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SUBJECT: RESULT OF THE 60TH YASUDA KINEN (G1) - The Final Leg of Asian Mile Challenge -

The YASUDA KINEN, a race to determine the best miler of the spring season, has welcomed over 40 foreign-trained horses since it was designated an international race in 1993, including 1995 champion *Heart Lake* from the U.A.E., 2000 winner *Fairy King Prawn* from Hong Kong and the winner of the 2006 Champions Mile-Yasuda double, *Bullish Luck*. The race which was one of the first two races to comprise the “Asian Mile Challenge” together with the Champions Mile held by the HKJC (Hong Kong Jockey Club) in 2005, became the final leg of the world’s richest four-race series with the addition of two attractive G1 races held by the Melbourne Racing Club of Australia (Futurity Stakes) and the Dubai Racing Club (Dubai Duty Free) in 2006. The project has succeeded in attracting outstanding milers from around the globe in their bid to prove their ability abroad.

Two-time Horse of the Year *Vodka*, succeeded in claiming the Yasuda Kinen title for the second time last year, and 2008 derby winner, *Deep Sky*, finished a close second while Hong Kong’s *Sight Winner* and *Armada* finished sixth and eighth respectively.

The race did not include both the defending champion and the runner-up of 2009 as both horses had already retired from racing, but *Faridat* who finished third came into the line-up as the highest rated runner among the Japanese field, while *Fellowship*, *Beauty Flash*, and *Sight Winner*—second, third and fourth in the third leg of the Asian Mile Challenge—added to make a full gate of 18. Aside from the three Hong Kong runners who all came with a G1 title under their belt, *Captain Thule* was the only G1 winner representing Japan. However, *Reach the Crown*, 2009 derby runner-up, had just come off a win in the Yomiuri Milers Cup (G2, 1,600m), which marked his successful career change from middle-distance to a mile.

Yasuda Kinen’s race record was set by *Agnes Digital* (USA, by Crafty Prospector), who covered the mile distance in 1:32.1 in 2003.

THE 60TH YASUDA KINEN (G1) - The Final Leg of Asian Mile Challenge -

3-year-old & up, 1,600 meters (about 1 mile), turf, left-handed

Sunday, June 6, 2010 Tokyo Racecourse 11th Race Post Time: 15:40

Total prize money: ¥211,000,000 (about US\$2,344,000 < US\$1 = ¥90 >)

3-y-o: 54kg (about 119lbs.), 4-y-o & up: 58kg (about 128lbs.)

2kg allowance for Fillies & Mares,

1kg allowance for Southern Hemisphere horses born in 2006, 2kg 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	Showa Modern (JPN)	H6	58.0	Air Jihad Yume Shibai	H. Goto H. Sugiura	Keiichi Yamagishi Shadai Farm	1:31.7 (34.6)	13.9 (8)
2	5	9	Super Hornet (JPN)	H7	58.0	Rodrigo de Triano You Sun Polish	Y. Fujioka Y. Yahagi	Masamitsu Tajima Gerbera Park Stud	1/2 (34.2)	12.1 (6)
3	1	2	Smile Jack (JPN)	H5	58.0	Tanino Gimlet She C'est Moi	K. Miura S. Kobiyama	Yomoji Saito Uemizu Bokujo	Head (34.3)	10.5 (5)
4	7	15	Triumph March (JPN)	C4	58.0	Special Week Kyoei March	H. Uchida K. Sumii	U.Carrot Farm Northern Farm	1/2 (35.3)	6.9 (2)
5	3	5	Sight Winner* (NZL)	G7	58.0	Faltaat Kinjinette	C. Williams J. Size	Wing Kun Tam Westbury Stud Ltd	Head (34.8)	58.1 (15)
6	3	6	Faridat (USA)	H5	58.0	Kingmambo Believe	M. Ebina S. Matsumoto	Koji Maeda North Hills Management	Neck (34.0)	18.7 (10)
7	4	8	Captain Thule (JPN)	H5	58.0	Agnes Tachyon Air Thule	N. Yokoyama H. Mori	Shadai Race H. Shadai Farm	Neck (35.3)	7.2 (3)
8	7	14	Maruka Phoenix (JPN)	H6	58.0	Dance in the Dark Miss Kirsty	Y. Fukunaga M. Matsunaga	Kawacho Sangyo Hinode Bokujo	3/4 (35.1)	23.7 (11)
9	2	4	Fellowship*	G8	58.0	O'Reilly	Z. Purton	Wai Kin Sin	2-1/2	13.0

			(NZL)			Mystical Flight	P. O'Sullivan	G & Mrs L M Hodel	(35.3)	(7)
10	8	18	A Shin Forward (USA)	H5	58.0	Forest Wildcat Wake Up Kiss	Y. Iwata M. Nishizono	Eishindo Co. Ltd. Edition Farm	Neck (36.3)	17.4 (9)
11	5	10	Beauty Flash* (NZL)	G5	58.0	Golan Wychwood Rose	F. Coetzee A. Cruz	Siu Ming Kwok Windsor Park Stud Ltd	Nose (35.7)	9.7 (4)
12	2	3	Absolute (JPN)	H6	58.0	Tanino Gimlet Prime Stage	K. Tanaka Y. Munakata	Hiroyuki Sonobe Shadai Farm	1/2 (35.0)	33.1 (13)
13	8	16	San Carlo (JPN)	C4	58.0	Symboli Kris S Diva	Y. Yoshida Y. Okubo	Shadai Race H. Shadai Corporation Inc.	1/2 (35.4)	39.9 (14)
14	1	1	Reach the Crown (JPN)	C4	58.0	Special Week Crownpiece	K. Ando K. Hashiguchi	Hiroyoshi Usuda Hiroyoshi Usuda	Head (35.8)	4.0 (1)
15	6	12	Live Concert (IRE)	G6	58.0	Singspiel Dance Lively	R. Wada T. Shirai	Green Fields Co. Ltd. Mrs J. Chandris	1-3/4 (35.7)	98.3 (18)
16	4	7	Glorious Noah (JPN)	C4	58.0	Precise End Love Robbery	S. Kobayashi Y. Yahagi	Yoko Takano Samekawa Bokujo	Neck (35.7)	79.9 (17)
17	6	11	Maruka Shenck (JPN)	H7	58.0	Sunday Silence Shenck	Y. Shibayama H. Kawachi	Kawacho Sangyo Shadai Farm	1-1/4 (35.5)	69.2 (16)
18	7	13	Meiner Falke (JPN)	H5	58.0	Mutafaweq Bingo Hanako	M. Matsuoka K. Kayano	K.Thoroughbred Club Ruffian Big Red Farm	1-1/2 (37.1)	30.2 (12)

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

NOTE 1: *=Foreign Horse

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: 1:31.7 (Race Record)

GOING: Firm

WEATHER: Fine

TURNOVER FOR THE RACE ALONE:

¥ 15,327,616,900

TURNOVER FOR THE DAY:

¥ 24,694,454,100

ATTENDANCE: 63,968

PAY-OFF (for ¥100)

WIN	No.17	¥1,390	PLACE	No.17	¥470
BRACKET QUINELLA	5-8	¥2,200		No.9	¥490
QUINELLA	9-17	¥12,640		No.2	¥360
EXACTA	17-9	¥26,640	QUINELLA PLACE	9-17	¥4,270
TRIO	2-9-17	¥53,850		2-17	¥2,920
TRIFECTA	17-9-2	¥348,740		2-9	¥2,670

1. **SHOWA MODERN** (JPN), bay, horse, 6-year-old

Air Jihad / Yume Shibai (Tony Bin)

Breeder: Shadai Farm

Owner: Keiichi Yamagishi

Trainer: Hiroaki Sugiura

Jockey: Hiroki Goto

39 starts, 10 wins

Added money: ¥ 103,780,000

Career earnings: ¥ 348,250,000

Principal race performances:

'10 Lord Derby Challenge Trophy (G3) 1st

2. **SUPER HORNET** (JPN), bay, horse, 7-year-old

Rodrigo de Triano / You Sun Polish (El Senor)

Breeder: Gerbera Park Stud

Owner: Masamitsu Tajima

Trainer: Yoshito Yahagi

Jockey: Yusuke Fujioka

3. **SMILE JACK** (JPN), dark bay or brown, horse, 5-year-old

Tanino Gimlet / She C'est Moi (Sunday Silence)

Breeder: Uemizu Bokujo

Owner: Yomoji Saito

Trainer: Satoru Kobiyama

Jockey: Kosei Miura

Highlighted by three overseas entries all representing Hong Kong last year's sixth place finisher **SIGHT WINNER**, **FELLOWSHIP** and **BEAUTY FLASH** who finished second and third in the Champion's Mile (HKG G1, 1,600m) respectively, this year's Yasuda Kinen went to six-year-old **SHOWA MODERN** who celebrates his first G1 victory in his 39th career race. Sired by Air Jihad, victor of the Yasuda Kinen in 1999, eighth favorite **SHOWA MODERN** cleared the wire a half length in front of **SUPER HORNET**, with **SMILE JACK** a neck behind in third. He and his sire are the second father-son pair in JRA history to capture the Yasuda Kinen title.

The race was on its way with **A SHIN FORWARD** gunning for the lead from the farthest stall, leading the field down the back stretch with **CAPTAIN THULE** and race favorite **REACH THE CROWN** in close pursuit up to the third corner. **SMILE JACK** saved ground in mid-field, **SHOWA MODERN** traveling half a length behind that on his outside, and **SUPER HORNET** another two to three lengths from that near the rear. **MEINER FALKE** inched his way up positioning himself a half length behind **A SHIN FORWARD** in second, while **TRIUMPH MARCH** emerged outside **CAPTAIN THULE** for the attack.

Making most of his economical run, **A SHIN FORWARD** stubbornly held on to his lead down the straight, however finally ran out of steam with half a furlong to go as **SHOWA MODERN** stormed down the center of the lane to clear the wire in front of **SUPER HORNET** fighting persistently on his outside, and **SMILE JACK** also unleashing a tremendous closing kick picking off the tiring leaders near the rail to finish third.

After breaking fairly, jockey Craig Williams reserved **SIGHT WINNER** in mid-field, guided the horse out of traffic as they turned for home and accelerated well but belatedly down the stretch to finish fifth, a head behind **TRIUMPH MARCH** who was fourth, covering the distance in 1:31.9. Later on, trainer John Size commented "The horse was very relaxed today. He ran very well but the tactical speed of the race was not suitable for him. Considering the fact that he lost the protective shoe we had on his frog, he showed his normal good character and I can't complain."

The other foreign contenders, fourth favorite **BEAUTY FLASH** and seventh pick **FELLOWSHIP**, broke sharply to race fourth and fifth respectively alongside each other down the backstretch, however could not keep up with the pace as they gradually retreated before the final corner and lacked the needed drive, **BEAUTY FLASH** finishing 11th and **FELLOWSHIP** in 9th. Afterwards, **BEAUTY FLASH** trainer Anthony Cruz said, "The pace was fast but he was in a position that he wanted to be. He had every chance. There's just no excuse", while jockey Felix Coetzee commented "He couldn't take the corners as well as in Hong Kong. He didn't fire on the straight as I hoped either". Zachary Purton, in the saddles of **FELLOWSHIP** said, "He lost the pot—he was overexcited before the race—and was used up in the first half of the race. He had nothing left in the stretch."

OTHER HORSES:

4th (15): **TRIUMPH MARCH**— turned in 3rd, bid for lead at stretch, passed by top 3 before goal.

6th (6): **FARIDAT**— trailed 2nd from rear in backstretch, impressive kick in homestretch.

7th (8): **CAPTAIN THULE**— chased leaders in third along the rail, mild bid at stretch before outrun in the last 100m.

8th (14): **MARUKA PHOENIX**— angled out from mid-div., even paced at stretch.

10th (18): **A SHIN FORWARD**— quick break to lead, kept up good effort until outrun last 100m.

12th (3): **ABSOLUTE**— 3rd from rear along the rail, met traffic into stretch, lost momentum.

13th (16): **SAN CARLO**— advanced from rear tailing the winner, ran out of steam, faded 300m out.

14th (1): **REACH THE CROWN**— hugged rail in 3rd for the first half outrun early.

15th (12): **LIVE CONCERT**— 6th from rear two out, failed to launch bid.

16th (7): **GLORIOUS NOAH**— saved ground behind Smile Jack caught behind traffic and faded.

17th (11): **MARUKA SHENCK**— broke in air, never a factor.

18th (13): **MEINER FALKE**— good start, pressed pace in last 2 corners, used up.

Fractional Time (sec./furlong): 12.0 - 10.7 - 10.9 - 11.3- 11.4- 11.3 - 11.7 - 12.4
Last 4 furlongs: 46.8 Last 3 furlongs: 35.4

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

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.

Post race interview of winning connections

Jockey: Hiroki Goto

Showa Modern felt responsive and ready at the head of the stretch, but my defeat in the derby last week kept coming back to me in my mind, and I was determined to give him the go at the right moment once we were up the hill. We were quite frantic in the last 100 meters and I think our determination and wills enabled us to win the race. My experience of winning the same race eight years ago (Admire Cozzene, 2002) also flashed back in my mind as the race rolled on. This horse is not just an ordinary horse but a “character” who used to really enjoy running in the rain and disliked racing on a sunny day on the fast track, but I myself love the challenge of dealing with the mental side of things and perhaps that’s one of the reasons why we get along so well together. I am planning to go to England to help out and learn to train under Peter Chapple-Hyam for the summer. Even when you are on the fast track in your career, I feel it is important to take a step down and be objective about yourself and always make the effort in bettering your skills.

Trainer: Hiroaki Sugiura

Showa Modern ran with a weight loss of 20 kilos in his last start and looked tight, so I gave him an easy week (although we kept him in training), concentrating on his recovery, and gave him serious work only a week prior to this start. I wasn’t too concerned though, as he is an extremely tough horse and he was eating well. His win in the race has dispelled any doubt that he is unable to handle fast tracks and has proven that he has progressed well since his earlier days when he was considered a horse “only good on rainy days”.

Our plan from now is to give him a break during the summer as he doesn’t do too well under hot weather. Racing him in Hong Kong is definitely a consideration as I think that this horse is perhaps suited to the course in Hong Kong even better than Telegnosis (NHK Mile Cup, 2002).

Results of other races ridden by Zachary Purton on June 6th

2nd race: Three-Year-Olds (dirt, 1,400m) - 16 ran: 7th on Kosei Baby (JPN), 4th favorite

4th race: Three-Year-Olds (turf, 1,800m) - 18 ran: 11th on Kurino Imagine (JPN), 17th favorite

5th race: Three-Year-Olds (dirt, 1,600m) - 16 ran: 9th on Mejiro Franklin (JPN), 10th favorite

12th race: Unicorn Stakes (G3, dirt, 1,600m) - 16 ran: 5th on Dro (USA), 10th favorite

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