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 DATE: May 23, 2010



SUBJECT: RESULT OF THE 71ST YUSHUN HIMBA (G1, Japanese Oaks)

The Japanese version of the prestigious British Oaks, the Yushun Himba was established in 1938 and contested among runners limited to home-bred three-year-old fillies. Initially called the “Hanshin Yushun Himba” and held during the fall season at Hanshin Racecourse, the race acquired its current status as the Japanese Oaks upon changing its venue to Tokyo Racecourse in 1946. The race was also shifted to the spring season and is the richest in prize money and longest in distance among the current JRA races limited to fillies/mares. While the Oka Sho (G1, Japanese 1000 Guineas, 1,600m) serves in gauging the speed potentials in the future broodmares, the Yushun Himba is a championship race in which to discover the added quality of stamina as well as speed and winners of this race are highly rated as broodmares upon retirement to stud. Since 2003, the Yushun Himba began allowing participation of foreign-bred runners and the race is one of the last few graded races that conclude the final stage of the internationalization of JRA, opening its doors to foreign contestants and acquiring international G1 status beginning this year.

Last year’s Yushun Himba was won by **Buena Vista** (JPN, by Special Week) who claimed the second of three G1 events for three-year-old fillies and went on to prove competitive against top older G1 field of the opposite gender when finishing second in the Arima Kinen (G1, 2,500m) which earned her the season’s JRA award for Best Three-Year-Old Fillies.

Apapane was the only G1 winner in the field, having won the first leg of the filly’s version of the Triple Crown, the Oka Sho in April—she was also JRA’s Best Two-Year-Old Filly of 2009 with her first G1 title in the Hanshin Juvenile Fillies (1,600m). **Oken Sakura**, just 1/2 length behind that in the Oka Sho, is expected to better suit the longer distance while **Saint Emilion**, who finished third to **Oken Sakura** in the Flower Cup (G3, 1,800m) prior to the Oka Sho, passed up the mile G1 and chose to run in the Sankei Sports Sho Flora Stakes (G2, 2,000m), which she won, towards her first G1 attempt in this race.

Robe Decollete (USA, by Cozzene) set the race record in 2007 at 2:25.3 over the 2,400-meter distance.

THE 71ST YUSHUN HIMBA (G1, Japanese Oaks)

3-year-old fillies, 2,400 meters (about 12 furlongs), turf, left-handed

Sunday, May 23, 2010 Tokyo Racecourse 11th Race Post Time: 15:40

Total prize money: ¥ 205,070,000 (about US\$ 2,278,000< US\$1 = ¥90>)

3-y-o: 55 kg (about 121 lbs), 3 kg allowance for Southern Hemisphere horses born in 2007

Safety Factor: 18 runners

FP	BK	PP	Horse	Sex Age	Wgt (kg)	Sire Dam	Jockey Trainer	Owner Breeder	Margin (L3F)	Odds (Fav)
1	8	17	Apapane (JPN)	F3	55.0	King Kamehameha Salty Bid	M. Ebina S. Kunieda	Kaneko Makoto Holdings Co. Ltd. Kaneko Makoto Holdings Inc.	2:29.9 (35.2)	3.8 (1)
1	8	18	Saint Emilion (JPN)	F3	55.0	Zenno Rob Roy Moteck	N. Yokoyama M. Koga	Teruya Yoshida Shadai Farm	DH (35.3)	8.5 (5)
3	1	2	Agnes Waltz (JPN)	F3	55.0	Zenno Rob Roy Merlot Sweet	Y. Shibata H. Miyamoto	Takao Watanabe Shadai Farm	2 (36.1)	18.7 (8)
4	7	13	Animate Bio (JPN)	F3	55.0	Zenno Rob Roy Regenbogen	H. Goto K. Maki	Bio K. Northern Racing	1-1/4 (35.4)	30.3 (11)
5	3	6	Oken Sakura (JPN)	F3	55.0	Bago Run for the Dream	K. Ando H. Otonashi	Akira Fukui Takase Bokujo	Neck (35.6)	6.6 (3)
6	2	3	Apricot Fizz (JPN)	F3	55.0	Jungle Pocket Manhattan Fizz	H. Shii F. Kojima	Shadai Race H. Shadai Farm	1/2 (36.0)	6.8 (4)
7	6	11	Blooming Alley (JPN)	F3	55.0	Symboli Kris S Princess Olivia	M. Matsuoka S. Kojima	Shadai Race H. Shadai Farm	1/2 (35.9)	51.3 (14)
8	5	9	Morning Face (JPN)	F3	55.0	Special Week First Night	Y. Fujioka Y. Yahagi	Yoshimitsu Itaka Itaka Bokujo	4 (36.8)	36.5 (12)
9	5	10	Tagano Elisabeth (JPN)	F3	55.0	Special Week Stray Cat	Y. Kawada H. Matsuda	Shoji Yagi Shadai Corporation Inc.	2-1/2 (37.5)	86.9 (15)
10	3	5	Ginza Bonanza (JPN)	F3	55.0	Zenno Rob Roy Arwen	K. Ikezoe M. Ikegami	Hirofumi Arima Northern Racing	1-1/2 (37.5)	23.3 (9)
11	7	14	Shimmei Fuji (JPN)	F3	55.0	Fuji Kiseki Lady Muse	Y. Iwata T. Yasuda	Y.Oda K.I.Farm	2-1/2 (37.1)	14.9 (6)
12	6	12	Toreno Angel (JPN)	F3	55.0	Taiki Shuttle Ask Commander	K. Tosaki M. Ito	Toshihiro Hirosaki Fujiwara Breeding Stud	1-1/4 (37.5)	50.8 (13)

13	4	8	Princess Memory (JPN)	F3	55.0	Swept Overboard Little Blessing	M. Katsuura Y. Takahashi	Koji Kaiya Shadai Farm	Neck (37.5)	128.5 (17)
14	7	15	A Shin Returns (JPN)	F3	55.0	King Kamehameha Eishin Sansan	Y. Fukunaga M. Sakaguchi	Eishindo Co. Ltd. Eishin Bokujo	1/2 (38.2)	18.5 (7)
15	1	1	Cosmo Nemo Shin (JPN)	F3	55.0	Zenno Rob Roy Du Pre	S. Ishibashi H. Shimizu	Big Red Farm Yasushi Tomita	1-1/2 (38.4)	24.3 (10)
16	8	16	Stellar Lead (JPN)	F3	55.0	Special Week Welsh Stellar	K. Miura H. Mori	Hiroo Race Hiroo Race Co. Ltd.	Neck (37.9)	181.9 (18)
17	2	4	Shoryu Moon (JPN)	F3	55.0	King Kamehameha Moon the Dream	H. Uchida S. Sasaki	Wataru Ueda Takamura Bokujo	1/2 (38.8)	5.2 (2)
18	4	7 B	Nimaru Otome (JPN)	F3	55.0	Zenno Rob Roy Forest Zone	H. Kitamura Y. Tamura	Aki Itabashi Niikappu Hashimoto Bokujo	10 (40.6)	95.6 (16)

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: 2:29.9

GOING: Good

WEATHER: Rain

TURNOVER FOR THE RACE ALONE: ¥ 15,820,231,600

TURNOVER FOR THE DAY: ¥ 22,946,964,400

ATTENDANCE: 64,555

PAY-OFF (for ¥100)

WIN	No.17	¥210	PLACE	No.17	¥180
	No.18	¥380		No.18	¥270
BRACKET QUINELLA	8-8	¥1,750		No.2	¥450
QUINELLA	17-18	¥1,870	QUINELLA PLACE	17-18	¥900
EXACTA	17-18	¥1,520		2-17	¥2,020
	18-17	¥2,020	2-18	¥2,020	
TRIO	2-17-18	¥10,180	TRIFECTA	17-18-2	¥20,460
				18-17-2	¥24,290

- APAPANE (JPN)**, bay, filly, 3-year-old
King Kamehameha / Salty Bid (Salt Lake)
Breeder: Kaneko Makoto Holdings Inc. Owner: Kaneko Makoto Holdings Co., Ltd.
Trainer: Sakae Kunieda Jockey: Masayoshi Ebina
7 Starts, 5 Wins
Added money: ¥ 87,935,000 Career earnings: ¥299,458,000
Principal Race Performances: '10 Oka Sho (G1, Japanese 1000 Guineas) 1st
'09 Hanshin Juvenile Fillies 1st
- SAINT EMILION (JPN)**, dark bay or brown, filly, 3-year-old
Zenno Rob Roy / Moteck (Last Tycoon)
Breeder: Shadai Farm Owner: Teruya Yoshida
Trainer: Masaaki Koga Jockey: Norihiro Yokoyama
5 Starts, 4 Wins
Added money: ¥ 87,935,000 Career earnings: ¥167,741,000
Principal Race Performances: '10 Sankei Sports Sho Flora Stakes (G2) 1st
- AGNES WALTZ (JPN)**, chestnut, filly, 3-year-old
Zenno Rob Roy / Merlot Sweet (Hector Protector)
Breeder: Shadai Farm Owner: Takao Watanabe
Trainer: Hiroshi Miyamoto Jockey: Yoshitomi Shibata

Apapane and **Saint Emilion** shared the title for this year's Yushun Himba in its inaugural year as an international G1 event—it was the first time in JRA history that a G1 race resulted in a dead heat. The victory marked a Oka Sho-Yushun Himba double for **Apapane**—the 12th filly to accomplish the feat, and the first G1 win for **Saint Emilion** who had passed up the Oka Sho in favor of a G2 race over 2,000 meters for her preparation towards her first G1. The two winning jockeys, Masayoshi Ebina and Norihiro Yokoyama were kept in suspense as the stewards took a long time to come up with the final decision of the photo finish and congratulated each other with a bear hug as the final results were announced.

The race broke smoothly for all, with **Nimaru Otome** setting the early pace and **Agnes Waltz** the lone runner in second position two to three lengths behind while the rest of the field headed by second favorite, **Shoryu Moon** formed a long line another six to seven lengths back along the far stretch.

Race favorite **Apapane** was rated in mid-field three out and not far behind **Saint Emilion** and outside third pick, **Oken Sakura**.

Nimaru Otome, tired and soon faded as **Agnes Waltz** shifted into gear passing the 600 meter pole and ran on gamely up the long uphill as **Saint Emilion** and **Apapane** came charging from the outside side by side. The pair continued their duel as they overtook **Agnes Waltz** after the last 200 and both fillies refused to give in, right up to the finish line covering the 2,400-meter distance at 2:29.9 over the Tokyo turf rated good.

Other Horses:

4th :(13) **ANIMATE BIO** –kept aim on the winners, angled out and attempted to chase leaders.

5th :(6) **OKEN SAKURA** –positioned mid-division alongside winner, checked briefly but regained speed uphill, finished strongly.

6th :(3) **APRICOT FIZZ** –saved ground in mid-division, kept up well to Agnes Waltz up to last furlong but outrun after that.

7th :(11) **BLOOMING ALLEY** –broke slow, traveled off the pace most of the way, met traffic after last turn

8th :(9) **MORNING FACE** –sat behind Apricot Fizz, showed effort in stretch but fell behind in the last furlong.

9th :(10) **TAGANO ELISABETH** -outside Ginza Bonanza three wide in fourth or fifth, gave way grudgingly

10th :(5) **GINZA BONANZA** –between rivals behind Shoryu Moon up to last corner, lacked needed response uphill

11th :(14) **SHIMMEI FUJI** –sat in rear, improved position but never reached contention.

12th :(12) **TORENO ANGEL** –reserved second from last, never a contender

13th :(8) **PRINCESS MEMORY** –failed to threaten from traveling 5th along the rails.

14th :(15) **A SHIN RETURNS** –rated in 8th position three wide, moved up at last corner, even paced at stretch.

15th :(1) **COSMO NEMO SHIN** –hugged rail in fourth ran out of steam mid stretch.

16th :(16) **STELLAR LEAD** –traveled wide throughout in rear, never a factor

17th :(4) **SHORYU MOON** –good striking position in third up to last corner, empty before the uphill

Fractional Time (sec./furlong): 12.2 - 10.9 - 12.3 - 12.4 - 12.8 - 13.1 - 13.3 - 13.5 -13.5 - 12.0 - 11.5 - 12.4
 Last 4 furlongs: 49.4 Last 3 furlongs: 35.9

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

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.