



PEDIGREE PROFILE

by Rommy Faversham

Can I'll Have Another succeed at a mile and a half?

The narrative is well established. The Belmont Stakes (G1), indeed the "Test of Champions," has a long history of disappointment for those hoping to witness the completion of racing's Triple Crown.



I'LL HAVE ANOTHER
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This, of course, includes the last 11 horses who made it to New York with the opportunity of taking home the Holy Grail-like trophy only to fail in doing so.

This year's aspiring drought-breaker, I'll Have Another, appears to benefit from a series of favorable qualities, not the least of which is his consistent knack of achieving optimal stalking position.

As to the critical issue of distance limitations, I'll Have Another has a truly 'Belmont Stakes-friendly' pedigree with a family tree dominated by ancestors steeped in stamina.

The Kentucky-bred chestnut hails from the second crop of Flower Alley who never tried 12 furlongs, but showed his ability to handle a classic distance when drawing off to a commanding victory in the 2005 Travers Stakes (G1). Several months later, Flower Alley finished a solid second in the Breeders' Cup Classic Powered by Dodge (G1).

On the bottom half, I'll Have Another's dam, Arch's Gal Edith, won her only start, a maiden allowance sprint at Belmont as a three-year old.

Her sire Arch captured the 1¼-miles Super Derby (G1). Sire of Breeders' Cup Classic (G1) winner Blame and Canadian Horse of the Year Arravale, a Grade 1 winner at 1¼ miles, Arch's descendants clearly show an appreciation for longer distances.

I'll Have Another's second dam, Force Five Gal, won three of 27 career starts, most of these run on turf. Two of her wins were at 1½ miles.

Force Five Gal's long-winded sire, Jockey Club Gold Cup (G1) winner Pleasant Tap, produced Japan Cup (Jpn-G1) winner Tap Dance City as well as Emirates Airline Champion Stakes (Eng-G1) winner David Junior.

The sire of I'll Have Another's third dam was Irish St. Leger (Ire-G1) winner Caucasus, whose best offspring was the filly

I'll Have Another, ch. c., 2009

Flower Alley 02 186 fls, 6 SWs SI 2.16 DI=1.73	Distorted Humor 93 8 wins, \$769,964, SW 1047 fls, 109 SWs SI 2.53 DI=2.30	Forty Niner 85 918 fls, 57 SWs SI 2.13 DI=2.63	Mr. Prospector 70	Raise a Native 61 Gold Digger 62
		Danzig's Beauty 87 14 fls, 2 SWs DI=3.44	File 76	Tom Rolfe 62 Continue 58
	Princess Olivia 95 3 wins, \$43,833 7 fls, 3 SWs DI=1.50	Lycius 88 559 fls, 30 SWs SI 0.90 DI=3.48	Danzig 77	Northern Dancer 61 Pas de Nom 68
		Dance Image (Ire) 90 7 fls, 1 SW DI=1.04	Sweetest Chant 78	Mr. Leader 66 Gay Sonnet 69
Arch's Gal Edith 02 4 fls, 1 SW DI=1.15	Arch 95 5 wins, \$480,969, SW 638 fls, 38 SWs SI 2.10 DI=1.90	Kris S. 77 839 fls, 93 SWs SI 3.04 DI=1.60	Mr. Prospector 70	Raise a Native 61 Gold Digger 62
		Aurora 88 11 fls, 4 SWs DI=3.16	Lypatia (Fr) 75	Lyphard 69 =Hypatia (GB) 68
	Force Five Gal 94 3 wins, \$103,365, Spl 7 fls, 0 SWs DI=1.00	Pleasant Tap 87 840 fls, 56 SWs SI 1.47 DI=1.67	Sadler's Wells 81	Northern Dancer 61 Fairy Bridge 75
		Last Cause 85 10 fls, 0 SWs DI=0.66	Diamond Spring 77	*Vaguely Noble 65 Dumfries 73
			Roberto 69	Hail to Reason 58 Bramalea 59
			Sharp Queen 65	*Princequillo 40 Bridgework 55
			Danzig 77	Northern Dancer 61 Pas de Nom 68
			Althea 81	Alydar 75 Courtly Dee 68
			Pleasant Colony 78	His Majesty 68 Sun Colony 68
			Never Knock 79	Stage Door Johnny 65 Never Hula 69
			Caucasus 72	Nijinsky II 67 Quill 56
			Last Bird 73	*Sea-Bird 62 Patelin 68

Videogenic, winner of multiple graded stakes at 12 furlongs.

Finally, *Sea-Bird, the sire of our subject's fourth dam, won the Epsom Derby and Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, and later became an important source of stamina, siring Arc heroine Allez France and Belmont Stakes winner Little Current.

The accompanying chart compares key male ancestors in I'll Have Another's pedigree to those of the other four 21st century winners of the Triple Crown's first two legs.

It shows that all five dual classic winners descend from female lines whose male unions are primarily known for their transmission of endurance over speed, none more so than I'll Have Another.

Perhaps the biggest difference between I'll Have Another's pedigree and those of the other four is their sire's racing profile. Boundary and Our Emblem were dedicated sprinters while Elusive Quality and Distorted Humor were sprinter-milers. Only Flower Alley was proven at a classic distance, albeit two furlongs short of the Belmont.

As best as one can tell, the right style and substance are both there. This could be the year.

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

21st century winners of the Kentucky Derby and Preakness

Horse (Year)	Sire	Broodmare sire	Sire of 2nd dam	Sire of 3rd dam	Sire of 4th dam
I'll Have Another (2012)	Flower Alley	Arch	Pleasant Tap	Caucasus	*Sea-Bird†
Big Brown (2008)	Boundary	Nureyev	Lear Fan	Damascus•	Round Table
Smarty Jones (2004)	Elusive Quality	Smile	Foolish Pleasure	*Herbager	*Ambiorix
Funny Cide (2003)	Distorted Humor†	Slewacide	Little Current•	Graustark†	Bold Ruler†
War Emblem (2002)	Our Emblem	Lord At War	The Pruner	*Sky High II	Roman

• = won the Belmont Stakes; † = sired a Belmont Stakes winner