

IN BUSINESS: ON WALL STREET, WEEK WRAPS UP STRONG, 8C

FLORIDA
TODAY

floridatoday.com

SPORTS

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Saturday
July 10, 2010

Palm Bay's Ross healed, hungry

Local motocross racer confident as she seeks another Canadian championship

BY MARK DE COTIS
FLORIDA TODAY

Optimism and enthusiasm can overcome a lot.

Just ask Jacqueline Ross. The 22-year-old Palm Bay resident and motocross racer won the Canadian Motocross Racing Corporation women's championship in 2008, but was sidelined on May 29, 2009, five days before she was scheduled to return to defend her crown, when she tore the meniscus in her left knee.

The injury and the subsequent cell therapy rehabilitation she underwent under the direction of Dr. Almoread Fanchinan at Miami's Center for Regenerative Medicine, kept her off her motorcycle for 10 months.

"My doctor . . . if it wasn't for him,

there would be no way I would even be back on a bike," Ross said. "He was a blessing."

As she was healing, a 6 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. job in a Melbourne call center devoured much of her time, leaving her precious few hours to train and get back up to speed.

But she's unbowed — in fact she's exuding confidence — as she prepares to resume pursuit of another championship at the first eastern round in the Women's Nationals in Ste-Julie, Quebec on July 25.

"No, I'm not behind one bit. I've been doing my homework, trust me," Ross said.

And while the injury was freakish,

See ROSS, 3C



2008 file photo, courtesy of Canadian Motocross Racing

Talented racer. Palm Bay's Jacqueline Ross, above and left, has racked up the honors in the sport of motocross. The 2008 Canadian Motocross Racing Corporation women's champion is anxious to return to the top after an injury forced her to miss the event last year.



COURTESY: CANADIAN MOTOCROSS RACING CORPORATION

Ross' recent career motocross highlights

- 2008 CMRC Ladies Pro Champion
- 2007 GMC Oak Hill, Women's 99-250cc Pro, 3rd Place
- 2006 Mammoth Mountain Motocross, Women's Pro, 2nd Place
- 2005 Amateur Open, Women's Pro Champion
- 2005 Miss Olympia, Women's 99-450cc 2nd Place
- 2002 AMA/WMA US Open All World Finals, Women's Amateur Champion
- 2005 Miss Creek Challenger's Cup Amateur Rider of the Year
- 2005 Miss Creek Challenger's Cup, Women's Class Champion
- 2005 Mammoth Mountain Motocross, Women's Amateur Champion
- 2005 FM Women's World Cup, Supo, Japan, 2nd Place

— Source: www.jross.com

About Jacqueline Ross

Born: Syracuse, N.Y.

Age: 22 **Height:** 5-foot-7

High school: Graduated Bayside High, 2005

College: Attended Baysard Community College

Race duration: 20 minutes per moto or race. First

rider across the line wins. Two motos or 20-minute

aces each round. Finale also 20 minutes.

Class: The Canadian Motocross Racing Corporation

Eastern Ladies Pro

MORE ONLINE. To learn more about Jacqueline Ross, visit www.jross.com