

In 2017 there was a Thoroughbred horse called Definitely Red that took part in the Grand National.

The Grand National is a steeplechase with 30 jumps. And these are not small jumps, these jumps are up to 5 feet (1.52 meters) high. A jump called Becher's Brook has a drop of 6 feet 9 inches (2.06 meters). The distance of the race is 4 miles two furlongs and 74 yards (6,907 meters). Going into the race Definitely Red [SevenGen Pedigree - Definitely Red 2009.pdf](#) was the favorite but unfortunately he had to be pulled up because of a slipping saddle. Recently Definitely Red was 6th in the Cheltenham Gold Cup (3 miles 2½ furlongs, 5,331 m). And during his last race on the 12th of April 2018 his jockey fell off.

Definitely Red is a chestnut gelding and he was born in 2009. His sire is Definite Article and his dam is The Red Wench. In this article I will be looking at his sire side. The sire of Definitely Red has linebreeding to a horse called Lorenzaccio. Lorenzaccio can be found twice in the third generations with a son and with a daughter. The sireline of Definitely Red goes through Definite Article to Indian Ridge, to Ahonoora and then to Lorenzaccio.

This is a sire line that is hanging by a thread. This is because it is the very rare sire line going all the way back to a horse called the Byerley Turk, whereas 95% of Thoroughbreds nowadays trace to the Darley Arabian. Lorenzaccio is known for beating the great Nijinsky during the 1970 running of the Champion Stakes (1 mile and 2 furlongs, 2,012 meters). During his career Lorenzaccio raced over distances of a mile to one and a half miles. Lorenzaccio became the sire of a horse called Ahonoora out of Helen Nichols. Ahonoora was also a chestnut, who became a leading sprinter. Ahonoora turned out to be a good sire and he even sired an Epsom Derby winner (1 mile, 4 furlongs and 6 yards, 2,420 meters) by the name of Dr. Devious.

One of Ahonoora's sons also became a sprinter and also was a chestnut, his name is Indian Ridge (1985). Indian Ridge became a very good sire, siring the winners of the The Breeders' Cup Mile twice among others. One of Indian Ridge's sons was Definite Article, a bay horse foaled in 1992 and out of Summer Fashion. He was a good flat runner at middle distances. He became a sire of flat runners but also of National Hunt horses (hurdlers and steeplechasers). His best offspring was Vinnie Roe, a flat racing horse, who was named champion stayer in 2002. Definite Article is also the sire of Definitely Red, the subject of this article.

Definitely Red is a superior steeplechase horse. Trainer Brian Ellison says about Definitely Red that he is the best National Hunt horse he has ever trained. Definitely Red first appeared on the race course in March 2013 as a four year old, running 3 miles in soft to heavy going and finishing second. After that first race he raced another 27 times (most of them jumps races) from 2013 through 2018 over distances from 2 miles to 4 miles 2 ½ furlongs. Of those races he won 13 of them, was second in four of them and third in two of them. Not bad for a horse that has a few sprinters in his sireline., in Indian Ridge and Ahonoora.

Let's have a better look at Lorenzaccio, who is by Klairon out of Phoenissa. In the last 9 removes of his pedigree Lorenzaccio has linebreeding to the horses Chouberski, Omnium, Kasbah, St. Simon, Gay Crusader, Bay Ronald, Ayrshire, Phalaris, Chaucer, Isinglass, Hampton, Chelandry, Galopin, Barcaldine, Lord Clifden, Rosicrucian, Swynford, Marco, Hermit, Cyllene, Petrarch, Hagioscope, Sainfoin, Friar's Daughter, Blandford and White Eagle. However looking at the last 12 removes the biggest influences come from St. Simon,

Swynford, Galopin, Canterbury Pilgrim, Stockwell, Newminster, Hermit, Friar's Daughter, Gay Crusader, Blandford, Phalaris, Marco, Touchstone, Pocahontas, Vedette and Birdcatcher. As a two year old Lorenzaccio won the July Stakes at Newmarket. Also did he finish second in the Champagne Stakes and the Prix Morny and third in the Prix Robert Papin.

His dam line, tracing to a mare called Simon's Shoes can also be found in Val de l'Oir who won the Prix Du Jockey-Club (FR) and other races and in Thatch who won the Sussex Stakes G1 and other races and who was Champion 2-year-old colt in Ireland and Champion miler at 3 in England.

Let's have a better look at Friar's Daughter. Friar's Daughter is the dam of the English Triple Crown winner Bahram (sire of Big Game). Bahram can be found once in the pedigree of Lorenzaccio and Friar's Daughter's offspring Fille d'Amour (by Hurry On) can also be found once. Fille d'Amour can be found in the pedigree of the great eventing Thoroughbred horse Biko (1984), together with her halfsister Fille de Salut (by Sansovino). Biko holds the number-one spot on the Top Ten All American High Point Horses of the Century, and won the Horse of the Century Award from the USCTA (now USEA). With Caren O'Connor, he represented the country on multiple occasions, including the 1996 Olympic Games, and competed and finished with top placings at the Badminton Horse Trials and Rolex Kentucky Three Day Event ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biko_\(horse\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biko_(horse))).

Friar's Daughter through Bahram can also be found in the pedigrees of Thoroughbred stallion Pericles born in 1962, Thoroughbred stallion More Magic born in 1957, the Thoroughbred stallion Ard Allez Cat born in 1984 and the halfblood Selle Francais stallion Statuar born in 1976. All warmblood studbooks licensed stallions and Ard Allez Cat (https://www.irelandhorse.com/Off%20main%20pages/Ard_Allez_Cat.htm) was also a 1.50 metres showjumper.

My own stallion Spirit Lake U:\My Documents\SevenGen Pedigree - Spirit Lake 2012.pdf gets Friar's Daughter also through Delta Judge (in the pedigree of Indian Ridge) and through High Top.

Another horse Lorenzaccio is linebred to is Gay Crusader. Gay Crusader won an English wartime version of the Triple Crown during the First World War in 1917. He is considered a failure at stud but he does show up in the 4th generation of the pedigree of the great Thoroughbred Ribot, who twice won the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe. Guy Crusader is also behind Prince Chevalier, Princequillo, Hugh Lupus, Abgar (through Roc du Diable), Ozymandias and Rantzau. All Thoroughbred horses with sport horse influence with regard to showjumping and/or eventing.

An other horse that Lorenzaccio was linebred to that I would like to look at is Blandford. Blandford is by Swynford out of Blanche and he is the sire of Bahram. He won the Princess of Wales's Stakes, was three times leading sire and produced three Epsom Derby winners. Blandford can be found 18 times in the last 10 generations of Definitely Red and 11 times behind Remember Rose SevenGen Pedigree - Remember Rose 2003.pdf, winner of the Grand Steeplechase de Paris, which has huge fences, and winner of more than 2 million Euros.

Blandford is the grandsire of that very important Selle Francais thoroughbred stallion Ultimate. Le Tot de Semilly (1977) is inbred 3 x 4 x 5 to Ultimate (who also has Hurry On in his pedigree).

Spirit Lake has Blandford 19 times in his last 10 generations.

Blandford can among others also be found in the pedigrees of Nasrullah and Royal Charger, who have rather similar pedigrees. They are both sons of Nearco and both have Lady Josephine in their tail female lines. Nasrullah can be found 4 times in the pedigree of Definitely Red. Royal Charger and Nasrullah have had a significant influence on the ability of horses to jump. For example the 1.60 metres jumping Thoroughbred stallion Laudanum <U:\My Documents\SevenGen Pedigree - Laudanum 19.pdf> has Nasrullah 7 times in his last seven generations. Laudanum is still very influential in showjumping breeding. Royal Charger can be found in the tail male line of the Thoroughbred stallion Hand in Glove (through Turn To), sire among others of Olympic showjumper Jaguar Mail (who is out of a Laudanum mare) (<https://www.horsetele.nl/horses/progeny/38168/hand-in-glove-xx>) Royal Charger son Turn To can be found 6 times in the pedigree of Spirit Lake and Nasrullah can also be found 6 times.

By the way Remember Rose has Lorenzaccio and Djebel in his pedigree, which both have Djebel and Gay Crusader in their pedigrees.

The very good showjumping Selle Francais stallion Pallestro II goes via his Thoroughbred sire St. Brendan tail male to Djebel (<https://www.horsetele.nl/horses/pedigree/86311/palestro-ii>). Pallestro II also twice has Blandford in his pedigree through Milesian.

With regard to the horses Upas and Gardefeu, who both have the horse Dollar in their pedigrees, horses in the pedigree of the incredibly good showjumper Gem Twist:

<http://www.allbreedpedigree.com/good+twist>

<http://www.allbreedpedigree.com/bonne+nuit>

Ksar d'Esprit was also a very good showjumper:

<http://www.allbreedpedigree.com/ksar+desprit>

Horses in the pedigree of Lorenzaccio:

<http://www.allbreedpedigree.com/klairon>

<http://www.allbreedpedigree.com/ksar>

The very good showjumping thoroughbred stallion Laudanum had Clarion (grandsire of Lorenzaccio) for a grandsire and he got Bruleur an extra time through Vieux Manoir.

Definitely Red has Tourbillon in total five times. Remember Rose has Bruleur nine times and Tourbillon five times. The very good showjumping thoroughbred stallion and sire Heraldik had Tourbillon twice in his fifth generation and once in his sixth generation.

Spirit Lake has Tourbillon eight times.

Lorenzaccio has some linebreeding to Marco (1892), who is also known to be a good jumping influence and who is behind Hurry On among others. Lorenzaccio has Marco three times and also the sire of Marco, Barcaldine, once. It is difficult to say how many times he shows up in the pedigree of more recent horses because he was born so long ago. All I can say is that Ahonoora, son of Lorenzaccio, had him eight times in his pedigree. The good thoroughbred sire and showjumper Heraldik had Hurry On twice in his fifth generation and once in his eighth generation.

With regard to (most other) horses that Lorenzaccio has been linebred to, I would like to point out this article written by Kathleen Kirsan: <http://www.sport-horse-breeder.com/show-jumper-hall-of-fame.html>

Now let's go one generation further to that great son of Lorenzaccio, namely Ahonoora, great grandsire of Definitely Red in tail mail line. Like mentioned before, Ahonoora was a sprinter, so unlike his sire who was a mile and a half horse. Ahonoora was 1st in the William Hill Sprint Championship (ENG-G1), King George S. (ENG-G3) 5f, Goodwood Stewards Cup 6f. 2nd King's Stand S. (ENG-G2) 5f., Sprint Cup (ENG-G2), Temple S. (ENG-G3). 3rd Bovis H. (ENG). The speed must mostly have come from his dam Helen Nichols.

Looking at the line breeding in the last 9 generations of Ahonoora, the following horses show up: Bruleur, Gay Crusader (grandson of Bay Ronald), Teddy, Colorado, Alcantara II (has Le Sancy, a jump influence), Chouberski (sire of Bruleur), Omnium (grandsire of bruleur), Kasbah, Swynford, Marchetta, Cyllene, St. Simon, Hackler, Marco, Chelandry, Bay Ronald (grandsire of Teddy), Phalaris, Scapa Flow, Chaucer, Hurry On, Friar's Daughter (by Friar Marcus), Blandford, White Eagle (grandsire of Blandford), Manna, Goody Two Shoes, Concertina (dam of Plucky Liege and granddam of Friar's Daughter), Desmond, Sundridge, Fair Trial, Gainsborough (grandson of Bay Ronald), Orme, Dark Ronald (son of Bay Ronald), Friar Marcus, Bayardo (son of Bay Ronald), The Tetrarch and Polymelus. However if we look at the biggest influences in the last 10 generations this changes and the most important influences come from St. Simon (by Galopin), Swynford, Fair Trial, Phalaris, Galopin, Canterbury Pilgrim (dam of Swynford, Swynford is sire of Blandford and Canterbury Pilgrim is behind Colorado, Colorado has Phalaris, Chaucer and Isinglass). It was Ahonoora's dam Helen Nichols that had two lines of Teddy and two lines of Fair Trial. In the pedigree of Teddy we find Dollar. Dollar is known as a horse that gave the ability to jump to his offspring and I already mentioned him in the part about Lorenzaccio. Dollar can also be found in the pedigrees of Bruleur (twice), North Star, Rittersporn, Ajax/Teddy, Ksar (behind Lorenzaccio, Manometer, Lucky Boy, Hugh Lupus 2x, Damascus and Milesian) and Mieuxce, which are all horses that can be found in the best jumpers in the world. Fair Trial is a son of Fairway (Phalaris and Chaucer) and Lady Juror (Son in Law and Sundridge). Son in Law is by Dark Ronald who is a son of Bay Ronald and the dam of Sundridge is Sierra who is a full sister to Sainfoin, the grandsire of Phalaris. Helen Nichols had quite her share of Phalaris blood, Phalaris is a speed influence but also a jump influence. Look for example at the very important Holstein licensed Thoroughbred stallion Ladykiller, who has Phalaris twice in his last four generations (<http://www.allbreedpedigree.com/ladykiller>) through Fair Trial and Colorado. Ladykiller's pedigree also shows the influence of the St. Simon son Chaucer. Also important in Helen Nichols' pedigree are Galopin and his son St. Simon, Stockwell, Hampton (sire of Bay Ronald) and Newminster. St. Simon, Galopin, Stockwell and Newminster are also influential in de pedigree of Lorenzaccio but are quite far back in the generations. Actually these horses have been hugely influential in a large percentage of Thoroughbreds.

I would like to add some more information with regard to Dark Ronald. Because Dark Ronald is the most influential thoroughbred horse in German sport horse breeding. His sire Bay Ronald and his dam Darkie share a number of ancestors in their seventh, eighth and ninth generations. Among others they share Birdcatcher and his sire Sir Hercules. Dark Ronald can be found in the pedigree of the elite showjumper Cumano through Corporal and Cor de la Bryere (twice). He can be found in the pedigree of thoroughbred stallions Ladykiller, Cottage Son and Furioso, in all through Son in Law (by Dark Ronald out of Mother in Law). Mother in Law added more of the lines that Dark Ronald also was linebred to.

In Ahonoora Fair Trial comes through Court Martial and Farthing Damages, the dam of Whistler. However Lorenzaccio already had Colorado, son of Phalaris and grandson of

Chaucer, in his pedigree and also Colombo who is a grandson of Phalaris and Chaucer, so Helen Nichols very much helped make that part of the pedigree become stronger. Court Martial has Hurry On and Son in Law in his pedigree, just like the very important Selle Francais showjumping thoroughbred sire Furioso. That hugely important stallion Cor de la Bryere has Son in Law twice in his fifth generation.

Spirit Lake has Phalaris 30 times in his last 10 generations, 16 times through Fair Trial and 4 times through Colorado, among others. Fair Trial comes 8 times through Court Martial.

Ahonoora also twice has the mare Marchetta in his pedigree. Once through Sweet Lavender and once through Rose Red. In the pedigree of Lorenzaccio we find Sweet Lavender in the tail female line of Klairon (sire of Lorenzaccio) and in the 4th generation of Helen Nichols we find Aurora, a granddaughter of Marchetta.

Marchetta is also behind Royal Charger son Turn To and Definitely Red has Turn To twice in his pedigree. Royal Charger has already been discussed with regard to Lorenzaccio/Blandford.

Swynford (1907) also is a rather big influence in the pedigree of Ahonoora, showing up 7 times. Of course I already said that Swynford is the sire of Blandford but he also is the sire of Sweet Lavender. The dam of Swynford is Canterbury Pilgrim and she is also the dam of Chaucer. Chaucer that we find in combination with Phalaris a lot. Swynford won the following races: St. Leger, Eclipse Stakes, Hardwicke Stakes (twice) and Princess of Wales Stakes. Swynford can be found 27 times in the last 10 generations of the pedigree of Definitely Red and might be found (many) more times beyond the 10th generation.

The dam of Swynford and Chaucer, Canterbury Pilgrim, can be found 92 times in the pedigree of my guy Spirit Lake.

A horse that can also be found quite a lot in the dam of Ahonoora is Gainsborough (1915). Gainsborough can be found 18 times in the last 10 generations of Definitely Red but might be present many times more beyond the 10th generation. Gainsborough is by Bayardo out of Rosedrop. Bayardo is also the sire of Gay Crusader, the horse that can twice be found in the pedigree of Lorenzaccio. The most important son of Gainsborough is Hyperion (1930). Gainsborough can be found in the pedigree of Court Martial and twice behind Ballymoss. Ballymoss can be found twice in the pedigree of Definitely Red, in the 4th and in the 7th generations. Another son of Gainsborough is Solario (1922) who can be found in the pedigree of Royal Charger. Hyperion can be found 5 times and Solario 8 times in the pedigree of Definitely Red. The great retired steeplechaser Remember Rose (2003) has at least 16 occurrences of Gainsborough of which 5 times through Hyperion.

My own stallion Spirit Lake has Hyperion at least 13 times and Solario at least 14 times but because quite a lot occurrences are in the 10th generation there might be more beyond that.

After going from Lorenzaccio (1965) to Ahonoora (1975), we now go to the most important son of Ahonoora, namely Indian Ridge (1985), grandsire of Definitely Red. The dam of Indian Ridge is Hillbrow (1975). Hillbrow has in her last eight generations linebreeding to Gainsborough, Selene (dam of Hyperion), Tracery (his grandsire Sainfoin is also the grandsire to Phalaris), Broomstick, Nasrullah, Blandford, Phalaris, Rock Sand (sire of

Tracery), Polymelus, Hainault (has Swynford and Sainfoin), Fair Trial, Colorado and Hurry On.

The most striking aspect in the combination of Ahonoora and Hillbrow is however the fact that Hillbrow adds another line of the mare Discipliner who is by Court Martial and out of Louise. Discipliner can be found twice in the fourth generation of Indian Ridge through her sons Martial and Skymaster. As Court Martial is by Fair Trial and Discipliner carries another line of Fair Trial through the mare Irish Candy, this means Indian Ridge carries Fair Trial four times in total. So let's have a further look at Fair Trial. Fair Trial was by Fairway, a son of Phalaris out of a daughter of Chaucer. The dam of Fair Trial is Lady Juror. He was a rather good miler but not exceptional but he was a good sire. Like I mentioned before Fair Trial can be found in the pedigree of the very important Holstein showjumping Thoroughbred stallion Ladykiller. Fair Trial via Skymaster can be found in the pedigree of Sky Boy, sire of the very good showjumpers Ballinagrane (1983), Cartier's Leap of Faith (1987), Fresh Start (1985), Kyle Boy (1984), Morning Sky (1987), Palm Beach (1984), Parkmore Star (1987), Sky High V (?), T'Watson de l'Ain (1983) and a whole bunch of very good eventing horses as well. He also is the dam sire of the good showjumper and sire Cruisings Micky Finn. Through Lyphard Fair Trial is behind the very good eventing sire Ghareeb and through Hotfoot behind the stallion Stan the Man. And of course he is the sire of the Thoroughbred stallion Courville, the sire of Jasper (Little One), an excellent halfblood showjumper and sire.

Hillbrow has Nasrullah, who I wrote about earlier, twice in her pedigree.

Hillbrow was by Swing Easy out of Golden City.. The sire of Hillbrow is Swing Easy, who twice has Selene in his pedigree, through Sickle and through Hyperion. Selene is a great granddaughter of Dolabella, granddam of Big Game. Myrobella, daughter of Dolabella, can be found twice in the pedigree of that great Irish sporthorse showjumper Flexible (1996). Once in his fifth generation through Big Game and once in his sixth generation through daughter Snowberry. The sire of Swing Easy, Delta Judge, brings in another instance of Friar's Daughter through Bahram in the pedigree of Noor. Friar's Daughter I already discussed when discussing Lorenzaccio (and Biko).

Another good steeplechaser is Great Field (2011) by Great Pretender out of the Definite Article daughter Eaton Lass. Apart from the two times that Discipliner shows up in the pedigree via Definite Article, there is another instance of Discipliner through Skymaster, therefore Discipliner can be found once in the 5th generation and twice in the 7th generation. Also, Court Martial can be found through other descendants in the 5th generation. Also important in this horse's pedigree is the influence of Nearco/Nasrullah.

The multiple champion racemare Azeri (1998), winner of more than 4 million USD, has linebreeding to Court Martial. The dam of Azeri is a daughter of Ahonoora and Azeri is 6x6x6 Court Martial.

Spirit Lake has Court Martial 8 times in his pedigree.

Something that comes to the fore as well in Indian Ridge, is the linebreeding to Bull Lea (1935) and Hyperion who both have Bay Ronald (1893) in their pedigrees. Hyperion also brings in more Chaucer. Bay Ronald is by Hampton out of Black Duchess (also the third dam of Blandford, the sire of Blenheim) and he can be found in the pedigrees of many sporthorses. He was not a very exceptional racehorse but he became the best sire son of his

sire Hampton. Hyperion has Bay Ronald through his sire Gainsborough and Bull Lea gets the Bay Ronald bloodline through Teddy. Bull Lea has Newminster, the great grandsire of Bay Ronald, a number of times in his pedigree. Gainsborough was already talked about when discussing Ahonoora.

Indian Ridge is the grandsire of four star eventing horse Indian Mill (2005).

Now we go further to the son of Indian Ridge and sire of Definitely Red: Definite Article. Definite Article is out of Summer Fashion (1985) and she brings in another line of Lorenzaccio, who therefore shows up twice in the third generation of Definite Article. In Lorenzaccio we find the mare Sweet Lavender (1923, by Swynford out of Marchetta) in his 3rd generation and Sweet Lavender shows up another time in the pedigree of Definitely Red in his dam. Therefore she can be found three times in the 7th generation, twice via her daughter Kalmia and once via her daughter Lavendula II, in the pedigree of Turn To. Further we find Borealis (1941) in the pedigree of the broodmare sire of Definite Article, Moorestyle (1977). Borealis is by Brumeux out of aurora. Aurora was already mentioned when Ahonoora was discussed. Aurora also comes from the Marchetta dam line. Borealis twice has Bay Ronald (through Hyperion and Teddy) and Canterbury Pilgrim (through Chaucer and Swynford) and four times St. Simon. So again and again we see these same influences.

The dam of Definite Article twice brings in Nearco (1935), once through Nasrullah and once through son Arctic Star. She also twice carries Hard Sauce in her pedigree (1948) who comes from the Phalaris sire line and among others carries Teddy and The Boss (1910), a son of Orby. Orby can be found twice behind Skymaster. Teddy can be found behind Djebel.

Teddy can be found at least 14 times in the pedigree of Definitely Red and at least 13 times in the pedigree of Remember Rose. In the pedigree of 1.60 metres showjumper and showjumping sire Laudanum, Teddy can be found twice in the 5th generation and once in the 7th generation. The sire of Teddy, Ajax, can be found in the pedigree of Nearco. Nearco is another horse with the Phalaris and Chaucer bloodlines. His sire Pharos is by Phalaris out of a daughter of Chaucer. Nearco carries quite a lot of St. Simon blood. Ajax is the dam sire of Orange Peel, a Thoroughbred stallion that was/is a big influence in the sport horse breeding of France. Ajax can be found six times in the seventh generation of that terrific showjumper and sire Quidam de Revel.

Teddy can be found at least 23 times in my stallion Spirit lake.

The elite showjumping mare Butterfly Flip (<https://www.horsetelex.nl/horses/pedigree/203490/h-m-butterfly-flip>) has linebreeding to Galopin (through thoroughbred stallion Rittersporn), to Son in Law/Dark Ronald, Marco, Ajax, Blandford/Swynford, Ksar/Bruleur, Phalaris, Tracery and Canterbury Pilgrim.

The 1.60 meters (15.3 hands) high show jumping thoroughbred stallion Favoritas (<https://www.horsetelex.nl/horses/pedigree/71203/favoritas-xx>) jumped 1.60 meters high courses with the greatest ease. Favoritas has a great dose of Bay Ronald/Dark Ronald in his pedigree and also of Hurry On (Marco and Sainfoin).

With this analysis I have tried to point out the importance of the Lorenzaccio / Ahonoora / Indian Ridge lines with regard to steeple chase breeding, eventing breeding and breeding for showjumping.
