

National Emblem

National Assembly - Title Page by Welsh Harmony

Not a season goes by without National Emblem throwing up a big winner.

In 2006 Gr1 Gold Challenge winner National Spirit, Gr1 Cape Flying

Championship winner Nhlavini, and 2yo SA Nursery winner Rebel King.

In 2007 3yo Buy And Sell hit the headlines with a striking win in the Gr1 Daily News 2200.

It is from this wealth of talent that a thorough analysis can be made of

National Emblem's affinities at stud.

In the essay on stallion Requiem elsewhere in this issue, the GG affinity concept is explained in detail. Short for 'Gainsborough Group', the GG concept explores affinities of ancestors who are closely inbred to a variety of stallion Gainsborough's genetic siblings. Gainsborough and Son In Law, for instance, make up a major pair, together with Gay Crusader. But there are many other members of the Group. Flip to the page of Requiem, a son of Danehill, to see how the pedigree of the latter's sire Danzig is put in perspective. Danzig is also the sire of National Emblem's sire National Assembly. Significantly, the latter and Danehill are close relatives. Danehill is by Danzig out of a mare whose dam is by Buckpasser out of Natalma. National Assembly is out of a mare who is by Buckpasser out of a close genetic relative to Natalma, Bold Princess. The only real difference between Danehill and National Assembly is Danehill's damsire His Majesty - but as the Requiem essay shows, he fits in with the rest of the pedigree in terms of the GG concept.

His Majesty's pedigree consists of parents and grandparents inbred to GG affinity horses. Interestingly, many of the same GG ancestors can be found in Title Page, the dam of National Emblem. Ambitious as this may sound, there isn't a great deal of difference between the genetic make-up of Danehill and National Emblem. Let's see how the latter's affinities at stud compare to those of the world champion.

Multiple Gr1 winning sprinter Nhlavini carries a double whammy of genetic sibling inbreeding. He's 3x2 Renounce (dam of National Assembly) x Mount Hagen (Nhlavini's damsire). The one is by a son of Tom Fool out of a mare by Bold Ruler, the other by a son of Bold Ruler out of a mare by Tom Fool, with other matches in-between. The second set of siblings is Welsh Harmony (damsire of National Emblem) with Welsh Pageant (in Nhlavini's bottom female line), who both are by Tudor Melody out of a mare by Court Martial. This combination carries a sky-high GG-factor.

Gr1 winning sprint/miler National Spirit is out of Meretrix, a mare by Model Man. Meretrix has a strong background of GG-clan members, through her grandam Red Rosette. Model Man's sire Elliodor is equally well endowed.

Carnadore's dam Tudor Vino is by Silvino, whose elements are very similar to those found in National Assembly. Tudor Vino's 3rd dam Tee Off has a dynamite GG factor.

Rebel King, who was unbeaten at 2, has a very strong GG background. Through the female line of his dam's sire Badger Land, through his second damsire Foveros, and through the damsire of third dam Luciennes, Linacre (by Rockefeller out of a Panorama mare).

Interesting also in this context is talented Pegasus Emblem, whose third dam is inbred 3x3 to Petition. The latter is an important element of Danzig's pedigree, suggesting that inbreeding to Danzig with

National Emblem might be interesting. That's just what happened in Gr1 Daily News 2200 winner Buy And Sell. His dam Trade Enquiry is by Qui Danzig out of a mare by Secret prospector, the pair combining Danzig with Secret Prospector's damsire Graustark on a female line background exploding with GG elements. Buy And Sell is the second Gr1 winner for his dam - the other was a filly by Among Men who carries Graustark and Bold Lad (3/4 to National Assembly's grandam).

NATIONAL EMBLEM'S TOP-EARNERS

		dam by	grandam by
2.7m	Nhlavini	Mount Hagen (Bold Bidder)	Roan Rocket
1.8m	National Spirit	Model Man (Elliodor)	Jamaico
823k	Buy And Sell	Qui Danzig (Danzig)	Secret Prospector
666k	Carnadore	Silvino (Our Native)	Red Regent
611k	Rebel King	Badger Land (Codex)	Foveros
528k	Bay Legend	Concertino (Lyphard)	Troy
458k	Princely Heir	Royal Prerogative (Relko)	Le Cordonnier
434k	Rip Curl	Concertino (Lyphard)	Accipiter
379k	Lady Rohena	Hard Up (Hard Fighter)	Instrument Landing
350k	Paris to Peking	Northern Guest (N. Dancer)	Run Dusty Run
347k	Decorated Hero	Caerdeon (Crepello)	Wolver Hollow
322k	Sovereign Beat	Steady Beat (Alydar)	Kaljerry
309k	Karnak	Jungle Cove (Bold Ruler)	Caerdeon
296k	Fez	Salaadim (Seattle Slew)	Hobnob
293k	Pegasus Emblem	Piaffer (Nijinsky)	Amber Rama

Note: Elliodor = Lyphard x Crepello, Caerdeon = Crepello x Abernant, Concertino = by Lyphard; the dam of Lyphard is by Court Martial, Elliodor = 3x4 Court Martial; Abernant = Court Martial

Pick of the Bunch

Suitable mares for
National Emblem include

1. Mares with concentrations of any or all of Court Martial (or other Fair Trial or Lady Juror), Tudor Minstrel (or other Owen Tudor), Hyperion (or other Gainsborough), Petition (Danzig, Danehill), Rockefeller, His Majesty/Graustark, etc - this is widespread
2. Mares with Donatello (Alycidon, Crepello, Aureole, etc.), Averof, Foveros, Royal Prerogative
3. Mares with any or all of Tom Fool affinity clan (Buckpasser, Nijinsky, Blushing Groom, Dinner Partner, etc)
4. Mares with duplications of la Troienne, Bull Dog/Sir Gallahad; Mr Prospector
5. Mares from the Bonza Bay family (and other similarly constructed bottom female line ancestors)

Where From Here

National Emblem seems to repond well to inbreeding through GG-elements, of which one subgroup can be described as combinations of Fair Trial and Hyperion.

Inbreeding using Danzig, and adding His Majesty (the missing link from Danehill, when compared to National Assembly) is interesting. His Majesty's full brother Graustark another option. Keep an eye also on Rockefeller, who has a good record with Danzig.

Averof and Foveros appeal, as do representatives of the Bonza bay female line (high GG factor). Gr1 placed stakes winner Lady Rohena is the leading light from this line for National Emblem.

A thorough evaluation of any mare's female line should give suitable clues.

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