



MEDIA RELEASE

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A first for local fans: A “painted” thoroughbred races Friday

We have all seen a grey horse. In fact, most of us have bet on a couple. And some of us have even seen a white horse. However, racing fans at Assiniboia Downs on Friday night will see a thoroughbred they’ve never seen at the local oval before.

Ellusive Spell, trained by Emile Corbel, is the only Frame Overo painted thoroughbreds in all of Canada. (Frame Overo refers to the gene that gives the “paint” effect.) The 3-year-old colt is officially listed as a dark bay but has large areas of white throughout. Only two lines of thoroughbreds carry the gene that causes the paint-like colouring.

Owned by Jean McEwen, Ellusive Spell is a grandson of Kentucky Derby winner Sunny’s Halo and is only the second Frame Overo thoroughbred to race. The other was his father, Ellusive Quest.



Ellusive Spell will take the track for the first time Friday evening in the third race with six other maiden 3-year-olds. How will he do? He is currently the longshot at 15 to 1.

Perservata scuttles Miss Missile in LaVerendrye Stakes



If the toteboard decided every race, the LaVerendrye Stakes would have been all Miss Missile. However it was the other perfect filly, Perservata, ridden by apprentice Tyron Nelson, that blasted by to win and pay a whopping \$24.

Perservata, trained by Clint Willson, sat back and watched Miss Missile chase early leader Cherokee Beauty down the backstretch. “The Missile” overtook Cherokee Beauty in mid-turn and looked to have the \$30,000 LaVerendrye well in hand until commandeered by Perservata and Alacazar in the late stretch.

“It went better than I planned,” said Willson in the winner’s circle. “We changed her training to make her relax and I guess it worked.”

Trainer Carl Anderson’s Alacazar, with Larren Delorme aboard, sat in behind the early leaders Cherokee Beauty and Miss Missile down the backstretch. Delorme would not let Miss Missile and jockey Rohan Singh out of his sights and got the best of the multiple stakes winner in the final strides to finish second.

Miss Missile and trainer Charlie Smith saw their perfection come to an end and settled for third. Charlie Smith, a trainer stationed at Canterbury Park in Minneapolis, has ventured up to ASD with several horses this year and had a perfect four for four going into the LaVerendrye including a stakes win with Lady Countdown in the Chantilly last week.

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