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**PRESS RELEASE - AJAX DOWNS**

**'Spy' Sizzles in Distance Series Stakes; 3 wins for Pontypool's Pascoe**



***SPY FOR THE SENATE rolls by to win the \$21,600 QROOI Distance Series Stakes, Leg 1, July 8. New Image Media Photo***

**AJAX DOWNS, WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 2020** - Ajax Downs' 2019 leading trainer **JASON PASCOE** of Pontypool, ON held a hot hand for the first leg of the Quarter Racing Owners of Ontario's Distances Series Stakes on a steamy July 8.

His two trainees in the 350-yard dash, both owned by Milena Kwiecien of Burlington, included heavily favoured Maryland Magic, coming off a narrow loss to Horse of the Year Had to be Ivory a week ago in the Picov Maturity.



But it was stablemate **SPY FOR THE SENATE** who flew past with jockey Ed Walton for a half-length win at 5 to 2 odds. The grey mare Not Whistlin Dixie, owned, trained and bred by Amanda McCormack of Cavan was second with Maryland Magic a length back in third. The time of :17.352 was good for a hefty 95 speed index for the 4-year-old colt.

Spy for the Senate, affectionately known as 'Griff', was coming off a fourth-place finish behind Had to Be Ivory and his stablemate in the last week's Maturity. The well traveled Oklahoma-bred was winning for the first time since August 2019 and his record now stands at 5 wins from 23 starts and over \$108,000.

Pascoe was on fire Wednesday, saddling three winners on the fifth day of the Ajax Downs' 2020 season. He sent out Ec Greys Anatomy to win an allowance race for owner **Anna Rosiak**, who happens to be the sister of Kwiecien.

'Greys Anatomy' is Rosiak's first horse.

Pascoe's third winner was One Kool Dynasty, a promising Ontario-bred filly who won race 9 for owner Belinda Taggart. One Kool Dynasty was one of two winning rides for jockey 'Hurricane' Helen Vanek.

Racing continues at Ajax Downs **Wednesday July 15** with a first race post time of 12:55 p.m. Fans are not yet permitted at the track due to the COVID-19 pandemic but fans have been enthusiastically wagering through <http://www.hpibet.com>, and live streaming on <http://www.ajaxdowns.com>.

\*Keep up to date on news and **how to own a share of a Quarter Horse** through the QROOI website, <http://www.grooi.com>, and follow Ajax Downs on Twitter and Instagram @AjaxDowns.