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SUBJECT: RESULTS OF THE 79TH OKA SHO (JAPANESE 1000 GUINEAS, G1)



The Oka Sho, which is the first of the five JRA Classics held during the year, determines the champion three-year-old filly possessing the fastest speed running over 1,600 meters and serves as an opportunity to scout potential broodmare talents. The Japanese equivalent to the One Thousand Guineas originated in England, the Oka Sho was first held at Nakayama Racecourse in Chiba, run over 1,800 meters and under the name “Nakayama Yonsai Himba Tokubetsu”, then changed its distance and venue under the new name, “Oka Sho” (Oka, meaning cherry flower which is in full bloom at this time of the season). With the entire graded races opening its doors to foreign-trained horses in 2010, the three-year-old Classics including this race entered a new phase with international G1 status. While speed is a much required ability to win this race, the extension of the homestretch as well as a deeper turf surface and an uphill stretch at Hanshin after the track renovation in 1991 has added “stamina” as an added qualification—a newly added outside turf track further extended the homestretch in 2006.

The Oka Sho, together with the Yushun Himba (Japanese Oaks, G1, 2,400m) and the Shuka Sho (G1, 2,000m), is also widely considered as the fillies’ version of the “Triple Crown”, a title which has been claimed by five fillies in the past including *Gentildonna* (JPN, by *Deep Impact*) and *Almond Eye* (JPN, by Lord Kanaloa) both of who completed the sweep and went on to capture the Japan Cup (G1, 2,400m) and Horse of the Year title in 2012 and 2018, respectively.

2018 Hanshin Juvenile Fillies (G1, 1,600m) victor and Best two-Year-Old Filly **Danon Fantasy** marked her third consecutive graded title in the Tulip Sho (G2, 1,600m; Mar.2), one of the trial races towards the Oka Sho. **Shigeru Pink Dia** and **Noble Score** earned their tickets to run in the Oka Sho finishing second and third, respectively, in the Tulip Sho while 2018 Artemis Stakes (G3, 1,600m) winner **Schon Glanz** finished fifth. Oka Sho entries from other trial races were: **No One**, **Pourville** and **Juranville**, the top three finishers of the Fillies’ Revue (G2, 1,400m; Mar.10); **Regard Calme** and **Red Aster**, the top two finishers of the Anemone Stakes (1,600m; Mar.10). Hanshin Juvenile Fillies runner-up **Chrono Genesis** and third-place finisher **Beach Samba** came off first and second, respectively, in the Queen Cup (G3, 1,600m; Feb.9). The field also included Fairy Stakes (G3, 1,600m; Jan.12) winner **Figlia Pura**, Elfin Stakes (Listed, 1,600m; Feb.2) victor **Aqua Mirabilis** and **Gran Alegria** who was third against male opponents in the Asahi Hai Futurity Stakes (G1, 1,600m; Dec.16).

THE 79TH OKA SHO (JAPANESE 1000 GUINEAS, G1)

3-year-old Fillies, 1,600 meters (about 8 furlongs), turf, right-handed

Sunday, April 7, 2019 Hanshin Racecourse 11th Race Post time: 15:40

Total prize money: ¥ 226,800,000 (about US\$ 1,972,000 <US\$1=¥115>)

3-y-o: 55kg (about 121 lbs), 2kg allowance for Southern Hemisphere-bred born in 2016

Safety factor: 18 runners

FP	BK	PP	Horse	Sex Age	Wgt (kg)	Sire Dam	Jockey Trainer	Owner Breeder	Margin (L3F)	Odds (Fav)
1	4	8	Gran Alegria (JPN)	F3	55.0	Deep Impact Tapitsfly	C. Lemaire K. Fujisawa	Sunday Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Farm	1:32.7 (33.3)	3.4 (2)
2	8	16	Shigeru Pink Dia (JPN)	F3	55.0	Daiwa Major Moonlight Bay	R. Wada K. Watanabe	S. Morinaka Amaba Bokujo	2-1/2 (32.7)	20.0 (7)
3	2	4	Chrono Genesis (JPN)	F3	55.0	Bago Chronologist	Y. Kitamura T. Saito	Sunday Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Racing	Neck (32.9)	5.7 (3)
4	7	15	Danon Fantasy (JPN)	F3	55.0	Deep Impact Life For Sale	Y. Kawada M. Nakauchida	Danox Co., Ltd. Northern Racing	Nose (33.4)	2.8 (1)
5	7	14	Beach Samba (JPN)	F3	55.0	Kurofune Fusaichi Airedale	Y. Fukunaga Y. Tomomichi	Kaneko Makoto Holdings Co., Ltd. Northern Racing	Neck (33.3)	10.7 (4)
6	8	18	Pourville (JPN)	F3	55.0	Le Havre Kenhope	S. Akiyama Y. Shono	Teruya Yoshida Shadai Farm	3/4 (33.8)	115.0 (14)
7	1	2	Aile Voix (JPN)	F3	55.0	Victoire Pisa Feeling Tone	K. Matsuyama S. Hashiguchi	Yukari Saeki Oiwake Farm	1-1/4 (32.9)	26.1 (8)
8	7	13	Juranville (JPN)	F3	55.0	Kinshasa no Kiseki Ally	F. Matsuwaka R. Terashima	M. Murakami Matsuura Bokujo	3/4 (34.0)	154.5 (16)
9	1	1	Schon Glanz (JPN)	F3	55.0	Deep Impact Stacelita	Y. Take K. Fujisawa	Shadai Race Horse Co., Ltd. Shadai Farm	Neck (33.0)	19.2 (6)

10	4	7	A Will a Way (JPN)	F3	55.0	Just a Way Will Power	S. Ishibashi T. Takano	Katsumi Yoshida Northern Racing	2 (33.8)	54.6 (11)
11	6	12	No One (JPN)	F3	55.0	Heart's Cry Playgirl	R. Sakai K. Sasada	Yoshinori Fujita Tobino Bokujo	1-1/4 (34.0)	71.3 (12)
12	6	11	Meisho Keimei (JPN)	F3	55.0	Workforce Meisho Akishino	Y. Furukawa K. Minai	Yoshio Matsumoto Yoshio Matsumoto	1-1/4 (34.7)	258.1 (18)
13	5	9	Aqua Mirabilis (JPN)	F3	55.0	Victoire Pisa Aqua Ring	M. Demuro K. Yoshimura	Shadai Race Horse Co., Ltd. Shadai Farm	1-1/4 (34.7)	12.4 (5)
14	8	17	Red Aster (JPN)	F3	55.0	Deep Impact Red Elsa	K. Tosaki S. Kunieda	TokyoHorseRacing Co. Ltd Mint Co.	1/2 (34.0)	117.6 (15)
15	5	10	Figlia Pura (JPN)	F3	55.0	Harbinger Princess Camellia	G. Maruyama T. Kikuzawa	U. Carrot Farm Northern Farm	1-3/4 (34.0)	95.2 (13)
16	3	6	Ho O Catherine (JPN)	F3	55.0	Matsurida Gogh Terre Neuve	T. Ono T. Kurita	Yoshihisa Ozasa Okada Stud	Neck (35.0)	249.2 (17)
17	2	3	Noble Score (JPN)	F3	55.0	Deep Impact Final Score	Y. Iwata H. Fujiwara	Hidenori Futagi Northern Racing	3/4 (34.7)	52.6 (10)
18	3	5	Regard Calme (JPN)	F3	55.0	Lord Kanaloa Sunday Smile	K. Miura Y. Tamura	Sunday Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Farm	2-1/2 (35.1)	40.1 (9)

FP=Final Position / BK=Bracket Number / PP=Post Position / 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: 1:32.7 (race record)

GOING: Firm

WEATHER: Fine

TURNOVER FOR THE RACE ALONE: ¥ 16,838,558,700

TURNOVER FOR THE DAY: ¥ 25,552,716,000

ATTENDANCE: 50,877

PAY-OFF (for ¥100)

WIN	No.8	¥340	BRACKET QUINELLA	4-8	¥3,110	QUINELLA	8-16	¥4,410
PLACE	No.8	¥170	QUINELLA PLACE	8-16	¥1,280	EXACTA	8-16	¥5,700
	No.16	¥400		4-8	¥420	TRIO	4-8-16	¥5,990
	No.4	¥200		4-16	¥1,410	TRIFECTA	8-16-4	¥31,810

1. Gran Alegria (JPN), bay, filly, 3-year-old

Deep Impact / Tapitsfly (Tapit)

Owner: Sunday Racing Co., Ltd. Breeder: Northern Farm

Trainer: Kazuo Fujisawa Jockey: Christophe Lemaire

4 Starts, 3 Wins

Added money: ¥ 129,829,000 Career earnings: ¥ 188,275,000

2. Shigeru Pink Dia (JPN), dark bay or brown, filly, 3-year-old

Daiwa Major / Moonlight Bay (High Chaparral)

Owner: S. Morinaka Breeder: Amaba Bokujo

Trainer: Kunihiko Watanabe Jockey: Ryuji Wada

3. Chrono Genesis (JPN), gray, filly, 3-year-old

Bago / Chronologist (Kurofuno)

Owner: Sunday Racing Co., Ltd. Breeder: Northern Racing

Trainer: Takashi Saito Jockey: Yuichi Kitamura

Oka Sho Race Record Renewed Again With Gran Alegria's Overwhelming Victory

Second Favorite **Gran Alegria** showed a performance of another class in this year's Oka Sho (Japanese 1000 Guineas), the first leg of the fillies Triple Crown, to exceed Almond Eye's accomplishment just a year ago and renew the race record by 0.4 seconds. Winning her two-year-old debut in June last year while beating **Danon Fantasy** by two lengths, the **Deep Impact** filly promptly scored her first grade-race title in her next start in the Saudi Arabia Royal Cup (G3, 1,600m) in October and finished third against boys in the Asahi Hai Futurity Stakes (G1, 1,600m) in December and hadn't raced

since until the Oka Sho which was her first start of her three-year-old campaign. Trainer Kazuo Fujisawa won his second Oka Sho title—his first being with *Dance in the Mood* in 2004—and 27th JRA-G1 overall while Christophe Lemaire also won his second Oka Sho title after Almond Eye last year and is now with 23 JRA-G1 titles.

Gran Alegria was allowed to settle close to the pace in fourth position, two wide, behind **Pourville** who set an easy going pace in the first half of the mile distance but Christophe Lemaire let the powerful filly unleash her exceptional speed after that and was already taking command before the 600-meter pole then continued to pull away uncontested to the finish line for a 2-1/2 length victory.

“She certainly won strongly today. I was a little bit worried as it was her first time out after a long break (111 days). She was unable to make use of her speed in the Asahi Hai Futurity Stakes (3rd) so I made sure this time to secure a good position early on and from there I had every confidence in her exceptional speed. The extended 2,400 meters in the Yushun Himba though is going to be a tough race for us,” commented Christophe Lemaire.

Shigeru Pink Dia missed a beat, breaking from an outside draw, and was still well behind after the first 800 meters but showed impressive turn of speed as the field rounded the final turn and squeezed her way between horses to reach contention with the fastest finish over the last three furlongs, overtaking the tired **Pourville** then out-rallying both **Danon Fantasy** and **Chrono Genesis** for second place.

Chrono Genesis was keen early and held back in mid-field while saving ground along the rails, met traffic before shifting to the outside in the early stretch and turned in a powerful turn of speed once out in the clearing to pin **Danon Fantasy** just before the wire for third.

Race favorite **Danon Fantasy** tried to pull hard early, having to make ground from an outside draw, and finally settled once reaching a more forward position around fifth from the leader. She made her bid down the center lane but was no match for the winner while maintaining good effort to rally for second and finished fourth.

Other Horses:

5th: (14) **Beach Samba**—sat back in mid-division, made headway before 3rd corner, chased favorite, overtaken by **Chrono Genesis** in final strides

6th: (18) **Pourville**—set pace from widest stall, held well, weakened in last 100m

7th: (2) **Aile Voix**—took economic route in mid-pack, showed effort, outrun in last 100m

8th: (13) **Juranville**—tracked leader in 2nd, showed tenacity, weakened in last 100m

9th: (1) **Schon Glanz**—hugged rails 3rd from rear, angled out, showed belated charge

10th: (7) **A Will a Way**—sat 3-wide in mid-group, even paced after final corner

11th: (12) **No One**—settled in mid-division, checked at early stretch, passed tired rivals

12th: (11) **Meisho Keimei**—chased leaders in 3rd, ran out of steam in last 300m

13th: (9) **Aqua Mirabilis**—ran 3-wide in mid-pack, showed brief effort, dropped back in last 200m

14th: (17) **Red Aster**—was off slow, raced 2nd from rear, showed little at stretch

15th: (10) **Figlia Pura**—trailed in rear, unable to reach contention

16th: (6) **Ho O Catherine**—saved ground around 5th, gradually fell back

17th: (3) **Noble Score**—hugged rails in mid-group, never fired at straight

18th: (5) **Regard Calme**—traveled in mid-division, checked at top of stretch, lost momentum

Fractional time (sec./furlong): 12.2 - 11.1 - 12.1 - 12.3 - 11.7 - 10.8 - 11.0 - 11.5
Last 4 furlongs: 45.0 Last 3 furlongs: 33.3

Positions at each corner: 3rd corner 18,13(11,**8**)(6,15)9(4,12)(3,5,14)(2,7)16(1,17)10
4th corner (18,***8**)13(11,15)(6,9,14)(4,12,7)(3,5,16)(2,1,17)-10

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.