

## Kentucky Burgoo. Post-Derby musings

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### WHAT HAPPENED?

Here's a picture of [Friesan Fire](#) and Larry Jones. It's a good souvenir to keep with your box of losing tickets.

Unfortunately, we didn't see the real Friesan Fire yesterday. He was injured at the start. Here's the Daily Racing Form story this morning:

*Friesan Fire was severely compromised by getting stepped on coming out of the gate. Friesan Fire came back to the unsaddling area with blood emanating from his left front foot. He had part of his left front foot ripped off, known as grabbing a quarter. "He got hit real bad leaving the gate," Jones said as he walked back to the barn. "He's bleeding. If you see blood on the track, it's his."*

This is not a career threatening injury, but he will lose some training while the hoof grows back, making it unlikely that he starts in the Preakness. The young jockey did the right thing by not pressing him.

On the wagering front, my live long shot, Musket Man, finished third, returning a 500% profit for anyone who bet him to show.

### HOW ABOUT THOSE COWBOYS?

The charm of racing is that the little guy still has a chance. He will never own an NFL team, but for \$9,500 the average Joe can still buy a horse that wins the Derby.

That was the cost for Mine That Bird, when he was just a crooked little yearling that no one wanted. He ran in Canada as a two year old, and actually became the two year of the year up there. His current owners, a rancher and a doctor, bought him for \$400,000 and gave him to Chip Wooley to train, whom I never heard of until yesterday. The guy has only had one winner all year, for Pete's sake. That is a horrible record, but it may mean he just didn't have the connections to get the right horses. He will get them now.

Wooley has the same appeal as Larry Jones, the trainer of Friesan Fire. Wooley speaks with a twang and knows how to ride. In fact, he was a bareback rider in rodeos, and was on crutches yesterday after breaking a leg on a motorcycle. Whether Mine That Bird goes on to further glory is anyone's guess. I'll be cheering for him, and the sport where the little guy still has a chance.

## A BRIGHT SPOT

Nephew Rodrigo Ubillo (from Chile) continues to win on the tough NY circuit. Yesterday at Belmont Park, Temore won his first race for Rodrigo at odds of 5:1 and got the winner's share of a \$41,000 purse.

Rodrigo is married to niece Jane (McMahon) and is a hard working young trainer. He's another one who trains from the saddle, rather than an armchair. Out of 58 starts, he now has 13 winners, an impressive 22% record.

He has entered Es Mia in the 10<sup>th</sup> race today, but may not get in unless another horse scratches from the full field.