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KENTUCKY DERBY LOSING JOCKEY/TRAINER QUOTES

JOCKEYS

JOSE LEZCANO (Ice Box, second): “The horse didn’t break that good and had to check a little at the break. At the half-mile pole, he started running, but I didn’t want to go wide in a 20-horse field. I had to check at the quarter-pole, but he came again and made a big run.”

KENT DESORMEAUX (Paddy O’Prado, third): “I got stopped cold at the quarter-pole. If I got through, I would have won. He stumbled real bad here at the sixteenth pole. He must have stepped in a hole. My horse, he ran his heart out. He just didn’t have the luck.”

JOEL ROSARIO (Make Music for Me, fourth): “I had a good trip. My horse just broke OK, and the other horse broke a little faster. He’s such an easy horse to ride. I wanted to make sure he was clear when he made his run. He ran a good race, maybe it will help him the next time.”

WILLIE MARTINEZ (Noble’s Promise, fifth): “I was comfortable and moving nicely. The 10 horse (Paddy O’Prado) kind of stopped in front of me, then I gained the lead and he responded nicely for me. The rest was all (Calvin) Borel. He had the horse. Obviously distance is going to be the question with this horse. He’ll be a top 3-year-old and I’m sure (trainer) Kenny (McPeck) will spot him around correctly.”

GARRETT GOMEZ (Lookin At Lucky, sixth): “I thought something went amiss with him because he just stuck them in the ground. (The horse propped following a bumping incident along the rail.) When he stuck them in the ground, I sat down on him and I didn’t know what was going on. By then, I started to figure out what he was doing. By then I knew I was in trouble. You can’t do that. You can’t give up that ground.

“I felt like if I could have stayed where I was, in behind Willie (Martinez, on Noble’s Promise), I would have been in OK shape. But even then, he picked up the horses, but not real willingly. I was having trouble even picking them up going into the far turn. I didn’t expect that. I figured that if I got shuffled back where I was he would start to pick them up. He wasn’t helping me a whole lot. Then all of a sudden I picked most of the field up and I started splitting horses. He started putting in an OK run. I thought if I can eyeball something he’ll come home. When we turned for home, at about the eighth pole, he flattened out.

“There are a bunch of variables: the one post, the mud, he’s never had this much stuff in his face, a mile and a quarter. There’s all kinds of stuff. There were too many things going on today. I got bumped two or three times. That’s what I worried about going in. He wasn’t real willing to help me the first sixteenth of mile and take some of it. After the first one, he wasn’t willing to take too much.”

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TERRY THOMPSON (Dublin, seventh): “We broke out of the gate and were able to slide over. When we hit the first turn, we were in position just about three off the fence. I got around the turn clean, started picking our path up the backside. I got through. Going into the far turn, we started closing some ground and at the head of the lane we got pushed out just a tad right there. Other than that – for 20 horses in the slop – we had a dream trip. At the head of the lane we got pushed out. We ran up to fourth and got a little excited and down the lane he didn’t quite have it today. All in all, it was a good, clean trip.”

ALAN GARCIA (Stately Victor, eighth): “My horse didn’t seem to like the track. He had a good trip.”

RAJIV MARAGH (Mission Impazible, ninth): “There was a little bit of jostling early but in this kind of field a lot of us had to go through that. Other than that, I was pretty much where I wanted to be throughout the race. My horse made his move; he just could not sustain it from the three-eighths pole home.”

JOHN VELAZQUEZ (Devil May Care, 10th): “I had a picture-perfect trip. I couldn’t have asked for better. At the three-eighths (pole) I asked her and she came up empty. It just wasn’t there.”

DAVID FLORES (American Lion, 11th): “I had a great trip. No excuse. The horse didn’t like the track. It looked like the surface got slower and sticky for my horse. My horse has big feet and he was having to struggle to get through the track. I tried to look for the best spot, but when the horse doesn’t like it, there is nothing you can do. The horse broke very well and got into position. He got into the bit pretty comfortably but right away on the backside I could feel it. When he spit the bit on the backside it was not comfortable, I knew I was in trouble.”

MIKE SMITH (Jackson Bend, 12th): “The only time I had a little trouble was when Sidney’s Candy stopped. I had to jump around him to the outside and the filly (Devil May Care) had to jump to the inside. Other than that, it just seemed a little far for him, in the mud anyway.”

JAVIER CASTELLANO (Discreetly Mine, 13th): “Turning for home, he started to get tired. When I asked him for run, he started to spin his wheels a little bit. My horse just didn’t handle the sloppy track.”

ROBBY ALBARADO (Dean’s Kitten, 14th): “I had a great trip, just couldn’t match strides with them, you know?”

MARTIN GARCIA (Conveyance, 15th): “I have never ridden a good horse like him. He’s so fast. I just let him do whatever he wanted to. He took the lead easily but I don’t know what happened. He ran a good race but he was facing the best horses in the country.”

RAMON DOMINGUEZ (Homeboykris, 16th): “Unfortunately I just had to settle for a wide trip the whole race because my post position was tough. My horse got tired the last half of a mile. If I had to guess as far as the track, he didn’t like the track since he was spinning his wheels the whole way.”

JOE TALAMO (Sidney’s Candy, 17th): “Oh, man, we were in the right spot; just where I wanted to be. But when it came time, he couldn’t do it. It just wasn’t his day.”

RAFAEL BEJARANO (Line of David, 18th): “He didn’t like the track, but he was trying. When we went into the far turn, he started to tire. Then he got really tired.”

JULIEN LEPAROUX (Awesome Act, 19th): “I was where I wanted to be and he was relaxed. He just didn’t fire. That’s it.”

MIGUEL MENA (Backtalk, 20th): “I had a great trip and everything went good. Good break, no problems at all. My horse is a really nice horse, a very good horse, but I don’t think he wanted to go this distance. He made it all the way to the Derby and proved he’s a great horse.”

TRAINERS

NICK ZITO (Ice Box (second), Jackson Bend (12th)): “I couldn’t get lucky enough to beat Calvin (Borel), but my horse (Ice Box) did get me second. He ran a great race. I have to be happy with the way he ran today. He put in a great run.

“Jackson Bend had a little problem, but he ran OK.”

DALE ROMANS (Paddy O’Prado, third): “He ran so big for us. I thought we were going to win. I’m very proud of him, he ran just super. You couldn’t ask any more from the horse.”

ALEXIS BARBA (Make Music for Me, fourth): “I’m quite happy with him. He had me a little worried he was so far back, but I saw him making up ground on the backstretch, even though it’s so hard to see the race. I’m delighted with his effort. We’ll sit down with the owner tonight and talk about the Preakness.”

KEN McPEEK (Noble’s Promise, fifth): “We talked a lot about waiting with this horse and not passing horses until the eighth-pole. Willie (Martinez) said he felt he was cruising, so he let him take the lead at the quarter-pole. We passed the 10 horse (Paddy O’Prado) and then he came back and passed us, so maybe we just need to admit he’s a miler. But a darned good one.”

BOB BAFFERT (Lookin At Lucky (sixth), Conveyance (15th)): “I lost all chance at the post position draw when I drew the 1 (post with Lookin At Lucky). Since then I haven’t been able to really enjoy. Everything had been going so smooth and great and then boom, right in the 1 hole. I had a bad feeling about it.

“‘Lucky,’ I quit watching him after the first bump. He was done. I wish (Garrett Gomez) would have pulled him up. That’s horse racing. You have good luck and bad luck and I’ve been lucky to win this race and other guys have had bad luck.

“The other horse (Conveyance) is a good horse but I was just hoping Sidney’s Candy would leave us alone but he just kept pressing us. They were going too fast.”

(On if he will go on to the Preakness): “I don’t know. I am going to look at them over the next couple of days and think about it. I am not going to make any promises over the next few days.”

(On Calvin Borel): “He is fearless. He rides with so much confidence and he knows what he is going to do. He just gets on top of that rail but he needs a good horse.”

D. WAYNE LUKAS (Dublin, seventh): “We had a shot at it. We were up to third or fourth at the top of the stretch. We probably had to use him a lot more in the mud than we’d like to to get there. I think we were closer to 13th or 14th over on the kitchen side over there. He flattened out a little on us.”

MIKE MAKER (Stately Victor (eighth), Dean’s Kitten (14th)): “It looked like Stately Victor got stuck down on the inside, which I wasn’t happy with but there’s nothing you could do. Looked like he had a clear run and had every chance and then turning for home he just didn’t have it.” *What might be next?* “Maybe the Belmont for Stately Victor.”

“It didn’t look like there were any excuses for Dean’s Kitten. We were just outrun.” *What might be next?* “The first thought that comes is maybe Colonial Downs, maybe Arlington.”

EOIN HARTY (American Lion, 11th): “The race went fantastic up until the last part of it. I thought David (Flores) gave him a pretty ride. He did everything I told him to do. I told him to just come away from there and try to stay out of trouble, which is what he did. He got him to the outside and kept him in the clear. He was in a great spot the whole way. I had Super Saver down on the inside of me and when push came to shove, he just wasn’t good enough.

Surface: “That’s what David said, that he was never really travelling well on it, that it was very sticky for him. You know what? There were 20 of them in the race and everyone of them had to run on the same surface.”

Hats off to the winner: He (Super Saver) ran a fantastic race. There were some other horses in the race that were very unlucky. Ice Box was very unlucky. (Bob) Baffert’s horse was very unlucky. In the Derby you have to have a good horse and you also have to be lucky.”

RICK DUTROW (Homeboykris, 16th): Ramon (Dominguez) said that he just didn’t care for the track too much. He came out of the race OK but he just didn’t seem comfortable out there. We will look for either a seven-eighths race or maybe a turf race for him back at Belmont.”

JOHN SADLER (Sidney’s Candy (17th), Line of David (18th): “He (Sidney’s Candy) just wouldn’t relax. The pace was fast and he wouldn’t relax off that horse (leader Conveyance). He used up all his energy.

“Line of David was caught up in a bad place. He was down on the inside and he didn’t like all the mud hitting him in the face. He didn’t like it at all.

“Not good overall; just not our day.”

JEREMY NOSEDA (Awesome Act, 19th): “I had a hard time seeing the race, so I don’t know what happened. He certainly didn’t run his race.”

TOM AMOSS (Backtalk, 20th): “We had a clean trip. He just, I don’t know, he can’t go that far. No excuses. Just outrun.”

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