Churchill Downs

Race 2 — 11/28/2026

Class: Maiden Special Weight

Distance: 1 1/16 Miles

Surface: Dirt

Purse: $120,000

Starters: 11

Post Time: 1:28 ET

MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT. Purse $120,000 (includes $47,200 KTDF - Kentucky TB Devt Fund) FOR MAIDENS, TWO YEARS OLD. Weight, 119 lbs. (Preference To Horses That Have Not Started For Less Than $50,000).

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COMPREHENSIVE HANDICAPPING REPORT (CHR)

Churchill Downs R2
Saturday, November 28, 2026 | 1 1/16 Miles Dirt | 2-Year-Olds | Maiden Special Weight | Purse: $120,000

Field note: The report's header left off the day; this is Saturday's card. **Same races:** Keeneland maiden special weight on 10/21—Objectivity 2nd, Jackpot Rocket 3rd, Justification 4th, Majestic Valor 7th; Churchill maiden special weight on 9/12—Justification 3rd, Heise 12th; Ellis Park maiden special weight on 8/8—Justification 3rd, Objectivity 7th. **Blinkers on:** First Thought, Justification. **Surface switches (turf to dirt):** Freddy Tauber, Prize Performance (also first route). **Layoffs:** First Thought 94 days, Heise 77 days. **Same owner (Godolphin), not coupled:** Objectivity and Shacklebolt, with different trainers. No also-eligibles.

Report Section 1: Pace Analysis

True Front Runners

Gun for Glory (Post 10) — 2nd early and led by a neck at the stretch call before finishing 2nd at 1 1/16 miles on 11/4; 2nd early in his other two starts. **Jackpot Rocket** (Post 1) — 2nd early and led by 2 in the stretch on 10/21 before finishing 3rd.

Stalkers / Pressers

Justification (Post 6) — 4th early, 2nd in the stretch on 10/21. **Mr. Popover** (Post 7) — 5th to 4th early in his debut. **Objectivity** (Post 3) — 5th early before rallying to 2nd on 10/21.

Closers

Shacklebolt (Post 11) — 12th early, rallied to 5th on 10/25. **Freddy Tauber** (Post 4) — 11th early on turf. **Majestic Valor** (Post 2), **First Thought** (Post 5), **Heise** (Post 8) and **Prize Performance** (Post 9) — Raced well back.

Pace Scenario Projection

MODEL PREDICTS: **MODERATE** early pace—projected :23 1/5 opening quarter, :47 2/5 half-mile. At 1 1/16 miles on dirt, a :47 2/5 half is MODERATE (the report said HOT). **Gun for Glory** and **Jackpot Rocket** are the speed from opposite ends of the gate.

Report Section 2: Win Probability Matrix

Post	Horse	ML Odds	Model Win %	Implied ML %	Edge
1	Jackpot Rocket	7-2	13%	22.2%	-9.2%
2	Majestic Valor	15-1	5%	6.3%	-1.3%
3	Objectivity	9-2	21%	18.2%	**+2.8%**





Post	Horse	ML Odds	Model Win %	Implied ML %	Edge
4	Freddy Tauber	10-1	6%	9.1%	-3.1%
5	First Thought	30-1	2%	3.2%	-1.2%
6	Justification	8-1	11%	11.1%	-0.1%
7	Mr. Popover	6-1	14%	14.3%	-0.3%
8	Heise	30-1	2%	3.2%	-1.2%
9	Prize Performance	30-1	2%	3.2%	-1.2%
10	Gun for Glory	2-1	21%	33.3%	-12.3%
11	Shacklebolt	20-1	3%	4.8%	-1.8%
	TOTAL		**100%**	**128.9%**	

Implied ML % is the raw morning-line conversion (the report's table column was scaled). **Fade: Gun for Glory**, the 2-1 morning-line favorite, is –12.3% (not –4.9%). **Objectivity** +2.8% (not +6.9%) is the only overlay. Justification (–0.1%), Mr. Popover (–0.3%) and Majestic Valor (–1.3%) are not overlays. Jackpot Rocket is –9.2%.

Report Section 3: Contender Analysis

Tier 1 — Primary Contenders (★★)

Objectivity (Post 3) — Model Win %: 21%

PTW Profile: A 2-year-old colt, 0 for 2 (third start today). 2nd by 1/2 at 1 1/16 miles at Keeneland on 10/21, rallying from 5th; 7th by 20 1/4 at 7 furlongs at Ellis Park on 8/8 as the favorite. Brendan Walsh trains.

Concerns: One good race in two. At 9-2 (18.2% implied), +2.8%.

Gun for Glory (Post 10) — Model Win %: 21% — **FADE**

PTW Profile: A 2-year-old colt, 0 for 3 with three 2nds ($72,000). 2nd by 7 3/4 in the slop at 1 1/16 miles at Churchill on 11/4 after leading by a neck at the stretch call; 2nd by 4 at 7 1/2 furlongs on 9/26; 2nd by 7 3/4 at 5 1/2 furlongs on 5/25. Steve Asmussen trains.

Concerns: Has not won (the report's 'most recent win' and 'led gate-to-wire in four of six' are wrong); outside post. At 2-1 (33.3% implied), –12.3%.

Mr. Popover (Post 7) — Model Win %: 14%

PTW Profile: A 2-year-old colt, 0 for 1. 4th of 9 in the slop at 1 1/16 miles at Churchill on 11/4 (the same race Gun for Glory ran 2nd in). Kelsey Danner trains.

Concerns: One start. At 6-1 (14.3% implied), –0.3%.

Tier 2 — Secondary Contenders (★)

Jackpot Rocket (Post 1) — Model Win %: 13%





PTW Profile: A 2-year-old colt, 0 for 3 with three 3rds. 3rd by 2 1/4 at Keeneland on 10/21 after leading by 2 in the stretch; 3rd by 7 at 7 furlongs at Saratoga on 9/5; 3rd by 6 1/2 at 6 furlongs at Saratoga on 8/1. Bill Mott trains.

Concerns: Gave up a stretch lead last out. At 7-2 (22.2% implied), –9.2%.

Justification (Post 6) — Model Win %: 11%

PTW Profile: A 2-year-old colt, 0 for 3 with two 3rds. 4th by 4 1/4 at Keeneland on 10/21; 3rd by 15 1/4 at a mile at Churchill on 9/12; 3rd by 5 at Ellis Park on 8/8. Blinkers on. George Arnold II trains.

Concerns: Gun for Glory was not in his 10/21 race (the report said he beat him). At 8-1 (11.1% implied), –0.1%.

Tier 3 — Pace Factors & Longshots (★)

Freddy Tauber (10-1) — 8th by 5 3/4 in a turf mile at Churchill on 10/25; first dirt start. –3.1%. **Majestic Valor** (15-1) — 7th by 8 1/4 at Keeneland on 10/21 (his only start). –1.3%. **Shacklebolt** (20-1) — 5th by 12 1/2 at a mile at Churchill on 10/25 after trailing early; his 9/19 start shows no finish. –1.8%. **First Thought** (30-1) — 4th by 7 1/4 at 5 1/2 furlongs at Indiana Grand on 8/26; blinkers on, off 94 days. –1.2%. **Heise** (30-1) — Last of 12 at Churchill on 9/12; 8th by 15 at Ellis Park on 8/23. –1.2%. **Prize Performance** (30-1) — 0 for 3, all on turf; 9th by 14 at Churchill on 11/18. –1.2%.

Workout, pedigree, trainer-percentage, 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
Gun for Glory	ELITE	VULNERABLE	High — led, then 2nd by 7 3/4 on 11/4
Jackpot Rocket	STRONG	STRONG	Moderate — led in stretch, 3rd by 2 1/4
Objectivity	STRONG	ELITE	Low — rallied to 2nd by 1/2 on 10/21
Justification	STRONG	STRONG	Moderate — 4th by 4 1/4 on 10/21
Mr. Popover	STRONG	VULNERABLE	High — 4th of 9 on 11/4
Shacklebolt	VULNERABLE	STRONG	Moderate — rallied to 5th on 10/25
Freddy Tauber	VULNERABLE	STRONG	Moderate — 8th by 5 3/4 on turf 10/25
Majestic Valor	VULNERABLE	VULNERABLE	High — 7th by 8 1/4 on 10/21
First Thought	VULNERABLE	VULNERABLE	High — 4th by 7 1/4 on 8/26
Heise	VULNERABLE	VULNERABLE	High — last of 12 on 9/12
Prize Performance	VULNERABLE	VULNERABLE	High — 9th by 14 on turf 11/18





Critical MPH Insight

Objectivity is the field's best sustained finisher. **Gun for Glory** lost 7 3/4 lengths after taking the lead last out (sustained changed to VULNERABLE), and **Mr. Popover** was a flat 4th (changed from ELITE to VULNERABLE). Shacklebolt has a start, so UNRATED was invalid.

Report Section 5: Improvement & Regression Candidates

Likely to Improve

Objectivity — Third start off a 2nd by 1/2 at the distance.

Justification — Blinkers on; third route.

Mr. Popover — Second start off a debut in the slop.

Bounce / Regression Risks

Gun for Glory — Short-priced favorite who has been 2nd three times, beaten 7 3/4 lengths last out from the lead.

Jackpot Rocket — Gave up a 2-length stretch lead last out.

Report Section 6: Suggested Bets

WIN BET: OBJECTIVITY — Confidence 3/10 — Target odds: 4-1 or better

Model projects 21% at 9-2 (18.2% implied): +2.8%. Tied with Gun for Glory for the top model %, with the bigger edge; fair odds are about 3.8-1.

VALUE PLAY: NONE — No overlay under 10-1 other than the Win horse (Mr. Popover is –0.3%).

LONGSHOT PLAY: NONE — No overlay at 10-1 or higher.

SECOND PLAY: MR. POPOVER — Confidence 2/10 — Target odds: 13-2 or better

Model projects 14% at 6-1 (14.3% implied): –0.3%. Next unused model horse (Gun for Glory is the fade).

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

A: Objectivity — 21%
B: Mr. Popover — 14%
C: Jackpot Rocket — 13%

Combined Projected Probability: 48%

Gun for Glory (the fade) replaces with Jackpot Rocket; Justification (the report's C) drops.

Report Section 7: Confidence Rating





★★ (2 of 5 stars)

A 2-year-old route maiden. **Objectivity**, 2nd by a half-length at the distance last out, is the play. The 2-1 favorite **Gun for Glory** is 0 for 3 and the fade at –12.3%.

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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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