

#7

WEATHER

High winds and storm conditions all day.

THE

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LATEST STORY

THE CURTAINS CLOSE ON REGULAR SEASON. TWO TEAM INTERVIEWS.

WEEKLY* NEWS FROM THE FASTEST* REPORTER IN GENSOKYO



REMEMBERING THE FALLEN

CREDIT VS. DEBIT, EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH ROZEN MAIDEN
FURITEND, MAN VS. MORTAL, AND MORE

The regular season of the One-Han City's/mjg/ league has come to a close and as a result we must say goodbye to ten of the eighteen teams.

There was a somber mood lingering over One-Han City's /mjg/ district this Sunday as the last tiles clacked together marking the end of the regular season. Though this marks a grand triumph of the top 8 teams we'd like to take a moment to reflect on those that didn't make it - what better way to do it than with some last words from their Captains, alongside any public statement they may have made.

18th - Legend of the Celestial Teapot
"We're not dead yet, we'll see how we fare against my fellow mahjong enjoyers in L-League."

17th - Hannah Yome
Public statement (>>529276145)



16th - 海底XI
"It is sad that we did not qualify for the

semi-finals. Obviously, this is not the result we wanted. It is what it is. We tried our best, had fun and we look forward to the next League."

15th - Zodiac Jyanshi
"It's fucking over. it was a good team, sir"

14th - Team 9
Public statement (>>529304885)
"it seems, just this once, that /mjg/ > /bag/"

'We're not dead yet, we'll see how we fare against my fellow mahjong enjoyers in L-League'

13th - Ransei no Tabi
Public statement (>>529303713)
"Go soothingly on the grease mud, as there lurks the skid demon."

12th - Yakupara Cat Cafe
"I'd like to say that my team was very strong this year, and I hate that only historically disastrous luck prevented us from

qualifying, but I'm grateful to have been captain of my team. Everyone had a lot of fun over IRC and learned a great deal of mahjong strategy in the process. I hope to see everyone again next year too.

11th - Rozen Maiden: Füritend
"We are not going to Alice..."

10th - Grinchlantis
drowning noises

The OC This Week

In week 5 we got some new OC from different teams and anonymous users on the bulletin board.

Cocktail anon is back with 3 more drinks (>>528685164)

A player from Haitei 11 presumably posted a riddle at the end of a cryptic video (>>528781961)

A Cynthia snuff fic was posted to 4han (>>11072)

Yakupara and Rozen Maiden released two new menu items this week (>>528541260, >>529144765)

Ransei goes on her fourth adventure (>>529303658)

Sanma Book 1 is at 25 chapters translated (>>529282863)

TO collabs with WME in a new OC vid (>>529310429)

LATEST FROM THE BULLETIN BOARDS OF ONE-HAN CITY

SAINT CHALLENGES MORTAL TO
LIVESTREAMED DEATHMATCH, LOSES



MAN VERSUS MACHINE: PUNISHING LOSSES

Mortal Mahjong Reviewer has become a ubiquitous sight in the /mjg/ district but few have tried to seriously test it's mettle. A local Saint rank player has been live-streaming his matches with Mortal in the 3 other seats on the online Jansou Tenhou using the reviewers "Play with me" feature.

The local Saint had some strong words to say about the AI reviewer saying "mortal is 2nd rate and will get exposed".

Mortal hasn't been conclusively put up against other strong bots like NAGA or pro players so it's effectiveness as a Mahjong player remains a lingering question. Our Saint went on, claiming that: "it's very good at two things: getting tenpai quickly, and not dealing in easily. But if you track tedashi/tsumogiri the construction of it's hand is quite straightforward, so you can aim for it's overflows. It'll very rarely back off once it's

in tenpai"

"If I keep it up with this level of play, over 100 games, I think I'll end up at about -320 points"

But in the 30 or so games he's played against the bot things haven't been going so well - down -15.9 points against the machine, it's been hard going our local player.

We asked him to explain these rough games and he had a few things to say: "I'd say it's mostly a skill issue on my part, rather than bad luck or variance. My play is not really up to par to beat Mortal consistently."

Mortal, like most bots, has near perfect tile efficiency, making it difficult to beat on speed - one of the major ways humans edge

out an advantage over each other. But there was one more factor our Saint mentioned: "Streaming the games is a lot harder than I thought at first as well. Commentating my play distracts me and I miss things I wouldn't miss playing silently with flow music on."

With all this said, we wanted his honest prognosis: "If I keep it up with this level of play, over 100 games, I think I'll end up at about -320 points".

Can Man beat Machine? Maybe, but against inhuman tile efficiency it would be a hard fought battle. Should you continue using Mortal? Until you've finished reading Riichi Book 1, yes. But truthfully you can probably manage to budget some of your pocket money away from rolling for Jane and into a Naga subscription, God knows NicoNico needs it more than Yo-star does.

>NAME
POSTING
REACHES NEW
HEIGHTS

DENIZENS MUST
UNITE TO CURB
THE REDDISCORD
MENACE

This is an appeal from the One-Han City central council authority pleading for all users of the bulletin board system to stop using names in their posts:

"Last monday saw a veritable epidemic of name-posting on the system, with over 70 occurrences of nameposting that official sources have recorded thus far.

We urge all denizens to come together to destroy this menace. Hide name posts; do not reply to name posters; isolate all cases of name posting until they can be properly attended to by the J.A.NN.I.E.S.

Name-posting might seem funny the first time you do it, but it's a slippery slope that leads one down a depraved path. Many good generals lie ruined in the wake of years of name-posting.

Names violate the sacrosanct principles of the bulletin board, and each name posted represents one small stone on the path to Official Discord™ levels of faggotry[sic].

Value others anonymity as you would your own when posting and delete that name! Together we can eradicate the name-posting menace!"

To report an name-posting incident to the local authorities dial 800-KYS-FAGGOT that's 800-597-324468 and include the post number in your call.



Credit or Debit?:
Euros scoff at US

Earlier this week denizens of the /mjg/ district grappled with the byzantine details of the U.S. credit system.

Early Saturday morning as the Euro posters were just rising from their slumber a discussion arose after a poster announced that they had got their first credit card (>>529114689). What followed was a hundreds of post discussion on the global financial system.

Though they are becoming increasingly more popular taking on credit card debt is not as common in most of central Europe compared with the United States or Asia

Many denizens clearly hadn't interacted with the system as many questions were asked surrounding the purported benefits of owning a credit card in the first place.

The consensus amongst board-goers was that while there were benefits, they merely represented a concession to what the payment processors and banks already took from you, and that ultimately they always win in the end.

Some even blamed the heavily financialised state of the economy on the Jewish, though this reporter believes that no matter who's in charge screwing you over is good business.

While many westerners scoff at the mythically exaggerated social credit score of the far east, the situation isn't so dissimilar across anglophone countries, with the US and UK requiring credit score checks before taking on a mortgage or personal loan.

Personal debt is a scourge on many of us just trying to live our lives, and no matter what you do we're all getting fucked.

1	2	3			4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11	12
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58	59					60	61				62		63	
64					65							66		
67						68					69			

Across

1. “__ of Four”
4. Slant
8. After qualis
13. Ante, in Riichi
14. All Terminals and Honours
15. Amazonian state in Brazil
16. Long haired cattle
18. Scran
19. Relax
20. igarashiharuna-10.png
22. Complete mentsu by calling; “__ ritsu”
25. Deceased Japanese Prime Minister
27. Tropical bird from New Zealand
29. Head
31. Prescience
35. Good Heavens!
36. Wait
37. Biblical Kingdom; 10-ton explosive
38. Friend, in France
39. Zoomer snus
40. Folding
41. Starmer, Sunak, etc. for short (pl.)
42. Loaded
44. Everybody’s opposite
46. Film crew member
47. Cheek
49. “__ and crannies”
50. Big apple
51. IMDB for anime
53. Knocks on the noggin
55. All sequences
58. __ Falls, SD
60. Next in line
62. Put one’s foot down
64. Purveyor of monitors
65. Under the sea

66. Brother of Osiris
67. Washing cycle
68. Adderall taker
69. Kind of dora in Sanma

Down

1. Famous Spanish painter
2. JPML and EMA don’t use these
3. Call, in Riichi
4. Site of famous WWI battle in 1918
5. Kind of socks
6. Historical period
7. Animal, as in Shiroko
9. Biblical Son of Joseph
10. Between Abril and Junho, in Lisbon
11. Offline
12. Shopper stopper
17. Rascal
19. Bar-room sticks
21. U.S. Lawyer org. Abbr.
23. Tile acceptance, in Japan
24. Green bar
26. Daily dose; “Thanks __”
28. Teams with no theme
29. Winning, in Japan
30. Nike rival
31. Frantz, French political philosopher
32. River at Avignon
33. Hit the big leagues
34. Cookbook dosage (pl.)
36. Slept funny, “Ouch, __”
43. Are genbutsu
45. Neat freak’s affliction
46. Plays 18 holes
48. Short-tailed wildcat
49. Can be worth 2 han to someone
51. Bugged down

52. Rex Russiae
53. Filmmaking brothers
54. Across from dealer
55. Orange’s inner skin
56. Play a tile, in Japan
57. Eye-related prefix
59. Here, in France
61. Ramadan ender
63. Comicbook cry

Notes From The Editor

Another crossword from this bird-brained reporter. Once again some answers may be conjugated words LIKETHIS, so be careful when guessing. Last week a reader asked if they could use Google, and while we think crosswords and other puzzles are best enjoyed unassisted there’s no harm in searching a word you can’t quite remember if you’re still having fun.

Answer key:
<http://bunbunmaru.news/collab/issue7-crosskey.jpg>



WEEK FIVE: THE SCORES ON THE BOARD

PUMPERS TAKE TOP SPOT; THE PROMISED GYAKUTEN FAILS TO MATERIALISE; GRINCHLANTIS SINKS; ON TO THE SEMIS

Regular season went out with a wimper as the top 8 coasted to their increasingly assured placements. Let's review this last week of games.

The curtain has closed on the regular season and now the remaining teams in the top 8 will move on to the semi finals. After scores half there will only be a 173 point difference between first and last – smaller than the gap between 1st and 4th of the regular season – making it anyone's game as to who progresses on to the Grand Finals.

Looking towards the Finals

Good Sprouts looks to be one of the favourites going into the semi-finals with a strong absolute point position and the highest win-to-dealin ratio of the pack. They also have the highest dama winrate of the top 8, sitting at 10.1%, though how that has affected their scoring potential is not calculable.

Romance of the Cat Kingdoms boasts one of the stronger overall rosters of the pack with >no adepts, and Sanbaiyaku Furiten has one of the statistically fiercest ranked players on their team which definitely contributes to their prospects, but with only 40 hanchans for each team to play skill expression will take a backseat to the whims of fate.

The Saki Award

The coveted Saki award –given to the player closest to keeping their score +0 – goes to the Good Sprouts! One of their players managed a -0.6 final score across 4 hanchans. The next closest player was from Haitei 11 with a +4.6 score over 7 hanchans. Better luck next year to all who did their best to stay below the radar.

Fantasy League

The fantasy league concluded with a blowout victory from A.U.T.I.S.M. Destiny Redux. Failing to win last year the revival fantasy team won by a staggering 1054.7 points, beating second place by +137.3 points. Congratulations to that anon and to the Fantasy League janny for putting the show on.

League in Yakuman

This segment returns for week 5 as another Daisangen was scored in league last Saturday.

In AUS 20 Table B Hanchan 2 the Romance of the Cat Kingdoms player tsumo'd a Daisan. Although the player in question

did not come first that game, despite the yakuman tsumo, the other players at the table can breathe a sigh of relief knowing that League doesn't have Sekinin-barai.

Week 5 Highs and Lows

Now for the winners of this week and the league overall. In the top overall spot in terms of raw points is the player from Yakupara Cat Cafe with an unbelievable +353.6 points overall; 60 points more than second. Sadly this stunning performance was not enough to see their team qualify.

The baggies may have been defeated but not before walking away with the biggest single session point win of the regular season. In EUX 15 Table B Team 9 scored a whopping 173.4 points in a single record breaking session – a testament to how small the difference between first and last will really be once scores are halved. The previous record being a +157.4 held by Rozen Maiden.

Naturally in that session the baggies also walked away with the largest single hanchan score of the week, a modest 105.8 points in the same session's 2nd hanchan.

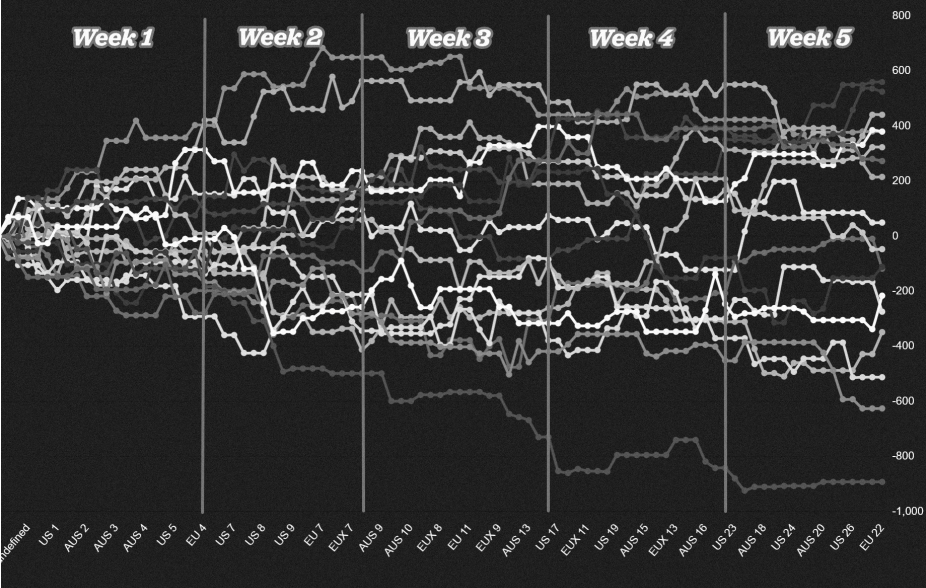
And now for the losers: Jet Set Riichi lost the worst player award in their final hours, with the trophy instead going to a substitute player for Haitei 11. In just 7 games this player managed to rack up a -296 point total. Inverting the conventional wisdom of having a Dealin rate that's half of your winrate this player finished with a dealin rate of 20.45% to their 13.64% winrate. Fascinating.

The jobber of the week award goes to Teoyaku Bunkiten in hanchan 2 of EUX 15, coming in at -82.5 points, and netting the highest overall loss in a single session this week in the same session at -130.7, a mere 20 points away from the all-time record loss.

That's it for this week, and should any reader have ideas for how to improve the stats in this section please join #mjgnews on Rizon or send me a PM on IRC. I'm looking for a collaborator for this section that can compile statistics after the week closes and before around 4PM UTC on Mondays.



	<u>Pinzu Pumpers</u>	559.7
	<u>Good Sprouts</u>	524.4
	<u>Akuyaku Gyakuten</u>	440.8
	<u>Romance of the Cat Kingdoms</u>	380
	<u>Jet Set Riichi</u>	379.8
	<u>R.I.I.C.H.I.</u>	323.1
	<u>ZWEI</u>	272.6
	<u>World Mahjong Entertainment</u>	215.4
	<u>Bakyou Heat</u>	49.2
	<u>Grinchlantis</u>	-46.9
	<u>Rozen Maiden: Fūritend</u>	-111.3
	<u>Yakupara Cat Café</u>	-117.7
	<u>Ransei no Tabi</u>	-216.2
	<u>Team @</u>	-274.1
	<u>Zodiac Jyanshi</u>	-348.7
	<u>海底XI</u>	-512.2
	<u>Hannah Yome</u>	-625.7
	<u>Legend of the Celestial Teapot</u>	-892.2



Slow Burn

The top 8 remained fairly static over the last week of the regular season with all teams staying above 200 points. A crash-out could have seen one of the few hopefuls take a position in the semi-finals but none of them seemed up to the task.

This tight score distribution sets up the qualifiers for an absolute bloodbath in the semi-finals, with only 40 hanchans to play as opposed to the 80 per team in the qualifiers, every positive placement counts, and the remaining teams will have to find a way to eke out an advantage.

League fatigue is a real factor to contend with, so we'll have to see if the qualifying teams still have the juice to make the squeeze.



THE RISE AND FALL OF ROZEN MAIDEN: FURITEND

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH
ROZEN MAIDEN: FURITEND

WITH THE TEAM ELIMINATED DURING THE REGULAR SEASON WE
SPOKE TO THE TEAMS CAPTAIN TO FIND OUT MORE.

Rozen Maiden Furitend has been churning out OC throughout the regular season. While the team got off to a good start one thing led to another and they ended up out of the running for the coveted top 8 placements.

We ventured into one of One-Han City’s vaunted gated communities, high up in the mountains surrounding the city and away from the crass hustle and bustle of everyday working life. After being escorted by his butler into one of the palacial guest rooms in his stately Mansion we sat face to face with the young middle schooler responsible for assembling a team of Mahjong-playing Porcelain Dolls.

The captain first questioned how this bird-brained reporter managed to speak with him from the future, but we assured him that the speed of light is merely a suggestion to the fastest reporter in Gensokyo.

We got to talking quickly and the nature of the mahjong playing dolls was the first thing on our minds: “The Rozen Maidens are all created to become Alice by being good at mahjong.”

“But of course it is impossible for a doll to become Alice; or good at Mahjong”

His cryptic words had us lost for a moment

but looking back at the transcript the Captain spoke no lies: four of the Teams players were deep in the red, and charted among some of the worst performing players in the league. Though clearly some of the dolls had talent as their losses were offset by a few incredibly strong teammates.

We asked about the losses the team had incurred over the last couple of weeks, cratering the teams chances at a top 8 spot in the process:

“Personally, I blame mahjong”

“It is outrageous and unfair, but of course anything could happen [over the course of league]”

The variance we’ve seen over the last 5 weeks has been shocking, with some of the highest ranked teams by raw player rank have come dead last or have otherwise failed to qualify.

Rozen Maiden was notable for their strategy of fielding two different players for each hanchan in a session earlier in the league: their sustained losses came shortly after they adopted a more typical approach of fielding one player for both hanchans. We asked them why they changed this:

“players started showing up on time”

While we were taken aback that what looked on the surface to be thoughtful strategy was actually just bumbling incompetence, the narrative fit cleanly into the overall story of the league; the absolute state of it all.

Despite their losses the team had kept churning out a surprising amount of OC over the last 5 weeks, we asked if there were plans to keep the pace up now that the team no longer had any skin in the game:

“The dolls do whatever they want. I have no control.”

After much tea, and growing tired of our subjects curt and despondent answers, we finished off our discussion asking if they had anything further to add for the reading public:

“TO is a chibinigger[sic] desu”

Lastly, as always, we asked them for their favourite Touhou:

“Patchouli Knowledge. Not even King Arthur could pull me out brother.”

And on that bombshell, I’ve been your bird-brained reporter Aya Shameimaru for the Bunbunmaru, and thank you for reading.



This weeks news has been brought to you by Aya Shameimaru. For Interviews, Quotes, Gags, Submissions, OC collabs, Feedback and more PM shameimaru on IRC. Until next time...