



**Aqueduct | Race 12 | Saturday, April 04, 2026 | Dirt 1 1/16 Miles | Fast
Purse \$750,000 | Grade 2 — Wood Memorial Stakes | 13-Horse Field | Post: 6:34
PM ET**

SECTION 1 — PACE ANALYSIS

True Front Runners

BUETANE (#11) — The Baffert invader projects as the likely lone pace force based on his early fractions in the San Vicente and Southwest stakes. The model identifies him as the single horse capable of establishing uncontested early position from outside posts. His 40.54 Q1 projection leads the field, though the note is that he has demonstrated limited ability to sustain that opening velocity at route distances. His Fountain of Youth effort saw him take the early call before flattening, and his VA Derby run showed traffic issues compressing that pace energy.

NAPOLEON SOLO (#1) — His inside draw and natural forward momentum from the Champagne make him a likely co-pace participant. He posted the field's second-highest Q1 projection at 40.18. Napoleon Solo broke awkwardly in the Fountain of Youth and was beaten wide, so his true pace profile remains somewhat uncertain — the model projects him pressuring Buetane through the opening quarter regardless of that recent blemish.

RED ZONE RUNNER (#10) — Trainer Padilla's gelding has shown early pace instincts through his four-race win at Prx. He projects in the pace mix off his :23.3 projected Q1, though this is his first graded stakes test and a track switch from his mid-Atlantic base. The model treats him as a pace participant with uncertain stamina for this company.

Stalkers / Pressers

IRON HONOR (#12) — The Chad Brown trainee ran down the early pace in both starts to date. His projected 38.96 Q1 positions him as a presser just behind the leaders. Iron Honor's structural profile — forward-tracking with late velocity — makes him ideally suited to the model's projected moderate-to-honest pace scenario.

MINORINCONVENIENCE (#6) — The NY-bred broke his maiden in slop and won the Funny Cide in the mud, but has shown a forward tendency off breaks. The model projects him as a presser in the mid-pack, with his 38.79 Q1 putting him in striking range off the pace.

OCELLI (#5) — The Connect colt has shown mid-pack tracking habits through five starts. The model slots him as a presser in the 38-mph Q1 tier, though his VA Derby effort — where he flattened in the stretch — raises questions about whether he can sustain through nine furlongs of Grade 2 company.

BRAVARO (#9) — The Joseph trainee ran in the Holy Bull and Fountain of Youth and has consistently stalked from just off the pace. His 38.79 Q1 is identical to Minorinconvenience, but crucially, his Q4 profile is in an entirely different class. The model projects him as the optimal stalker in this scenario.

ALBUS (#7) — The Riley Mott trainee stalked through a solo route win at Tampa and projects in the 37.19 Q1 range here. Like Bravaro, his closing profile dramatically exceeds his early position number.

Closers

TALK TO ME JIMMY (#2) — The local Withers winner won wire-to-wire on this track in February, so labeling him a pure closer is complicated — but his slow opening fracs (:24.1 Q1 projection) suggest he is not the tactical speed type. He projects as a deep-field stalker at best.





RIGHT TO PARTY (#3) — Closed into the Gotham pace to get third. The model projects him as a stalker-closer with a 37.19 Q1.

OTTINHO (#13) — The Brown trainee has shown a true late-kick profile through three starts. His 36.89 Q1 projection is second-lowest in the field.

STEEL (#4) — One start, maiden winner who closed from far back at Gulfstream. Lone closer profile at 35.86 Q1 — lowest in the field.

COURTING (#8) — The Pletcher trainee has not demonstrated a clearly defined running style — stalking in his maiden win, then flattening when asked to move in the Risen Star and Remsen. Projects as a mid-pack stalker.

Pace Scenario Projection

The model projects a MODERATE to HONEST early pace. Buetane and Napoleon Solo figure to fight for early position, with Red Zone Runner applying additional pressure from the middle of the pack. The projected opening half in the :46.5-:47.0 range creates a legitimate two-dimensional race: front runners and pressers will need to demonstrate sustained velocity, and the structural beneficiaries are horses with documented late-running capability from honest pace. Bravaro and Iron Honor emerge as primary beneficiaries of this scenario — Bravaro as the ELITE-rated sustainer from a stalking position, Iron Honor as the forward presser who converts honest pace into a decisive stretch move.

SECTION 2 — WIN PROBABILITY MATRIX

Horse	ML	Model Win %	Model Top-3 %	Value Rating
#12 Iron Honor	1-1	22%	68%	VALUE
#9 Bravaro	4-1	18%	58%	VALUE
#1 Napoleon Solo	2-1	16%	52%	FAIR
#11 Buetane	5-2	12%	45%	MARGINAL
#6 Minorinconvenience	6-1	9%	35%	VALUE
#7 Albus	15-1	7%	28%	VALUE
#2 Talk to Me Jimmy	5-1	5%	22%	NEGATIVE
#10 Red Zone Runner	10-1	4%	20%	NEGATIVE
#3 Right to Party	8-1	3%	18%	NEGATIVE
#8 Courting	15-1	2%	14%	NEGATIVE
#4 Steel	20-1	1%	10%	NEGATIVE
#5 Ocelli	20-1	1%	9%	NEGATIVE
#13 Otinho	12-1	0%	8%	NEGATIVE

SECTION 3 — CONTENDER ANALYSIS



#12 Iron Honor ★★★★★

Strengths:

- Undefeated in two starts, both at Aqueduct — track bias and familiarity are structural advantages
- Won the Gotham G3 in slop pressing the pace, demonstrating tactical versatility under adverse conditions
- Chad Brown operation at peak — trainer's 31-60 day record (27%) and first-off-layoff metrics support the current prep pattern
- Jockey Manny Franco riding the track at a dominant 24% clip in 2026; J/T combo here at 29% at Aqueduct
- Class appears legitimate for a horse who has only faced maiden and overnight stock — the model projects a clean class graduation

Concerns:

- Two career starts is a thin sample; the model is projecting class performance from limited data
- Gotham was on a sloppy track — fast dirt is a surface change with no confirmatory data
- Distance extension from the Gotham (1mi) to 1 1/16 miles is manageable by breeding (Nyquist x Blame) but untested

Race Shape Fit: The projected honest pace suits Iron Honor directly. He tracked and converted in the Gotham, and the model expects the same pattern here — pressing the early pace then drawing away in the final three furlongs.

Projection: The model projects Iron Honor as the most likely winner at current morning line odds of 1-1. His Q4 projection of 34.35 is the third-best in the field among active pace participants, and his Aqueduct record (2-for-2) combined with a pace scenario that plays directly to his tactical profile gives him a clear structural edge. The 1-1 morning line is at fair value — the model projects him as a 22% win probability horse against an implied ML of 50%. This is a VALUE overlay.

#9 Bravaro ★★★★★

Strengths:

- ELITE SSR — the model's single most important finding in this race. Bravaro's 1.2% deceleration from his Holy Bull run represents exceptional velocity maintenance over a route distance
- Ran second in the Holy Bull G3 and showed a clean trip in a field that included horses now pointing to the Kentucky Derby
- Blinkers on for the first time — the SA Joseph barn has a documented 25% win rate first-time blinker application, per the trainer stat line
- Stalker profile aligns with projected race shape; the model identifies him as the primary beneficiary of an honest early pace
- Four-race career with consistent form development — broke maiden, won the Sleepy Hollow B200k, then was second in the Holy Bull

Concerns:

- The Fountain of Youth showed him fifth after a bumpy start — the model treats that as a trip loss but acknowledges the regression is notable





- First-time blinkers introduce behavioral uncertainty; the model's baseline first-blink stats show a positive trainer bias but individual outcomes vary
- SA Joseph's Grade 2 trainer win rate (12%) is modest; he has moved horses successfully but the step up from the Holy Bull is meaningful

Race Shape Fit: Excellent. Bravaro profiles as a natural stalker who can convert an honest pace into a decisive late move. His ELITE SSR means his velocity does not degrade at route distances — a characteristic that is rare in this field.

Projection: The model projects Bravaro as the second-most likely winner and the primary overlay at 4-1. His ELITE sustained speed profile is the standout analytical finding in this report, and the model assigns him an 18% win probability against a 4-1 ML implied probability of 20% — a FAIR-to-VALUE position that becomes more favorable if blinkers sharpen his early focus.

#1 Napoleon Solo ★★★

Strengths:

- Won the Champagne G1 as a two-year-old at Belmont, demonstrating Group 1 class on a local track profile
- Aqueduct record: 1-for-1, winner of the 2025 Sleepy Hollow — track familiarity and surface knowledge are genuine assets
- Post 1 gives him a rail position that can save ground and allow a tactical trip from a pace-pressuring role
- Liam's Map x Atomic Blonde — Scat Daddy dam adds class; pedigree suggests the 1 1/16-mile distance is within scope

Concerns:

- The Fountain of Youth was a significant setback — awkward start, four-wide into the stretch, failed to threaten
- His VULNERABLE SSR (-15.9% deceleration) is a meaningful red flag; the model projects steep late deceleration in an honest pace scenario
- Six months off between his Champagne win and this prep season — fitness question mark through the Palm Meadows workout
- At 2-1, the ML implies 33.3% win probability; the model assigns only 16% — a clear FAIR valuation at best

Race Shape Fit: Complicated. Napoleon Solo's best profile is as an on-the-pace horse, but his VULNERABLE SSR means the projected honest early fractions will cost him late. The model projects a contested early stretch before he fades.

Projection: The model projects Napoleon Solo as the third-most likely winner at fair value. His race shape fit is compromised by his deceleration profile, and the FoY setback introduces genuine uncertainty. The model rates him as a legitimate contender based on class alone, but the 2-1 ML is not a price the model recommends.

#11 Buetane ★★★

Strengths:

- Bob Baffert operation at 32% win rate in 2026 — the trainer stat is the single strongest figure in the barn data for this field





- Highest Q1 projection in the field at 40.54 — projects to clear the early pace and control the race from the front if uncontested
- Grade 1-placed in the Hopeful as a two-year-old; demonstrated the ability to compete at the top level against elite juveniles
- Strong work pattern out of Belmont — the :1:01.4 five-furlong move on 3/29 is sharp

Concerns:

- VULNERABLE SSR at -19.3% deceleration — the worst sustained speed rating in the field; the model projects his velocity collapsing sharply in the final two furlongs
- Napoleon Solo figures to pressure him from post 1 — uncontested pace is not guaranteed
- San Vicente G2 showed him running second to a rival who has since emerged as a California leader — but the Wood Memorial is a different track, distance, and tactical challenge

Race Shape Fit: Buetane needs a soft lead to be effective. If Napoleon Solo or Red Zone Runner forces him into a contested pace, his VULNERABLE deceleration profile suggests a late-race fade.

Projection: The model projects Buetane as the fourth-most likely winner at MARGINAL value. His Baffert trainer angle and raw early speed are legitimate factors, but the model's deceleration analysis is the primary concern — he is the highest-risk front-runner in the field.

#6 Minorinconvenience ★★★

Strengths:

- Undefeated in two off-the-turf route efforts — both wins came in wet conditions, demonstrating an affinity for ground give
- Amelia Green barn at 30% win rate in 2026 — trainer is operating at elite efficiency; J/T with Josue Rodriguez at 31% at Aqueduct this year
- Second to Sculcos Folly in the Gander B135k — that effort showed class progression and suggests legitimate stakes caliber
- The Gander showed a 38.79 Q1 equivalent with strong late fractional work; the model assigns 9% win probability at 6-1 ML for a VALUE overlay

Concerns:

- Maiden win and Funny Cide win both came in slop or soft conditions — the fast Aqueduct surface is a genuine concern
- Has never faced graded stakes company; the Gander was a Belmont overnigher with a limited field
- VULNERABLE SSR (-14.7%) on a fast track introduces deceleration risk the model cannot fully quantify in wet conditions

Race Shape Fit: Moderate. If the track comes up wet or yielding, Minorinconvenience's profile improves substantially. On fast dirt, the model projects him as a factor into the turn with late deceleration risk.

Projection: The model projects Minorinconvenience as a legitimate long-shot contender and VALUE overlay at 6-1. His trainer angle and track-condition optionality make him the most interesting price in the race.



#7 Albus ★★★

Strengths:

- ELITE SSR — Albus produced the highest Q4 projection in the field at 41.67 MPH, representing accelerating closing velocity rather than deceleration
- Dominant maiden win at Tampa in February, running off a quality field that included Argent Heir
- Riley Mott barn at 15% win rate with Grade Stakes win rate of 24% — this is an operation that moves horses confidently into stakes company
- Yaupon x Adream (Bernardini) — pedigree suggests stamina and a late-run profile ideally suited to 1 1/16 miles

Concerns:

- Has never faced stakes competition; the Wood Memorial is an enormous class jump from a Tampa maiden
- The Tampa win was against modest company and the final fractions may reflect a soft field rather than genuine elite closing ability
- 15-1 ML may represent fair value for a horse the market does not yet trust to make this class leap

Race Shape Fit: Very good if he can close from off the pace. Albus projects as a deep stalker who benefits structurally from the honest early pace the model projects.

Projection: The model projects Albus as a VALUE overlay at 15-1 based on his ELITE closing profile. The concern is sample size — one start limits confidence — but his analytical profile is compelling enough to warrant inclusion in exotics as an 'A' or 'B' horse.

#2 Talk to Me Jimmy — TOSS

Projection: The local hero won the Withers wire-to-wire on this track, but the model projects his fractions as incompatible with a pace scenario that now includes significantly faster horses. His VULNERABLE SSR (-14.4%) and slow Q4 projection (31.96 MPH) suggest he will not repeat his front-running Withers performance against this pace pressure. ML implied 16.7% is significantly above the model's 5% projection — NEGATIVE value.

#3 Right to Party — TOSS

Projection: Closed into third in the Gotham in good ground, showing improvement off the McPeck bench. The model acknowledges the trainer's 2-off-45-180 day stat (15%) and the track configuration, but Right to Party's Q4 projection (33.58 MPH) and VULNERABLE SSR place him below the primary contenders. NEGATIVE value at 8-1 ML.

#4 Steel — TOSS

Projection: One maiden start, enormous class jump, untested at distance and in stakes. The Mott barn is a positive, and his ELITE SSR (based on maiden fractional data) is intriguing. However, the model cannot assign meaningful probability to a horse making this leap off a single start. NEGATIVE value at 20-1 — the overlay is not sufficient to overcome the information deficit.



#5 Ocelli — TOSS

Projection: Five career starts with one second place in maiden company. The VA Derby effort showed him fading after a mid-race bid, which is the concerning pattern the model penalizes with a VULNERABLE SSR (-14.9%). Blinkers off adds behavioral uncertainty. NEGATIVE value at 20-1.

#8 Courting — TOSS

Projection: Pletcher's blinkers-off entry showed a flash of ability winning his maiden at Aqueduct but has flatlined in stakes company — a distant sixth in the Risen Star and a non-threatening fourth in the Remsen. His VULNERABLE SSR (-16.7%) and the blinkers removal add further uncertainty. NEGATIVE value at 15-1.

#10 Red Zone Runner — TOSS

Projection: Impressive front-running score in the Cy Brother Love at Parx, but that was against state-bred competition on his home track in sloppy going. The model projects him applying early pace pressure here, which may benefit the stalking horses behind him rather than himself. NEGATIVE value at 10-1.

#13 Ottinho — TOSS

Projection: The Chad Brown trainee adds first-time blinkers, and Brown's blinker-on stat (27%) is the best in the field. However, Ottinho's Wood Memorial trip — finishing a distant third in the Withers — showed he lacks the pace or closing kick to compete at this level. His Q4 projection (31.78 MPH) is second-to-last in the field. NEGATIVE value at 12-1.

SECTION 4 — MPH ANALYSIS + SUSTAINED SPEED RATINGS

Opening Velocity Projections (Q1 — First Quarter Mile)

Horse	Q1 Proj MPH	Role
Buetane (#11)	40.54	Pace — VULNERABLE
Napoleon Solo (#1)	40.18	Co-Pace — VULNERABLE
Iron Honor (#12)	38.96	Presser — VULNERABLE
Bravaro (#9)	38.79	Stalker — ELITE
Minorinconvenience (#6)	38.79	Presser — VULNERABLE
Red Zone Runner (#10)	38.63	Pace — VULNERABLE
Ocelli (#5)	38.46	Presser — VULNERABLE
Courting (#8)	37.50	Stalker — VULNERABLE
Talk to Me Jimmy (#2)	37.34	Co-Pace — VULNERABLE





Right to Party (#3)	37.19	Stalker — VULNERABLE
Albus (#7)	37.19	Stalker — ELITE
Ottinho (#13)	36.89	Closer — VULNERABLE
Steel (#4)	35.86	Closer — ELITE

Closing Velocity Projections (Q4 — Final Quarter Mile)

Horse	Q4 Proj MPH	Decel %	Sustained Speed Rating
Albus (#7)	41.67	+12.0%	ELITE
Bravaro (#9)	39.24	-1.2%	ELITE
Iron Honor (#12)	34.35	-11.8%	VULNERABLE
Steel (#4)	34.22	-4.6%	ELITE
Napoleon Solo (#1)	33.78	-15.9%	VULNERABLE
Red Zone Runner (#10)	33.78	-12.5%	VULNERABLE
Right to Party (#3)	33.58	-9.7%	VULNERABLE
Minorinconvenience (#6)	33.09	-14.7%	VULNERABLE
Ocelli (#5)	32.73	-14.9%	VULNERABLE
Buetane (#11)	32.70	-19.3%	VULNERABLE
Talk to Me Jimmy (#2)	31.96	-14.4%	VULNERABLE
Ottinho (#13)	31.78	-13.8%	VULNERABLE
Courting (#8)	31.25	-16.7%	VULNERABLE

Critical MPH Insight

The defining analytical finding in this race is Bravaro's ELITE Sustained Speed Rating — a -1.2% deceleration figure derived from his Holy Bull G3 performance that places him in a category entirely separate from the rest of the field. While eleven of the thirteen starters project as VULNERABLE, and two others (Steel, Albus) earn ELITE ratings off thin one-start samples, Bravaro's ELITE classification comes from a legitimate Grade 3 route against a competitive Kentucky Derby-pointing field. The model's primary recommendation flows directly from this finding: in a race with projected honest early fractions, the one horse who demonstrably does not lose velocity at route distances holds a structural edge that the 4-1 morning line does not fully capture.

SECTION 5 — IMPROVEMENT & REGRESSION CANDIDATES

Likely to Improve

IRON HONOR (#12) — The model projects Iron Honor as the single most likely horse to improve from his last start. His Gotham G3 win came in a sloppy track with a pace scenario that was less structured than what the model projects here. Iron Honor's pressing style and two-for-





two record at Aqueduct on any surface suggest a fast track at 1 1/16 miles is his optimal scenario. The breeding (Nyquist x Blame) further supports the distance extension.

ALBUS (#7) — The model projects Albus as a strong improvement candidate making his first stakes start. His ELITE Q4 velocity figure from a Tampa maiden — 41.67 projected MPH — is the highest closing figure in the field. If that number translates against stakes company, it would represent a significant step forward in raw closing capacity.

Bounce / Regression Risks

NAPOLEON SOLO (#1) — The model projects Napoleon Solo as the primary regression risk in this field. His Champagne G1 victory at two years old remains the defining performance of his career, but his only 2026 start — a troubled fifth in the Fountain of Youth — produced a poor Q4 figure and VULNERABLE SSR. The model treats the awkward start as a trip factor, but the underlying fractional data shows steep deceleration (-15.9%) that projects to repeat if the pace scenario is honest.

BUETANE (#11) — The Baffert trainee carries the worst deceleration rating in the field (-19.3%). His early speed is genuine, but the model projects his late-race velocity collapse as a near-certainty if he is pressed through honest early fractions. Red Zone Runner and Napoleon Solo both figure to contest his early lead, making a wire-to-wire performance the least likely outcome from his current profile.

SECTION 6 — SUGGESTED BETS

Win Bet: #12 Iron Honor Confidence: 7.5/10

The model assigns Iron Honor a 22% win probability against a 1-1 ML implied probability of 50%. At the expected wagering odds, this represents the clearest value position in the race. Iron Honor is undefeated, is two-for-two at Aqueduct, and his pressing style maps directly to the projected pace scenario. The model identifies him as the primary win selection despite the short morning line — he is the horse the market should price at 2-1, not 1-1, and the odds will tighten further at post time.

Value Play: #9 Bravaro Confidence: 7/10

Bravaro's ELITE SSR is the most significant analytical data point in this race. His 4-1 morning line implies a 20% win probability, and the model projects 18% — a near-fair valuation that represents the best price on a structurally superior horse. If the blinkers sharpen his early focus without disrupting his stalking rhythm, the model's projection may understate his true probability. The value play is to include Bravaro as either a win-ticket backup or a strong 'A' horse in multi-race sequences.

Top 3 Multi-Race: A / B / C A — #12 Iron Honor B — #9 Bravaro C — #1 Napoleon Solo Confidence: 6.5/10

The model recommends structuring multi-race tickets with Iron Honor as the primary, Bravaro as the main secondary, and Napoleon Solo as the class-based backup. Minorinconvenience (#6) and Albus (#7) represent speculative additions to wider tickets based on their VALUE overlay ratings, particularly if the track comes up with any moisture. The model advises against using Buetane, Talk to Me Jimmy, or Courting as top-line horses in any sequence.

SECTION 7 — CONFIDENCE RATING

Overall: 6.5 / 10 ★★★★★★





The model's confidence in the pace projection is moderate-to-high — the presence of Buetane and Napoleon Solo virtually guarantees contested early fractions. The primary uncertainty is Iron Honor's ability to handle a fast surface in his first true graded stakes test after two starts in soft or wet conditions; his Gotham win came in a sloppy track, and the fast dirt at Aqueduct introduces a surface variable the model cannot fully price. The defining analytical finding — Bravaro's ELITE Sustained Speed Rating — provides a strong structural anchor for the primary recommendation, and the J/T angle on Iron Honor (Franco/Brown at 29% at Aqueduct) adds confirmation weight. The model recommends a two-horse emphasis on Iron Honor and Bravaro with Minorinconvenience as the price horse in multi-race exotics.

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.

"Methodology is proprietary and confidential. Reproduction of this analysis without authorization is prohibited."

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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