

American Fencing



Volume 12

Number 2



THE FIRST JUNIOR OLMPIANS (See p. 3)

1961 – NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS – 1961

JULY 15 THRU JULY 22nd, 1961

LOS ANGELES STATLER-HILTON HOTEL

930 Wilshire Boulevard • Los Angeles 17, California

Official Publication of the Amateur Fencers League of America

February, 1961

AMERICAN FENCING

Official Organ of the Amateur Fencers League of America

Management

W. L. Osborn, Publisher
310 East 49 Street
New York 17, N. Y.

J. R. de Capriles, Editor
601 Douglas Road
Chappaqua, N. Y.

Policy Board

D. S. Thompson, chairman; J. R. de Capriles, R. M. Goldstein, A. Kwartier,
W. L. Osborn, L. Sobel.

From membership dues in the A.F.L.A., \$1.00 is allocated as the cost of subscription. Subscription to non-members in U.S. is \$2.00. Foreign subscriptions (mailed first class) \$4.00. Published October, December, February, April, June and August.

The opinions expressed in signed articles reflect the personal views of the writers and not necessarily of American Fencing or the A.F.L.A. No anonymous articles accepted.

Entered as Second Class Matter at the Post Office in New York, N. Y.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE — MARCH 10, 1961

NYAC INTERNATIONAL

The Board of Governors authorized the NYAC to sponsor an international invitation tournament for men in all weapons. Outstanding foreign Olympic competitors are to be invited.

Tentative schedule is as follows: Feb. 17, Friday, Individual Foil; Feb. 18, Saturday, Individual Epee; Feb. 19, Sunday, Individual Sabre and Team Match.

Classification Committee

Mr. Joel Wolfe has been named Chairman of the Committee to replace Mr. Abram Cohen.



1964 Olympic Program

The International Olympic Committee took a confidential poll of its members as to the sports which should be included on the Olympic program with a minimum of 15 and maximum of 18. The results of the poll, in order of preference, follows:

1. Track & Field; 2. Swimming; 3. Equestrian events; 4. Fencing; 5. Rowing; 6. Gymnastics; 7. Wrestling; 8. Pentathlon; 9. Weightlifting; 10. Shooting; 11. Yachting; 12. Boxing; 13. Canoe; 14. Water Polo; 15. Cycling; 16. Field Hockey; 17. Basketball; 18. Archery; 19. Judo; 20. Volleyball; 21. Soccer; 22. Fieldball.

Personals

We regret to announce that David Lee Davenport of Louisville, Ky. died Nov. 12. He fenced at the University of Louisville.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Make your plans now to attend the 1961 Nationals at the Statler Hilton Hotel in Los Angeles from July 15 through 22.

THE MACCABIAH GAMES IN ISRAEL

The Maccabiah Games will be held in Israel approximately August 21 to September 6. The games are patterned after the regular Olympic games, and fencing is one of the programmed sports. If funds permit, a full team in all weapons, as well as a woman's team will be sent.

The Maccabiah Games are open only to members of the Jewish faith. All fencers satisfying this requirement and who also feel that their competitive record merits consideration for selection to the United States contingent are invited to write for application blanks to:

Albert Axelrod
701 Ardsley Road
Scarsdale, New York

OFFICIATING AND SPORTSMANSHIP

by Roger Jones

The personal combat sports — boxing, wrestling, fencing, judo — are dependent on the official to a greater degree than any others. Fencing demands many more decisions by the official over a given period of time than even the other combat sports. There is a formidable array of everchanging rules to be mastered and modern electric weapons require some basic knowledge of testing the equipment. The official must stay on his feet, moving with the action, for hours on end. Furthermore, he receives no compensation (beyond an occasional expense fee) and usually serves out of a sense of obligation to the sport. In short, the fencing official must be versatile, informed, dedicated, dynamic and tireless.

This description would seem to suggest that there are few of these paragons around — which is true. They are even rarer when you add one more requirement to their pedigrees: enduring patience with the miserable sportsmanship all too often exhibited in AFLA meets. Protests are only legally permitted on misapplication of the rules, but how many "gripes" are expressed on questions of fact? Since the director and judges are giving the best calls they can, it seems unfair to keep whining that "You robbed me" — it certainly won't change the call! The average official becomes so frustrated and annoyed at this treatment that he soon loses interest in going to meets. Result: a growing shortage of experienced, competent judges and directors. Ironically, the "griper" now really gets something to complain about because competitions are run by less skilled officials once the best ones have been discouraged. It should be understood that the point here is not to condone mediocre officiating under the guise of sportsmanship, but to put a stop to the practice of using the official as an excuse for not winning. Poor officiating should be handled by the Bout Committee, not the competitor, in any case.

There are longer range consequences, too. Novice officials are squelched before they ever gain enough experience to do a good job. The administrative leaders of the AFLA are generally drawn from the ranks of our best officials. Fencing rules are made by these men. It is important that we attract and not discourage capable men.

What can we do to improve this situation? There are many things we might try; here are a few possibilities:

1. **Conduct judging clinics.** This will upgrade all officials and initiate the training of new ones. Complaints rooted in ignorance of the rules will be eliminated. Perhaps attendance should be made mandatory, such as for National and Sectional Championship qualifiers.

2. **Present an award to the "Outstanding Official" annually.** This will give recognition to the position and provide incentive to do well enough to deserve such recognition.

3. **Require a high level of sportsmanship and courtesy in meets.** In the opinion of many non-fencers, the conduct toward officials that is condoned in fencing meets would never be permitted in other sports. Coaches should insist on good manners in their pupils. Older fencers should strive to set a better example for younger athletes. Directors, bout committees and executive committees should use their disciplinary powers when appropriate.

It has been pointed out that the 1964 Olympic Games will be held in an area of the world where officials are scarce. It won't do our team much good to come through with a magnificent effort only to see it nullified by poor officials. Our results must be protected by fair and competent officials. To insure that there are enough to go around, we should start planning to send men — let's say three — who are the best officials the U.S. has. It will be very difficult to find partial expense monies for this purpose, but wouldn't it be worth while? Let's make officiating a sought-after position in fencing.



FIRST JUNIOR OLYMPIANS

After careful screening, the Metropolitan section of the Junior Olympic Committee has selected the following young men who are to be given every opportunity to develop their fencing skills and realize their full potential:

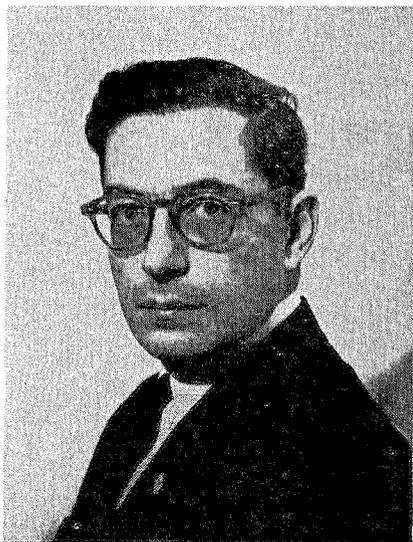
Norman Abramson, Irving Adler, William Birnes, Jeffrey Checkes, William Goldfried, Howard Goodman, Steven Handel, Richard Holsman, George Kane, David Kaplan, Alexandre Kovach, Joseph Nalven, Howard Palinsky, Frank Russo, Bruno Santenecito, Kenneth Topman, George Weiner.

AFLA NOMINATIONS

By **Jack A. Baker**, Chairman
AFLA Nominating Committee

The Committee has submitted to the Secretary of the League its nominations for national officers for the 1961-62 season. The Committee followed tradition by naming a new President to succeed Donald S. Thompson who will complete his fourth term of office this year. Similarly, it abided by the tradition of advancing the present second, third and fourth vice presidents and filling the thus vacated position of fourth vice president. The current Secretary, Treasurer and Foreign Secretary are retained. The following is therefore the slate to be submitted to the membership at the next annual meeting.

FOR PRESIDENT



Dr. Paul T. Makler of the Philadelphia Division.

Dr. Makler's outstanding qualifications are amply demonstrated by both his organizational ability and competitive record.

He has served as chairman of the Philadelphia Division for six terms, sectional vice president of the AFLA for four years and special vice president and chairman of the organizing committee for the World Championships of 1958. The emergence of Philadelphia to national fencing prominence, the

formation of the North Atlantic Section, and the success of the 1958 World Championships testify to his talents. The World Championships in Philadelphia were probably the heaviest burden American fencing has ever assumed and were a test of the quality of the officials involved. Dr. Makler must be given credit for much of the success of these championships, as he personally undertook the largest and most time-consuming tasks. He represented the AFLA to the City of Philadelphia and the University of Pennsylvania, and obtained the free use of the buildings and facilities which made it possible for the League to host the tournament. His efforts in organizing the North Atlantic Section demonstrated his understanding and compromise between the needs and opinions of the various constituent divisions. He is experienced in the administrative duties and responsibilities of managing our national organization and is ideally located to preside over meetings of the Board of Governors. His professional duties permit him the time required by the presidency and his office facilities provide the necessary secretarial assistance.

Dr. Makler is an outstanding competitor with Class A ranking in all three weapons and has been a national championship medalist in each, including a tie for the epee title in 1952. He was the star of the 1952 Olympic Epee Team at Helsinki and has represented the U.S. in the matches against the British Empire Team in 1953 and in the Pan American Games of 1955. He won the North American Championships for epee and sabre at Toronto in 1953 and is still an active and dangerous competitor in all weapons.

FOR FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Mr. Fred Linkmeyer of the Pacific Coast Section.

FOR SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Mr. Robert Witte of the Midwest Section.

FOR THIRD VICE PRESIDENT

Mr. Roger Jones of the North Atlantic Section.



FOR FOURTH VICE PRESIDENT

Mr. Jack Baird of the Southwest Section.

Mr. Baird was elected by the Board of Governors on September 5, 1959 to fill the vacancy of First Vice President when the incumbent, Mr. Jack Carnell, ceased to be a member of the League. Mr. Baird is eligible for the Fourth Vice President's office as he is from the Gulf Coast Division and not from the same division as Mr. Carnell (N. Texas) whom he replaced. Mr. Baird has devoted much time and effort to the sport in his Section.

FOR SECRETARY

Mr. Allan Kwartler of the Metropolitan Division

FOR TREASURER

Mr. Leo Sobel of the Metropolitan Division.

FOR FOREIGN SECRETARY

Mr. Ralph Goldstein of the Westchester Division.

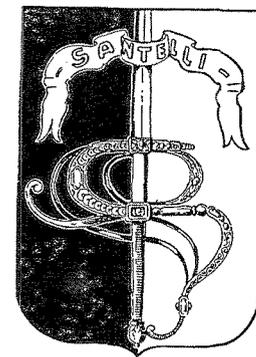
Our Foreign Secretary, General J. V. Grombach, has been appointed Secretary General of the F.I.E. (International Fencing Federation) effective January 1, 1961. The Board of Governors, on September 22, 1960, elected Mr. Goldstein to fill the vacancy from January 1 until the next annual meeting. Mr. Goldstein is the former Secretary of the League and Captain of the 1960 Olympic Fencing Team.

If anyone objects to the above, additional nominations may be filed by complying with the provisions of the By-Laws of the AFLA.

FROM MALAYA

Congratulations on the last Olympics! We are fencing daily in the hope of reaching Olympic standard in Tokio. We had a Professor of Fencing who came from Canada thanks to your printing my letter appeal, and he gave us 14 days of corrective lessons and we showed him a nice time around Malaya.

Ronnie I. Theseira, President
Malayan Amateur Fencing Association
General Hospital, Malacca
Federation of Malaya



CHAMPIONSHIP EQUIPMENT

by the
Maker of Champions

GEORGE SANTELLI, Inc.
412 Sixth Avenue
New York 11, New York

NORTH ATLANTIC CHAMPIONSHIPS

May 6 and 7, 1961

Atlantic City Auditorium
Boardwalk and Mississippi Avenue
Atlantic City, N. J.

Schedule

May 6—9 AM Men's Foil (Electric)
3 PM Sabre
May 7—9 AM Epee
12:30 PM Women

(Electric, New target)

Entries plus fee of \$2. per event must be received no later than April 8, 1961 by Carol Hesperheide, 7278-D Radbourne Rd., Upper Darby, Pa.

Make checks payable to
North Atlantic Section, AFLA

A SOUTHWEST STORY

by Arthur L. Lane

In Tulsa, a fencing family load their car as early in the afternoon as father can shut down the office on Friday. The first meet of the 1960-61 season is scheduled in Abilene, Texas, 425 miles away. The air mattress in the back of the station wagon enables the mother and father to change off driving and get some rest. Still, it is about 3 o'clock in the morning before they pull into Abilene. They get to bed for the rest of the night (the meet starts at 9 o'clock).

Old friends have gathered. They come from Austin, Lubbock, Dallas and Fort Worth.

The meet is long. The electrical equipment is always being repaired (much of it was made on the kitchen table). Each item of personal equipment is passed around among several fencers to keep things moving. Those without are good naturedly, but firmly, urged to eliminate themselves as a problem at the next meet. It is two o'clock in the morning before it is over. The Tulsa family go back to bed for a few hours and about six o'clock Sunday morning they get started for Tulsa.

While an Eastern fencer may think in terms of rising only a few hours earlier than usual Saturday or Sunday to make his meet 35 to 40 miles away; the fencer in the colorful Indian Territory must plan 400 to 500 miles of travel each time he wants to gain competitive experience. The distances take their toll on time and pocketbook.

It is not the distance that daunts the Southwest fencer who would like to go to the Nationals. It is the financial and time strain of the regular season that eats him up by the time the Nationals roll around. He finds it actually easier to go to a tournament in Mexico City than to go to New York or Los Angeles. He can make Mexico City faster, and with far less financial drain, than either coast.

The Southwest fencer lacks professional coaching. This lack has been keenly felt. He now has a professional in Dallas, but the great distances to Dallas keep his sphere of influence small.

Do not now look upon North Texas-Oklahoma fencing lightly. This fencer may be saddle-sore, tanned and leathery from long hours on western trails. But for the past three years his scattered outposts have been linking themselves into a well-knit, cohesive organization which is dedicated to pushing and shoving the quality of its fencing up as high as his resources will permit and will yet emerge on the National scene as a recognized force.

EXCERPTS - OLYMPIC REPORT

by Ralph Goldstein

Ed. Note: Olympic Team Captain, Ralph Goldstein, has written on the administrative activities relating to the 1960 Olympics. The full report will appear in the 1960 Olympic Book which will be printed and distributed soon.

On July 12 the fencing team met at the Fencers Club in New York and a stepped-up training program was initiated and continued daily until departure for Rome. The manager, George Worth, did a most creditable job of processing the team. The coach, Andre Deladrier, worked like a trojan and deserves all the credit we can give for training our team physically and technically. He was most ably assisted by the fencing coaches of the Fencers Club (Michel Alaux), the New York AC (Chaba Elthes and Odon Niederkirchner) and Salle Santelli (Edward Lucia and George Santelli) . . .

The Team departed as a unit for Rome on August 15, arriving on the evening of the next day . . . Informal fencing matches were held with Russia, Romania, Japan, Mexico, Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

It is interesting to note that six of the eight events are now electrical. Our armorer, Ed Purdy, did a magnificent job of keeping our weapons in tip-top condition . . . often, with less than four hours sleep, he was on hand for full duty at the Palazzo de Congressi from 8 a.m. until long after midnight . . . and not one of the Americans lost even a touch due to faulty weapons!

Forty three countries participated in the fencing events. In the opinion of most experts the over-all quality of fencing was superior to that of any other Olympic Games. In these circumstances Albert Axelrod's medal in foil and the Sabre Team's fourth place make the performance of this 1960 U.S. Team especially significant . . . the Russians continue their domination of our sport — and don't forget that they only returned to Olympic competition as recently as 1952. By 1958 they took the lion's share of the medals in the World Fencing Championships — and since have maintained their leadership. This was attained by training and participation in every major international fencing event.

We are capable of catching, overtaking them and advancing even further — but to do so we must give our fencers the opportunity to compete regularly in international events — at least twice, and preferably six times a year. There is no miracle required — it is hard work and according to definite plan. Given the opportunity, we will do it.

THE FLECHE

by R. Gradkowski

In primitive forms of sword fighting the highly developed lunges and other footwork that modern fencers use are unknown. Instead, a series of slips, voltes, and traverses are utilized to deliver and avoid attacks. These varied forms of footwork have, with time, been subject to a process of rectification and the modern fleche is a development of this process.

The characteristic feature of the footwork of the fleche is the bringing of the rear foot forward and towards the opponent. In primitive form this action is called a "pass" or "passado" (etymologically derived from the old French "pas" meaning "step"). A pass might consist of one or more such crossing steps accompanied by a series of attacking or defending blade actions (Fig. 1). As a means of delivering an attack with a sword and buckler or a heavy swept-hilted rapier the pass had the advantage of enabling the attacker to maintain a sustained assault, something which a modern lunge or fleche is ill adapted to do. However the relative slowness of the pass and the lack of balance during the steps mitigates its usefulness, except with the heaviest of weapons. With the development of more efficient lunges (by Giganti and Capo Ferro circa 1610) and the use of lighter swords, the pass gradually fell into disuse. During the 18th and 19th centuries the footwork of the pass survived in the form of advance known as "stealing a march." Upon the precipitant retreat of an opponent, such a crossing step would enable one to gain an appreciable amount of ground quickly. During these centuries the pass or fleche came into disrepute with conservative fencing masters by reason of its vulnerability.

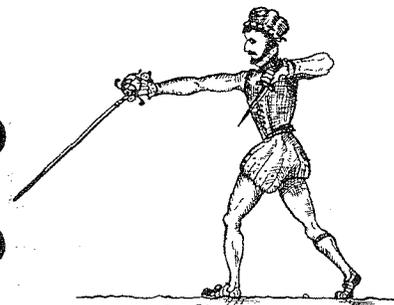


Fig. 1

The academic and immobile styles of fencing and the limited length of the strip (sometimes barely 20 feet long) made the lunge and recovery the most practical technique of movement. The approach to the problem of fencing was based on the premise that one would eventually be called upon to apply one's lesson in actual duelling. Only movements most conservative of balance and continuity were felt to be sound.

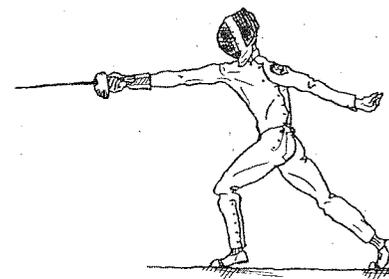


Fig. 2

With the introduction of larger strip area and the change in emphasis from combat conditions to sporting conditions, the fleche became more feasible. The Hungarian scieurs, along with their general development of saber technique, began using the fleche with increasing effectiveness. The speed of the action was increased and it was applied directly to delivery of the attack over greater distances becoming popular. However, in general, the fleche was still conceived of as a "series of steps" with the hit being made sometime during the stepping phase. We find this conception still taught by Crosnier (Fencing with the Saber — Lonc 1954) and by C. L. deBeaumont (Fencing Ancient Art and Modern Sport — Lonc 1960). Both of these authors specify that the touch is to be made coincident with the rear foot's completing of the forward step (Fig. 2). Crosnier states that the success of the fleche is dependent on the rapidity of advance of the rear foot.

When after World War II, the Polish Fencing Union decided to make a major effort in international fencing, a highly improved fleche became a cornerstone of their school. The national fencing master J. Kevey (Szermierka Na Szable — Warszawa 1952) c

ided that, for the amount of time available to produce a "world class" team, maximum results could be achieved by concentrating on mastery of a few particular strokes, combined with high tactical and athletic keenness. Under his impetus, the fleche received extraordinarily development and its fundamental character of a "crossing step" was radically altered. The kinesiology and mechanics of his modern fleche were based upon studies of the "sprinting start" in track. The movement thus became a single tempo action — just as the lunge. This action is illustrated in detail in (Fig. 4). It is this modern rectified fleche which is demonstrated in the series of photographs at right (Fig. 3) by W. Zablocki of the Polish saber team. These photographs are extracts from a slow motion film study made by the author during the 1958 World Championships. A 16mm camera with Tri-X film was used at a speed of 64 frames per second.

It was generally acknowledged that Mr. Zablocki had one of the best fleches on the team and he graciously consented to demonstrate. Mr. J. Twardokens (left) acted as target. Mr. Zablocki performed the action several times and was filmed at different speeds. It is this writer's opinion that the articular footage here does not do Mr. Zablocki complete justice for he is probably capable of an even quicker fleche. Nonetheless, his speed and efficiency are striking.

In the first frame (immediately before motion can be detected) we see Mr. Zablocki in guard, in a relaxed and well poised position.

The second frame (taken at a time .094 seconds later) shows the hand definitely extended in an attack, the rear leg thrusting the pelvis forward, and the front foot withdrawing. The extending hand is well covered (in the eventuality of a stop-cut).

In the third frame (taken at a time .359 seconds later) we see the complete linear extension of the body characteristic of the modern fleche. Note that from the blade to the forward toe of the attacker we have almost a straight line. Clearly, this is the most efficient possible configuration for the delivery of the cutting edge. We should note that by this time the hit has already been scored (at a time of approximately .250 seconds). When we consider that even a simple reflex arc takes on the order of .200 seconds we can see that only the utmost alertness and careful control of distance would enable a defender to parry. During

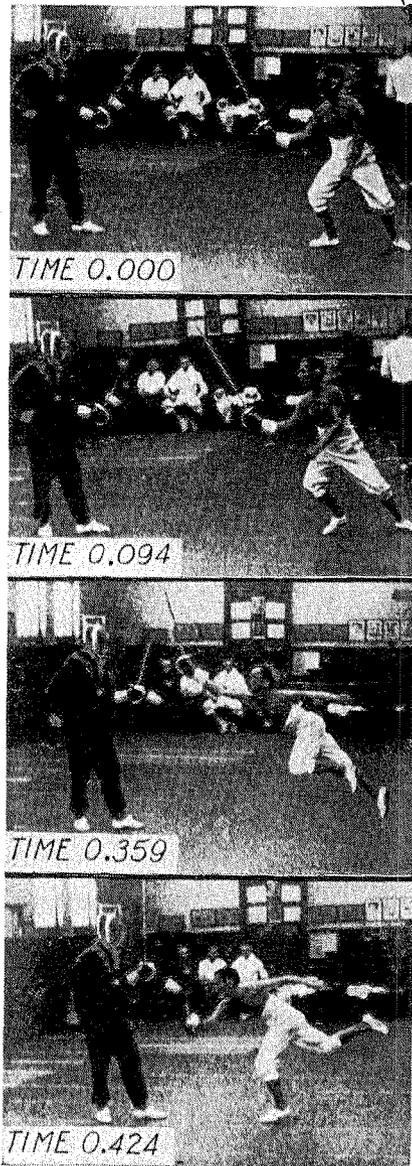


Fig. 3

Photos by B. Brill & R. Gradkowski

this attack Mr. Zablocki's hand had reached a velocity of 16 mph. while his body averaged about 5 mph.

The fourth frame (taken at a time .424 seconds later) shows the rear foot crossing and returning to the floor. Note the total precipitation and imbalance of the fencer. Had this attack been parried it is questionable whether a riposte could be successfully stopped.

An accurate stage by stage analysis of the relative motions of the hand, body, and forward foot is graphically depicted in (Fig.

5). A graph of this nature is useful in evaluating the exact relationship between the different phases of a movement. We observe, for instance, that the hand definitely starts moving before the body, but that for a period thereafter both hand and body move together. (time .047 to .156 seconds). In the final phase (time .156 to .250 seconds) the hand and body both accelerate, but the hand does so more quickly. The interesting

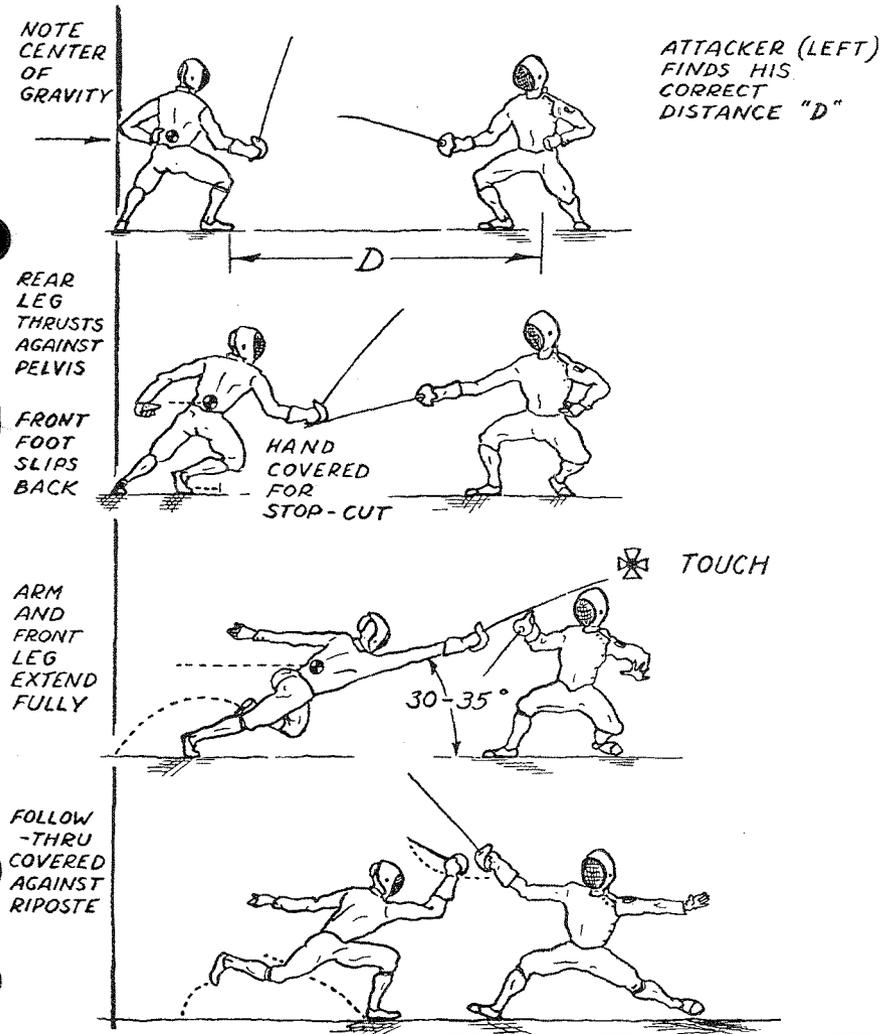


Fig. 4

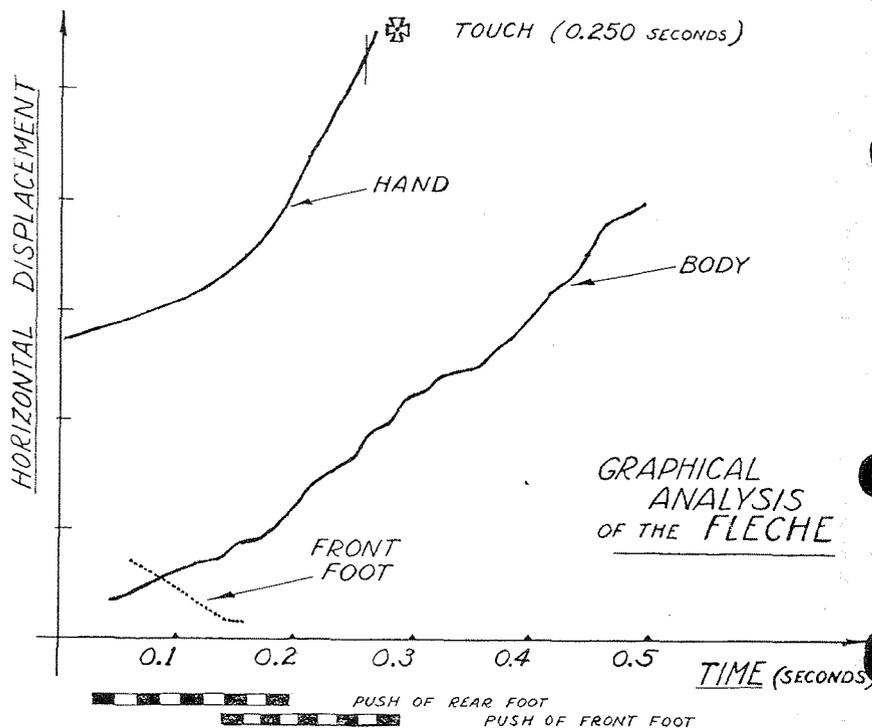


Fig. 5

retrograde movement of the front foot is justified by the sound kinesiological principle of placing force in line with the desired direction of effort. Ideally, since the primary drive is off the forward foot, the tibia should dip almost parallel to the floor. By withdrawing the foot, though the fencer loses some inches of distance, the action is freed of a transitional waiting period while the rear leg projects the fencer onto the correct fleching attitude. The center of gravity of the fencer is thrust directly forward by a powerful extension of both legs. The conception of "loss of balance" (by passage of the gravity line past the forward toes) is inapplicable, as observation will show. Since there is no relative change in the height of the center of gravity during the accelerating phase of the fleche, there cannot possibly be any contribution to speed by conversion of potential to kinetic energy. It should therefore be emphasized that the work of the fleche must be executed by the leg muscles alone and the fencer should not wait for any "loss of balance" to trigger his extension.

The tactical application of the fleche may modify these mechanics somewhat, as when the action is preceded by an advance or a jump backward. In such case it may be practical to shorten the distance between the feet, rise onto the toes, and thus condense the movement.

The distance that can be attained with the fleche may be found by the empirical equation $D = .08(R + 32)$, where D is the horizontal distance (in feet) from the forward toe of the attacker to the head of the opponent and R is the maximum height of reach (in inches) of the subject. A convenient way to measure R for practice sessions is to have the subject stand close to a wall and reach upwards on tiptoe, making a mark on the wall.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLE:

A man 5'10" tall, reaching along a wall on tiptoe, has a reach (R) of 94 inches.

Substituting in our formula, $D = .08(94 + 32) = .08(126) = 10.08$ feet or about 10 feet 1 inch.

It should be recognized that this formula cannot be strictly accurate since the physique of the fencer and the intended target (head, arm or chest) are variables. However, it can be a useful guide to the fencing instructor for evaluating a student's potential distance.

The unique tactical capability of the fleche is to cover the distance of an advance-lunge in a single tempo.

The cogent and well timed application of this movement should add strength to the repertoire of every fencer.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

- Schools and Masters of Fence
—by Egerton Castle
- Fencing Tactics
—by Percy Nobbs
- Fencing with the Saber
—by R. Crosnier
- Szermierka Na Szable
—by J. Kevey
- Szermierka Na Florety
—by Z. Czajkowski
- Analysis of Human Motion
—by M. Gladys Scott
- Fencing: Ancient Art and Modern Sport
—by C. L. de Beaumont

CHANGES IN AFLA DIRECTORY

- So. California:** Add. Gov.: Dave Rice, 1508 W. 12 St., Los Angeles 15; Fred Rayser, 7314 Woodrow Wilson Dr., Los Angeles 46.
- Connecticut:** Chairman: Burton Moore, Pin Oak Lane, Westport. Secretary: Ann Thomas, 140 Hoyt St., Stamford.
- Central Illinois:** Chairman: Arthur Schankin, 702 N. Lincoln, Urbana.
- Gulf Coast:** Chairman: Phillip Petmecky, 10535 Holly Glen, Houston, Tex.
- Illinois:** Add. Gov.: Kenneth Nordin, 1341 E. Madison Pk., Chicago. Secretary: June Hermanson, 638 W. Bittersweet Pl., Chicago 13.
- Kentucky:** Chairman: Dr. Robert Hensley, 581 Cane Run Rd., Lexington. Secretary: Paul Ross, 623 Cecil Way, Lexington.
- Nevada:** Chairman: Dr. H. B. Clark, 963 Pyramid Way, Sparks. Secretary: Norman Renshaw, 500 H Street, Sparks.
- New England:** Chairman: Larry Johnson, Winthrop B-42, Harvard, Cambridge 38. Add. Gov.: Ed Richards, 338 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 15.
- New Jersey:** Chairman: Peter Warfield, 508 Birch Ave., Westfield. Add. Gov.: Anthony Orsi, 125 23 Ave., Paterson 3; Evelyn Terhune, 43 E. Gramercy Pl., Glen Rock. Secretary: Mrs. Robert Flynn, 22C Richland Ct., Clifton.
- Westchester:** Chairman: Al Wachsmann, c/o Dean Witter & Co., 14 Wall St., N. Y. 5.
- Seattle:** Chairman: Don Polinsky, 6818 NE 149 St., Bothell, Wash.

Here's Fencing Equipment You Can Fall In Love With!

Rohdes Academy's beautiful new line of imported and custom made fencing equipment is like nothing you've ever seen before!

And when you actually hold our perfectly balanced weapons . . . or slip on one of our superbly crafted masks . . . get ready for a special little thrill. It's one no fencer has experienced since

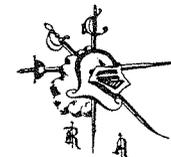
the great weapon makers of the past practiced their art!

Exquisitely made and handsomely styled, with many exclusive details, Rohdes Fencing Equipment is also attractively priced. Phone or write for new Free catalog today!

Better still, come and see the whole exciting line with your own eyes. We're sure it will be love at first sight.

Frederick Rohdes,

169 East 86 Street



Fencers' Outfitters

New York 28, N. Y.

LEhigh 4-9170

FOURTH SOUTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP

By **Mario Livingston**, Secretary

South American Fencing Confederation
The 4th Championship and the Congress of the South American Fencing Confederation were held in Buenos Aires. Argentina organized the Tournament as homage to the 150th Anniversary of the Revolution of 1810. The government not only contributed the necessary funds but also gave fencing (over other sports) the privilege of scheduling the events precisely on the week in which the anniversary is commemorated.

The number of participants was the highest achieved by any American Tournament, including the Pan American Games: 191 fencers and 30 technicians for a total of 221 persons. All South American countries participated actively except Ecuador and Paraguay and these two sent observers and delegates.

It was the first South American Championship in which electric foil was used. The discipline, enthusiasm and high spirit of companionship shown by all participants was noteworthy. From 8 A.M. until after midnight an enormous quantity of people watched the fencing.

The decisions of the juries in the only non-electrical event, sabre, were never questioned. Special care was taken to choose only the best: Argentina appointed only her International Members of Juries. Among the foreign juries Colonel Gomez (Uruguay) and Mr. Diera (Brazil) deserve special mention because they won the appreciation of competitors and spectators alike by their efficiency and cordiality.

The results:

Women's Individual

1. Belkis Leal, Ven.; 2. Ingrid Sander, Ven.; 3. Nora Soto Marino, Peru; 4. Irma G. de Antequedo, Arg.

Women's Team

Won by Venezuela with Santini, Leal, Santander and Marquis. Peru was second, Brazil third and Argentina fourth.

Foil Team

Won by Uruguay with Goliardi, Varela, Paladino and Rossi. Venezuela was second, Argentina third and Chile fourth.

Foil Individual

1. J. Gruber, Ven.; 2. G. Barua, Peru; 3. F. Quinteros, Ven.; 4. G. Weinstein, Chile.

Epee Team

Won by Argentina with Serp, Arnesto, Martinez, Balestrini and Velazquez. Second went to Uruguay, with Brazil third and Chile fourth.

Epee Individual

1. A. Balestrini, Arg.; 2. D. Arnesto, Arg.; 3. R. Martinez, Arg.; 4. S. Vergara, Chile.

Sabre Team

Won by Argentina with Aldalur, Larrea, Vassallo, Sande, Velezquez and Watkins. Uruguay took second, Chile third, Venezuela fourth.

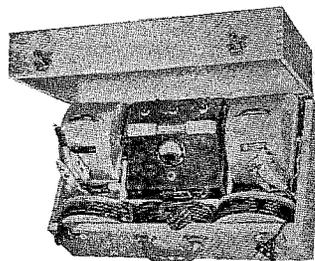
Sabre Individual

1. G. Vassallo, Arg.; 2. A. Goliardi, Ur.; 3. D. Sande, Arg.; 4. J. Paladino, Ur.

"Copa America" Results

1. Argentina	44	points
2. Venebuela	33	
3. Uruguay	26	
4. Peru	11	
5. Chile	10	
6. Brazil	8	
7. Bolivia	0	
8. Colombia	0	

IMPORTED FROM
GERMANY



Fine quality, FIE approved
Combination Foil-Epee or Separate

HANS HALBERSTADT

3145 Fillmore Street

San Francisco 23, California

DEVELOPMENT OF MODERN HUNGARIAN SABER FENCING

by **Chaba Elthes**

I would like to answer a question which comes up frequently among fencers interested in saber fencing. The question is: Does a modern Hungarian system exist and if so what is it?

In order to answer this question it is necessary to refer to the early saber systems. Before the Italian style was introduced by the famous Maestro Radaelli the game was radically different from what it is today. A considerably heavier saber was used and naturally the fencers had to wear heavier protective garments. This partly explains why the game lacked the mobility and speedy foot technique so characteristic to today's saber fencing. One's success was largely dependent on the skill of his hand. Attacks were mostly executed from close distance with a lunge and little room was left for counter actions. Characteristic defenses of this system were first, high first and high second parries. The on guard position was in high first and it is interesting to note that this system remained dominant in duels long after the Italian system replaced the wrist method in fencing.

At the end of the XIXth century the Italian saber system started to replace all other existing methods of saber fencing. Heavy weapons and garments were being replaced by much lighter ones and this change influenced speed and control very favorably. Instead of holding the saber at the end of the grip with his fist the fencer was able to control it with his thumb and first joints of his middle and little fingers. The turning point of guidance was transferred from the wrist to the elbow, which in turn permitted the fencer to move his blade faster and more freely. These changes necessarily entailed a change in distance which, with the increase in speed and mobility of the hand, had to be widened. Also, it required a change in the foot work. The execution of an attack now required greater speed and mobility from the legs. It did not take long before this system conquered the world. Even the most stubborn opponents of the system had to give in after the convincing proof of superior performances given by representatives of that method.

While most nations accepted the system without changes, Hungarian fencers and masters examined it with critical eyes. Soon they were able to discover, besides its tre-

mendous advantages, some shortcomings. For instance, that the saber is led from the elbow with the use of the underarm. As a result, on several movements, the underarm has to draw a complete circle and thereby certain parts of the body are left uncovered and offer vulnerable target. It seemed logical to decrease the size of these movements to the greatest possible extent while keeping the arm in a direct line. Hungarian experts found that the hitherto rigidly held wrist was the cause of a stiff blade control and decided that some flexibility in the movements of the wrist should be permitted and be synchronized with the movements of the underarm. These improvisations were actually the opening phases of a new system. The principal line of the Italian defense system was the first, second and fifth position. This was generally known as "the line defense system." Third and fourth parries were used only as auxiliary parries, sixth and seventh were utilized in emergency only and the on guard position was either second or lower line. Naturally these were also the positions from which an action would start. This Italian system had an unquestionable advantage: the point was well forward and the parries could be carried out with a minimum of deviation from the direct line. The greatest disadvantage of this guard position lay in the exposed underarm. Hungarians found it more profitable to use third as the on guard position, which not only protects the flank but also defends the outer face. Similar reasons called for changing from first to fourth parry to protect the other side. In addition to the above advantages, the third-fourth system kept the shoulder muscles completely relaxed — a factor which proved to be of primary importance in the further development of the "Hungarian Style."

It would not be just if I did not stop here to mention the disadvantages of the Hungarian on guard system as against the Italian. While the line defense system makes it very difficult to get by the opponent's point, the third-fourth guard position can be deceived very easily. However, despite this seeming disadvantage of the third-fourth system, practice has proved its greater usefulness for modern fencing.

Hungarian saber fencers also recognized the tremendous possibilities existing in the further development of footwork. Rather surprisingly, these improvements dealt mostly

with tactical changes instead of any other improvization. The speedy and faultless footwork of the Italian style was acceptable to the Hungarian system. It was found that only certain tactical changes had to be made in order to smooth the movements of the legs to suit the changes in the handwork. One of these changes was the stealing of distance, innoticeable to the opponent, which has since become so characteristic of Hungarian fencers. This modernization of footwork was responsible for an improvement in the system of defense too. The recognition of the need to change the measurement of distance in the retreat, while keeping perfect balance and switching the weight of the body to the back foot added immeasurably to the defense potential. This maneuver permitted the fencer to counter-attack almost immediately with a slight switch of his balance. However, aside from significant improvements in technique: the emphasis of the Hungarian school was on the time element of actions. The Hungarians considered timing the most important factor in their game, in contrast to the Italian conception of speed which was placed above any other factor by them. The proof that the Hungarians followed the right path lies in the success they were able to achieve for the last forty years or more. During this period their teams and individual fencers have won all Olympic championships and almost all World Championships.

For the Hungarians, the continued improvement of their style was a permanent item in the agenda. Their next important step was in the 1930's when they introduced the fleche and opened up a new era in modern saber fencing. Naturally, many of these innovations met resistance from the classical (old) system. However, the advantages of the fleche attack were so significant that it received almost immediate acceptance after the glittering success of its first principal users, Attila Petschauer and George Piller.

The actual purpose of the fleche is to shorten the time necessary to overtake a distance. In order to gain the most advantage from fleche attacks, changes had to be made not only in footwork but also in the technique of the hand. Until the introduction of the fleche, combinations of action after action were characteristic of Hungarian saber fencing. The fleching fencer, however, passes his opponent during the action and therefore gives very little opportunity for a continuous exchange or a sequence of parry-riposte. While the speed of the attacks were increased through the fleche, appropri-

ate measures had to be introduced for its defense. In order to avoid surprise and be put to the almost impossible task of trying to parry a well executed action, the distance had to be increased. This was a new element, giving an important role to control and judgment of distance in the further development of saber fencing.

Another major and most important characteristic of Hungarian saber fencing is the permanent change of the fencing rhythm. Changing of the rhythm means that one or more phases of the action are executed under different speeds. The ability of doing this gives the fencer high versatility and makes his action unpredictable to his opponent. The Hungarians found room for another innovation in transplanting the use of timing to the legs so as to take advantage of an opponent while he is off-balance.

One major break-through in this continuous evolution was the return to the use of the wrist in controlling the movements of the blade. The question arises here, why did they return to the use of the wrist when it was once abandoned in favor of the greater advantages of arm fencing? The answer is that the present blade control does not rely entirely on the wrist, as it used to, but actually relies on every single part of the arm. Furthermore, the victory of the Italian system over the old wrist fencing was not based solely on the fight between arm and wrist but rather was a result of several other factors such as a lighter saber, increased distance and speed, etc. The role played by the wrist today is entirely different. In the old fencing, actions were executed from a high first position where the saber as well as the wrist had to draw a complete circle. In the present system all movements originate from a basic third-fourth position where the role of the wrist is limited to short and fast movements. In addition, the Hungarian system gives the fingers an important part in blade control and thus makes movements smoother, faster and less noticeable. The use of the fingers is specially emphasized when making stop-cuts or remises.

The defense system of the modern Hungarian style culminates in steady retreat from the opponent's attack (no jumps) in basic third guard which disregards the opponent's feints and attempts to parry the opponent's final cut or thrust. For this reason Hungarian fencing masters always combine defense exercises with retreats in order to perpetuate these movements in their pupils.

What I have said above is an attempt to draw a general picture of the development of the Hungarian saber system: a story of the logic and needs that shaped this system into what it is today. In doing a complete job I must call attention to some mistakes which necessarily occurred but were systematically discarded. Mistakes not handled on their merits can have a most damaging influence on the whole system. For instance, some fencers let the wrist play an exaggerated role in blade control, which has damaging effect in the development of hand technique. Another mistake is to emphasize retreats from attacks as against parrying them. There is no question that the basis of successful defense lies to a high degree in the parrying technique. A third major danger area is the overemphasis of fleche attacks. Undoubtedly the fleche is an excellent form of attack but it cannot replace completely the classical footwork. Exclusive use of fleche actions deteriorates footwork to skips and hops which in no way can secure the balance so indispensable in high class saber fencing.

After this narrative I don't believe there is anybody who would doubt the existence of a modern Hungarian saber system. The Poles and Russians who appropriated this system completely bear witness to its success. Those nations who rigidly insist upon the use of the Italian system have lost their previous high standing in saber fencing. However, the Italians themselves are now converting to this system and their young fencers are taught accordingly the principles of the third-fourth-fifth basic defense.



NFCAA

The National Fencing Coaches Association of America held its annual education conference at New York University, January 20 and 21. Hugo Castello, head coach of NYU's 1960 NCAA fencing champions, was conference chairman.

This year's theme centered on preparation for the Olympic Games of 1964 in Tokyo. The conference featured such outstanding American fencing personalities as Miguel A de Capriles, the first non-European to be elected president of the International Fencing Federation; Ralph Goldstein, Captain of the 1960 U.S. team; Andre Deladrier, Olympic coach and head coach of the U.S. Naval Academy; and Albert Axelrod, the first American medalist since the 1932 Olympics.

In looking ahead to the 1964 Olympic Games, the coaches Association is planning a series of regional clinics and workshops to raise the standards of American fencing. Results of the past Olympics clearly indicate a need to increase interest, support and participation in sports in which other nations have developed intensive competitive programs.

Central Florida Special

On March 25 and 26 the Division will sponsor the first annual Open Foil for men and women as part of the St. Petersburg Sunshine Festival. Events will be held in the spacious Municipal Pier and entry is \$2.00.

For further information write to Dr. John Shinner, Mound Park Hospital, St. Petersburg Florida.

Manufacturer of A.F.L.A.
NATIONAL
CHAMPIONSHIP MEDALS
Since 1891

ROBERT STOLL
Incorporated

70 FULTON ST.
NEW YORK 7, N. Y.
Established 1885



Fencing Trophies
Medals Emblems

DESIGNS,
CATALOGUES AND
ESTIMATES UPON
REQUEST

HEARD AROUND THE STRIPS

by Chaba Pallaghy

The New York AC is planning an international tournament in all weapons for men, on February 17, 18 and 19. The club has invited and expects the participation of several international stars, with the three Olympic Champions heading the list.

* * *

The Molie Cup, 5-man epee team competition between Italy and France, was fenced in Genoa and won by Italy 17-8. Individual scores: Italy (Delfino 4 v, Marini 4 v, Breda 4 v, Saccaro 4 v, Albanese 1 v) France (Mouyal 2 v, orde 2 v, Schraag 2 v, Dagallier 1 v, Feith 1 v).

* * *

The Martini Cup, greatest annual foil event except for the World Championships, was fenced December 11 in Paris. The competition was won by a Russian for the first time when Olympic runner-up Sissikine outscored his countryman and Olympic Champion Zhdanovits. Taking the first two places in this event, in addition to the clean-sweep in the Olympics, maintains Russia's newly acquired world domination of electric foil. (The final bout was televised on the Newsreel program of WPIX on December 20).

* * *

France's Courtillot won the under-20 foil event held at Duisburg, West Germany

* * *

The Monal Challenge attracted 117 epeeists on November 19. In the absence of D'Oriola and Hoskyns, previous winners respectively, the trophy was won by Renzo Marini of Italy when he defeated in the final France's Jacky Guitet by scores of 5-4 and 6-5.

* * *

The engagement of Sweden's Princess Birgitta to Prince George Johann of Hohenzollern received much publicity. Few know, however, that the charming Princess won a Swedish national fencing crown just four days before her betrothal.

IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

fence at

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FENCERS CLUB

Over 53 years at

WASHINGTON Y.M.C.A.

1736 G St. N.W.

NA 8-8250

The International Championship of Vienna, as reported to us by Mr. A. Koeppen, resulted as follows:

Foil: (1) Geiter, West Germany; (2) Bernhardt, Aust; (3) Kovacic, Aust; (4) Cavaracione, Italy. Hungarian Popp, seemingly an easy winner, was forced to withdraw in mid-final due to renewal of an old back injury.

Epee: (1) Kausz, Hung; (2) Geiter, W, Germany; (3) Cipriani, Italy; (4) Sakovuits, Hung. This was the most popular and of best quality. Monal Cup winner Marini dropped out in the semifinal.

Sabre: (1) Horvath, Hung; (2) Narduzzi, (3) Ulrich, Aust; (4) Calzia, Italy. Horvath bowed only once, to Austria's Wanatck. Italy's Narduzzi returned to the international scene after a year's voluntary absence due to political controversy within the Italian Federation.

Women: (1) Colombetti, Italy; (2) Goetzer, Aust; (3) Katlein, Aust; (4) Mees, W, Germany. This event lacked the quality of the others.

* * *

Japan's Olympic Committee has recommended that Modern Pentathlon be dropped from the olympic program. The event was introduced into the Games by none less than Baron Coubertin himself. It would be regrettable if the I.O.C. gave credit to the Japanese suggestion. The Pentathlon is one of the most interesting and spectacular events and has gained increasing popularity throughout the world. The winner is certainly the most versatile athlete in the Games even if not equal to the world's best in any one sport.

Canada

by Robert Foxcroft

The sixth annual Canadian Heroes Tournament resulted as follows:

Women: (1) P. Dumenieux, Harmonie; (2) Terhune, Santelli; (3) Goodrich, Mich. State.

Other finalists, in order, were Miyamoto, Roman, I. Dumenieux, Campeau, Snider.

Foil: (1) Widmaier, Harmonie; (2) Kitson, Turner; (3) Spinella, NYAC. Other finalists, in order, were Gjoni, Tate, Hennyey, Calderesi, Hocking.

Epee: (1) Andru, Harmonie; (2) Pinter, Unatt.; (3) Spinella, NYAC. Other finalists, in order, were Foxcroft, Schmitter, Shaw, Schmadtke, Wiedel, Nast.

Sabre: (1) Andru, Harmonie; (2) Bitonti, deTuscan; (3) Miller, Wayne U. Other finalists, in order, were Foxcroft, Spinella, Bershas, Ejups, Hocking.

ABOUT THE OLYMPICS

(OH NO! NOT ANOTHER ONE!)

by Tibor Nyilas

Now that everything is over, including the shouting, the blow by blow reporting, the post-mortems, the eulogies and the requiems—I still feel there are some omissions, inadvertent ones, so here we go.

1. A unique and unparalleled honor was bestowed upon one of our all-time great fencers. NORMAN ARMITAGE received a personal telegram from President Eisenhower asking him to relay best wishes to the American Athletes. In the President's absence this honor didn't go to the American Olympic Committee, nor the glory-boys of Track and Field, but to a Fencer. I think all American fencers can be justly proud of the above episode.

2. Rome is a fascinating, exciting, stimulating city. The magic blend of ancient and modern, the inspiring past, the pulsating present was a perfect backdrop for an athlete's mind. The luxurious quarters with balconies, television sets, complete coverage of the Games (no need for long, tiring, leg-chewing trips to far away events) all contributed in an unparalleled fashion to the participants' final mental and physical efforts.

3. Our captain RALPH GOLDSTEIN (I served under him in three battles) was a different man from the Philadelphia baptism. Team captains—violin virtuosos—great generals—corporation presidents are not born, they are made. Ralph was mellow, more flexible without losing authority. He matured while retaining his exuberant enthusiasm. Never cried over spilled milk, but looked forward to the next bout with complete confidence and optimism.

4. Too many of us take it for granted that a team the size of our fencing contingent (which is third in number of all participating U.S. teams) will sleep, eat, train, be transported and blend into the overall Olympic Team in one easy motion. That is not so—not by a long shot. The fact that everything went so smoothly and effortlessly from the distribution of the equipment to the last departure of a wife's uncle is a great tribute to GEORGE WORTH'S experience, exceptional organizational abilities, his very good liaison with the Olympic Brass and the great pride and drive which he devotes to his job. He was the most sought after and busiest foil director, taking the place in this respect of Miguel and Jose de Capriles of the past. Let

us not underrate the magnitude of his job or him.

5. Teams were evaluated on the basis of their fencing results. Correct of course, but insufficient. Before the results are achieved a team spirit is established, an emotional and spiritual leader is chosen and the team will more or less reflect the established mood. The women's foil team did not have it, nor a leader. Epee, truthfully I do not know—the fighting spirit was terrific but too tense, causing an erratic point. The foil team had DANNY BUKANTZ, a great leader. Sturdy, non-neurotic, witty, good competitor, knowledgeable, stable and good for two or three victories in any match. The sabre team was lucky too. They had Dick Dyer. He relaxed the team with his wonderful soaring spirit, good nature, lovable character and immense sense of humor. He acted as a perfect balance between the old and young. His deciding victory in the German match was a most important bout and a turning point.

6. Mrs. Goldstein, Mrs. Bukantz, Mrs. Kolowrat, Mrs. Goldsmith, Mrs. Dasaro, Madeline Dalton, the Bavusos, Mr. de Koff, Julia Jones, the non-fencing fencers, the fencing masters, formed a tremendous cheering section. When GENE GLAZER fenced with World Champion ALLAN JAY twice and defeated him twice, he could not have had a larger, noisier and more enthusiastic cheering section in one of N.Y.U.'s home matches. And the same applied to every individual and team match, to each bout, to each touch. Friends who with every nerve fiber of their bodies wanted us to win, who applauded, shouted our names, whispered and screamed encouragement, people whose presence was a great psychological boost, people who made us feel at home—to them the thanks and gratitude of our team.

7. The quiet and tireless efficiency, unobtrusive presence and tremendous competence of ED PURDY, our electrician, makes me feel almost sorry that sabre is not electric.

In summary: Let me wish to all the future U.S. Olympic Fencing Teams people like we had in Rome with us.

Ed. Note: Tibor has modestly omitted his great performance in the Russian match and his tremendous value to the past four Olympic Teams as competitor, personal physician, and psychologist. In submitting this article he writes: "Old fencers do not die, they just start writing articles. That's when the pen is more powerful than the sword."

WHAT'S WRONG?

by Chaba Elthes

An excellent 4-man sabre team event was held on November 19th at the New York AC. There were 8 teams from clubs and colleges and the host club beat out the Fencers Club for the prize. I dare say there are many competitors, fencing leaders and masters who learn of this competition for the first time while reading these lines. The fencing masters present (three of us) agree that anyone who likes good fencing would have enjoyed this event tremendously. A master who left Hungary only six months ago, and who felt it obligatory to come to a competition where the best fencers were participating, stated that one could see fencing of such over-all high quality only in major competitions in Hungary. He also was surprised at the absence of fencing leaders and masters at this first major sabre event since the Olympics. How can we expect to develop top-notch fencers and maintain the interest of young fencers if a jury, in the absence of competent officials, spoils the otherwise high level of performance?

This is written for those who were absent and did not witness the birth of a well prepared and spirited sabre team. The Fencers Club composed of Cohen, Farber, Kemeny and Mayer could have offered, with appropriate judging, a stronger challenge to the NYAC composed of Dasaro, Pallyghy, Pongo and Twardokens. Even the winners recognized the judging was poor and were not happy about the conditions under which they gained the victory.

Is it too much to ask that sabre judges be assigned to sabre competitions? Can't we join in a fight against disinterest and non-participation? It's a tough fight because fencing is not one of the popular games, but let's face it — fencing is not among the most popular sports even in those countries where it represents the highest international quality.

If we are to maintain the present upsurge in sabre fencing urgent action is needed. I beg you to take action before it is too late.

1. We must solve the problem of sabre judges. Only one of experience and thorough knowledge in sabre should direct. No consideration should be given to a competitor's reputation. It is often noted that directors are inclined to award a doubtful touch to the better-known fencer. This dangerous habit discourages the lesser fencers. The more ex-

perienced men do not need to be given touches or bouts. This irresponsibility in directing may break the career of an otherwise promising fencer.

2. Three-man team events should be discontinued immediately. The clubs and colleges have enough fencers to adopt this system so popular and accepted all over the world. Team spirit is more aroused in the 4-man team and the indisposition of one fencer is less significant. The clubs will have greater incentive to build more qualified fencers. The change should be first made in the Divisional and National Championships.

3. The governors of fencing must form effective committees to promote fencing publicity. Clubs, colleges and the public should be constantly reminded of the date and place of important competitions. Coaches should encourage their pupils to attend as many events as possible, as it is one of the best ways to learn.

4. Serious attention should be given to the formalities of a competition. Finals should be separated from the earlier rounds and conducted under more ceremonial circumstances. It is often noted that a large and interested audience can raise the performance of a fencer to unexpected levels.

There is an old proverb: "Everything is possible if it is wanted badly enough." We are at the beginning of a new season — there is time for corrections. We must act with the enthusiasm this noble sport deserves. We were awarded a great honor by being given the leadership of international fencing. In trying to attend to this great task we must not forget to clean up our own premises.

MAKE PLANS NOW TO ATTEND THE NATIONALS!

FENCING PROFESSOR SEEKS POSITION
Long Experience and Excellent Background
Resume' and Credentials Available
Box 100

American Fencing

Division Items

Metropolitan

The annual intercollegiate foil competition was held at the NYAC on December 28 and resulted as follows:

1. Gene Glazer, NYU (undefeated); 2. Herbert Cohen, NYU; 3. Richard Rothenberg, Col. Other finalists in order were C. Ware, N.Y. Community College; P. Kende, Col.; F. Choy, Stevens Tech.; J. Lustig, Col.; J. Adams, Princeton.

Ed. Note: With the heavy schedule of N.Y. Metropolitan events this is the only report of competitions we have received.

Divisional Nominations

Nominees for the 1961-62 season are:

Larry Olvin, Chairman; Nikolas Muray, Vice Chairman; Barbi Brill, Treasurer; Beatrice Maviglia, Secretary; Governors: Jack Keane, Harriet King, Vincent Pauly, Aubrey Seeman, Joseph Sonnenreich, Albert Vogt.



Philadelphia

by Elizabeth Wheeler

Open Epee Team won by Salle Csiszar 'A' (Steinman, Jones, Anastasi).

One-Touch Epee: (L) A. Ruben, Csiszar; (2) J. Heilbrunn, U of P; (3) P. Levy, Csiszar.

Prep Epee: (1) J. Arlen, U of P; (2) G. Houston, Haverford; (3) R. Paul, Girard.

Prep Sabre: (1) P. Dillinger, U of P; (2) L. Csihas, Csiszar; (3) C. Dooley, Girard.

Women's Open: (1) D. Schramm, Bryn Mawr; (2) V. Wade, Csiszar; (3) C. Hesperheide, Csiszar.

Open Foil Team won by Salle Csiszar 'A' (Anastasi, Balla, Davis).

3-Weapon Team won by Salle Csiszar (names not given).

Schoolboy Foil: (1) M. Bookbinder, Central; (2) T. Makler, Friends Central; (3) R. Miller, Girard.

Open Sabre: (1) J. Krajcir, SC; (2) P. Makler, SC; (3) T. Freilich, SC.

Gulf Coast

by Edward Gause

Women's Open: (1) Jean Thompson, Bucs; (2) Barbara Beery, HFC; (3) Nancy Tipps, St. Johns.

Open Foil: (1) Desi Trevino, Texas; (2) James Monroe, Ind.; (3) Edward Gause, Bucs.

Open Epee: (1) Fred Sklar, Rice; (2) Desi Trevino, Texas; (3) James Monroe, Ind.

Novice Epee: (1) Burton Silverman, Rice; (2) Gill Estes, Ind.; (3) Robert Shelby, Ind.

Open Foil Invitation: (1) Desi Trevino, Texas; (2) Edward Gause, Bucs; (3) Gill Estes, Ind.

Women's Open: (1) Helen Keller, Dallas; (2) Mozell Hampton, Ind.; (3) Lisa Russell, Ind.

Open Foil: (1) Paul Pesthy, USMPT; (2) Alan Jackson, USMPT; (3) Arnold Sowell, USMPT.

Open Epee: (1) Paul Pesthy, USMPT; (2) Alan Jackson, USMPT; (3) Arnold Sowell, USMPT.

Open Sabre: (1) Arnold Sowell, USMPT; (2) Leslie Bleamaster, USMPT; (3) John Cox, USMPT.



Oklahoma

by Arthur L. Wade

The twin meets of Denton and Oklahoma City resulted as follows:

Denton

Foil won by Bill Towry on fence-off with Tom Bickley.

Prep Foil won by Pat Lacey of N. Texas State

Women won by Alice Wade (Sr.) with Alice Wade (Jr.) second.

Oklahoma City

Foil won by Tom Bickley.

Women won by Alice Wade Sr. with Alice Wade, Jr. second.

The new division is showing vitality and we have great hopes for the future. Our fencers have gone to Mexico and nearby Divisions and we are about ready to buy some electrical equipment of our own.

Ed. Note: Mr. Wade is largely responsible for the organization and growth of the new Division and is editing a monthly newsletter, "The Riposte" to encourage greater local activity. Our best wishes and we hope to receive our copies of TR Riposte regularly.

Southern California

by Fred Linkmeyer

Prep Foil: (1) William McMains, Crus.; (2) Bob Crawford Jr., FSF; (3) Frank Collier, VJC.
Unclass. Foil: (1) Attilo Toth, Vince; (2) Don Benge, FSF; (3) Neal Runions, Haw. Hi.
Unclass. Epee: (1) Phil Marsh, Ch.L.; (2) William Harris, McK; (3) Ken Moring, McK.
Unclass. Sabre: (1) Lee Rombeau, LAFC; (2) Don Benge, FSF; (3) Al Couturier, Vince.
Epee "C": (1) Jim Adams, McK; (2) Lee Rombeau, LAFC; (3) San Tannehill, McK.
Epee Team "C" won by McKee (Tannehill, Adams, Pelton).
Open Epee: (1) Steve Barden, LAAC; (2) Jim Adams, McK; (3) Sal De Bellis, Vince.
Sabre "C": (1) Paul Etter, Vince; (2) Phil McLennon, FSF; (3) Carl Milletaire, Vince.
Sabre Team "C" won by Salle Vince (Etter, Milletaire, De Bellis).
Open Sabre: (1) Paul Etter, Vince; (2) Sal De Bellis, Vince; (3) Fred Royser, LAAC.
Women's Outdoor: (1) Alice Gerakin, FSF; (2) Bonnie Linkmeyer, FSF; (3) Bernice Filerman, SdN.
Women's Sabre: (1) Maxine Mitchell, LAFC; (2) Alice Gerakin, FSF; (3) Bonnie Linkmeyer, FSF.
Women's Composite Team won by "Tigers" (Mori, Ichiyasu, Teicher).
Mixed Doubles won by Dorothy Ichiyasu and Bonnie Linkmeyer.
Outdoor Epee: (1) Halton Arp, FSF; (2) Fred Linkmeyer, LAAC; (3) Phil McLennon, FSF.
Women's Prep: (1) Patricia Gardner, VJC; (2) Sharon Jokela, Haw.Hi; (3) Natalee Sonne, VJC.
Women's Unclass.: (1) Antoinette De Long, LAAC; (2) Pat Bernhard, SdN; (3) Midori Martin, RCPG.
Women's Unclass. Team won by LAFC (Rombeau, Maggio, Sulli).
Women's "C": (1) Pat Bernhard, SdN; (2) Patricia Gardner, VJC; (3) Linda Teicher, SdN.
Women's Team "C" won by Salle de Nord (Teicher, Filerman, Bernhard).
Women's Open: (No Foul) (1) Maxine Mitchell, LAFC; (2) Alice Gerakin, FSF; (3) Jean Mori, LAAC.
Women's "B": (1) Bonnie Linkmeyer, FSF; (2) Edythe Rombeau, LAFC; (3) Bernice Filerman, SdN.

Colorado

by Richard C. Bowman

Open Foil: (1) Roger Clayton, DFC; (2) Maj. F. Gilman, USAFA; (3) Harold Masursky, DFC.
Open Epee: (1) Mortenson, DFC; (2) Cadet Forest, USAFA; (3) Cadet Turner, USAFA.
Open Sabre: (1) Harold Masursky, DFC; (2) Cadet Keppen, USAFA; (3) R. M. Johnson, DFC.
Open Sabre Team won by USAFA (Wolcott, Keppen, Rotz).
Open Epee Team won by Denver FC (Mortenson, Clayton, Frondizzi).
Open Foil Team won by "Sabres" (Sotomayor, Solan, Cotterall).
Women's Open: (1) Hutson; (2) Lucero; (3) Heinrich.

New England

by Carla Mae Festa

Women's Open: (1) Helen Kennedy, BFC; (2) Lillian Aylward, BFC; (3) Barbara Townsend, Unatt.
Women's Handicap: (1) Lillian Aylward, BFC; (2) Margaret Sullivan; (3) Dorothy Brightman, BFC.
Foil Handicap: (1) Larry Johnson, Harv.; (2) Ed Richards, NYAC; (3) Uldie Kaktins, LFC.
Open Foil: (1) Uldis Kaktins, LFC; (2) Larry Johnson, Harv.; (3) Ed Richards, NYAC.
Sabre "C": (1) Uldis Kaktins, LFC; (2) Karl Stephens, YMCA; (3) Ivars Gaudins, LFC.
Epee "C": (1) Alan Gardner, Harv.; (2) Ivars Gaudins, LFC; (3) Egliis Kaktins, LFC.

Connecticut

by Ann M. Thomas

Open Epee: (1) E. Vebell; (2) A. Green; (3) A. Schocket.
Open Foil: (1) D. Marmer; (2) E. Vebell; (3) R. Marafioti.
Int. Foil: (1) R. Marafioti; (2) U. Jones; (3) P. Mayer.
Sabre Open: (1) R. Garbatini; (2) Profeta; (3) R. Rudolf.

Maryland

by Richard F. Oles

Foil Unclass.: (1) John Logis, IYFC; (2) Lou Causey, MFC; (3) Charles Power, IYFC.
Epee Unclass.: (1) Tom Lahern, JHU; (2) Chick Twyman, JHU; (3) Park Adams, MFC.
Foil: (1) Roberto Garcia, IYFC; (2) Skip Sterling, USN; (3) Dick Oles, IYFC.
Women's: (1) Rose Causey, MFC; (2) Jane Burger, IYFC; (3) Florence Power, IYFC.
Sabre Unclass.: (1) Saul Johnson, WFC; (2) Tyler Hunt, MFC; (3) Byron Brown, IYFC.
Women Unclass.: (1) Veronica Smith, DCFC; (2) Didi Bottemanne, MFC; (3) Una Flynn, DCFC.

The Division has acquired three veterans of note: Roberto Garcia, former Cuban Olympic and Pan American fencer; Capt. Richard Steere, USN, U.S. Olympic Team of 1932; Bob Beck, USN, member U.S. Modern Pentathlon Team and finalist in 1960 epee National.

Indiana

by Frederick Coons

The Open Foil-Sabre meet held in Indianapolis drew contestants from Indiana University, Indianapolis FC and Culver Military Academy.
Results:
Foil: (1) R. Saye, IFC; (2) T. Dorste, IFC; (3) R. Sweney, IU.
Sabre: (1) W. Henry, IFC; (2) R. Saye, IFC; (3) A. Arif, IU.

Kansas

by John Giele

Foil: (1) Jerry Old, U of K; (2) Ted Hootman, Wichita FC; (3) Capt. J. Stiles, McConnell AFB.
Epee: (1) Jerry Old, U of K; (2) David Kirkwood, Forbes AFB; (3) David Stiles, Wichita FC.
Sabre: (1) Ted Hootman, Wichita FC; (2) Jerry Old, U of K; (3) Capt. J. Stiles, McConnell AFB.

New Jersey

by Mary Ellen Flynn

Open Sabre: (1) John Sands, Princeton; (2) John Grady, Princeton; (3) Constantine Rotunda, FC of NJ.
Epee 'B': (1) Edward Carfagno, Princeton; (2) Irwin Bernstein, FC of NJ; (3) Larry Cinquegrana, NYAC.
Women's Unclass.: (1) Paulette Singelakis, PSC; (2) Paula Baron, PSC; (3) Dorothy Pohlman, PSC.
Prep Foil: (1) Douglas Rampona, Princeton; (2) Oliver Plantinger, Princeton; (3) Don Sieja, Hun School.
Women's 'C': (1) Paulette Singelakis, PSC; (2) Dorothy Pohlman, PSC; (3) Carol Kuzen, FDU-T.

Florida Gold Coast

by Max Lombard

The following events were held at the Homestead AFB:
Prep Foil: (1) Eisenfeld, deTuscan; (2) Ayotte, Florio; (3) Kramer, deTuscan.
Novice Foil: (1) Morgan; (2) Eisenfeld; (3) McJunkin (all deTuscan).
Novice Epee: (1) Lombard, Florio; (2) McJunkin, deTuscan; (3) Martin, Florio.
Ed. Note: The new division has a newsletter and, as Oklahoma, has named it "The Riposte."

Kentucky

by Paul Ross

Open Foil: (1) Robert Hensley, Lex.; (2) Bill Seiller, Louisville; (3) Paul Ross, Lex.
Open Epee: (1) Al Wolff, Louisville; (2) Paul Ross, Lex.; (3) John Gehant, Louisville.

Western New York

by Silvia Zielinski

Jr. Foil at RIT: (1) Charles Dunham; (2) William Streeter; (3) Maxwell Lockie.
Women's Jr. at Buffalo: (1) Gloria Schick; (2) Lydian Gibbs; (3) Janice Kralisz.

Bastello greatest name in
fencing equipment.

Judo
UNIFORMS

KODOKAN APPROVED
Specially Made to Conform
to the Taller American Figure

WRITE FOR FREE CATALOG

Immediate Delivery from Stock in New York City



Bastello FENCING EQUIPMENT COMPANY ESTABLISHED 1914
Importers and Manufacturers of Fencing Equipment and Judo Uniforms
30 EAST 10TH STREET NEW YORK 3, N. Y.



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

February

- 10—Md. — Foil (Beginners) YMCA 7 PM 50c
 Phila — Foil Unclass. UofP 7:30 PM 75c
 Iowa at Detroit
- 11—Cent. Fla — Foil Jr. Men & Women MacDill AFB 1 PM \$1.00
 Gulf Coast — Prep. Men all weapons, women. Texas City 2 PM
 Met. — Women's 'B'. Performing Arts 1 PM \$2.75
 Iowa & Wisconsin at Mich. State; USAFA at S. F. State; Oberlin at Case; Pitt & Fenn at W. Reserve; Illinois & Indiana at Ohio State; State; Syracuse & RIT at Buffalo; Chicago & Notre Dame at Detroit.
- 12—Md. — Sabre Team Open Parkville HS 1 PM \$4.50
 Met. — Sabre 'B' NYAC 10 AM \$1.75
 New Eng. — Sabre Team, Women's Prep. Brandeis 2 PM
 No. Ohio — Foil Team Championship. Akron Turners 10 AM
 So. Calif. — Epee. One Touch LAAC 1 PM \$2.00
- 13—N.J. — Foil Unclass. Pat. St. 7:30 PM \$1.50
- 16—N.J. — Epee Team 'B' Pat. St. 7:30 PM \$4.50
- 17—Phila. — Epee Unclass. UofP 7:30 PM 75c
 So. Calif. — Foil Open. Valley Jr. College 7:45 PM \$2.50
 Notre Dame & W. Reserve at Case; Detroit at Oberlin
- 18—Gulf Coast — Foil Novice. Men & Women. Rice U. 2 PM
 Met. — Women's Prep. Saltus 12 noon \$1.25
 Kansas at USAFA; Notre Dame & Mich. State at Ohio State; Buffalo at Toronto; Detroit at Case & W. Reserve; Wisconsin & Indiana at Chicago; Wayne & Iowa at Illinois.
- 19—Ky. — Foil Open & Unclass. Louisville Y. 1:30 PM \$1.00
 Md. — Foil Open. USNA 1 PM \$1.50
 Met. — Foil 'B'. Performing Arts 11 AM \$2.75
 Women. No Foul Inv. Performing Arts 1 PM
 N. Cal. — Foil. First year Men & Women. LAH 2 PM \$1.00
 New Eng. — Foil Team Harvard 2 PM
 No. Ohio — Epee (Closed). Fairfax 10 AM
- 22—Met. — Epee Team NYAC 10 AM \$8.25
- 24—Phila. — Sabre Unclass. UofP 7:30 PM 75c
 So. Calif. — Epee Open. Faulkner S.F. 7:45 PM \$2.50
 Wisconsin & Illinois at Notre Dame; Detroit at Indiana
- 25—**Western Intercollegiates at San Francisco**
 Gulf Coast — Foil Jr. Men & Women. U. of Texas 2 PM
 Met. — Women's Open. Performing Arts 1 PM \$2.75
 W. Reserve at Oberlin; Ohio State & Chicago at Iowa; Case at Buffalo; Wayne & Mich. State at Indiana; Iowa State & Detroit at Illinois.
- 26—Md. — Women's Championship (Open) Parkville HS 1 PM \$1.50
 Met. — Epee Open FC 11 AM \$2.75
 New Eng. — 3-Weapon Team. M.I.T. 2 PM
 No. Ohio — Sabre (Closed). Fairfax 10 AM
 So. Calif. — Foil Senior. LAAC 1 PM \$2.00
- 27—N.J. — Women's Novice Pat. St. 7 PM \$1.50
- ### March
- 3—Phila. — Epee 'B' UofP 7:30 PM \$1.50
 So. Calif. — Women's Open, Sabre Open. E.R.P.G. 7:45 PM \$2.50
- 4—Gulf Coast — Epee & Sabre Jr. Rice 2 PM
 Met. — Foil Open. Performing Arts 1 PM \$2.75
 N. Cal. — 3-Weapon Ind. LAH 2 PM \$2.00
- 5—Md. — Sabre Championship (Closed) USNA 1 PM \$1.50
 Met. — Sabre Open. NYAC 10 AM \$2.75
 N.J. — Foil, Mixed Doubles. FD-T 10 AM \$4.00
 New Eng. — Sabre Prep., Women's Team. Latvian F.C. 2 PM
 No. Ohio — Women's (Closed). Fenn 10 AM
- 9—N.J. — Sabre Open Pat. St. 7:30 PM \$2.00
- 10—Cent. Fla. — Foil Open, Men & Women. St. Pete YWCA 1 PM \$2.00
 Phila. — Foil Open (No Foul) UofP 7:30 PM \$1.50

- 11—**North Atlantic Intercollegiates at Syracuse**
 Gulf Coast — Prep. Men's three weapons, women. Downtown Y, Houston. 2 PM
 Met. — Foil 'C'. Performing Arts 1 PM \$2.75
 Wayne at Notre Dame
- 12—Ky. — Sabre & Women's Open. H. Clay HS., Lex. 2 PM \$1.00
 Md. — Epee Championship (Closed) USNA 1 PM \$1.50
 Met. — Women's 'C'. Performing Arts 11 AM \$2.75
 Foil. No Foul Inv. Performing Arts 1 PM
 N. Cal. — Foil, Handicap LAH 10 AM \$1.00
 New Eng. — Foil Prep. Harvard 2 PM
 No. Ohio — Foil (Closed). Fairfax 10 AM
 So. Calif. — Women's Senior, Epee Masters. Leuzinger H.S. 1 PM \$2.00
- 13—N.J. — Foil Pat. St. 7:30 PM \$2.50
- 15—Phila. — Women's Team, Open. Bryn Mawr 7:30 PM \$3.75
- 17—**18—Intercollegiate Fencing Ass'n. Championships.** Concourse Plaza, N.Y.
- 17—N. Cal. — 3-weapon Team SFSF 8 PM \$2.00
 Phila. — 3-weapon Team (Closed) Temple 3 PM \$1.50
- 18—Gulf Coast — Foil Novice. Men & Women. U of Texas 2 PM
 N.J. — Women's Intercollegiate. J. C. State 10 AM \$2.50
- 19—Md. — Foil Championship (Closed) Parkville HS. 1 PM \$1.50
 N. Cal. — Women (Helene Mayer) HSF 2 PM \$2.00
 New Eng. — Women's Championship, Epee Prep. Brandeis 2 PM
 No. Ohio — Sabre Team Open. YMCA Akron 8 PM
 So. Calif. — Foil Open. Valley Jr. College 8:30 AM \$2.50
- 20—N.J. — Sabre. Pat. St. 7:30 PM \$2.00
- 24-25—**NCAA Championships.** Princeton
- 24—So. Calif. — Foil Team Open. E.R.P.G. 7:45 PM \$7.50
- 25—Gulf Coast — Epee & Sabre Novice. Rice U. 2 PM
 Met. — Sabre 'C' NYAC 12 noon \$1.75
 N.J. — Women JC State 10 AM \$2.50
 N. Cal. — Epee Team 'B' LAH 2 PM \$1.50
 No. Ohio — Team Invitation Meet. Fairfax 10 AM
- 26—Ky. — Foil Team. Men & Women Louisville Y 1 PM
 Md. — Women's Open. Parkville HS 1 PM \$1.50
 Met. — Epee 'C' FC 11 AM \$2.75
 New Eng. — Foil Championship. M.I.T. 2 PM
 No. Ohio — 3-Weapon Team Championship. Fairfax 10 AM
 So. Calif. — Epee Senior. LAAC 1 PM \$2.00
- 31—So. Calif. — Women's Open. E.R.P.G. 7:45 PM \$2.50

April

- 2—Met. — Masters, Foil, Epee, Sabre. NYAC 10 AM
 New Eng. — Sabre Championship. Harvard 2 PM
- 7—Cent. Fla. — 3-Weapon Ind. (Closed) Orlando 1 PM \$2.00
- 8—Gulf Coast — Epee Team & Ind. Ft. Sam Houston 2 PM
 N. Cal. — Sabre Open. LAH 2 PM
 Phila. — Foil Championship (Closed) U of P 8:45 AM \$1.50
- All Ohio Championships.** Columbus, Ohio
- 9—Gulf Coast — Completion of 4/8 events. 9 AM
 Md. — Mixed Foil Team. Towson HS. 1 PM \$3.00
 New Eng. — Epee Championship. M.I.T. 2 PM
 So. Calif. — Epee Open. Valley Jr. College 8:30 AM \$2.50
- 13—Phila. — Women's Championship (Closed). Central YMCA 7:30 PM \$1.50
- 14—So. Calif. — Epee Team Open. Faulkner S.F. 7:45 PM \$7.50
- 15—**Intercollegiate Women's Fencing Ass'n. Championships.** Hunter College
 Gulf Coast — Sabre Open Team & Ind. Texas City 2 PM
 N. Cal. — Women's Open. PAC 10 AM \$2.00
 Phila. — Epee Championship (Closed) U of P 8:45 AM \$1.50



NEW YORK ATHLETIC CLUB
INTERNATIONAL INVITATION TOURNAMENT



Olympic and National Champions from Europe and
the Americas

Individual events in Foil, Epee and Sabre
for

MARTINI & ROSSI TROPHIES

SPECIAL INTERNATIONAL TEAM MATCH
for

NEW YORK A.C. TROPHY

February 17, 18, 19

New York Athletic Club

Jack Keane, Organizing Committee Chairman

AMATEUR FENCERS LEAGUE OF AMERICA
310 East 49 Street
New York 17, N. Y.

Entered as Second Class Matter
New York, N. Y.



CARLA F'ESTA
9 NORMAN ST
CAMBRIDGE MASS