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DATE: May 14, 2017

SUBJECT: RESULTS OF THE 12TH VICTORIA MILE (G1)



In accordance with the restructuring of JRA racing program for fillies/mares executed in the 2006 season, the Victoria Mile was established to give the older fillies/mares a stage to prove their ability among their own sex, in addition to the Queen Elizabeth II Cup, which had been the only G1 reserved for older fillies/mares. While the Queen Elizabeth is run over 2,200 meters and held in mid-November, the Victoria Mile is held in spring and provides female milers a chance to claim a G1 title without having a tough competition in a mixed field.

The race, however, attracts not only fillies/mares suited to the mile distance but also outstanding runners from the middle-long distance group. Two-time Horse of the Year winner *Vodka* (JPN, by *Tanino Gimlet*) claimed the title in 2009 by an overwhelming seven-length margin, and *Apapane* (JPN, by *King Kamehameha*), after having claimed all three titles of the fillies' version of the Triple Crown during 2010, held off defending champion and 2010 Horse of the Year *Buena Vista* (JPN, by *Special Week*) for a neck victory.

At the gate this year were runners coming off their Hanshin Himba Stakes (G2, 1,600m; Apr.8) starts; winner **Mikki Queen** who was second in last year's Victoria Mile, runner-up by 1-3/4 lengths **Admire Lead**, **Jour Poliare** who was third and 2016 Queen Elizabeth II Cup (G1, 2,200m) victor **Queens Ring** in 15th. Fresh from the Fukushima Himba Stakes (G3, 1,800m; Apr. 22) were winner **Ukiyono Kaze**, marking her third grade-race victory, and runner-up by a neck, **Frontier Queen**.

Other notable starters were 2015 Oka Sho (Japanese 1000 Guineas, G1, 1,600m) victor **Let's Go Donki**, entered after turning in a close second in the Takamatsunomiya Kinen (G1, 1,200m; Mar.26), and last year's Victoria Mile's fourth and fifth place finishers, **Smart Layer** and **Rouge Buck**, who finished second in the Kyoto Kinen (G2, 2,200m; Feb.12) and eighth in the Kinko Sho (G2, 2,000m; Mar.11), respectively.

The race record of 1:31.5 was set by *Straight Girl* (JPN, by *Fuji Kiseki*) in the last of her consecutive victories in this race in 2015 and 2016.

THE 12ND VICTORIA MILE (G1)

4-year-old & up, Fillies & Mares, 1,600 meters (about 8 furlongs), turf, left-handed

Sunday, May 14, 2017 Tokyo Racecourse 11th Race Post time: 15:40

Total prize money: ¥ 200,480,000 (about US\$ 1,743,000 <US\$1=¥115>)

4-y-o & up: 55kg (about 121 lbs), 1kg allowance for Southern Hemisphere-bred born in 2013

Safety factor: 18 runners

FP	BK	PP	Horse	Sex Age	Wgt (kg)	Sire Dam	Jockey Trainer	Owner Breeder	Margin (L3F)	Odds (Fav)
1	3	5	Admire Lead (JPN)	F4	55.0	Stay Gold Belle Allure	C. Lemaire N. Sugai	Riichi Kondo Northern Farm	1:33.9 (33.4)	13.5 (6)
2	5	10	Denko Ange (JPN)	F4	55.0	Meisho Samson Denko Lucky	M. Ebina Y. Arakawa	Yasuhiro Tanaka Yasuhiro Tanaka	1-1/4 (33.2)	67.9 (11)
3	2	3	Jour Polaire (JPN)	F4	55.0	Deep Impact Summer Night City	H. Miyuki M. Nishizono	G1 Racing Co., Ltd. Shadai Corporation Inc.	Neck (33.6)	17.5 (7)
4	1	2	Smart Layer (JPN)	M7	55.0	Deep Impact Snow Style	Y. Take R. Okubo	Toru Okawa Okada Stud	Head (34.0)	8.9 (4)
5	2	4	Solveig (JPN)	F4	55.0	Daiwa Major As de Coeur	Y. Kawada I. Sameshima	G1 Racing Co., Ltd. Shadai Farm	Neck (34.1)	43.6 (9)
6	4	8	Queens Ring (JPN)	M5	55.0	Manhattan Cafe Aqua Ring	M. Demuro K. Yoshimura	Chizu Yoshida Shadai Farm	3/4 (34.1)	9.4 (5)
7	6	11	Mikki Queen (JPN)	M5	55.0	Deep Impact Musical Way	S. Hamanaka Y. Ikee	Mizuki Noda Northern Farm	1/2 (33.8)	1.9 (1)
8	8	15	Frontier Queen (JPN)	F4	55.0	Meisho Samson Blue Box Bow	H. Kitamura S. Kunieda	Kazuo Nagatsuma Koki Hayashi	1/2 (33.2)	89.2 (12)
9	6	12	Ukiyono Kaze (JPN)	M7	55.0	On Fire Admire Dash	H. Yoshida T. Kikuzawa	Jun Kokubu Jun Kokubu	Neck (33.4)	37.8 (8)
10	4	7	Rouge Buck (JPN)	M5	55.0	Manhattan Cafe Ginger Punch	K. Tosaki M. Otake	U. Carrot Farm Northern Farm	1/2 (33.3)	7.6 (2)

11	7	14	Let's Go Donki (JPN)	M5	55.0	King Kamehameha Marutoku	Y. Iwata T. Umeda	Hirosaki Toshihiro HD Co., Ltd. Shimizu Bokujo	Neck (34.2)	7.9 (3)
12	1	1	At the Seaside (JPN)	F4	55.0	King Kamehameha Luminous Harbor	H. Tanabe H. Asami	Teruya Yoshida Shadai Farm	Nose (33.8)	107.2 (13)
13	3	6	Asuka Biren (JPN)	M5	55.0	Black Tide Swept Regina	K. Ikezoe H. Nakao	Koji Kanda Tomio Kanda	Neck (34.4)	45.3 (10)
14	7	13	Hiruno Matera (JPN)	M6	55.0	Manhattan Cafe Concern Nacca	H. Shii M. Kon	Hiruno Co., Ltd. Tsuji Bokujo Samani Kyoei Bokujo et al.	1-1/2 (34.1)	312.7 (17)
15	8	16	Kurino Lahore (JPN)	F4	55.0	Daiwa Major Kurino Byakudan	Y. Kitamura K. Tani	Hiroharu Kurimoto Hiroharu Kurimoto	2 (34.3)	225.9 (16)
16	8	17	Lethal Weapon (JPN)	M6	55.0	Deep Impact Quick Command	H. Uchida Y. Takeichi	Him Rock Racing Tabata Farm	6 (36.0)	177.1 (15)
17	5	9	Halteclere (JPN)	M6	55.0	Durandal Joy Assertaine	H. Mayuzumi E. Nakano	Makio Okada Deguchi Bokujo	DS (41.0)	142.3 (14)

FP=Final Position / BK=Bracket Number / PP=Post Position / Wgt=Weight / L3F=Time of Last 3 Furlongs (600m) / DS=Distance

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: 1:33.9

GOING: Good

WEATHER: Cloudy

TURNOVER FOR THE RACE ALONE: ¥ 14,113,710,500

TURNOVER FOR THE DAY: ¥ 22,357,803,100

ATTENDANCE: 42,870

PAY-OFF (for ¥100)

WIN	No.5	¥1,350	BRACKET QUINELLA	3-5	¥11,230	QUINELLA	5-10	¥42,710
PLACE	No.5	¥440	QUINELLA PLACE	5-10	¥8,380	EXACTA	5-10	¥73,750
	No.10	¥1,580		3-5	¥1,890	TRIO	3-5-10	¥123,870
	No.3	¥480		3-10	¥10,530	TRIFECTA	5-10-3	¥918,700

1. **Admire Lead (JPN)**, dark bay or brown, filly, 4-year-old

Stay Gold / Belle Allure (Numerous)

Owner: Riichi Kondo

Breeder: Northern Farm

Trainer: Naosuke Sugai

Jockey: Christophe Lemaire

14 Starts, 5 Wins

Added money: ¥ 96,570,000 Career earnings: ¥ 191,252,000

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

Meisho Samson / Denko Lucky (Marienbard)

Owner: Yasuhiro Tanaka

Breeder: Yasuhiro Tanaka

Trainer: Yoshiyuki Arakawa

Jockey: Masayoshi Ebina

3. **Jour Polaire (JPN)**, bay, filly, 4-year-old

Deep Impact / Summer Night City (Helissio)

Owner: G1 Racing Co., Ltd.

Breeder: Shadai Corporation Inc.

Trainer: Masato Nishizono

Jockey: Hideaki Miyuki

Admire Lead Dismisses Favorites to Claim Victoria Mile Title

Four-year-old **Admire Lead** captured her first grade-race victory in this year's Victoria Mile after being sent off sixth favorite in a field of 17, putting away three G1 champions. The Stay Gold filly registered two wins out of four starts in her debut season but was winless in all six of her three-year-old campaign starts after challenging the fillies' classics, finishing fifth in the Oka Sho (Japanese 1000 Guineas) and 15th in the Yushun Himba (Japanese Oaks). However, she notched a back-to-back win and had shown a good runner-up effort in her most recent G2

Hanshin Himba Stakes start. For both trainer Naosuke Sugai and jockey Christophe Lemaire, this is their 11th JRA-G1 victory—their latest were the 2015 Tenno Sho (Spring) with Gold Ship and the 2016 Arima Kinen with Satono Diamond, respectively.

The field broke evenly with **Solveig** rushing to the front setting a slow pace as **Smart Layer** sat at her heels on the rails with **Jour Polaire** right behind that while **Admire Lead** settled far back in 12th behind **Queens Ring** and **Denko Ange**. While most of the field fanned out to avoid the soft inner-track going due to the heavy rain the day before, **Admire Lead** chose an economic inner route heading into the stretch and dug in gamely between **Solveig** and **Smart Layer** 150 meters out, stretching strongly from thereon to cross the finish line a comfortable 1-1/4-length winner.

“I had every confidence in her today because I knew the soft track wouldn’t bother her at all. I was able to position her well and although she has a good turn of foot, her charge doesn’t last long so I tried not to drive her in early stretch. She kicked off the season with two wins and then a second in a G2 race—it’s obvious she’s progressed enormously,” commented Christophe Lemaire who claimed his 600th JRA career win in his first race today.

As **Solveig**, **Smart Layer** and **Queens Ring**, who also took an inner path into the lane, furiously rallied for the runner-up seat, **Queens Ring** was first to drop away 100 meters out before both **Solveig** and then **Smart Layer** were caught by **Denko Ange** who came up gamely from the outside to clear the wire in second. While the runner-up displayed an incredible last three-furlong drive, **Jour Polaire**, who chased **Solveig** down the middle of the straight, also dug in well to tag her front runners in the final strides for third.

Breaking from stall 11, heavy favorite **Mikki Queen** traveled wide in seventh to eighth and angled out at the top of the stretch for clear sailing, however met traffic with a furlong to go, losing momentum to finish seventh.

Other Horses:

8th: (15) **Frontier Queen**—unhurried near rear, accelerated and tied fastest over last 3 furlongs, but belated

9th: (12) **Ukiyono Kaze**—traveled outside eventual winner, met traffic at early stretch, showed belated charge thereafter

10th: (7) **Rouge Buck**—ran behind eventual winner, quickened impressively, but was too late

11th: (14) **Let’s Go Donki**—advanced to 4-5th from wide draw, showed little at stretch

12th: (1) **At the Seaside**—positioned near rear, turned innermost, ran gamely until furlong pole, outrun

13th: (6) **Asuka Biren**—prominent early in 3rd, sustained bid until 200m marker, weakened thereafter

14th: (13) **Hiruno Matera**—trailed in rear, turned inner route, failed to respond and gradually fell back

15th: (16) **Kurino Lahore**—raced wide in mid-division, checked turning final corner, lost momentum

16th: (17) **Lethal Weapon**—chased leader early from widest draw, met traffic at 400m marker, dropped back

17th: (9) **Halteclere**—traveled around 7th inside favorite, no factor after turning into stretch

Fractional time (sec/furlong): 12.6 - 11.2 - 11.8 - 12.3 - 12.2 - 11.1 - 10.8 - 11.9

Last 4 furlongs: 46.0 Last 3 furlongs: 33.8

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

4th corner (2,*4)(8,6,17)14(5,3)(9,11)(1,13,10,16)12(7,15)

NOTE 1: Underlined bold number indicates the winning horse.

NOTE 2: 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.