Divine Caroline wins a Crown elim from the Breeders Crown

Toronto, ON---Divine Caroline is living up to her name.

The daughter of Rock N Roll Heaven has been absolutely divine in October, winning three consecutive races, including a $25,000 elimination of the Breeders Crown for 3-year-old filly pacers in 1:51.3 Saturday night (Oct. 17) at Woodbine Racetrack.

This was a horse who could only cobble together one win in 11 starts in her rookie season, but she’s been sensational as a sophomore, in particular the last few weeks.

She posted a lifetime mark with a 1:49.2 victory the week before in a division of the Glen Garnsey Memorial at the Red Mile in Lexington, Ky. The ship to Canada had little effect as she is so sharp now.

Driven by Dave Miller for trainer Joe Holloway, Divine Caroline followed first-over cover after half a mile and into the stretch, after which she strutted her elegant stride to take the lead halfway from the wire and won by an easy 2-¾ lengths. She was the 3-5 favorite in the field of nine.

“She’s very good in coming off the pace,” Holloway said. “She’s blossomed inside of the last month and it’s a good time of the year. It’s tough for horses to stay good all year.”

Stablemate Bettor Be Steppin was the better of the two earlier in the year and also the more dominant one last year. Bettor Be Steppin finished fifth in her elimination earlier in the card to advance to the final.

Divine Caroline is owned by Val D’or Farms, Theodore Gewertz, Rojan Stables and Michael Ouriel. Val D’or Farms, Gewertz and Rojan Stables own Bettor Be Steppin.

“Earlier in the year Bettor Be Steppin was the better of the two and right now Caroline’s racing great,” Holloway added. “Earlier in the year she wasn’t winning, but she wasn’t getting beat by much. She seemed to put it together as of late. She’s gotten bigger. Through the course of the summer, she’s grown almost a hand. She’s a tall mare, starting to fill out. I think she’s going to be a force next year because she’s going to be so much bigger and stronger.”

Divine Caroline paid $3.30, $2.40, $2.10. Bedroomconfessions placed second and paid $5.00 and $3.40. Sassa Hanover, who overtook early pacesetter Band Of Angels to take lead at the half mark and held that place into the top of the stretch, paid $3.40 to show.

With her sixth win in 19 starts this year and her seventh in 30 career starts, Divine Caroline increased her career bankroll to more than $470,000.