

## Hot dog champ nips record by downing 53 3/4

NEW YORK (AP) A 72-kg wonder from Japan set a new hot dog-eating record by chowing down 53 and three-fourths frankfurters in 12 minutes to win the annual Independence Day hot dog eating contest on Coney Island.

The feat earned Takeru Kobayashi, 27, his sixth straight title in the event, held at the original Nathan's Famous hot dog stand on Brooklyn's seashore.

Kobayashi broke his own record of 53 1/2 hot dogs, set at the same contest in 2004.

His strongest competition was Joey Chestnut, a 99-kg engineering student from San Jose, Calif., who set an American record by eating 50 hot dogs at a qualifying tournament in Las Vegas.

When the clock expired, Chestnut had come up short by just 1 3/4 Nathan's franks.

The Japan Times: Thursday, July 6, 2006  
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