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**SUBJECT: RESULT OF 121ST THE MEGURO KINEN**

The MEGURO KINEN established in 1932 is the oldest handicap race in Japanese racing history. Named after the location where Tokyo Racecourse was situated before being moved to its current place at Fuchu, the MEGURO KINEN was a biannual event until 1984 when the racing calendar was altered in conjunction with the newly implemented grading system. The distance, which initially began at 3,400 meters, was also shortened to its current 2,500 meters and the race is positioned as a major step race, leading to the Takarazuka Kinen (G1, 2,200m) held at Hanshin racecourse in the end of June.

Though newly designated as an international event in 2005, no foreign runners have contested the race to this date.

Opera City (JPN, by Opera House) won out a close four-horse rally while establishing a new course record over 2,500 meters at 2:29.8 in 2005. Pop Rock (JPN, by Helissio), after winning the race last year, proved successful overseas, just missing by a head in the Melbourne Cup (AUS, G1, 3,200m) to stable-mate Delta Blues, then finished second to Deep Impact in his following start in the Arima Kinen (G1, 2,500m).

**THE 121ST MEGURO KINEN**

3-year-old & up, 2,500 meters (about 12.5 furlongs), turf, left-handed

Sunday, May 27, 2007 Tokyo Racecourse 12th Race Post Time: 17:05

Handicap Race, Total prize money: ¥123,840,000 (about US\$ 1,076,000 < US\$1 = ¥115 >)

Safety factors: 18 runners. (Foreign Trained Horses: 5)

FP	BK	PP	Horse	Sex Age	Weight (kg)	Sire Dam	Jockey Trainer	Owner Breeder	Margin (L3F)	Odds (Fav)
1	1	2	Pop Rock (JPN)	H6	58.5	Helissio Pops	Y. Take K. Sumii	K. Yoshida Northern Farm	2:31.4 (34.5)	2.9 (1)
2	6	11	Coconut Punch (JPN)	C3	51.0	Manhattan Cafe Coco Passion	Y. Yoshida Y. Okubo	T. Yoshida Shadai Farm	Neck (34.3)	7.7 (4)
3	5	10	Admire Fuji (JPN)	H5	57.0	Admire Vega Admire Lapis	Y. Fukunaga M. Hashida	R. Kondo Tsuji Bokujo	1-1/2 (35.2)	19.7 (6)
4	2	3	Admire Monarch (JPN)	H6	55.0	Dream Well Split the Night	Y. Iwata H. Matsuda	R. Kondo Northern Farm	2-1/2 (34.9)	24.6 (8)
5	3	6B	Go with Wind (JPN)	H8	52.0	Fraise Aire Tesco	H. Goto S. Kunieda	M. Okada Oto Farm Hiwatari	1 (36.1)	104.1 (16)
6	8	18	Senkaku (JPN)	H5	53.0	Marvelous Sunday Seimei	T. Eda M. Ikegami	M. Nakamura Meisei Bokujo	Neck (35.6)	41.9 (13)
7	2	4	Admire Title (JPN)	H5	55.0	Admire Vega Admire Monroe	K. Tanaka M. Kono	R. Kondo Tsuji Bokujo	Nose (35.6)	6.6 (3)
8	5	9	Advantage (JPN)	C4	52.0	Helissio Copper Butterfly	M. Matsuoka K. Hagiwara	North Hills Management Co. Ltd. T. Doi	Neck (36.3)	25.0 (9)
9	3	5	Thaw Your Frost (JPN)	H6	55.0	Commander in Chief Baltic Chill	M. Ebina K. Seishi	H. Usuda Chiyoda Farm Shizunai	Neck (35.7)	37.3 (11)
10	8	17	Tokai Trick (JPN)	H5	58.0	El Condor Pasa Zoonacqua	H. Miyuki S. Matsumoto	M. Uchimura F. Tsuchida	Neck (35.2)	4.8 (2)
11	4	7	Rose Prestige (JPN)	C3	49.0	Dance in the Dark Rose Colour	H. Uemura K. Hashiguchi	Sunday Racing Co. Ltd. Northern Farm	1-1/2 (35.2)	20.4 (7)
12	4	8	Meiner Neos (JPN)	C4	51.0	Stay Gold Meine Pretender	A. Tsumura R. Inaba	K. Thoroughbred Club Ruffian Big Red Farm	1-1/2 (35.2)	31.9 (10)
13	8	16	Bullet Lane (JPN)	H8	51.0	Sakura Laurel Showa Hanami	T. Kikuzawa T. Kaga	K. Hidaka Breeders Union Showa Bokujo	1-1/4 (36.1)	196.3 (17)
14	6	12	Chakra (JPN)	H7	54.0	Mayano Top Gun Carlossa	M. Ando A. Adachi	E. Tadokoro Tenba Bokujo	3-1/2 (36.1)	89.4 (15)
15	7	14	Meisho Ote (JPN)	H5	56.0	Sunday Silence Meisho Sabrina	H. Shii T. Umeda	Y. Matsumoto Shadai Farm	3 (37.6)	12.8 (5)
16	7	13	Grass Position (JPN)	H8	53.0	Real Shadai Ensoleille	I. Murata M. Ogata	Hanzawa Y. Hekiun Bokujo	Head (37.1)	200.4 (18)
17	1	1	Chaste Wing (JPN)	H6	55.0	Special Week Chase the Wind	H. Kitamura M. Akiyama	H. Usuda Northern Farm	3 (37.8)	38.3 (12)
18	7	15	Daddy's Dream (JPN)	H8	55.0	Tony Bin Daddy's Shoes	K. Ando H. Matsuda	Sunday Racing Co. Ltd. Shiraoi Farm	DIS* (46.5)	46.6 (14)

FP=Final Position, BK=Bracket Number, PP=Post Position, B=Blinkers, L3F=Time of Last 3 Furlongs (600m), \*=Distance

NOTE 1: No Foreign Contenders

NOTE 2: Figures quoted under Odds are Win Odds, which show the amount of money you get back per single unit (100yen), and Fav

indicates the order of favorites.

WINNING TIME: 2:31.4

GOING: Firm

WEATHER: Fine

TURNOVER FOR THE RACE ALONE:

¥5,473,989,700

TURNOVER FOR THE DAY:

¥45,199,313,200

ATTENDANCE: 131,185

**PAY-OFF (for 100)**

WIN	No.2	¥290	PLACE	No.2	¥160
BRACKET QUINELLA	1-6	¥1,250		No.11	¥310
QUINELLA	2-11	¥1,310	No.10	¥520	
EXACTA	2-11	¥2,360	2-11	¥680	
TRIO	2-10-11	¥10,280	2-10	¥1,470	
TRIFECTA	2-11-10	¥39,210	10-11	¥2,920	

- POP ROCK (JPN)**, 58.5kg, bay, horse, 6-year-old  
Helissio / Pops (Sunday Silence)  
Breeder: Northern Farm      Owner: Katsumi Yoshida  
Trainer: Katsuhiko Sumii      Jockey: Yutaka Take  
24 Starts 7wins  
Added money: ¥59,372,000      Career earnings: ¥376,965,200
- COCONUT PUNCH (JPN)**, 51.0kg, bay, colt, 3-year-old  
Manhattan Cafe / Coco Passion (Groom Dancer)  
Breeder: Shadai Farm      Owner: Teruya Yoshida  
Trainer: Yokichi Okubo      Jockey: Yutaka Yoshida
- ADMIRE FUJI (JPN)**, 57.0kg, dark bay or brown, horse, 5-year-old  
Admire Vega / Admire Lapis ( Be My Guest)  
Breeder: Tsuji Bokujo      Owner: Riichi Kondo  
Trainer: Mitsuru Hashida      Jockey: Yuichi Fukunaga

Coming off a sixth place finish in the Sheema Classic (G1, 2,400m) in Dubai in March this year, **Pop Rock** proved a different and won the Meguro Kinen title for the second year in a row. The son of Helissio, who carried 58.5 kilos, an increased weight of over 4 kilos compared to last year, after having finished second in two high-class G1 events; the Melbourne Cup (G1, 3,200m) in Australia and the Arima Kinen (G1, 2,500m) last December. Trainer, Katsuhiko Sumii enjoyed one of his best moments of his career winning two grade-race events on the same day. He had just celebrated his first Derby victory two races earlier with Vodka who became only the first filly in 64 years to capture the second leg of the Triple Crown and only the third overall after Hisatomo (1937) and Kurifuji (1943).

Ridden for the first time by Yutaka Take, the six-year-old bay saved ground in fifth position from stall two, and after being briefly boxed in after the last turn, easily caught up with the leader in the last 200 meters and held off a late charge from up and coming three-year-old **Coconut Punch**, who was fastest over the last three furlongs along the outside route after traveling mid-division. 1-1/2 length behind was **Admire Fuji**, who was close to the pace throughout in third, had enough gas in the final stages for the place. Although today's victory marks only his second grade-race title after winning the same race last year, he has proved extremely consistent in big events.

The Meguro Kinen broke off with **Advantage**, **Admire Fuji** first out in front as **Thaw Your Frost** quickly joined the leaders from the inside. **Advantage** continued to set the pace for most of the journey, maintaining a 1-1/2-length lead along the backstretch until **Go with Wind** who made a quick move after the 1000 meter marker, alternated the lead with **Advantage**, increasing the pace after the third corner. As the field turned for home heading towards the long uphill stretch, **Advantage** was used up and faded as **Admire Fuji** and **Go with Wind** continued to battle until being caught after the last furlong.

Fractional Time (sec./furlong): 06.9 - 11.4 - 11.8 - 13.0 - 13.1 - 12.6 - 11.6 - 12.3 - 11.6 - 11.7 - 11.4 - 11.8 - 12.2  
Last 4 furlongs - 47.1      Last 3 furlongs - 35.4

Positions at each corner:  
1st corner      9(5,10)6(2,18)(11,16)(3,7,17,13)1,4,12(8,14,15)  
2nd corner      9,10,5(6,14)(2,13)(11,18,4)(3,16)(7,17)(1,15)(12,8)  
3rd corner      (\*9,6)14(10,4)(13,1)5(18,16)2,17(3,11,7)12,15,8  
4th corner      (\*9,6)-(10,14)(5,18,14)(2,16,1)13(3,11,17)7,12,8=15

Note: horse numbers are indicated in the order of their positions at each corner, with the first position listed first. Two or more horses inside the same parentheses indicate that they were positioned side by side. Hyphens between the horse numbers indicate that there is distance between the former and the latter. The asterisk indicates a slight lead.