## **Letters to the Editor**

Dear SFM.

I have just read Eduardo de Paz's article on the above topic and just want to say that I totally agree with everything he says!

I was disappointed to learn that the London Basho was called off (I saw the rikishi outside their hotel when they came to London in 1991 but couldn't afford tickets!) and was looking forward to seeing the current guys as I am now in a position, financially, to see the tournament.

I also subscribed to JSTV coverage until they decided to massively increase their charges, plus I got Eurosport for the very reason that they covered sumo (if erratically). Suffering withdrawal symptoms I then found live internet streaming and paid out for broadband, but that is at some ungodly hour of the morning and my computer could

do with being a whole lot faster to get a very clear image!

Why did I have to get hooked on sumo? It would be a lot easier to be a football fanatic!

Marilyn Fielder Kent, UK

Dear Marilyn,

Thankyou for your kind words about Eduardo's article. His piece certainly generated a good response and the ideas contained within are, as you rightly point out, very noteworthy.

As a fellow Brit, I understand totally the frustration that you feel about the decision to cancel the London jungyo. There is nothing better than seeing your sporting heroes in your own backyard.

Clearly, when the world economy picks up, the Japan Sumo Association can start looking at trips abroad again, and I would hope that — even though it has no active professional rikishi — Britain would be near the top of the list.

You have made the right decision to get hooked on sumo. I remember when I lived in the UK myself, occasionally tuning it at 'ungodly hours' for a glimpse of professional sumo. It is truly a form of entertainment like no other and I hope that, through whatever means you can (this magazine included), you can continue to enjoy one of the only living links to samurai-era Japan.

Yours faithfully,

Chris Gould Editor <u>Sumo Fan Magazine</u>