

Metro Anime Summer 2008 Survey – Quick Cheat Sheet

There are nine candidates for three regular-lineup slots, so you'll vote for your favorite series at the end of the July meeting. You can keep your sheet for reference, in case you're curious about a show you missed, or one that doesn't make the final cut.

❖ **Airantou Castaways (Nagasarate Airantou)** - The fantasy of being the only man trapped on a tropical island with loads of beautiful women becomes a painful reality for teenage Ikuto. Cast adrift in a powerful storm, he ends up on an isolated island populated by shipwreck survivors - all female. Trapped without hope of rescue, the women have built a thriving community, with all their needs accounted for except one. Ikuto must find a way off the island or out of his predicament before the women of Airantou destroy him and each other in their quest for a "husband". (ep 1 / 26 ~ 12:00pm)



❖ **Special A** - When Hikari first met Kei, she thought he was the very model of a bored, spoiled rich boy, and tried to teach him a lesson in humility by besting him at wrestling. Unfortunately, Kei schooled her instead, and ever since then, despite her top marks and outstanding athleticism, Kei has managed to best Hikari at every turn. But now, attending an elite high-school together, Hikari's naïveté and straightforward nature threaten to get her into trouble, while Kei discovers feelings for Hikari that have nothing to do with competition. (ep 1 / 24 ~ 12:30pm)



❖ **Bamboo Blade** - Off-the-wall hijinks ensue when five spirited girls are cajoled into forming a women's kendo team at their high-school. Starting off with a reckless bet made by their sensei, a half-starved loner eking out a living as a substitute teacher, the girls learn to support each other as friends and teammates. A self-referential parody of sports anime, the show is packed with "fourth-wall" humor and constant jokes about costumed-fighter shows, even as the team faces various obstacles on the way to victory. (eps 1-2 / 26 ~ 1:00pm)



❖ **Demon Detective Nōgami Neuro** - Teenage Yako's father was brutally and inexplicably murdered while alone in his locked study. When the police drop the case, she vows to find her father's killer on her own. Then a demon from Hell named Neuro appears before her, with an insatiable hunger for supernatural mysteries. Working together, along with an adopted yakuza man and a young girl's ghost, they hunt killers who hide behind human masks. (ep 1 / 25 ~ 2:30pm)



❖ **Crystal Blaze** - In a city full of orphans and refugees, a monstrous killer is on the loose, turning women into fragile crystal statues that defy explanation. When one of these women escapes destruction, it's up the rag-tag members of the S&A Detective Agency to keep her safe and decipher the mystery of the "glass maidens". Shuu, the "detective-with-a-past", and the show's retro style, feels a lot like "City Hunter", but with a sci-fi spin and a more serious attitude (like the CH manga, rather than the anime). (eps 1-2 / 12 ~ 3:00pm)



❖ **Sayonara Zetsubou-sensei** - In a bizarrely-conceived dark comedy version of the classic inspirational teacher story, Itoshiki-sensei is the new young teacher of a rambunctious class of oddball high-schoolers. Unfortunately, instead of inspiring his class, Itoshiki tries to drag them into his grey and dismal world of expected failure and mock-suicidal angst. All the students have their quirks and strange personality traits, including a girl who compulsively stalks her crushes, a girl who speaks only through text messaging, and the class cheerleader, Fuura-chan, who defies reality with her super-optimism. Will "Despair-sensei" succeed in dashing his young charges' hopes, or can this class of misfits get their teacher off the ledge? (ep 1 / 12 ~ 4:00pm)



❖ **Minami-ke** - Living on their own while their parents work abroad, the three Minami sisters try to get along with each other, despite having wildly different personalities and a talent for miscommunication. Between clueless would-be boyfriends, over-enthusiastic classmates, hapless relatives, and frequent parodies of movies and video games, hilarity is in plentiful supply at the Minami household. (ep 1 / 13 ~ 4:30pm)



❖ **Claymore** - Standing against the demonic shapeshifters that plague the countryside is a clandestine organization of half-demon women known as "Claymores". Ostracized for their super-human abilities, they walk the tightrope between keeping their humanity and succumbing to their demonic natures. Clare becomes a Claymore to avenge her family, but when she falls under suspicion from her own organization, she must break tradition and find allies to stay alive. (ep 1 / 26 ~ 5:00pm)



❖ **Spice and Wolf** - Lawrence travels the lonesome country roads as a merchant, plying his wares from town to town, hoping to someday settle down with a wife and a shop. Those dreams take a turn into the "Twilight Zone" when he encounters Horo, an ancient wolf goddess who laments that her people no longer seek her protection. Dodging crooked merchants, Church zealots, and the whims of the marketplace, Lawrence and Horo form an unusual partnership on their adventures on the road. (ep 1 / 13 ~ 5:30pm)

