Churchill Downs

Race 5 — 11/25/2026

Class: Claiming $16,000

Distance: 7 1/2 Furlongs

Surface: Dirt

Purse: $37,000

Claiming Price: $16,000

Starters: 10

Post Time: 2:57 ET

CLAIMING. Purse $37,000 (include $4,300 KTDF - Kentucky TB Devt Fund) FOR THREE YEAR OLDS AND UPWARD WHICH HAVE NEVER WON THREE RACES OR THREE YEAR OLDS. Three Year Olds, 120 lbs.; Older, 122 lbs. Non-winners Of A Race Since October 25 Allowed 2 lbs. Claiming Price $16,000.

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COMPREHENSIVE HANDICAPPING REPORT (CHR)

Churchill Downs R5
Wednesday, November 25, 2026 | 7 1/2 Furlongs Dirt | 3YO & Up | Claiming $16,000 | Purse: $37,000

Field note: Layoff: Nineteenfourtyfive off 185 days (last raced 5/24). **Second start off a claim:** Justifreak (claimed for $30,000 on 9/20 by Paul McGee). **Trainer change:** South of Birminham returns to Gene Sandrowski after one start for Maximino Quinonez, who now trains Lou Man. **Same race 11/6 at Indiana Grand:** Lou Man 2nd, South of Birminham 4th. **Same race 11/6 here:** Justifreak 3rd, Big Rog 5th. **Same race 5/24 here:** Nineteenfourtyfive 1st, Linebacker 8th. **Class rises:** Lou Man and South of Birminham from $12,500; Thousands of Hopes and Q's Topnotch from Indiana-bred company. **Class drops:** Max Money from $30,000; Justifreak, Aerate and Big Rog from $20,000. **Shared barn:** Genaro Garcia trains Thousands of Hopes and Q's Topnotch (not coupled). Q's Topnotch carries a 5-lb. apprentice allowance.

Report Section 1: Pace Analysis

True Front Runners

Max Money (Post 1) — Led early at Belmont on 10/15 and won on the lead at Saratoga on 7/16; 3rd early on 11/14. **Justifreak** (Post 5) — Led in the stretch on 11/6; led throughout to win at Ellis Park on 8/7.

Stalkers / Pressers

Q's Topnotch (Post 10) — 3rd early on 11/9. **Big Rog** (Post 9) — pressed to win at Belterra on 8/29. **Lou Man** (Post 6) — 3rd early on 11/6.

Closers

Thousands of Hopes (Post 8) — 6th early, then won on 10/27. **Aerate** (Post 3), **South of Birminham** (Post 7) and **Linebacker** (Post 4) — 7th or 8th early in recent starts. **Nineteenfourtyfive** (Post 2) — 6th early on 5/24.

Pace Scenario Projection

MODEL PREDICTS: **MODERATE** early pace—projected :23 1/5 opening quarter, :46 2/5 half-mile. 7 1/2 furlongs falls between the 7-furlong and one-mile bands; a :46 2/5 half is MODERATE at that distance (the report labeled it HOT). **Max Money** and **Justifreak** are the speed.

Report Section 2: Win Probability Matrix

Post	Horse	ML Odds	Model Win %	Implied ML %	Edge
1	Max Money	8-5	19%	38.5%	-19.5%
2	Nineteenfourtyfive	8-1	5%	11.1%	-6.1%
3	Aerate	6-1	9%	14.3%	-5.3%





Post	Horse	ML Odds	Model Win %	Implied ML %	Edge
4	Linebacker	12-1	5%	7.7%	-2.7%
5	Justifreak	7-2	22%	22.2%	-0.2%
6	Lou Man	20-1	11%	4.8%	**+6.2%**
7	South of Birminham	30-1	8%	3.2%	**+4.8%**
8	Thousands of Hopes	9-2	16%	18.2%	-2.2%
9	Big Rog	30-1	3%	3.2%	-0.2%
10	Q's Topnotch	30-1	2%	3.2%	-1.2%
	TOTAL		**100%**	**126.4%**	

Implied ML % is the raw morning-line conversion (the report's column was scaled; it showed 8-5 as 30.4%). **FADE: Max Money, the 8-5 favorite**—38.5% implied vs 19% model, –**19.5%** (not –11.4%). Justifreak is –**0.2%**, not a +4.4% overlay. Real overlays: Lou Man **+6.2%** and South of Birminham **+4.8%**.

Report Section 3: Contender Analysis

Tier 1 — Primary Contenders (★★)

Justifreak (Post 5) — Model Win %: 22%

PTW Profile: A 5-year-old gelding, 2 for 16 (the report's "five claiming wins" is false). 3rd, beaten 8, at 9-1 in a one-mile $20,000 claimer here on 11/6 after leading in the stretch (Big Rog 5th)—his first start for Paul McGee. 8th, beaten 14 1/2, as the 4-3 favorite on 9/20, when he was claimed for $30,000. Led throughout to win a $30,000 claimer at Ellis Park by 2 as the 9-5 favorite on 8/7. Eduardo Morales rides.

Concerns: Second start off the claim (not third). At 7-2 (22.2% implied), –0.2%.

Max Money (Post 1) — Model Win %: 19% — **FADE**

PTW Profile: **The 8-5 favorite.** A 3-year-old colt, 2 for 11. 4th, beaten 3 1/4, at 3-1 in a one-mile $30,000 claimer here on 11/14. 7th, beaten 17 1/2, after leading in a New York-bred allowance at Belmont on 10/15. Won a New York-bred optional claimer at Saratoga by 3 3/4 after leading on 7/16. Drops to $16,000. Michael Maker trains; Luis Saez rides.

Concerns: Has not won in three starts since Saratoga. At 8-5 (38.5% implied), –19.5%.

Thousands of Hopes (Post 8) — Model Win %: 16%

PTW Profile: A 3-year-old gelding, 3 for 15. Won a 6-furlong Indiana-bred allowance by 1/2 at 6-1 on 10/27 after racing 6th early; 6th, beaten 7, in a state-bred turf allowance at 53-1 on 11/11. Leaves Indiana-bred company. Genaro Garcia trains.

Concerns: First try against open company in months; stretches to 7 1/2 furlongs. At 9-2 (18.2% implied), –2.2%.





Tier 2 — Secondary Contenders (★)

Lou Man (Post 6) — Model Win %: 11%

PTW Profile: A 4-year-old gelding, 2 for 12. 2nd by 1/2 at 16-1 in a 6-furlong $12,500 claimer at Indiana Grand on 11/6 (South of Birminham 4th); 2nd by 2 1/4 at Fairmount on 10/17. Claimed for $4,000 on 8/22. Maximino Quinonez trains.

Concerns: Moves **up** from $12,500 (the report called it class relief) and stretches out. At 20-1 (4.8% implied), **+6.2%**.

South of Birminham (Post 7) — Model Win %: 8%

PTW Profile: A 5-year-old gelding, 2 for 21. 4th by 4 1/4 at 66-1 in the 11/6 Indiana Grand race; 2nd by 11 at Fairmount on 10/13; won a $10,000 claimer at Fairmount by 6 on 8/29. Back with Gene Sandrowski after one start for Quinonez.

Concerns: Moves up from $12,500. At 30-1 (3.2% implied), **+4.8%**.

Aerate (6-1) — 2 for 23. 5th, beaten 10, at 10-1 in a $20,000 claimer at Keeneland on 10/21 (not $16,500); 4th by 6 1/4 here on 9/17. –5.3%. **Nineteenfourtyfive** (8-1) — **Off 185 days**; won a $20,000 claimer here by 1/2 at 35-1 on 5/24. The report's "recent $6,500 effort" does not exist. –6.1%. **Linebacker** (12-1) — 4th by 8 1/4 in a 6-furlong $16,000 claimer here on 11/13; won a $7,500 claimer at Indiana Grand on 10/14. –2.7%. **Big Rog** (30-1) — 5th by 13 at 45-1 on 11/6; won a $7,500 claimer at Belterra on 8/29. –0.2%. **Q's Topnotch** (30-1) — 2nd by 7 as the 9-10 favorite in a $15,000 Indiana-bred claimer on 11/9; came out of Indiana-bred stakes, not graded stakes. –1.2%.

Workout, trainer-ROI and jockey-percentage claims removed throughout.

Report Section 4: MPH Analysis + Sustained Speed Ratings

PTW Proprietary Speed Rankings

Horse	Opening Speed	Sustained Speed	Deceleration Profile
Justifreak	ELITE	STRONG	Moderate — led, 3rd by 8 on 11/6
Max Money	ELITE	VULNERABLE	High — 4th by 3 1/4 on 11/14
Thousands of Hopes	STRONG	STRONG	Moderate — won by 1/2 on 10/27
Lou Man	STRONG	ELITE	Low — 2nd by 1/2 on 11/6
South of Birminham	VULNERABLE	ELITE	Low — 4th by 4 1/4 on 11/6
Aerate	VULNERABLE	STRONG	Moderate — 5th by 10 on 10/21
Linebacker	STRONG	VULNERABLE	High — 4th by 8 1/4 on 11/13
Nineteenfourtyfive	STRONG	STRONG	Moderate — won by 1/2 on 5/24





Horse	Opening Speed	Sustained Speed	Deceleration Profile
Big Rog	VULNERABLE	VULNERABLE	High — 5th by 13 on 11/6
Q's Topnotch	STRONG	VULNERABLE	High — 2nd by 7 on 11/9

Critical MPH Insight

Max Money and **Justifreak** carry the early speed. **Lou Man** and **South of Birminham** have the best sustained profiles. Big Rog's invalid "MODERATE" rating replaced; South of Birminham and Aerate are closers (openings changed).

Report Section 5: Improvement & Regression Candidates

Likely to Improve

Justifreak — Second start off the claim; drops to $16,000.

Lou Man — Two straight 2nd-place finishes.

Bounce / Regression Risks

Max Money — Winless since Saratoga; overbet at 8-5.

Nineteenfourtyfive — Off 185 days.

Thousands of Hopes — Leaves state-bred company.

Report Section 6: Suggested Bets

WIN BET: JUSTIFREAK — Confidence 2/10 — Target odds: 4-1 or better

Model projects 22% at 7-2 (22.2% implied): –0.2%, the highest model win % in the field. Needs slightly better than his morning line.

VALUE PLAY: None. No overlay under 10-1.

LONGSHOT PLAY: LOU MAN — Confidence 2/10 — Target odds: 9-1 or better

Model projects 11% at 20-1 (4.8% implied): +6.2%, the largest overlay (South of Birminham +4.8%). The report listed him as the Value Play.

SECOND PLAY: THOUSANDS OF HOPES — Confidence 2/10 — Target odds: 11-2 or better

Model projects 16% at 9-2 (18.2% implied): –2.2%. Next model horse after the fade, Max Money.

Multi-Race Sequences: Pick 3 / Pick 4 / Pick 5 / Pick 6 — Top 3

A: Justifreak — 22%
B: Thousands of Hopes — 16%
C: Lou Man — 11% (replaces the fade, Max Money)





Combined Projected Probability: 49%

Report Section 7: Confidence Rating

★ (1 of 5 stars)

A wide-open $16,000 claimer. **Justifreak** tops the model but only at a fair price. **Max Money** is badly overbet at 8-5. **Lou Man** and **South of Birminham**, out of the same Indiana Grand race, are the overlays.

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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.

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