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SUBJECT: RESULT OF THE 27TH FEBRUARY STAKES (G1)

Japanese horse racing, which developed following the examples set by British racing, was held mainly on turf. However, races over dirt tracks that were popular in the U.S. quickly became widely used in racetracks around the country since the Tokyo Racecourse implemented a new dirt track in 1960. However, the mainstream of major JRA races remained over turf and the February Stakes (then called February Handicap) established in 1984 together with the Winter Stakes (now named Tokai Stakes G2 and held in May) in conjunction with the new grading system, was one of just four graded dirt races at the time—the current number of graded dirt events is 15.

In 1995, the JRA and the NAR (Regional Public Racing) set up a joint racing program to allow thoroughbreds that are suited to dirt racing to follow a step-by-step program and an opportunity to become a respected G1 winner in the field of dirt racing. Now, while most of the major dirt events are held on NAR racetracks (most NAR tracks only have dirt courses), the February Stakes, which was upgraded to G2 in 1994 and then to G1 in 1997, took pride in being the highest prized event until the Japan Cup Dirt (G1) took over in 2000.

Past winners have included Agnes Digital (USA, by Crafty Prospector, '02), Admire Don (JPN, by Timber Country, '04), Kane Hekili (JPN, by Fuji Kiseki, '06) and Vermilion (JPN, by El Condor Pasa, '08)—all four having won multiple G1 races and listed their names as JRA award winners.

This year's race featured last year's defending champion **Success Brocken** who marked a new race record of 1:34.6 over the mile distance when winning the race in 2009 while **Espoir City**, winner of the 2009 Japan Cup Dirt (G1, 1,800m) and JRA award winner of Best Dirt Horse of 2009, kicked off his five-year-old campaign as race favorite in the race. Champion turf sprinter **Laurel Guerreiro** made his dirt debut in this race in his quest for his chances in a new field.

THE 27TH FEBRUARY STAKES (G1)

4-year-old & up, 1,600 meters (about 1 mile), dirt, left handed
 Sunday, February 21, 2010 Tokyo Racecourse 11th Race Post time: 15:40
 Total prize money: ¥199,140,000 (US\$2,212,000 US\$ 1 = ¥ 90)
 4-y-o & up: 57kg (about 126lbs),
 1kg allowance for Southern Hemisphere horses born in 2006, 2kg allowance for fillies & mares
 Safety Factor: 16 runners (Foreign Trained Horses: 8)

FP	BK	PP	Horse	Sex Age	Wgt (kg)	Sire Dam	Jockey Trainer	Owner Breeder	Margin (L3F)	Odds (Fav)
1	2	4	Espoir City (JPN)	H5	57.0	Gold Allure Eminent City	T. Sato A. Adachi	Yushun Horse Ikuchise Bokujo	1:34.9 (35.6)	1.7 (1)
2	2	3	Testa Matta (USA)	C4	57.0	Tapit Difficult	Y. Iwata A. Murayama	K. Yoshida Waterford Farm	2-1/2 (35.5)	13.0 (5)
3	3	6	Success Brocken (JPN)	H5	57.0	Symboli Kris S Success Beauty	H. Uchida H. Fujiwara	T. Takashima T. Takashima	3-1/2 (36.5)	6.4 (2)
4	1	2	Keiai Tenjin (JPN)	C4	57.0	Agnes Digital Sugino Senhime	H. Shii T. Shirai	Keiai Gisizairyo Hanbaisyo Co. Ltd. M. Inui	5 (37.3)	136.5 (14)
5	6	12	Glorious Noah (JPN)	C4	57.0	Precise End Love Robbery	S. Kobayashi Y. Yahagi	Yoko Takano Samekawa Bokujo	1-1/2 (37.0)	15.1 (6)
6	1	1	Daisho Jet (JPN)	H7	57.0	Cryptic Rascal Duty Echo	Y. Shibayama H. Oneda	Y. Baba Yamada Farm	Neck (37.5)	68.3 (10)
7	7	13	Laurel Guerreiro (JPN)	H6	57.0	King Halo Big Tenby	S. Fujita M. Kon	Laurel Racing Co. Ltd. Murata Bokujo	Neck (37.9)	34.0 (8)
8	4	7	Tosen Bright (JPN)	H9	57.0	Brian's Time Asahi Bright	H. Kitamura Y. Kato	T. Shimakawa Okada Stud	Neck (37.3)	236.0 (15)
9	6	11	Suni (USA)	C4	57.0	Soto Enabru	Y. Kawada N. Yoshida	K. Yoshida Highclere Inc.	1-3/4 (37.1)	26.6 (7)
10	7	14	Reach the Crown (JPN)	C4	57.0	Special Week Crownpiece	Y. Take K. Hashiguchi	H. Usuda H. Usuda	3/4 (37.8)	9.5 (4)
11	8	15	Million Disk (JPN)	H6	57.0	Afleet Happy Request	C. Lemaire Y. Arakawa	Shadai Race H. Shadai Farm	2-1/2 (37.7)	81.5 (11)
12	4	8	Red Spada (JPN)	C4	57.0	Taiki Shuttle Barbicat	N. Yokoyama K. Fujisawa	TokyoHorseRacingCo. Ltd	2-1/2 (39.0)	9.3 (3)

