



PEDIGREE PROFILE

Crossing The Line delivers the goods in Del Mar Mile

by Rommy Faversham

Lightly raced Crossing The Line (NZ) displayed a powerful turn of foot through deep stretch to capture the \$314,000 Del Mar Mile Handicap (G2) in decisive fashion in his stakes debut.



Benoit & Associates photo

The five-year old Cape Cross (Ire) gelding completed one mile on turf in 1:32.59, slightly slower than the track record of 1:32.21 set by Three Valleys in the Del Mar Mile two years ago.

The Del Mar Mile was Crossing The Line's fifth straight victory. He previously won a pair of allowance/optional claiming races on the turf at Hollywood Park since his import from New Zealand earlier this year. He has five wins from six career starts and \$257,168 in earnings.

CROSSING THE LINE

Crossing The Line's international pedigree is solid on top but light on the bottom. Remarkably, he is the first stakes winner of any kind issued by his New Zealand-based tail-female line in five generations.

Crossing The Line is the third winner out of the War Hawk II mare Winds of War, who was group-placed in New Zealand at age five. The next three dams in this pedigree all were unraced.

Broodmare sire War Hawk II, an unplaced half brother to influential sires Tom Rolfe and Chieftain, was the leading sire in New Zealand for the 1980-'81 season.

Crossing The Line hails from the second crop of Cape Cross, winner of the 1998 Juddmonte Lockinge Stakes (Eng-G1) at four and England's high-weighted older horse from seven to 9½ furlongs as a five-year-old.

Cape Cross stood in 2007 at Kildangan Stud in Ireland for a fee of \$67,415 (50,000 euros). The Green Desert stallion also has been shuttled to Darley Australia and Cambridge Stud in New Zealand for Southern Hemisphere seasons.

So far, Cape Cross is the sire of 20 group or graded stakes winners. He is best known for siring the sensational Ouija Board (GB), best at ages three and five when she was Europe's Horse of the Year in addition to champion turf female in the United States following victories in the Emirates Airline Breeders' Cup Filly and Mare Turf (G1) both years (2004 and '06).

Crossing The Line (NZ), dk. b. or br., g., 2002

Cape Cross (Ire) 94 724 fls, 35 SWs SI 1.91 DI=3.44	Green Desert 83 5 wins, \$308,015, SW 993 fls, 85 SWs SI 1.86 DI=3.73	Danzig 77 1070 fls, 198 SWs SI 5.36 DI=4.71	Northern Dancer 61	Nearctic 54 Natalma 57
	Park Appeal (Ire) 82 5 wins, \$153,693 Champion 12 fls, 3 SWs DI=3.00	Foreign Courier 79 15 fls, 2 SWs DI=3.50	Sir Ivor 65	Admiral's Voyage 59 *Petitioner 52 Sir Gayford 59 Attica 53
		=War Hawk II (GB) 68 Unplaced 262 fls, 22 SWs SI 2.07 DI=0.88	=Ahonoorra (GB) 75 465 fls, 45 SWs SI 2.00 DI=3.00	Courtly Dee 68
=Winds of War (NZ) 85 6 fls, 1 SW DI=1.57	Balidaress (Ire) 73 14 fls, 4 SWs DI=1.67		*Lorenzaccio 65	*Klairon 52 =Phoenissa (GB) 51
	=Winky (NZ) 75 Unraced 3 fls, 0 SWs DI=8.00	=Sea Hawk II (Fr) 63 584 fls, 36 SWs SI 2.00 DI=0.24	=Helen Nichols (GB) 66	=Martial (Ire) 57 =Quaker Girl (GB) 61
=Forty Winks II (Fr) 67 39 fls, 5 SWs SI 0.68 DI=13.67		Pocahontas 55 9 fls, 5 SWs DI=1.63	=Balidar (GB) 66	=Will Somers (GB) 55 =Violet Bank (GB) 60
	=Solamor (NZ) 71 3 fls, 0 SWs DI=1.73	=Wink Nymph II (Fr) 57	=Innocence (GB) 68	=Sea Hawk II (Fr) 63 =Novitiate (GB) 59
=Redoubt (GB) 57		Roman 37	*Herbager 56	=Vandale (Fr) 43 =Flagette (Fr) 51
	=Min Amor (NZ) 66	How 48	=Sea Nymph II (Fr) 57	=Free Man (Fr) 48 =Sea Spray (Fr) 47
=Edissa (Ire) 61		=Fortino II (Fr) 59	*Sir Gallahad III 20 *Buckup 28	*Princequillo 40 *The Squaw II 39
	=Macquario (Ire) 56	=Edessa (Ire) 61	*Court Martial 42 *Ambiguity II 50	=Grey Sovereign (GB) 48 =Ranavalo III (Fr) 54
=Salinas (NZ) 61		=Redoubt (GB) 57	=Min Amor (NZ) 66	=Honeyway (GB) 41 =Esmansa (Fr) 52

With his victory in the Del Mar Mile, Crossing The Line becomes the second runner to earn an automatic starting position in the Net-Jets Breeders' Cup Mile (G1) at Monmouth Park on October 27. The first to qualify was Able One, who won the Hong Kong Champions Mile (HK-G1) at Sha Tin racecourse on July 15. He also is a five-year-old New Zealand-bred gelding sired by Cape Cross.

Rommy Faversham is a pedigree specialist and author living in Los Angeles. More of his work is available at <http://www.equicross.com>

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