



Japanese fans celebrate Nishikori's US Open win

1. TOKYO (AP) : Kei Nishikori's run to the semifinals of the U.S. Open was hailed as a "win for all of Japan" back home. Nishikori became the first Japanese man to reach the U.S. Open semifinals in 96 years by outlasting third-seeded Stan Wawrinka of Switzerland 3-6, 7-5, 7-6 (7), 6-7 (5), 6-4 on Wednesday.

2. Japanese tennis fans had woken up at dawn to watch the quarterfinal and were rewarded. "It was a spectacular win for all of Japan," said office worker Toru Miura. "We haven't had a lot of success in men's tennis over the years."

3. The previous Japanese semifinalist at the U.S. Open was Ichiya Kumagae in 1918. No man from the country had made it to the final four at any major tournament since Jiri Satoh at Wimbledon in 1933. "It's really impressive," Japan Tennis Association director Masaru Uchiyama told Sports Hochi newspaper. "It was truly inspirational to watch as he came back after dropping the fourth set."

4. The 24-year-old Nishikori, the first Japanese to be ranked in the ATP's top 10 after climbing to No. 9 in May, faces No. 1 Novak Djokovic on Saturday.

5. Wednesday's 4 hour, 15 minute-win over the Australian Open champion Wawrinka came a day after Nishikori defeated Milos Raonic in a fourth-round match that lasted over four hours. "Even though he was tired he fought hard to the end," said JTA director of strengthening and development Minoru Ueda. "Let's hope he can get another win."

6. Nishikori is coached by 1989 French Open champion Michael Chang. "He has improved his stamina immensely," former Japan Davis Cup player Jun Kamiwazumi said. "I think the influence of Michael Chang has been a major factor in his progress." 【Sep, 4, 2014/AP】

1. hail 歓迎する outlast より長く続く third-seeded 3位にシードされた 4. ATP : Association of Tennis Professionals
プロテニス協会 immensely 非常に

Marin Cilic Wins US Open While Kei Nishikori Wins Sponsorship Race

7. Croatia's Marin Cilic has triumphed at Flushing Meadows in a surprise US Open win. With thunderous serves and a cannon for a backhand, Cilic brushed aside Kei Nishikori, the first man from Asia to reach a Slam final. Throughout the fortnight, Cilic has displayed remarkable poise and a dramatically improved forehand that few opponents have had answers for. In the last three rounds he won all nine of his sets against Tomas Berdych, Roger Federer and Kei Nishikori. 中略

8. If Kei Nishikori had won, he would have certainly enjoyed a substantial boost to his bottom line, much like Li Na did after her watershed win at Roland Garros in 2011. Even before Nishikori reached a Slam semifinal, he was one of the sport's top earners, boasting one of tennis' most impressive sponsorship portfolios. That includes deals with Uniqlo, Wilson, Adidas, Delta Airlines, Weider and Tag Heuer, among others.

9. As one of Japan's premier athletes in a truly global sport, Nishikori is a sponsor's dream. Though his home country is still recovering from its decade of deflationary woes, it remains one of the world's most populous countries, with a sizable middle- and upper-class population that fits most of the target demographics for the sport's marketers. 中略

10. Despite his setback in the final, Nishikori has turned around an injury-plagued season and proven that he has the durability to play back-to-back five-set matches and win. Now the true test comes for both victor and loser; can they back up their surprising runs and show that they can play with Djokovic, Nadal, Federer and Murray week in and week out? If they do, they'll have more hardware and sponsorships to show for it. 【Sep, 8, 2014/Forbes】

7. Flushing Meadows US オープンの行われるフラッシング・メドウズ・コ罗纳・パーク cannon ボールの跳ね返り brush aside 払いのける fortnight 二週間 poise 態度 8 bottom line 最終結果 watershed 分岐点 9 woe sizable かなりの demo 人々 10. injury-plagued 怪我に悩まされた back-to-back 続けざまの week in and week out 毎週 hardware 勲章

★Ice breaker for active discussion★

1. Are you a tennis enthusiast? Could you describe the rule of tennis?
2. Do you know about Kei Nishikori's feat? Did you watch his latest game?
What can you say about his performance?
3. Nishikori went to a tennis academy in the US at the age of 13.
Do you think Japan is not ready enough to train tennis players in the country?
4. Do you think having Michael Chang as a coach was a good choice for Nishikori?
What do you think is the role of a coach in players' careers?
5. What makes players attractive to sponsors?
6. How can players reach the top and maintain position in sports?
7. Make sentences using the following words; outlast, immensely, hail, brush aside, fortnight, bottom line and plague.

テニスの Grand Slam は、全豪オープン、全仏オープン、ウィンブルドン選手権(英国)、全米オープンの4大会をさす。錦織圭は島根県松江市出身の24歳。13歳で渡米し、名門のテニスアカデミーで指導を受け、17歳でプロに転向。全仏オープンで優勝した経験を持つマイケル・チャン氏をコーチに迎え、ショット全体の精度を上げサーブの技術を向上させることに成功し、より強い気持ちで試合に臨めるようになった錦織。今シーズンの全米は、「ビッグ4」と言われるジョコビッチ(27)、フェデラー(33)、ラファエル・ナダル(28)(スペイン)、アンディ・マリイ(27)(イギリス)の4人が、2005年の全豪以来、1人も決勝に残らない大会となり、若い世代の台頭を感じさせた。