



大相撲新報

SUMO SHIMPO

THE VOICE OF CALIFORNIA SUMO SINCE 1999



1715 East Poinsettia Street, Long Beach, CA 90805-3135

Telephone/fax: (562) 428-3831

Volume 9, Number 5

October 2007 (Aki)

Hakuho Patience Pays Off in Tokyo

Goes 13-2 as Sole Yokozuna While Shoryu Serves Suspension

by “Yukikaze” for SUMO SHIMPO

It was a situation without precedent: a grand champion, a supposed paragon of the sport with the status of a demigod, had been suspended by the Nihon Sumo Kyokai for falsifying an injury report to avoid jungyo attendance obligations. Most of the responsibility for this was properly placed on the head of yokozuna-East ASASHORYU (MGL): if you're going to claim a back injury, you'd be well-advised to stay out of any soccer games at home in Mongolia. Not only was SHORYU “on the pines” for the 2007 Aki Basho, but he will also be out of the Kyushu action in November.

This unprecedented action threw open the 2007 Aki Basho to any and all comers. For a while it looked as if yokozuna-West HAKUHO (MGL) might not be a factor in the race, courtesy of a shonichi loss to komusubi-West AMA (MGL). But “Sleeping Thunder” picked himself up and rolled through his next nine matches, then overcame a loss to #5-East TOYONOSHIMA to run the table for a 13-2 performance and yusho number four for his career.

Ozeki #2-West KOTOMITSUKI showed consistent strength through all 15 days of the tournament, as he powered to a 10-5 mark to lead the reformulated ozeki group. It was a typical outing for #1-East CHIYOTAICAI: Kokonoe's “round mound” was at 7-1 after day 8, but then went into a 2-5 tailspin to finish with a solid but unspectacular 9-6. “Eurozeki” #1-West KOTOOSHU (BUL) was at 5-1 after day 6. He averaged .500 over the next six days to get his kachi, then lost his last three matches to pull out a poor 8-7 for this basho. “Human Juicer” #2-East KAIO lost his first three

(continued page 2)

ALO – HA!!!... Azumazeki Oyakata (former sekiwake *Takamiyama*) hobnobs with (l to r) US heavyweight champ Kelly Gneiting, former US middleweight champ Troy Collins, and US openweight champ Dan Kalbfleisch at the Japan Town Festival in San Jose, CA on October 6. The three champions performed in an exhibition at the event. (Photo: not known)

US National Championships A Success in Little Tokyo

Special Article by Troy Collins for SUMO SHIMPO

The US National Sumo Championships were held this past August 18th in the Little Tokyo area of Los Angeles as part of the 67th annual Nisei Week Festival. The competition saw over 30 competitors compete in a packed hall at the New Otani Hotel and Garden. In attendance was the Consul General, Mr. Kodama, the President of Japan Foundation, Mr. Ito and Nisei Week's Executive Board members. There were a number of other additions to the championship which included a lot of professional photographers, videographers, National Geographic, monetary and product sponsors and the announcing of all of the winning techniques (kimarite). Sponsors included Mr. Inohana and the Grand Sumo Los Angeles Tour, our title sponsor (www.sumotour.com), Koda Farms Kokuho Rose Premium Rice (www.kodafarms.com), Phiten Titanium Products (www.phitenusa.com), EQ Smart Energy Drink (www.drinkeq.com), Sushi and Sake Magazine (www.sushiandtofu.com) and the Shinsengumi Group. Supporters included the Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles, The Japan Foundation, the Mayor of Los Angeles, Nisei Week Foundation, The Los Angeles Police Department, The Nikkan San, The Japanese Daily Sun, JATV and the US 101 Photo Club.

(continued page 4)



HAKUHO (from front page)

matches and finally withdrew on day 6. His 1-5-9 mark leaves him in the all-too-familiar kadoban position yet again. The single win was his 706th top-division shiroboshi, tying him with **Musashimaru (67)** for fourth place on the all-time Makunouchi wins list.

Sekiwake-East AMINISHIKI shared the early yusho lead by winning his first eight torikumi. But having secured his kachi, he then lost his next five matches before winning the last two to go 10-5. After toppling HAKUHO, AMA went 3-3 over the next six matches. The smallest man in the Makunouchi (126kg/277lb) then took the next six shiroboshi and finished out at 10-5, which earned him a share of the Shukun-Sho. The acting heyagashira of Takasago Beya, sekiwake-West ASASEKIRYU (MGL) had a hard time at first and was sitting at 4-6 after day 10, but won his next four and got the 8-7 which keeps a sekiwake's paycheck in his mawashi. Komusubi-East KISENOSATO did not win consecutive torikumi during the festivities: the resulting 6-9 will put him on the erebeta headed down.

New Japanese citizen #12-West KYOKUTENHO (new civilian name: Masaru Ota) appears to have put his May suspension firmly behind him. He started with four straight shiroboshi and never lost twice in a row, as he notched a strong 12-3 mark to lead the hiramaku ranks and take a share of the Kanto-Sho. Other mention-worthy maegashira outings:

#3-West KOTOSHOGIKU (10-5)
#5-East TOYONOSHIMA (8-7) (kinboshi) (Shukun-sho)
#5-West MIYABIYAMA (10-5)
#8-East TAKEKAZE (9-6)
#10-West KASUGAO (KOR) (10-5)
#14-West GOEIDO (11-4) (Kanto-sho)
#15-East HAKUROZAN (RUS) (9-6)
#15-West YOSHIKAZE (10-5)
#16-West KAKIZOE (9-6)

The Gino-sho was not awarded this basho.

In Juryo: #9-West BARUTO (EST) won his first 11 matches before losing to #1-West WAKANOHO (RUS). He finished at 13-2 for his third championship at this level, while WAKANOHO went 10-5 for sure promotion to the November banzuke's top row. Other noteworthy efforts in professional sumo's "Triple-A" division:

#2-West WAKAKIRIN (9-6)
#8-East CHIYOHAKUHO (9-6)
#9-East SHIMOOTORI (9-6)
#10-East KOTOKASUGA (9-6)
#10-West KITATAIKI (9-6)

All divisions (except Sandanme) were won by gaijin rikishi.

SHUUBUN 2007: An Exercise in Karma

by "Tonkatsu" for SUMO SHIMPO

"Shuubun" is supposed to mean autumnal equinox. Maybe so... but in the case of the annual Fall tournament at the "Dohyo of Dreams", it has come to mean unpredictable. Who could predict that in the midst of one of the driest years on record, it would rain the Friday night before? The weather forecast was for rain Friday night, clearing Saturday morning, so we decided to go for it.

Sure enough, it rained hard Friday night, but the sky was clearing in Long Beach in the morning. But, when I rolled for Garden Grove around 11:30AM, there was enough rain to make me use the windshield wipers. Not promising, but it had stopped (temporarily) by the time I made it to the "DoD". I say "temporarily" because "Yukikaze" and I had barely started to vacuum the water off the dohyo cover when it started to rain again. We decided to keep going. Based on the approximate number of times we emptied "Yuki's" 2-gallon Shop-Vac, we removed about thirty-two gallons of water from the cover. The silvery plastic sheet had done its job: the dohyo was serviceable.

In the meantime, we were receiving phone calls from people in areas where it was still raining hard. Were we going ahead? Postponing wasn't practical, for several reasons. So the word was: yes, we are going ahead, come on in! Fortunately, the weather continued to clear, and the show went on. No doubt the rain kept some people away, but the modest turnout of wrestlers and die-hard fans was worth the effort.

The kids' action saw Sawyer Cochran take two in a row from Cory Rightmyer. The little girls' division saw a renewal of the always-intense rivalry between Judy Morrow and Shannon Cochran, with Judy reversing the results from the California Sumo Championships in July. The men's lightweights were the largest division for the day (except for Open). It consisted of Trent Sabo, his brother Chris, Art Morrow and Zachary Clark, who was the unopposed junior middleweight champion of the day. Maybe it was because he was going to Milan for an international tournament the following weekend, but as he tends to do at times, Trent fooled around and lost all his matches. Chris emerged as the champion, with Art second and Zac third. It wasn't the rain, but the upcoming Italian trip that kept Michelle Pike and Devon Kobashigawa from coming out: they had to work in order to get the time off.

In men's middleweight action, Doug Cochran took two in a row from Kurt Rightmyer. With "Yukikaze" a late scratch, Dan Kalbfleisch took the heavyweight gold in a walkover.

After all attempts to get Art Morrow in failed, the Open division went on with one heavyweight, two middleweights and two lightweights. The round robin-competition saw Dan take the gold and Doug the silver, with a three-way tie for third. Since this writer wanted to draw down an accumulated inventory of bronze medals, all three third-place finishers received a medal.

Current Holders of USSF Dan Rank

| Rank (Degree) | Name (Club) |
|---------------|---|
| Nidan (2nd) | Hiroshi Matsuzaki (SCSK), Tom Zabel (LSSA), Harry Dudrow (SCSK), Kelly Gneiting (SRSA), Jim Lowerre (SCSK) |
| Shodan (1st) | Jeff Riddle (GSS), Doug Cochran (GSS), Andrew Freund (CSA), Troy Collins (CSA), Rene Marte (JJC), Tyler Olsen (GEM), Trent Sabo (OSK), Marcus Barber (SCSK), Kurt Rightmyer (SCSK), Bart Harris (LSSA), Art Morrow (SCSK), Packy Bannevans* (GSA) |
| | |

* Rank conferred by the Japan Sumo Federation

Current USSF Life Members

1. Harry Dudrow
2. Yoshisada Yonezuka
3. Jim Lowerre
4. Andrew Freund
5. Troy Collins
6. Hiroshi Matsuzaki
7. Manny Yarbrough (honorary)
8. Trent Sabo
9. Packy Bannevans
10. Doug Cochran
11. Tom Zabel
12. Dan Kalbfleisch
13. Kelly Bannevans
14. Richard Hopp
15. Gary Goltz (honorary)
16. Musashimaru Oyakata (honorary)
17. Art Morrow

The 700-Win Club

(updated after Aki 2007)

| Rikishi (Top Rank) | MD Basho | MD Wins | Wins/Basho |
|--------------------|----------|---------|------------|
| Chiyonofuji (Y58) | 81 | 807 | 9.96 |
| Kitanoumi (Y55) | 78 | 804 | 10.31 |
| Taiho (Y48) | 69 | 746 | 10.81 |
| Musashimaru (Y67)* | 73 | 706 | 9.67 |
| KAIO (O) | 85 | 706 | 8.31 |
| Takanohana (Y65) | 71 | 701 | 9.87 |
| | | | |

* Non-Japanese

The ASASHORYU Watch

(updated after Aki 2007)

| Rikishi (Top Rank) | MD Basho | MD Wins | Wins/Basho |
|--------------------|----------|---------|------------|
| ASASHORYU (Y68) | 41 | 466 | 11.37 |
| | | | |

IF YOU REALLY LOVE SUMO, AND WANT TO STAY CLOSE TO IT FOR MANY YEARS TO COME...

MAKE THE COMMITMENT!! Become a United States Sumo Federation LIFE MEMBER

A one-time tax-deductible donation of \$200.00 eliminates your worries about annual USSF dues **FOR LIFE**. If you compete in USSF-sanctioned amateur sumo events for ten years or more, a Life Membership will pay for itself. It also shows you are very serious about the sport, and is a definite 'resume enhancer' if you decide to seek office in the USSF or any other amateur sports body.

Application form is available at www.sumoshimpo.com

SUMO SHIMPO is published six times a year (following each official basho in Japan) by the **Southern California Sumo Kyokai**.

If you think this publication is worth reading, your subscription would be most appreciated. Subscription price is \$5.00/year, payable to the **Southern California Sumo Kyokai**. Each subscription includes mailing and membership in the **SCSK**.

Comments and contributions from readers are not only welcome, but strongly encouraged.

PUBLISHING STAFF:

Publisher: **Harry "Tonkatsu" Dudrow**

Editor-in-Chief: **Jim "Yukikaze" Lowerre**

Staff Writers: **Harry "Tonkatsu" Dudrow**

Jim "Yukikaze" Lowerre

Special Guest Writers: **Troy Collins**

Packy Bannevans

Research Editor: **Hiroshi "Honetekawa" Matsuzaki**

Staff Photographer: **Jim "Yukikaze" Lowerre**

E-MAIL: info@sumoshimpo.com

WEB SITE: www.sumoshimpo.com

(Webmistress: **Alexa "Shirabara" Fairbairn**)

Thy love hath passed away from me,
Left desolate, forlorn –
In winter-rains how wearily
The summer past I mourn!

"Onono-ko-Machi"

NATIONALS (from front page)

After a good number of matches in the men’s divisions, Trent Sabo was crowned as the Lightweight Champion, Rene Marte was the Middleweight Champion, Kelly Gneiting was once again the Heavyweight Champion, and Dan Kalbfleisch was the Openweight Champion. Michelle Pike was the Lightweight Women’s Champion, Florence Bannout was the Middleweight Women’s Champion, and Lindsay Hood took the Heavyweight and Openweight women’s competitions. Zachary Clark was the Junior Division Champion. The Masters’ competitions saw Art Morrow win the Lightweights, Leonard Thomas take the Middleweights, and James Perry win the Heavyweights. Jim Lowerre won the Grand Masters’ Heavyweight division. The Team competition went to the Judo/Karate Center in New Jersey (L. Thomas, R. Marte, J. Perry). In addition to their medals, each division winner also received a 20-pound bag of Koda Farms’ Kokuho Rose Premium Rice, a case of EQ Smart Energy Drink, and gifts from Phi-Ten Titanium Products, Yunker Supplements and Mori-Nu Tofu.

The tournament was followed by a party put on by the Centurion Sumo Club (www.sumoclub.com) at the LAPD Police Academy. Party sponsors included Sushi Gen, Kirin Ichiban Beer, Asahi Beer, Sapporo Beer, Houzan Soju, Koda Farms and Team J Station (TJS Japanese Radio). The food consisted of sashimi from Sushi Gen and Japanese Curry, Chanko Nabe and Rice Balls all prepared by Keiro Retirement Home’s staff, Mr. and Mrs. Oishi and Hiroko Suzuki. Everyone enjoyed an abundance of food and drinks and the use of the Academy’s swimming pool and hot tub to heal the bumps and bruises. Without Sushi Gen, Team J Station, Keiro Retirement Home, the Oishi’s and Hiroko Suzuki, the party would not have been possible. A special thank you goes out to all of them for their generosity, hard work and support.

Sunday, August 19th was a huge day for Nisei Week as well as the United States Sumo Federation. We all had the honor of having Jesse Kuhaulua (Takamiyama, now called Azumazeki Oyakata) as the Parade Grand Marshal. On the float was the USSF’s banner with our new Web Site address. The honor continued with me being invited to eat dinner with the living legend. We sat, ate and talked about sumo for a few hours. I can honestly say that there are very few professional athletes that I admire. Jesse was one of the first athletes that I can ever remember admiring as a child. I remember watching him on Wide World of Sports in the 70’s and 80’s and just could not believe I ate dinner with him. He was my first exposure to Sumo, even though I never thought about becoming a Sumo wrestler for another 30-plus years.

The addition of the product and monetary sponsors promises to bring an even more successful 2008 year for Sumo in the United States. To start the 2008 year, the US Sumo Federation will have a booth set up and will do demonstrations and talking seminars as part of the Fit Expo at the Los Angeles Convention Center

(www.fitexpo.com) February 15th thru the 17th. The demonstrations should be well received especially since Dan Kalbfleisch and Kelly Gneiting made cameo appearances on Jay Cutler’s (Mr. Olympia 2006 and 2007) workout video. The Federation will also help with the professional Sumo tour (Los Angeles Sumo Jungyo) on June 7th and 8th at the LA Sports Arena. The Federation will also put on two or three additional tournaments and several demonstrations throughout the year to help boost membership, draw new fans, and continue to make a strong push for the 2012 Olympics.

San Jose’s Japan Town Festival

On October 6th Kelly Gneiting, Dan Kalbfleisch and I performed a demonstration in San Jose as part of their festival with Mr. Inohana from Grand Sumo Los Angeles and Azumazeki Oyakata. After the demonstration, we stood by our booth and took photos with 100’s of fans and enthusiasts for nearly an hour.

Ernie Hunt came by with his son-in-law and talked to Azumazeki while he signed hundreds of autographs and took thousands of pictures. Ernie and Azumazeki also shared laughs as they looked at one of Ernie’s photos of the two of them wrestling some 20 plus years ago. The two of them spoke highly of each other and shared many laughs that day. Sumo was received very well especially since it hasn’t been seen in San Jose since the jungyo that was held there in 1993. Many people said they plan to visit Los Angeles for our tournaments and the Grand Sumo Los Angeles tournament. The Mayor and a City Councilman also sent their well wishes to the athletes going to Thailand for the World Championships this November.

Troy Collins is the president of the United States Sumo Federation, and a Federation trustee.

Kinboshi: Receivers and Givers (updated after Aki 2007)

| Rikishi | No. | YOKOZUNA (#) | No. / Y |
|--------------------|------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| <i>Akinoshima</i> | 16 | Taiho (48) | 28/58 |
| <i>Takamiyama</i> | 12 | Kitanoumi (55) | 52/62 |
| TOSANOUMI | 11 | Chiyonofuji (58) | 29/53 |
| TOCHINONADA | 11 | Akebono (64) | 35/39 |
| <i>Takatoriki</i> | 9 | Takanohana (65) | 37/36 |
| <i>Kotonowaka</i> | 8 | Musashimaru (67) | 21/19 |
| <i>Kotonishiki</i> | 8 | ASASHORYU (68) | 19/28 |
| TAMAKASUGA | 7 | HAKUHO (69) | 1/2 |
| KAIO | 6 | | |
| DEJIMA | 6 | | |

Y = number of basho ranked at yokozuna

Southern-Fried Sumo

Report on Georgia Sumo Open III by Packy Bannevans

Well...this year was certainly not a rousing success if you consider that Doug Cochran was the only USSF member that came out to support the lone USSF chapter in the southeastern U.S. However, we do not judge ourselves solely on the basis of the number of out-of-state competitors. Our focus as a performing group at JapanFest has been and will continue to be to introduce this part of the world to the sport of sumo in an entertaining and educational format. The joint hosting of the Georgia Sumo Open in conjunction with JapanFest certainly adds an element of legitimacy and bumps up the entertainment factor for those members of the audience who hang around for the end of our two hour presentation.

This year we had one member from last year rejoin the USSF and we had five new members register as well. All six men participated in Georgia Sumo Open III along with Doug and myself. The lightweight division was the most competitive this year even though all three competitors were rookies. Rafael Echols and Marcus Eccles began things with a rathy lengthy match which saw Marcus emerge victorius. Marcus then rather handily defeated Ryan Pruitt to secure his first place finish. Ryan and Rafael then fought to determine second and third place with Rafael avenging his loss to Marcus by handing Ryan his second defeat.

As yours truly was just about five pounds over his normal fighting weight, I was forced into the heavyweight division to fight Greg Midura. Greg won a silver in last year's heavyweight division and was looking to bump up a notch on the winner's platform this year. Although I managed to force Greg out of the ring in our initial match, it was then suggested that we have a best-two-of-three competition. Unfortunately for me, Greg took this chance to stage a comeback and win the next two matches to keep me from winning my first gold in competitive sumo.

The middleweights fought last and neither Matt Anderson or Alex Hamilton was a match for the experience of veteran wrestler Doug Cochran from California. Doug wrapped up his second consecutive gold medal in the Georgia Sumo Open middleweight division before returning to referee the runner-up fight. Matt then demonstrated his martial arts background by throwing Alex to the mat to pick up a silver medal in his inagural competition.

Due to the length of time of the initial sumo demo, the children's competition, and the last-minute additions of new wrestlers, there was no open competition at this year's tournament. After wandering around JapanFest for a while, we were however able to make our annual pilgrimage to 5 Season's Brewing and we made the most of the \$55 all you can eat and drink Octoberfest special! We sincerely hope that we can draw in a larger crowd of experienced USSF members next year so that we can show the folks of Georgia what amateur sumo is all about.

Results: Georgia Sumo Open III

(September 29, 2007: JapanFest, Gwinnett Center, GA)

| Lightweights |
|--------------------------|
| 1. Marcus Eccles (GSA) |
| 2. Rafael Echols (GSA) |
| 3. Ryan Pruitt (GSA) |
| Middleweights |
| 1. Doug Cochran (GSS) |
| 2. Matt Anderson (GSA) |
| 3. Alex Hamilton (GSA) |
| Heavyweights |
| 1. Greg Midura (GSA) |
| 2. Packy Bannevans (GSA) |

News and Notes from the World of Sumo

Former yokozuna **Wakanohana (66)** and his wife Mieko have decided to end their marriage of 13 years. The 36-year-old **Wakanohana** (civilian name: Masaru Hanada) and his 38-year-old wife announced in a joint statement that they have filed a divorce petition after lengthy one-on-one talks. They are the parents of four children.

Recently-promoted ozeki KOTOMITSUKI has been hospitalized with appendicitis, Sadogatake Oyakata has announced. The 31-year-old sumotori began complaining of stomach pains on Thursday morning, and was admitted to a Chiba Prefecture hospital that day. However, he will not undergo surgery. He will sit out the early part of a regional tour beginning in Yokohama: his condition may force him to miss the entire tour.

Makunouchi Division sumotori TOKITSUUMI has taken over Tokitsukaze Beya from his dismissed stablemaster.

The Japan Sumo Association accepted a resignation offer submitted by TOKITSUUMI, 33, while approving a change in his status to assume the Tokitsukaze torikumi. The move came four days after the former Tokitsukaze Oyakata was fired by the JSA for his alleged involvement in the hazing that led to the death of 17-year-old TOKITAIZAN (civilian name: Takashi Saito) in June.

"It's true that I'm regretful about ending my wrestling career but I realize I have to put my focus on the role I've just been given," said the new oyakata, who finished the Aki Basho with a 5-10 record as a seventh-ranked maegashira. "Our stable has young wrestlers, so I'll do my utmost to supervise them during training and also outside the 'dohyo' ring in order not to repeat such an incident," he said.

TOKITSUUMI (civilian name: Masahiro Sakamoto) entered sumo at the 1996 Haru Basho as a college champion inserted into the Makushita division. He made his Juryo debut in May of 1997, and entered the Makunouchi at the 1998 Aki Basho. He never made it to the sanyaku: his highest rank was maegashira #3. He ends his active sumo career with a career record of 466 wins, 485 losses and 43 absences; his top-division record was 322-385-43. He won the Juryo yusho twice and the Gino-Sho four times, but never won a kinboshi.

The Photo Page: SHUUBUN 2007 (photos by "Yukikaze")



SHUUBUN 2007 (Fall Equinox Tournament)
(September 22, 2007: “Dohyo of Dreams”, Garden Grove, CA) - Results

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Little Boys: 1. Sawyer Cochran (GSS) 2. Cory Rightmyer (SCSK) | Junior Middleweights: 1. Zach Clark (SCSK) | Girls: 1. Judy Morrow (SCSK) 2. Shannon Cochran (GSS) |
| Men’s Middleweight: 1. Doug Cochran (GSS) 2. Kurt Rightmyer (SCSK) | Men’s Heavyweight: 1. Dan Kalbfleisch (CSA) | Men’s Open: 1. Dan Kalbfleisch (CSA) 2. Doug Cochran (GSS) 3. (tie) Trent Sabo (OSK) 3. (tie) Kurt Rightmyer (SCSK) 3. (tie) Chris Sabo (OSK) |
| Men’s Lightweight: 1. Chris Sabo (OSK) 2. Art Morrow (SCSK) 3. Zach Clark (SCSK) | | |

2007 US NATIONAL SUMO CHAMPIONSHIPS
(August 18, 2007: New Otani Hotel, Little Tokyo, Los Angeles, CA) – Results

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Women’s Lightweights: 1. Michelle Pike (OSK) | Women’s Middleweights: 1. Florence Bannout (OSK) | Women’s Heavyweights: 1. Lindsey Hood (OSK) |
| Women’s Open: 1. Lindsey Hood (OSK) 2. Florence Bannout (OSK) 3. Michelle Pike (OSK) | Masters (40+) Heavyweights: 1. James Perry (JKC) 2. Mike Simpson (SCSK) 3. Jim Lowerre (SCSK) | Grand Masters (50+) Heavyweights: 1. Jim Lowerre (SCSK) 2. Larry Brann (CSA) 3. Harry Dudrow (SCSK) |
| Juniors (18-): 1. Zachary Clark (SCSK) 2. Steve Simpson (SCSK) | Masters (40+) Lightweights: 1. Art Morrow (SCSK) | Masters (40+) Middleweights: 1. Leonard Thomas (JKC) 2. Kurt Rightmyer (SCSK) |
| Men’s Lightweights: 1. Trent Sabo (OSK) 2. Javonn Rushing (OSK) 3. Eric Hartley (OSK) | Men’s Middleweights: 1. Rene Marte (JKC) 2. Ian Harris (OSK) 3. Doug Cochran (GSS) | Men’s Heavyweights: 1. Kelly Gneiting (SRSA) 2. Jimmy Calas (OSK) 3. Dirkson Sommers (GSS) |
| Men’s Open: 1. Dan Kalbfleisch (CSA) 2. Trent Sabo (OSK) 3. Ian Harris (OSK) | Men’s Team: 1. Judo/Karate Center (L. Thomas, R. Marte, J. Perry) 2. Oceanside Sumo Kyokai #1 (J. Calas, Al Kinslow, I. Harris) 3. Golden State Sumo (Robert Ashworth, D. Cochran, D. Sommers) 4. Oceanside Sumo Kyokai #2 (Ryan Hodge, J. Rushing, T. Sabo) | |

JUNIOR DIVISION YUSHO WINNERS (Aki 2007)

| Division | Rank | Shikona | Heya | Rec. |
|-----------|------|-------------------|-------------|------|
| Makushita | 32-W | TAMAWASHI (MGL) | Kataonami | 7-0 |
| Sandanme | 57-W | TOSAYUTAKA | Tokitsukaze | 7-0 |
| Jonidan | 37-W | HOSHIZAKURA (MGL) | Hakkaku | 7-0 |
| Jonokuchi | 36-W | KINRYUZAN (KOR) | Matsugane | 7-0 |

Article Featuring Trent Sabo in Major Fitness Magazine

by "Yukikaze" for SUMO SHIMPO

After much anticipation, the November 2007 issue of Muscle & Fitness magazine has finally reached the newsstands.

This issue contains the long-awaited article about Trent Sabo and amateur sumo in the United States. It is accompanied by photographs taken at the "Dohyo of Dreams" and at the Gold's Gym in Huntington Beach. Among the secondary small photographs in the article is one of Trent locked up with this writer during a "DoD" competition.

The orchid perfumes rise,
Like clouds of incense wafted by
The wings of butterflies.

"Basho"

USSF Website Up and Running

by "Yukikaze" for SUMO SHIMPO

<http://www.ussumofederation.org>

After much work (and some inevitable tweaking), the United States Sumo Federation now has a Web presence.

At this site it will be possible to do the following:

- Contact the Trustees, the Executive Committee, and the Appointed Officers of the USSF
- View a schedule of USSF-sanctioned sumo tournaments
- Download forms for sanction application and memberships
- Contact USSF-registered sumo clubs
- View the lists of USSF Life Members and dan rank holders
- And more

Please take the time to pay a visit. If you have any questions or constructive comments, Email them to this writer (who is functioning as the acting Webmaster).

United States Sumo Calendar for 2007

CLASSES/TRAINING SESSIONS

| SESSION | DAY | START | END | FEE | LOCATION | STAGING ORGANIZATION |
|--------------|-----|---------|---------|-----|---|--|
| Sumo 101 | SA | ongoing | ongoing | Yes | Hughes Community Center Claremont, CA | Claremont Recreation/ Southern California Sumo Kyokai |
| GSS Practice | SU | ongoing | ongoing | Yes | Combined Martial Science 13611-A 12th St., Chino, CA | Golden State Sumo (Doug Cochran) |
| | | | | | | |

Contact the listed STAGING ORGANIZATION for the latest fee schedule and other information.

COMPETITIONS

| EVENT | DATE | LOCATION | STAGING ORGANIZATION |
|---------------------------|---------------|--|---------------------------------|
| 8th Junior World Champs. | Nov. 17, 2007 | Chiang Mai, Thailand: venue TBA | International Sumo Federation |
| 6th Women's World Champs. | Nov. 18, 2007 | Chiang Mai, Thailand: venue TBA | International Sumo Federation |
| 15th World Championships | Nov. 18, 2007 | Chiang Mai, Thailand: venue TBA | International Sumo Federation |
| | | | |
| GOLTZ SUMO XI | Jan. 19, 2008 | Hughes Community Center, Claremont, CA | Southern California Sumo Kyokai |

TBA = To Be Announced

All information on this calendar is subject to change. Contact the listed STAGING ORGANIZATION for latest information.