Comments
13Mar26 ⁵ FG ³	5	Irish Punch (Elliott, Stewart)	119	L	4	1	1 ^{1/2}	1 ^{1 1/2}	1 ⁶	1 ^{12 1/4}	0.05*	much the best
13Mar26 ³ HOU ²	4	Dig Baby Dig (Fuentes, Mario)	119	L b	3	3	2 ¹	2 ^{3 1/2}	2 ³	2 ^{10 3/4}	11.80	briefly cls,2nd best
13Jul25 ⁵ LS ⁶	3	Cincalita (Hamilton, Weston)	119	L b	2	5	5 ^{1 1/2}	5 ^{3 1/2}	3 ^{2 1/2}	3 ²	18.00	stayed on 3rd
28Feb26 ⁵ HOU ³	2	Tap Now (Gonzalez, Elvin)	119	L	1	4	4 ²	3 ¹	4 ⁴	4 ^{2 3/4}	14.40	off pace, no threat
28Feb26 ⁵ HOU ⁶	7	Party Trick (Diego, Iram)	119	L o	6	6	6	6	5 ¹	5 ^{3 3/4}	25.30	far back, saved ground
13Mar26 ³ HOU ⁶	6	Astutely (Valdez-Jiminez, Ernesto)	119	L b	5	2	3 ³	4 ^{Head}	6	6	16.20	outrun,showed little

Fractional Times: 22.67 45.63 1:11.10

Final Time: 1:24.83 **Time from Gate:** 1:26.59

Split Times: (22:96) (25:47) (13:73)

Run-Up: 34 feet

Winner: Irish Punch, Gray or Roan Filly, by Upstart out of Green Punch, by Two Punch. Foaled Mar 25, 2023 in Kentucky.

Breeder: Team Valor International

Owner: Team Valor International

Trainer: Asmussen, Steven

Scratched Horse(s): Pleasing (Veterinarian)

Total WPS Pool: \$11,429

Pgm	Horse	Win	Place	Show	Wager Type	Winning Numbers	Payoff	Pool
5	Irish Punch	2.10	2.10	2.10	\$1.00 Exacta	5-4	4.00	3,826
4	Dig Baby Dig		3.40	2.40	\$0.50 Trifecta	5-4-3	5.35	2,929
3	Cincalita			2.80	\$0.10 Superfecta	5-4-3-2	2.12	2,469
					\$1.00 Pick 3	6-5-5 (3 correct)	4.50	161
					\$1.00 Daily Double	5-5	2.90	224

Past Performance Running Line Preview

Pgm	Horse Name	Start	1/4	1/2	Str	Fin
5	Irish Punch	1	1 ^{1/2}	1 ^{1 1/2}	1 ⁶	1 ^{12 1/4}
4	Dig Baby Dig	3	2 ^{1/2}	2 ^{1 1/2}	2 ⁶	2 ^{12 1/4}
3	Cincalita	5	5 ^{6 1/2}	5 ⁶	3 ⁹	3 ²³
2	Tap Now	4	4 ^{4 1/2}	3 ⁵	4 ^{11 1/2}	4 ²⁵
7	Party Trick	6	6 ⁸	6 ^{9 1/2}	5 ^{15 1/2}	5 ^{27 3/4}
6	Astutely	2	3 ^{1 1/2}	4 ⁶	6 ^{16 1/2}	6 ^{31 1/2}

Trainers: 5 - Asmussen, Steven; 4 - Davidson, M.; 3 - Pish, Danny; 2 - Asmussen, Steven; 7 - Baldillez Jr., Alejandro; 6 - Davidson, M.

Owners: 5 - Team Valor International; 4 -Stephen R. Baker; 3 -Danny Pish; 2 - Winchell Thoroughbreds LLC; 7 -Rachel L. Paduck; 6 -Gerald O. Thornton;

Footnotes | [View Glossary Of Terms](#)

IRISH PUNCH went together with DIG BABY DIG for the first quarter mile, left that one behind, going into the turn, and drew away to win as far as the rider pleased. DIG BABY DIG veered out at the start, then was sent forward to put some pressure on IRISH PUNCH early, then could not go on with that one leaving the quarter pole, but kept on from that point to take the second prize, finishing a mile clear of the next horse. CINCALITA was in the rear of the field early, then stayed on to gain third. TAP NOW raced well off the pace and never threatened. PARTY TRICK dropped far back, saved ground, and passed one late. ASTUTELY was always outrun and showed little.