



Oaklawn Park | Race 10 | Saturday, March 14, 2026 Grade 3 Whitmore Stakes | Dirt 6 Furlongs | \$250,000 Purse

SECTION 1: PACE ANALYSIS

True Front Runners Wendelsohn (#1) — railpost, career pattern of breaking on top and leading or pressing from the first stride. His two most recent starts both show him on or near the lead at every call. Bourbon Bash (#6) — confirmed presser who tracked the pace in his Commodore win and was involved early in King Cotton. Tough Catch (#3) — led or tracked on the front end in all three 2026 starts including a wire-to-wire win February 15th.

Stalkers / Pressers Ryvit (#2) — genuinely versatile, has won wire-to-wire and from a tracking position. Gold Sweep (#5) — tactical speed horse who prefers sitting 2-3 lengths off the front.

Closers Tejano Twist (#4) — the race's lone deep closer. Every meaningful win has come from well off the pace with a wide sweeping move in the upper stretch. Spankster (#7) — mild closer with limited ceiling at this level.

Pace Scenario Projection The model projects a FAST, CONTESTED pace — the most combustible pace setup of the four-race weekend. Four horses project forward positioning based on their PP running lines, and three of them draw inside posts 1 through 3. The Hartman barn deploys both Wendelsohn and Tejano Twist — a tactical two-horse entry that controls the race from both ends simultaneously. The model projects Wendelsohn and Bourbon Bash dueling for command through the opening quarter with Tough Catch pressing from immediately behind, and this scenario sets the table structurally for Tejano Twist's late run.

SECTION 2: WIN PROBABILITY MATRIX





Pos t	Horse	M L	Model Win %	Implied ML %	Edge
1	Wendelsson	3-1	14%	25.0%	Negative
2	Ryvit	4-1	16%	20.0%	Negative
3	Tough Catch	7-2	14%	22.2%	Negative
4	Tejano Twist	5-2	26%	28.6%	Neutral
5	Gold Sweep	10- 1	8%	9.1%	Neutral
6	Bourbon Bash	5-1	18%	16.7%	Positive
7	Spankster	20- 1	4%	4.8%	Neutral

SECTION 3: CONTENDER ANALYSIS

Tier 1 — Primary Contenders ★★★★★

#4 Tejano Twist ★★★★★

- **PTW Profile:** A 7-year-old with \$1.75 million in career earnings who has contested this exact race at Oaklawn for three consecutive years — won the Whitmore G3 in 2023, ran 3rd in 2024, and won the direct prep allowance on March 1st. His Whitmore G3 win produced 39.07 mph with an ELITE - 1.8% deceleration — he accelerated through the final quarter. His March 1st OC80k win confirmed peak mid-season form with a 7-wide upper-stretch move.
- **Strengths:** Only G3 Whitmore winner in the field; ELITE deceleration in his Whitmore win; won last out at Oaklawn; pace setup is structurally ideal with multiple front-runners loading the early fractions; Hartman barn controls both the speed and the closer — tactical two-horse advantage; 46 career starts confirm durability at this level.





- **Concerns:** 5-2 morning line reflects the public has found him — not a meaningful overlay; short turnaround (13 days off the March 1st win) with no published works between races; 7-year-old age.
- **Trip Projection:** Model projects Tejano Twist rating last or near-last through the first quarter, moving into position from 3-5 lengths back at the half-mile, then uncorking his signature sweeping wide move as the contested pace begins to extract from the front-runners.

#6 Bourbon Bash ★★★★★

- **PTW Profile:** Won the Commodore B135k on January 3rd at Oaklawn producing 39.05 mph with an ELITE 2.2% deceleration — the cleanest decel figure among the pace horses in this field. His February King Cotton fade (4th) came after pressing the pace directly — a pace duel that extracted from him. Today is his third start of the form cycle, which the model identifies as a peak-effort signal.
- **Strengths:** ELITE deceleration (2.2%) in his Commodore win — best sustained speed figure among the front-running contingent; third start of form cycle; confirmed Oaklawn 6-furlong winner; today's pace scenario projects him sitting just off the speed rather than dueling head-to-head as in King Cotton.
- **Concerns:** Faded in King Cotton after pressing — the model identifies a horse vulnerable to pace duels; Asmussen J/T at Oaklawn below his overall barn rate; at 5-1 he is fairly priced but not a strong overlay.
- **Trip Projection:** Model projects Bourbon Bash stalking from 1-2 lengths off Wendelsohn through the opening quarter, angling to the lead at the half-mile if the speed cracks, and sustaining his ELITE deceleration profile into the stretch.

Tier 2 — Secondary Contenders ★★★★★

#3 Tough Catch ★★★★★

- **PTW Profile:** Won last out at Oaklawn wire-to-wire on a wet track February 15th — a 39.57 mph effort that numerically leads the field but carries a VULNERABLE 10.9% deceleration. The wet surface inflates his figure. His best fast-dirt effort produced 39.01 mph with a 7.0% VULNERABLE deceleration at the Sugar Bowl in December.





- **Strengths:** Won last out at Oaklawn — familiar track and conditions; Saez L. is among the best sprint riders in the country; 3-for-3 at 6 furlongs on fast dirt surfaces; developing 4-year-old.
- **Concerns:** Wet-track figure overstates fast-dirt ability; October 2025 OC80k on fast dirt produced no impact; VULNERABLE deceleration on fast surfaces; Stewart WonLastStart stat at 7% is the field's lowest in that trainer box; no graded stakes experience.
- **Trip Projection:** Model projects Tough Catch tracking the pace from 2-3 lengths back, making his move at the three-quarter pole, and testing whether fast-dirt form matches his wet-track win.

#2 Ryvit ★★★

- **PTW Profile:** A graded stakes winner with \$1.17 million in career earnings and a 5-time Oaklawn winner. His December RP win produced the field's highest overall figure (39.58 mph) with a STRONG 3.0% deceleration. His work tab since that win — all at Houston — shows consecutive bottom-of-chart works that the model flags as a genuine fitness concern ahead of a Grade 3.
- **Strengths:** Highest overall MPH figure in the field; STRONG deceleration; 5-time Oaklawn winner; versatile tactically.
- **Concerns:** Works at Houston rank 38th of 38 and 25th of 37 — bottom-of-chart preparation for a Grade 3. The model cannot reconcile a horse working this poorly heading into a \$250,000 stakes. February 15th effort (3rd, Sunland) showed a STRONG but not dominant closing effort. The KJ Asmussen mount rather than a top rider suggests connections may not hold maximum confidence.
- **Trip Projection:** Model projects Ryvit stalking from the 2-4 length range. Fitness level is the primary variable — if the works reflect strategic easing rather than a fitness issue, he is competitive; if they reflect genuine form decline, he underperforms his morning line.

Tier 3 — Pace Factors / Longshots ★★

#1 Wendelsohn ★★

- Produced 39.06 mph in his best effort with a VULNERABLE 14.1% deceleration. Shares the barn with Tejano Twist — the model projects his primary role as pace-setter who softens the field for the closer. Competitive to the quarter-pole, fades.



#5 Gold Sweep ★★

- VULNERABLE 14.0% deceleration in his most recent start (March 1st, same race Tejano Twist won). Tactical speed horse with a ceiling limited by his closing pattern. 10-1 morning line is appropriate pricing.

#7 Spankster — Non-contender. Career form does not project to Grade 3 level.

SECTION 4: MPH ANALYSIS + SUSTAINED SPEED RATINGS

Rank	Horse	Best Effort	Overall MPH	Opening	Closing	Decel %	Rating
1	Ryvit	RP Alw44k W	39.58	40.50	39.28	3.0%	STRONG
2	Tough Catch	OP Alw125k W (wet)	39.57	42.21	37.63	10.9%	VULNERABLE
3	Tejano Twist	OP Whitmore G3 W	39.07	38.76	39.47	-1.8%	ELITE
4	Wendelsohn	FG Thanksgiving Classic W	39.06	42.21	36.26	14.1%	VULNERABLE
5	Bourbon Bash	OP Commodore B135k W	39.05	40.32	39.42	2.2%	ELITE
6	Gold Sweep	Ind Alw W	39.06	40.32	37.64	6.6%	VULNERABLE

Critical MPH Insight: All six primary contenders produced between 39.05 and 39.58 mph in their best efforts — a range of just 0.53 mph. In a field this compressed on overall speed, the model's tiebreaker is deceleration. Tejano Twist (-1.8% ELITE) and Bourbon Bash (2.2% ELITE) are the only two horses who produced ELITE deceleration in their best 6-furlong efforts. Wendelsohn (14.1%) and Tough Catch (10.9%) achieve comparable overall speeds by opening faster and fading harder — a pattern the model projects to repeat under today's contested pace. The two ELITE decel horses are the model's top two selections, and the contested pace structurally serves both.





SECTION 5: IMPROVEMENT & REGRESSION CANDIDATES

Likely to Improve

- **Tejano Twist:** Second start of his current form cycle, winning last out in the direct prep. His career pattern at Oaklawn shows progressive form as the meet develops — he has been in this spot before and the model projects a horse who runs his best race when the conditions mirror 2023. The Hartman two-horse barn entry adds a tactical dimension unavailable to any other trainer in this race.
- **Bourbon Bash:** Third start of the form cycle is the primary improvement catalyst. His January Commodore win (1st start back) and February King Cotton fade (2nd start, pace duel) set up today as the projected peak effort. ELITE deceleration confirms the engine is present when not caught in a head-to-head pace battle.
- **Tough Catch:** A developing 4-year-old making his second start back at Oaklawn. The model projects natural second-start improvement for a young horse with a limited but promising resume.

Bounce / Regression Risks

- **Ryvit:** The model's most significant regression flag of the weekend. Bottom-of-chart works heading into a Grade 3 sprint is a preparation pattern the model cannot dismiss. A horse who earned his best recent figure in December and has worked poorly since projects to underperform his morning line. At 4-1, the market has not fully discounted the preparation concern.
- **Wendelsohn:** Consistently produces VULNERABLE deceleration (14.1% in his best effort) and today's pace scenario places him on the front end of a contested speed duel. The model projects him as a likely mid-race leader who surrenders in the final furlong — a pace-setting role that serves Tejano Twist.
- **Gold Sweep:** VULNERABLE 14.0% deceleration in his most recent start (same race Tejano Twist won on March 1st) projects regression when the competition elevates to Grade 3.

SECTION 6: SUGGESTED BETS





WIN BET: #4 Tejano Twist — Confidence 7/10 — Target 5-2 or better The only G3 Whitmore winner in the field, ELITE deceleration in that win, confirmed prep win at this exact track 13 days ago, and a structural pace advantage provided by his stablemate. At 5-2 the model acknowledges modest overlay but the combination of form, pace setup, and course familiarity makes him the weekend's highest-conviction selection.

VALUE PLAY: #6 Bourbon Bash — Confidence 6/10 — Target 5-1 or better ELITE deceleration, third start of form cycle, confirmed Oaklawn winner at this exact trip. At 5-1 the model projects meaningful overlay relative to his win probability — the primary beneficiary if the Wendelsohn/Tough Catch pace duel produces a clear lane for closers and stalkers.

LONGSHOT: #5 Gold Sweep — Confidence 3/10 — Target 12-1 or better Ran 3rd in Tejano Twist's prep win on March 1st — form line is directly tied to today's principals. Tactical speed that can sit a perfect trip off the contested pace. Minor award potential at the right price.

MULTI-RACE WAGERS (Late Daily Double R9-R10):

- A: Tejano Twist
- B: Bourbon Bash
- C: Tough Catch
- Combined projected probability: ~58%

SECTION 7: CONFIDENCE RATING

★★★★ (4 / 5 Stars)

High confidence in both the pace scenario and the primary selection. The contested pace is the model's clearest structural call of the weekend — four forward horses in a 6-furlong sprint at a tight oval virtually guarantees honest fractions that benefit the two ELITE decel horses. The deduction comes from the compressed overall MPH cluster — six horses within 0.53 mph means execution, trip, and tactics carry unusual weight in determining the final margin. Tejano Twist's course record, form, and tactical setup give him the model's edge.





Report Generated by PTW-CHR Model 1

Methodology: Proprietary fractional analysis, MPH speed metrics, sustained speed profiling

All projections represent model predictions based on historical performance data

Gambling is a significant risk investment. Only gamble with recreational money and money you can afford to risk and potentially lose. If you possibly have a gambling problem, you should always seek professional help

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