

## Mosquito Blue Chip, Rockin in Heaven upset in EBC finals at Tioga

by James Witherite, Tioga Downs racing media



Mosquito Blue Chip (\$10.20) mounted a late rally to collar odds-on favorite Divine Caroline in the \$269,000 Empire Breeders Classic for New York-sired 3-year-old pacing fillies, while Rockin in Heaven (\$24.80) sustained a first-over bid before holding off odds-on entrymates Betting Exchange and In the Arsenal--and a few others--in the \$290,000 Empire Breeders Classic for New York-sired 3-year-old pacing colts and geldings.

In the distaff division, Mosquito Blue Chip found herself locked in just prior to a :54.4 half mile from Divine Caroline (David Miller), just three lengths off the lead but lacking for racing room until the conclusion of the final turn. Off the corner, Jim Morrill, Jr. was able to find room with the Bettor's Delight filly, mounting a three-wide rally past pocket rival Band of Angels (Gingras) in the final sixteenth--and ultimately to just nab Divine Caroline at the winning post for a 1:49.3 score.

Trainer Paul Jessop shares in ownership of Mosquito Blue Chip with the Our Three Sons Stable and Donato Falcicchio.

In the male division, Arque Hanover (George Brennan) made an early push to the lead, taking over from Betting Exchange (Gingras) with a circuit to go and controlling a :54.4 half before bracing for the first-over Rockin in Heaven. After dueling through a :27.2 third quarter, Rockin in Heaven got the better of Arque Hanover, extending his lead to 1-1/2 lengths at the eighth pole while Arque Hanover faded off the corner. Upon establishing a clear lead, David Miller had to call upon the son of Rock N Roll Heaven for all he had, just staving off a late charge from Artistic Major (Morrill) by a neck in 1:50. A Bettor Hat (Brett Miller) rallied from deeper back, overcoming a fourth-over trip to just miss by half a length, finishing third.



Rockin In Heaven

Trainer Dr. Ian Moore co-owns Rockin in Heaven with Douglas Polley, Francois Lecomte, and Gordon McComb.