

FROM: Katsutoshi Hoshi
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SUBJECT: RESULT OF THE 23RD CENTAUR STAKES (G2)

THE CENTAUR STAKES, named after the statue of Centaur of the Greek mythology which stands on top of the fountain within the park area of Hanshin Racecourse, was initially 1,400 meters as a G3 event in conjunction with the start of the grading system in 1987. The race was shortened to 1,200 meters in 2000 and became a major step race for the Sprinters Stakes (G1). In 2005, the race was designated as an international race, and, together with the Sprinters Stakes (G1), has become a part of the Global Sprint Challenge, a new opportunity for sprinters around the world seeking to test their abilities at an international level. The race was upgraded from G3 to G2 in 2006.

The only international sprint series on turf, which consisted of eight races (Australia-2, United Kingdom-3, Japan-2, Hong Kong-1), was joined by two prestigious sprint G1 events, the Darley July Cup Stakes (G1, United Kingdom) and the Patinak Farm Classic (G1, Australia, formerly the Age Classic) in 2008. The CENTAUR STAKES is the fifth leg of the series.

Takeover Target (AUS, by Celtic Swing), who was the first foreign contender to take part in this race in 2006 (none participated in 2005), finished second and proceeded to win his following Global Sprint start, the Sprinters Stakes (G1). The gelding became the series champion of 2006. **Kanoya Zakura** (JPN, by Sakura Bakushin O) won the 2008 Centaur Stakes while no foreign runners participated last year. This year, four British-trained runners, **Inxile** (IRE), **Regal Parade** (GBR), **Serious Attitude** (IRE) and **Tax Free** (IRE) were selected to run but all four withdrew their entries and the race was contested between an all-Japanese field.

THE 23RD CENTAUR STAKES (G2) - Global Sprint Challenge 5th leg -

3-year-old & up, 1,200 meters (about 6f), turf, right-handed

Sunday, September 13, 2009 Hanshin Racecourse 10th Race Post time: 15:35

Total prize money: ¥127,800,000 (about US\$1,420,000; US\$1 = ¥90)

3-y-o: 55kg (about 121 lbs), 4-y-o & up: 57kg (about 126 lbs), 2kg allowance for fillies & mares,

2kg allowance for southern hemisphere horses born in 2006, Safety Factor: 16 runners (Foreign Trained Horses: 8)

Penalties: Winners *¹ of G1 races ... 2kg (1kg*²), G2 races ... 1kg (0kg*²) (after Sep.13, 2008)

G1 races ... 1kg (0kg*²) (before Sep.12, 2008)

*¹= Excluding 2-year-old race results, *²= Penalties for grade races limited to Fillies/Mares



FP	BK	PP	Horse	S&A	Wgt (kg)	Sire Dam	Jockey Trainer	Owner Breeder	Margin (L3F)	Odds (Fav)
1	8	16	Ultima Thule (JPN)	M5	55.0	Fuji Kiseki Air Thule	M. Matsuoka M. Okuhira	Shadai Race H. Shadai Farm	1:07.8 (33.9)	10.6 (5)
2	4	8	Sleepless Night (JPN)	M5	57.0	Kurofuno What Katy Did	H. Uemura K. Hashiguchi	Sunday Racing Co. Ltd. Northern Farm	2-1/2 (34.1)	2.8 (1)
3	8	15	Cosmo Bell (USA)	M5	55.0	Formal Dinner Blue Sword	T. Sato M. Nishizono	Big Red Farm Dr. D. W. Frazier	3/4 (34.5)	57.0 (11)
4	3	6	Kanoya Zakura (JPN)	M5	56.0	Sakura Bakushin O Woodmans Chic	F. Komaki K. Hashiguchi	K. Kanda Hamamoto Bokujo	Head (33.9)	3.4 (2)
5	6	12	Maruka Phoenix (JPN)	H5	58.0	Dance in the Dark Miss Kirsty	Y. Fukunaga M. Matsunaga	Kawacho Sangyo Hinode Bokujo	3/4 (33.9)	22.3 (8)
6	2	4	Suzuka Causeway (JPN)	H5	58.0	Giant's Causeway French Riviera	H. Goto M. Hashida	K. Nagai Grand Stud	Neck (34.4)	16.0 (7)
7	4	7	Sandalphon (JPN)	H6	57.0	Sakura Bakushin O Koyu Love	H. Shii M. Matsunaga	North Hills Management Co. Ltd. K. Takimoto	Neck (33.8)	8.6 (3)
8	5	9	Apollo Dolce (USA)	C4	57.0	Officer Summertime Val	M. Katsuura M. Horii	Apollo Thoroughbred Club Clarkland Farm	Head (33.6)	29.3 (9)
9	5	10	Halo Fuji (JPN)	M6	55.0	King Halo Asaka Fuji	Y. Iida A. Iida	Kyowa Farm Co. Ltd. Kyowa Farm Co. Ltd.	Neck (33.9)	130.4 (13)
10	2	3	Soldier's Song (JPN)	H7	57.0	Sunday Silence Irish Caerley	K. Ando I. Sameshima	Sunday Racing Co. Ltd. Shiraio Farm	1/2 (34.2)	15.9 (6)
11	1	1	I'll Love Again (JPN)	H7	57.0	El Condor Pasa Tokio Reality	A. Tsumura T. Tezuka	Y. Saito Northern Farm	1/2 (34.8)	140.5 (15)

12	7	13	Headliner (JPN)	G5	57.0	Sakura Bakushin O Hebba	Y. Iwata M. Nishizono	Shadai Race H. Shadai Corporation Inc.	Neck (34.6)	108.2 (12)
13	6	11	Easter (JPN)	H6	57.0	El Condor Pasa Baptista	H. Miyuki O. Hirata	K. Yoshida Northern Farm	1/2 (34.3)	131.1 (14)
14	3	5	Laurel Guerreiro (JPN)	H5	59.0	King Halo Big Tenby	S. Fujita M. Kon	Laurel Racing Co. Ltd. Murata Bokujo	1-1/2 (35.4)	8.9 (4)
15	7	14	Melissa (JPN)	M5	55.0	White Muzzle Stormy Run	K. Take M. Sayama	M. Okada Okada Stud	1-3/4 (35.2)	37.0 (10)
	1	2	Kyowa Roaring (JPN)	H8	57.0	Sunday Silence Asaka Fuji	M. Ishibashi A. Iida	Kyowa Farm Co. Ltd. Kyowa Farm Co. Ltd.	Scratched	

FP=Final Position, BK=Bracket Number, PP=Post Position, B=Blinkers, Wgt=Weight, 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: 1:07.8

TURNOVER FOR THE RACE ALONE:

TURNOVER FOR THE DAY:

GOING: Firm

¥ 4,348,187,600

¥10,148,785,500

WEATHER: Fine

ATTENDANCE: 24,559

PAY-OFF (for ¥100)

WIN	No.16	¥ 1,060	PLACE	No.16	¥ 320
BRACKET QUINELLA	4-8	¥ 980		No.8	¥ 160
QUINELLA	8-16	¥ 1,430		No.15	¥ 1,110
EXACTA	16-8	¥ 3,820	QUINELLA PLACE	8-16	¥ 670
TRIO	8-15-16	¥ 20,130		15-16	¥ 4,560
TRIFECTA	16-8-15	¥ 103,580		8-15	¥ 2,540

1. ULTIMA THULE (JPN), mare, bay, 5-year-old

Fuji Kiseki / Air Thule (Tony Bin)

Breeder: Shadai Farm

Trainer: Masashi Okuhira

10 starts, 6 wins

Added money: ¥61,162,000

Owner: Shadai Race H.

Jockey: Masami Matsuoka

Career earnings: ¥135,476,000

2. SLEEPLESS NIGHT (JPN), mare, bay, 5-year-old

Kurofuno / What Katy Did (Nureyev)

Breeder: Northern Farm

Trainer: Kojiro Hashiguchi

Owner: Sunday Racing Co.,Ltd.

Jockey: Hiroyuki Uemura

3. COSMO BELL (USA), mare, bay, 5-year-old

Formal Dinner / Blue Sword (Crusader Sword)

Breeder: Dr. D. W. Frazier

Trainer: Masato Nishizono

Owner: Big Red Farm

Jockey: Tetsuzo Sato

After completing a satisfying summer campaign by landing the Ibis Summer Dash in July, defending champion **KANOYA ZAKURA** challenged race favorite and stable mate **SLEEPLESS NIGHT** to win the title once again, however this year's Centaur Stakes was dominated by another 5 year old mare, **ULTIMA THULE**, third in the Ibis Summer Dash, marking her first grade race victory in ten career starts.

The race started with **I'LL LOVE AGAIN**, '09 Keio Hai Spring Cup champion **SUZUKA CAUSEWAY**, and this spring's Takamatsunomiya Kinen winner and fourth favorite **LAUREL GUERREIRO** sprinting for the lead at first, immediately being caught up by **COSMO BELL** and **ULTIMA THULE**, both in effort to make up ground breaking from the farthest stalls. Down the back stretch **KANOYA ZAKURA** was reserved in mid pack with **MARUKA PHOENIX** on

