

FROM: Media & Publicity Department, THE JAPAN RACING ASSOCIATION (JRA)

DATE: May 25, 2025

SUBJECT: RESULT OF THE 86TH YUSHUN HIMBA (JAPANESE OAKS, G1)



The Japanese version of the prestigious British Oaks, the Yushun Himba was established in 1938 and contested among runners limited to home-bred three-year-old fillies. Initially called the “Hanshin Yushun Himba” and held during the fall season at Hanshin Racecourse, the race acquired its current status as the Japanese Oaks upon changing its venue to Tokyo Racecourse in 1946. The race was also shifted to the spring season, being the richest in prize money and longest in distance among the current JRA races limited to fillies/mares. The Yushun Himba opened its door to foreign-bred runners in 2003 and acquired international G1 status in 2010.

While the Oka Sho (Japanese 1000 Guineas, G1, 1,600m) serves in gauging the speed potentials in the future broodmares, the Yushun Himba is a championship race in which to discover the added quality of stamina as well as speed, and winners of this race are highly rated as broodmares upon retirement to stud. Recent winners included fillies/mares that became high profile G1 winners. 2023 winner Liberty Island (JPN, by Duramente) went on to capture the Shuka Sho (G1, 2,000m) that autumn to become the seventh filly to capture the fillies’ Triple Crown title.

The top five finishers of the Oka Sho (Apr.13) that were automatically eligible for the Oaks were: **Embroidery** (1st), 2024 Best Two-Year-Old Filly **Arma Veloce** (2nd), **Lynx Tip** (3rd) and **Erika Express** (5th), while Ma Puce (JPN, by Mind Your Biscuits) headed to the NHK Mile Cup (G1, 1,600m, May.11) instead and finished seventh. The field also included **Lesedrama**, **Savonlinna** and **Kamunyak** who came off their victories in the Flower Cup (G3, 1,800m, Mar.22), the Wasurenagusa Sho (Listed, 2,000m, Apr.13) and the Flora Stakes (G2, 2,000m, Apr.27), respectively. **Vip Daisy**, runner-up in the Hanshin Juvenile Fillies (G1, 1,600m), and **Brown Ratchet**, victor of the Artemis Stakes (G3, 1,600m) were also among the lineup.

THE 86TH YUSHUN HIMBA (JAPANESE OAKS, G1)

3-year-olds, Fillies, 2,400 meters (about 12 furlongs), turf, left-handed

Sunday, May 25, 2025

Tokyo Racecourse

11th Race

Post Time: 15:40

Total prize money: ¥ 326,500,000 (about US\$ 2,080,000 <US\$1=¥157>)

3-y-o: 55 kg (about 121 lbs), 3 kg allowance for Southern Hemisphere-bred born in 2022

Course Record: 2:20.6

Race Record: 2:22.8 [Loves Only You (JPN, by Deep Impact), 2019]

Safety factor: 18 runners

Going: Good to Firm

Weather: Cloudy



FP	BK	PP	Horse Jockey	S&A Color Wgt	Odds (Fav)	Margin (L3F)	Sire Dam (Dam's Sire)	Owner Breeder Trainer
1	7	15	Kamunyak (JPN) Andrasch Starke	F3 b. 55.0	14.3 (4)	2:25.7 (33.8)	Black Tide Dance Amiga (Sakura Bakushin O)	Kaneko Makoto Holdings Co., Ltd. Shadai Farm Yasuo Tomomichi
2	1	1	Arma Veloce (JPN) Mirai Iwata	F3 d.b. 55.0	3.4 (2)	Head (34.2)	Harbinger Rakuami (Daiwa Major)	TO RACING LLC. Northern Racing Hiroyuki Uemura
3	7	13	Tagano Abby (JPN) Yusuke Fujioka	F3 ch. 55.0	49.0 (10)	1-1/4 (33.5)	Animal Kingdom Tagano Tairin (I'll Have Another)	Ryoji Yagi Ryoji Yagi Teruhiko Chida
4	2	3	Paradis Reine (JPN) Yuji Tannai	F3 b. 55.0	17.7 (7)	Neck (34.3)	Kizuna Paradise Garden (Closing Argument)	Makio Okada Okada Stud Teruhiko Chida
5	3	5	Lynx Tip (JPN) Mirco Demuro	F3 b. 55.0	3.7 (3)	1-1/4 (34.5)	Kitasan Black Dance With Kitten (Kitten's Joy)	Sunday Racing Co., Ltd. Shadai Corporation Inc. Masayuki Nishimura
6	6	11	Will Survive (JPN) Taisei Danno	F3 d.b. 55.0	328.8 (18)	1-1/4 (34.7)	Al Ain Classic Lydia (Harbinger)	Koji Yasuhara Northern Farm Naosuke Sugai
7	6	12	Brown Ratchet (JPN) Damian Lane	F3 b. 55.0	15.3 (6)	1-1/2 (34.6)	Kizuna Forever Darling (Congrats)	Sunday Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Racing Takahisa Tezuka
8	8	17	Kelly Fled Ask (JPN) Michael Dee	F3 br. 55.0	188.7 (14)	Neck (35.6)	Duramente Deep in Ask (Deep Impact)	Toshihiro Hirosaki Toshihiro Hirosaki Hideaki Fujiwara

9	5	9	Embroidery (JPN) Christophe Lemaire	F3 b. 55.0	3.3 (1)	Neck (35.2)	Admire Mars Rottenmeier (Kurofune)	Silk Racing Co., Ltd. Tenei Horse Park Ltd Kazutomo Mori
10	8	18	Erika Express (JPN) Keita Tosaki	F3 d.b. 55.0	14.5 (5)	3/4 (35.8)	Epiphaneia Enticed (Galileo)	Masahiro Miki Mishima Bokujo Haruki Sugiyama
11	5	10	Taisei Princesse (JPN) Shu Ishibashi	F3 b. 55.0	42.8 (9)	Neck (34.7)	Real Steel Petite Folie (Australia)	Seiho Tanaka Northern Racing Masakazu Ikegami
12	2	4	Ai Sansan (JPN) Hiroshi Kitamura	F3 br. 55.0	253.7 (15)	1 (35.0)	Kizuna Wadjet (Symboli Kris S)	Koji Oka Sunday Hills Shozo Sasaki
13	3	6	Vip Daisy (JPN) Hideaki Miyuki	F3 b. 55.0	79.3 (12)	Nose (34.8)	Satono Diamond Rose Beryl (King Kamehameha)	Kunihide Suzuki Shunsuke Yoshida Takeshi Matsushita
14	1	2	Reve de l'Opera (JPN) Takuya Ono	F3 b. 55.0	295.0 (17)	1/2 (35.1)	Maurice Reve Lucide (Deep Impact)	Lion Race Horse Co., Ltd. Hashimoto Farm Shizuya Kato
15	4	8	Saturday Sunrise (JPN) Hironobu Tanabe	F3 b. 55.0	288.1 (16)	1 (36.0)	Declaration of War Sunday Sunrise (Sunday Silence)	Takao Matsuoka Takao Matsuoka Koichi Ishizaka
16	4	7	Lesedrama (JPN) Ryusei Sakai	F3 b. 55.0	29.4 (8)	Neck (36.0)	Kizuna Sheer Drama (Burning Roma)	Shadai Race Horse Co., Ltd. Shadai Farm Yasuyuki Tsujino
17	7	14	Savonlinna (JPN) Yuichi Kitamura	F3 b. 55.0	76.0 (11)	5 (36.6)	Satono Diamond Saimaa (Zoffany)	G1 Racing Co., Ltd. Oiwake Farm Katsunori Tanaka
18	8	16	Go So Far (JPN) Akihide Tsumura	F3 b. 55.0	131.4 (13)	DS (38.7)	Kizuna Go Maggie Go (Ghostzapper)	Susumu Fujita Northern Farm Takahisa Tezuka

FP: Final Position / BK: Bracket Number / PP: Post Position / S&A: Sex & Age / Wgt: Weight (kg) / L3F: Time of Last 3 Furlongs (600m)

DS: Distance

Color: b.=bay / bl.=black / br.=brown / ch.=chestnut / d.b.=dark bay / d.ch.=dark chestnut / g.=gray / w.=white

NOTE: 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: ¥ 20,035,862,500

Turnover for the Day: ¥ 30,612,821,000

Attendance: 40,125

Pay-off (for ¥100)

Win	No.15	¥ 1,430	Bracket Quinella	1-7	¥ 1,590	Quinella	1-15	¥ 2,470
Place	No.15	¥ 340	Quinella Place	1-15	¥ 900	Exacta	15-1	¥ 6,700
	No.1	¥ 160		13-15	¥ 3,890	Trio	1-13-15	¥ 21,380
	No.13	¥ 700		1-13	¥ 1,900	Trifecta	15-1-13	¥ 130,640

Winner= 5 starts: 3 wins / Added & stakes money: ¥ 180,961,000 / Career earnings: ¥ 244,421,000

Kamunyak Snatches Second Jewel of Fillies' Triple Crown in Yushun Himba

Fourth favorite **Kamunyak** used a powerful closing kick from behind to claim this year's Yushun Himba (Japanese Oaks), the second jewel of the Triple Crown, in her second graded and first G1 victory. The great grandchild of 1995 Japanese Oaks victor Dance Partner, **Kamunyak** broke her maiden in her debut start (Chukyo, 2,000m) last August and finished sixth in the following Artemis Stakes (Tokyo, G3, 1,600m) in October. After marking a fourth in the Elfin Stakes (Kyoto, Listed, 1,600m) in February, the Black Tide filly claimed the Flora Stakes (Tokyo, G2, 2,000m) on April 27, earning the ticket to her first classics' challenge. Trainer Yasuo Tomomichi pocketed his first Oaks and 23rd JRA-G1 title while jockey Andrasch Starke, who has been riding under a short-term license since March 9, landed his much-awaited G1 title in his 25th challenge at that level—his first in the 1997 Japan Cup (Caitano, 4th)—in JRA. The German jockey celebrates the milestone in becoming the oldest Oaks winning jockey at the age of 51 years, four months and 22 days.

Breaking from stall no.15, **Kamunyak** was reserved in mid-division but dropped back a bit turning the last

corners before making a wide sweeping move into the straight. The daughter of Black Tide began to uncoil an impressive run from there, drawing even with **Arma Veloce** 200 meters out and with another gear, dug in well in the last strides to notch the title.

“The pace was not so fast in the last second half of the race and before the homestretch, I moved to the outside where she responded very well. She’s an amazing horse—she just won four weeks ago. It was important that she was very relaxed today, she put in a sound performance and her ability was amazing. For me, it has been a dream to win a G1 race in Japan and I have no words, my dream came true,” commented Andrasch Starke after the race.

Looking to turn the tables this time, Oka Sho (Japanese 1000 Guineas) runner-up **Arma Veloce** broke smoothly from the innermost stall and sat on the rails in tandem with the Oka Sho winner up to the final corner. After launching her bid and splitting horses before the 200-meter pole to emerge as the leader, the 2024 Best Two-Year-Old Filly was soon caught by the eventual winner and rallied in deep stretch putting up a stubborn fight but surrendered the win at the wire by a head margin for second place once again.

Tenth choice **Tagano Abby** was off slow and unhurried trailing in the far rear of the 18-horse field. While most of the runners fanned out at the last turn, the chestnut filly smoothly took an inner route in the stretch, launching the fastest drive over the last three furlongs, and ran strongly to secure a respectable third by 1-1/4 lengths.

After a good break, race favorite **Embroidery** was eased back to settle between horses in seventh to eighth from the front but after hitting the straight in good striking position, the Oka Sho victor came out of the uphill climb with nothing left and never fired, disappointing to ninth.

Other Horses:

4th: (3) **Paradis Reine**—ran in 9th on rails, switched to outside and showed effort behind Arma Veloce

5th: (5) **Lynx Tip**—sat in 14th early, advanced in backstretch, failed to keep up with winner on outside

6th: (11) **Will Survive**—positioned in 8th, switched to inside 300m out, showed brief effort

7th: (12) **Brown Ratchet**—settled wide in 10th, failed to find another gear

8th: (17) **Kelly Fled Ask**—stalked leader, outrun in last 200m

10th: (18) **Erika Express**—set pace, surrendered lead at 200m pole, weakened

11th: (10) **Taisei Princesse**—hugged rails in 16th, angled out, passed tired rivals

12th: (4) **Ai Sansan**—saved ground in 11th, lacked needed kick

13th: (6) **Vip Daisy**—traveled wide in 15th, never fired

14th: (2) **Reve de l’Opera**—positioned in 13th, failed to respond

15th: (8) **Saturday Sunrise**—sat in 4th, gradually outrun in last 400m

16th: (7) **Lesedrama**—tracked leaders in 3rd, remained in contention until 300m out

17th: (14) **Savonlinna**—raced wide in 5th, dropped back after final corner

18th: (16) **Go So Far**—traveled 2nd form rear, no factor

Fractional time (sec./furlong): 12.3 - 10.6 - 11.9 - 12.6 - 12.6 - 12.7 - 12.9 - 12.9 - 12.5 - 11.6 - 11.4 - 11.7
Last 4 furlongs: 47.2 Last 3 furlongs: 34.7

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

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.