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**SUBJECT: RESULT OF THE 22ND CENTAUR STAKES (G2)**

THE CENTAUR STAKES, named after the statue of Centaur of the Greek mythology which stands on top of the fountain within the park area of Hanshin Racecourse, was initially 1,400 meters as a GIII event in conjunction with the start of the grading system in 1987. The race was shortened to 1,200 meters in 2000 and became a major step race for the Sprinters Stakes (G1). In 2005, the race was designated as an international race, and, together with the Sprinters Stakes (G1), has become a part of the Global Sprint Challenge, a new opportunity for sprinters around the world seeking to test their abilities at an international level. The race was upgraded from G3 to G2 in 2006.

The only international sprint series on turf, which consisted of eight races (Australia-2, United Kingdom-3, Japan-2, Hong Kong-1), was joined by two prestigious sprint G1 events, The Darley July Cup Stakes (G1, United Kingdom) and the Age Classic (G1, Australia) this year. The CENTAUR STAKES is the fifth leg of the series.

Takeover Target (AUS, by Celtic Swing), who was the first foreign contender to take part in this race in 2006 (none participated in 2005), finished second and proceeded to win his following Global Sprint start, the Sprinters Stakes (G1). The gelding became the series champion of 2006.

Sans Adieu (JPN, by French Deputy) won last year's race, crossing the wire in a record tying 1:07.1 first set by Believe (JPN, by Sunday Silence) in 2002. Affected by the outbreak of the equine influenza both in Japan and Australia, the race was held without challenge from abroad.

This year, four British-trained runners, Benbaun (IRE), Garnica (FRA), Masta Plasta (IRE) and Tax Free (IRE) were selected to run but all four withdrew their entries and the race was contested between an all-Japanese field.

**THE 22ND CENTAUR STAKES (G2):**

3-year-old & up, 1,200 meters (about 6f), right-handed, turf  
Sunday, September 14, 2008 Hanshin Racecourse 10th Race Post time: 15:35

Total prize money: ¥127,800,000 (about US\$1,111,000; US\$1 = ¥115)

3-y-o: 55kg (about 121 lbs), 4-y-o & up: 57kg (about 126 lbs), 2kg allowance for fillies & mares,

2kg allowance for southern hemisphere horses born in 2005

Penalties: Winners<sup>\*1</sup> of G1 races ... 2kg (1kg<sup>\*2</sup>), G2 races ... 1kg (0kg<sup>\*2</sup>) (after Sep.8, 2007)

G1 races ... 1kg (0kg<sup>\*2</sup>) (before Sep.7, 2007)

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

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

FP	BK	PP	Horse	S&A	Wgt (kg)	Sire Dam	Jockey Trainer	Owner Breeder	Margin (L3F)	Odds (Fav)
1	2	4	Kanoya Zakura (JPN)	F4	55.0	Sakura Bakushin O Woodmans Chic	F. Komaki K. Hashiguchi	K. Kanda Hamamoto Bokujo	1:07.3 (33.2)	7.6 (3)
2	8	16 B	Symboli Gran (IRE)	H6	57.0	Grand Lodge Valixa	Y. Fukunaga Y. Hatakeyama	Symboli Stud T. Wada	1-1/4 (33.8)	46.9 (11)
3	6	12	Spring Song (JPN)	C3	55.0	Sakura Bakushin O Spring Ticket	K. Take A. Tsurudome	T. Yoshida Shadai Farm	1-1/4 (34.2)	22.4 (9)
4	7	13	Jolly Dance (JPN)	M7	55.0	Dance in the Dark Peterhof's Patea	Y. Iwata N. Hori	K. Kobayashi Nishikioka Farm	Neck (33.2)	21.1 (8)
5	1	1	Rhett Butler (JPN)	H6	57.0	Sunday Silence Scarlet Bouquet	K. Tsunoda M. Matsunaga	Shadai Race H. Shadai Farm	3/4 (33.6)	66.6 (13)
6	1	2	Tanino Martini (JPN)	H8	57.0	Warning Tanino Mail	S. Akiyama H. Sugai	Y. Tanimizu Country Bokujo	Head (33.8)	14.4 (7)
7	7	14	Maruka Phoenix (JPN)	C4	57.0	Dance in the Dark Miss Kirsty	K. Ikezoe M. Matsunaga	Kawacho Sangyo Hinode Bokujo	Neck (33.2)	8.6 (4)
8	4	8	Suzuka Phoenix (JPN)	H6	58.0	Sunday Silence Rose of Suzuka	Y. Take M. Hashida	K. Nagai Inahara Bokujo	Neck (33.1)	2.5 (1)
9	6	11	Fine Grain (JPN)	H5	59.0	Fuji Kiseki Mill Grain	H. Miyuki H. Nagahama	Shadai Race H. Shadai Farm	1/2 (33.7)	5.7 (2)
10	3	6	Spinning Noir (JPN)	H7	57.0	Spinning World Ocean Dream	K. Ando H. Nagahama	H. Hatasa Tomita Bokujo	1 (33.1)	55.5 (12)
11	5	10 B	Apollo Dolce (USA)	C3	55.0	Officer Summertime Val	M. Katsuura M. Horii	Apollo Thoroughbred Club Clarkland Farm	1/2 (33.5)	13.8 (6)
12	4	7	Copano Fujin (JPN)	H6	57.0	Hennessy Wedding Berry	Y. Fujioka T. Miya	S. Kobayashi Yanagawa Bokujo	Nose (33.5)	121.6 (15)
13	8	15	Marubutsu Easter (JPN)	C3	55.0	Sakura Bakushin O Miss Easter	R. Wada T. Nakao	T. Osawa Gerbera Park Stud	Neck (34.9)	110.9 (14)
14	5	9	Cosmo Bell (USA)	F4	55.0	Formal Dinner Blue Sword	T. Sato M. Nishizono	Big Red Farm Dr. D. W. Frazier	Neck (33.5)	10.9 (5)
15	2	3	Taiki Madeleine (JPN)	M5	55.0	Brian's Time Welsh Muffin	K. Watanabe S. Matsumoto	U. Taiki Farm Taiki Farm	1-1/2 (33.9)	158.8 (16)
16	3	5	Cool Sharon (JPN)	F4	55.0	King Halo Lady Peach	H. Uemura T. Meno	T. Kawakami S. Takenaka	3/4 (34.1)	29.7 (10)

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

**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: 1:07.3

GOING: Firm

WEATHER: Fine

TURNOVER FOR THE RACE ALONE: ¥ 4,624,836,700

TURNOVER FOR THE DAY: ¥ 11,983,855,700

ATTENDANCE: 32,487

**PAY-OFF (for ¥100)**

WIN	No.4	¥ 760	PLACE	No.4	¥ 320
BRACKET QUINELLA	2 - 8	¥ 9,280		No.16	¥ 1,330
QUINELLA	4 - 16	¥ 16,600	No.12	¥ 820	
EXACTA	4 - 16	¥ 26,720	QUINELLA PLACE	4 - 16	¥ 4,790
TRIO	4 - 12- 16	¥ 124,330		4 - 12	¥ 2,730
TRIFECTA	4 - 16 -12	¥ 881,820		12 - 16	¥ 13,100

- KANOYA ZAKURA (JPN), filly, chestnut, 4-year-old**  
Sakura Bakushin O / Woodmans Chic (Woodman)  
Breeder: Hamamoto Bokujo      Owner: Kaoru Kanda  
Trainer: Kojiro Hashiguchi      Jockey: Futoshi Komaki  
16 starts, 5 wins  
Added money: ¥61,218,000      Career earnings: ¥207,603,000
- SYMBOLI GRAN (IRE), horse, gray, 6-year-old**  
Grand Lodge / Valixa (Linamix)  
Breeder: Takahiro Wada      Owner: Symboli Stud  
Trainer: Yoshihiro Hatakeyama      Jockey: Yuichi Fukunaga
- SPRING SONG (JPN), colt, dark bay or brown, 3-year-old**  
Sakura Bakushin O / Spring Ticket (Tony Bin)  
Breeder: Shadai Farm      Owner: Teruya Yoshida  
Trainer: Akio Tsurudome      Jockey: Koshiro Take

**Kanoya Zakura** landed her second grade-race victory in this year's Centaur Stakes, displaying a fine turn of speed and great extended stride that enabled her to sweep past her rivals in the last furlong for a 1-1/4 length victory. The filly follows last year's winner Sans Adieu (JPN, by French Deputy) in claiming the title coming off a win in the Ibis Summer Dash and becoming the JRA Summer Spring Series Champion of the season.

The race broke off with **Tanino Martini** jumping out of the gate for a brief lead and soon overtaken by **Spring Song**, **Marubutsu Easter** and **Symboli Gran** from the outside. **Kanoya Zakura** was well placed just outside **Tanino Martini** in fifth position.

As the field turned for home, **Spring Song** continued on gamely while **Marubutsu Easter** was used up as **Symboli Gran** launched a rally from three out. However, **Kanoya Zakura** loomed boldly with flying strides that covered the last three furlongs in 33.2 seconds, enabling her to catch up with **Symboli Gran** when overtaking the leader and the Sakura Bakushin O filly continued to draw away once gaining command in the last 100 meters.

Race favorite and G1 winner, **Suzuka Phoenix** under Yutaka Take, advanced steadily from racing behind in the early stages, but failed to threaten with a belated rally.

Fractional Time (sec./furlong):      12.2 - 10.6 - 10.7 - 10.7 - 11.3 - 11.8  
Last 4 furlongs      44.5      Last 3 furlongs      33.8

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

Note: **Bold number** indicates the winning horse

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.