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 DATE: December 27, 2009



SUBJECT: RESULTS OF THE 54TH ARIMA KINEN (G1)

Established in 1956 under the name Nakayama Grand Prix, the current “Arima Kinen (Arima Memorial)” was re-named after the sudden death of the second president of the JRA, Yoriyasu Arima (1884-1957) who suggested the idea of holding a G1 event at Nakayama Racecourse, where a new grandstand had just been completed at the time, that would gain as much popularity as the Japanese Derby held at Tokyo Racecourse. The race was to be a season-end Grand Prix event with an added interest of being contested between runners chosen by racing fans—an “All-Star” event in Japanese Racing. Votes through ballots cast at racecourses and off-track betting sites as well as through mail and internet, determine the ten most popular runners that are eligible to run in the year-end G1 event, while the remaining runners consist of selected foreign runners and Japanese horses automatically picked in the order of earnings during the season.

Since 2000, foreign runners that won the Japan Cup (G1) were also invited to run in the Grand Prix race, and *Falbrav* (IRE, by Fairy King) and *Alkaased* (USA, by Kingmambo) were both eligible to run in 2002 and 2005 respectively, however, both horses did not run.

Officially designated as an international G1 race in 2007, the Arima Kinen was opened to allow up to four foreign entries (six foreign entries this year), but none were nominated to run in its inaugural running—no foreign runners have participated yet although Luca Cumani-trained *Purple Moon* (IRE) and *Marsh Side* (USA) were initially nominated to run. Last year’s race was won by *Daiwa Scarlet* (JPN, by Agnes Tachyon) who won the title to mark her fourth G1 victory prior to her retirement with eight wins and four seconds out of 12 career starts. Although *Vodka*, the top vote for this race did not make her appearance after her glorious international G1 victory in the Japan Cup, second choice *Buena Vista*, who captured two of this year’s three-year-old fillies’ Triple Crown races as well as finishing second (demoted to third for interference) in the third leg of the series was among the race favorites. *Maturida Gogh*, victor of the 2007 Arima Kinen, also made the lineup in his bid to regain his title after an unsuccessful 12th last year, while fourth favorite in the voting *Dream Journey* made his bid to top the all-star field after winning the spring version of the event, the Takarazuka Kinen (G1, 2,200m) in June.

The race record of 2:29.5 was set by *Zenno Rob Roy* (JPN, by Sunday Silence) in 2004.

THE 54TH ARIMA KINEN (G1)

3-year-old & up, 2,500 meters (about 12-1/2 furlongs), turf, right-handed
 Sunday, December 27, 2009 Nakayama Racecourse 10th Race Post time: 15:25
 Total prize money: ¥ 383,400,000 (about US\$ 4,260,000 US\$ 1 = ¥ 90)
 3-y-o: 55kg (about 121lbs), 4-y-o & up: 57kg (about 126lbs)
 2kg allowance for Fillies & Mares, 2kg allowance for Southern Hemisphere Bred born in 2006
 Safety factor: 16 runners (Foreign Trained Horses: 6)

FP	BK	PP	Horse	Sex Age	Wgt (kg)	Sire Dam	Jockey Trainer	Owner Breeder	Margin (L3F)	Odds (Fav)
1	5	9	Dream Journey (JPN)	H5	57.0	Stay Gold Oriental Art	K. Ikezoe Y. Ikee	Sunday Racing Co. Ltd. Shadai Corporation Inc.	2:30.0 (35.2)	4.0 (2)
2	1	2	Buena Vista (JPN)	F3	53.0	Special Week Biwa Heidi	N. Yokoyama H. Matsuda	Sunday Racing Co. Ltd. Northern Racing	1/2 (35.8)	3.4 (1)
3	3	6	Air Shady (JPN)	H8	57.0	Sunday Silence Air Déjà vu	H. Goto M. Ito	Lucky Field Co. Ltd. Tsunebumi Yoshihara	4 (35.7)	32.0 (11)
4	8	16	Forgettable (JPN)	C3	55.0	Dance in the Dark Air Groove	C. Lemaire Y. Ikee	Kaneko Makoto Holdings Co. Ltd. Northern Racing	Head (36.1)	9.6 (4)
5	2	4 B	Meiner Kitz (JPN)	H6	57.0	Chief Bearhart Takara Kanna	K. Miura S. Kunieda	K.Thoroughbred Club Ruffian Big Red Farm	2-1/2 (36.7)	33.2 (12)
6	7	14	Seiun Wonder (JPN)	C3	55.0	Grass Wonder Seiun Kunoichi	S. Fujita M. Ryoike	Takao Otani Yukifumi Tsutsui	2-1/2 (36.9)	21.0 (10)
7	4	7	Maturida Gogh (JPN)	H6	57.0	Sunday Silence Paper Rain	M. Ebina S. Kunieda	Fumie Takahashi Okada Stud	1-3/4 (37.6)	9.4 (3)
8	6	11	I Ko Piko (JPN)	C3	55.0	Manhattan Cafe Gander Rhapsody	H. Uchida M. Nishizono	Nishikioka B. Nishikioka Farm	4 (38.2)	17.2 (9)
9	7	13	Shadow Gate (JPN)	H7	57.0	White Muzzle Fabulous Turn	K. Tanaka Y. Kato	Tomokazu Iizuka Shadai Farm	3/4 (38.6)	123.4 (16)
10	3	5	Cosmo Bulk (JPN)	H8	57.0	Zagreb Iseno Tosho	F. Igarashi K. Tabe	Big Red Farm Kano Bokujo	Neck (38.1)	89.9 (15)

11	2	3	Miyabi Ranveli (JPN)	H6	57.0	Opera House Asteion	H. Yoshida K. Kato	Yoshikatsu Murakami Takehisa Hara	Head (38.7)	14.7 (7)
12	8	15	Never Bouchon (JPN)	H6	57.0	Marvelous Sunday Pearl Necklace	H. Kitamura M. Ito	T.H.Co. Ltd. Hayata Farms	7 (39.3)	60.0 (13)
13	4	8	Reach the Crown (JPN)	C3	55.0	Special Week Crownpiece	Y. Take K. Hashiguchi	Hiroyoshi Usuda Hiroyoshi Usuda	4 (40.6)	12.6 (5)
14	6	12	T M Precure (JPN)	M6	55.0	Paradise Creek Feriado	S. Kumazawa T. Igarashi	Masatsugu Takezono Taniguchi Bokujo	7 (41.0)	65.0 (14)
15	1	1	Unrivaled (JPN)	C3	55.0	Neo Universe Ballet Queen	M. Demuro Y. Tomomichi	Sunday Racing Co. Ltd. Northern Farm	7 (42.4)	14.9 (8)
--	5	10	Three Rolls (JPN)	C3	55.0	Dance in the Dark Three Roman	S. Hamanaka K. Take	Nagai Shoji Nagai Shoji Co. Ltd.	PU	13.5 (6)

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

PU=Pulled Up

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: 2:30.0

GOING: Firm

WEATHER: Fine

TURNOVER FOR THE RACE ALONE: ¥ 40,444,102,200

TURNOVER FOR THE DAY: ¥ 49,936,168,300

ATTENDANCE: 115,327

PAY-OFF (for ¥100)

WIN	No. 9	¥400	PLACE	No. 9	¥150
BRACKET QUINELLA	1 - 5	¥510		No. 2	¥140
QUINELLA	2 - 9	¥740		No. 6	¥380
EXACTA	9 - 2	¥1,510	QUINELLA PLACE	2 - 9	¥320
TRIO	2 - 6 - 9	¥5,460		6 - 9	¥830
TRIFECTA	9 - 2 - 6	¥18,890		2 - 6	¥1,400

1. DREAM JOURNEY (JPN), horse, bay, 5-year-old

Stay Gold / Oriental Art (Mejiro McQueen)

Breeder: Shadai Corporation Inc.

Owner: Sunday Racing Co., Ltd.

Trainer: Yasutoshi Ikee

Jockey: Kenichi Ikezoe

24 Starts, 9 Wins

Added money: ¥183,444,000

Career earnings: ¥769,511,000

Principal race performances:

'09 Takarazuka Kinen (G1) 1st

'09 Sankei Osaka Hai (G2) 1st

'09 Tenno Sho Spring (G1) 3rd

2. BUENA VISTA (JPN), filly, dark bay or brown, 3-year-old

Special Week / Biwa Heidi (Caerleon)

Breeder: Northern Racing

Owner: Sunday Racing Co., Ltd.

Trainer: Hiroyoshi Matsuda

Jockey: Norihiro Yokoyama

3. AIR SHADY (JPN), horse, chestnut, 8-year-old

Sunday Silence / Air Deja Vu (Northern Taste)

Breeder: Tsunebumi Yoshihara

Owner: Lucky Field Co., Ltd.

Trainer: Masanori Ito

Jockey: Hiroki Goto

Champion of this year's Takarazuka Kinen and second favorite of the field of 16, five-year-old **DREAM JOURNEY** proved a different horse from his fourth place finish last year to dominate the Arima Kinen, holding off race favorite filly **BUENA VISTA** by half a length. He is the first horse since Deep Impact in 2006 and ninth horse overall to win both the Takarazuka Kinen and Arima Kinen—horses of both races selected by vote by the racing fans—in the same year. Winner of multiple grade races, **DREAM JOURNEY** once again displayed his liking of the clock-wise course, as eight out of nine of his wins are on right-handed tracks.

As expected, the race started with **REACH THE CROWN** quickly assuming the lead, with **T M PRECURE** and

MIYABI RANVELI close in pursuit as the field ran past the grandstand first time around. **DREAM JOURNEY** sat second from last, while **BUENA VISTA** was rated much nearer to the pace than usual, around fifth to sixth in mid-pack. **AIR SHADY** was unhurried in the far rear.

REACH THE CROWN stretched his lead to five lengths as the field cruised down the backstretch, with **MIYABI RANVELI** and **T M PRECURE** forming the second group side by side, the rest following in another large group three to four lengths from that. However, the comfortable lead **REACH THE CROWN** enjoyed dissolved dramatically between the third corner and last corner as the second group, joined by 2007 champion **MATSURIDA GOGH** and **BUENA VISTA** making their move from the outside, picked off the tiring pace setter to attack the final straight. Sitting near the rear throughout, jockey Ikezoe timed his move perfectly as **DREAM JOURNEY** inched up gradually from the third corner, traveling wide to catch up with the leaders. Although **MATSURIDA GOGH** was the first to enter the stretch, **BUENA VISTA** easily took command at the furlong pole, but was outdueled by late stormer **DREAM JOURNEY** in the last 100 meters. Traveling in the rear, 11th pick **AIR SHADY** emerged from the outside demonstrating a belated but good drive to finish four lengths from **BUENA VISTA** in third.

OTHER HORSES:

- 4th: (16) **FORGETTABLE**– well behind the pace 13th-14th outside rival, willingly at straight
- 5th: (4) **MEINER KITZ**– rated inside mid-division, advanced going wide around last turn, even paced at straight
- 6th: (14) **SEIUN WONDER**– near rear along rail gradually advancing after first half held well at straight
- 7th: (7) **MATSURIDA GOGH**– keen early then settled in mid-division three out, quickly advanced nearing third corner and led briefly at head of straight, even paced thereafter
- 8th: (11) **I KO PIKO**– saved ground along rail mid-division no response at stretch
- 9th: (13) **SHADOW GATE**– rated just behind pace in fourth, inherited second position nearing the last corner but tired from early efforts
- 11th: (3) **MIYABI RANVELI**– away alertly chased leader along rail no more to give in last 400 meters
- 12th: (15) **NEVER BOUCHON**– raced three wide mid-division, out of contention after first half
- 13th: (8) **REACH THE CROWN**– broke sharply, made pace opening gap along backstretch, caught by rivals after third corner then faded
- 14th: (12) **T M PRECURE**– alternated for second early, dropped out of contention well before the last corner
- 15th: (1) **UNRIVALED**– prominent alongside Buena Vista around 5th drowned by passing rivals before last corner
- PU: (10) **THREE ROLLS**– injured tendon (left foreleg) and pulled up midway backstretch

Fractional Time (sec./furlong): 6.8 - 11.0 - 11.2 - 11.3 - 11.9 - 12.3 - 12.6 - 12.3 - 12.5 - 12.1 - 12.0 - 11.7 - 12.3
 Last 4 furlongs: 48.1 Last 3 furlongs: 36.0

Positions at each corner:	1st corner	8=3,12,13,1(11,2,10,15)(4,5,7)(14,16) <u>9</u> -6
	2nd corner	8-(3,12)-13,1(2,10)(11,15)(4,5,7)(14,16) <u>9</u> -6
	3rd corner (2nd lap)	(*8,3,13)(2,7)(1,11,4)15(5,12,14,16) <u>9</u> -6
	4th corner (2nd lap)	(13,*7)(3,2)(14,4,16)(8,11, <u>9</u>)1(5,6)15=12

Note1: **Underlined bold number** indicates the winning horse
 Note2: 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.