

March/April/May 1987

American

# FENCING



RALPH FAULKNER

United States Fencing Association, 1986-88

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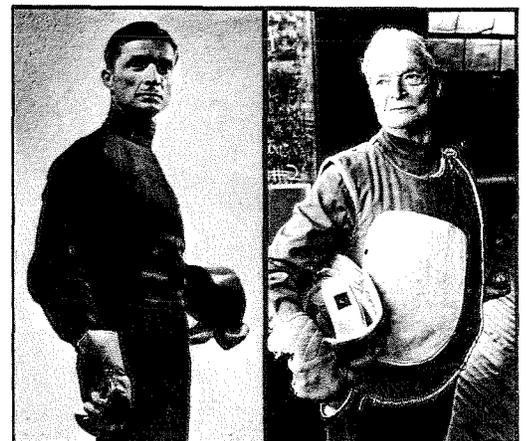
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**On The Cover**

Ralph Faulkner: The Last Swashbuckler



# Ralph Faulkner

(continued)



Errol Flynn and Ralph Faulkner in *The Sea Hawk*  
(Warner Brothers, 1940)

role of a henchman. But the climactic sabre duel required weeks of planning and rehearsals.

"Faulkner had confidence in our ability," said Fairbanks in a recent interview. "We trained, rehearsed and laid out the choreography in a matter of four weeks, working on it one or two hours a day. I had fenced since the age of 16 and was reasonably good at it. Because Colman was not so proficient nor as fit physically, he had to rest frequently."

Slashed candles, overturned tables and looming shadows highlighted an equally spectacular duel in *The Sea Hawk* (1940). Although uncredited, Faulkner coached star Errol Flynn and doubled villainous Henry Daniell for the palace duel (staged by Faulkner's rival, Fred Cavens).

"I did that whole sequence with Flynn going through the castle," said Faulkner. "Part of it was to show off the castle—it was very beautiful. In one long shot, I traveled backward for 250 feet, fighting Flynn as Daniell. The camera backed me all the way through the castle."

For another four decades, Faulkner coached and doubled Hollywood's leading players for memorable duels in *Bandit of Sherwood Forest*, *The Swordsman*, *Rogues of Sherwood Forest*, *The Court Jester* (his personal favorite), *Jason and the Argonauts* and *Clash of the Titans*. In some films, viewers glimpsed Faulkner's lithe, athletic form dashing through courtyards, darting up stairways or fighting *corps-a-corps* with his opponent.

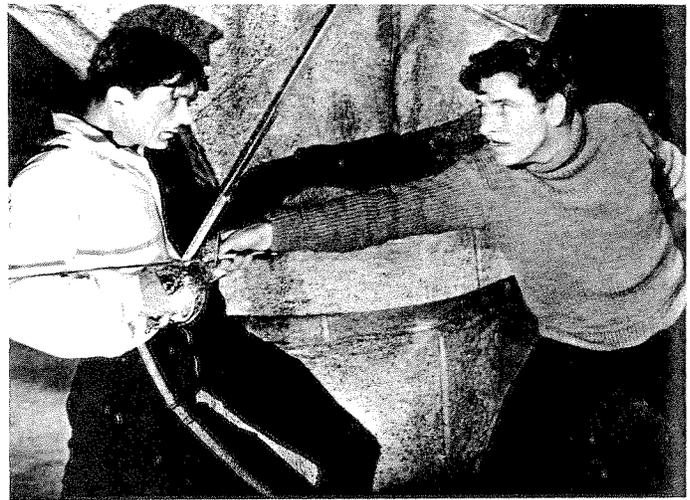
Off screen, Faulkner and his wife, the late dancer-choreographer Edith Jane, worked as a team at Falcon Studios. Edith Jane taught actors and dancers (Ken Berry, Barbara Parkins, Alexis Smith and others), while "Boss" trained fencers for national and Olympic competitions.

One Faulkner protege, Sewall Shurtz, captured American titles in foil and epee, before taking a silver medal in the 1955 Pan American Games and competing in the 1956 Olympics. In an interview, he recalled that Faulkner was both demanding and considerate.

"As a coach, he was driving and relentless," said Shurtz. "But he knew when to leave me alone. Whatever success I achieved was the result of him. He always said, 'It is the next bout that counts.'"

Another pupil, Janice Romary, remembered the hard taskmaster who guided her through the rigors of six consecutive Olympic Games, beginning in 1948.

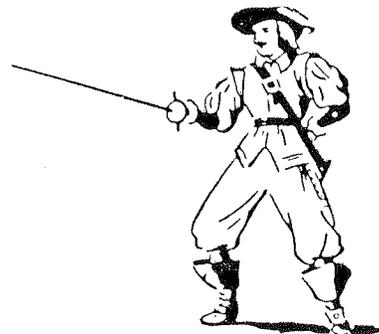
"He didn't like people who copped out or made excuses before walking out on the strip," said Romary. "He had no patience for that. If I lost a bout, he'd say, 'Don't think about it now. Think about it at 11 o'clock tonight.'"



Ralph Faulkner crosses swords with Ronald Colman in the *Prisoner of Zenda*.  
(Selznick International, 1937)

At memorial services for Faulkner, Romary and others paid tribute to their late mentor. James Garrett described him as "a swashbuckling Mr. Chips," while Bobby Crawford remembered him as "a surrogate father." To Carlos Fuertes, a former Pacific Coast sabre champ, Ralph Faulkner was more than a father-figure or teacher.

"He was a master," said Fuertes. "I'm just a coach."



# Pilar Roldan, Mexico's Ambassador of Fencing

An interview by Albert Axelrod



Pilar Roldan

photo by A. Axelrod

The pillar of Mexico's fencing today is Pilar—Pilar Roldan! She has, with that determination so typically hers, taken over the reins of Mexican fencing and established a national program that will surely develop a crop of fencers of international calibre.

Pilar is a woman of extraordinary talents. She is an internationally recognized fencer, tennis player, golfer and an artist who has been exhibited in several one-woman shows. Anything else? Why, yes—some very important things—she has managed to raise three children, and one of them has made this dynamic woman a fencing grandmother.

Pilar's talents would appear to have been inherited from her parents, also fine athletes.

Her father, Angel Roldan, was a member of the Mexican Davis Cup Team in 1937 and 1938. Inspired by Pilar's fencing he studied epee and went on to become a member of the 1960 Central American championship team and the Mexican Olympic team. In 1963, he was the Mexican national champion.

Her mother, Maria Tapia Roldan, was National Tennis Champion seven times, twice the Central American Champion as well as the Pan-American Doubles Champion.

Pilar's first sport was tennis—she rapidly became third ranked in the junior nationals, and always excelled in this sport. How did she come to fencing? Believe it or not, her school decided to have a play—The Three Musketeers—and little Pilar was cast as Athos. She made her own costume (which she still has) and played with the small toy sword her father gave her. When the play was over, she said "Papa, I want to learn fencing." Angel turned her over to Eduardo Alajmi, an Italian maestro, who gave her lessons for 1½ years with no bouting. "Now, go fence", said her Maestro. And fence she did! She won the national "B" tournament, won the right to compete in the nationals the following week and became the 1954 Mexican National Champion—all without losing a single bout. In the trials for the 1955 Pan-American Games she won all three trials, again undefeated, and went on to take fourth place in those games.

In Melbourne, the 1956 Olympics, Pilar placed 7th, having made it to the semifinals which in those days were two pools of six. And, since the Australian tennis nationals were being held at the same time, she and her father represented Mexico in their tennis nationals.

Pilar went on to become the Mexican National Champion eleven times, Pan-American Champion in 1959 and 1967. It was during this period that she stopped fencing, had two children and devoted herself to family. She returned to fencing determined to revitalize the sport, in part because of the deterioration of fencing's organizational hierarchy, and because of an injustice done to her sister by an arrogant leadership. Oh yes, Pilar has a sister—Lourdes Roldan.

Lourdes and Pilar are constant companions—they are close and they are friends with a warmth that can be felt. Lourdes is handsome, reserved and regal in bearing, reminiscent of a Rivera drawing. Like Pilar, she too is an athlete, mother of four, and devoted to family. "However, it is easier now that the youngest, my daughter, is on her own. Now it is my husband who worries more."

Lourdes began fencing when she was nine years old. She has been second in the Mexican nationals nine times and has been the Mexican Champion six times, the last in 1983. It was during the period when Pilar was concentrating on her family and Lourdes was maturing into a strong fencer that an incident occurred which brought Pilar back into the fencing world.

The Mexican Fencing Federation had the same president for eighteen years. His leadership had become dictatorial, and selection procedures were changed arbitrarily. The organizational disputes affected the morale of the top fencers, who simply decided to leave fencing. Pilar was one of these. However, when her younger sister, Lourdes, fell victim to an arbitrary change in selection procedure and was denied an opportunity to compete in a trial event, Pilar said "Lourdes, we are going to fence again, and we are going to run for office and we are going to build a new organization that has realistic goals and procedures."



Lourdes and Pilar Roldan

photo by A. Axelrod

# Pilar Roldan

(continued)

The two sisters entered the 1983 nationals (an absence of fifteen years for Pilar)—Lourdes won the national championships and Pilar was eighth. Pilar then began to organize a ground-swell movement and gather votes for the next election. When news of Pilar's activity reached the administration, they sought to fight the movement by advancing the elections by one month—and they did. However, Pilar had done her work thoroughly and as Pilar says "had just enough votes to elect me as President of the fencing federation along with my entire slate."

Pilar's work was cut out for her. All she inherited from the previous regime was the prior year's tournament records (all other records having been burned, supposedly for lack of storage space) five dollars, and no office space!

With Pilar as the new President of the Mexican Federation and Lourdes in charge of Public Relations, great strides have been made. Pilar approached the Government's Secretariat of Sports, who made an office available as well as some modest printing facilities and funds. Based on the momentum developed by this, she went to the Olympic committee which accepted the organization as one of its basic sports committees and provided a new office, increased facilities and still greater support. Pilar now has a growing organization which is organizing larger tournaments and has established fencing development programs, coaching clinics and directors clinics. Her most recent coup was the importation of a Polish fencing master, Albin Majewski. She is looking for more coaches and if she wants them, I'm sure she will get them.

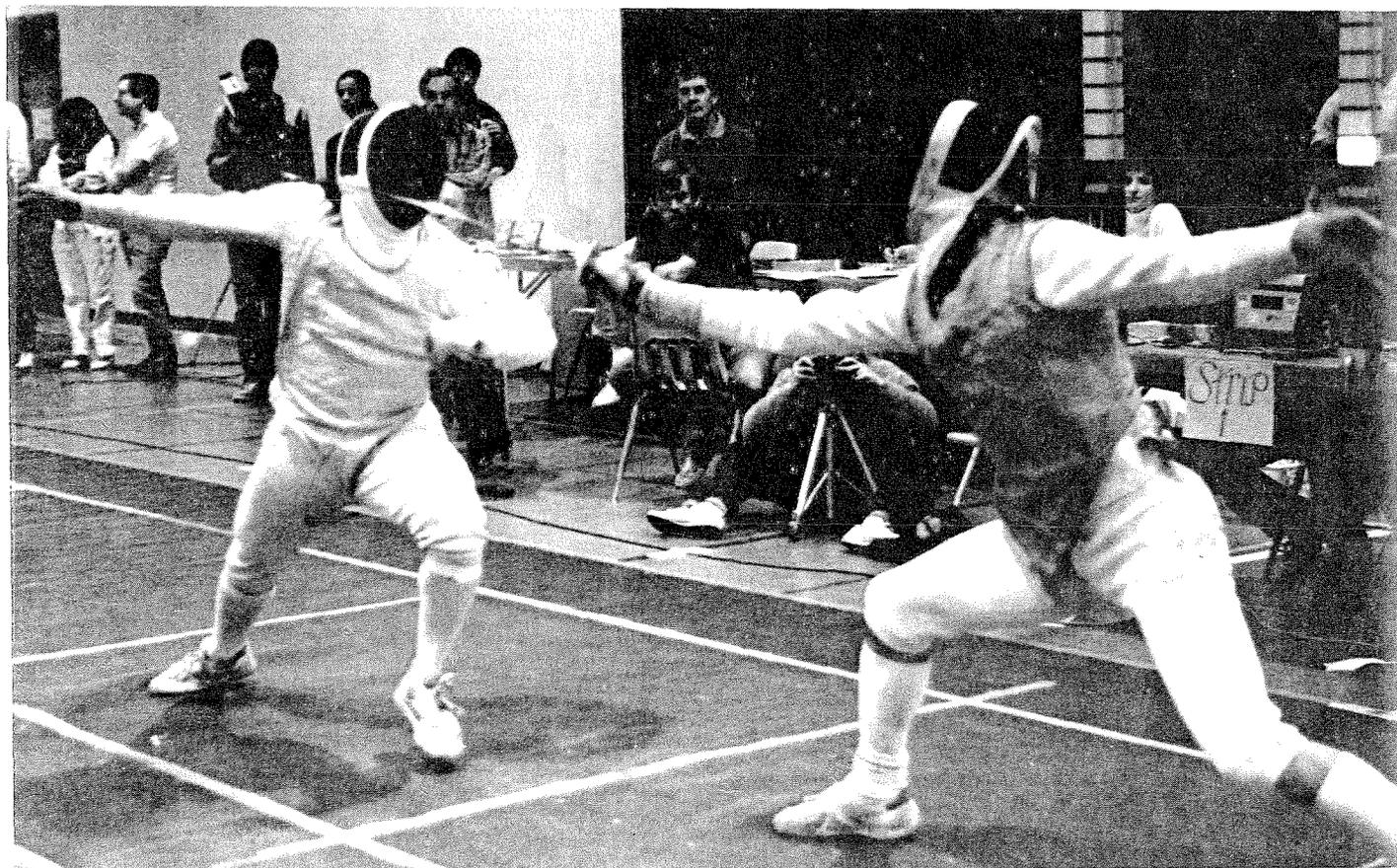


The sisters Roldan

photo by A. Axelrod

What did she do during those years she absented herself from fencing? That is, in addition to raising a family? She relaxed, painted, played golf and made it to three Mexican World Championship golf squads.

We constantly see Pilar and Lourdes at our circuit events, bringing their younger athletes there for the exposure and competing for the pleasure of it—Pilar the "mother hen" with her charge. Our younger fencers see them and know so little about them. I am grateful for having had the opportunity to interview Pilar and learn so much about these sisters.



Ckt #3, Nonomura vs. Marx

photo by Frank Widder

# Why Women Can't Direct

by Fred G. Rhodes, D.D.S.  
USFA National Secretary

I have, in my 17 years of experience with fencing, noted some basic truisms about our sport. First, fencing will never be popular in the U.S. (too many professional sports to compete with for athletes and too sophisticated for easy understanding by an audience). Another is that the "East Coast" controls fencing. True, since the majority of our membership resides there. Finally, the truest of all truisms: Women can't direct.

Throughout my fencing career, I have met no more than 10 women who were capable of and willing to direct a bout. Of course, the majority of them were from the "East Coast." I thought that it was a problem of Midwest male chauvinists trying to keep local women's fencing in its place. So, I began to check with friends in other parts of the country. The news was the same: Women can't direct.

I began to ponder the problem. Why do women always expect men to direct for them but won't reciprocate? Why won't they even direct for themselves? Is it a learned behavior or innate in women fencers that, while they might be able to execute certain fencing movements in competition, they cannot recognize those same movements in the context of an official? Here is my analysis:

*At one time, women fencers directed at all levels (at least for themselves), since the men didn't want to waste their time watching off-target lights go on. Then someone got smart: "If I get some guy to direct in my place, I can sit and catch my breath and maybe even finish reading my Harlequin Romance. Besides, Daisy is a terrible director and I might get her."*

*And so the insidious cycle began. More women asked men to direct for them until it was expected that there would be a man directing since even the worst man was better than the best woman (another truism, perhaps?).*

So now we have women's competitions where men are expected to show up to direct, since no one knows how to or trusts anyone else to direct. Many of these meets are held at the same time as men's meets, so organizers are expected to dilute their pool of directors to meet the needs of women who can't provide labor, yet pay no more entry fee (equal rights, you know). Ladies, allow me to introduce you to Excedrin headache #1001 for meet managers: women can't direct.

A change is in the wind, though. There are some women who have, through work and practice, developed the skills required of a director. While I admit that the fencing world is more than a bit skewed to the male side in terms of trust, the opportunity is there for women directors. Now is the time to get involved.

There are, however, a few ground rules. First, just because you're a woman and have begun to reach a certain level of expertise, don't expect to be invited to every possible competition. The skies won't part and a beam of sunshine anoint your head just because you walk into the gym. Most directors have spent a lot of their own money and worked for no pay so that they might be seen and so that they might gauge their abilities. They have travelled to many tournaments just to work, happy to get a free lunch or two bucks for gas money.

Next, just because you are a woman director doesn't exempt you from having a thorough knowledge of the rules. Calling the right-of-way correctly is the primary goal of any director, but there is a lot more to becoming proficient than

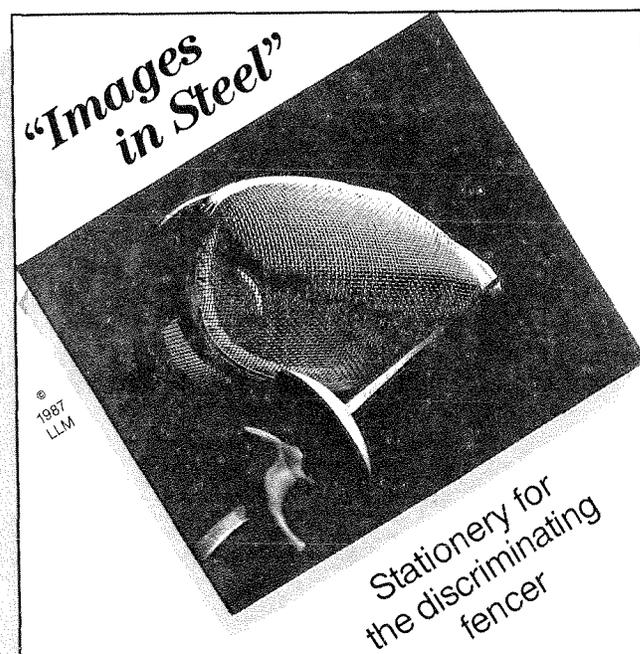
just recognizing the attack. Learn the rules, watch the top directors apply them and go home and practice. Certainly you will make mistakes. Everyone does. The difference between the adequate director and the good one is that they learn a little bit every time they're on the strip.

Finally, be patient. I'm sure that you've heard this a lot, but it's a fact of life. Assignments are given on the basis of trust. When the FOC rep or the tournament director assigns you to preside, it is because they trust you to do a good job. Even when there are no other directors available and you're an unknown quantity, you'll get assigned only if they have that trust. To earn trust, you've got to work at a lot of meets that are relatively meaningless. Then work your way up the ladder of tournament strength.

And so, my dears, before you either run me out of office or string me up for writing this, please consider your contribution to the cause. Have you tried directing lately? Or can't you?

*This article was wisely, I think, set aside for the circular file because I like Fred too much—however, when I joked about it at a Board of Directors meeting, he insisted that I publish it. If you have any opinions that you wish to express, please send them to Fred, directly. His address is 458 West Briar Place, Chicago, IL, 60657, though I would love to see a copy of whatever you send him!*

The Editor



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# Coaches' Corner

## A Study of the Attributes of World Class Fencers

by Dr. Aladar A. Kogler, Head National Coach

*Purpose of the study*—The purpose of the study was to survey the opinions of world class fencing coaches on the importance of mental, physical and technical factors in fencing and the psychomotor skills which they believe are required by the most successful world class fencers.

*Hypothesis*—Fencing is a mental game. The essence of fencing is the knowledge of how to win. The mental skills, therefore, play the primary role. Technique and physical abilities are very important but are only a means for achieving victory.

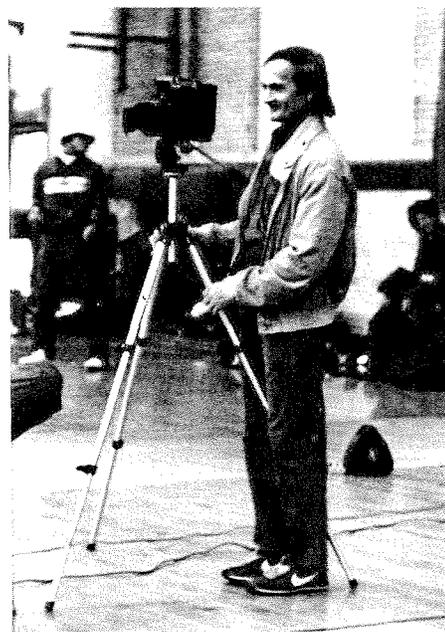
*Study approach*—A questionnaire was prepared describing sixty-one (61) different mental, psychomotor and social/interactional abilities. Translations of the questionnaire were made into six languages. The questionnaire was given to Olympic fencing coaches at the 1984 Olympic games in Los Angeles. Because of the boycott by the Eastern European countries, this questionnaire was also distributed during the 1985 World Championships in Barcelona. Coaches were selected on the proven abilities of their fencers in international competition. Fourteen coaches from twelve major fencing powers in Western and Eastern Europe and Canada responded.

The coaches were asked to consider their two best fencers as models and to evaluate them with respect to the abilities mentioned in the questionnaire. Each student was evaluated on a separate form and rated for each item on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being "well above average" and 1 being "hardly exists". The ratings indicate the strength of the ability and do not necessarily represent its desirability. Thus, a fencer with well above average recklessness would be rated 5 for recklessness. Non-responses are shown on the tables as a rating of zero and were discarded from statistical evaluations.

Items 62, 63 and 64 asked about the overall mental, technical and physical abilities in fencing. The coaches were asked what percentage each factor contributes to success in fencing. The sum of these percentages should total 100%. The distinction between these abilities is commonly understood by fencing coaches. To avoid potential misinterpretation, a short definition was supplied.

*Evaluation of results*—To evaluate the significance of the abilities in world class fencers, the distribution of responses was analyzed. The responses were also prepared as graphs. The variables in the questionnaire were grouped in order to aid the evaluation process. Admittedly, tables and graphs do not make for interesting reading, however considered examination of the data will reveal relationships which are surprising and significant.

*Relative importance of abilities*—In the opinion of the elite coaches surveyed, mental abilities are the most significant requirement for success in world class fencing (see Figure 1). According to the average of their responses to these three items, fencing achievement is based 40.7% on mental, 31% on technical and 28.3% on physical abilities.



Dr. Kogler at work— photo by A. Axelrod

*Significant mental and psychomotor abilities*—In the opinion of elite coaches, total concentration on the task at hand (variable 4), capacity for attention (variable 7), enjoys combat (variable 8), understands fencing as a fight (variable 11), speed of reaction (variable 13), sense of timing (variable 19), and ability to concentrate (variable 45), are most commonly found among world class fencers. There were no low level evaluations (no evaluations of 2 or 1 and even 3 was rare) for these abilities (see Figure 2), a clear indication that world class fencers have these abilities on a high level.

According to this and other studies, a world class fencer's personal life is well balanced. He (or she) has friendly relationships with his fellow fencers and can easily create good relationships. They are generally ambitious and self-assured, believe in their abilities, and possess high will-power, high capacity for attention, speed of reaction and sense of timing. They are conscientious and are prepared to take risks in difficult situations. The most important goal is victory. They enjoy combat and mental games. They are also capable of total concentration on the task on hand and are tenacious in executing a previously conceived idea. While fencing competitively, they are able to think (analyze and make decisions). They also have a high level of tolerance to frustration and are able to maintain concentration after a painful defeat.

*Personal qualities of olympic and world champions*—The following is a tabulation of the primary attributes of the world-class fencer:

1. Psychological self-direction—Self-disciplined, self-reliant and self-motivated.

# A Study of the Attributes of World Class Fencers

(continued)

2. Determination—Does everything possible to reach his goal.
3. Organized—Always sets priorities.
4. Concentration on tasks—Focuses on the most relevant cues at the appropriate times.
5. Physical preparation—They train hard and well.
6. Upon entering events—generally entered events carrying positive thoughts, feelings and beliefs (i.e., constructive self talk, positive feelings, belief in capacity).
7. Before the event—highly activated, yet not feeling extremely anxious or overcome by worry.
8. Before and during events—they were free from negative or self-defeating thoughts and were not distracted by high levels of worry.
9. They have sensory goal vision—the habit of translating every goal into specific, well-defined images, rich in vision, sound, touch, taste, smell and emotion. They pre-lived the realization of the goal and its positive consequences in rich sensory detail.
10. They possess disciplined mental application—the habit of sustaining long, hard work toward a desired goal without always getting immediate results.
11. They loved fencing.

**Conclusion**—The hypothesis was supported by the results of the survey. This is not so because of the psychological phenomena known as the self-fulfilling prophesy. The data leading to these results were obtained from coaches who were responding solely on the basis of their own experience and observations.

Because of the complex characteristics of fencing, fencers can use different abilities in combination in order to achieve

victory. Some fencers have technique and others have skills or physical abilities as their strength. However, previous studies (Kogler, 1972 & 1975; Lukovich, 1969; Vander, Franklin, Wrisley, Scherf, Kogler, Rubenfire, 1984) and this study indicate the primary importance of developing methods of developing mental and psychomotor abilities in order to scientifically support the performance improvement of fencers.

**Results of an unpublished study of the opinions of 15 U.S. fencing coaches**—An unpublished study, based on the opinions of 15 U.S. coaches indicates that they consider the abilities to be ranked differently from the rankings obtained here from the foreign coaches.

According to their opinion, physical abilities are the most important, technique is next and mental skills are least important. Needless to say it is necessary to correctly understand the roles and ranking of the factors which contribute to success in fencing in order to orient and correctly structure training and competition preparation. The variance shown by this study, relative to the opinions indicated by so many world class coaches, suggests that an educational program will have to be established for U.S. fencing coaches to bring them into conformity with the programs of world class fencing coaches.

Also, in order to maximize the effectiveness of the training program, further research is needed to determine the relative importance of the various mental skills to success in fencing.

Means will have to be devised to measure these skills and improve them.

## SPEC. ABILITIES OF WORLD CLASS FENCERS

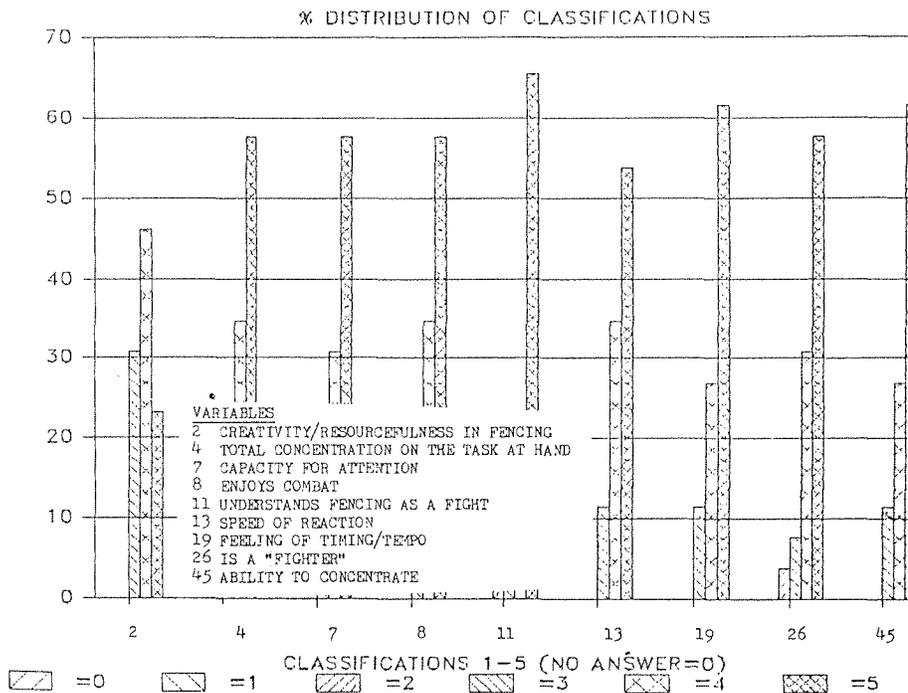


Figure 2

## REQUIREMENTS FOR SUCCESS IN FENCING IN THE OPINION OF ELITE COACHES

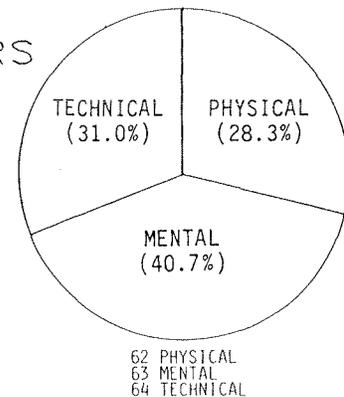


Figure 1

# On Promoting Fencing

A group of fencers, led by Rebecca Adams, has done extensive research on an historical event, prepared biographies of the main characters involved, printed them on antique-looking parchment paper, prepared period style invitations to a fencing exhibition and provided entertainment for all participants and viewers. Sample materials and advice for similar events are available from Rebecca L. Adams, 201 No. Main, Sand Springs, OK 74063.

The Editor

## Oklahoma Fencers Re-Enact the Attack on the Tuileries Palace

by Beverly Moore,  
of the Sand Springs Leader

In honor of the French tradition in fencing, The Oklahoma Division celebrates Bastille Day each year with a July event in which fencers dress as revolutionaries and aristocrats in period costume. The unofficial party, featuring bouts in foil, epee and sabre, commemorate the second armed conflict of the French Revolution, the Attack on the Tuileries Palace—this time held not in Paris, but in downtown Sand Springs, a suburb of Tulsa.

Rebecca Adams, dressed as Marie Antoinette, opened the mock revolution and started the festivities with the Queen's famous remark (modified for consistency with the current locale), "Let them eat nachos." And that's how it was re-enacted in Sand Spring, Oklahoma.

About seventeen fencers from Arkansas and Oklahoma, members from the Oklahoma division of the U.S. Fencing Association, were among the approximately 70 guests who participated in the event based on the storming of the Tuileries Palace in Paris by revolutionaries on August 10, 1792.

Potato chips cascaded from the second story window of the Tuileries Palace (normally the law office of Rebecca Adams) as the "peasants of Paris" caught them and ate them.

While aristocrats basked in luxury in the second floor "palace" eating gourmet foods catered by Stan Hall of Sand Spring, the revolutionaries gathered in the Jacobin Club (the rat-hole billiard parlor housed in the buildings basement) devouring cheese dip and nachos from Tellie's Tacos.

Aristocrats and revolutionaries crossed foils, epees and sabres in the street outside the "palace," on the stairs and into the Queen's quarters. They were fighting for fun and practice—all for the entertainment of the large crowd of spectators who gathered to enjoy and watch the demonstrations.

Fencers drew scrolls that named actual aristocrats and revolutionaries who were at odds during the French revolution and fought, based on these ancient rivalries.

All of the fencing and feasting led up to the Jacobin Club's meeting in the rat-hole and storming up the stairs to take King Louis XVI, portrayed by Robert Odle of the American Theatre Co. in Tulsa. Odle attended the event bedecked in an elaborate costume borrowed from the companies wardrobe.

The event gave fencers a chance to practice while other fencers and the many spectators just enjoyed the party. The event also afforded Sandites a rare chance to watch top fencers in action.

"I hoped this event would create interest in fencing and I



**HEAR YE; HEAR YE;**

All good fencers will respond to the call  
and convene for  
an unofficial, unsanctioned and unadvised  
brunch, brawl and free-for-all  
re-enacting the second debacle  
of the  
French Revolution  
to wit:  
**Attack On Tuileries Palace**  
which pits Revolutionaries against Aristocrats  
for possession, custody and control of  
His Imperial Majesty  
**Louis XVI**  
to be held on:  
Sunday, March 8th, 1987  
from the hour of 11:00 a.m.  
unto death, dishonor or fatigue  
at the  
Law Office of:  
**Rebecca L. Adams**  
201 North Main Street  
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featuring  
men's and women's non-electrical foil  
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# On Promoting Fencing

(continued)

feel that it has been successful in this regard. There have been many inquiries about where and when fencing instruction is available," said Adams who studied fencing at Stephens College in Columbia, MO. and was captain of that school's fencing team from her sophomore year until graduation.

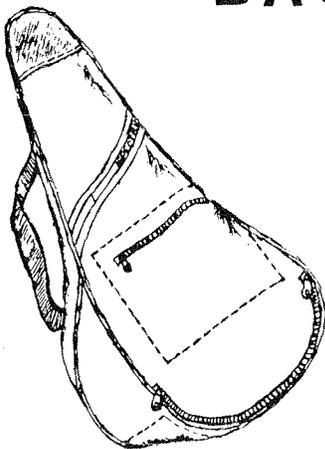
Rebecca returned to fencing for both physical and mental exercise. Her enthusiasm and the successful completion of the project surely points the way for other fencers in other parts of the country to rethink their attitudes about the ability to proselytize fencing and take some new approaches.



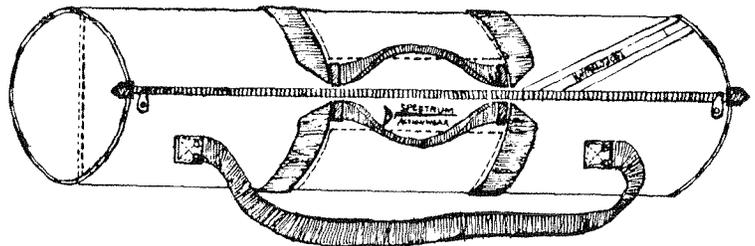
From left to right: Brian Ladd, Rebecca L. Adams, Robert Odle, Terri Howell and Jonathon Graham  
photo courtesy of Sand Spring Leader

## BAGS BY

## SPECTRUM ACTIONWEAR



# 1



# 2

NEW DESIGNS

GREAT IMPROVEMENTS

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# That's How They Direct in Europe!

An interview with George Kolombatovich, by A. Axelrod

The diminutive fencer prepared her onslaught against her victim. Making sure there could be no *prise-de-fer* counterattack, she drew back her arm and started down the strip with point so low that it sometimes touched the floor as she approached her target. The intended victim, seeing the oncoming (though tiny) behemoth, stood still and extended her arm and ut her point in line. The attacker lunged and then thrust her point upwards into the underbelly of her prey.

"For the attack", said the director, "the attack all the way".

"But wasn't my point in line during her preparation?" asked the defender, "according to the rules the touch is mine because established the line during her preparation".

"Her point was continually moving towards the target and that is the attack", asserted the director.

"But I thought that the rule is that—".

"Never mind the rules. I know the rules—but that's how they direct in Europe. Touch left!"

AA George, the incident described above actually happened. The so-called attacker's arm was bent, she didn't start the extension until the lunge was completed, and she impaled herself on a point that was in line before she came into threatening distance.

Were this an isolated instance, it could be hoped that the director, spurred by the protest, would re-examine her position and apply the rules correctly, not by the "that's how they do it in Europe" attitude. However, this position permeates our directors thinking at all levels.

I've even heard a national coach repeat this position of "the attack all the way" and "that's how they do it in Europe" to a group of thirty coaches during a USFA sponsored coaches clinic! To the attendees credit, they did express disagreement and concern over the conflict with the rules, but they were sent away with assurance that this is the way it is and that this is the way to teach and that this is the way to judge. This group of thirty has since returned to coaching sites throughout the United States and who knows what they are teaching as rules for fencing.

GK I'm very distressed to hear what you say—first, that even one president of jury (especially at a national event) is justifying decisions by comparing their judgements to bad calls that they may have seen committed by some European judges and second, that this type of decision is being espoused as correct at a training camp for coaches! This type of judgement is completely contrary to fact; it undermines the work of the Fencing Officials Commission is doing with our program of clinics for presidents of jury, and, I feel, that statements like this are counterproductive to the teaching of meaningful fencing.

AA It's reassuring to hear you say this—and I know your clinics for presidents of jury are working hard to teach correct judging—yet it remains that many new coaches have returned home and are teaching their newly learned "modern" fencing concepts.

GK That may be true, but in the interest of time and space it would be best to limit our discussion to calls by a president of jury. Let's concentrate on the first issue—the "attack-all-the-way" one. I hear many things such as: "as long as the arm is continually coming forward and always threatening the target—it has the right of way". This is just not true. If your



"Now, all together—sound an 'A'"

photo by A. Axelrod

opponent is standing ten meters away from you and fully extends the arm, is it a threat? His point may come into line, but where is the threat? If you're out of distance there is no threat!

AA But where did the concept of "continually moving forward" and "always threatening the target" come from?

GK Believe it or not, Albie, it came right from the rules book. All too many fencers do not bother to learn the rules. Often, even if they do read the rules book, they don't read thoroughly, and some read them only to find a way to justify their own game instead of learning what the rules are.

AA Those are strong words George. But what do you mean when you say it came right from the rules-book?

GK Rule 10 states: "the attack is the initial offensive action made by extending the arm and continually threatening the opponents target".

Most likely, Rule 10 was the "umbrella" that the president of jury thought would protect her when awarding the point to someone who was only continuously advancing and not continuously threatening. Improper use of an umbrella can leave the user all wet. Rule 10 has no definition of what "continuously threatening" means. The rule doesn't even indicate which arm must be extending! So much for "law"! One must remember that the Rules Book is not a law book. The problem with Rule 10 is that it is intended only to describe in very general terms the basic offensive and defensive actions of a fencing phrase. A careful reader would have noticed that there is a parenthetic note that refers the reader to "Cf. 233ss, 417ss".

The correct execution of actions that make up a fencing phrase are described in painstaking detail in Rules 233 and 417. In essence, all correctly executed attacks, simple, direct or composed *require that the arm be fully extended prior to the initiation of the lunge*. Rules 237 and 418 clarify correct judging of hits still further. These rules state that *only the attacker is hit if the opponent has a point in line before the initiation of the attack*. Remember, "no correct distance, no correct attack".

Thus, although the director may be influenced by the fact

## That's How They Direct In Europe!

(continued)

the would-be attacker is aggressively advancing toward the opponent, if the attacker fails to extend the arm before the lunge has been initiated then the attack is incorrectly executed. And, if the attacked fencer has established the line while the arm is bent, and/or before the *start* of the final thrust, then the attacker alone is hit.

Too many presidents of jury are influenced by the fencer furiously coming down the strip like a steamroller; they fail to see what the fencer's arm is doing—to whether the attacker's arm is pumping back and forth with each advance—and in the specific instance you cited, whether the defender established the line before the start of the final action.

It could be that some of the “continually moving forward” and “always threatening the target” problems came from observations of incorrect calls by presidents of jury, during, believe it or not, the 1984 Olympic Games. Anyone who has seen the video-tapes of the 1984 Olympics can see incorrect call after incorrect call! I sincerely hope that people are not considering what they saw then or in the video-tapes as examples of good directing!

AA I agree with your analysis of the correctly executed attack. However, I've often used a body feint and extended as I lunged, or even stepped in without fully extending because the distance was too close. Were the opponent to thrust, would he be right?

GK In this case, your instincts are right and the touch should be yours. Too many presidents of jury fail to pay attention to what the “non-steamrolling” fencer is doing! The difficult moment for the president of jury comes when the steamroller is holding back the arm and the opponent is in a defensive posture and the steamroller starts extending and, at almost the same instant the opponent extends. Has the opponent made a stop thrust (a counter-attack) or has the opponent correctly established a point in line? If the line was established prior to the correctly executed advance lunge attack, then the line is given right of way. If the line was established after the correctly executed advance lunge attack, then the intended point in line is nothing more than a counter attack and the attack has the right of way. I mentioned the advance lunge attack—fencers (and presidents of jury) must bear in mind that for the advance lunge attack to be correctly executed, straightening of the arm must *precede the end of the step and the initiation of the lunge*.

AA You mentioned instinct—I've always fenced as though it mattered—that is to say that I was always careful to not effectively commit suicide by stubbornly (or stupidly) insisting on going after the target after my blade was beaten or if the opponent established the line before my final action. After all, without reverting to consideration of the rules, I felt that if it was my final action then I was right. If it was not my final action then I was obligated to clear the line before I continued. This philosophy has always been able to lead me through the maze of rules, even with the countless changes and revisions they have received.

GK In that case you're fortunate—too many people do not feel the game and therefore are in constant conflict with themselves and the correct presidents of jury.

AA I'm not too sure about the presidents of jury. More recently, in the circuit #4 events, a Mexican fencer lunged into the path of one of our girls who was coming down the strip with a bent arm. She completed the thrust while the supposed attacker was still out of distance with a bent arm—

not too different from the case cited in the introduction—and the touch was given to the erstwhile attacker. You could say that it was just my subjective judgement, except that Chaba Pallaghy (who was sitting next to me) responded rather violently to the call, pronounced it wrong and said that he would bring it to the attention of the president of jury after the bout. GK Albie, there will always be cases of faulty perception—you can understand that. However the specific incidents you describe are thoroughly discussed in any clinic the Fencing Officials Commission conducts. One problem is that we do not hold enough clinics—and some people give clinics with incorrect information. All too often, despite the best intentions, wrong and outdated information is passed onto the unsuspecting by so-called “knowledgeable officials”. The Fencing Officials Commission is available to provide clinics on request, but Albie, we do not receive as many requests as we believe we should.

The other problem, the “European syndrome” must also receive attention. We have a few of our fencers who travel to Europe and find that some presidents of jury there direct “differently”. These few return and spread the “word” as to how fencing actions should be called. These few could have seen presidents of jury directing “differently” right here in the United States. We call it directing “wrong”! The FIE and the USFA are both working to correct or, if necessary, extricate those who preside “differently”. Needless to say—no, actually it needs saying—if one is stuck with a president of jury who does not see certain things and/or calls things in a “different” way, it is prudent to modify your strategy to cope with the bad directing.

For the few to assume that all Europeans direct “differently” is a grievous error which could cause them to lose the next bout with a different (good) president of jury. Those few espousers of the “different” directing should have been at the North American Circuits in Chicago, where thanks to Fred Rhodes, organizer of the Chicago Challenge, we were able to see some European presidents of jury—Brouquer, for example—make the same kinds of calls our own top presidents of jury make.

For all the problems the fencers face, they must retain some consideration for the president of jury and not judge how good a president of jury is by any one call. The main difference between a good president of jury and a bad president of jury is that the good one makes fewer errors.

And by the way, the director you cited in the introduction should not only have called the touch the other way, but should also have penalized the “attacker” for dragging the point of her foil on the strip!

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# Olympic Surplus Creates Fencers

from Salle Gascon Newsletter

The Amateur Athletic Foundation of Los Angeles, created to administer that portion of the 1984 Olympic Games surplus funds designated for use in Southern California, has announced its first grants. One of the first group of sports chosen for support was fencing.

The Foundation chose to direct its involvement to the creation of high school programs, and awarded \$20,000 to implement a proposal submitted by the Salle Gascon Fencing Club. Five high schools were selected from among those instructors who had expressed a willingness to learn to teach fencing. A team of fencers went to each school to give fencing demonstrations during assembly periods. During the summer, two teachers from each school received intensive training in the methodology of beginning foil training and foils, masks, jackets and gloves were delivered to each school. Classes began in the fall of 1986 and the project is being expanded to include five more schools.

Project Director Theodore Katzoff, master-at-arms, expressed great satisfaction at the progress of the fencing classes and complimented the high school teachers for undertaking to learn a new sport and thereby enrich the programs at their schools. He made special note of the fact that the success of the classes was largely due to their ability to create and sustain the enthusiasm of their students.

"It is extremely gratifying to see the Olympic funds used in this way," he said. "The Amateur Athletic Foundation has honored us and our sport by choosing to award a grant for this purpose. We hope that the long-term as well as the short-term results will show the value of their investment."

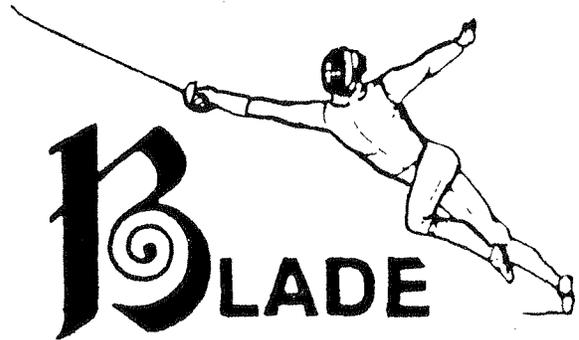
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# Officers' Corner

by Lewis Siegel and Carl Borack

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A number of members have asked me if they can apply for the USFA CLASSIC VISA CARD if they already have a Visa or Mastercard. The answer is yes. Many people have two Visa cards or both a Visa and a Mastercard. Whether you keep both cards is up to you. We believe the USFA CLASSIC VISA CARD benefits are so good and the renewal price so fair that it will be the only credit card you will want to use. Remember, the more you use your USFA CLASSIC VISA CARD, the more you help fencing.

If for any reason you haven't received the materials, please call 1-800-847-7378 and ask the Maryland Bank representative any questions you may have and request that an application form and brochure be sent to you. Make sure that you mention you are calling about the USFA CLASSIC VISA in order to obtain information about the USFA program.

**NEWSLETTER**—The first issue of the new USFA American Fencing Newsletter was mailed in April. A second issue will be mailed shortly after the first and a third issue is planned for the summer. We hope you like this new publication. It is an attempt to provide you with more current information than is possible with a magazine format.

Both American Fencing Magazine and American Fencing Newsletter are published for your benefit. If there are things

you want to see in either of them, let us know. If you are willing to write some of those things, even better. Comments and suggestions (or proposed articles) for American Fencing Magazine should be sent to its editor, Albert Axelrod, 701 Ardsley Road, Scarsdale, N.Y. 10583. Comments and suggestions on American Fencing Newsletter should be sent to American Fencing Newsletter, USFA, 1750 East Boulder Street, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80909.

**NEW RULES BOOK**—We are publishing a new rules book which will include not only the most current rules, but also a number of updated special sections which have not been published for over twenty years. These special sections will include: a technical manual; national and sectional champions over the past decades; United States Olympic and Pan American team members over the past decades; Olympic and World Champions over the past decades. Newly added will be materials on officiating and obtaining directors' ratings. We hope this new rules book will provide you with both the information necessary to compete properly (both with the rules and how to fix and diagnose problems with your weapons) and a sense of the people that have been part of the grand history of fencing.

**EQUIPMENT GRANT PROGRAM**—The USFA has received a grant of approximately \$5,000 from the United States Olympic Foundation to provide equipment subsidies for grass roots beginner class programs. The Division, clubs and Recreation Center Committee is working up the details of how the program will be administered. While there is not sufficient funding for all of the groups that need help, we believe it is a good start. Details of the program and how applications should be made will be forthcoming in an American Fencing Newsletter.

## SABRE WORLD CUP RESULTS

### **CHALLENGE WILKINSON— COUPE DU MONDE DE SABRE**

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#### **Men's Sabre**

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3. Granger-Veyron, H.—France
4. Scalzo, Giovanni—Italy
5. Koscielniakowski, Robert—Poland
6. Tchomakov, Gueorg—Bulgaria
7. Marin, Marco—Italy
8. Guichot, Pierre—France

### **ENTERPRISE PRESS WORLD CUP SABRE TOURNAMENT**

*March 21-22, 1987 New York, NY*

#### **Men's Sabre**

1. Lamour, Jean Francois—France
2. Koscielniakowski, Robert—Poland
3. Olech, Janusz—Poland
4. Pigula, Tadeusz—Poland
5. Gedovari, Imre—Hungary
6. Banos, Jean Paul—Canada
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# To the Editor

Dear Editor,

In his letter to the editor in Volume 38 #3, Eric Sosman's suggestion regarding the elimination of the blade made my blood run cold. That it would unquestionably improve safety in our sport cannot be argued. However, as a representative of a firm that manufactures and distributes a wide variety of fencing equipment, I feel that I must respond.

Eric, you have to realize that by eliminating the blade (perhaps the very backbone of the fencing equipment business) you automatically dispense with guards, pads, handles, pommels—to say nothing of plastic tips.

Masks, uniforms, gloves—poof! What's left? High tech goggles? Designer shoes? Fashionable light-weight fencing apparel? No more product liability worries? No more gnawing fears of FIE spur-of-the-moment changes? Hmmm,—you might be on to something, Eric. Give me a call.

Betty Santelli

Dear Albie,

You may not recall me, but I still have the two halves of a blade you used in a bout we had in a Three Weapon tourna-

ment in New York many moons ago (about four inches of which went into my left arm when I was foolish enough to try to step inside your attack. So I have extra reason to remember you. We also had a brief bout later in the Washington Fencers Club, also many years ago.

Anyway, the reason I am writing (I didn't realize you were the editor until I looked to see how to address this letter) is the essay by Phyllis Elliott on page 20 of the most recent issue of American Fencing. It reminded me of an attempt at writing about foil fencing, now published over 40 years ago, in which the foreword had a number of the same thoughts as in Ms. Elliott's essay. For what it's worth I am enclosing a copy of that earlier effort.

Scott D. Breckenridge

Dear Scott,

Ah yes, I remember it well. It was indeed many moons ago, in the 23rd Street YMCA, home of the once strong Saltus Fencing Club. And I recall our fencing in Washington. And I like the foreword you wrote—I will use it at the first opportunity. Thank you.

Albie

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# Bulletin Board

The Tanner City Fencers Club cordially invites all fencers living in, vacationing, or passing through the New England area, to participate in informal fencing at the home of Aaron Bell, 52 Pickwick Road, Marblehead, Mass., every Wednesday evening from July 8th to August 26th, weather permitting.

There is an electric strip, free refreshments, and no fees of any kind. After fencing, a heated pool is available and children and spouses are cordially invited to join in the swimming.

\* \* \*

The Boston Fencing Club and the Academy of Fencing are proud to announce the opening of their new salle. The facilities are spacious, well lit, and overhead reel are being installed on five strips.

The club extends an open invitation to all visitors to Boston. There is open fencing on Tuesday and Thursday nights and Saturday afternoons, year 'round. Equipment is available if you don't have yours with you. The address remains 125 Walnut Street, Watertown, MA. The phone number is 617-926-3450

\* \* \*

Fencing is alive and well in Hawaii! Anyone with travel plans which include Hawaii and would like to fence in beautiful surroundings should contact any of the following; Melodie Cagle—Chair @ 808-988-3127, Barbara Vacca—Vice-Chair @ 808-923-0064, Ed Sh'e—Secretary @808-239-8076 or Sam Mitchell—Treasurer 808-841-1527.

\* \* \*

The October '86 earthquake dealt a staggering blow to San Salvador's economy and one and one half million people were destroyed by nature. A request has been received from their fencing federation which is trying to re-establish a program for their youth. A simple request—because their El Palacio de Los Deportes, home of the fencing program, collapsed and within five seconds destroyed all their electrical equipment, weapons and uniforms, they are pleading for contributions of any equipment—new, used or cash. Contributions should go directly to David Franco, Calle El Volcan #44, Col. Sn. Antonio— Mejicanos, El Salvador.

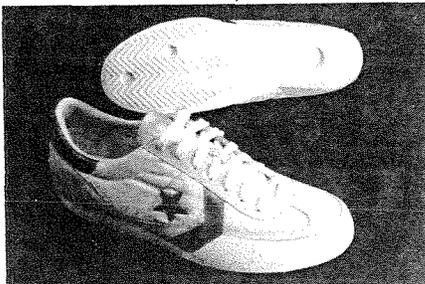
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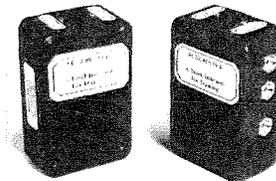


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Along the East Coast, the Leon Paul reel, in all of its various models, has become a very popular reel because of its ease of disassembly and the ready access to spare parts from George Santelli, Inc. of Englewood, New Jersey. There are a series of problems involving the reels which have very simple solutions: the breaking of the fencer's end wires, the cleaning of the wiping contacts, and the breaking of the plastic grommets where the reel wire enters the casing. All of these problems, if not remedied, can cause the Leon Paul reels to be a source of continuing problems.

If the PVC pigtail on the fencer's end of the reel wire has become broken, it does not serve its function of protecting the wire from the mechanical fatigue which comes from the continual flexing of the wire. The only solution to this problem is to replace the PVC sleeve. To replace the PVC sleeve, tie a double overhand or figure-eight knot about 16" from the fencer's end of the wire to prevent the wire from being retracted into the reel as you work on it. Remove the two screws from the steel bracket on the fencer's end of the reel. Then slide the steel bracket off the old PVC sleeve, moving it backward along the wire. To remove the old PVC sleeve from the contact block, grasp the block with a pair of needle-nose pliers and pull it out; do not cut the PVC sleeve! Then, loosen the screws which hold the wire to the contact block and untie the strain relief, if there is one. In the case of the older Leon Paul reels, there is a knot which acts as a strain relief; if it cannot be untied, then cut it off.

At this point the PVC sleeve may be replaced. Make sure that the steel bracket is still on the wire, then thread the wire, with its cloth insulating jacket through the pigtail. If you encounter difficulty in threading the wire through the small opening in the PVC sleeve, you can make a leader using plastic electrical tape. Take about 8" of the electrical tape, and roll it length-wise around 2" of the wire end. Then thread the tightly rolled leader through the PVC sleeve. Occasionally, the fit is so tight that you will need to wet the leader to lubricate its passage through the PVC sleeve's pigtail. With the wire threaded through the PVC sleeve, you can now reattach or re-tie the strain relief. This is a very important step if continued problems with the wires breaking are to be avoided. Strip about 6" of the cloth insulation from the end of the wire before retying or reattaching the strain relief. Then reattach the red, white, and blue wires to the contact block. The white wire is usually connected to the middle terminal, the red wire to the terminal closer to the middle one, and the blue wire connected to the terminal farther from the middle one. Leave a little slack in the wires so the strain relief can function properly. After connecting the wires and clipping off the surplus, insert the contact block into the new PVC sleeve, the blue-wire end first. Make sure the screw heads of the terminals are opposite the openings in the PVC sleeve. Push the contact block into the PVC sleeve while GENTLY pulling on the wire to seat the block. Reattach the steel bracket, and you're done.

With any of the Leon Paul reels, many problems can be eliminated if the wiping contacts inside the reel are kept clean. To get to the contacts, open the reel case by unscrewing the nut on the side of the case where the floor cable connections are. Lift off that side of the case, and the wiping contacts and commutator will be visible. At this point, the tension

on the reel springs must be relieved; do this by lifting the grommet from its seat and controlling the unwinding of the springs. To remove the wiping contacts and their block from the reel, gently spread the copper contacts as you lift upward. Clean both the commutator rings and wiping contacts with an electronic contact or tuner cleaner (available from Radio Shack stores), wiping the contacts clean. If the wiping contacts are worn or broken, replace them. On the newer Leon Paul reels with stainless steel commutators, chemical cleaning as described above may not be the solution. Polishing the commutator rings with a very fine emery cloth or crocus cloth seems to be the answer to break the invisible glaze which accumulates with use. As the reel is reassembled, be sure that the wiping contacts do not touch each other, and that they sit squarely on the commutator rings. A well cleaned reel should have a resistance of about 3.5 ohms in any one of its three wires. To re-tension the springs, four or five turns of the springs are sufficient.

Another problem is the slowness of reel's rewinding. This may be due to the grease in the spring packs stiffening in the older reels, or a cracked wire spool. In the former case, the solution is very easy: lubricate the three spring cans with one of the Teflon loaded lubricants (Breakfree, SuperSlick, Tri-Flon). Not only will these lubricate the springs, but they will slowly wash the old grease and accumulated dust from the springs. The one disadvantage of this is that the commutator and the wiping contacts will require more frequent cleaning as the old grease is ejected.

In the case of the wire spool developing a crack, this is virtually impossible to fix. The easiest solution is to buy a new spool half and replace the cracked one. A temporary solution is to "Crazy Glue" the pieces together and then to "sew" the crack with dental floss.

The most insidious problem is one which is caused by the steel bracket of the fencer's end of the reel wire slamming into the nylon grommet in the reel casing. A cracked or broken grommet rapidly leads to accelerated wear on the reel wire, which in turn leads to mechanical failure in the wire itself. The placing of a bumper between the steel bracket and the grommet will virtually eliminate this problem. I have found that paddletballs are almost ideal bumpers if they are cut into eights and then bored with a 1/4" hole: one racquetball yields eight bumpers. A cork borer, found in most chemistry labs, is ideal for boring the holes in the bumpers.

To install the bumper, follow the directions for replacing the PVC sleeve as listed above. Do not cut the PVC sleeve off the contact block, unless you intend on replacing it. The only addition to the above directions is that you will have to remove the steel bracket from the wire, slip the bumper on, and replace the steel bracket, before reassembling the fencer's end. Once the bumper is installed, frustrated and thoughtless fencers who inadvertently let the fencer's end of the reel crash into the reel, will not be the cause of more repair time.

Most of the other problems involving the Leon Paul reels are easily diagnosed and cured; a little common sense and patience are all that are necessary. The Leon Paul reel is a workhorse, capable of giving many years of trouble-free service. A little time spent maintaining the reels will insure their longevity and provide many trouble-free hours of electrical fencing.

# Make It Clear

by Ralph Goldstein

If we are seriously concerned about having an audience for fencing, then we must make the proceedings crystal clear. This depends, to a great extent, on the directors. Their announcements and motions must be understood without any question.

Many directors, as most in Europe, point in the direction the touch was made, and the scorer indicates the resultant score on the towers. For example; the fencer on the left scores on his opponent, the director points to his right and the scorer shows a light on the left. To the ordinary onlooker this is confusing. Especially when another director, usually an American, points toward the fencer who actually made the touch. When the scorer indicates the touch on the same side, this is consistent and easily understood by the uninitiated. Especially if the scorekeeper clearly announces the name of the one who has made the hit and announces the score. All directors should use the same system.

Let me digress for a spell. Years ago, when the Europeans indicated touches against, and the winner was indicated by fewer touches against, we in the United States, aware of the importance of the audience, did the opposite—touches for, with the winner as having the most touches scored.

It took a long time, even with the increasing awareness that television would bring totally uninitiated viewers into contact with fencing, for the FIE to appreciate the problem and decide to show the winner with more touches scored. However, the presidents of jury (directors) did *not* change their methods. They continued to indicate the direction in which the touch was scored and expected the scorekeeper and the audience to understand. The result—*confusion!*

If the Europeans persist in this, why should we? They followed us once before, and for good reason. They will again if we persist in making it clear to the audience (and potential television viewers). And, speaking of television, why not make it clear who is actually competing? It's no problem to indicate a fencer's name and nationality by printing it clearly across the back of his uniform. In epee or regular sabre, no special ink need be used. In electrical events (foil and soon, sabre) we can use conductive inks on the lamés.

The foregoing will help enormously in popularizing our sport. We must move forward with the times.



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# Results

## THE 1987 NCAA FENCING CHAMPIONSHIPS by Reverend Lawrence Calhoun

The 43rd Men's NCAA Fencing Championships were held at the University of Notre Dame. The new format had a single weapon contested each day, beginning with sabre, followed by foil and finally, epee.

The final team standings were:

- |                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| 1. Columbia—86     | 6. Rutgers-NB—50 |
| 2. Un. of Penn.—78 | 7. Harvard—45    |
| 3. Penn State—77   | 8. Illinois—44   |
| 4. Notre Dame—71   | 8. NYU—44        |
| 5. Navy—57         | 10. Yale—42      |

The Sabre Individual Results were:

- |                          |                                 |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Michael Lofton—NYU    | 4. Tarek Yassir—C.S.-Long Beach |
| 2. Robert Cottingham—Col | 5. Peter Cox—Penn State         |
| 3. Christopher Roehr—Col | 6. Kevin Stoutermire—Notre Dame |

The Foil Individual Results were:

- |                       |                                   |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. William Mindel—Col | 4. Higgs-Coulthard, C.—Notre Dame |
| 2. Marc Kent—Col      | 5. Yehuda Kovacs—Notre Dame       |
| 3. Marty Yu—Yale      | 6. Tom Cassidy—Un. of Penn.       |

The Epee Individual Results were:

- |                            |                               |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. James O'Neill—Harvard   | 4. Jon Normile—Columbia       |
| 2. Chris O'Loughlin—U Penn | 5. George Poslusny—Penn State |
| 3. Matt Caggiano—Penn St.  | 6. Adrian Randolph—Princeton  |

New NCAA records were set at the tournament:

- Michael Lofton became the first fencer to win 4 NCAA titles in one weapon. He had a four year record of 72-1.
- James O'Neill of Harvard University became the first Harvard fencer to win an NCAA title.

\* \* \*

The 6th NCAA Women's Fencing Championships began with the team tournament. The first day matched the 12 pre-selected teams in a set elimination round. The second day the remaining eight teams were re-seeded for the race for gold.

The final team standings were:

- |               |                |                     |
|---------------|----------------|---------------------|
| 1. Notre Dame | 5. U. Penn     | 9. Wisconsin        |
| 2. Temple     | 6. Yale        | 10. Harvard         |
| 3. Columbia   | 7. Wayne State | 11. C.S.-Santa Cruz |
| 4. F.D.U.     | 8. Penn State  | 12. Stanford        |

The Women's Foil Individual results were:

- |                               |                               |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Caitlin Biladeaux—Columbia | 4. Sue Kemball-Cook—Yale      |
| 2. Isabelle Hamori—Wisconsin  | 5. Jessica Yu—Yale            |
| 3. Molly Sullivan—Notre Dame  | 6. Loredana Ranza—Wayne State |

Katy Biladeaux and Molly Sullivan were seed 1-2 in the round of 16. Both advanced to the semi-final round where Biladeaux defeated Sullivan 8-1. Sullivan met Hamori in the losers bracket from which Hamori advanced (8-7) to meet Biladeaux. Biladeaux defeated Hamori 8-4 to regain her title won at Notre Dame two years ago.

Several awards earned by the fencers and coaches were awarded by the U.S.F.C.A. awards committee.

In the men's fencing, the Outstanding Sabre Fencer award went to Michael Lofton. The Outstanding Foil Fencer award went to Adam Feldman of Penn State, and the Outstanding Epee Fencer award went to James O'Neill of Harvard.

The Georgio Santelli Award for the Outstanding Woman Fencer was awarded to Caitlin K. Biladeaux of Columbia University.

## IVY LEAGUE COLLEGIATE RESULTS

### Men's Ivy League Fencing Results

Columbia University has won its second straight Ivy League Men's Fencing championship in 1987 by finishing unbeaten in league competition with a 5-0 record. Overall, The Lion enjoyed one of its finest seasons ever, ending the dual meet season with a perfect 15-0 record.

Pennsylvania, Yale and Princeton tied for second place with identical 3-2 league records.

Final standings were:

	W	L	PCT.		W	L	PCT.
1. Columbia	5	0	1.00	2. Princeton	3	2	.60
2. Pennsylvania	3	2	.60	5. Cornell	1	4	.375
2. Yale	3	2	.60	6. Harvard	0	5	.000

### Women's Ivy League Fencing Results

For the fifth straight year, Pennsylvania has won the Ivy League Women's Fencing championship by virtue of its unblemished 5-0 record.

The Quakers, who have won five of the league titles, have dominated the sport since the Ivy League officially started women's fencing in 1981. During this six year period, Pennsylvania has accumulated a 27-1 record in league play.

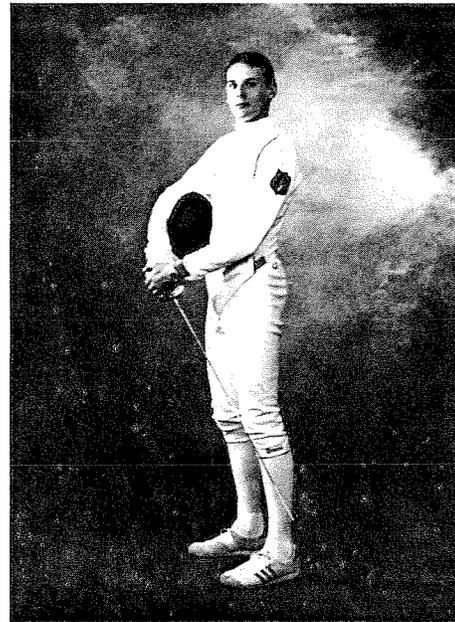
Final standings were:

	W	L	PCT.		W	L	PCT.
1. Pennsylvania	5	0	1.00	4. Harvard	1	4	.20
2. Columbia	4	1	.80	5. Cornell	1	5	.00
3. Yale	3	2	.60	*. Princeton	1	4	.20

\*(club sport at Princ.)

\* \* \*

## Skrabonja Wins North American Title



Randall Skrabonja

The Franklin Lakes resident is one of three foil fencers chosen by the National Fencing Association to represent the United States in the North American International Championships. Randy's undefeated performance in the finals

# Results

against fencers from the United States, Cuba, Canada, Mexico, and the Central American nations won him a berth on the world team which competed for the world title in Tel Aviv, Israel, on April 4.

Randy began his fencing career as a freshman in high school. His strong desire to be a world class fencer caused him to seek private coaching and to concentrate on his form and technique, and he began to compete in as many competitions that he could.

The Ramapo Regional High School junior's hard work paid off this year. He has traveled throughout the country competing with his peers and senior fencers. He qualified for the Junior Olympic championship in Orlando, Florida, by placing first in the New Jersey under-17 qualifying competition and fifth in the under-20 qualifying competition. Randy placed

second in the national competition in the under-17 age group and 16th in the national under-20 age group. It was these two performances that placed him in the top three under-17 point standings and allowed him to go to Colorado Springs for the International North American Championship.

The World Cadet Championships, now over, has shown Randy that not only has his dedicated training stood him in good stead, but has made clear what his goals must be for the future. Randy was tenth in the games in Tel Aviv, but it was tenth in a tournament which had representation from some of the strongest fencing nations of the world—and tenth with a minimum of international experience. Randy has learned much, has set his goals still higher, and with his strong motivation should do great things in the future.



## CONTINENTAL CADET CHAMPIONSHIP

February 28-March 1, 1987 Colorado Springs, CO

### Men's Foil

1. Skrabonja, Randy—USA
2. Carter, Al—USA
3. Gregory, Elvis—Cuba

### Men's Epee

1. Almenarer, Albelis—Cuba
2. Beshin, Jubba—USA
3. Shang, Laurie—Canada

### Men's Sabre

1. Perez, Geovany—Cuba
2. Faure, Aristides—Cuba
3. Carignan, Steve—Canada

### Women's Foil

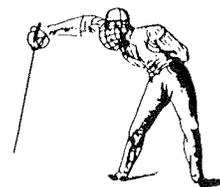
1. Wetterberg, Shelley—Canada
2. Bayeu, Yamile—Cuba
3. Duenaf, Angelica—Mexico

## WORLD CADET CHAMPIONSHIP

April 3-5, 1987 Tel Aviv, Israel

### (Foil Results Only)

1. Crosta—Italy
2. Lasalandra—Italy
3. Reiter—Germany
- (10.) Skrabonja, Randy—USA



## 6th INTERNATIONAL FENCING CAMP / AUGUST 1 - 7, 1987

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Weapons (in preference order) \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby apply for the 6th International Fencing Camp. Enclosed is my non-refundable deposit of \$50.00. The balance is due June 30, 1987. I agree to submit a medical examination report and medical approval upon request. I agree to abide by the regulations of the camp and understand that the camp has the right to terminate my stay for good cause.

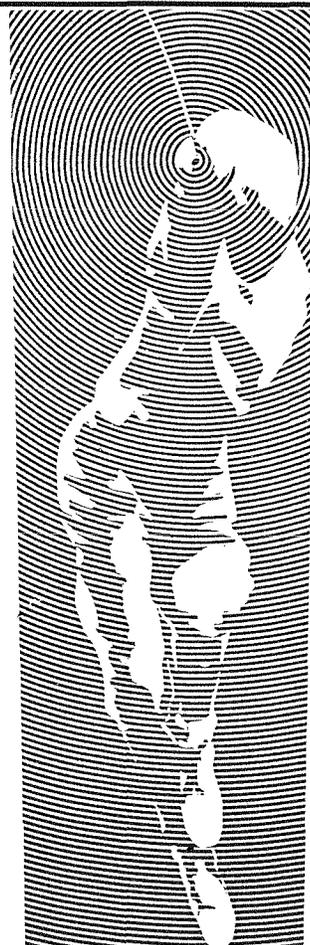
Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent or Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

(if necessary)

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE FENCING CENTER and MAIL TO:

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(212) 620-0114



# Results

## Men's Sabre—61 Entries

1. Baguer, Edward—New Jersey
2. Maggio, Jonathan—Metropolitan
3. Strzalkowski, Tomasz—Virginia
4. Kane, Phil—New Jersey
5. Talioferro, James, D.—New Jersey
6. Lee, Edward. M.—New Jersey

## Women's Foil—86 Entries

1. Carcich, Jennifer—New Jersey
2. Batson, Aleizha—Virginia
3. Jones, Melanie—No. Ohio
4. Posthumus, Lisa—Cent. California
5. Posthumus, Jennifer—Cent. California
6. Marsh, Ann—Michigan

## WESTERN NEW YORK DIVISION SECOND ANNUAL NEW YORK STATE AGE GROUP CHAMPIONSHIPS

March 14-15, 1987 Master's School, Dobbs Ferry, NY

### 200 Entries

#### Women's Events

##### U-11 Foil

1. Reiter, Jennifer—Master's
2. Stewart, Ann—Chapin
3. Adam, Daphne—Chapin

##### U-13 Foil

1. Wein, Stephanie—RFC
2. Raboy, Sara—St. Luke's
3. Como, Christie—Brentwood

##### U-15 Foil

1. Zimmermann, Felicia—RFC
2. Wien, Stephanie—RFC
3. Clevenger, Ann—Santelli

##### U-17 Foil

1. Kochie, Robin—Brentwood
2. Stadtmiller, Renee—RFC
3. Zimmermann, Felicia—RFC

##### U-19 Foil

1. Clinton, Marijoy—RFC
2. Rossmann, Janet—Brentwood
3. O'Dea, Julie—Brentwood

#### Men's Events

##### U-11 Foil

1. O'Connell, Charlie—Santelli
2. Zakow, Andrei—Santelli
3. Clinton, Colin—RFC

##### U-13 Foil

1. O'Connell, Charlie—Santelli
2. Zakow, Andrei—Santelli
3. Clinton, Colin—RFC

##### U-15 Foil

1. Clinton, Tad—RFC
2. Bayer, Greg—Fencers Club
3. Brown, David—RFC

##### U-17 Foil

1. Bases, Daniel—Fencers Club
2. Leibis, Michael—Santelli
3. Rassekh, Sam—Santelli

##### U-19 Foil

1. Weber, Alan—Salle Bardakh
2. Clinton, Tad—RFC
3. Rabkin, Jeffrey—Manhattan

##### U-17 Epee

1. Keane, Jim—Walt Whitman
2. Lowenfish, Anders—Master's
3. Meehan, Justin—Walt Whitman

##### U-19 Epee

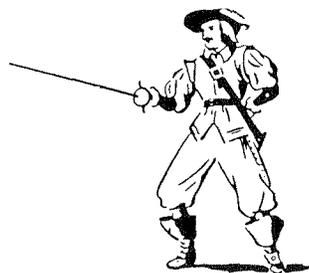
1. Hurbus, Mehmet—Hunter
2. Lowenfish, Anders—Master's
3. O'Dea, Julie—Brentwood

##### U-17 Sabre

1. Stewart, Tripp—Master's
2. Grindstaff, Charlie—Metro
3. Amodemo, Jason—Unat.

##### U-19 Sabre

1. Drossman, Ande—Salle Tanya
2. Lipkin, Ethan—Manhattan
3. Stone, Mathew—Unat.



## GULF COAST DIVISION THE VAN BUSKIRK TOURNAMENT

March 14-15, 1987

### Men's Foil—65 Entries

1. Bleamaster, Leslie—SAC
2. Skopik, August—BCB
3. Huskey, Dave—Unat.

### Men's Epee—28 Entries

1. Hurley, Bob—Unat.
2. Hall, Mike—UT
3. Wahren, John—Rice

### Men's Sabre—23 Entries

1. Clark, Scott—DFC
2. Devine, Dwight—NOFC
3. Trammell, Chris—NOFC

### Women's Foil—27 Entries

1. Hurley, Tracy—Unat.
2. Sumpter, Nancy—Unat.
3. Vasques, Romana—Unat.

### Women's Epee—9 Entries

1. Vasques, Romana—Unat.
2. Hurley, Tracy—Unat.
3. Askins, Leith—UT

### Team Sabre—5 Teams

1. Bastrop AC
2. New Orleans FC
3. Rice FC

## OBERLIN NOVICE INVITATIONAL

Oberlin, OH April 5, 1987

### Men's Foil

1. Wolfe, Justin
2. Hoellrich, Kurt
3. Athey, Rob

### Men's Sabre

1. Hoellrich, Kurt
2. Goldbaum, David
3. Backos, Eric



## GATEWAY DIVISION THE COEUR/COEUR MIXED TOUR'T

Orlando February 21-22, 1987

### Foil

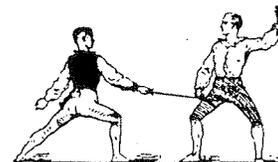
1. Coats, Carlie—Citadel  
Roberts, Jessica—Forrest Fencers
2. Trett, Sophie—FIT  
McFarland, John—FSU
3. Hardin, Ted—FSU  
Forrest, Kelly—Forrest Fencers

### Epee

1. Serafini, Cheryl—Salle Bankuti  
Cromer, Will—Salle Bankuti
2. Hardin, Ted—FSU  
Trett, Sophie—FIT
3. Nelson, Pat—Clemson  
McCullough, Richard—Jacksonville

### Sabre

1. McFarland, John—FSU  
Forrest, Kelly—Forrest Fencers
2. Roberts, Jessica—FSU  
Panteli, Sotos—FIT
3. Mina, Chris—Clemson  
Deeney, Marian—FSU



## SAN DIEGO DIVISION 27th ANNUAL SAN DIEGO INVIT. FOIL OPEN

February 15, 1987

### Men's Foil

1. Robins, Mike—Mori
2. Peña, Brian—Couturier
3. Cotton, Derek—Unat.

### Women's Foil

1. Smith, Susie—Mori
2. Dobson, Robin—Unat.
3. Hill, Laura—Couturier

# Results

## COLORADO DIVISION NORTHERN COLORADO OPEN

March 15, 1987 Fort Collins, CO

### Mixed Foil—22 Entries

1. Grandbois, P.—CU
2. Hensley, T.—Unat.
3. Herres, J.—CFS

### Men's Sabre—18 Entries

1. Beatty, C.—NCF
2. Lutton, T.—CU
3. Koons, D.—NCF

## SWEETWATER COUNTY MID-WINTER OPEN

January 31, 1987 Green River, Wyoming

### Men's Foil—17 Entries

1. Johansen, Zhon—BYU
2. Stasinos, Mark—BYU
3. Hendricks, Ron—Falcon Fencing

### Men's Epee—9 Entries

1. Hendricks, Ron—Falcon Fencing
2. Aten, Gary—Sweetwater
3. Porter, Randy—Sweetwater

### Women's Foil—3 Entries

1. Sorensen, Terri—BYU
2. Rees, Valerie—BYU
3. Brewer, Kelly—BYU

## NICHOLAS TOTH OPEN

December 6-7, 1986 U.S. Air Force Academy

### Men's Foil—62 Participants

1. Warzecha, Andy—CU
2. Taylor, John—BYU
3. Lutton, Tom—CU
4. Lantz-Simmons, P.—KCFC
5. Guerra, Tom—AFA
6. Goodman, R.—Salle d'Loupe

### Men's Epee—33 Participants

1. Nieman, Karl—NCF
2. Shinberg, Scott—AFA
3. Wells, David—Vessey
4. Timmerman, Tom—AFA
5. Lutton, Tom—CU
6. Varney, Doug—KCFC

### Men's Sabre—22 Participants

1. Gallup, Andrew—AFA
2. Stasinos, Mark—BYU
3. Kubick, Wendell—AFA
4. Koons, D.—CSU
5. Beatty, Chris—NCF
6. Rosen, Jeff—PPFL

### Women's Foil—17 Participants

1. Anderson, Kayleen—BYU
2. Voris, Susan—NCF
3. Honig, Lisa—NCF
4. Borgos, Susan—NCF
5. Sullivan, Kathy—PPFL
6. King, Rose—AFA

### Women's Epee—6 Participants

1. Thompson, Kate—Vessey
2. Borgos, Susan—NCF
3. Hansler, Tara—AFA
4. Morrison, K.—Salle d'Loupe
5. Rees, V.—BYU
6. Daniels, S.—BYU

## BLUE VALLEY FENCING TOURNAMENT

December 13-14, 1987 Kansas City, MO

### Open Foil

1. Taracido, Jorge—KCFC
2. Cunningham, Richie—KCFC
3. Fleming, Dan—KCFC

### Open Epee

1. Peters, Greg—Wichita FC
2. Taracido, Jorge—KCFC
3. Empson, Ken—Hickman FC

## BLAZING BLADES OPEN

February 28, 1987 Boise State University, Idaho

### Men's Foil

1. Selzler, Kenny
2. Callao, Maximo
3. Selzer, Brian

### Men's Epee

1. Acree, Steve
2. Callao, Maximo
3. Selzler, Kenny

### Women's Foil

1. McDermitt, Chris
2. Brunetti, Tina



## GUTTMAN OPEN FOIL

March 14, 1987 Mt. Prospect, IL

### Men's Foil—21 Entries

1. Chung, Steve—IFC
2. Hayenga, Gary—Iowa State
3. Chung, Seon-o—IFC

### Women's Foil—12 Entries

1. Furu, Kathy—GLFA
2. Urban, Chris—Excalibur
3. Gordon, Carla—IFC

## TUCSON ESPADA

February 21-22, 1987 Tucson, Arizona

### Men's Foil—20 Entries

1. Johnson, William—Tucson FC
2. Oliver, Bill—No. Colorado
3. Lutton, Tom—Un. of Col.

### Men's Epee

1. Thwistlethwaite, Doug—Salle Borracho
2. King, Charles—Southwest FC
3. McWhirter, Bob—En Garde FC

### Women's Foil—8 Entries

1. Shapley, June—Unat.
2. Malmstrom, Terra-Ann—No. Col. FC
3. Jordan, Linda—Southwest FC

### Under 14 Men's Foil—9 Entries

1. Scull, Alex—Tucson FC
2. Trujillo, Tony—Tucson FC
3. Barnett, Jonathan—Tucson FC

### Under 17 Women's Foil—4 Entries

1. Marks, Mary—Tucson FC
2. Behm, Brenda—En Garde FC
3. Marks, Norma—Tucson FC

## 1987 VOLUNTEER OPEN

February 21-22, 1987 Knoxville, TN

### Men's Foil—24 Entries

1. Myricks, L.—CFC
2. Franco, D.—AFC
3. Cunningham, K.—DRAFT

### Men's Epee—13 Entries

1. Myricks, L.—CFC
2. Adkins, J.—DRAFT
3. Cunningham, K.—DRAFT

### Men's Sabre—8 Entries

1. Myricks, L.—CFC
2. Harris, J.—UA
3. Nieman, AFC—AFC

### Women's Foil—10 Entries

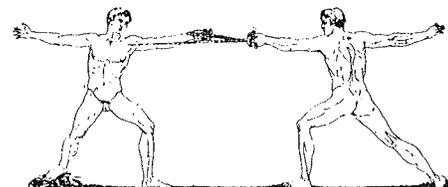
1. Seitz, E.—CFC
2. Meyer, R.—Auburn
3. Underwood, L.—UTK

### Women's Epee—6 Entries

1. Meyer, R.—Auburn
2. Ziegler, C.—Vanderbilt
3. Tipton, M.—Varangian

### Women's Sabre—4 Entries

1. Ziegler, C.—Vanderbilt
2. Meyer, R.—Auburn
3. Watts, L.—UTK



## 1st GREEN AND GOLD INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT

### Shelton State Comm Coll

March 21-22, 1987 Tuscaloosa, AL

### Men's Foil

1. Al-Kharafi, Osama—Corsairs
2. Griffith, Robert—Montgomery
3. Blackwood, Harold—Auburn
3. DeMars, Dick—Montgomery

### Women's Foil

1. Meyer, Roberta—Auburn
2. Walker, Terry—Birmingham FC
3. Purdie, Laura—Atlanta FC

### Men's Foil—Class D'

1. DeMars, Dick—Montgomery
2. Blackwood, Harold—Auburn
3. Burpee, Jerry—Corsairs

### Women's Foil—Class D

1. Guest, Lisa—BAMA
2. Kellenburger, Regina—Birmingham FC
3. Dockery, Eugenia—Corsairs