


statshot

Top 10 girl's gokon fashions that give guys the wrong message

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1. Sleeveless shirt
 2. Denim miniskirt
 3. Hot pants
 4. Boat neck shirt that shows her collarbones
 5. Loose V-neck shirt
 6. White blouse
 7. Dress with a soft and lacy silhouette
 8. Shorts
 9. Fishnets
 10. Tiny T-shirt

Source: Online survey of 1,156 people by Goo (www.goo.ne.jp), Sep 18-24

twit

The US online sports community has its panties in a twist over the **near-unanimous selection of Joe Mauer as American League MVP**. In a 27-1 vote, the Baseball Writers Association of America chose the hard-hitting Minnesota Twins catcher as the league's top player; the only dissenting ballot was cast by an obscure Japanese reporter, Keizo Konishi, who unaccountably selected Detroit Tigers first baseman Miguel Cabrera as his number one pick. Konishi immediately found himself the object of scorn by countless bloggers and twitterers.

Between Joe Mauer and baseball history stood... Keizo Konishi?

A vote for Cabrera being more valuable in 2009 is like a vote for the sum of two and two being five. It's not an opinion—it's a lack of understanding

Is "Keizo Konishi" Miguel Cabrera's pen name?

Was he watching the same Cabrera I was?

Keizo Konishi's offshore account gets the last laugh here, methinks

Of course, [it] makes perfect sense that Kyodo News gets an MVP vote. Keizo Konishi is a disgrace

Is Keizo Konishi Keyser Soze?

Seriously, Keizo Konishi of Kyodo News should be punished severely. I'm thinking a Hattori Hanzo sword through the genitals

Why is everybody so surprised at Keizo Konishi's vote for Cabrera? Miguel Cabrera is huge in Japan

Keizo Konishi didn't watch much baseball in September did he?

Mauer wins MVP unanimously...wait a second Who the hell voted for Miguel Cabrera? Keizo Konishi? I'm coming after ya!

Congratulations Joe Mauer on a well deserved first MVP award. Keizo Konishi—you kind of suck. And that's all I'm going to say about that

niche watch



Japan's obsession with youth, beauty and all things *kawaii* has given it a reputation as the most image-conscious of nations. That will come as no surprise to the estimated 1 million members of My Face, My Style, an NPO that helps Japanese people with facial deformities survive in a culture where appearance is everything. The group serves as an advocacy organization for those suffering from accidental burns or other scarring, or who have birthmarks, cleft palates and other hereditary conditions. As the next step in MFMS's efforts, next April will see the launch of **My Face**, a quarterly magazine covering topics that range from bullying at school to easily misunderstood medical conditions, plus interviews with patients and specialists.

<http://mfms.jp> (Japanese)

nihongo

If you've spent the past few months studying furiously for the Japanese Language Proficiency Test, take heart: even the natives sometimes struggle with the complexities of *nihongo*. *Nihonjin no Shiranai Nihongo*—English title: Japanese That Japanese Don't Know—is the illustrated tale of the lessons learned by real-life sensei Nagiko Umino in the course of teaching foreign students. Classroom anecdotes are interspersed with quizzes that turn the tables on readers and ask them how well they know their language—and, delightfully, some of the questions are taken straight from Level 1 JLPT papers. For instance, do you know which language the word *カンパ* (*kanpa*, campaign) comes from (*), what the correct reading is for 樹懶 (**), or what's wrong with the sentence "Go-chumon wa nani ni itashimasu ka" (***)? Chances are a lot of Japanese people don't either.

It's actually from Russian
...it should be *nasabimasu ka*
... *namakemono*, sloth

mark the date

DEC 6

Sound Day Established in 1994 by the Japan Audio Society, among others. Thomas Edison made his first recording on a phonograph on this day in 1877

DEC 12

Kanji Day Established by the Japanese Kanji Proficiency Society in 1995, this is the day on which the public's Kanji of the Year is announced

DEC 23

Telephone Card Day Emperor Akihito wasn't the only one born on this date: Japan's first telephone cards also went on sale on the same day in 1982

DEC 26

Pro Baseball Day Commemorates the founding of the Dai-Nippon Tokyo Yakyu Club—better known today as the Yomiuri Giants—in 1934

Source: <http://hukumusume.com>

scene around town



What: "Usavich: Puchi-Kire"

When: Until Dec 9, free

Where: Logos Gallery

Why: Goods, songs, video clips and stills from *Usavich*, a series of animated short films about an odd couple of rabbits named Kirinenko and Putin who are stuck in a Soviet prison.

See exhibition listings (Shibuya/Ebisu) for details