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DATE: March 29, 2008

SUBJECT: RESULTS OF THE 56TH NIKKEI SHO (G2)

The Nikkei Sho, established in 1953, is regarded as one of the important step-up races during the spring campaign towards the Tenno Sho Spring (G1). It is also regarded as a useful race for those in the breeding industry, in which to judge a horse's ability as a stayer and as a sire prospect.

The race was designated an international race in 2002, however, no foreign horses have run in this event although nominations have been made in the past—none were nominated this year.

Never Bouchon (JPN, by Marvelous Sunday) won the race in 2:31.8, just 0.5 seconds short of the race record set by Ingrandire (JPN, by White Muzzle) in 2003.

THE 56TH NIKKEI SHO (G2)

4-year-old & up, 2,500 meters, right-handed, turf

Saturday, March 29, 2008 Nakayama Racecourse 11th Race Post time: 15:40

Total prize money: ¥ 136,720,000 (about US\$ 1,188,000 US\$ 1 = ¥ 115)

4-y-o: 56kg (about 123 or 124lbs), 5-y-o & up: 57kg (about 126lbs)

2kg allowance for Fillies & Mares, 1kg allowance for Southern Hemisphere horses born in 2004

Penalties: Winners*¹ of G1 races ... 2kg (1kg*²), G2 races ... 1kg (0kg*²) (after March 24, 2007)

G1 races ... 1kg (0kg*²) (before March 23, 2007)

*¹= Excluding 2-year-old race results, *²= Penalties for grade races limited to Fillies/Mares

Safety factor: 16 runners (Foreign Trained Horses: 8)

FP	BK	PP	Horse	Sex Age	Wgt (kg)	Sire Dam	Jockey Trainer	Owner Breeder	Margin (L3F)	Odds (Fav)
1	6	9	Maturida Gogh (JPN)	H5	59.0	Sunday Silence Paper Rain	M. Ebina S. Kunieda	F. Takahashi Okada Stud	2:32.7 (34.6)	2.3 (1)
2	1	1	Tosho Knight (JPN)	H7	57.0	Timber Country Midnight Oasis	T. Bushizawa K. Yasuda	E. Fujita Tosho Sangyo Corporation Tosho Bokujo	3 (34.7)	5.2 (3)
3	4	5	Admire Monarch (JPN)	H7	58.0	Dream Well Split the Night	I. Murata H. Matsuda	R. Kondo Northern Farm	1-3/4 (34.6)	4.6 (2)
4	8	12	Cosmo Bulk (JPN)	H7	58.0	Zagreb Iseno Tosho	M. Matsuoka K. Tabe	Big Red Farm Kano Bokujo	1-3/4 (35.8)	21.8 (7)
5	2	2B	Black Tide (JPN)	H7	57.0	Sunday Silence Wind In Her Hair	H. Yoshida Y. Ikee	Kaneko Makoto Holdings Co. Ltd. Northern Farm	Nose (35.4)	48.0 (10)
6	3	3	Tascata Sorte (JPN)	C4	57.0	Jungle Pocket Brilliant Cut	N. Yokoyama H. Fujiwara	Shadai Race H. Shadai Farm	3/4 (35.3)	12.1 (5)
7	7	11	Makihata Cyborg (JPN)	G6	58.0	Mejiro Bright Shin Miss Answer	Y. Shibata M. Shinkawa	Makimoto B. Makimoto Bokujo	1-3/4 (35.5)	45.2 (9)
8	8	13	Coconut Punch (JPN)	C4	56.0	Manhattan Cafe Coco Passion	Y. Yoshida Y. Okubo	T. Yoshida Shadai Farm	2-1/2 (35.7)	8.8 (4)
9	5	6	Gold Aguli (JPN)	C4	56.0	Tanino Gimlet Touch of Gold	M. Katsuura H. Toda	Star Horsemen's Club Shadai Farm	1/2 (35.7)	55.6 (11)
10	6	8	Red Dragon (JPN)	C4	56.0	Ciro I My Me	H. Sakai C. Hori	I. Nakamura Nibutani Farm	Neck (35.5)	157.5 (12)
11	4	4	Yoichi South (JPN)	H7	57.0	Opera House Bold Tesco	T. Eda Y. Sugawara	K. Kato Ichiyama Bokujo	6 (37.8)	30.2 (8)
12	7	10	Lucky Break (JPN)	H7	57.0	Geri Seattle Rockette	K. Tanaka H. Otonashi	T. Matsuoka Shimokobe Farm	3 (37.1)	167.6 (13)
13	5	7	Silk Famous (JPN)	H9	57.0	Marvelous Sunday Saint Sailor	Y. Fukunaga I. Sameshima	Silk Co.Ltd Hayata Farms	2-1/2 (39.6)	15.5 (6)

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

NOTE1: No Foreign Contenders.

NOTE2: 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: 2:32.7

GOING: Firm

WEATHER: Fine

TURNOVER FOR THE RACE ALONE:

¥ 3,228,494,000

TURNOVER FOR THE DAY:

¥ 8,939,601,700

ATTENDANCE: 29,641

PAY-OFF (for ¥100)

WIN	No.9	¥230	PLACE	No.9	¥110
BRACKET QUINELLA	1-6	¥600		No.1	¥130
QUINELLA	1-9	¥630		No.5	¥130
EXACTA	9-1	¥1,020	QUINELLA PLACE	1-9	¥230
TRIO	1-5-9	¥630		5-9	¥210
TRIFECTA	9-1-5	¥2,650		1-5	¥270

1. MATSURIDA GOGH (JPN), bay, horse, 5-year-old

Sunday Silence / Paper Rain (Bel Bolide)

Breeder: Okada Stud

Owner: Fumie Takahashi

Trainer: Sakae Kunieda

Jockey: Masayoshi Ebina

17 Starts, 8 Wins (4th Grade race win)

Added money: ¥64,952,000

Career earnings: ¥453,817,000

2. TOSHO KNIGHT (JPN), chestnut, horse, 7-year-old

Timber Country / Midnight Oasis (Java Gold)

Breeder: Tosho Sangyo Corporation Tosho Bokujo

Owner: Eisei Fujita

Trainer: Kazutaka Yasuda

Jockey: Tomoharu Bushizawa

3. ADMIRE MONARCH (JPN), bay, horse, 7-year-old

Dream Well / Split the Night (Tony Bin)

Breeder: Northern Farm

Owner: Riichi Kondo

Trainer: Hiroyoshi Matsuda

Jockey: Issei Murata

2007 Arima Kinen champion and last year's third place **MATSURIDA GOGH**, who was sent to post favorite in the field of 13, romped to an easy victory this year to claim the Nikkei Sho title. **MATSURIDA GOGH** is the second besides **SYMBOLI RUDOLF**, winner of the 1985 Nikkei Sho, to capture the race following his Arima Kinen title in the previous season.

YOICHI SOUTH broke well setting the pace the first 1000 meters, but gave up the lead to **SILK FAMOUS**, who opened a ten length gap with four furlongs to go, then flattened out and caught by **YOICHI SOUTH** and **COSMO BULK**, along with race favorite **MATSURIDA GOGH** after the third corner. Settling in fourth and two wide most of the journey, **MATSURIDA GOGH**, assigned top impost of 59kg's, had no trouble finding his stride and pulled away at the top of the lane, jogging across the wire with **TOSHO KNIGHT** 3 lengths behind in second. Aiming for his second grade race title this season, **ADMIRE MONARCH** showed good effort in the straight to grab third, 1-3/4 lengths behind that.

TOSHO KNIGHT saved ground and traveled fifth, while **ADMIRE MONARCH** sat near the rear of the field most of the way. As the winner took control down the stretch, twice runner-up **TOSHO KNIGHT** exerted a good drive but lacked the needed response to capture his long desired title in his fourth bid.

Fractional Time (sec./furlong): 07.2-12.2-12.3-12.1-12.0-12.1-12.2-12.1-12.2-12.7-12.0-11.3-12.3
 Last 4 furlongs – 48.3 Last 3 furlongs – 35.6

Positions at each corner: 1st corner 7-4,12,9(1,2)-(3,13)11,6,10-5-8
 2nd corner 7=4,12-9(1,2)3-13(6,11)(10,5)8
 3rd corner 2nd lap 7=(4,12)9(1,2)(11,3)(13,5)6(8,10)
 4th corner 2nd lap 9(4,12)(7,1,2,3)(11,13)5-6,8-10

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.