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SUBJECT: RESULTS OF THE 34TH HOPEFUL STAKES (G1)



Established in 1984 under the name of Radio Tampa Hai Sansai Himba Stakes as a G3 race for two-year-old fillies run over 1,600 meters at Hanshin Racecourse, the race held in December has made various changes in its status over the years. The distance was extended to 2,000 meters while the runners were limited to colts and geldings in 1991, opened its doors once again to fillies and mares in 2000 and acquired international status in 2010. In 2014, the race was given the Hopeful Stakes name, upgraded to G2, excluded geldings and was shifted to a new venue, the Nakayama Racecourse. This year, the race made its final elevation in grade and has become JRA's 24th G1 flat race.

Even before becoming a G1 race, the Hopeful Stakes was highly regarded as the main target for middle-distance prospects aiming for the three-year-old classics instead of the traditional two-year-old G1 championships, the Asahi Hai Futurity Stakes and the Hanshin Juvenile Fillies run over 1,600 meters. As a result, the 2,000-meter race attracted many talented runners and subsequent G1 winners such as 2010 Satsuki Sho (Japanese 2000 Guineas, G1, and 2011 Dubai World Cup (G1, AW, 2,000m) winner *Victoire Pisa* (JPN, by *Neo Universe*), 2013 Kikuka Sho (Japanese St. Leger, G1, 3,000m) and 2014 Japan Cup (G1, 2,400m) victor *Epiphaneia* (JPN, by *Symboli Kris S*), and this year's Tokyo Yushun (Japanese Derby, G1, 2,400m) champion *Rey de Oro* (JPN, by King Kamehameha).

Gendarme came off a grade-race win in the Daily Hai Nisai Stakes (G2, 1,600m; Nov.11) while Hagi Stakes (1,800m; Oct.28) winner **Time Flyer** came off second in the Kyoto Nisai Stakes (G3, 2,000m; Nov.25). **Lucas** and **Charlemagne** finished second and third, respectively, in the Tokyo Sports Hai Nisai Stakes (G3, 1,800m; Nov.18) while other key runners who also registered their second victory were **Sans Rival** [Fuyo Stakes (2,000m, Sep.24)], **My Heartbeat** [Shigiku Sho (2,000m; Oct.14)], **Jun Valerot** [Kigiku Sho (2,000m; Nov.12)] and **Work and Love** [Mominoki Sho (dirt, 1,800m; Dec.9)].

Rey de Oro set the race record of 2:01.3 last year while *Agnes Tachyon* (JPN, by *Sunday Silence*) marked 2:00.8 at Hanshin Racecourse in 2000.

THE 34TH HOPEFUL STAKES (G1)

2-year-old Colts & Fillies, 2,000 meters (about 10 furlongs), turf, right-handed

Thursday, December 28, 2017 Nakayama Racecourse 11th Race Post time: 15:30

Total prize money: ¥ 152,200,000 (about US\$ 1,323,000 <US\$1=¥115>)

2-y-o: 55kg (about 121 lbs), 1 kg allowance for Fillies, 3 kg allowance for Southern Hemisphere-bred born in 2015

Safety factor: 18 runners

FP	BK	PP	Horse	Sex Age	Wgt (kg)	Sire Dam	Jockey Trainer	Owner Breeder	Margin (L3F)	Odds (Fav)
1	4	7	Time Flyer (JPN)	C2	55.0	Heart's Cry Time Traveling	C. Demuro K. Matsuda	Sunday Racing Co., Ltd. Oiwake Farm	2:01.4 (35.5)	4.2 (1)
2	8	15	Gendarme (USA)	C2	55.0	Kitten's Joy Believe	Y. Take Y. Ikee	Koji Maeda North Hills Co. Limited	1-1/4 (36.2)	6.2 (4)
3	7	13	Stay Foolish (JPN)	C2	55.0	Stay Gold Kauai Lane	Y. Nakatani Y. Yahagi	Shadai Race Horse Co., Ltd. Shadai Farm	Neck (35.9)	22.9 (8)
4	5	9	Sans Rival (JPN)	C2	55.0	Rulership Un Fil Rouge	H. Tanabe K. Fujioka	Kyoko Habata Y. S. Stud	2-1/2 (37.4)	7.1 (5)
5	8	17	Nasuno Symphony (JPN)	F2	54.0	Heart's Cry Nasuno Sibelius	H. Yoshida R. Takei	Nasuno Bokujo Nasuno Bokujo	Neck (36.2)	40.9 (10)
6	5	10	Lucas (JPN)	C2	55.0	Screen Hero Mejiro Frances	M. Demuro N. Hori	Silk Racing Co., Ltd. Togawa Bokujo	2-1/2 (37.1)	5.3 (2)
7	3	6	My Heartbeat (JPN)	C2	55.0	Zenno Rob Roy Toupie	A. Tsumura Y. Takahashi	Masahiro Mita Northern Racing	1-3/4 (36.9)	89.6 (11)
8	2	3	Water Parfait (JPN)	C2	55.0	Rulership Water Premier	M. Sakai H. Tadokoro	Masato Yamaoka Sasachi Bokujo	1-1/4 (38.1)	99.5 (12)
9	2	4	Lord Axis (JPN)	C2	55.0	Break Run Out Any Day	K. Miura Y. Okumura	Lord Horse Club Orion Farm	1-1/4 (38.1)	161.1 (13)
10	8	16	Shaft of Light (JPN)	C2	55.0	Deep Sky Buririn	D. Matsuda Y. Kitade	Fujiwara Farm Co., Ltd. Fujiwara Farm	1-1/4 (37.6)	226.2 (17)

11	1	1	Lune Rouge (JPN)	F2	54.0	Monterosso Moon Howling	H. Kitamura T. Saito	Yasushi Kubota Yasushi Kubota	Neck (37.6)	175.9 (15)
12	4	8	Charlemagne (JPN)	C2	55.0	Victoire Pisa Able Arrow	K. Tosaki H. Shimizu	Kanayama Holdings Co., Ltd. Yamagiwa Bokujo	1/2 (38.4)	27.9 (9)
13	6	11	Flatley (JPN)	C2	55.0	Heart's Cry Rich Dancer	C. Lemaire K. Fujisawa	U. Carrot Farm Northern Racing	7 (39.0)	5.3 (3)
14	6	12	Jun Valerot (JPN)	C2	55.0	New Approach Wake Me Up	K. Fujioka Y. Tomomichi	Junji Kawai Northern Farm	1-1/4 (40.3)	21.9 (7)
15	1	2	Tosen Krieger (JPN)	C2	55.0	Tosen Laurence Tosen Screw	K. Yokoyama J. Ono	Takaya Shimakawa Takaya Shimakawa	Head (39.5)	168.3 (14)
16	7	14 B	Work and Love (JPN)	C2	55.0	Sinister Minister Hanarai	H. Uchida H. Tadokoro	Sachiaki Kobayashi Grand Stud	2 (37.6)	218.8 (16)
/	3	5	Trine (JPN)	C2	55.0	Deep Impact Marquesa	Y. Kitamura T. Hamada	Teruo Ono Taihei Stud Farm Co., Ltd	FF	12.7 (6)

FP=Final Position / BK=Bracket Number / PP=Post Position / B=Blinker / Wgt=Weight / L3F=Time of Last 3 Furlongs (600m)
FF=Fail to Finish

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: 2:01.4

GOING: Firm

WEATHER: Fine

TURNOVER FOR THE RACE ALONE: ¥ 11,247,694,500

TURNOVER FOR THE DAY: ¥ 19,360,323,800

ATTENDANCE: 30,077

PAY-OFF (for ¥100)

WIN	No.7	¥420	BRACKET QUINELLA	4-8	¥1,130	QUINELLA	7-15	¥1,440
PLACE	No.7	¥160	QUINELLA PLACE	7-15	¥570	EXACTA	7-15	¥2,960
	No.15	¥230		7-13	¥1,400	TRIO	7-13-15	¥10,920
	No.13	¥490		13-15	¥2,840	TRIFECTA	7-15-13	¥52,380

1. Time Flyer (JPN), bay, colt, 2-year-old

Heart's Cry / Time Traveling (Brian's Time)

Owner: Sunday Racing Co., Ltd.

Breeder: Oiwake Farm

Trainer: Kunihide Matsuda

Jockey: Cristian Demuro

5 Starts, 3 Wins

Added money: ¥ 71,204,000

Career earnings: ¥ 108,259,000

2. Gendarme (USA), dark bay or brown, colt, 2-year-old

Kitten's Joy / Believe (Sunday Silence)

Owner: Koji Maeda

Breeder: North Hills Co. Limited

Trainer: Yasutoshi Ikee

Jockey: Yutaka Take

3. Stay Foolish (JPN), bay, colt, 2-year-old

Stay Gold / Kauai Lane (King Kamehameha)

Owner: Shadai Race Horse Co., Ltd.

Breeder: Shadai Farm

Trainer: Yoshito Yahagi

Jockey: Yuta Nakatani

Time Flyer Shines in G1 Hopeful Stakes

Race favorite **Time Flyer** claimed the newly upgraded G1 Hopeful Stakes this year and improved his record to three wins and two seconds in five career starts. After debuting in August, the *Heart's Cry* colt marked two consecutive wins, the latter in the open-class Hagi Stakes, and is coming off a runner-up effort in the G3 Kyoto Nisai Stakes. Trainer Kunihide Matsuda marked his 14th JRA-G1 win, his first since claiming the Japan Cup Dirt with *Belshazzar* in 2013, while jockey Cristian Demuro, who is racing under a short-term license since October and has rode **Time Flyer** in his last two starts, celebrates his second JRA-G1 victory since claiming the Oka Sho (Japanese 1000 Guineas) with *Ayusan*

in 2013.

After a modest break, **Time Flyer** was off slow making the first two turns near the rear while **Trine**, **Sans Rival** and **Jun Valerot** fought up front for the lead. The bay colt steadily made progress chasing **Stay Foolish** rounding the third corner and then drifting to the outside of **Gendarme** at the top of the lane for a clear path. Unleashing a spectacular fastest stretch drive, **Time Flyer** quickly pinned **Gendarme** and the tiring **Sans Rival** at the furlong marker and although encountered a stubborn rally by **Gendarme**, finally shook off the runner-up in the last 50 meters for a 1-1/4-length victory.

“Today we went very fast so I waited a little bit because I tried to stay behind. I had confidence that he could catch the front but we were tight and couldn’t find the space, so I followed Yutaka (Take) who was in front of me and after we went out, he was just a very good horse. He will improve for the classics because he’s still young and has a good turn of foot, and I think the distance will not be a problem,” commented jockey Cristian Demuro after the race.

Fourth favorite **Gendarme** took a wide trip in mid-division after breaking from stall 15 and while the front runner was running out of steam on the rails, the colt was tagged 200 meters out after making a wide turn into the straight, and in spite of a tenacious pursuit, succumbed to the speed of the eventual winner to finish second.

Sent off eighth favorite in a field of 17, **Stay Foolish** traveled two wide in lower mid-pack right behind **Gendarme** and in front of **Time Flyer**. Following the runner-up at the last corner, the Stay Gold colt chased the battling leaders down the straight with a good turn of foot and closed well threatening **Gendarme** in the final strides but was a neck short for third.

Other Horses:

4th: (9) **Sans Rival**—pressed pace in 2nd, took lead at early stretch, outrun by top 3 finishers in last 100m
5th: (17) **Nasuno Symphony**—broke poorly, ran 2nd from rear, showed belated charge at stretch
6th: (10) **Lucas**—traveled 3-wide in mid-group, accelerated briefly at early stretch, even paced in last 200m
7th: (6) **My Heartbeat**—took economic trip in mid-division, turned wide, passed tired rivals at stretch
8th: (3) **Water Parfait**—sat near pace in 4th, ran gamely until 200m out, failed to sustain bid
9th: (4) **Lord Axis**—settled in mid-pack, showed brief response, weakened in last 200m
10th: (16) **Shaft of Light**—raced 3-wide towards rear, unable to reach contention
11th: (1) **Lune Rouge**—hugged rails in mid-group, turned wide, lacked needed kick at stretch
12th: (8) **Charlemagne**—sat in 6th, showed little at stretch
13th: (11) **Flatley**—traveled in mid-division, driven after 3rd corner, failed to respond
14th: (12) **Jun Valerot**—chased leaders in 3rd, led at 3rd corner, ran out of steam at early stretch
15th: (2) **Tosen Krieger**—stalked leaders in 5th, fell back after 3rd corner, faded
16th: (14) **Work and Love**—trailed in far rear, no factor
Fail to Finish: (5) **Trine**—set pace, weakened before 3rd corner, pulled up before wire

Fractional time (sec./furlong): 12.5 - 10.8 - 12.5 - 11.8 - 12.0 - 12.3 - 12.6 - 12.8 - 11.9 - 12.2
Last 4 furlongs: 49.5 Last 3 furlongs: 36.9

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

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.