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SUBJECT: RESULT OF THE 51ST TAKARAZUKA KINEN (G1)

The TAKARAZUKA KINEN, established in 1960 and opened to foreign-trained horses in 1997, became the first international Grade One race, designated by International Cataloguing Standards Committee (ICSC) to be held in the western Japan. It is the final G1 race to conclude the spring season and is the Grand Prix (all-star) race where thoroughbreds—chosen by votes from fans—of all distances lineup to determine the best horse of the spring campaign. Since Australian-trained *Seto Stayer* (AUS, by Bellotto) took part as the first foreign contender in 1997 (9th place), the TAKARAZUKA KINEN has not had any runners from overseas and is without a foreign contender again this year as *Jukebox Jury* (IRE, by Montjeu) who was selected to represent England in the race withdrew the entry.

Last year's race was won by **Dream Journey**, who subsequently won the autumn version of the all-star Grand Prix, the Arima Kinen (G1, 2,500m) in December and was ultimately chosen as the season's Best Older Colt or Horse. This year he returned to the line-up after being second in the number of votes behind top votes winner, **Buena Vista**, winner of the Oka Sho (Japanese 1000 Guineas)-Yushun Himba (Japanese Oaks) double and the runner-up in the Arima Kinen during her three-year-old season. The champion three-year-old filly continued to excel this season at four, kicking off with a G2 win in the Kyoto Kinen (2,200m) followed by a close second in her first overseas G1 challenge in the Dubai Sheema Classic (UAE G1, 2,410m) and had come off her fourth career G1 victory in the Victoria Mile (G1, 1,600m) last month. *Red Desire* (JPN, by Manhattan Cafe), has passed up the race due to a nosebleed discovered during the training on Thursday. She is the winner of the 2009 Al Maktoum Challenge Round 3 (UAE G2, AW 2,000m) in Dubai and also defeated **Buena Vista** in the Shuka Sho (G1, 2,000m) last year.

The race record was set by *Tap Dance City* (USA, by Pleasant Tap) who covered the 2,200 meter distance in 2:11.1 (2004).

THE 51ST TAKARAZUKA KINEN (G1)

3-year-old & up, 2,200 meters (about 11 furlongs), turf, right-handed

Sunday, June 27, 2010

Hanshin Racecourse

10th Race

Post time: 15:40

Total prize money: ¥278,920,000 (about US\$3,099,000< US\$1 = ¥90>)

3-y-o: 53kg (about 117lbs), 4-y-o & up: 58kg (about 128lbs)

2kg allowance for Fillies & Mares,

1kg allowance for Southern Hemisphere horses born in 2006, 3kg 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	Odds (Fav)
1	8	17	Nakayama Festa (JPN)	C4	58.0	Stay Gold Dear Wink	Y. Shibata Y. Ninomiya	S.Izumi Arai Bokujo	2:13.0 (35.8)	37.8 (8)
2	4	8	Buena Vista (JPN)	F4	56.0	Special Week Biwa Heidi	N. Yokoyama H. Matsuda	Sunday Racing Co. Ltd. Northern Racing	1/2 (36.3)	2.4 (1)
3	1	2	Earnestly (JPN)	H5	58.0	Grass Wonder Lettre d'Amour	T. Sato S. Sasaki	Koji Maeda North Hills Management	1/2 (36.6)	6.4 (3)
4	8	18	Dream Journey (JPN)	H6	58.0	Stay Gold Oriental Art	K. Ikezoe Y. Ikee	Sunday Racing Co. Ltd. Shadai Corporation Inc.	1/2 (35.9)	7.8 (4)
5	2	3	Never Bouchon (JPN)	H7	58.0	Marvelous Sunday Pearl Necklace	H. Goto M. Ito	Toshihiro Hirosaki Hayata Farms	1 (36.4)	48.4 (12)
6	6	12	Meisho Beluga (JPN)	M5	56.0	French Deputy Papago	H. Miyuki K. Ikezoe	Yoshio Matsumoto Mishima Bokujo	Neck (35.9)	75.5 (13)
7	2	4	Smart Gear (JPN)	H5	58.0	Marvelous Sunday Squarehead Line	R. Wada M. Sayama	Toru Okawa Daiei Bokujo	1-1/2 (35.9)	125.6 (14)
8	5	10 B	Jaguar Mail (JPN)	H6	58.0	Jungle Pocket Haya Beni Komachi	C. Williams N. Hori	Kazumi Yoshida Aioi Farm	Nose (36.5)	5.1 (2)
9	3	5	Namura Crescent (JPN)	H5	58.0	Yamanin Seraphim Sakura Komina	F. Komaki N. Fukushima	N.Namura Hatta Farm	Neck (37.3)	46.4 (9)
10	7	13	Forgettable (JPN)	C4	58.0	Dance in the Dark Air Groove	M. Ebina Y. Ikee	Kaneko Makoto Holdings Co. Ltd. Northern Racing	Neck (36.6)	18.2 (6)

11	1	1	I Ko Piko (JPN)	C4	58.0	Manhattan Cafe Gander Rhapsody	Y. Iwata M. Nishizono	Nishikioka B. Nishikioka Farm	2-1/2 (36.7)	46.6 (11)
12	4	7	Meiner Answer (JPN)	H6	58.0	Star of Cozzene Oguri Question	Y. Kawada H. Miyamoto	K.Thoroughbred Club Ruffian Koichi Oguri	Nose (36.4)	183.4 (15)
13	5	9	Logi Universe (JPN)	C4	58.0	Neo Universe Acoustics	K. Ando K. Hagiwara	Masaaki Kumeta Northern Farm	Neck (37.5)	8.9 (5)
14	6	11	Top Coming (JPN)	C4	58.0	Gold Allure Red Venus	S. Hamanaka N. Sakai	Koro Co. Ltd. Kidoguchi Bokujo	Neck (37.4)	247.8 (16)
15	8	16	Axion (JPN)	H7	58.0	Sunday Silence Greatest Hits	S. Fujita Y. Ninomiya	Tetsu Nakata Tetsu Nakata	1-1/2 (37.6)	46.5 (10)
16	3	6	Seiun Wonder (JPN)	C4	58.0	Grass Wonder Seiun Kunoichi	Y. Fukunaga M. Ryoke	Takao Otani Yukifumi Tsutsui	1-3/4 (37.8)	27.4 (7)
17	7	14	Makahata Cyborg (JPN)	G8	58.0	Mejiro Bright Shin Miss Answer	K. Dazai M. Shinkawa	Makimoto B. Makimoto Bokujo	5 (38.0)	402.8 (17)
	7	15	Copano Jingu (JPN)	H5	58.0	Agnes Tachyon Wedding Oak	Y. Fujioka T. Miya	Sachiaki Kobayashi Yanagawa Bokujo	Scratched	

FP=Final Position 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: 2:13.0

GOING: Good

WEATHER: Fine

TURNOVER FOR THE RACE ALONE:

¥ 17,999,464,100

TURNOVER FOR THE DAY:

¥ 25,340,183,100

ATTENDANCE: 55,735

PAY-OFF (for ¥100)

WIN	No.17	¥3,780	PLACE	No.17	¥710
BRACKET QUINELLA	4-8	¥780		No.8	¥120
QUINELLA	8-17	¥5,150		No.2	¥200
EXACTA	17-8	¥16,990	QUINELLA PLACE	8-17	¥1,580
TRIO	2-8-17	¥7,920		2-17	¥2,870
TRIFECTA	17-8-2	¥77,160		2-8	¥330

1. **NAKAYAMA FESTA (JPN)**, bay, colt, 4-year-old

Stay Gold / Dear Wink (Tight Spot)

Breeder: Arai Bokujo

Owner: S. Izumi

Trainer: Yoshitaka Ninomiya

Jockey: Yoshitomi Shibata

10 Starts, 5 Wins

Added money: ¥ 135,948,000

Career earnings: ¥ 293,243,000

Principal race performances:

'09 St. Lite Kinen 1st

'08 Tokyo Sports Hai Nisai Stakes 1st

2. **BUENA VISTA (JPN)**, dark bay or brown, filly, 4-year-old

Special Week / Biwa Heidi (Caerleon)

Breeder: Northern Racing

Owner: Sunday Racing Co., Ltd.

Trainer: Hiroyoshi Matsuda

Jockey: Norihiro Yokoyama

3. **EARNESTLY (JPN)**, bay, horse, 5-year-old

Grass Wonder / Lettre d'Amour (Tony Bin)

Breeder: North Hills Management

Owner: Koji Maeda

Trainer: Shozo Sasaki

Jockey: Tetsuzo Sato

The 51st running of the TAKARAZUKA KINEN, held over a good going due to the heavy rain that cleared up in the morning, was won by 8th pick **NAKAYAMA FESTA** partnered with Yoshitomi Shibata. The son of Stay Gold achieved

the dream his sire was unable to realize—Stay Gold, a multiple grade-race winner had participated in the TAKARAZUKA KINEN for four consecutive years from 1998 through 2001, but was unable to claim victory, finishing second, third, and fourth in the last two years—and claimed his third grade-race win and his first G1 victory.

Although a bit unsettled behind the gate, **NAKAYAMA FESTA** broke smoothly and settled in mid-division, well off the pacemaker **NAMURA CRESCENT**, who took the front immediately after the break. Two lengths behind in second was third-pick **EARNESTLY**, followed by fifth-choice **LOGI UNIVERSE** on the outside and race favorite **BUENA VISTA** on the inside, in 3rd and 4th respectively.

As the field turned for home with **EARNESTLY** immediately taking the front, **BUENA VISTA** found a small gap between the pacemaker and the Grass Wonder bay, drew even before the 200-meter pole and ran straight for the goal to exert her powerful turn of speed. But a remarkable late charge by **NAKAYAMA FESTA**, running the last three furlongs at 35.8 seconds, exceeded that of the 2009 Best Three-Year-Old Filly, with the Stay Gold colt overtaking the lead 50 meters out to a 1/2 length victory. **EARNESTLY**, although overtaken early on in the homestretch, followed tenaciously behind the leaders to finish another 1/2 length behind in third. Defending champion **DREAM JOURNEY**, also producing an impressive late kick in the homestretch after traveling in mid-division, finished 1-1/2 lengths behind the winner in fourth.

Other Horses:

5th: (3) **NEVER BOUCHON**— mid-division, advanced through last corner, good effort in stretch

6th: (12) **MEISHO BELUGA**— traveled towards rear, stretched well in straight.

7th: (4) **SMART GEAR**— impressive late charge from trailing in backstretch, but too late...

8th: (10) **JAGUAR MAIL**— raced beside winner through last corners but even paced at straight.

9th: (5) **NAMURA CRESCENT**— set pace, fared well in straight but tired in last 200 meters.

10th: (13) **FORGETTABLE**— edged forward in backstretch, came up empty from traveling wide.

11th: (1) **I KO PIKO**— settled in mid-pack, even paced at homestretch.

12th: (7) **MEINER ANSWER**— second from rear, good effort in stretch but never a threat

13th: (9) **LOGI UNIVERSE**— traveled 3rd from front, overtaken by rivals.

14th: (11) **TOP COMING**— raced 4-5th from front, fell back from 4th corner.

15th: (16) **AXION**— traveled wide in mid-division, advanced at straight, used up in last 200 meters.

16th: (6) **SEIUN WONDER**— 6th from front, gradually fell back and faded.

17th: (14) **MAKIHATA CYBORG**— 3rd from rear, no factor.

(15) **COPANO JINGU**— Scratched

Fractional Time (sec/furlong): 12.4 - 11.1 - 11.3 - 12.7 - 12.5 - 12.3 - 12.3 - 11.9 - 12.1 - 11.9 - 12.5
Last 4 furlongs: 48.4 Last 3 furlongs: 36.5

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

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.