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“Fascinating and Emotional One-Two Finish by Japanese Runners in Dubai”

by Naohiro Goda



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Japanese were very thirsty for good news since March 11th, when an earthquake of an unprecedented scale, magnitude 9.0, struck Japan and a tsunami after the quake devastated the northern part of “Honshu,” the mainland of Japan. March 26th, only two weeks after the tragic catastrophe that claimed more than 14,000 precious lives, was the day of the Dubai World Cup, the richest horse race in the world. While more than 10,000 people were still missing, many of the survivors could not receive the normal supply of water, electricity, and food, and more than 250,000 people were forced to live in evacuation shelters. The nuclear power plants at Fukushima, which were damaged by the quake and tsunami, were not fully under control, and a red alert to leakage of radioactivity was placed in the region. Although Japanese have been receiving prayers and support from people from around the world, which is indeed tremendous encouragement for the victims, Japan was still looking forward to

hearing encouraging news prior to starting the reconstruction of the nation.

Japan sent a strong team formed by five Japanese runners to Dubai for the World Cup night. Four of them had left Japan before the earthquake.

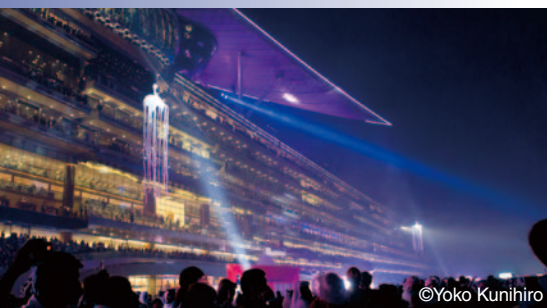
One of the runners who left Japan on March 9th was Victoire Pisa, Best Three-Year-Old Colt in 2010. The colt by Neo Universe won the Satsuki Sho (G1; Japanese 2000 Guineas) and the Arima Kinen (G1), the year-end championship race in Japan. The colt is owned by Yoshimi Ichikawa, an Osaka-based successful businessman who has been involved in the ownership of thoroughbreds since 1989. He had won seven races by then, including the Nakayama Kinen (G2) on February 27th at Nakayama Racecourse, which was his seasonal debut.

Teruya Yoshida’s Shadai Farm, the breeder of Victoire Pisa, owns Yamamoto Training Center, a private training facility for the horses owned and bred by Shadai, in the vicinity of Sendai City in Miyagi Prefecture, the region seriously damaged by the quake and tsunami. Victoire Pisa has been there occasionally for easy training. One of the team members who traveled to Dubai with Victoire Pisa and one of the three Japanese entrants in the Dubai World Cup was Martin Rainey, New Zealand-born exercise rider who has been working at Yamamoto Training Center for twelve years and who joined the team upon a request from Katsuhiko Sumii, trainer of Victoire Pisa based at JRA’s Ritto Training Center near Kyoto. The horses’ grooms and exercise riders were shocked to watch the news and reports of the crisis, which were broadcast on television even in Dubai, and Martin Rainey was very much worried about his friends and horses at Yamamoto Training Center, located less than two kilometers from the Pacific Ocean. Communication tools, including telephone lines, were completely down at the area, and it was four days after the earthquake when Martin found out that the horses and staff members at Yamamoto were fine, including at the house he lives in. The training center is built on the top of a hill, but the tsunami came up to the edge of the starting point of the uphill training track, the lowest point at the site. Fortunately, most of the facilities were saved from

the inundation, but all the horses had to be relocated to other places immediately, because the supply of water and electricity stopped.

Another Champion included in the Japanese delegation in Dubai was Buena Vista, five-year-old mare by Special Week, reigning Horse of the Year, and awarded as Champion at two and three as well. The five stakes with premier grade that Buena Vista had won include the Tenno Sho (Autumn; G1) in 2010, where she beat the best males in training in Japan. In addition, the mare bred by Katsumi Yoshida’s Northern Farm and owned by Sunday Racing, a racing syndication run by the breeder, finished first in the Japan Cup (G1) last autumn, but was demoted to second after a controversial disqualification. This is the second trip to Dubai for Buena Vista, trained by Hiroyoshi Matsuda at Ritto, as she visited there in the spring of 2010, when she was narrowly beaten by Dar Re Mi in the Dubai Sheema Classic (G1) on turf. Buena Vista has already earned more than 1 billion yen plus 1 million US dollars, had she managed to add the 6 million dollar winning prize of the Dubai World Cup, she would have broken the world record for earnings. The bookmakers in the United Kingdom regarded the mare as holding the best chance among the three Japanese runners in the World Cup, giving an 8/1 quote, the third favorite in the betting market.

Transcend, the third horse that took part in the “Team Japan” for the World Cup, is owned by Koji Maeda and was bred by North Hills, the breeding operation owned and run by the owner. The five-year-old horse by Wild Rush won the Japan Cup Dirt (G1) on December 5th 2010 and the February Stakes (G1) on February 20th 2011, both of which are prestigious races on dirt in Japan. Although the glory of Japanese Dirt Champion in 2010 went to Espoir City, who won two G1s, including the February Stakes, it is widely recognized that Transcend, who has natural speed and techniques, is the best dirt horse in



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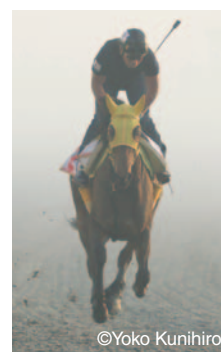
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training at the moment in Japan.

Although Victoire Pisa, Buena Vista, and Transcend had never run a race on a synthetic surface before, none of them had difficulty handling the Tapeta footings at Meydan Racecourse, and they trained very well since they arrive at Dubai.

Rulership, solo Japanese entry in the Dubai Sheema Classic (G1), is the stable mate of Victoire Pisa in Katsuhiko Sumii's barn at Ritto Training Center. The rising star in Japan who collected his first Graded Stakes win on December 4th, 2010 at Hanshin, where he won the Naro Kinen (G3), he has the most beautiful pedigree in the field of the Dubai Sheema Classic. The four-year-old colt is by King Kamehameha, leading sire in Japan in 2010, despite the fact that his first crop are still four-year-olds, and is out of Air Groove, Japanese Horse of the Year in 1997. Admire Groove is by Sunday Silence, is the half sister of Rulership, and is Best Older Filly or Mare in 2004. Forgettable is by Dance in the Dark, is half brother to Rulership, and is the winner of two Graded Stakes. Rulership, bred by Northern Farm and owned by Sunday Racing, failed to meet high expectations in the spring of 2010, however, the bay improved dramatically in the last few months and picked up his second Graded Stakes win on January 16th at Kyoto, where he won the Nikkei Shinshun Hai (G2), beating the strong field, which included Hiruno d'Amour, who later won the Tenno Sho (Spring; G1), and Rose Kingdom, Best Two-Year-Old Colt in 2009 and the winner of the Japan Cup (G1) in 2010.

Laser Bullet, who represented Japan in the UAE Derby (G2), was still in Japan on March 11th. As he did not receive the invitation from the Dubai Racing Club until the very last minute, the three-year-old colt by Brian's Time could not get on the same flight as the other Japanese horses and was in the quarantine facility at JRA's Miho Training Center on the day of the devastating earthquake. Laser Bullet, bred by Koji Maeda's

North Hills and owned by Yoko Maeda, wife of the breeder, had a difficult time at Miho, where the water supply was stopped and some of the training tracks were closed for a couple of days due to cracks on the surface. Many airports in Japan, including Narita, were temporarily closed, and there was great confusion on the schedule of cargo flights arriving at and leaving from Japan. The connection of Laser Bullet was warned by the cargo company that the flight to Dubai could be canceled or there might be no room for live bloodstock on the plane even if the flight were arranged. Then, as the cargo company confirmed that the flight to Dubai could be arranged on March 17th, Koji Maeda bought a space for Laser Bullet on the flight at his own expense, and the winner of two races on dirt arrived at Dubai on March 18th, eight days before the race.

In the morning of the days leading up to the Dubai World Cup night, all involved in the camp of five Japanese runners wore black polo shirts with stickers bearing the Japanese flag and the word "HOPE" on the arm or on the back. Three of the five horses were competitors to each other—they were going to run in the same race. However, the camp was convinced that they needed to work together for a victory to send "HOPE" from Dubai to the Japanese people, who are suffering seriously from the quake and tsunami and are having a very tough time in Japan. And at Meydan on Dubai World Cup night, all the members of "Team Japan," including Mirco Demuro, the Italian-born jockey who has ridden in Japan in the winter season since 1999 and was booked to ride Victoire Pisa in the World Cup, wore black ribbons on their arms.



It was a hot day—the midday temperature rose up to 35 degrees Celsius, 95 degrees Fahrenheit—and the main track at Meydan was watered a lot prior to the races. Although the going was announced by the official as "standard," the winning times of the races proved to be much slower than standard.

Laser Bullet ran bravely, despite the fact that he was the most inexperienced runner in the 14 runners' field of UAE Derby, where he beat five runners as he crossed the finish line. Laser Bullet is now taking a break at Daisen Hills, a private training facility owned by Koji Maeda, and will be trained for major races on dirt later in the year.

Rulership was calm in the preliminaries and looked fine at the parade ring. However, he was very keen early at the middle of the field, and, halfway down the backstretch, Christophe Soumillon, who struggled to settle the colt, decided

to make a move to the front. Although Rulership stayed strongly in front, he tired at the closing stage of the race and finished sixth, beaten by six and three quarters lengths by Rewilding, the winner of the 5-million-dollar race. While there is no doubt that Rulership is a very talented horse, he may need more time to mature before competing with horses of the caliber of international events.

Analysis indicated that the field of the 16th running of the Dubai World Cup was the best ever. This field included 10 Graded/Group One Stakes winners. Twice Over, representing the United Kingdom, is the winner of three Group One Stakes, including a back-to-back victory of the Champion Stakes (G1) at Newmarket. Cape Blanco, representing Ireland, is the winner of two Group races, including the Irish Champion Stakes (G1), where he earned a rating of 126, the highest among 14 starters. Gio Ponti, representing United States, was the Eclipse Award Male Turf Champion in 2009 and 2010. Golden Sword, representing South Africa, is the track record holder of 2,000 m on Tapeta at Meydan. Poet's Voice, representing the home nation, is the impressive winner of the Group One Queen Elizabeth II Stakes at Ascot, and it was reported that he was handling the Tapeta Footing at Al Quoz superbly.

As the starting gate opened, Transcend, ridden by Shinji Fujita, went to the front quickly and led the field, setting fractions of 26.78, 53.18, and 1:18.29, while Victoire Pisa, who failed to break well, and Buena Vista were the last two horses getting into the first turn. An enterprising riding performance by Mirco Demuro was displayed on the backstretch. As Demuro felt he should not stay at the tail of the field in such a slowly run race, Victoire Pisa, with Mirco Demuro on board, made an eye-catching big move on the outside from last place to join Transcend at the front.

Victoire Pisa and Transcend performed a thrilling ding-dong battle on the homestretch. At the wire, Victoire Pisa was the winner, half a length ahead of Transcend. The lack of pace did not help Buena Vista, who finished eighth.

Near the finish of the race, Katsuhiko Sumii could not stop himself from screaming the name of the jockey repeatedly and was moved to tears as he witnessed Victoire Pisa hit the wire first and foremost. Those are very unusual behaviors for the soft-spoken and ice-cool trainer. Dubai is the fourth country, apart from Japan, where Katsuhiko Sumii, who became 47 two days after the Dubai World Cup, has won Graded/Group One Stakes, after the United States, where he won American Oaks by Cesario in 2005, Hong Kong, where Hat Trick captured Hong Kong Mile in



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Laser Bullet



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Rulership

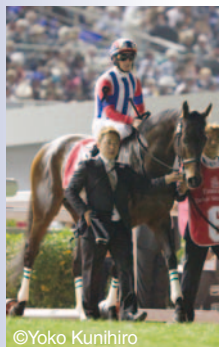


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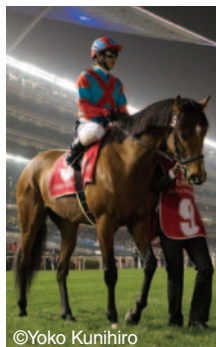
©Yoko Kunihiro

BuenaVista



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VictoirePisa



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Transcend

2005, and Australia, where Sumii achieved a historic one-two finish by Delta Blues and Pop Rock in 2006.

It was a great honor for the winning connections to have HH Sheikh Mohammed at the post-race presentation. The Ruler of Dubai hugged Yoshimi Ichikawa and his family members with a big smile, despite the fact that Monterosso, who carried the second color of Godolphin, was beaten into third place, only a quarter length behind Transcend. After the official photo session, it was HH Sheikh Mohammed who requested to take one more picture of the happy team with the Japanese flag, on which the message “Stay Strong Japan” was featured in the frame.

The fascinating and emotional one-two finish by Japanese runners in Dubai, which will definitely be transmitted from generation to generation, was televised live in Japan, and “HOPE” was certainly sent to the victims from Dubai, 8,000 kilometers away from Japan.



The racing and breeding industry in Japan was isolated for a long time. The internationalization of horse racing started in Japan in 1971, when the Government authorized the private purchase of foreign-bred thoroughbreds for the purpose of running them in Japan and when a portion of the race cards of JRA were opened for foreign-bred runners. And the Japan Cup, the first international race in Japan, was inaugurated in 1981. Hence, it has taken only 30 to 40 years for Japan to be involved in the global map of horse racing, and the standard of Japanese-bred thoroughbreds has improved rapidly since internationalization started. The era of internationalization was the era when Japan enjoyed a booming economy. Owners and breeders could import quality stallions, broodmares, and young racing prospects from Europe and the United States, and could make big investments in facilities and land. Also, the skills of the people involved in horse racing and breeding progressed dramatically as well.

It was 1998 when Japanese-owned and

Japanese-trained horses captured major races abroad. On August 9th, at Deauville in France, Seeking the Pearl won the Prix Maurice de Gheest (G1), and Taiki Shuttle won the Prix Jacques Le Marois (G1) on the following weekend. It was 1999 when El Condor Pasa made his campaign in France throughout the year and went down in history, winning the

Group One Grand Prix de Saint-Cloud and finishing second to great Montjeu in the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe (G1). And Agnes World won the Prix de l'Abbaye de Longchamp (G1) in France in 1999 and the July Cup (G1) in the United Kingdom in 2000.

What I need to make a note of here is that all of the above winners were bred in the United States, and all of them were by foreign-bred sires out of foreign-bred mares. Although El Condor Pasa was bred and owned by a Japanese horseman, Takashi Watanabe, he was born in Kentucky. Agnes Digital, winner of the Hong Kong Cup (G1) in 2001, and Eishin Preston, who collected three G1s in Hong Kong from 2001 to 2003, are both American-bred, and their sires and dams are also American-bred.

A path to new ground was developed in 2001, when Stay Gold, bred by Shiraoi Farm in Hokkaido, won the Hong Kong Vase (G1) on December 16th at Sha Tin. While he is by American-bred super sire Sunday Silence, his dam, Golden Sash, and second dam, Dina Sash, were both bred in Japan.

From 2005 to 2007, Japanese owned and trained horses won seven Graded/Group One Stakes overseas, and all of them were achieved by horses bred in Japan, albeit by foreign-bred sires.

What happened in Dubai in March 2011 was epoch-making. Victoire Pisa, winner of the 10-million-dollar Dubai World Cup, was bred in Japan, and his sire, Neo Universe, was also bred in Japan.

And then there's Transcend, the Japanese-bred second finisher in the World Cup. While he is by an American-bred sire, his dam, Cinema Scope, and his second dam, Blue Hawaii, were both bred in Japan.

The results of the 16th Running of the Dubai World Cup are proof that the standard of pedigree that has taken roots in Japan, on the sire side and on the dam side, is very high, or I should say, it is world class.

It is another notable element in the pedigree of Transcend that he has Sunday Silence neither on his sire side nor on his dam side. Many experts indicate that much of the improvement of Japanese-bred horses owes to Sunday Silence. It is true for sure, however, the fact that a horse who is not injected with the influence of Sunday Silence can also be a world-class performer is another example that proves that the standard of pedigree in Japan has risen high.

And it was only six months ago when Nakayama Festa, owned and trained by a Japanese person, finished second to Workforce, beaten by a head. Nakayama Festa was bred in Japan and he is by Stay Gold, the first Japanese-bred winner of the G1 abroad. And his dam, Dear Wink, and second dam, Seirei, were both bred in Japan. The catalogue of sales taking place at Hokkaido later in the year should contain plenty of sons and daughters of Neo Universe and Stay Gold, and they must be interesting for owners and trainers in Europe and the United States. They tend to say that the top-class horses bred in Japan are expensive; however, this is not true. Nakayama Festa, who has nearly 300 million yen plus €914,400 in his bankroll, cost only 10 million yen at the yearling session of the 2007 JRHA July Select Sale. The market in Japan is now the place for overseas investors to find exciting racing prospects for reasonable prices.

Another important factor that the 2011 Dubai World Cup clarified is the suitability to Tapeta Footing of Japanese horses. It has already been verified in the United States that in general, grass horses act well on synthetic surfaces, and Red Desire, winner of the Shuka Sho (G1), had confirmed it by winning the Group 2 Maktoum Challenge Round 3 in 2010, beating Gloria De Campeao, the subsequent Dubai World Cup winner. And Victoire Pisa vouched that top grass horses in Japan can act on Tapeta as much as on grass. With regard to dirt performers, the clue was given by Glorious Noah, who was Graded Three Stakes winner on dirt in Japan and finished fourth in the Godolphin Mile (G2) on Tapeta in 2010. And Transcend made it clear that Tapeta Footing is a surface that top dirt horses in Japan can handle.

March 26th 2011 is recorded in history as an unforgettable date for all involved in horse racing and breeding in Japan.



STAY GOLD



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NEO UNIVERSE

Japan's Racing Industry after the Great East Japan Earthquake



Paddock on April 24th(The Satsuki Sho Day) at Tokyo Racecourse

Great East Japan Earthquake

On March 11, 2011, a magnitude 9.0 earthquake, the largest ever registered in Japanese history, struck off the Sanriku coast, inundating it with tsunamis that were 10 meters high at their maximum and maximum tidal wave run-up 39.8 meters high and causing catastrophic damage along the Pacific coastline in the Tohoku and Kanto regions, mainly in Miyagi, Iwate, and Fukushima Prefectures. As of April 30, about one and a half months after the earthquake, the National Police Agency had officially announced over 14,000 dead and more than 12,000 people missing. Further, the earthquake and tsunamis combined to damage the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station's facilities in Fukushima Prefecture, resulting in a situation involving a simultaneous major nuclear power accident. In connection with the occurrence of the nuclear power accident, the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency provisionally rated it a level 7 (major accident), the first since the 1986 Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant accident. In response, the government designated areas within a 20-kilometer radius of the plant no-entry zones, prohibiting access. However, although there are concerns about insufficient electric power supplies this summer and living conditions are still tough for people in disaster areas and evacuation sites, most of the country's citizens have maintained safe living conditions, and returning to the lifestyle before the quake. Moreover, a plan to resolve the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station's accident has been announced, many volunteers from other countries have offered dedicated assistance, and moves to rebuild are gradually gathering steam in disaster regions. The Japanese people are united in their strong determination to overcome this unprecedented crisis, and this has been a big help.

Horse Racing Industry Situation

This earthquake has also greatly harmed Japan's horse racing industry. Along with Fukushima Racecourse, some JRA facilities in the Tohoku and Kanto areas were damaged, including tracks' stands and offtrack betting offices. Further, at Miho Training Center, the training center for eastern Japan, stable employees had to scramble to obtain drinking water for racehorses after water supplies were cut off immediately after the quake, and some of the tracks were closed for several days for repairs. For the National Association of Racing (NAR) as well, Iwate Prefecture's Mizusawa Racecourse suffered heavy damage, and there are no prospects that races can recommence. The grounds of Chiba Prefecture's Funabashi Racecourse liquefied, and during the several days it took to recover, the horses trained at other tracks in the Kanto region.

Hokkaido accounts for 95% of Thoroughbred production and the Hidaka region 80% of that. Since it was the foaling and breeding season, there were worries about harm to broodmares and foals, but the damage was restricted to stud farms temporarily having trouble moving horse trailers because roads were flooded. However, from Aomori Prefecture in the north to Chiba Prefecture in the south, there are big and small breeding farms and training farms throughout Honshu, where initial breaking operations as well as the short-term training of racehorses in training are conducted, and some were washed away by the tsunami, suffered damage to facilities, or had to move horses to safety.

In the wake of the earthquake, there were increasing moves to refrain from staging many sports and entertainment events. JRA cancelled races at not only Nakayama Racecourse in eastern Japan but also Hanshin and Kokura Racecourses in western Japan the weekend immediately after the earthquake, March 12 and 13. Hanshin and Kokura Racecourses started up again the following week, on the 19th and 20th, but events were cancelled at Nakayama Racecourse until April 17, the final day of the spring season. Further, many off-track betting facilities in eastern Japan only returned to regular sales operations on April 23, more than one month after the earthquake. Fukushima Racecourse, which has yet to recover from the trauma of the earthquake, temporarily sheltered disaster refugees. Fukushima Racecourse has also decided to cancel its summer schedule, i.e., weekends from June 18 to July 10. Along with Mizusawa Racecourse, NAR canceled events at



Silent Prayer at Hanshin Racecourse on March 19th

Kanto region tracks in the Tokyo metropolitan area, including Oh-i, Funabashi, Kawasaki, and Urawa, until April 11 and will run a program with fewer races after that. Regarding JRA's Kanto tracks, Tokyo Racecourse started up again on April 23. On the following day, the 24th, the Satsuki Sho, Japan's 2,000 Guineas, the first of the classic races for three-year-olds originally scheduled for April 17 at Nakayama Racecourse, was run in front of 80,000 spectators, more than the previous year's figure. Taking into consideration the electric power situation, there are plans to continue conserving electricity in race operations, with shorter racing hours and fewer betting offices in operation within our facilities during the summer.

Circle of Support

JRA donated ¥100 million immediately after the earthquake, on March 14, in an effort to aid disaster victims. Further, the races run at the Hanshin and Kokura tracks from March 19 to 27 were held as charity races for victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake, and a total of more than ¥1,138,140,000, equal to admission fees and a portion of turnover, was donated. Many customers kindly responded to fund-raising efforts at tracks and off-track betting facilities. JRA will also organize various charity events and series of races which a portion of proceeds will be donated to assist those suffered. Along with the donations by horse owners, trainers, and jockeys, both made individually and through organizations, a portion of special participation allowance from each start was donated. Additionally, jockeys encouraged fans to support disaster survivors at post-race events and charity activities. Relief supplies were also delivered to people temporarily taking shelter at public facilities near the Miho Training Center, and those people were also invited to view cherry blossoms and ride horses at the training center, activities that restored smiles to children's faces. NAR's various track operators also donated aid funds, and jockeys, trainers, and other employees engaged in roadside fund-raising efforts for the people in stricken regions.



Charity Activity at Hanshin Racecourse



JRA Jockeys engaged in fund-raising efforts at Tokyo Racecourse

In breeding regions as well, breeders' associations donated aid, and there are moves to donate a portion of stud fees to a reconstruction fund. Some of the horses that appear in Soma Nomaai (a wild-horse festival with more than 1,000 years of history held annually in late July), which has been designated as an important national intangible folk cultural property, had been left behind in the no-entry zone in Minami Soma, Fukushima Prefecture, where residents have been forbidden entry following the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station accident. This led to calls from a Japanese breeder operating overseas for charity aid, and moves to provide horses in disaster regions with temporary shelter at ranches in Hokkaido, with local governments to bear a portion of the costs, have been noted.

Many people in overseas racing industry circles have also kindly extended helping hands. Expatriate jockeys who had ridden in Japan have contributed individually. A JRA jockey on an extended stay in Italy engaged in fund-raising efforts locally, accepting donations from fans who visited the tracks, and aid funds were also donated by an Italian jockey union (Unione Italiana Fantini). Australia's Victoria Racing Club, Korea Racing Authority and the connections of horse racing of Malaysia also donated relief funds, and France Galop sent the equivalent of the day's admission fees (there were no admission fees that day, and more than 10,000 people attended) for "Journée Solidarité France-Japon" (France and Japan Solidarity Day of Racing), held at Auteuil Racecourse in Paris on April 17, to the Japanese Red Cross Society via the Japanese Embassy in France. The warm support from people affiliated with racing industries and fans around the world will surely be a big help in Japan's reconstruction. In closing, everyone in Japan's horse racing industry is sincerely grateful for the condolence messages and the words of encouragement received from horse racing industry representatives around the world following this major earthquake.



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France and Japan Solidarity Day of Racing

Deep Impact's Successful First Crop

Classic Race Victory

Deep Impact is said to be the foremost and best of the best in Japanese racing history. Last year, two-year-olds from his first crop debuted and accumulated 41 JRA wins, including victory in graded race. In the same year, Deep Impact was not only a champion first crop sire but also stood out on the top of the two-year-old sire rankings.

This year as well, Marcellina evoked vivid recollections of his own Triple Crown achievement six years ago, in 2005, with a win in the Oka Sho (G1) -Japanese 1,000 Guineas, and he produced a classic race winner from among his first crop. Danon Ballade also placed third in the Satsuki Sho (G1) -Japanese 2,000 Guineas. In addition, Cotillion and Real Impact placed second and third in the NHK Mile Cup (G1), and many of his progeny are expected to run in the Yushun Himba (G1) -Japanese Oaks on May 22nd and the May 29th Tokyo Yushun (G1) -Japanese Derby.

With only his first-generation crop, Deep Impact was ranked seventh in the overall sire rankings as of May 1, and the breeding industry's expectations regarding how close he will come to his sire Sunday Silence's record as a sire are only increasing.

Win in France

The successes of Deep Impact's offspring have not been limited to Japan. Of the five horses from the 2008 first crop that went overseas—three to France and two to the United Kingdom—Barocci, a Japan-bred colt out of Bastet (IRE), whose sire is Giant's Causeway (USA), ran in the Prix Omnium II (listed race; turf, 1,600 m) at Saint-Cloud on March 31st, achieving the first overseas victory among the first crop. Trained by Elie Lellouche for owner Ecurie Wildenstein, he was ridden by Christophe Soumillon.

Barocci was later entered in the April 24th Prix de Fontainebleau(G3), a preliminary to the Poule d'Essai des Poulains (G1) -French 2,000 Guineas at Longchamp, and put up a good fight, briefly holding the lead in the final stretch before finishing a close fourth. Regrettably, he placed 6th in the French 2,000 Guineas on May 15th, but future successes are anticipated.

For the Japanese horse racing industry, this is a golden age for the direct off-springs of Sunday Silence, a horse that rewrote nearly all of Japan's sire records and has been judged to have altered the level of Japanese horse racing at the root. These include Neo Universe, sire of this year's Dubai World Cup winner Victoire Pisa. Deep Impact established the most outstanding race record of these, and because he has definite underlying strengths in terms of the pedigree of his dam, German G1 race winner Wind in Her Hair, whose grand dam was Highclere, his progeny will be closely followed to see if they can achieve the big overseas race wins that he was unable to accomplish himself.



©M. Ueda

Deep Impact

Born March 25, 2002; bay

Sire: Sunday Silence

Dam: Wind in Her Hair

Dam's sire: Alzao

Breeder: Northern Farm

Race record: Twelve wins in 14 starts

World Thoroughbred Racehorse Rankings

(2006): 127 pounds (tied for first in turf division)

Standing at: Shadai Stallion Station (from 2007)

Topics

Sixth Triple Crown winner in Japanese racing history and second undefeated winner. Horse with highest Japanese Derby win/bet ratio in history during career, rewriting numerous Japanese horse racing records and named JRA Horse of the Year two years in a row (2005 and 2006). Around 25% of households were glued to the live broadcast of the race in France late at night Japan time when he ran in the 2006 Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe. The comment from a person close to him that "he looked like as he was flying when he ran" gained popularity, and the Deep Impact craze led to an appearance in a beverage commercial among other things. He is widely recognized among many Japanese citizens as a racehorse that will remain in memory.

Messages from the New and Former Presidents and CEOs of JAIRS

It is my pleasure to announce my appointment as the President and CEO of this organization commencing March 26 this year. As for my brief introduction, I had devoted my entire career in thoroughbred racing as Official Veterinarian, Handicapper and Steward. During my time with JRA Board, I had served as JRA Presidential Counselor for Foreign Affairs which given me a great experience and association with international racing community including promotion of Japan to a Part 1 Country and to have Tokyo host the Asian Racing Conference in 2008. I am looking forward to my new challenge.

The Japan Association for International Racing, which had worked to broaden international relationship of Japanese horse racing and promoting mutual understanding between countries, through exchanges of information and technology related to horse racing and industries connected with horse racing, and Japan Race Horse Registry, which handled centralized racehorse registration and related operations, including cooperation and coordination with overseas organizations, merged on December 1 last year to form Japan Association for International Racing and Stud Book (JAIRS), which now serves as a contact for a wide range of areas related to the global horse racing industry in Japan.

With turnover long stagnant and unclear economic situation in Japan, the environment surrounding horse racing in Japan is facing hardship. The earthquake that hit the Tohoku Region (northeastern Japan) on March 11 was a disaster of unprecedented proportions and has only served to add to that.

We appreciate the messages of condolence, concern, and encouragement received from people around the world following the disaster. Races have regained normalcy except for Fukushima RC and Mizusawa RC (Iwate prefecture) where most severely effected by the quake.

There are many more issues that surround global racing industry in harmonizing rules and safety of horses and most importantly making horseracing more attractive to the public.

I sincerely hope that the information that is provided by JAIRS via this *Japan Racing Journal* and the multilingual Horse Racing in Japan Web site (<http://japanracing.jp/en/index.html>), and other media and will continue to aid exchange of information with overseas horse racing. I am committed in my tenure to contribute to horse racing's sound and sustainable growth within ARF member countries and the rest of the world. I am looking forward to working with you all.

Dr. Isamu Takizawa, D.V.M.
President and CEO



I would like to take this opportunity to convey my sincere appreciation to everyone who I had come to know and associate during my term as the President and CEO of Japan Association for International Racing and Stud Book (JAIRS).

Many fond memories fills five years that I held this position since April 2006. Among the many memories, it was great moment to witness Japan becoming a Part 1 Country in 2007 and interacting with ARF Study Program participants who came to Japan from countries around Asia was special joy each year.

I feel that internationalization will hold much stronger key to the global horse racing industry's survival from here on. Horse racing is held in over 90 countries around the world. In our current age of the global society, business scope needs to be made accordingly. It will be essential to promote horse racing through a global networks in which horses, people, technology, and information are shared with racing fans worldwide.

Racing in ARF region currently holds world 50% share of turnover, 36% of prize money and 30% in foal production. I truly believe the presence of racing force in Asia will grow stronger in future. I had pleasure of associating with horse-men and horse related personnel in China. As you are aware, economic volume of China has become world's number two. Also there are about 7 million local horses in China. Although formal thoroughbred racing at national level is yet to take place in China, we shared great enthusiasm of developing this great sport in the great land. China's presence is, in that sense, extremely important. However, there is still some way before restarting horse racing in China at international standard. I am looking forward to maintaining my interest and ties with China and promoting the global horse racing industry to the best of my limited abilities.

Thank you once again for your support and friendship and I look forward to working with everyone from here on as well.

Dr. Naoaki Koike, D.V.M.
Former President and CEO



G1 Race Results

The 71st OKA SHO(G1) –Japanese 1000 Guineas

Hanshin Racecourse,
April 10, 2011
3-year-old fillies,
18 runners
1600m, turf, firm, 1:33.9
Winner: Marcellina (JPN)
(Katsumi Ando, 55.0kg)
b.f.3
Deep Impact – Marbye
by Marju
O- Shadai Race H.
T- Hiroyoshi Matsuda
B- Shadai Farm



http://japanracing.jp/_news2011/110410.html

The 71st SATSUKI SHO(G1) - Japanese 2000 Guineas

Tokyo Racecourse,
April 24, 2011
3-year-old colts & fillies,
18 runners
2000m, turf, fine, 2:00.6
Winner: Orfevre (JPN)
(Kenichi Ikezoe, 57.0kg)
c.c.3
Stay Gold – Oriental Art
by Mejiro McQueen
O- Sunday Racing Co.,
Ltd.
T- Yasutoshi Ikee
B- Shadai Corporation
Inc.



http://japanracing.jp/_news2011/110424.html

Information

The Japan Association for International Horse Racing (JAIR) merged with the Japan Race Horse Registry (JRHR) on December 1, 2010, forming a new organization called **Japan Association for International Racing and Stud Book (JAIRS)**.

JAIRS was formed to effectively consolidate and distribute information regarding Japanese horse racing and thoroughbred breeding, the latter being the primary duty of the former JRHR. We hope this contributes to the further development of the Japanese horse racing industry.

Under the new association, the former JAIR and JRHR continue to conduct their respective current duties but with further operational efficiency. JAIRS will look to expand and enrich its business line more than ever before in hopes of contributing to the development of horse racing around the world.

The 143rd TENNO SHO(SPRING) (G1)

Kyoto Racecourse,
May 1, 2011
4-year-old & up,
18 runners
3200m, turf, good, 3:20.6
Winner: Hiruno
d'Amour(JPN)(Shinji
Fujita, 58.0kg)b.c.4
Manhattan Cafe – Share
Elegance by Lammtarra
O- Masafumi Hirukawa,
T- Mitsugu Kon
B- Hashimoto Bokujo



http://japanracing.jp/_news2011/pdf/110501.html

The 16th NHK MILE CUP(G1)

Tokyo Racecourse,
May 8, 2011
3-year-old colts & fillies,
18 runners
1600m, turf, firm, 1:32.2
Winner: Grand Prix
Boss(JPN)(Craig Williams,
57.0kg) b.c.3
Sakura Bakushin O –
Rosy Mist by Sunday
Silence
O- Grand Prix Co., Ltd.
T- Yoshito Yahagi
B- Northern Racing



http://japanracing.jp/_news2011/pdf/110508.html

JRA Official Tour

<http://japanracing.jp/en/go-racing/tour/index.html>



The 6th VICTORIA MILE(G1)

Tokyo Racecourse,
May 15, 2011
4-year-old & up, fillies and
mares, 17 runners
1600m, turf, firm, 1:31.9
Winner: Apapane(JPN)
(Masayoshi Ebina, 55.0kg)
b.f.4
King Kamehameha –
Salty Bid by Salt Lake
O- Kaneko Makoto
Holdings Co., Ltd.
T- Sakae Kunieda
B- Kaneko Makoto
Holdings Inc.



http://japanracing.jp/_news2011/110515.html

