



Dark Star Winner Dark Star, H. Moreno up, wins the 79th Kentucky Derby at Louisville. Native Dancer, the favorite, is second. Invigorator is third. (UP Telephoto)

'Experts' Still Say Best Horse Didn't Win Derby

By LEO M. PETERSEN
Louisville, Ky. (AP) — Will Native Dancer gain revenge for his upset defeat in the Kentucky Derby by spoiling Dark Star's bid for the turf's triple crown?

Veteran horsemen, just recovering from the surprise of Dark Star's 25 to 1 triumph in Saturday's run for the Roses at Churchill Downs, were busily debating that big post-Derby question today as both Star colts were readied for shipment to Belmont Park.

Many of the hardboots very frankly said they thought the best horse didn't win the Derby—even the official chart of the race declared the second place Native Dancer "probably was the best" in the field.

And these were stoutly arguing Al Vanderbilt's big gray colt will wreak revenge on Dark Star when the two clash on May 23 in the second "jewel" of the triple crown, the \$100,000 added Preakness Stakes at Pimlico.

On the other hand, Dark Star's new legion of fans pointed out that the Preakness is a sixteenth-of-a-mile shorter than the Derby, and they argue that if Native Dancer couldn't over-

haul Dark Star in the Derby, he'll never do it in a shorter race.

Jockey Henri Moreno was reaping a major share of the praise from the hardboots for his winning ride on Dark Star. The over-looked rider got his speedy horse off in front and rated him along at the head of the pack perfectly to clock 2:02, only three-fifths of a second off the Derby record.

Movie Ride
"He couldn't have ridden a better race if I had given him a blueprint," said Hayward.

There's no argument at all that Native Dancer had what one trainer called a "rough trip" in the Derby, he was jostled by Money Broker on the first turn and then somewhat boxed in.

"My horse got sloughed on the first turn," said bitterly disappointed jockey Eric Guerin. "And, besides, he didn't seem to like the track."

Some Native Dancer fans were blaming Guerin for not keeping his previously unbeaten steed out of trouble. They said that he should have kept Native Dancer clear and that, by failing to do so, he cost the favorite at least four lengths.

But Vanderbilt and trainer Bill Winfrey emphasized that they have "no complaints" about Guerin's ride, and they generously overlooked Native Dancer's bad racing luck with the joint comment that they have "no alibis" for his defeat.

Both Winfrey and Ed Hayward, trainer of Dark Star, disclosed that their horses came out of the Derby in "perfect condition" — Winfrey denied that the Dancer had developed ankle trouble. Winfrey said Native Dancer probably will make his next start in the rich Withers Stakes at Belmont, May 16, but Hayward indicated the Derby champion probably would not run again until the following week's Preakness.

"Jewel," the \$100,000 Belmont Stakes, is another three weeks after the Preakness, on June 13. That race is a mile and a half, a quarter-mile longer than the Derby.

Tony Ross Seeks Shot at Another World Champion

Salem's own Tony Ross, who wrestled world's heavyweight champion Lou Thesz a few months ago, would like to get a shot at world's junior heavyweight champion Danny McShain, too.

All that stands between Ross and a match with McShain is tomorrow night's one-night wrestling tournament at the Salem armory.

Ross and seven other wrestlers will compete in the single-elimination tourney, with the winner to enter the ring against McShain the following week.

Wrestlers entered in tomorrow's tournament will draw for positions just before the start of the tournament.

Kahut's Manager Files Protest Over Decision

Edmonton (AP)—A disputed 16-round split decision awarded Karl Walls, Canadian heavyweight champ from Edmonton, over Portland's Joe Kahut here Friday night was being reviewed by the Edmonton boxing commission Monday.

Tony Carulli, Kahut's Manager, filed a protest with the Commission Saturday. Carulli charged that one judge was coaching and cheering Walls while scoring the match.

The judge in question, whose name was not revealed, scored it eight rounds for Walls, two even and none

for Kahut. The other judge saw it five, four and one and the referee had it four rounds for each fighter and two even. Carulli wanted the commission to rule the bout a "no decision" match.

Rain Halts Auto Racing

Rain forced postponement of the opening auto racing program at Hollywood Bowl Saturday night.

Several roadsters showed up at the track in hopes of racing, but Jupiter Pluvius failed to let up, and the cars were forced to go home without having even gotten off their trailers. Another auto racing program is being lined up for next Saturday.

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