

Zeron filly gives Heavenly performance at Woodbine

Heavenly Sign, who hails from Rick Zeron's barn, hooked up with her conditioner Monday at Woodbine Racetrack and mowed down the field in the \$61,200 Town Pro Series — posting a four-length victory in 1:51.4.

Owned by Peter Congilose of Toms River and Jay Scheiner of Fort Lee, NJ, Heavenly Sign sat well out of contention early on, yet came home with the same strong kick that she put on display for the other three-year-old pacing fillies during the series' second leg.

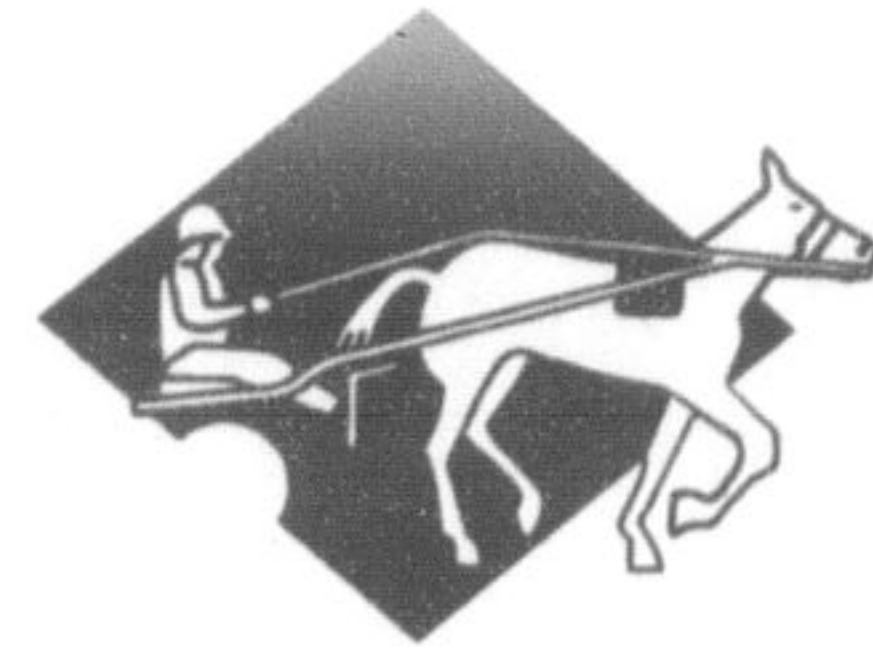
Having come home with a :27.2 final panel last week in which she drew away from her rivals, the bay daughter of Life Sign was six-wide in the stretch in the final after making up substantial ground from the three-quarter pole onward.

After leaving from post position seven, Heavenly Sign sat ninth, where she would remain through the first three quarters. But when Zeron called on her to step it up, she responded in commanding fashion.

With Jody Jamieson calling the shots, Ja El Shamrock led the field to a speedy :25.3 opening split. Up to challenge from fourth, Armbro Berlin and reinsman Keith Oliver made it to the front and recorded an equally-snappy half mile in :53.3.

Loving Successor and Mai Katie came knocking on the door, as they kept the outer flow coming quickly. Still holding off the onslaught, Oliver and Armbro Berlin led the field to the head of the stretch, where it simply turned into Heavenly Sign's show.

After being parked eight lengths back at the three-quarter pole, Heavenly Sign was up to fourth, four lengths back at the head of the lane. With Zeron firing the afterburners, his mount drew off and posted a four-length victory — lowering her lifetime record by a full



Hoof Beat

with JEFF RENTON

second.

"She showed up and played pretty hard last week," Zeron said of Heavenly Sign's preliminary win. "I had moved her back to the front and she kicked home pretty well, so I was kind of thinking of some pretty big things (for the final).

"I was looking over the program with one of the guys and kind of thought there would be some early speed and there was, so it really helped me out because she kicks home so well."

Out of the Landslide mare Secretariat, Heavenly Sign added to her impressive seasonal resumé with the win, bumping her record to 4-2-1 in nine starts to go along with \$69,030 in earnings.

Going off at 50-1 and in rein to Tony Kerwood, Northwestern closed from 10th to second in the final quarter to inflate the exactor and triactor to \$482 and \$1,933.30 respectively. Driven by Trevor Ritchie, Summer Mystery — the 2-1 post-time favourite — finished five lengths back in third after lowering the stakes record a week earlier with a 1:51.3 triumph.

In taking the Town Pro Series finale, Zeron recorded his third series title of the year on the Woodbine Entertainment Group circuit, after reigning supreme in the General Brock with Deadman's Curve and the Youthful Series with Flashy Baron.

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4 HOLY ROSARY	15	7	7	1	15
5 ST. PAULS	13	7	6	0	14
6 BOSTON	13	7	6	0	14
7 SOUTH SIDE	12	6	6	0	12
8 MILTON BIBLE	14	6	8	0	12
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