

# Show Report

## 35th Shinkoukai All Japan Nishikigoi Show



Tokyo, Japan  
January 25-26th, 2003  
Tokyo Ryutsu Center

Most of you are familiar no doubt with both the Zen-Nihon Airinkai (ZNA) and the Zen-Nihon Nishikigoi Shinkoukai (Shinkoukai for short). The first is a hobbyist organization, and the latter being the breeders' professional association. What many outside of Japan are unaware of is that Japan has yet another mainstream koi club that hosts a national level show.

The All-Japan Rinyukai is that other club, and is probably one of the fastest growing koi clubs within Japan. The club is a rather open one, and membership is on the increase year upon year. The majority of the members are centered around the greater Tokyo metropolis, as well as the northern and central regions of the country.

This year's show attracted quite a few visitors from abroad, which was a bit surprising considering that the ZNA All-Japan was being held during the same weekend in Niigata. Yet many still thought it worth a visit and made the journey into central Tokyo.

The location was outdoors in a parking lot situated on the grounds of the Tokyo Dome complex which houses a domed baseball stadium as well as a full-scale amusement park, hotel, and a few restaurants



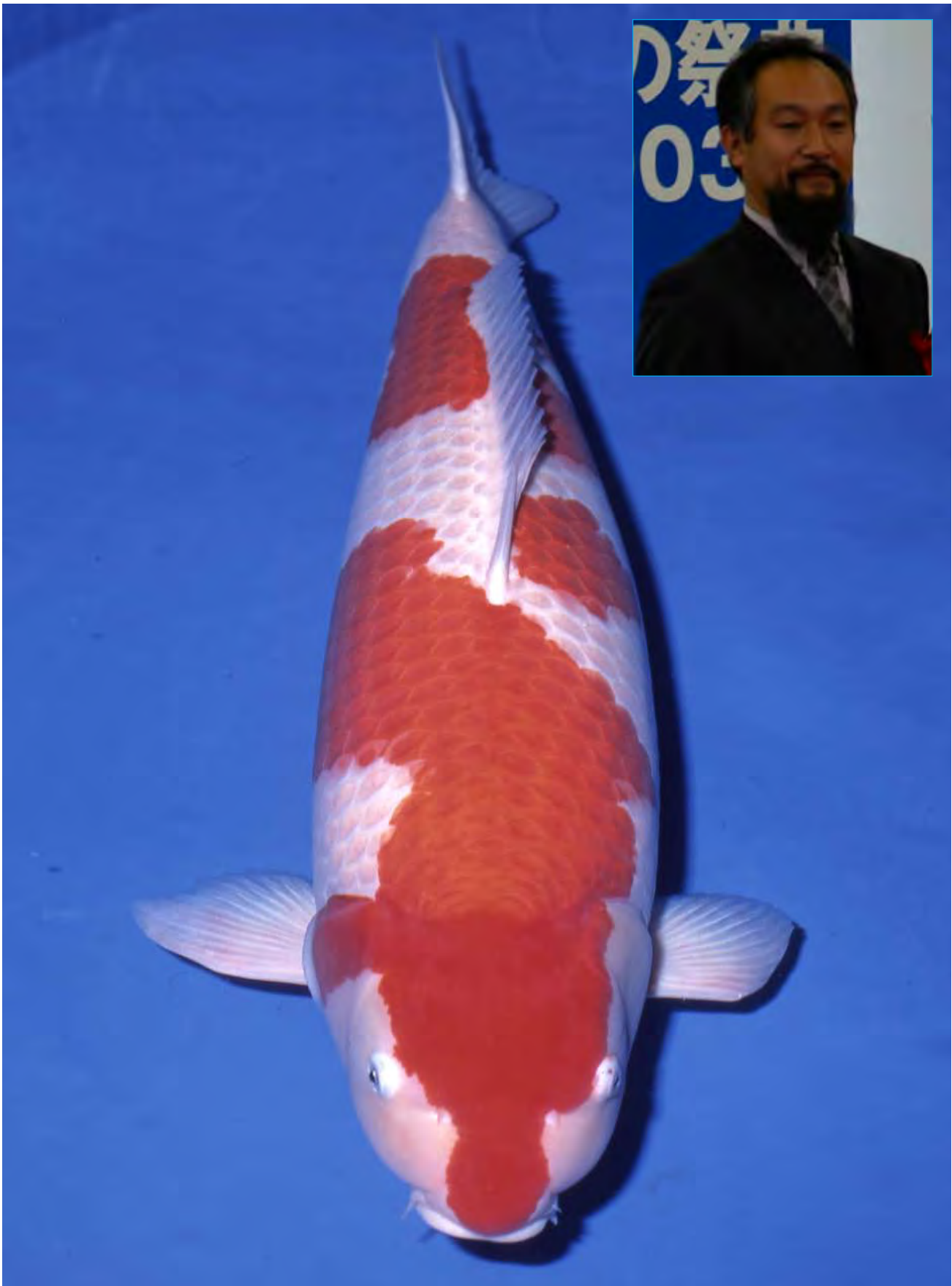
as well. Should you ever grow tired of looking at koi (as if that would ever happen) you can wander about the complex and keep yourself entertained in many different ways.

Judging is conducted by breeders and koi professionals, with notable names such as Dainichi (Futoshi Mano) participating in the judging this year. Among the club roster are notable names such as Mr. Masamitsu Hayakawa, which you may know from the Wakagoi Competition and Tokyo All-Japan. If you are in Japan next November, why not treat yourself or your party to a visit to the Rinyukai All-Japan?



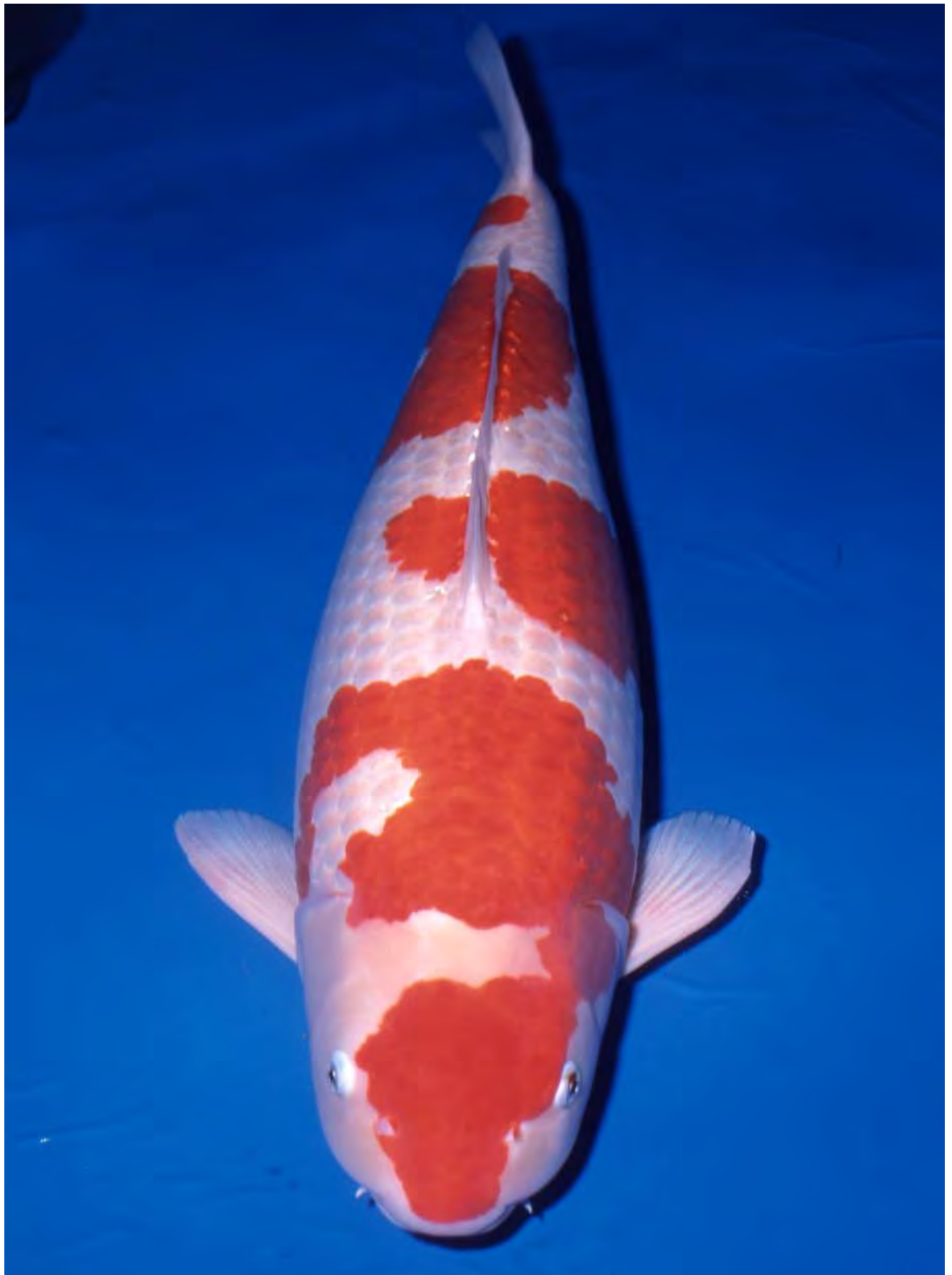
### **Grand Champion** Mr. Masamitsu Hayakawa 90 bu Kohaku

Bred by Sakai Yogyojo from parent "Benibana". Purchased as nisai at 60 cm from Odawara Kan-shogyo of Kanagawa Prefecture. Spent next two years being grown on in Mr. Sakai's mud ponds, and the last year in the care of Marukyu Yorien (Mr. Kyuichi Hoshino, Yamakoshi) until autumn. This kohaku had both excellent shape and teri when it was harvested at the end of October 2002. Kept in Mr. Hayakawa's own 180 ton indoor pond until the show. 6 years old 88 cm.



**Big Champion** Mr. Manzo Kaneko 90 bu Kohaku

Bred by Okayama Momotaro Koi. Purchased through Nagashima Yorijo of Shizuoka Prefecture. Raised in Mr. Kaneko's own concrete pond for the past year until finally achieving a size of 92 cm. Even in its first show debut, it was a worthy contender for Grand Champion. Unbelievable size for being only 5 years old.



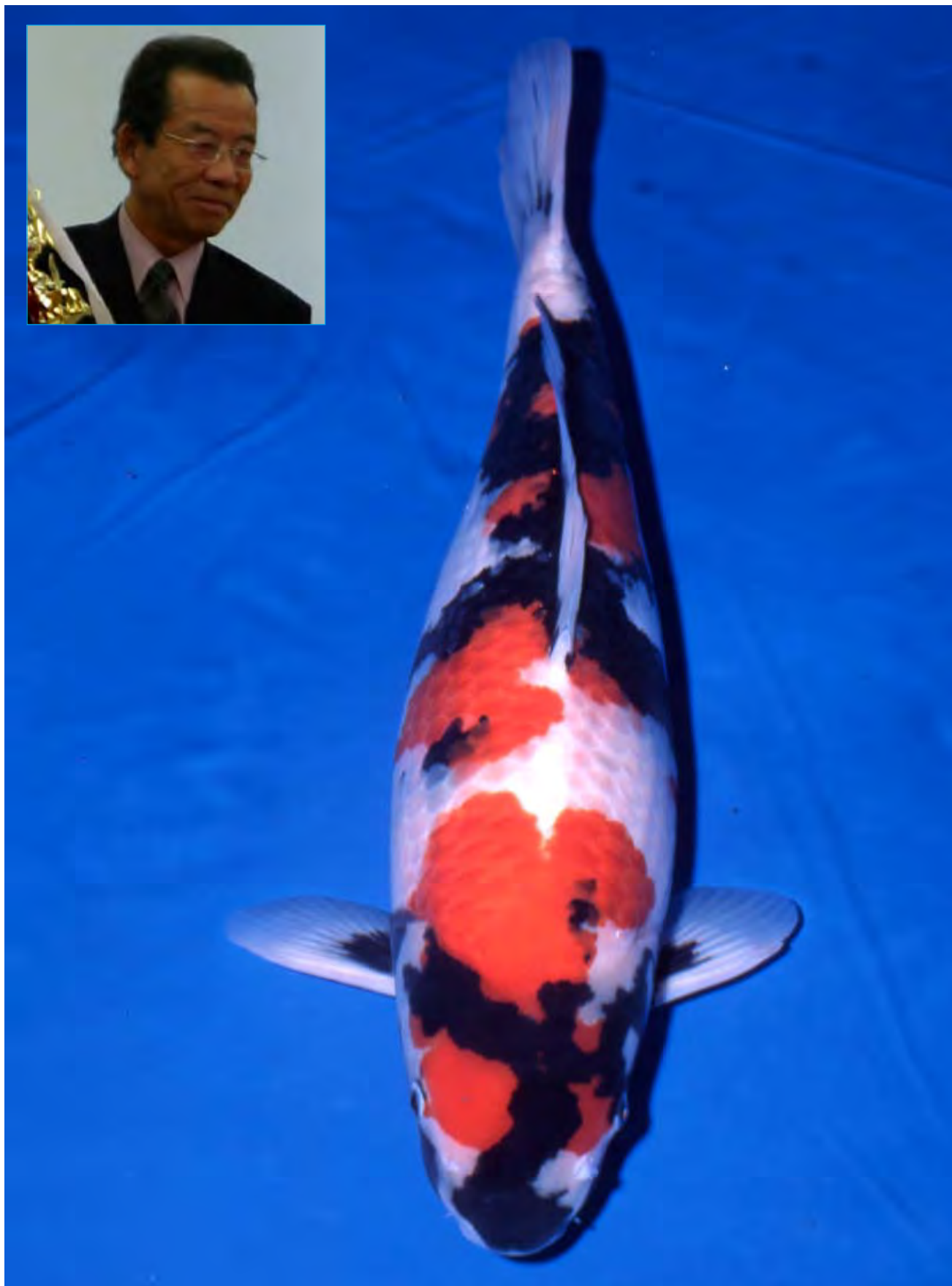
**Jumbo Champion** Mr. Daishiro Shirasaka 80 bu Kohaku

Bred by Maruchika Gyoen of Fukuoka Prefecture. This kohaku was entered into last year's "Yumeten" section of the All-Japan show. Mr. Shirasaka purchased this koi from Mihara Nishikigoi of Osaka shortly thereafter. Winner of the Big Champion award at last November's Rinyukai All-Japan show.



**Mature Champion** Mr. Yoshihiko Doi 70 bu Showa

Bred by Ogawa Yogyojo of Sasebo, Nagasaki Prefecture. Bought by a local hobbyist as tosai and raised on until reaching over 60 cm. Mr. Doi purchased the showa through Takahashi Rishoen of Shiga Prefecture, where it was kept until the show.



### **Adult Champion** Mr. Shigemasa Takahashi 55 bu Showa

Bred by Sakai Yogyojo. Originally purchased as tosaï at 15 cm in size through Odawara Kanshogyo of Kanagawa Prefecture. Raised in Mr. Takahashi's home pond for the following 3 years. Not quite good enough to take reserve 50 bu champion at the 34th Shinkoukai All-Japan last year, but the development of the sumi in the menware pattern made all the difference this year enabling it to take Adult Champion.



**Young Champion** Mr. Masao Shinoda 40 bu Sanke

Bred by Mr. Haruo Kosugi from a parent procured at Kokugyokan, both of Ojiya city. Bought by Mr. Shinoda at 18 cm on a trip to the Wakagoi Competition in which he was accompanied by Marumi Yoriyo of Kawasaki. Raised afterwards in Mr. Shinoda's home pond. Konishi Yoriyo Tokyo branch acted as the intermediary in attaining this sanke.



**Baby Champion** Mr. Sumio Watanabe 25 bu Showa

Bought from Koi no Minuma of Saitama Prefecture by Mr. Watanabe as tosai. Raised for 1 year at his home pond before entering it into this show.



# 35th Shinkoukai All-Japan Nishikigoi Show



Remembering the Grand Champions of the past. Needless to say, a lot certainly has changed in 30 years.



Mr. Masamitsu Hayakawa receiving the customary “doh-age” or winner’s celebratory toss into the air!



Mr. Hayakawa showing off his award and assuming possession of the Grand Champions flag until the next Shinkoukai All-Japan Show in 2004. Undoubtedly the envy of every hobbyist in the world.



Masao Kato showing off his new bag won in the raffle at the celebration dinner on Saturday night.



At the “post-party” party. To my left Toshiyuki Sakai and 2nd from right Mr. Naoki Sugiura. While the former needs no introduction, the latter is a well-known actor and koi hobbyist. Seiji Hiroi joined us later at yet another party...another great night to be remembered!