

FROM: Masahiro Usuda

General Manager, Media & Publicity Department, THE JAPAN RACING ASSOCIATION (JRA)

DATE: February 18, 2018

**SUBJECT: RESULT OF THE 35TH FEBRUARY STAKES (G1)**



Japanese horse racing, which is influenced by British racing, is held mainly on turf. However, dirt tracks that were popular in the U.S., quickly became widely used around the country since the Tokyo Racecourse implemented a new dirt track in 1960. While the mainstream of major JRA races remained over turf, the February Stakes (then called February Handicap), which was established in 1984 in conjunction with the new grading system, was one of just three graded dirt races at the time—the current number of graded dirt events is 15. The race was upgraded to G2 in 1994 and then to G1 in 1997, and stood as the highest-prized event until the Japan Cup Dirt (called the Champions Cup from 2014) took over in 2000.

Past winners include *Wing Arrow* (JPN, by *Assatis*; '00), *Agnes Digital* (USA, by *Crafty Prospector*; '02), *Gold Allure* (JPN, by *Sunday Silence*; '03), *Admire Don* (JPN, by *Timber Country*; '04), *Kane Hekili* (JPN, by *Fuji Kiseki*; '06), *Vermilion* (JPN, by *El Condor Pasa*; '08), *Espoir City* (JPN, by *Gold Allure*; '10), *Transcend* (JPN, by *Wild Rush*; '11), *Copano Rickey* (JPN, by *Gold Allure*; '14&'15) and **Gold Dream** ('17)—all ten are winners of multiple-G1 races as well as JRA Award winners.

Defending champion and 2017 Best Dirt Horse **Gold Dream** was at the starting gate for the first time since his Champions Cup (G1, dirt, 1,800m; Dec.3) triumph last season. **T M Jinsoku**, runner-up in the same Champions cup, came off a Tokai Stakes (G2, dirt, 1,800m; Jan.21) win while **Nonkono Yume** also came off his first win in 26 months in the Negishi Stakes (G3, dirt, 1,400m; Jan.28) where he outdueled **Sunrise Nova** by a nose margin in record-breaking speed. Four runners came off the Kawasaki Kinen (dirt, 2,100m) held on January 31; **K T Brave** landed his second win at the highest level; multiple graded winner **Awardee** finished third; 2016 Best Dirt Horse **Sound True** and Meisho Sumitomo was fifth and seventh, respectively. Other key contenders included two February Stakes second-place finishers, **Best Warrior** (2017) and **Incantation** (2015), and 2015 Oka Sho (Japanese 1000 Guineas, G1, 1,600m) champion **Let's Go Donki** who was in her second attempt over the dirt surface since showing a runner-up effort in the 2016 JBC Ladies' Classic (dirt, 1,600m), along with 2017 JBC Sprint (dirt, 1,200m) champion **Nishiken Mononofu**.

Moanin (USA, H6, by Henny Hughes) renewed the February Stakes record to 1:34.0 in 2016.

**THE 35TH FEBRUARY STAKES (G1)**

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

Sunday, February 18, 2018 Tokyo Racecourse 11th Race Post time: 15:40

Total prize money: ¥ 216,000,000 (about US\$ 1,964,000 <US\$1=¥110>)

4-y-o & up: 57kg (about 126 lbs), 2kg allowance for Fillies & Mares,

1kg allowance for Southern Hemisphere-bred born in 2014

Safety factor: 16 runners

FP	BK	PP	Horse	Sex Age	Wgt (kg)	Sire Dam	Jockey Trainer	Owner Breeder	Margin (L3F)	Odds (Fav)
1	6	12	Nonkono Yume (JPN)	G6	57.0	Twining Nonko	H. Uchida Y. Kato	Kazumasa Yamada Shadai Farm	1:36.0 (36.1)	10.7 (4)
2	7	14	Gold Dream (JPN)	H5	57.0	Gold Allure Mon Vert	R. Moore O. Hirata	Katsumi Yoshida Northern Farm	Neck (36.4)	2.1 (1)
3	3	6	Incantation (JPN)	H8	57.0	Sinister Minister Original Spin	K. Miura T. Hatsuki	Turf Sport Tanikawa Stud	Neck (36.7)	20.0 (6)
4	8	16	Sunrise Nova (JPN)	C4	57.0	Gold Allure Bright Sapphire	K. Tosaki H. Otonashi	Takao Matsuoka Yanagawa Bokujo	3 (37.0)	7.1 (3)
5	7	13	Let's Go Donki (JPN)	M6	55.0	King Kamehameha Marutoku	H. Miyuki T. Umeda	Hirosaki Toshihiro HD Co., Ltd. Shimizu Bokujo	1/2 (37.0)	51.0 (10)
6	5	9	King's Guard (JPN)	H7	57.0	Sinister Minister Kings Berry	Y. Fujioka R. Terashima	Nisshin B. Nisshin Farm	Nose (36.8)	81.5 (12)
7	4	8	Meisho Sumitomo (JPN)	H7	57.0	Gold Allure Mugen	H. Tanabe K. Minai	Yoshio Matsumoto Fujiwara Farm	2-1/2 (37.4)	242.3 (15)
8	3	5	Sound True (JPN)	G8	57.0	French Deputy Kyoei Truth	F. Minarik N. Takagi	Hiroshi Yamada Okada Stud	2-1/2 (37.6)	54.4 (11)
9	2	4 B	Awardee (USA)	H8	57.0	Jungle Pocket Heavenly Romance	Y. Take M. Matsunaga	Koji Maeda North Hills Management	Neck (37.7)	23.6 (7)

10	8	15	Best Warrior (USA)	H8	57.0	Majestic Warrior Flirtatious Miss	C. Lemaire S. Ishizaka	Yukio Baba Buck Pond Farm Inc	Neck (38.3)	32.2 (8)
11	1	2	K T Brave (JPN)	H5	57.0	Admire Max K T Laurel	Y. Fukunaga T. Meno	Kazuyoshi Takimoto Kazuyoshi Takimoto	1/2 (39.4)	15.4 (5)
12	5	10	T M Jinsoku (JPN)	H6	57.0	Kurofune My Discovery	Y. Furukawa K. Kihara	Masatsugu Takezono Masatsugu Takezono	3/4 (39.4)	3.7 (2)
13	2	3	Nobo Baccara (JPN)	H6	57.0	Admire Aura Nobo Kiss	S. Ishibashi S. Temma	LS. M Co., Ltd. LS. M Co., Ltd.	2-1/2 (39.6)	257.0 (16)
14	6	11	London Town (JPN)	H5	57.0	Kane Hekili Fairy Banyan	Y. Iwata K. Makita	Toru Makiura Yasushi Tsumura	1-1/2 (39.0)	33.2 (9)
15	4	7	Lalabel (JPN)	M6	55.0	Gold Allure Breezy Woods	D. Mashima K. Arayama	Teruya Yoshida Shadai Farm	1-3/4 (39.7)	199.4 (14)
16	1	1	Nishiken Mononofu (JPN)	H7	57.0	Meisho Bowler Green Hill Komachi	N. Yokoyama Y. Shono	Tsuru Nishimori Tsuneo Yagi	1-1/4 (40.7)	124.1 (13)

FP=Final Position / BK=Bracket Number / PP=Post Position / B=Blinker / 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: 1:36.0

GOING: Standard

WEATHER: Fine

TURNOVER FOR THE RACE ALONE: ¥ 12,886,252,900

TURNOVER FOR THE DAY: ¥ 21,877,355,100

ATTENDANCE: 50,194

#### PAY-OFF (for ¥100)

WIN	No.12	¥1,070	BRACKET QUINELLA	6-7	¥870	QUINELLA	12-14	¥1,140
PLACE	No.12	¥280	QUINELLA PLACE	12-14	¥520	EXACTA	12-14	¥3,530
	No.14	¥130		6-12	¥2,620	TRIO	6-12-14	¥6,540
	No.6	¥350		6-14	¥720	TRIFECTA	12-14-6	¥41,560

#### 1. Nonkono Yume (JPN), dark chestnut, gelding, 6-year-old

Twining / Nonko (Agnes Tachyon)

Owner: Kazumasa Yamada Breeder: Shadai Farm

Trainer: Yukihiro Kato Jockey: Hiroyuki Uchida

21 Starts, 8 Wins

Added money: ¥ 103,402,000 Career earnings: ¥ 425,611,000

Principal race performances: '15 Japan Dirt Derby (dirt, 2,000m) 1st  
'18 Negishi Stakes (G3, dirt, 1,400m) 1st  
'15 Musashino Stakes (G3, dirt, 1,600m) 1st  
'15 Unicorn Stakes (G3, dirt, 1,600m) 1st

#### 2. Gold Dream (JPN), bay, horse, 5-year-old

Gold Allure / Mon Vert (French Deputy)

Owner: Katsumi Yoshida Breeder: Northern Farm

Trainer: Osamu Hirata Jockey: Ryan Moore

#### 3. Incantation (JPN), bay, horse, 8-year-old

Sinister Minister / Original Spin (Machiavellian)

Owner: Turf Sport Breeder: Tanikawa Stud

Trainer: Tomohiko Hatsuki Jockey: Kosei Miura

#### Nonkono Yume Scores Powerfully in February Stakes

Fourth favorite **Nonkono Yume** captured this year's February Stakes, one of the two major dirt races on the calendar with G1 status, after displaying an impressive stretch run to defeat the defending champion **Gold Dream** in second. It is the six-year-old gelding's second title at the highest level since his Japan Dirt Derby victory in 2015. In the same year at the age of three, the dark chestnut also notched two G3 wins and showed a runner-up effort in the Champions Cup before landing another two runner-up finishes the following year in the February Stakes and

