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DEADLINE FOR 1980 ISSUES

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ABOUT THE COVER

This is where we will be for the National Time. If the site as it looks we should all have stretch. All Nationals inform this issue including entry l

Editor's Notes

by Emily Johnson



What this country needs are lots more fencing coaches amateur, semi-pro and pro.

Just think how we would all bask in reflected glory if our fencers started bringing home gold medals and

the newspapers considered us to be newsworthy. Just contemplate the pleasure of being a fencer if every city and town were loaded with fencing salles overflowing with fencers all of whom belonged to the AFLA.

To get fencers you must have coaches.

The Nationals Committee wanted the entries etc. in this issue so the Club list will be in the next issue. Most clubs meet once or twice a week and many do not have a coach. Clubs without a qualified coach tend to fold. The person who sparked the club loses interest, moves away, changes jobs, has a baby -

There is nothing like a strong financial interest to insure continuity and reliability. You have to have a coach if your fencing is to improve and since the basic charm of fencing is in snookering your opponent you are apt to lose interest when you see your skill slowly subsiding and your snookering ability disappearing.

It is easy to view with alarm and complain that the powers that be, the "theys" of the world, are not doing anything. This results in a fine sense of smug self-satisfaction and leaves the "theys" to cope with trying to accomplish the objectives. We all have to start from where we are and not from where we aren't which may be where we would like to be. If you follow me. Where we are is a small organization with limited finances.

In the last issue we published an article about the coaches clinic at Squaw Valley which was held immediately before the Under 20 training camp. Twenty-one amateur coaches attended the three day clinic sponsored by the Pacific Coast Section. Except for remarking that they had worked very hard (expressed with varying degrees of crudity) the coaches to whom I have spoken waxed enthusiastic. They all felt that they had learned a great deal.

Granted, having the facilities available at Squaw Valley makes it simpler to sponsor

lengthy coaches and youth clinics. To refuse to try to organize something similar in your area because they are not available is a cop-out. The clinics started because of the enthusiasm and the willingness to work of some amateur fencers like Mary Huddleson, Coleen Olney, John Nonomura and Denise O'Connor and coaches like Yves Auriol, Alex Beguinet and Rob Handelman and the financial backing of the Pacific Coast Section.

In order to start similar training sessions throughout the country you need fencers who care enough to try. Have you checked the local college or private school to see if you can use their dormitories and gymnasiums for several weeks free of charge so that the only costs would be meals and something for the training coaches? A non-refundable registration fee helps defray a lot of the cost. How about arranging for the young fencers and the coaches to stay in private homes? There are a lot of possibilities if you stop to think about it.

Remember when Father Larry Calhoun believed that we should have Under 20 Championships in the U.S. and almost single-handedly pushed them through? And most everyone said it wouldn't last? Now we are lucky if we finish the last event by 2 AM because there are so many competitors.

When you come right down to it the "they" is us.

There are many other ways to help the coaching situation.

For example, the AFLA could match funds with a local club or division to help a coach open a new salle.

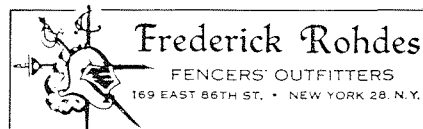
And we could have videotapes on coaching fencing available at cost.

And we could give demonstrations (of fencing) at schools and lend them our equipment and facilities and volunteer our help in teaching their students and their teachers.

And so on.

One of the facts of life is that almost everything costs money.

It would be great to be surprised with a



large grant of money from an outsider but that falls within the long-lost uncle who leaves you a fortune pipe-dream. (If there are any outsiders or rich uncles around I'm only kidding). We must plan on getting the money we need to do what we want to do from ourselves. There are many many thousands of fencers around who do not belong to the AFLA. They don't compete and they read Joe's magazine so they don't see why they should join. We should tell them of the pleasure of belonging to our elite organization and of helping our sport. Lean on them.

If each member of the League could persuade one other person to join or contribute something to the League we could get going with a bang.

Think what it would be like if a stranger said to you "as you went by with your fencing bag over your shoulder "Oh, you're a fencer!" instead of "What a funny looking guitar case."

Come on you non-AFLA members, join up and help us start camps and clinics and videotapes and gold medals and a thick, glossy magazine and

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

I believe it is necessary to comment on Bill Towry's letter in the November/December issue of American Fencing, since the few good points made are unfortunately overshadowed by the comments which do not necessarily follow. I am sure everyone agrees that it is imperative to standardize and improve our directing skills, which was clearly pointed out in the editor's column, and I'm sure everyone agrees that the particular article quoted, which many of us read at the Nationals was in bad taste. The conclusion that a gag rule should be adopted by the AFLA, or an individual should be censured for expressing an opinion, does not follow.

First, it is important that issues be discussed objectively in the magazine. Therefore, if it is not appropriate to mention the names of fencers, the facts should not be described in such detail that the fencers are clearly and unmistakably identified. Furthermore, a general comment that a particular fencer "had a

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preponderance of poor exam behavior" is completely irrelevant and serves no useful purpose.

The real problem is actually revealing to ourselves at interviews so that when quoted, sell fencing and papers. Here are a few points:

1. Beware of comments which have different meaning when quoted out of context. Example: "Obviously, I hit in the target but the official refused to call the touch since the alligator was not connected" can innocently become "fuses to call obvious touch" by someone who thinks an alligator is someone who swims in swamps. By adding a few facts it can start a civil war "New York refuses to call obvious touch fencer".

2. Do not answer loaded questions. Refuse to answer, or cleverly rephrase another question. Example: questioner: "Do you really think that I will lose a bout on 15?" Reply: "Do you really think that I will lose a bout on 15?"

3. Do not make comments in anger or under pressure. If you feel the need to get something off your chest, a reporter is around listening.

4. Remember - Everyone will hear what you say, but what the reporter

From the President



by Irwin Bernstein

Those of us holding positions of responsibility in fencing are usually wrapped up in planning, budgeting, legislating, and the other business like functions essential to the operation of any organization. Much of this work relates to the selection and training of our Olympic Teams and the management of programs we conduct for the US Olympic Committee. Despite this necessary emphasis, this aspect of fencing is only the more visible portion of a much bigger picture and it is well to realize this at times in order to keep our perspective in balance.

The vast majority of the members of the AFLA will never compete on an international team. The reasons are many but include talent, physical capability, commitment of time, expenditure of money, desire, and just luck. Aspiring to this lofty goal is very worthwhile and motivates many fencers to invest more of themselves in training and competing; I heartily recommend that everyone who can pursue this goal do so with unqualified commitment. At the same time, I implore the fencers who realize that they cannot achieve that level, or who were up there but can no longer remain there, to stay in fencing for all the benefits it can provide to the non-international fencer.

The American public is increasingly becoming educated to the health aspects of active sports. Racket sports are proliferating in indoor as well as outdoor modes, jogging is almost a religious pursuit with many, adult sports leagues are being operated where only youth leagues existed before, and new publications devoted to sports seem to pop up weekly. It appears as if millions of our fellow Americans are coming to realize what we as fencers knew all along- that it is far better to participate in active sport than to watch a professional athlete do you exercising for you. Then, when we learn the results of studies of fencing by sports medicine experts we find that the cardio-vascular demands (and thus the benefits) in fencing are unusually high. This tells us that the time spent in active fencing should be more effective in a long term health sense than the same time spent in many other sports ac-

tivities. Thus it is clear that our active training and competing is very worthwhile indeed, even if we don't qualify for international teams. But there's much more as well.

There AFLA is a fully volunteer organization. Hundreds of current and former fencers, as well as persons who will never actually fence, perform useful and enjoyable services for us. Coaches and officials are very visible, armorers and meet managers are less so, and committee and board members (and magazine writers) may never be seen doing their work in public, but they are all making it possible for the AFLA and the sport of fencing to survive and prosper. Those of us who have made service to the AFLA part of our lifestyle, have enjoyed many hours and days of mutual effort and achievement in the company of intelligent athletes participating in a healthy, non-violent, but highly competitive sport. For those of us who combine this with continued active competition (at any level), fencing is truly a lifetime hobby with a full range of varied activities.

We obviously don't have to sell fencing to our long time members, especially those who have already learned to maximize their opportunities for full participation. But, to our newer members, we should urge that your objectives in fencing not be too narrow. Don't drop out if you don't make the starting team in high school or if your college doesn't have a fencing program. For the parents of fencers who joined as associates without ever having fenced themselves, you should realize that many others before you have entered the AFLA in the same way and have remained to become important factors in its administration. Fencing truly has something to offer everyone and although the words are certainly not original, one can definitely say that the more you invest of yourself in fencing, the more you will gain from it, as a competitor or in any other capacity.



FROM THE OFFICIALS COMMISSION

This is the first in the series of articles by the Fencing Officials Commission that will explore various facets of officiating with the objective of standardizing and improving its level in the United States. In this article, the Commission will be introduced, some general philosophy expounded, and specific items for later discussion will be listed.

At the September 1979 Board of Directors Meeting, the name of the Commission was changed to the U.S. Fencing Officials Commission (or more simply, Officials Commission), an expanded budget was approved along with a mandate to train and rate more officials, and President Bernstein appointed the members. William Goering was appointed Commission Chairman, and he subsequently appointed three committee chairmen to handle the main tasks of the Commission as outlined below.

Steve Sobel, past AFLA President and League Counsel will chair the Committee on Rules and Appeals. Committee members are Ralph Goldstein and Joseph Byrnes. This Committee will provide interpretations on rules on request and conduct hearings on technical issues. It shall also hear and decide upon appeals from bout committee or jury of appeal decisions, and keep the Commission informed on FIE rules changes. Inquiries about rules or their interpretation or items that could be included in this column should be sent to the committee chairman at 158 Central Avenue, Rochelle Park, New Jersey 07662.

Ralph Zimmerman, past Commission Chairman, will chair the Committee on Assignment of Officials. Committee members are Chaba Pallaghy and John Nonna. This committee will be responsible for establishing proper practices and policies for all of its officials and distributing guidelines on officiating. It will also draw up a new list of officials, and recommend assignments to National and Inter-national tournaments. It will also observe and report on the performance of these officials. Requests for assignment of officials to collegiate or other major tournaments may be made to the Committee Chairman at 811 Tice Place, Westfield, New Jersey 07090.

Charles Thompson, AFLA Vice President, will chair the Committee on Training of New Officials. Committee members are Denise

O'Conner, Eleanor Turney, Sara Keane and John Nonna.

This committee will prepare (all officials in training and a majority by instructors at training clinic) committee will also be responsible for and administering written and exams for officials. A new procedure worked out for the written of some 200 questions will be prepared distributed for study. The actual a series of 50 questions (for each collected from this master list, at least 90% will be required for guide. The commission expects procedure will improve the knowledge rules among all officials. If possible questions will be published in FENCING magazine to obtain coverage. Those persons desirous on officiating may apply to the Chairman at 1115 Belvedere Lane, South Carolina 29410, for information for a clinic director. If possible of questions will be published in FENCING magazine to obtain coverage.

PHILOSOPHY

The commission is preparing for its officials that will state its performance and behavior of officials is important that we emphasize these in this article. In most sports of competitive performance and of that performance are intricate Fencing's, complex and high nature, and the speed at which are executed compound the demands of the officials. Therefore, officiating demands the highest level of fence and concentration to insure competitors may test the limits while remaining confident of consistent awarding of proper must be recognized that just effort must be expended to develop officials as to prepare the top fence performance they judge. This will be concurrent with that develop competitive skills and then requests that coaches and include officiating as part of the programs.

OFFICIAL'S COMMISSION

The official who accepts the responsibility in officiating at fencing bouts or matches also accepts the following obligations:

- ♦ To watch over and maintain the quality and correctness of fencing.
- ♦ To give his full concentration to his task (and to refrain from officiating when he cannot).
- ♦ To maintain control over the fencing in a firm, but courteous manner that does not interfere with concentration of the competitors.

The jury president's main responsibility is to apply rules to fencing situations. While the rules may be learned by reading and discussion, proper application of them can be learned through experience and thoughtful observation. Therefore, officials must apply themselves to gain this experience and be able to supply proper judgments when called upon. The most important area for this application is in the analysis of fencing actions. The Commission is particularly concerned that fencing officials **analyze ac-**

tions rather than describe movements. There are literally an infinite number of fencing movements (lunge, advance, feint, etc.) but there are only a few of these that result in fencing actions. The official must be able to recognize these actions, or he may not be a president. It is incorrect for an official to say "you came forward" or "the point is out". These are descriptions of movements. It is up to the official to decide which of these movements result in fencing actions, that is, point in line, attack, riposte, remise, reprise, etc. Once our officials have grasped this basic concept, they will be able to concentrate on the critical actions, and analyze the phrase very quickly and effectively. The commission refers all of its officials to Chapter 7, pages 29-33 in the current Rulesbook which contains some guidance on application of the rules, and particularly to articles 68 on page 31 which lays down the basic concept for judging fencing actions.

In addition to the above, and as a result of it, the Commission wishes to standardize the statements that are used to judge fencing bouts. This is a most important objective because its realization will insure that fencers competing in various parts of the country will

receive consistent analyses of their actions. That is not to say that every official will make exactly the same call on every action, but that every action will be given the same name each time it occurs.

For future articles, the subjects of "How to Become a Fencing Official", "Expansion of the Guidelines", articles on the "Point in Line" and "How to Recognize Attacks" have been suggested. If there are other items or specific rules that warrant discussion, the Commission will be pleased to prepare articles about them. Suggestions are welcomed.

Items of a technical nature such as the application of the new yellow light signals for electric foil will be found in the Technical Talks column by Commission member, Joseph Byrnes.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

continued from page 5

said. This is not the time to relax, but to be "on guard". See what the reporter writes on the pad, and be sure the reporter correctly understands what you want to say. Once it is printed, it can never be erased.

Fencing needs publicity, and the media want interviews with athletes, not officials. Let's constructively teach our fencers to help themselves by helping their sport, rather than criticizing them. As a final note, I should say that the best teacher is the fencer who was a victim of bad publicity and can teach others from his experience.

Sincerely,
Stephen B. Sobel

* * *

Dear Editor

In my opinion, there are four (4) areas in which we can improve our level of fencing:

- a) Classifying fencing competitions and making four (4) of them selection competitions.
- b) Changing the present rules used in the Nationals and selection competitions.

- c) Change the method now be select the 1980 Olympic Team
- d) Splitting up the Nationals.

I would like to comment a little bit the above:

- a) As far as I know there is no competition schedule ma AFLA. This is very confus fencers as well as the coach working (! hope!) with long ning in training, competi budgeting the small money \ ailable for tournaments. Pers not too familiar with compet and sabre, but in epee, I w name some competitions wi be A-Ranked and selection tions: U.S. Nationals, Mara San Antonio, Cleveland C tathlon Open, New York In Csiszar, Philadelphia, B-Rar competition with over fifty (E ants.
- b) The U.S. Fencing Nationa selection competitions shc follow the rules used in Olym World Championships, and Competitions.

It is physically and mentally fence a 10 hit direct elimination (than a competition with pools bouts. If we do not learn this in the will never be successful in ir events.

Some fencers say: "I do not c enough if you run your compe direct elimination!" Let us once agree that when we participate ir tion we are there to complete ON to practice. On the other hand, advances until the direct elim loses both of his first 10 hit bo gets to fence 20 hits compared to 6-man pool.

The team event must be fence (4) men teams so that every hit given counts in case of an ever end of the team match. With number of fencers on teams three (3) fencers) it does not fencer wins with 5-4 or 5-0 beca match will not end with even nur tories (only in the case of a dout

The tactical thinking in mod has changed. Before, there was t

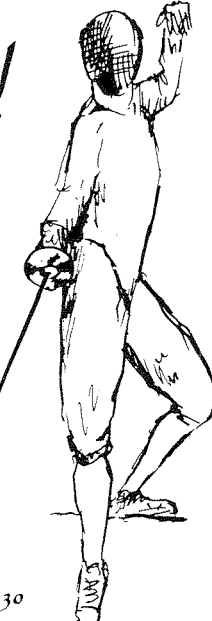
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ition tactic of the pool and the bout. Today, there is only the tactic of the hit.

Fencers on the AFLA Squad agrees that our present system where the squad members complete among themselves is not right. For 1980 Olympics, the point system should not be changed but the remaining selection competition should be open for all fencers. Yet, only those who are on the present squad get points. The two (2) remaining competitions should be selected among competitions mentioned under paragraph a), above.

Open selection competitions would be very challenging for all younger fencers and especially coaches who would be able to see how their fencers progress.

The U.S. Nationals is possibly one of the largest fencing tournaments in the world. This year's competition was very well organized but the competition is still growing and will soon be out of our hands as well as it's budget. Therefore, it is time to think about the future.

My recommendation is to split the competition. Your suggestion, to keep men's and women's foil together because of judging problems, is excellent. Fencing would gain a lot more publicity if we could run the Nation-

als at three (3) different locations annually instead of one. Also, the AFLA could gain some economical profit because some areas such as San Antonio would be able to run the epee competition almost without any overhead cost.

So, dear Emily, this letter becomes a little longer than I planned. I hope that you may publish some of my thoughts and feelings as you deem necessary.

Sincerely,
KAJ CZARNECKI

* * *

Dear Editor,

I appreciated the many fine photos in the July/August issue. However, unless I miss my guess, Peter Westbrook is shown several times not with Mr. House, but with the ever dapper Grey Ghost, Tom Losonczy.

Sincerely,
Chris Trammell



continued on page 21

KAJ CZARNECKI STORY

By

The army post of Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas, may have many claims to fame in the "Almanac of Army Grandeur" (if such exists), but lately, an average-looking army barrack steals all the limelight.

For those few in the know-how, the barrack is the home of the United States Modern Pentathlon Training Center, and more specifically, of the fencing salle.

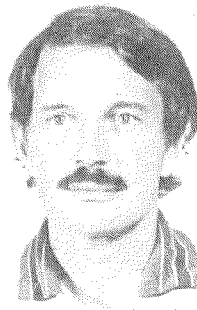
There, four times a week, for about three hours daily, many of the United States' premier epee fencers make their appearance. Twice weekly on evenings, such outsiders as Paul Pesthy, Dr. Bob Beck, George Nelson and others join Bob Nieman, Greg Losey, John Fitzgerald, John Moreau and others for the evening workout.

At exactly 6 p.m. the workout begins with the leadership of Maestro Kaj Czarnecki.

The session begins with 15-minute warm-up and stretching exercises. Latecomers must wait for the upcoming break to join the group. A 20-30-minute extensive and demanding footwork follows.

The footwork part of the session stresses the mechanical and technical elements of movements. Individually, in pairs as well as in larger groups the fencers drill for several minutes, concluding the footwork part. (Another 10-minutes of footwork concludes the workout after the bouting and lesson segments.) Such distinctions in the footwork practice serve a particular purpose within the workout and beyond that.

"The mobility of American fencers in general is poor when compared with Europeans. That results in tightness, fatigue, and discomfort in fencing," explained Maestro Czarnecki.



Kaj Czarnecki

During the fall-winter season, it suggests more quantity work for fencers. He estimates the number of fencers who launches a competitive fence throughout a year to be about 5,000. His workouts and lessons, then, are centered around those figures in the salle.

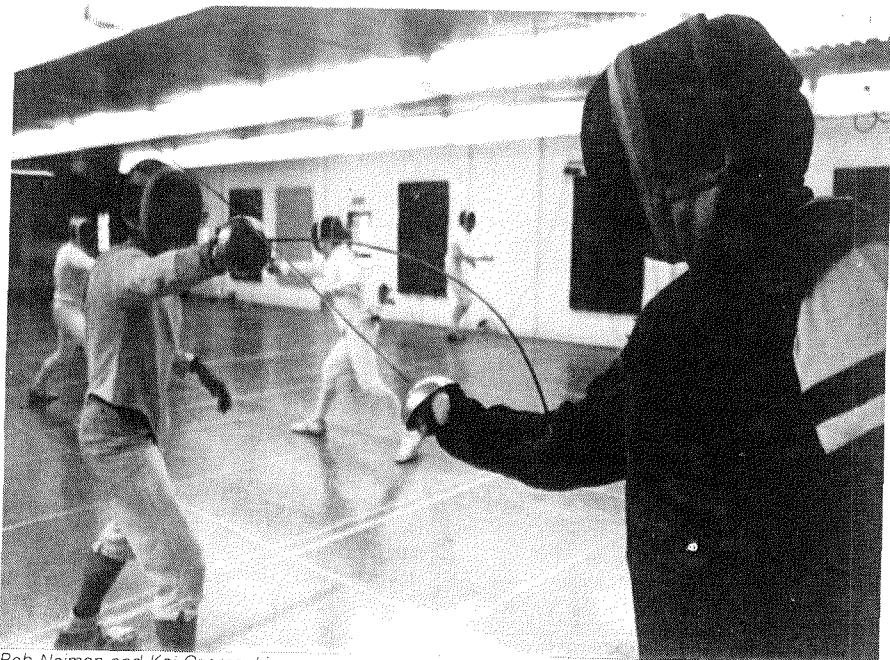
The major part of the workout is interrupted by short, 10-15 minute sessions. Czarnecki believes that sessions of that duration are sufficient, because mental concentration usually does not last for more than maximum 15-20 minutes," as he explains.

In his lessons, the coach stresses the basics. Simple attacks, the feeling of the blade, play with distance, and the change of distance are emphasized. Another integral part of the lesson is infighting. "Infighting is an important part of fencing, but it is usually not taught by U.S. coaches who are afraid of physical part," lamented the coach. "American coaches teach to fence the way of a 175-200 lbs mass of muscle, not a 150 lbs mass of muscle," he added.

In Kaj Czarnecki's opinion, fencing has changed since the Russians have dominated the international scene and it is not physically strong fencers who are the most mentally tough, but rather the "art" of fencing.

Maestro Czarnecki's lessons stress such thoughts in the preparation of the fencer. He believes that fencing lessons should include the teaching of the mechanics which can be achieved by the maximization of using maximum distance thus created muscle overloads from overlong steps and launch. "The fencer should rapidly adjust in bouting and will not have transitional problems," said the coach. "The training must be harder than the competition itself and it must be progress-phased the coach.

Kaj Czarnecki is a firm believer that fencing coaches must learn from other sports, but also from other disciplines of sports. As an example, he believes the quantity phase of fencing with conditioning periods in track, swimming, skiing, basketball, karate, etc. In conjunction with this competition, he suggests the following planning:



Bob Neiman and Kaj Czarnecki

Photo by Nelson

All training plans should be made for four years in advance (an Olympic cycle). The years then are subdivided into long term, annual, seasonal, weekly, daily, and workout planning. "Only when plans are made, followed, and recorded, can fencing training become successful," he said. "Most Europeans work according to such a plan," the coach added.

Maestro Czarnecki has first hand information about many of the world's top fencers' preparation. A fifteen-time Finnish and Scandinavian Champion (in all three weapons) he competed in world championships and the Rome Olympics. A graduate of the highly acclaimed National Institute des Sports of Paris, France, he's been coaching fencing since 1964. Before his recent contract with U.S. Modern Pentathlon Training Center, he coached in Stockholm, Sweden.

The 1977 World Epee Champion as well as World Cup winner Johan Harmenberg trained under Maestro Czarnecki in Stockholm. The coach received the highest sport honor awarded in Sweden in that year.

"Goals must be placed high. It does not cost more to win an Olympic gold medal than to win a local competition," he said. Therefore, the schedule of competitions in a

fencer's program should include major competitions as well as smaller competitions, stressed Kaj Czarnecki. He called the smaller competitions "practice competitions," where the fencer does not necessarily have to win, rather, he should use a wide variety of his moves while checking and following his progress.

On major competitions, the fencer should always try to win, and go all out to win. "even if he only has one move," explained the coach. There are enough high-class competitions in the U.S. but to be competitive for that gold medal, American fencers must fence in "A" ranked international tournaments, he added.

The hard work and fresh approach have netted results far beyond the expectations of many U.S. pentathletes. Robert Nieman and the U.S. Modern Pentathlon Team scored a double victory in the recent Modern World Pentathlon Championship in Budapest, Hungary. In fencing, the team of Nieman, Fitzgerald and Burley was only 100 points behind the event winning Hungarians. Earlier in the year, four pentathletes placed high in the National Fencing Championships in Colorado Springs and won the epee team competition.

Yet Maestro Czarnecki gave himself less credit than one might expect. "American fencers and coaches should understand and build their program on the fact that the coach's role is only 10 per cent of the total effort. Fencers must rely on themselves in training and in competition. Coaches should not try to 'sell' themselves to the students. Students must become independent."

* * *

EATON BAYLOR DIES

We regret to announce that Eaton E. Baylor died on September 30 1979. He fenced for Columbia University. After his graduation in 1942 he moved to Maryland and was active as both a fencer and later as a coach, in Towson, Md. The staff of American Fencing extends its sympathy to his widow, Malva B. Baylor.

THE FENCING NEWS

THE FENCING NEWS is a new, national newsletter-size newspaper being published in Tampa, Fla.

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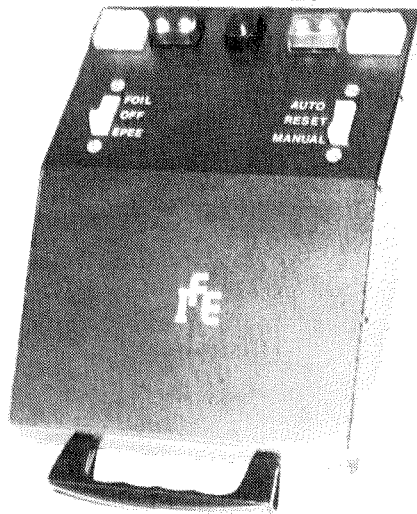
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TROUBLESHOOTING ON THE STRIP

by Daniel R. DeChaire

Ed Note: Reprinted by permission from AAGWS Archery Fencing Guide. Dan DeChaire has been the U.S. team armorer at the United States Olympics (1968), The Pan-American Games (1967, 1975) and the World Fencing Championships (1969). He has served as a product design consultant for foreign fencing equipment manufacturers and has designed and manufactured many test devices for fencing equipment.

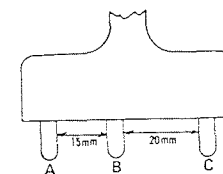


Figure 1

terminates in an insulated cup inside barrel which is screwed firmly onto blade. The insulated tip (the movable portion of the point) is in contact with the fixed and is in position *only* by two screws. Inside the point is the heart switch, the spring. This spring is, in constant contact with the end wire, and at its other end, in constant contact with the tip. The tip, remember, contact with the barrel *by means of the screws only*. When the tip is depressed breaks contact with these two screws *interrupting the circuit* (Figure 2).

With the advent of the electric weapon has come the problem of troubleshooting and maintenance. In most cases, this task can be handled by the coach, thus insuring the most efficient use of equipment and time.

Things can go wrong in any system. Although each small part of the system may be simple, when all the parts are put together, the whole becomes complex. The best approach to troubleshooting is to isolate and work on a single part of the system at a time. The trick is knowing where to start and how to proceed.

Following is a list of the most common problems, their causes, how to locate the trouble spot and what to do about it. Keep one thing in mind and troubleshooting will be easy: Play the odds. Start with the most likely trouble spot and work toward the least likely. Assuming that the box is plugged in, and everything is attached correctly, this means that normally you can start at the tip of the weapon and work back toward the machine.

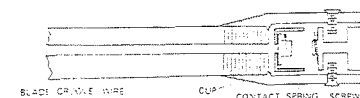


Figure 2

The key phrase here is "interrupting circuit." The intended method of accomplishing this interruption is, of course, pressing the tip. There are, however, other things that may interrupt the circuit and these are the problems which we deal with. Normally, a weak electrical contact leaves the signalling apparatus, travels along a wire in a cable to the reel, through contacts in the reel and along a cable to the body cord plug. It then travels up one of the body cord to a plug in the foil, there up a wire to the tip, through the barrel and down the blade to the contact of the socket. From there it travels along a different wire in the body cord to a signal and plug, back through a wire in a cable and back to the socket in the signalling apparatus. A single break or interruption anywhere along that path will cause a fail-safe circuit to fire as surely as will pressing the tip. With these facts clear in mind, the following problems may be

Foil

The foil utilizes a fail-safe circuitry. When it is plugged in and current is flowing, nothing much happens. When a break occurs *anywhere* in the circuit, it fires a signal to indicate the interruption in the circuit. To accomplish this, a *normally closed* switch is used in the tip of the foil.

In the body cord are three wires, connected to three plugs, called A, B and C (Figure 1). C is always the ground, in that it is connected directly to the blade. The A is connected via a clip to the electric jacket (the lame). The B is connected to the wire in the groove in the blade. This wire is insulated from the blade at every point except

WHITE LIGHT ON CONSTANTLY

(break somewhere in the B or C line):

1. Check the foil tip. If loose, the wire may have been cut by the loose tip. If not,
2. Spin the point in the tip a few times. Sometimes a little dirt gets into the tip, breaking the connection on one end of the point spring. If this doesn't work,
3. Check the entire length of the wire from the tip to the socket. Any breaks? Is there a good solid contact at the socket?
4. Replace the foil anyway, just to make sure that you haven't missed something. If this cures the problem, take more time later to locate the break in the circuit in the foil. If the problem persists,
5. Go to the plug behind the fencer. Carefully pull the plug *halfway* out of the socket, and using a coin, short (connect) the B and C prongs. If this cures the problem, it indicates a faulty body cord in which one of the two wires leading to the foil plug is open. Replace the body cord. If the problem continues,
6. Go to the reel and completely unplug the cable leading from the reel to the machine. Using your coin, short between the B and C prongs of the cable. If this solves the problem, the reel appears to be the culprit. If not,
7. Go to the back of the box and pull the plug out *halfway*, and again use your coin to short between the B and C contacts. If this finally solves the problem, replace the cable. If it does not, it is probably a bad machine.

WHITE LIGHT ON INTERMITTENTLY (intermittent open in B or C)

These are sometimes tough to locate, because they come and go. In addition to following the above procedures, there are often clues as to where the problem lies. If the light goes on when the weapons are hit together, suspect a foil, or body cord or guard connector. After checking for a loose barrel, flex the blade to spot a wire broken at the tip. If this fails to produce a white light, wobble the body cord in its socket in the guard. Tug at the cord and pull it from side to side. If this fails, replace the foil

anyway and if necessary, the body cord. If, on the other hand, the light goes on whenever the fencer advances or retreats on the strip, suspect the reel. Repeat the tug-and-pull procedure at the plug behind the fencer and pull the cord out and let it retract back into the reel a few times. If the body cord and foil are known to be good, simply replace the reel and turn it over to a technician who has the instruments to locate the problem. Much time can be wasted trying to fix an intermittent on the strip. It is better, once the problem is localized, to replace the culprit and leave the repair to an expert.

WHITE LIGHT DOES NOT GO ON WHEN TIP IS DEPRESSED (B-C short circuit)

First make sure that the box itself is working properly by unplugging the cable from the back of the box. If the light goes on, the box is working.

1. Unplug first the foil. If the light goes on, the foil is at fault. Check for a wire crushed under the handle.
2. Unplug the body cord at the rear of the fencer. If the light goes on, the body wire is short-circuited. Replace. If still no light,
3. Unplug cable at side of reel. If light goes on, the reel is bad. If there is still no light, you have isolated it in the cable between the reel and the machine. Replace the cable.

WHITE LIGHT WHEN LAME IS TOUCHED (open A line on defender's side)

1. Make sure that the clip is securely attached to electric jacket. If so, unclip it and depress the defender's tip directly against the clip. If this results in a colored light, it means that the jacket has too high a resistance and must be replaced. If this still gives you a white light,
2. Go to the plug at the back of the defending fencer and carefully pull the plug *halfway* out of the socket. Depress the attacker's tip against the A prong at that plug. If the colored light then goes on, a bad body cord is indicated. If you still get a white light, proceed to the defender's reel. Pull the cable going to the machine *halfway* out of the reel. Depress the attacker's

point directly against the A prong on the plug. If you get a colored light, it indicates a bad reel. If the white light persists,

3. Go to the machine and halfway unplug the cable where it plugs into the box. Again, depress the attacker's point directly against the A prong. If the colored light now goes on, the connecting cable was bad; if not, it *might* be a bad box, but there is still one other possible cause: This condition can occur if the B and C wires are reversed in the attacker's circuit.
4. Substitute first another body cord on the attacker's side. If this cures the problem, the two wires on his body cord were reversed. If the white light persists,
5. Change the reel on the attacker's side and test again. If this doesn't do it,
6. Change the cable going between the reel and the machine on the attacker's side and test again. If the problem still persists, it's now time to change the box and hand it over to a technician.

WHITE LIGHT WORKS WHEN TIP IS DEPRESSED BUT NOT WHEN TIP IS DEPRESSED AGAINST ELECTRIC JACKET (Caused by a short circuit between A and B or between A and C on defender's side)

1. First check the attacker's tip to assure that it is well covered with tape. A small amount of metal showing below the tip could cause this short to occur. If necessary, change the foil and test again. If neither of these tests produces a colored light,
2. Substitute the defender's body cord and test again. If this cures the problem, the body cord was at fault and needs repair. If no change was produced,
3. Replace the reel on the defender's side and test again.
4. If you still have the same condition, replace the cable from the reel to the box on the defender's side. Finally, if the condition persists, it would seem that the box is at fault.

WHEN TIP IS DEPRESSED, WRONG COLORED LIGHT GOES ON or WHEN TIP IS

DEPRESSED AGAINST LAME COLORED LIGHTS GO ON (caused by A - B short circuit on side)

1. Repeat the above steps, but on the attacker's side this time, and proceed step by step, starting with the body cord, and proceeding step by step back toward the apparatus, after each substitution. When you get the system to work the last component you changed is the faulty one.

There are, of course, many other things that can go wrong with the foil system that space permits covering only those that happen in the vast majority of cases. Problems can often be traced to a particular component and in that case, a technician is absolutely required.

Epee

The epee functions quite differently from the foil. The tip employs a *normal* switch. This means that no current is allowed until the point is depressed to close in the tip of the weapon. When the tip is depressed, current is allowed to flow through the box, through the cable, reel, back to the machine, through the blade, through one of the wires in the blade, back to the other wire in the blade, out through the body cord, reel and cable, back to the machine. Just as in the foil, a break in the circuit anywhere in this system can cause a malfunction. If this occurs, unlike the foil, a signal is automatically given. In the foil, a break or short circuit, touches don't register. Following are some of the most common failures:

WEAPON WON'T REGISTER (either open A or B line or short circuit between C and A or B)

1. Check point to make sure the tip is present. If it isn't, replace and try again. If the tip is present,
2. Check for separation. Sometimes the *head* of the tip becomes separated from the *body* (Figure 3). When this happens, repair is easy. Simply push the head back into place. For permanent repair, carefully apply a drop of an alphacyanoacrylic glue to the shaft in the opening

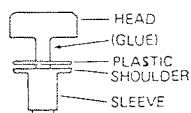


Figure 3

fore tapping the tip back together.

3. If there is no separation, unplug the body cord from inside the guard and short (using a coin) between the A and B on the body cord. If this produces a signal, the weapon was bad, with either a broken wire or a short circuit.
4. If there is still no signal, unplug the body wire from the reel-plug behind the fencer. Short the A and B on the socket. If this fires a light on the box, the body cord is the villain. If not, proceed to the reel itself.
5. Unplug the cable from the side of the reel and short the A and B prongs of the cable leading to the box. If this works, the reel was bad.
6. If there are still no results, go directly to the box, unplug the cable from the box and short the A and B inputs on the box. If this fails, the box is bad.

As was stated earlier, this can be caused by either an open line or a short circuit. Unless your signalling apparatus has lights that indicate a short circuit, you will have to rely on your armorer or technician to be able to discover which it is and to repair it. Often it is a simple problem inside the point. The most common systems used in points is the side-by-side contact. A few simple maintenance procedures will keep them operating well for a long life span. Make sure that the contact spring is flat on the end, not at an angle, and that it is centered over the two contacts in the point (Figure 4).



Figure 4

Whenever the point is opened, sand the end of the contact spring and with a jeweler's screwdriver, scrape clean the two brass contacts down inside.

EPEE REGISTERS AGAINST THE OPPOSITE'S GUARD

(open C on defender's side)

After determining that the attacker's point

and the defender's guard are clean:

1. First inspect the plug inside the defender's guard to insure the bracket of the socket is making good contact with the guard. Check to be sure plug or wire connecting the bracket to the C socket is intact and making good contact at each end.
2. Unplug the body wire from the guard socket and depress the attacker's tip against the C prong. If this works (box now fails to register the hit), replace the weapon and clean all the ground contacts in the weapon (those connected to the C socket of the plug).
3. If the light still fires, unplug the body cord behind the fencer and depress the tip against the C socket of the reel cable connector. If this cures the fault, replace the faulty body cord.
4. If the light still fires, go the reel and unplug the cable at the side of the reel. Depress the tip directly against the C prong of the cable. If this produces no light, replace the faulty reel. If the light still fires, however,
5. Unplug the cable from the box and depress the tip directly against the C input on the box. If this last resort still produces a light, change the box.

These problems will, in all likelihood, be the ones you encounter 99 percent of the time, and with the above procedures, and common-sense maintenance, you should not only be able to track down these problems, but fix them quickly. Good luck.

This has been set so that you can pull it out of the magazine and put in your fencing bag.

RULES BOOK SUPPLEMENT

Most of you have received your new Rules Book Supplement by now. On page 37 (which refers to Page xviii of the Rules Book) Section 10A only the first sentence was changed. The remainder of the section is as set forth in the Rules Book.

* * *

FENCING TEACHERS HANDBOOK

Due to lack of space we are unable to publish the next extract from the Fencing Teacher's Handbook. It will appear in the next issue.

NATIONAL COACHING STAFF CLINIC Ready For Presentation At Division Level

by Jack Keane Natio

BASIC FOIL EXERCISES stressing Control and Balance in the Preparation

THE ENGAGEMENT WITH ADVANCE

L = Leader P = Pupil
NR = Normal recovery

Starting from advance-lunge distance; L on guard in 8th; P on guard in 6th

1. L — presents the blade in the high line
P — attempts to engage 6th
L — takes the blade away before any contact
P — stands still
2. L — presents blade
P — attempts to engage 6th if found advance
L — supports the engagement and retreats on L's advance
L — no reaction to the engagement
P — extend and lunge keeping the 6th line closed
L — N. R.
3. L — Presents blade
P — attempts to engage 6th if found advance
L — supports initial engagement and as P advances L steps back and removes the blade
P — must stop in balance without any arm extension

You have just read an excerpt from the recently completed National Coaching Staff Foil Training Manual.

A similar manual of step-by-step training exercises has also been developed for epee. The saber manual is close to completion. The National Coaching Staff is now ready to fulfill requests from local divisions for clinics — for both fencers and coaches — in the methodology of the national system.

The goal of the National Staff clinics is to raise the basic technical level of all competitive fencers in America while providing a uniform basis for training.

The training manuals have undergone a series of field tests in Washington, D.C., Cleveland, Princeton, N.J., North Carolina and Florida in an effort to 'de-bug' the material

The coaches of the National Staff themselves have undergone special manual presentation to maximize their effectiveness.

The manuals will provide material to instruct and confirm a fencer's standing and execution. The exercises led for will challenge both intermediate and advanced fencers.

It is important that those divisions for a clinic for **absolute beginners** no manual is not **primarily** intended for that level. The staff is also prepared to conduct these introductory clinics — such as clinics for beginners — with an emphasis on theory covering the footwork and hand theory in the advanced program

How the Clinics will work.

1. **For fencers.** A step-by-step sequence of exercises developing technique is presented. The fencer attacks in the absence of the defender's engagement and with beat. Defense is taught. The emphasis is on basic co-ordination plus distance. Conditions of the exercises may be executed by one fencer being the "Leader" and the other the "Pupil". The remainder of the exercises are to be performed with a coach trained in the method.

2. **For teachers.** The step-by-step exercises is taken from basic complexities. The teacher will be given seminars on the proper blade implementation of the exercises. The "son" will be that given at the National Level.

The clinic program requires a three weekend programs to complete. Teachers seminars may require weekends.

The National Coach will leave the material with the sponsoring division for publication and practice by individuals and schools seeking to benefit from the method.

The budget for the program suggests three clinics in each of eleven cities, partially underwritten by the National Staff.

The remainder of the program is underwritten by the sponsoring division.

projected that an attendance of between 15 and 30 fencers or coaches per session would make the program entirely within the grasp of nearly any division. A \$5 fee is recommended for each person for each session. This will provide between \$75 and \$150 per session. The National Staff will contribute toward the coach and coaches' travel. The local division will make up the remainder of the cost from its funds.

If you would like to hold a series of three

clinics in your area, contact Mrs. Colleen Olney, 2221 S.E. 117th, Portland, Oregon, 97216 for details. Mrs. Olney will forward the requests to the National Staff for reservations and assignment of coaches.

The National Clinic Program is an exciting step forward in the National Program. It promises to do something about the problems that have vexed American fencing for generations by planting the seeds of a true "National System" throughout the country.

1980 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

by *Connie Latzko*

The Metropolitan Division is planning to host the biggest and best National Championships in 1980. From June 21 through June 28 Manhattan College in New York City will be the scene of the Tournament. Twelve events will include National individual and team championships in four weapons; Under-19 National championships in four weapons.

The college is located at the upper end of New York City and is four blocks from the 244th Street IRT subway station. It is six blocks from the Van Cortlandt exit of the N.Y. State Thruway. Over 200 parking places are available.

Housing will be available at the college for about \$8.00 per night. Several hotels and motels are within easy reach. Food service will be available at the site; eating facilities in the school will arrange their hours to be suitable for the fencers. There are many local restaurants nearby. And mid-town New York is a short ride away. GENERAL ENTRY INFORMATION: Entry is open to all American citizens and permanent residents of the U.S. who have qualified through Divisional qualifying rounds or through automatic qualification. Team entries must be filed by the Team Captain. Anyone wishing to enter is personally responsible for filing a complete entry on time.

Within one week of entry deadline, entries will be checked against the list of certified qualifiers and alternates endorsed by the Secretary of the AFLA. All entries accepted will be so notified at that time.

CERTIFICATIONS PROCEDURES: Immediately upon the completion of the qualifying competition in each weapon, the Division Secretary must transmit to the AFLA Secretary the following information:

1. The number of eligible fencers taking

part in the qualifying competition.

2. The names of the qualifiers including automatics in order of their placing in the qualifying competition.
3. The names of alternates in each weapon.
4. The teams authorized to represent the Division and any alternates.

This information must reach the League Secretary by May 10, 1980. Each Sectional Secretary MUST SUBMIT a list of Senior Sectional Champions and finalists, and Under-19 qualifiers to the National Secretary by May 10, 1980. Each Under-19 competitor must present at the Nationals evidence of birth date.

FEES: Registration fee is \$7.50 for each competitor, even if the person is fencing only in the team event. The fees for events are: \$12.00 for each senior event; \$7.50 for each Under-19 event; and \$25.00 for each team. All fees must be included with the entry. Entry with insufficient payment will be returned.

PLAN OF COMPETITION: All individual events will be conducted by round-robin pool to a final round of six fencers. Opening round pools will be posted the evening before the competitions. All events will start on time. All ties for qualification to the following round will be resolved by use of indicators, with a fence-off only in case of a tie on indicators.

GALA NITE: Gala Nite will be held at Manhattan College. It will feature live music and entertainment by talented New York performers who will give you a taste of what makes the Big Apple sweet.

Tickets will be available at the Registration Desk

AMATEUR FENCERS LEAGUE OF AME 1980 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP ENTRY FORM:

COMPLETE BOTH SIDES OF ENTRY FORM

NAME (Please Print)	DIVISION
STREET ADDRESS	BIRTH DATE (U-
CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE	CLUB AFFILIATI
MEMBERSHIP #	SECTION

F ___ E ___ S ___ WF ___

DIRECTOR'S RATING

A. REGISTRATION FEES (for every fencer in Nationals)

_____ Entrant's Registration Fee @ \$7.50	\$ _____
_____ Registration Fee(s) for each team member	\$ _____
_____ not entered in any other event @ \$7.50/_____	\$ _____
(Fill in # of persons)	\$ _____

B. ENTRY FEES (Fill in number events for each category)

_____ Senior Individual Event(s) @ \$12/event	\$ _____
_____ Under-19 Event(s) @ \$7.50/event	\$ _____
_____ Team Event(s) @ \$25/team event	\$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: Sum of Registration plus entry fees	\$ _____
--	----------

Make Check or Money Order Payable to AFLA-NATIONALS
DO NOT SEND CASH

All entries must be received by May 24, 1980 with STAMPED SELF-ADDRESSED 10) envelope, entry form and TOTAL FEES. Mail to: Mrs. Connie Latzke 215-79th S Bergen, NJ 07047. All requests for refunds, should you decide to withdraw, must be marked by June 14, 1980. After that date, no refund requests will be honored.

"Upon entering these events under the auspices of the AFLA I agree to abide by the AFLA as published in the 1974 edition of "Fencing Rules and Manual" and its amendments thereto. I enter at my own risk and release the AFLA and/or their sports officials from any liability. The undersigned certifies that the individual for which this submission is duly qualified to enter the 1980 Nationals and that the individual's 1 membership dues have been paid.

Fencer's Signature

ENTRY INFORMATION: 1980 AFLA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

UNDER-19 EVENTS			A. INDIVIDUAL EVENTS			SENIOR EVENTS		
Men FOIL	SABRE	EPEE	Women FOIL	Fill In Required Information	Men FOIL	SABRE	EPEE	Women FOIL
				Check Each Event Entering				
				Qualifying Position (Note if alternate)				
				Place in '80 Sectionals				
				Place in '80 Jr. Olymp. Champ.				
				Special Cases: Check One				
				National Petition				
				Automatic Qualifier				
				National Rank '79 Nationals (A, B, C, or Unclassified)				

B. TEAM EVENTS

Fill In All Information Below	MF	S	E	WF
Check Team Event(s) Entering				
Place In Qualifying Event (Note if alternate)				
Club Name				

Names of Team Members**
(Note Captain)

** NOTE: Mark the name of each team member not entered in any other event with a (T)
NAME OF ENTRANT _____ DIVISION _____

OPEN WOMEN'S EPEE & SABRE

The Metropolitan Division, which is hosting the 1980 Nationals, plans to continue the sponsoring of women's epee and sabre by holding events in these weapons during the 1980 National Championships.

Women's Epee will be held on Friday, June 27 at 10:00 AM at Draddy Gym, Manhattan College, NY and women's Sabre will run on Saturday, June 28 at noon.

For further information send a stamped, addressed envelope to Miss Ruby Watson, 111 Third Avenue, Apt. 9G, New York, NY 10003

SENIOR OLYMPICS IN 1980

Fencers 35 or older are invited to compete in the 11 Annual Senior Olympics during the 1980 National Championships at Manhattan College in New York City. The Metropolitan Division, host for the 1980 Nationals, are planning these events for Saturday and Sunday, June 21 and 22.

For further details, entry forms, schedules

and fees, please send a stamped envelope to Miss Ruby W. Third Avenue Apt. 9G, New York, I

FENCING IN NATIONAL EXPLORER OLYMPICS

We are proud to announce the National Explorer Olympics will be held for the first time. The ever popular place in Colorado, recent home of other important fencing tournaments during the period June 29 through July 3, 1980. Exploring is the co-ed program of the Boy Scouts of America for young men between the ages of 14-20. For those interested in competing should contact their local Boy Scouts of America contact person.



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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

1980 NATIONAL FENCING CHAMPIONSHIPS

FRIDAY, JUNE 20	7:00 P.M.	Weapons Check
SATURDAY, JUNE 21	8:00 A.M. 3:00 P.M. 8:00 P.M.	Mens FOIL individual to quarter final Womens Under-19 FOIL to completion Directors Clinic
SUNDAY, JUNE 22	8:00 A.M. 8:00 A.M. 3:00 P.M.	SABRE individual to quarter final Under-19 EPEE to completion Mens FOIL individual quarter final to final
MONDAY, JUNE 23	8:00 A.M. 3:00 P.M.	Womens FOIL individual to quarter final SABRE quarter final to final
TUESDAY, JUNE 24	8:00 A.M. 3:00 P.M.	Mens FOIL TEAM to completion Womens FOIL individual to completion
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25	8:00 A.M. 2:00 P.M. 8:00 P.M.	Mens EPEE individual to quarter final SABRE TEAM to completion Sports Medicine Seminar
THURSDAY, JUNE 26	8:00 A.M. 2:00 P.M.	Womens FOIL TEAM to completion Mens EPEE individual to competition
FRIDAY, JUNE 27	8:00 A.M. 7:00 P.M.	Mens FOIL Under-19 to completion Board of Directors Meeting
SATURDAY, JUNE 28	8:00 A.M. 10:00 A.M. 4-6 P.M. 8:00 P.M.	EPEE TEAM to completion SABRE Under-19 to completion Annual Meeting Gala Nite

THE OLYMPIAN'

The United States Olympic Committee is pleased to offer to all of its Group A and Group B members the opportunity to extend to each of your individual members, the USOC's official magazine, The OLYMPIAN.....at half price.

The regular annual price for The OLYMPIAN is \$15.00. As a service to your individual members, the USOC would like to cooperate by cutting the cost in half, just \$7.50 for ten issues.

As you may realize, The OLYMPIAN, with ten issues a year, provides an "insider's" look at the development and training of our Olympic and Pan American teams, as well as coverage of a wide range of topics.... international development and competition, background pieces on every Olympic sport

and Pan American sport, sports medicine, USOC news and much, much more.

Mail check with article to: United States Olympic Committee
P. O. Box z
Colorado Springs, CO 80950

* * *

MOTOR PERFORMANCE TESTS

It is hoped that testing of advanced level fencers will take place at the MCAA Fencing Championships to be held at the Penn State University, March 13-15, 1980. Those wishing to take part are asked to contact Professor Maxwell R. Garret, 267 Recreation Building, University Park, Penn 16802.
PITTSBURGH OPEN 1980

HALL OF FAME

The induction of Olympic fencer Tommy F. Angell into the Hall of Fame highlights the third annual Cal Women Athletes Hall of Fame Week October 22-27 at UC Berkeley.

Angell's career in fencing spans more than 25 years, from her days on the Cal team to her last international competition at the 1971 Pan Am Games. Her 1971 Pan Am team won a gold medal, a tribute to Angell's skill and endurance in the sport. The Pacific Coast Champion in 1964 and '65, Angell was a member of the 1964 Olympic team, the 1963 Pan Am team, and competed in the 1958 and '66 World Championships.



1979 Hall of Fame Induction October 24, 1979. L-R Chmn, P.E. Dept. Mary Lou Norrie, Tommy Angell, Inducta.

Photo by Ira Atkins

Dr. V. Fred Rayser Named to Senior Olymp Hall of Fame

Dr. V. Fred Rayser became the first to be named to Senior Olympics Hall of Fame was announced by Warren Blanton of Senior Sports International, body of Senior Olympics.

Dr. Rayser was "The Father of Senior Olympics Fencing" having organized Senior Olympics fencing competition and was Senior Olympics fencer until his retirement at the end of his fencing season. He is succeeded by Tony Gillham, Madison, but has agreed to serve as Emeritus.

Dr. Rayser established a remarkable record in Senior Olympics sabre. He was champion of his age group every year from the inception of Senior Olympics; he also never lost a bout in his age group, was also a strong competitor in other age groups and at one time was nationally ranked.

Official Strips and Equipment of the:

1976 Olympic Games - Montreal, Canada
1977 Modern Pentathlon World Championship-San Antonio, Texas
1978 Balkan Games-Split, Yugoslavia
1979 Mediterranean Games-Split, Yugoslavia
ECAC, NCAA, US Nationals, Canadian Nationals

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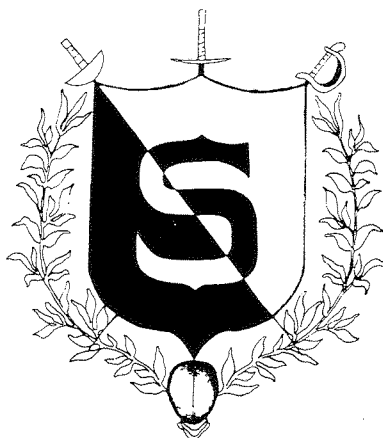
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COMMERCE EMPLOYEE WIN FENCING GOLD MEDAL

By Jacqueline W. Bolder
U.S. Department of Commerce

Scott Bozek is a bit like Clark Kent. He has two identities and two areas of expertise.

By day he is a mild-mannered officer on the Soviet Desk at the U.S. Department of Commerce Industry and Trade Administration, advising businessmen on how to trade with the Russians. According to his superiors, a job he does very well.

By night and on weekends he is a superman—a champion fencer, dueling with an epee, the old-fashioned sword of honor.

Bozek is the winner of the gold medal in epee (fencing) at the Pan American Games held recently in San Juan, Puerto Rico. He also fences at the highest world levels.

All of this makes him a unique civil servant. The 28-year-old Herndon, Virginia resident is the only federal civil service employee

who participated in the Games and the only one to participate in the 1976 Olympics.



Scott Bozek and Juanita Kreps

FENCING POSITIONS WANTED

Nathan M. Shapiro, an American who has been residing in France since 1963, a graduate of the Institut National des Sports and a fencing coach of many years of experience in France is seeking a position in the NY-N. England area. His address is 14, rue de Bellevue, 78560 le Port Marly, France.

Emmanuil Kaydanov, a fencing coach from the Soviet Union, who has recently arrived in the United State, is seeking a position. He has extensive experience as a coach for both children and adults. His address is 1254 44th Street, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11219

TECHNICAL TALKS

by Joe Byrnes

"Sing a song of snaps and threads, a pocket full of rivets...." No, that's not the way the old kiddie's nursery rhyme goes, but it may do to introduce some words on a topic that, in recent years, has involved nearly as much fantasy as any nursery tale.

Everybody who fences wears a mask. Every mask has a bib. How that bib is attached has really got some people worked up—and for rather amusing reasons. As you've doubtless noticed, many, maybe most, American-made masks have removable bibs attached with snaps. All foreign-made masks, so far as I know, and some American ones, have their bibs stitched in place. Some few even have them riveted on.

Now there is a school of thought which says that snaps have got to be illegal, because presumably unsafe. That view actually has no support in the text of the official FIE rules—in so many words. I have been over the rule book again and again, and there is nothing in it about **how** a bib must be attached. What is certain is that the inspectors at the FIE's international competitions, being mostly Europeans, have never or rarely seen a bib with snaps except from an American. Accordingly, following their charming habit of inventing glosses and interpretations of the rules on the spot, they have always automatically rejected American masks with snap-attached bibs. It is amusing to speculate what their approach would be if snaps on bibs had been introduced by a European manufacturer (let us be discreet and not name a country).

What created some confusion in this country, some years ago, was a ploy by a certain importer of European-made equipment. Said certain importer was apparently running into some resistance to his line of European-made masks with non-removable bibs, and in the interest of selling his stock and cutting down the competition he tried to spread the word that snaps were "illegal." After all, they didn't use them in Europe. He went to the length of writing to the president of the FIE, asserting the lack of safety of the typical American-made mask. One must

wonder why the representative made to the official FIE committee (that deals with equipment know, the committee never got. The FIE president, as an internomat, diplomatically wrote back anything unsafe should be if photocopies of the correspondence.) Note how delicately the representative sidestepped. The question really are snaps inherently unsafe, or sewing?

Well, try to push a pencil, pen eyeglass temple up through the tween snaps; with a little work through. Do the same with a screw with most of them I find the same pens. So what's unsafe? In any figure the S-curve that a blade will take to work its way through, the be fantastic against such occurrence—whatever the mechanism. So far as I know, we cord of any accident ever occurred in fashion, and we have a lot of experience with snap-fastened masks.

There is yet another view which the bib should be "continuously Here we have another of those ingenious glosses, based on a promise attitude. You won't find of the FIE rules, either. Clearly, a be well-attached, but you won't that much of a general observation, much less any instructions on how to do it.

Personally, I have always been the conclusion that well-made masks and a well-made stitched mode both are not too badly battered but are really fastened, are about on are additional advantages to that a cloth bib that can be removed; when sewn on, it just getting more and more potent (That has always been one big sewn-in bibs for PT class use, for Of course, bibs of plastic or material do reduce some of the

(they can be sprayed with some disinfectant), if you don't mind their rather clammy feeling when wet.

I have often wondered if maybe a double (over and under) velcro attachment could be worked out, with the bib being inserted into a fold made to receive it. That might prove bulky, though, and would surely be more expensive even than snaps. (Sewing is actually the cheapest way, so I'm assured by

manufacturers.) Anyway, if anyone wants to try the velcro idea, feel free—I won't ask a royalty.

To conclude: snap-bib masks have always seemed OK to me, and ought to be a matter of choice for the individual, I think—at least for domestic US use. But a word of advice to the wise international competitor: don't bring a snap model overseas; they just don't understand.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

CHERRY BLOSSOM OPEN

The Capitol Division's CHERRY BLOSSOM OPEN will be held April 12-13, 1980 at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia. With EPEE and Women's Foil on April 12 and Men's Foil and Sabre on April 13.

Entry fees are \$10.00 per weapon with a \$5.00 late fee assessed on entries posted after April 7th. Send for information or entries to: Werner J. Meudt - 2702 Lackawanna Place - Adelphi, Maryland 20783. Phone No. - (301) 431-0297. All entries **must** include (1) name, (2) address w/ zip code, (3) weapon, (4) rank/classification, (5) AFLA number, (6) club affiliation and (7) a check - payable to the **Capitol Division - AFLA**.

1980 G.T.I.F.T.A.T PRO AM FENCING CHAMPIONSHIP

The 1980 Tucson Grand International will be held from April 25 to April 27, 1980, at the University of Arizona Women's Gym, in Tucson.

Men's Foil, Women's Foil, and a Mexican Dinner will take place on April 25. On Saturday morning, April 26, a desert breakfast and the Men's & Women's Espada (1-touch epee) will take place at San Xavier Mission. Following the Espada, Men's Epee and Women's Epee will be held at the UA. Gala Night will be at Rancho Corona on Saturday night. Men's Sabre, Women's Sabre, and a buffet dinner will take place on April 27.

For entry write: GRAND INTERNATIONAL, P. O. Box 12771, Tucson, Arizona 85732. (602) 888-7275. Limit: 60 fencers per event. (Entry forms will be sent to all 1979 participants.)

PITTSBURGH OPEN - 1980

April 5 Men's Foil and Sabre

April 6 Women's Foil

Location Carnegie-Mellon University Main Gym

Contact John P. Capurso

P. O. Box 5381

Pittsburg, Pa. 15206

412/765-1979 (office)

MILE HIGH CLASSIC February 1. 2. 3. 1980

at University of Colorado Field House, Boulder, Colorado \$3.50 Registration fee \$5.00 per weapon Mens Epee & Womens Sabre Fri 1 Feb Mens Foil & Womens Epee Sat 2 Feb Mens Sabre & Womens Foil Sun Feb Entries may be sent to: Gerrie Baumgart 1042 Pinyon Dr., Northglenn, Colo 80234 Telephone AC 303:452-7345

5th ANNUAL GENERAL DYNAMICS OPEN EPEE

The 5th Annual General Dynamics open epee, hosted by Salle Borracho, will be held March 23, 1980. For further information contact Frank Richardson, 1247 E. 7th St., Ontario, Calif. 91764 or Cas Bonk, 1442 Ashland Ave., Claremont, Calif. 91711; or call Frank Richardson: Days- (714) 629-5111 Ext. 8560 Nights- (714) 981-2669

NEW ORLEANS OPEN

The New Orleans Open Fencing Tournament, (formerly the Mardi Gras Fencing Tournament) will be held this year on February 23-24 at the Favrot Field House on the Tulane University campus. Sabre and women's foil are this year's events, with a women's foil team event, and men's sabre team on Sunday following the individual events on Saturday. National Champions Peter Westbrook and Jana Angelakis, along with sabreist Phil Reily of New York, are among this year's distinguished fencers and officials in the tournament. Composite teams

will be allowed in the women's open, while the sabre team event is optional.

Friday night the New Orleans Club will host an organized party of the historic French Quarter; Saturday night, the hosts offer a partying involving music clubs.

Please contact Mr. Chris Traub, 488-1341 (office) 837-7314 (Tulane Ave. New Orleans, LA 70118) for registration information. Limited availability for students.

RESULTS

THE PENN STATE COLLEGIATE OPEN RESULTS

The 1979 Penn State Collegiate Open drew 173 fencers from 19 universities:

WOMEN'S FOIL

1. Anne Kaylor (Pa.) 4-1
2. Maureen Leun (Temple) 4-1
3. Cathy McClellan (Penn State) 3-2

EPEE

1. Jay Thomas (Clemson) 4-1
2. Jeff Spellerberg (Ohio State) 4-1
3. Mike Corona (Penn State) 3-2

MEN'S FOIL

1. Todd Curn (Ohio State) 5-0
2. Matt Harris (Penn State) 4-1
3. Mark Kuchke (UNC) 3-1

SABRE

1. Don Lear (Penn State) 5-0
2. Paul Friedberg (Pa.) 4-1
3. Steve Renshaw (Clemson) 3-2

3RD ANNUAL OHIO COLLEGE

Following are the results of the 3rd Annual Ohio College Individual Fencing Championships held November 3, 1979 at Ohio State University. There were 68 entries in four weapons.

Men's Foil: 1st) Chris Childs, Ohio State. 2) Todd Curn, Ohio State. 3) Perry Newman, Oberlin

Women's Foil: 1) Lynne Corr State. 2) Janet Gearty, Ohio Elizabeth Dienes, Case Western Epee: 1) Carlo Songini, Clev 2) Jeff Spellerberg, Ohio State. 3) J. J. Lali, Ohio State.

Sabre: 1) Joe Fazekas, Clev 2) Mike Rodgers, Ohio State Radivoyevitch, Case Western F

25th CANADIAN HERC FENCING TOURNAMENT

TOTAL ENTRIES IN ALL WEAPONS WITH 62 A CLASS

MEN'S FOIL	LADIES
1. ERNEST SIMON	1. J. P.C.
2. GREG BENKO	2. CHA
3. SYLVAIN GUY	3. LOU
4. LUC. ROCHELAU	4. P. C
5. RENE EMARD	5. K. B
6. GUY DESAUTELS	6. TAN
EPEE	SABRE
1. GEZA KOGIER	1. BILL
2. ALAIN DANSEREAU	2. ELI S
3. CARLOS SONGINI	3. MAF
4. BILL REITH	4. J.P.
5. GREG KOCAB	5. J.M.I
6. MARK MASTERS	6. PETE

MARATHON EPEE

by G

The second Marathon Epee Tournament was held at Ft. Sarr November 17-18, 1979. Sixty-five of whom were A ranked partici

two separate competitions which were organized in the international style of preliminary pools and direct elimination to a final pool; both days were completed in nine hours. It appears from the results that fencers able to win the five hit bout do not necessarily survive the longer ten hit direct elimination bout.

Results

Saturday

1. Risto Hurme (FIN) 5-0
2. Greg Benko (FAM) 4-1
3. John Morcau (Pent) 3-2
4. Achim Bollmann (W.Ger.) 2-3
5. H Okawa (LA) 1-4
6. Paul Pesthy (NYAC) 0-5

Sunday

- Robert Marx (Auriol) 4-1
 Scott Bozek (Csr) 3-2
 Chr. Sandow (W.Ger.) 3-2
 Achim Bollmann 3-2
 H Okawa 2-3
 Greg Benko 0-5

Overall 2-Day

- Greg Benko
 Achim Bollmann
 H. Okawa
 Risto Hurme
 Robert Marx
 Scott Bozek

CSISZAR COMPETITION RESULTS

Thirteen of the eighteen national epee squad members fenced in the strong field at the Csiszar Open. 54 epeeist competed.

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| 1. George Masin | 4. Paul Pesthy |
| 2. John Moreau | 5. John Fitzgerald |
| 3. Robert Nieman | 6. Greg Losey |

Eleven of the national women's foil squad members and alternates competed in the field of 38 at the Csiszar Open.

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| 1. Elaine Ingram | 4. Nikki Franke |
| 2. Sue Badders | 5. Debbie Waples |
| 3. Jana Angelakis | 6. Anne Kayler |

* * *

MID COLUMBIA OPEN

Enclosed are results from the Mid-Columbia Open, held October 27, 1979 at Hood River Valley High School, Hood River, Oregon.

Mixed Foil

1. John Lusby, Unattached, Kirkland; Lewis and Clark Div.
2. Bill Kica, Salle Auriol, Portland; Oregon Div.
3. Hunter Zuker, Boeing; Lewis and Clark Div.

Epee

1. John Lusby, Unattached, Kirkland; Lewis and Clark Div.
2. Bill Kica, Salle Auriol, Portland; Oregon Div.
3. Drew McCormick, Reed College, Portland; Oregon Div.

Mixed Sabre

1. John Lusby, Unattached, Kirkland, Lewis and Clark Div.
2. Mike Fear, Reed College; Oregon (Portland)
3. Drew McCormick, Reed College; Oregon (Portland)

* * *

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

There is a problem that always occurs when a fencer buys an all cloth fencing bag. After a short time the tips of the weapons wear away the material at the top of the bag and the weapon points come through. The holes can be sewn but this only lasts for a short time before the holes come back.

I can up with a little trick that solves this problem and I would like to share it with other fencers. If there is one thing a salle has plenty of, besides broken blades, its worn out gloves. These are usually thrown out when the fingers wear through. What I did was to take an old glove and cut it in half at the wrist. The finger section was discarded. The remaining leather "tube" will connect nicely to the top of the fencing bag after opening the top. I then stitched it all around and formed a soft leather extension for the bag. This now becomes the strongest part of the bag. A few minutes work puts an old glove to use while saving the price of a new bag.

Sincerely Yours,
 Nancy Reynolds

BOOK REVIEWS

by A. John Geraci

I. "Physiology of Exercise" by: Laurence B. Morehouse & Augustus T. Miller, Jr. Publishers: The C.V. Mosby Company, St. Louis 7th Edition 1976

With the establishment of Sports medicine Centers by the USOC and the Growth of the field of Sports Medicine, exercise physiology is emerging as an independent sports

and medical discipline with its own lems and its own methods of st Sport of Fencing, for the Phys. E the athlete and the coach who r this text is an excellent study an body movement knowledge at the lular and molecular level.

II. "Kinesiology" by: John M. Coc B. Glasson Publishers: The C.V. Mosby Co Louis 4th Edition. 1976

Kinesiology is the science deal interrelationship of the physiolo ccesses and the anatomy of the hu with respect to movement. Another is being applied to describe these "Biomechanics" (mechanics as the human biological system in m

The text deals with human n gives data and info that will incre standing of the specificdf and motions of the human body, and athlete to move more skillfully and For coaches and teachers to l others in the improvement of t skills.

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