

SUBJECT: RESULT OF THE 74TH YASUDA KINEN (G1)

The Yasuda Kinen, a race to determine the best miler of the spring season, has welcomed just over 50 foreign-trained horses since its designation as an international race in 1993, including 1995 champion Heart Lake (GB, by Nureyev) from the UAE, 2000 winner Fairy King Prawn (AUS, by Danehill) from Hong Kong and the winner of the 2006 Champions Mile-Yasuda Kinen double, Bullish Luck (USA, by Royal Academy). The race joined the Breeders' Cup Challenge Series in 2016, enabling its winners to earn automatic starting position in the Breeders' Cup Mile (G1, 1,600m), while the first three finishers of this race are eligible to start in the French mile G1s, the Prix Jacques le Marois and the Prix du Moulin de Longchamp.

Past Yasuda Kinen winners that have subsequently become the season's Horse of the Year include Oguri Cap (JPN, by Dancing Cap; '90), Taiki Shuttle (USA, by Devil's Bag; '98), Vodka (JPN, by Tanino Gimlet; '08 & '09), Lord Kanaloa (JPN, by King Kamehameha; '13) and Maurice (JPN, by Screen Hero; '15). Last year, Songline (JPN, by Kizuna) successfully defended her Yasuda Kinen title and given the JRA Award Best Miler title before retiring from racing at the end of the season.

This year's edition welcomed the first foreign contenders in six years—seven-time G1 winner **Romantic Warrior** and the 2024 Stewards' Cup (G1, 1,600m) victor **Voyage Bubble** from Hong Kong.

The home team, taking on the challenge, included key runners coming off respective prep races were; from the Lord Derby Challenge Trophy (G3, 1,600m, Mar.30), **Parallel Vision** (1st); from the Osaka Hai (G1, 2,000m, Mar.31), **Stella Veloce** (4th) and 2022 Satsuki Sho (Japanese 2000 Guineas, G1, 2,000m) victor **Geoglyph** (5th); from the Milers Cup (G2, 1,600m, Apr.21), 2023 Mile Championship (G1, 1,600m) runner-up **Soul Rush** (1st) and 2022 Mile Championship winner **Serifos** (2nd); from the Victoria Mile (G1, 1,600m, May.12), **Fierce Pride** (2nd) and 2023 Mile Championship victor **Namur** (8th); and from the Keio Hai Spring Cup (G2, 1,400m, May.11), **Red Mon Reve** (2nd) and 2022 NHK Mile Cup (G1, 1,600m) champion **Danon Scorpion** (4th). Also among the field were **Gaia Force**, runner-up in the February Stakes (G1, dirt, 1,600m) and **Elton Barows** who came off an eighth in the Champions Mile (G1, 1,600m, Apr.28).

THE 74TH YASUDA KINEN (G1)

3-year-olds & up, 1,600 meters (about 8 furlongs), turf, left-handed

Sunday, June 2, 2024

Tokyo Racecourse

11th Race

Post Time: 15:40

Total prize money: ¥ 388,800,000 (about US\$ 2,758,000 <US\$1=¥141>)

3-y-o: 54kg (about 119 lbs), 4-y-o & up: 58kg (about 128 lbs), 2kg allowance for Fillies & Mares,

1kg allowance for Southern Hemisphere-bred born in 2020, 2kg allowance for Southern Hemisphere-bred born in 2021

Course Record: 1:30.5

Race Record: 1:30.9 [Indy Champ (JPN, by Stay Gold), 2019]

Safety factor: 18 runners

Going: Good

Weather: Drizzle



FP	BK	PP	Horse Jockey	S&A Color Wgt	Odds (Fav)	Margin (L3F)	Sire Dam (Dam's Sire)	Owner Breeder Trainer
1	4	7	Romantic Warrior (IRE)* James McDonald	G6 b. 58.0	3.6 (1)	1:32.3 (33.4)	Acclamation Folk Melody (Street Cry)	Pak Fai Lau Corduff Stud & T.J.Rooney Chap Shing Shum
2	3	5	Namur (JPN) Yutaka Take	M5 b. 56.0	10.0 (4)	1/2 (32.9)	Harbinger Sambre et Meuse (Daiwa Major)	Carrot Farm Co., Ltd. Northern Farm Tomokazu Takano
3	5	10	Soul Rush (JPN) Joao Moreira	H6 d.b. 58.0	4.0 (2)	Nose (33.1)	Rulership Eternal Bouquet (Manhattan Cafe)	Tatsue Ishikawa Shimokobe Farm Yasutoshi Ikee
4	1	2	Gaia Force (JPN) Yoshihito Nagaoka	H5 g. 58.0	11.6 (5)	1 (33.5)	Kitsan Black Natale (Kurofune)	KR Japan Oiwake Farm Haruki Sugiyama
5	8	17	Serifos (JPN) Yuga Kawada	H5 ch.	6.1 (3)	1/2 (33.0)	Daiwa Major Sea Front	G1 Racing Co., Ltd. Oiwake Farm

				58.0			(Le Havre)	Mitsumasa Nakauchida
6	2	4	Geoglyph (JPN) Hiroshi Kitamura	H5 ch. 58.0	43.9 (12)	1-1/4 (34.0)	Drefong Aromatico (King Kamehameha)	Sunday Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Farm Tetsuya Kimura
7	6	12	Fierce Pride (JPN) Ryusei Sakai	M6 br. 56.0	54.8 (13)	Nose (34.2)	Deep Impact Strawberry Fair (Kingmambo)	Godolphin Godolphin Sakae Kunieda
8	8	16 B	Elton Barows (JPN) Atsuya Nishimura	C4 b. 58.0	63.1 (14)	1/2 (33.6)	Deep Brillante Shonan Carat (Brian's Time)	Hirotsugu Inokuma Hirotsugu Inokuma Haruki Sugiyama
9	7	13	Stella Veloce (JPN) Norihiro Yokoyama	H6 d.b. 58.0	16.4 (7)	Neck (34.1)	Bago Oh My Baby (Deep Impact)	Teruo Ono Northern Racing Naosuke Sugai
10	4	8	Air Lolonois (JPN) Hideaki Miyuki	G7 b. 58.0	107.8 (16)	1-1/4 (33.5)	King Kamehameha Air One Piece (Rock of Gibraltar)	Lucky Field Co., Ltd. Tsunebumi Yoshihara Kazuhide Sasada
11	2	3	Red Mon Reve (JPN) Kazuo Yokoyama	H5 b. 58.0	36.2 (10)	Nose (33.2)	Lord Kanaloa Last Groove (Deep Impact)	Tokyo Horse Racing Co., Ltd. Hidetoshi Yamamoto Masayoshi Ebina
12	7	14	Corepetiteur (JPN) Yasunari Iwata	C4 ch. 58.0	125.3 (17)	Neck (33.3)	Just a Way Vegas Night (Coronado's Quest)	Makoto Kato Shadai Farm Kazuya Nakatake
13	5	9	Parallel Vision (JPN) Christophe Lemaire	H5 b. 58.0	15.4 (6)	Neck (34.1)	Kizuna Art Brut (Makfi)	Carrot Farm Co., Ltd. Northern Farm Sakae Kunieda
14	6	11 B	Win Carnelian (JPN) Kosei Miura	H7 ch. 58.0	18.9 (9)	Nose (34.8)	Screen Hero Cosmo Crystal (Meiner Love)	Win Co., Ltd. Cosmo View Farm Yuichi Shikato
15	8	18	Danon Scorpion (JPN) Keita Tosaki	H5 b. 58.0	36.9 (11)	1-3/4 (34.4)	Lord Kanaloa Lexie Lou (Sligo Bay)	Danon Co., Ltd. K. I. Farm Yuichi Fukunaga
16	1	1	Catedral (JPN) Arata Saito	H8 b. 58.0	212.1 (18)	Neck (34.0)	Heart's Cry Abyla (Rock of Gibraltar)	Carrot Farm Co., Ltd. Northern Racing Manabu Ikezoe
17	7	15	Voyage Bubble (AUS)* Zachary Purton	G6 b. 58.0	17.3 (8)	Head (34.5)	Deep Field Raheights (Rahy)	Sunshine And Moonlight Syndicate Torryburn Stud Poon Fai Yiu
18	3	6	Dobune (JPN) Yuji Hishida	H5 bl. 58.0	71.1 (15)	1 (35.4)	Deep Impact Premier Steps (Footstepsinthesand)	Susumu Fujita Shadai Farm Koshiro Take

FP: Final Position / BK: Bracket Number / PP: Post Position / B: Blinker / S&A: Sex & Age / Wgt: Weight (kg) / L3F: Time of Last 3 Furlongs (600m)
Color: b.=bay / bl.=black / br.=brown / ch.=chestnut / d.b.=dark bay / d.ch.=dark chestnut / g.=gray / w.=white

NOTE 1: *Foreign Contenders

NOTE 2: Figures quoted under Odds are shown in form of decimal odds (single unit is ¥100), and Fav indicates the order of favorites.

Turnover for the Race alone: ¥ 20,019,056,900

Turnover for the Day: ¥ 31,740,500,400

Attendance: 44,577

Pay-off (for ¥100)

Win	No.7	¥ 360	Bracket Quinella	3-4	¥ 2,100	Quinella	5-7	¥ 2,850
Place	No.7	¥ 160	Quinella Place	5-7	¥ 1,260	Exacta	7-5	¥ 4,220
	No.5	¥ 300		7-10	¥ 350	Trio	5-7-10	¥ 3,280
	No.10	¥ 150		5-10	¥ 920	Trifecta	7-5-10	¥ 17,740

Winner= 20 starts: 15 wins & 3 seconds / Added & stakes money: ¥ 183,780,000 / Career earnings: approx.¥ 2,768,080,000

Romantic Warrior Takes First Yasuda Kinen Title in 18 Years for Hong Kong

Hong Kong's **Romantic Warrior** demonstrated a powerful performance as race favorite to take this year's Yasuda Kinen title which extended his G1 winning streak to five and eighth victory overall at this level. His G1 resume so far includes three consecutive Queen Elizabeth II Cup (2,000m) victories

between 2022 and 2024, back-to-back Hong Kong Cup (2,000m) titles in 2022 and 2023, the Cox Plate (2,040m) in 2023, the Hong Kong Gold Cup (2,000m) and his first G1 victory at a mile in the Yasuda Kinen. The son of Acclamation becomes the fourth foreign winner after Heart Lake (1995), Fairy King Prawn (2000) and Bullish Luck (2006). The Yasuda Kinen victory is the first win in Japan for both trainer Chap Shing Shum and jockey James McDonald.

The race broke off with **Dobune** taking the leading spot and **Win Carnelian** pressing the pace on his outside. **Romantic Warrior**, breaking from stall seven, was settled comfortably in sixth and two-wide. The multiple G1 champion struggled briefly for room in early stretch but once a clear path opened in front of him around 300 meters out, the son of Acclamation found his stride, taking command at the 200-meter pole and stormed home with incredible speed, holding off the fast-closing runner-up by half-a-length.

“It was a great moment (to win this race). I had been working on finding the right horse to bring here to race in Japan so it was really exciting and a happy moment. I have had connections with Japan both in business and also within the racing circle and I am grateful to have had the opportunity to race here this time. The racing track here is wide and very fair and beautiful. I had heard from my friends in Hong Kong about the big fan base in Japan but it was even more than I expected and I feel that they are very enthusiastic. I understand that the Japanese horses are very strong—last time in Hong Kong two Japanese horses nearly beat us and I’ve seen the Japanese horses racing in Dubai and in Australia so I know that they are of good quality. After this race, I think the horse should be quite tired, he’s had a big season so the option (to race in the Takarazuka Kinen) may not be a possibility this time,” commented owner Pak Fai Lau.

“I have a world-class jockey, James McDonald, he’s the champion jockey at the moment and I have every confidence in him. He loves Romantic Warrior and Romantic Warrior loves him—he does his best for him. I’ve been lucky to be given a lot of experience from Ivan Allan and travel with his horses to the Yasuda Kinen and the Japan Cup in the past. Romantic Warrior’s best distance is 2,000 meters but in Hong Kong, the straight is 400 meters where in Tokyo it’s 525 and the hill goes up at 350 meters and down and flat at 250, so you need a horse that can handle 1,800 meters at Tokyo. After discussing with the owner, we have decided that the horse should be given a rest so he won’t race anymore this season,” added trainer Chap Shing Shum.

“I’m just extremely proud, very honored to be traveling with such a good horse and to showcase him to such passionate racing fans. The whole team had done a very very good job. The race went perfectly as planned—we had a plan of being in the first half of the field—he enabled us to sit in a very comfortable position throughout. Before the start he was a bit fresh and above himself so I felt that he was definitely on the job and as always, he was there when I asked him for a supreme effort. Once he hit the front with 200 meters to run, it was going to have to be a good horse to go pass him because there’s not many who can go pass him when he’s in full flight with a furlong to go. He’s a proven champion, he’s won one of the toughest races in Australia in the Cox Plate, he’s won two Hong Kong Cups taking on strong opposition and now has come to Japan and won a mile race, a little bit shorter than his best distance. He always rises to the occasion and that’s the beauty of this horse, he’s got a heart of a lion and tremendous ability,” said jockey James McDonald.

Namur broke nicely and unrushed but not too far behind the mid-field group, shifted out and circled wide to secure a clear path on the outside into the straight and unleashed a fine turn of speed, the fastest over the last three furlongs, to reach contention outside **Soul Rush** with a furlong to go and out-finished that foe by a nose for second, while 1/2 length short of the winner.

