



PRESS RELEASE - AJAX DOWNS

Young Trainer Lauren Spada Looking to Keep the Magic Going



LAUREN SPADA is one of the youngest racehorse trainers in Canada. The 20-year-old has horses in three races at Ajax Downs on Wednesday, Aug 31 including Magic Flare (above) - Milena Kwiecien photo

AJAX DOWNS, AUGUST 30, 2022 - There will be two afternoons of Quarter Horse racing at Ajax Downs this week as we move into September. On Wednesday, August 31 there are six competitive races scheduled including a very competitive field of 3 and 4-year-olds in race 5.

Among the contenders in the 330-yard sprint that offers an \$11,000 purse is **MAGIC FLARE, who was the first starter, and first winner for her 20-year-old trainer LAUREN SPADA.** Magic Flare, an Ontario bred, won an allowance race on Aug. 10 by a length under jockey Helen Vanek for Spada, one of the country's youngest racehorses trainers. Spada, a third-generation horsewoman, took over the stable of horses trained by her father Craig, who owns Magic Flare. When Magic Flare sped to victory on Aug. 10, Lauren said her grandfather, the late Peter Spada, also a horseman, was in her thoughts.

"I was more than excited [racing her first horse]," said Spada. "I was talking to my grandpa before the race, asking him for some luck."



Spada will also send out the 2-year-old filly **SEISMICK**, who is in race 5 on Wednesday. Owned by her father and friend Matt Storms, Seismick is making her fifth career start and she comes out of a very troubled journey in the Ontario Sires Futurity on Aug. 17. The stocky filly was third in a previous race when meeting fellow maidens.

Another Spada starter is **JESSAPRIMADONNA**, a speedy stakes-winning filly who is entered in race 4.

First race post time on Wednesday 1:30 p.m.

*On **Sunday, Sept. 4 of the Labour Day** long weekend, Ajax Downs will host its annual **Race for the United Way Day** with a silent auction, prizes, mascot race and \$2 betting voucher for a donation to the United Way Backpack Program. Sunday's first race post time is 12:55 and the featured race is the final of the \$50,000 Picov Derby for 3-year-olds.

A promotional banner for Ajax Downs Racetrack. The background is a faded image of a horse race. The text "Live Like The Gates Just Opened" is written in large, bold, red, italicized font at the top. Below it, in black text, is "Live Quarter Horse Racing May to October Wednesdays & One Sunday a Month & Thanksgiving Monday". At the bottom, in red text, is "Watch our website for all this seasons events www.ajaxdowns.com". To the left is a circular logo for Ajax Downs Racetrack, Est. 1969. To the right are social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube.

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