

Introducing Henka Sightings!

by Lon Howard

Sumo Fan Magazine – by the fans for the fans, introduces Henka Sightings: An interactive hands-on experience where you, the fans, will collectively determine who has 'perpetrated' henka on a given day. This, then, will allow us to record for remaining posterity, who did it to whom on which day. The recorded information will 'for all time' be just a click away on our web site. Here's how it works:

Approximately 12 hours after the end of each day's action, I will post, on our web site, my 'nominations' for possible henka action on that day. I'll post each match where I believe there is even the most remote chance than any sane observer could, in his or her wildest undisciplined imagination, have felt that henka occurred. Please allow about 12 hours due to USA time lag and the global 'sleep' phenomenon!

Just click on the button and vote 'yea' or 'nay' for each bout listed.

Don't just vote 'yea' for the ones you think were really henka, but please cast a 'nay' vote for the others so the tabulation reflects your actual judgment. If they're all 'yea' or all 'nay,' so be it but be sure to cast a vote for each match. We'll have the votes calculated and recorded by 2:00 PM next day, Japan time. If 50.01 per cent of the votes are 'yea,' then the perpetrator gets credited with his deed, and a record will also be kept of who his target was. If not, then the match slips into the unseen ether with all the others.

If anyone feels that I failed to nominate a particular match that they want to cast a 'yea' vote for, click on the 'Nasty-Gram' button to say so, and I'll make a special nomination right away.

It's important to note that it doesn't matter who wins the match, or whether the henka action has any impact on the outcome. It's only about – did it happen, or not?

We decided not to give you any guidelines regarding criteria to be met in determining whether henka happened or not, because we believe you all have your own ideas and would be inclined to ignore any suggestions we might make anyway. So use your own judgment – after all, this is a magazine by the fans for the fans.

After a number of years or even months of keeping tabs, we'll not only know who the 'perps' are, we'll know who the victims are too, and the best part is: we'll have absolute proof! After all, who can argue with the experts – you and us?