Raven Run winner carries valuable crosses to close relatives

by Rommy Faversham

Three-year-old Hilda's Passion made her graded stakes debut a memorable one, holding off a late challenge from Decelerator to score a determined three-quarter-length victory in the \$250,000 Lexus Raven Run Stakes (G2) on October 23 at Keeneland Race Course.

Sent off as the 6.20-to-1 fifth choice in a field of 13, the bay Canadian Frontier filly covered seven furlongs on the synthetic Polytrack surface in 1:21.38.

Hilda's Passion entered off an 8%-length romp in the slop in the 5½-furlong Bennington Stakes on August 23 at Saratoga Race Course. She has won four of seven starts and earned \$230,256, all this season.

Bred in Kentucky by Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Kuster, Hilda's Promise is the third winner from four starters out of the El Prado (Ire) mare Executricker, winner of one race at age four.

Executricker also has produced an unraced two-year-old full brother to Hilda's Passion named Mannak.

Hilda's Promise's fourth dam, Lost Virtue, produced French Group 1 winner All At Sea and is the third dam of 1998 champion three-year-old filly Banshee Breeze and Twice Over (GB), who recently captured the Emirates Airline Champion Stakes (Eng-G1) at Newmarket for a second consecutive year.

One generation further back, Lost Virtue's dam, Aunt Tilt, is a half sister to Racing Hall of Famer and influential sire Damascus.

Hilda's Passion hails from the second crop of the Gone West stallion



Hilda's Passion, b. f., 2007				
Canadian Frontier 99 106 fls, 6 SWs SI 1.42 DI=3.24	Gone West 84 6 wins, \$682,251, SW 1214 fls, 98 SWs SI 2.46 DI=4.52	Mr. Prospector 70 1178 fls, 181 SWs SI 5.08 DI=3.95	Raise a Native 61	Native Dancer 50 Raise You 46
			Gold Digger 62	Nashua 52 Sequence 46
		Secrettame 78 15 fls, 3 SWs DI=3.17	Secretariat 70	Bold Ruler 54 Somethingroyal 52
			Tamerett 62	Tim Tam 55 *Mixed Marriage 52
	Borodislew 90 10 wins, \$679,781, SW 9 fls, 3 SWs DI=1.92	Seattle Slew 74 1050 fls, 114 SWs SI 4.76 DI=2.14	Bold Reasoning 68	Boldnesian 63 Reason to Earn 63
			My Charmer 69	Poker 63 Fair Charmer 59
		Breath Taking (Fr) 82 9 fls, 2 SWs DI=1.84	Nureyev 77	Northern Dancer 61 Special 69
			Cap d'Antibes (Aus) 71	=Better Boy (Ire) 51 =Tereus (Aus) 65
Executricker 98 5 fls, 1 SW DI=1.60	El Prado (Ire) 89 4 wins, \$236,987 Champion 932 fls, 81 SWs SI 2.09 DI=1.42	Sadler's Wells 81 2184 fls, 321 SWs SI 3.91 DI=2.82	Northern Dancer 61	Nearctic 54 Natalma 57
			Fairy Bridge 75	Bold Reason 68 Special 69
		Lady Capulet 74 13 fls, 2 SWs DI=3.17	Sir Ivor 65	Sir Gaylord 59 Attica 53
			Cap and Bells 58	Tom Fool 49 Ghazni 42
	Trick Trick 92 Placed, \$2,343 8 fls, 0 SWs DI=3.40	Clever Trick 76 1068 fls, 71 SWs SI 1.46 DI=3.92	Icecapade 69	Nearctic 54 Shenanigans 63
			Kankakee Miss 67	Better Bee 54 Golden Beach 53
		Full Virtue 81 7 fls, 0 SWs DI=3.00	Full Out 73	Never Bend 60 Running Juliet 66
			Lost Virtue 77	Cloudy Dawn 69 Aunt Tilt 63

Canadian Frontier, a late-developing sprinter who took the Bold Ruler Handicap (G3) at age five.

Standing at Airdrie Stud in Midway, Kentucky, Canadian Frontier also is the sire of this year's Monmouth Oaks (G3) and Honeybee Stakes (G3) winner No Such Word.

The most prominent inbreeding pattern demonstrated in Hilda's Passion's pedigree is the 4x3 cross of breed-shaping three-quarter brothers Nureyev and Sadler's Wells.

These two progenitors have become a premier pair of Northern Dancer's sons to appear within the family trees of important international runners in the early 21st century.

This pedigree also features a 4x5 cross of the half brothers Secretariat and Sir Gaylord.

No surprise, early returns show El Prado broodmares doing well with stallions carrying Secretariat blood. So far, four of their six U.S. graded stakes winners received a complementary strain of "Big Red" from their sire.

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