

Eric Evaluates...

... for the last time?

by Eric Blair

Having been alerted to my many critics by several trusted insiders on the sumo scene of late, one thing has become apparent: the need for a voice willing to talk openly about matters pertaining to the sport we all enjoy to watch, and which some of us enjoy to participate in. That makes this text all the harder to write.

Through repeatedly, correctly and accurately identifying areas of weakness in the credibility of those amateurs claiming to have “been there and done that” in regards to sumo (bar having entered the dohyo one presumes?), I have clearly become a target for imitation on some sites reported to be about sumo.

That said, to be copied such is

clearly a compliment to my ability. So to the man or woman, young or old, married or lonely and especially the fake Eric Blair who resides in Eastern Europe, my extended thanks for flattering me thus. (Just do us a favour and stop sending out those mails about your deposed presidential relations having access to millions of dollars, and how you only need my few thousand yen to get that money back).

Thousands of man hours have been spent penning theories and claims on my esteemed self- to be posted on the good old Internet – largely by those without a voice otherwise! It is again flattering to be the subject of so much thread prep on sites that could soon be in their death throes given the pitiful

number of posts they now receive. That my utterances keep these sites alive is a service I am considering charging for should it continue.

But for now, to those who hang on my every word, to those who claim never to have read me but who do (in secret), to those who pretend indifference but who target this column each time the venerable SFM is released, I bid you adieu.

Adieu my dear fellows, lads and lasses, ojii-chan, obaa-sama, for the time has come to move on, to greater things in sumo coverage.

Keep in touch (doubtless via your postings, vitriolic or otherwise)!

Now - let the bouts begin.