



# Deep Sky thunders to victory in Japanese Derby

by Rommy Faversham

In front of a crowd of nearly 125,000 at Tokyo Racecourse, favored Deep Sky rumbled to a 1½-length triumph over 17 challengers in the 75th running of the Tokyo Yushun (Japanese Derby) on June 1.



Ichiro Usada photo

It was the fourth victory in 11 lifetime starts for the three-year-old chestnut Agnes Tachyon colt, who covered 2,400 meters (11.93 furlongs) on firm turf in 2:26.70.

On May 11, Deep Sky captured the 1,600-meter (7.95-furlong) NHK Mile Cup at Tokyo by 1¾ lengths.

## DEEP SKY

Bred in Japan by Kasamatsu Bokujo, Deep Sky is one of three winners from four starters out of the winning Chief's Crown mare Abi, a three-quarter sister to Royal Dragon, by Danehill, a multiple Group 2 winner in Germany.

Interestingly, Abi's pedigree features a 3X2 cross of the half sisters Chris Evert and Carmelize. Racing Hall of Fame filly Chris Evert is the grandam of Abi's sire, Chief's Crown. Her dam, Miss Carmie, also serves as Abi's third dam.

The Miss Carmie clan has also issued 1988 Kentucky Derby (G1) winner Winning Colors, and Grade/Group 1 winners Chief's Crown, Classic Crown, Tap Dance City, Excellent Art (GB), Sightseek, Tates Creek, and Etoile Montante.

Deep Sky hails from the third crop of Agnes Tachyon, who was unbeaten in four starts, including the Satsuki Sho (Jpn-G1) (Japanese Two Thousand Guineas).

After bowing a tendon, Agnes Tachyon was retired to Shadai Stal-

### Sunday Silence's influence in the Japanese Derby

Year	Winner	Sire
2008	Deep Sky	Agnes Tachyon (by Sunday Silence)
2005	Deep Impact	Sunday Silence
2003	Neo Universe	Sunday Silence
2000	Agnes Flight	Sunday Silence
1999	Admire Vega	Sunday Silence
1998	Special Week	Sunday Silence
1995	Tayasu Tsuyoshi	Sunday Silence

### Deep Sky, ch. c. 2005

=Agnes Tachyon (Jpn) 98 367 fls, 15 SWs SI 1.93 DI=2.60	Sunday Silence 86 9 wins, \$4,968,554 Champion 1492 fls, 169 SWs SI 2.32 DI=2.43	Halo 69 724 fls, 63 SWs SI 3.40 DI=2.14	Hail to Reason 58	*Turn-to 51 Nothridchance 48
	=Agnes Flora (Jpn) 87 1 win, \$779,802 Champion 6 fls, 2 SWs DI=5.00	Wishing Well 75 6 fls, 1 SW DI=1.67	Cosmah 53	Cosmic Bomb 44 Almahmoud 47
		Royal Ski 74 572 fls, 20 SWs SI 1.19 DI=5.50	Understanding 63	Promised Land 54 Pretty Ways 53
	=Abi (GB) 95 4 fls, 1 SW DI=1.77	Chief's Crown 82 12 wins, \$2,191,168 Champion 592 fls, 53 SWs SI 2.22 DI=3.80	=Agnes Lady (Jpn) 76 9 fls, 1 SW DI=1.29	Mountain Flower 64
Danzig 77 1073 fls, 199 SWs SI 5.36 DI=4.71			Raja Baba 68	<b>Bold Ruler 54</b> Missy Baba 58
Carmelized 90 1 win, \$8,696 3 fls, 1 SW DI=1.78		Six Crowns 76 14 fls, 2 SWs DI=3.63	Coz O'Nijinsky 69	Involvement 60 Gleam 52
		Key to the Mint 69 625 fls, 48 SWs SI 2.58 DI=0.59	=Remand (GB) 65	=Alcide (GB) 55 =Admorish (GB) 58
Carmelize 72 14 fls, 0 SWs DI=7.00	Northern Dancer 61	=Ikoma Eikan (Jpn) 67	*Sallymount 56 =Heatherlands (GB) 57	
		Pas de Nom 68	Nearctic 54 Natalma 57	
		Secretariat 70	Admiral's Voyage 59 *Petitioner 52	
Carmelized 90 1 win, \$8,696 3 fls, 1 SW DI=1.78	Chris Evert 71	Graustark 63	<b>Bold Ruler 54</b> Somethingroyal 52	
			Key Bridge 59	Swoon's Son 53 Miss Carmie 66
			Cornish Prince 62	*Ritot 52 Flower Bowl 52
Carmelized 90 1 win, \$8,696 3 fls, 1 SW DI=1.78	Miss Carmie 66	Key Bridge 59	*Princiquillo 40 Blue Banner 52	
			Cornish Prince 62	<b>Bold Ruler 54</b> Teleran 54
Carmelized 90 1 win, \$8,696 3 fls, 1 SW DI=1.78	Miss Carmie 66	Key Bridge 59	T. V. Lark 57 Twice Over 56	
			Cornish Prince 62	

lion Station on the island of Hokkaido, where his breed-shaping sire, the late Sunday Silence, earned 13 Japanese sire titles between 1995 and 2007.

Agnes Tachyon also is the sire of Japan's '07 champion three-year-old filly, Daiwa Scarlet, and this year's Satsuki Sho (Japanese Two Thousand Guineas) winner Captain Thule.

So far, nine of Agnes Tachyon's 15 stakes winners have been out of Northern Dancer-line mares. This reflects the ongoing internationally observed affinity between Sunday Silence's sire, Halo, and his close relative, Northern Dancer.

Deep Sky represents the first paternal grandson of Sunday Silence to win the Japanese Derby. As noted in the accompanying chart, Sunday Silence sired a total of six Derby winners. This equals the mark set by the imported Gainsborough stallion Tournesol prior to World War II.

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