



**Oaklawn Park | Race 13 | Saturday, March 28, 2026 | Dirt 1 Mile | Fast
Purse \$1,500,000 | Grade 1 Arkansas Derby | 3YO | 9-Horse Field | Post: 7:48 PM
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SECTION 1 — PACE ANALYSIS

True Front Runners

NAPOLEON SOLO (#7) — Napoleon Solo is the model's projected primary pace-setter and a significant structural factor in this race. His Q1 of 40.54 MPH is the highest in the field by a decisive margin, reflecting his Champagne G1 performance where he went gate-to-gate in a 44.3-second half-mile. His VULNERABLE SSR (-15.6%) is the sharpest red flag in the field, and his Fountain of Youth G2 last out produced an empty 5th from an awkward start. The model reads him as a front-runner who will either rocket to the lead again or, if compromised early, collapse entirely.

LITMUS TEST (#9) — Litmus Test is a co-pace threat from post 9. His Q1 of 38.79 MPH and his Rebel G2 pace-setting pattern (he led through the opening quarter, pressed through the half, and faded to 3rd) project him dueling for early command with Napoleon Solo. The blinkers coming OFF today is a significant tactical variable: the model reads it as a calming influence intended to allow him to rate rather than press from the front.

Blackout Time and Redland Rebels both project Q1 velocities of 38.79 MPH from a pressing-stalking position, creating a cluster of second-flight pace content between the primary speed duelers and the confirmed stalkers behind them.

Stalkers / Pressers

Renegade (#6), Silent Tactic (#2), and Exosome (#8) all project from the Q1 stalker-to-closer range (36.89-37.19 MPH). The model projects all three rating off the pace: Renegade from 4-6 lengths back with Irad Ortiz Jr., Silent Tactic tracking from 3-5 lengths under Torres, and Exosome in a mid-pack position. Bricklin and Taptastic also project as stalker-closers with ELITE and VULNERABLE SSR respectively.

Pace Scenario Projection

The model projects a FAST-to-HOT early pace. Napoleon Solo will be aggressive from the gate, and with Litmus Test, Blackout Time, and Redland Rebels all carrying Q1 velocities of 38-40 MPH, there will be a contested early pace at a mile. This is structurally ideal for Renegade and Silent Tactic, both of whom prefer to rate off a contested pace and deploy elite closing velocity. Napoleon Solo's VULNERABLE SSR makes him the likely pace casualty in a hot early scenario.

SECTION 2 — WIN PROBABILITY MATRIX

Horse	ML	Model Win %	Model Top-3 %	Value Rating
#6 Renegade	3/2	36%	72%	MARGINAL
#2 Silent Tactic	5/2	26%	62%	VALUE
#9 Litmus Test	5/1	16%	50%	VALUE
#7 Napoleon Solo	6/1	8%	28%	NEGATIVE



#3 Blackout Time	6/1	6%	24%	NEGATIVE
#4 Bricklin	20/1	4%	16%	FAIR
#5 Taptastic	20/1	2%	10%	NEGATIVE
#8 Exosome	20/1	1%	6%	NEGATIVE
#1 Redland Rebels	15/1	1%	4%	NEGATIVE

SECTION 3 — CONTENDER ANALYSIS

#6 Renegade ★★★★★

Strengths:

- ELITE Q4 (44.70 MPH) is the second-highest among horses with directly applicable race data and the highest among confirmed stalker-to-closer types
- SFDavis L210k win was a dominant performance from 4 wide at the 3/8 pole, showing elite late-running ability under pressure
- Todd Pletcher at 30% off a win and 18% in graded stakes; Irad Ortiz Jr. is available on this horse after a Florida Derby connection
- Into Mischief over a Curlin mare is a classic late-developing 3-year-old dirt route pedigree
- 4-race career arc shows consistent improvement with a decisive win in the most recent start

Concerns:

- First Oaklawn appearance; the model has no track-specific data for this horse at OP
- At 3/2 morning line (40% implied), the model's 36% win projection creates a slight MARGINAL value signal at opening odds
- Has not faced Napoleon Solo in a direct meeting; unknown head-to-head dynamics

Race Shape Fit: Optimal. Renegade's SFDavis L210k win came from a patient 4-wide bid at the 3/8 pole that turned into a dominant finish. His ELITE Q4 (+21.2%) is the second-highest in the field among horses with comparable data. The model projects him rating 4-6 lengths off Napoleon Solo's burning pace, then unleashing a decisive closing move on the far turn.

Projection: The model's primary selection. Renegade is 3/2 morning-line favorite at 3-for-6-in-the-money with his best effort a dominant Tampa Derby-trail win. Pletcher trains at 30% off wins and 25% in graded stakes; Irad Ortiz Jr. is available after riding the Florida Derby trail. The model projects him winning the Arkansas Derby G1 with authority in a pace-setup scenario.

#2 Silent Tactic ★★★★★

Strengths:

- Three consecutive improving Oaklawn starts: 79 Beyer (maiden win) → 85 (Rebel G2 2nd) → 91 (Rebel G2 2nd) — sequential peak form
- ELITE Q4 (43.41 MPH) from the Rebel G2 shows he has elite closing velocity for this track and distance
- Mark Casse at 31% overall at OP in 2026 — the best trainer metric at this venue





- Tacitus over a Gun Runner mare is a classic stamina-speed combination for 3-year-old routes
- Three Oaklawn appearances give him unmatched track-specific knowledge in this field

Concerns:

- Has been beaten in two consecutive Rebel G2 starts; one win came in a Southwest G3 against a weaker field
- The model notes he was tipped 4-wide in the Rebel and still finished second; today's inside post (2) could create early traffic

Race Shape Fit: Very good. Silent Tactic's Rebel G2 second-place from an off-the-pace position showed genuine closing ability on this track. His ELITE Q4 (+12.4%) is among the best in the field, and his three-race Oaklawn campaign (improving from 3rd to 2nd to a competitive placing) suggests he is peaking at the right time. Casse at 31% overall at OP in 2026 is outstanding.

Projection: The model's primary value selection. Silent Tactic at 5/2 (28.6% implied) against the model's 26% win projection creates a near-VALUE overlay. He has been the most consistent horse in the field over the course of the Oaklawn winter season and his closing profile fits this race shape precisely. A win here would be unsurprising.

#9 Litmus Test ★★★

Strengths:

- ELITE Q4 (42.99 MPH) from his Los Al Futurity G2 win; proven late velocity in graded stakes company
- Bob Baffert at 42% with blinkers OFF — the highest trainer stat in this race
- Baffert at 33% overall and 28% in graded stakes is an elite operation
- Los Al Futurity G2 win showed him capable of overcoming a slow early pace with a sustained late move

Concerns:

- Rebel G2 third place showed him unable to match the top two when pressing the pace; the blinkers-off change must result in a different style
- First time racing without blinkers; behavioral uncertainty introduces genuine projection risk
- Has not won since December 2025; 3-month form gap raises fitness questions

Race Shape Fit: Promising with blinkers off. Litmus Test's Los Al Futurity G2 win showed elite sustained closing velocity, and the blinker removal is a deliberate trainer signal from Baffert (42% with blinkers off) to allow him to settle and deploy that closing speed more efficiently. The model rates him as the third-best contender if the equipment change succeeds.

Projection: A legitimate top-three contender and multi-race B-leg. Baffert at 33% overall and 28% in graded stakes is the most accomplished trainer-per-start in the race. If Litmus Test rates calmly with the blinkers off, his ELITE Q4 (42.99 MPH) gives him the tools to threaten Renegade and Silent Tactic in the stretch.

#7 Napoleon Solo — TOSS





Projection: Napoleon Solo's Champagne G1 wire-to-wire was spectacular, but the combination of a VULNERABLE SSR (-15.6%), a dismal Fountain of Youth G2 fifth (empty after awkward start), and today's pace scenario involving multiple horses willing to press him makes a repeat difficult. He is classic pace fodder in a mile with hot early fractions. If he breaks cleanly and steals a soft pace somehow, he can hang on, but the model projects his role as pace-setter, not winner. TOSS for win purposes.

#3 Blackout Time — TOSS

Projection: Blackout Time's Rebel G2 fourth was a non-competitive result after pressing the pace. His Breeders' Futurity G1 second showed genuine ability but he has not replicated that form in subsequent starts. McPeck at 9% in graded stakes is a below-average stakes rate. TOSS for primary positions.

#4 Bricklin — TOSS

Projection: Bricklin's VULNERABLE SSR (-8.3%) is a concern, and his Sun Derby third (3rd of 6, outkicked by class) shows he is at the ceiling of his competitive range against this field. Brisset at 27% overall shows a capable operation but his graded stakes record (8% in G3+) is limited. TOSS.

#5 Taptastic — TOSS

Projection: One career start, a wet-track maiden win at Oaklawn. The jump from a maiden on a wet track directly to a \$1.5M Grade 1 is extraordinary. Asmussen at 14% in graded stakes provides some trainer comfort, but there is simply no data to support projecting Taptastic as competitive against Renegade, Silent Tactic, and Litmus Test. TOSS.

#8 Exosome — TOSS

Projection: Exosome's OC150k OP win was impressive but at an entry-level class below this Grade 1 field. His Q4 figure (48.21 MPH) is inflated by the different distance basis of his data source and should be interpreted as a comparative index only. Danner at 50% (2 starters) is a small-sample positive but not sufficient evidence for a Grade 1 projection. TOSS.

#1 Redland Rebels — TOSS

Projection: Redland Rebels is primarily a turf horse whose only two dirt starts produced a Tampa Derby 4th and a non-factor maiden result. He is entered here and also in the Florida Derby, and the model reads his dirt form as insufficient for Grade 1 competition at a mile. Complete toss.

SECTION 4 — MPH ANALYSIS + SUSTAINED SPEED RATINGS

Opening Velocity Projections (Q1 — First Quarter Mile)





Horse	Q1 Proj MPH	Role
Napoleon Solo	40.54	Pace — VULNERABLE
Bricklin	38.96	Presser — VULNERABLE
Litmus Test	38.79	Co-Pace — ELITE
Blackout Time	38.79	Presser — ELITE
Redland Rebels	38.79	Presser — ELITE
Silent Tactic	38.63	Stalker — ELITE
Taptastic	37.19	Stalker — ELITE
Exosome	37.19	Stalker — ELITE
Renegade	36.89	Closer — ELITE

Closing Velocity Projections (Q4 — Final Quarter Mile)

Horse	Q4 Proj MPH	Decel %	Sustained Speed Rating
Exosome	48.21	+29.6%	ELITE
Renegade	44.70	+21.2%	ELITE
Silent Tactic	43.41	+12.4%	ELITE
Litmus Test	42.99	+10.8%	ELITE
Redland Rebels	41.93	+8.1%	ELITE
Blackout Time	41.80	+7.7%	ELITE
Taptastic	36.00	-3.2%	ELITE
Bricklin	35.71	-8.3%	VULNERABLE
Napoleon Solo	34.22	-15.6%	VULNERABLE

Critical MPH Insight

The Arkansas Derby G1 presents a field with a decisive two-tier split in Q4 velocity. Renegade (44.70 MPH) and Silent Tactic (43.41 MPH) carry the field's superior closing profiles from 1-1/8-mile race data, projecting them as the structural winners of a pace-setup race. The next tier (Litmus Test 42.99, Redland Rebels 41.93, Blackout Time 41.80) represents competitive closers without the edge of the top two. Napoleon Solo's VULNERABLE SSR (-15.6%) is the most important analytical signal: the horse who projects to lead the race is the horse the model identifies as the most likely to collapse in the final quarter. In a Grade 1 with \$1.5M on the line, that structural vulnerability creates the primary investment opportunity. Renegade's Q4 of 44.70 MPH from a stalking trip in the SFDavis L210k represents the model's most analytically compelling closing figure in the race.

SECTION 5 — IMPROVEMENT & REGRESSION CANDIDATES

Likely to Improve





RENEGADE (#6) — Renegade is the model's primary improvement candidate. His four-race career has shown consistent development: maiden second, DQ'd maiden, graded stakes second, then a dominant SFDavis win. The natural three-year-old improvement curve for a horse trained by Pletcher and ridden by Ortiz projects a continued upward trajectory at the Grade 1 level.

SILENT TACTIC (#2) — Silent Tactic has won or run second in all three Oaklawn starts this winter, improving his Beyer from 79 to 85 to 91. The sequential improvement pattern on this specific track suggests he is peaking for a career-best performance.

Bounce / Regression Risks

NAPOLEON SOLO (#7) — Napoleon Solo is the primary regression candidate. His Champagne G1 gate-to-gate performance was the race of his career, but it required a gift pace, a clean break, and no one willing to press him early. Today's race offers none of those conditions. His VULNERABLE SSR (-15.6%) combined with the hot early pace projection creates a near-certain regression from his Champagne level.

LITMUS TEST (#9) — Litmus Test carries a mild regression risk from his Los Al Futurity G2 win. That race featured a clean trip and a slow-enough pace to allow him to rate comfortably. Today's expected hot pace from Napoleon Solo may force him to work harder early even with blinkers removed, which could compromise his late velocity.

SECTION 6 — SUGGESTED BETS

Win Bet: #6 Renegade Confidence: 7.5/10 The model selects Renegade as the primary Win Bet. At 3/2 (40.0% implied), the model's 36% win projection creates a slight MARGINAL signal at morning-line odds, but the model's conviction in his structural advantage (ELITE Q4, optimal pace scenario, Pletcher-Ortiz, improving trajectory) supports a win bet at opening odds. If his price extends to 2/1 or higher, the model finds VALUE.

Value Play: #2 Silent Tactic Confidence: 7.5/10 Silent Tactic at 5/2 (28.6% implied) against the model's 26% win projection creates a near-VALUE overlay that improves meaningfully if his price drifts toward 3/1. He is the model's primary value angle: three straight improving Oaklawn performances, ELITE Q4, and the most race-fit horse in the field after a winter campaign on this track.

Top 3 Multi-Race: A / B / C A — #6 Renegade B — #2 Silent Tactic C — #9 Litmus Test Confidence: 7.5/10 The A-leg is Renegade as the primary win selection. Silent Tactic as the B-leg is the natural complement given their identical race-shape fit and the direct comparison in their respective prep races. Litmus Test as the C-leg captures the Baffert-blinkers-off angle at 5/1. Napoleon Solo, Blackout Time, and Bricklin can be used as wide safety legs in larger sequences but the model does not support them as primary inclusions. Taptastic, Exosome, and Redland Rebels should not appear in any primary sequence position.

SECTION 7 — CONFIDENCE RATING

Overall: 7.5 / 10 ★★★★★★☆☆

The model rates its projection confidence at 7.5 out of 10. Race shape confidence is very high: Napoleon Solo will set a burning pace and the model identifies him as a structural pace casualty with near-certainty, creating the clearest pace-setup scenario on the card. The primary





deduction is the first-time Oaklawn appearance for Renegade, who has no track-specific data, and the genuine uncertainty around Litmus Test's blinker removal effectiveness. Renegade is the model's highest-confidence Grade 1 win bet on the March 28 card, rivaling She Be Smooth in the GP Oaks for the day's most compelling Grade 1 investment.

Report Generated by PTW-CHR Model 1

Methodology: Proprietary fractional analysis, MPH speed metrics, sustained speed profiling. MPH figures in PTW-CHR Model 1 reports are proprietary index values derived from the model's internal distance-weighting methodology and are not expressions of real-world velocity. All horses are evaluated through the same calculation engine, making the figures valid for comparative ranking and deceleration analysis within the model's framework.

All projections represent model predictions based on historical performance data.

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