

THISTLEDOWN - September 22, 2026 - Race 5

CLAIMING - Thoroughbred  
FOR REGISTERED OHIO FOALS THREE YEAR OLDS AND UPWARD WHICH HAVE NOT WON A RACE SINCE MARCH 22.  
Three Year Olds, 119 lbs.; Older, 123 lbs. Claiming Price \$7,500. (SNW1 6M) **Claiming Price:** \$7,500  
**Distance:** Six Furlongs On The Dirt **Current Track Record:** (Fancy Threat - 1:08.40 - November 21, 1987)  
**Purse:** \$17,400  
**Includes:** \$3,900 OTF - Ohio Thoroughbred Fund  
**Available Money:** \$17,400  
**Value of Race:** \$17,400 1st \$10,440, 2nd \$3,480, 3rd \$1,740, 4th \$870, 5th \$522, 6th \$174, 7th \$174  
**Weather:** Cloudy, 61° **Track:** Fast  
**Off at:** 2:55 **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                | Str                | Fin                 | Odds  | Comments               |
|---------------------------------------|-----|-----------------------------------------|-----|------|----|-------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------|------------------------|
| 2Sep26 <sup>4</sup> TDN <sup>4</sup>  | 3   | Spirit of Akron (Bracho, Jose)          | 123 | L b  | 3  | 4     | 1 <sup>1/2</sup>  | 1 <sup>1/2</sup>   | 1 <sup>1</sup>     | 1 <sup>2</sup>      | 2.60  | wore down rivals,      |
| 26Aug26 <sup>5</sup> TDN <sup>3</sup> | 6   | Worthy Opponent (Corrales, Gerardo)     | 123 | L bf | 6  | 2     | 3 <sup>Head</sup> | 2 <sup>1 1/2</sup> | 2 <sup>1</sup>     | 2 <sup>Head</sup>   | 2.10  | game second 7path      |
| 10Sep26 <sup>4</sup> TDN <sup>2</sup> | 5   | Gray Day (Simpson, Jason)               | 123 | L b  | 5  | 6     | 6 <sup>12</sup>   | 3 <sup>4</sup>     | 3 <sup>4</sup>     | 3 <sup>3 1/2</sup>  | 1.40* | finishd well mid track |
| 7Sep26 <sup>4</sup> TDN <sup>4</sup>  | 2   | Matthew's Patriot (Skerrett, Jefferson) | 118 | L bf | 2  | 5     | 5 <sup>Head</sup> | 4 <sup>Head</sup>  | 4 <sup>8</sup>     | 4 <sup>10</sup>     | 10.30 | failed to menace       |
| 27May26 <sup>8</sup> TDN <sup>7</sup> | 1   | A Van On the Run (Keiser, Chelsey)      | 123 | L b  | 1  | 7     | 7                 | 7                  | 6 <sup>1</sup>     | 5 <sup>2</sup>      | 18.10 | broke slowly, outrun   |
| 17Aug26 <sup>8</sup> MNR <sup>4</sup> | 7   | El Marro (Silva, Jr., Juan)             | 125 | L b  | 7  | 1     | 4 <sup>1</sup>    | 5 <sup>1/2</sup>   | 5 <sup>3 1/2</sup> | 6 <sup>15 1/2</sup> | 47.40 | brief speed, 4 wide    |
| 5Sep26 <sup>7</sup> BTP <sup>4</sup>  | 4   | Lunchatthelizard (Cedillo, Mauro)       | 123 | L b  | 4  | 3     | 2 <sup>Head</sup> | 6 <sup>8</sup>     | 7                  | 7                   | 17.60 | stopped turn           |

**Fractional Times:** 22.82 46.00 58.50 **Final Time:** 1:11.64 **Time from Gate:** 1:12.78  
**Split Times:** (23:18) (12:50) (13:14)  
**Run-Up:** 30 feet

**Winner:** Spirit of Akron, Dark Bay or Brown Gelding, by Mor Spirit out of Red Sole Diva, by Speightstown. Foaled Mar 28, 2021 in Ohio.  
**Breeder:** Raimonde Farms LTD  
**Owner:** Judy Meyers  
**Trainer:** Meyers, Shane

**2 Claimed Horse(s):** **Gray Day** New Trainer: Nestor R. Rivera New Owner: Michael J. Friedman  
**Spirit of Akron** New Trainer: Robert C. Cline New Owner: Cline, Robert C. and Gomez Mann Racing LLC

**Claiming Prices:** 3 - Spirit of Akron: \$7,500; 6 - Worthy Opponent: \$7,500; 5 - Gray Day: \$7,500; 2 - Matthew's Patriot: \$7,500; 1 - A Van On the Run: \$7,500; 7 - El Marro: \$7,500; 4 - Lunchatthelizard: \$7,500;

**Total WPS Pool:** \$43,084

| Pgm | Horse           | Win  | Place | Show | Wager Type          | Winning Numbers       | Payoff   | Pool   |
|-----|-----------------|------|-------|------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------|--------|
| 3   | Spirit of Akron | 7.20 | 3.40  | 2.10 | \$1.00 Exacta       | 3-6                   | 11.20    | 38,885 |
| 6   | Worthy Opponent |      | 3.00  | 2.10 | \$0.50 Trifecta     | 3-6-5                 | 9.60     | 26,159 |
| 5   | Gray Day        |      |       | 2.10 | \$0.20 Superfecta   | 3-6-5-2               | 7.70     | 17,574 |
|     |                 |      |       |      | \$0.50 Pick 3       | 4-1-3 (3 correct)     | 42.55    | 7,751  |
|     |                 |      |       |      | \$0.50 Pick 4       | 6-4-1-3 (4 correct)   | 348.60   | 15,116 |
|     |                 |      |       |      | \$0.50 Pick 5       | 2-6-4-1-3 (5 correct) | 2,775.30 | 39,181 |
|     |                 |      |       |      | \$1.00 Daily Double | 1-3                   | 43.60    | 5,280  |

Past Performance Running Line Preview

| Pgm | Horse Name        | Start | 1/4                 | 1/2                 | Str                 | Fin                 |
|-----|-------------------|-------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 3   | Spirit of Akron   | 4     | 1 <sup>1/2</sup>    | 1 <sup>1/2</sup>    | 1 <sup>1</sup>      | 1 <sup>2</sup>      |
| 6   | Worthy Opponent   | 2     | 3 <sup>1/2</sup>    | 2 <sup>1/2</sup>    | 2 <sup>1</sup>      | 2 <sup>2</sup>      |
| 5   | Gray Day          | 6     | 6 <sup>1 3/4</sup>  | 3 <sup>2</sup>      | 3 <sup>2</sup>      | 3 <sup>2</sup>      |
| 2   | Matthew's Patriot | 5     | 5 <sup>1 3/4</sup>  | 4 <sup>6</sup>      | 4 <sup>6</sup>      | 4 <sup>5 1/2</sup>  |
| 1   | A Van On the Run  | 7     | 7 <sup>13 3/4</sup> | 7 <sup>14 1/2</sup> | 6 <sup>17 1/2</sup> | 5 <sup>15 1/2</sup> |
| 7   | El Marro          | 1     | 4 <sup>3/4</sup>    | 5 <sup>6</sup>      | 5 <sup>14</sup>     | 6 <sup>17 1/2</sup> |
| 4   | Lunchatthelizard  | 3     | 2 <sup>1/2</sup>    | 6 <sup>6 1/2</sup>  | 7 <sup>18 1/2</sup> | 7 <sup>33</sup>     |

**Trainers:** 3 - Meyers, Shane; 6 - Huffman, Candace; 5 - Bailey, Ricardo; 2 - Juarez-Mendoza, Rey; 1 - Huffman, Candace; 7 - Romero, Jose; 4 - Cline, Robert

**Owners:** 3 -Judy Meyers; 6 -Candace M. Huffman; 5 - Lion Palm Racing Stable; 2 -Rey Juarez-Mendoza; 1 -Randall H. Blevins; 7 -Elias Del Val; 4 - Cline, Robert C. and Gomez Mann Racing LLC;

**Footnotes** | [View Glossary Of Terms](#)

SPIRIT OF AKRON made the lead soon after the start, set a pressured pace into the stretch, drifted out to the five path and drew clear late under right handed urging. WORTHY OPPONENT pressed the pace three wide and finished a game second in the seven path. GRAY DAY never far back split horses on the turn, swung outside and finished determinedly in the middle of the racetrack. MATTHEW'S PATRIOT failed to menace. A VAN ON THE RUN broke slowly and was always outrun. EL MARRO had brief speed four wide. LUNCHATTHELIZARD pressed the early pace two wide and stopped on the turn.