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**ANALYSIS OF UKRAINIAN ATHLETES' PERFORMANCES
IN THE WOMEN'S SINGLES AND DOUBLES EVENTS
AT THE 2024 AUSTRALIAN OPEN IN MELBOURNE**

**АНАЛІЗ ВИСТУПІВ УКРАЇНСЬКИХ СПОРТСМЕНОК
В ЖІНОЧОМУ ОДИНОЧНОМУ ТА ПАРНОМУ РОЗРЯДАХ
НА AUSTRALIAN OPEN-2024 У МЕЛЬБУРНІ**

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Ukrainian tennis players have achieved a significant breakthrough at the Australian Open 2024, demonstrating remarkable results. For the first time in history, seven Ukrainian tennis players: Elina Svitolina, Angelina Kalinina, Lesia Tsurenko, Marta Kostiuik, Diana Yastremaska, Yulia Starodubtseva, and Daria Snigur, participated in the main draw of the tournament in Melbourne. Svitolina, Kalinina, Tsurenko, and Kostiuik received direct invitations to the main draw, while Yastremaska, Starodubtseva, and Snigur successfully qualified. This achievement can be likened to the milestones reached at Roland Garros 2007 and Wimbledon 2008, when Ukrainian tennis players also accessed the main draw for the first time.

Elina, alongside Lesia Tsurenko, Marta Kostiuik, and Diana Yastremaska, advanced to the third round of the tournament, establishing a new national record for this stage of competition at Grand Slams. Previously, the highest

attainment was the third round by three Ukrainian players across the four tennis majors.

Diana Yastremska made history by becoming the youngest Ukrainian tennis player to reach the semi-finals at the Australian Open. Her success generated considerable excitement, as she replicated a unique Australian Open record set 46 years ago. This marks only the second occurrence in history where a tennis player progressed from qualification to the semi-finals at the Australian Open women's tournament, following Australian Christine Matheson in 1978.

Diana Yastremska commenced her journey at the Australian Open 2024 with successful qualification, securing victory in three matches. Thereafter, she steadily advanced through the five rounds of the main draw, claiming impressive victories over Wimbledon 2023 winner Marketa Vondrousova (6-1, 6-2) and two-time Australian Open champion Victoria Azarenka (7-6(6), 6-4). In the quarter-finals, she defeated another standout of the tournament, 19-year-old Czech tennis player Linda Nosková. Unfortunately, her quest for the final was halted by Qinwen Zheng of China, who prevailed with a score of 4-6, 4-6.

Diana Yastremska's achievement, reaching the semi-finals of the Australian Open 2024, not only marks a significant personal triumph but also echoes Ukraine's historical record at Grand Slam tournaments. Previously, only Elina Svitolina had reached this stage three times: at the US Open in 2019 and Wimbledon in 2019 and 2023. Elina Svitolina has once again entered the top twenty tennis players in the world, currently ranked 19th (+4 positions). Marta Kostjuk also attained her highest ranking, entering the top 30 for the first time (28th place, +9) after her quarterfinals run at the Australian Open. She is followed by Diana Yastremska at 29th position, climbing 64 places. Lesia Tsurenko is ranked 31st (+2), while Angelina Kalinina dropped to 32nd in the world rankings (-2).

Lyudmyla Kichenok reached the final of the women's doubles Grand Slam for the first time in her sports career, marking her second time reaching such a pinnacle in the competition. In 2023, she, alongside Croatian Mate Pavic, clinched the Wimbledon mixed doubles tournament. En route to the final, over the course of five matches, Lyudmyla Kichenok and Olena Ostapenko lost only one set – in the second-round match against Kimberly Birrell and Olivia Gadecki.

Regarding the technical performance of Ukrainian tennis players at the Australian Open 2024, Marta Kostjuk set a record for the number of active winners, tallying 186 winners in 5 matches. Zheng Qinwen from China amassed 184 winners in 7 matches, and Diana Yastremska from Ukraine secured 161 winners in 6 matches. Diana Yastremska entered the top 5 singles leaders by the number of Aces (23 in 6 matches), while Marta Kostjuk ranked 20th (13 in 5 matches). Daria Snigur led the

tournament rankings in terms of first serve execution, with 82% (68/83). Marta Kostjuk topped the ranking for the number of points won when returning the first serve, with Diana Yastremska ranking sixth. In terms of break points won, Kostjuk ranked 3rd and Yastremska 5th.

Thus, the successful performance of Ukrainian tennis players at the Australian Open underscores the tremendous potential of our athletes and portends further triumphs in future tournaments, notwithstanding the challenges posed by the ongoing conflict in Ukraine. These accomplishments not only elevate the standing of Ukrainian tennis players but also spotlight Ukrainian tennis on the global stage, signifying a significant advancement for Ukrainian tennis and a resounding victory for all Ukrainian female athletes.

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