

merican
F*encing*



MICHEL J. ALAUX
1923 — 1974

(See Pages 6 and 7)

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EDITORIAL

At a recent match between two of the Ivy League colleges I was shocked to find that much of the electrical equipment was not ready at starting time!

The fencers were clean and neat and since both coaches were old friends of mine with many years experience, I cannot understand it. To begin with, the extension lights would not operate. This placed an unreasonable burden on the director and proved later to be unfair to the fencers. There were at least two instances when, because of the position of the fencers, the director could not see whether an attempted parry was successful. One of the fencers was cheated of a touch because of the lack of these extension lights. The buzzer was no help either, it wasn't loud enough to be heard over the enthusiastic cheering of the crowd.

With such an unpropitious start a number of other problems followed; some electrical foils failed, body cords had to be changed, and even the lame vests were defective. One of these from the home team was so corroded that a hit directly below the neckline registered both valid and off target.

Interestingly enough, both the coaches and the members of the teams took it all in good grace and remained cheerful to the end. Everyone seemed satisfied, except me, despite these interruptions and delays.

Is it too much to suggest that all equipment be in proper working order before the start of a match?

PAN AM COACH

The Olympic selection committee announces the replacement of Michael Dasaro with Chaba Elthes as Pan American Team Coach. Mr. Dasaro will be reserved as first alternate.

CONGRATULATIONS

American Fencing extends its best wishes to Jo and Chaba Pallyghy on the arrival of Cassandra Mia on January 11.

PORTLAND HOSTS U.S. JUNIOR OLYMPICS

by Debbie Waples and Colleen Olney

One hundred and thirty-four enthusiastic young fencers assembled this year for the 1975 Junior Olympic Championships, Feb. 15-17, in Portland, Oregon. The event was held in the spacious main gym of Portland State University, and hosted by a very efficient Oregon Division.

UNDER 20 FOIL:

First Round:

Pool 1: 1) Martino, NJ (6-0); 2) Dixon, WIS (3-2); 3) Glass, ILL. (3-2); 4) Kullman, W. WA (3-2); 5) Hoberg, No. CA (2-3); 6) Irwin, OR (1-4).

Pool 2: 1) Massialas, Mich (6-0); 2) Neale, NJ (5-1); 3) Gerard, M. ILL (3-3); 4) Mooney, No. CA (3-3); 5) Hansen, Wa D.C. (2-4); 6) Foster, Colo (2-4); 7) Mayhew, OR (0-6).

Pool 3: 1) Herring, Wis (5-0); 2) Marx, OR (4-1); 3) Sulikowicz, No. Tx (3-2); 4) Gross, L.I (2-3); 5) Brainerd, ILL. (1-4); 6) Lo, No. CA (0-5).

Pool 4: 1) Nonomura, No. CA (6-0); 2) Gerard, P. ILL. (5-1); 3) Smith, Mich (4-2); 4) Helms, No. Tx (3-3); 5) Shulick, OR Coast (2-4); 6) Dorfman, Harrisburg (1-5); 7) Miller, OR (0-6).

Pool 5: 1) Schifrin, So. CA (5-1); 2) Brusowankin, Maryland (5-1); 3) Caux, Gulf Coast (4-2); 4) Kica, ILL. (4-2); 5) Socha, G. Wis (2-4); 6) French, OR Coast (1-5); 7) Stewart, W. WA (0-6).

Pool 6: 1) Sullivan, N. Eng. (6-0); 2) Koester, ILL. (5-1); 3) Thomas, So. CA (4-2); 4) Forrest, Fla, Gold Coast (3-3); 5) Cash, Mich. (2-4); 6) Larred, Gold Coast (1-5); 7) Bank, C. CA (0-7).

Second Round:

Pool 1: 1) Massialas, Mich. (4-1); 2) Gerard, P. ILL. (4-1); 3) Gross, L. I (3-2); 4) Dixon, Wis. (2-3); 5) Schifrin, So. CA (2-3); 6) Sulikowicz, No. Tx (0-6).

Pool 2: 1) Martino, NJ (5-0); 2) Brusowankin, Maryland (3-2); 3) Koester, Ill. (2-3); 4) Kica, Ill. (2-3); 5) Kullman, W. WA (2-3); 6) Helms, No. Tx (1-4).

Pool 3: 1) Neale, NJ (4-1); 2) Sullivan, N. Eng. (4-1); 3) Marx, OR (4-1); 4) Forrest, Fla Gold Coast (2-3); 5) Smith, Mich (1-4); 6) Gerald, M. Ill. (0-5).

Pool 4: 1) Nonomura, No. CA (5-0); 2) Herring, Wis. (3-2); 3) Thomas, So. CA (3-2); 4) Glass, Ill. (2-3); 5) Caux, Gulf Coast. (2-3); 6) Mooney, No. CA (0-5).

Semi Final:

Pool 1: 1) Sullivan, N. Eng. (4-1); 2) Martino, NJ (3-2); 3) Herring, Wis. (3-2); 4) Massialas, Mich (2-3); 5) Koester, Ill. (2-3); 6) Thomas, So. CA (1-5).

Pool 2: 1) Marx, OR (4-1); 2) Nonomura, No. CA (4-1); 3) Gerard, P. Ill. (3-2); 4) Gross, L. I (2-3); 5) Neale, NJ (2-3); 6) Brusowankin, Maryland (0-6).

Final: 1) Herring, Wis. (5-0); 2) Gerard, P. Ill. (4-1); 3) Martino, NJ (2-3); 4) Marx, OR (2-3); 5) Sullivan, N. Eng. (1-4); 6) Nonomura, No. CA (1-4).

UNDER 20 WOMENS' FOIL

First Round

Pool 1: 1. Ellingson, So. Cal (5-1); 2. Crowley, Atl. (5-1); 3. Brown, OR (4-2); 4. Kniffin, So. (3-3); 5. Lieberman, Metro (2-4); 6. Scheel (1-5); 7. Waples, L, OR (1-5).

Pool 2: 1. Hurley, No. Cal. (5-1); 2. Kovatch (5-1); 3. Valdiserri, Ind. (4-2); 4. Sizer, L, OF 5. Arnold, Gateway (2-4); 6. Banifield, Conn 7. Husband, W. WA (1-5).

Pool 3: 1. Johnson, No. Cal. (5-1); 2. Hann Coast (5-1); 3. Hucker, N.J. (4-2); 4. Fool Cal (2-4); 5. Lowry, Conn. (2-4); 6. Fields, OF 7. Faley, Ill. (1-4).

Pool 4: 1. Keleher, Maryland (6-0); 2. Ko Conn. (4-2); 3. Girard, Minn. (4-2); Sobel, N.J 5. Geary, Cen Cal. (2-4); 6. DesGeorges, (1-5); 7. Messina, OR Coast (1-5).

Pool 5: 1. Massialas, Mich. (5-0); 2. Sizer, (3-2); 3. Park, N.J. (3-2); 4. Nyden, Cen Ca 5. Szabunia, Long Is. (1-4); 6. Spencer, (1-4).

Second Round

Pool 1: 1. Massialas, Mich. (3-1); Sobel, N.J Tied for 1st and 2nd; 3. Konech, Conn. (2 Kovatch, N.J. (2-2); 5. Kniffin, So. Cal (0-4).

Pool 2: 1. Hurley, No. Cal (4-0); 2. Crowley Atl. (3-1); 3. Nyden, Cen Cal (1-3); 4. Par (1-3); 5. Brown, OR (1-3).

Pool 3: 1. Hucker, N.J. (4-0); 2. Keleher, Me (3-1); 3. Foote, So. Cal. (2-2); 4. Hanner, OR (1-3); 5. Sizer, R. OR (1-4).

Pool 4: 1. Girard, Minn. (4-0); 2. Johnson, N (2-2); 3. Sizer, L, OR (2-2); 4. Ellingson, S (1-3); 5. Valdiserri, Ind. (1-3).

Semi Final

Pool 1: 1. Konecny, Conn (4-1); 2. Hurley, (4-1); 3. Sobel, N.J. (3-2); 4. Foote, So. Cal 5. Crowley, No. Atl. (1-4); 6. Nyden, Cen Cal

Pool 2: 1. Johnson, No. Cal. (4-0); 2. Ma Mich. (4-1); 3. Keleher, Maryland, (3-1); 4. Minn. (1-4); 5. Mucker, N.J. (1-4); 6. Sizer, (1-4) — (Johnson-Keleher Bout not fenced)

Final: 1. Hurley, No. Cal. (5-0); 2. Johnson, N (3-2); 3. Sobel, N.J. (3-2); 4. Massialas, Mich 5. Keleher, Maryland (1-4); 6. Konecny (0-4)

UNDER 20 EPEE

First Round

Pool 1: 1. Bansmer, No. Cal (5-0); 2. Power (3-2); 3. Massialas, Mich. (3-2); 4. Sidra (2-3); 5. Socha, Wis. (2-2); 6. Foster, Colo

Pool 2: 1. Frenson, N.J. (5-0); 2. Marx, M. OI 3. Jugan, So. Cal. (2-3); 4. Larred, Gold Coast 5. Kullman, W. WA (1-4); 6. Brown, Ill. (1-1)

Pool 3: 1. Shelley, N.J. (5-0); 2. French, OF (4-1); 3. Sulikowicz, No. Tx (3-2); 4. Irwin, OR 5. Hensen, WA D.C. (1-4); 6. Cain, No. Cal.

Pool 4: 1. Marx, R. OR (4-1); 2. Glass, Ill. (Nickless, OR Coast, (4-1); 4. Hendry, N.J. (Sargent, W. WA (1-4).

Pool 5: 1. MacDonald, OR (5-0); 2. Forre Gold Coast (3-2); 3. Vickery, Ill. (2-3); 4. W

N.J. (2-3); 5. Dixon, Wis. (2-3); 6. Helms, No. Tx (1-4).

Pool 6: 1. Neale, N.J. (4-1); 2. Smith, Mich. (4-1); 3. Schiffrin, So. Cal. (4-1); 4. Koester, Ill. (2-3); 5. Stewart, W. Wa (1-4); 6. Brown, OR (0-5).

Second Round

Pool 1: 1. Glass, Ill. (4-1); 2. Frenson, N.J. (3-2); 3. Sidman, OR (3-2); 4. Larred, Gold Coast (3-2); 5. French, N.J. (2-3); 6. Sulikowicz, No. Tx (0-5).

Pool 2: 1. Nickless, OR Coast (3-2); 2. Smith, Mich. (3-2); 3. Koester, Ill. (3-2); 4. Wheeler, N.J. (2-3); 5. MacDonald, OR (2-3); 6. Powers, N.J. (2-3).

Pool 3: 1. Shelley, N.J. (4-1); 2. Marx, OR (4-1); 3. Schiffrin, So. Cal. (3-2); 4. Massialas, Mich. (2-3); 5. Hendry, N.J. (2-3); 6. Irwin, OR (0-5).

Pool 4: 1. Neale, N.J. (4-1); 2. Forrest, Fla Gold Coast (3-2); 3. Marx, M. OR (3-2); 4. Bansmer, No. Cal. (2-3); 5. Jugan, So. Cal. (2-3); 6. Vickery, Ill. (1-4).

Semi Final

Pool 1: 1. Shelley, N.J. (5-0); 2. Marx, M. OR (3-2); 3. Glass, Ill. (3-2); 4. Frenson, N.J. (2-3); 5. Nickless, OR Coast (2-3); 6. Koester, Ill. (0-5).

Pool 2: 1. Neale, N.J. (4-1); 2. Sidman, OR (3-2); 3. Marx, R. OR (2-3); 4. Schiffrin, So. Cal (2-3); 5. Smith, Mich. (2-3); 6. Forrest, Fla Gold Coast (0-5).

Final 1. Tied for first place: Glass, Ill. (4-1); Marx, M. OR (4-1); 3. Shelley, N.J. (3-2); 4. Neale, N.J. (2-3); 5. Marx R. OR (1-4); 6. Sidman, OR (1-4).

UNDER 20 SABRE

First Round

Pool 1: 1) Sullivan, N. Eng. (5-1); 2) Gould, So. Cal. (5-1); 3) McAuliffe, N.J. (4-2); 4) Caux, Gulf Coast (4-2); 5) Helms, No. Tx (2-4); 6) Hoberg, No. Cal (1-5); 7) J. Foster, Colo. (0-6).

Pool 2: 1) Graham, Gold Coast (4-1); 2) Cawley, Ill (3-2); 3) Thomas, So. Cal. (3-2); 4) Brand, N. Eng. (3-2); 5) Bentley, Wis (1-4); 6) French, OR Coast (1-4).

Pool 3: 1) Majtenyi, N.J. (5-0); 2) Burnet, Metro (4-1); 3) Vella, Ill. (3-2); 4) Sulikowicz, No. Tx (2-3); 5) Cotterell, OR (1-4); 6) Shulic, OR Coast (0-5).

Semi Final

Pool 1: 1)Majtenyi, N.J. (5-0); 2) Brunet, Metro (4-1); 3) McAuliffe, N.J. (3-2); 4) Thomas, So. Cal (2-3); 5)Brand, N. Eng. (1-4); 6) Caux, Gulf Coast (0-5).

Pool 2: 1) Graham, Gold Coast (5-0); 2) Sullivan, N. Eng. (4-1); 3) Cawley, Ill. (3-2); 4) Vella, Ill. (2-3); 5) Gould, So. Cal (1-4); 6) Sulikowicz, No. Tx (0-5).

Final 1) Sullivan, N. Eng. (5-0); 2) Majtenyi, N.J. (3-2); McAuliffe, N.J. (3-2); 4) Brunet, Metro (2-3); 5) Graham, Gold Coast (2-3); 6) Cawley, Ill. (0-5).

UNDER 16 SABRE

First Round:

Pool 1: 1) Thomas, So. CA (5-0); 2) Mooney, So CA (4-1); 3) Cash, Mich (3-2) 4) Lisan, RA (2-3); 5) Garwick, Minn (1-4); 6) Cain, CA (0-5).

Pool 2: 1) Frieder, So. CA (4-1); 2) Robinson, Mich. (4-1); 3) Lear N.J. (3-2); 4) Anderson, Tx. (2-3); 5) Lale, CA (1-4); 6) Bank, CA (1-4).

Final: 1) Cash, Mich. (5-0); 2) Thomas, CA (3-2); 3) Frieder, CA (2-3); 4) Robinson, Mich. (2-3); 5) Mooney, CA (2-3); 6) Lear, N.J. (1-4)

UNDER 16 WOMENS' FOIL

First Round:

Pool 1: 1) Faley, Ill. (4-0); 2) Ellingson, CA (3-1); 3) Szabunia, N.Y. (2-2); 4) Selin, W. WA (1-4); 5) Sidman, OR (0-5).

Pool 2: 1) Depken, N.J. (4-0); 2) Foote, CA (3-1); 3) Lowry, Conn. (2-2); 4) DesGeorges, OR (1-3); 5) Selin, W. WA (0-5).

Final: 1) Faley, Ill. (5-0); 2) Ellingson, CA (3-2); 3) Foote, CA (3-2); 4) Szabunia, NY (2-3); Depken, NJ (1-4); 6) Lowry, Conn. (1-4).

UNDER 16 FOIL

First Round:

Pool 1: 1) Thomas, CA (4-0); 2) Scheder, Wisc (3-1); 3) Anderson, Tx (2-2); 4) Lale, CA (1-3); 5) Lisan, PA (0-4).

Pool 2: 1) Kullman, W. WA (3-1); 2) Kubik, Ill. (3-1); 3) Girard, Wis. (3-1); 4) Money, CA (1-3); 5) Miller, OR. (0-4).

Pool 3: 1) Ferdmon, Ill. (4-0); 2) Stewart, W. WA (3-1); 3) Allen, So. CA (2-2); 4) Cain, CA (1-3); 5) Weiss, PA (0-4).

Pool 4: 1) Wheaden, MD (4-0); 2) Cash, Mich. (3-1); 3) Harmon, W. WA (2-2); 4) Miller, OR (1-3); 5) Bank, CA (0-4).

Semi Final:

Pool 1: 1) Thomas, CA (5-0); 2) Kubik, Ill. (4-1); 3) Ferdman, Ill. (3-2); 4) Stewart, W. WA (2-3); 5) Anderson, Tx. (1-4); 6) Harmon, W. WA (0-5).

Pool 2: 1) Wheaden, MD (4-1); 2) Kullman, W. WA (4-1); 3) Cash, Mich. (3-2); 4) Girard, Wis. (2-3); 5) Scheder, Wis. (2-3); 6) Allen, So. CA (0-5).

Final: 1) Thomas, CA (4-1); 2) Kullman, W. WA (4-1); 3) Cash, Mich. (3-2); 4) Wheaden, MD (2-3); 5) Ferdman, Ill. (1-4); 6) Kubik, Ill. (1-4).

UNDER 16 EPEE

First Round

Pool 1: 1. Paine, Ill. (4-0); 2. Robinson, Mich. (2-2); 3. Stewart, W. WA (2-2); 4. Christie, NJ (1-4); 5. Weiss, Phil. (1-4).

Pool 2: 1. Cavanaugh, NJ (4-0); 2. Wheaden, Maryland (3-1); 3. Cain, No. Cal (2-2); 4. Scheder, Wis. (1-3); 5. Pederzani, W. WA (0-4).

Pool 3: 1. Kullman, W. WA (3-1); 3. Cash, Mich. (2-2); 3. Anderson, No. Tx (2-2); 4. Brown, OR (1-4); 5. Mooney, So. Cal (1-4).

Semi Final

Pool 1: 1. Wheaden, Maryland (5-0); 2. Christie, NJ (3-2); 3. Paine, Ill. (3-2); 4. Anderson, No. Tx (2-3); 5. Brown, OR (1-4); 6. Cain, No. Cal (1-4).

Pool 2: 1. Kullman, W. WA (4-1); 2. Robinson, Mich. (3-2); 3. Cash, Mich. (3-2); 4. Cavanaugh, NJ (3-2); 5. Stewart, W. WA (2-3); 6. Scheder, Wis. (0-5).

Final 1. Wheaden, Maryland (4-1); 2. Kullman, W. WA (4-1); 3. Cash, Mich. (2-3); 4. Paine, Ill. (2-3); 5. Robinson, Mich. (2-3); 6. Christie, NJ (1-4).

FIRST PAN AMERICAN TRIALS OF 1975

by Emily B. Johnson

The First 1975 Pan American Trials in Women's Foil, Foil and Epee were held in San Francisco the weekend of January 11 and 12, at Letterman General Hospital Gymnasium.

It was an exciting competition to watch. The competitors had obviously been training rigorously and fenced very well. Each round lasted about half an hour longer than usual because everyone was so closely matched. Over and over again throughout the competition you would hear "One minute to fence."

The facilities were excellent due to the efforts of the Northern California Division and Mary Huddleson. We owe a vote of thanks to Dr. William O'Brien and the U.S. Army for letting us use the gymnasium.

We had some very good directors including Hezibur Okawa and Jan Romary who came up from Los Angeles to help.

RESULTS

FOIL: 1. Nonna; 2. Lang; 3. Freeman; 4. I. 5. Ballinger; 6. Tarascia; 7. Gaylor; 8. V. 9. Hambarzumian; 10. Davis; 11. Gran Axelrod; 13. Masin; 14. Krause; 15. Makl Lyons; 17. Massialas; 18. Gelnaw; 19. K. 20. Cohen; 21. Friedman.

WOMEN: 1. Armstrong; 2. Grompone; 3. O'C. 4. McCourt; 5. Jacobsen; 6. Smith; 7. Tom 8. Walbridge; 9. Latham; 10. Bleamaste Posthumus; 12. Orly; 13. Johnson; 14. O'D 15. Debiase; 16. Clovis; 17. King; 18. Mas 19. Carter; 20. Mitchell; 21. Annavedder.

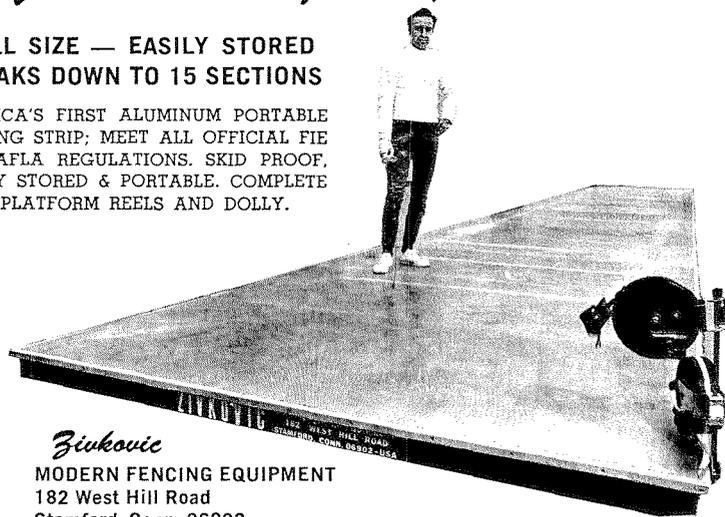
EPEE: 1. Lyons; 2. Matheson; 3. Bozek; 4. I. B.; 5. Pesthy; 6. Beck; 7. Melcher; 8. Kes' Cotton; 10. Christie; 11. Johnson; 12. Gla Marin; 14. Fitzgerald; 15. Reith; 16. Guz 17. Masin; 18. Siegel; 19. Makler, T.; 20. wald; 21. Messing; 22. McMahan.

SABER: 1. Orban; 2. Apostol; 3. Westbrc Kean; 5. Loscocy; 6. Blum, R.; 7. Goer House; 9. Lekach; 10. Kaplan; 11. Blum, Benedek; 13. Makler; 14. Danosi; 15. Reil Gall; 17. Glucksman; 18. Bartos; 19. Jac 20. Tishman; 21. Dow; 22. Maxwell; 23. Sr

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MICHEL J. ALAUX

by Richard Gradkowski

Fencing has suffered a profound loss with the tragic death on December 30th of Michel J. Alaux. Brought down in what should have been the prime of his career by cancer of the lungs and brain, his cheerful "keep smiling" uttered in a perfect French accent with a cigarette dangling from his mouth will not be heard again. Those of us who had the privilege of studying with and knowing him will miss him.

Michel Alaux was a genius in his field. I say this because, while most other fencing masters teach fencing technique, form, tactics, or footwork; Michel taught "fencing". His holistic approach was direct and immediate, cutting to the heart and essence of the concept of fencing. Even with a very beginner, one could see this effect.

His influence in this respect cannot be underestimated. It is a great loss to American fencing that too few fencers and fencing masters were able to understand this.

Graduating in 1942 from the French National Professional School as a technician in Metallurgy he began his fencing studies at the National School of Sport at Joinville and completed them at the Military School of Antibes. He graduated in 1947 with his fencing master's diploma. Later he received a series of medals and citations from the French government culminating in the award of the "Palme Academique" for services rendered in sport in 1962.

In the years preceeding the 1952 Helsinki Olympics he trained Christian d'Oriola, the greatest French fencer of modern times. At Helsinki d'Oriola won the first of his two Olympic Gold medals.

In March of 1956 Michel Alaux came to the United States to become Fencing Master at the Fencers Club of New York, replacing the retiring Rene Pinchart. He immediately plunged into his labors to try to develop American fencing to the level which he felt was within it's potential. Among his many successful pupils were Herbert Cohen, Jeffrey Checks, James Melcher, and John Nonna and Neal Cohen.

He became U.S. Olympic team coach in 1964, 1968, and 1972 and at several World Championships.

He joined the National Fencing Coaches Association of America and chaired and directed the committee which devised and set up the examination for "Fencing Master", the first such professional diploma available in the United States. The first examination was given by his committee at the University of Detroit in March of 1965 and successful candidates became recognized by the International Academy of Arms, the world body of fencing masters.

Unfortunately conditions in the American fencing world were not conducive to the high goals at which he aimed, and Michel was never able to achieve the results which his genius called for. But he never gave up. At his death he was busy teaching at the Hunter College of New York, the Lycee Francais, and had only just completed a second book on Fencing.

He is survived by his wife, and daughters Myriam and Patricia.

American Fencing extends its sincere condolences to his family and many friends.

METROPOLITAN SECTION CHAMPIONSHIP

by Marilyn Masiero

The Metropolitan Section Championship will be held on May 17 and 18 at Hunter College. Members of the Metropolitan, Westchester and West Point Divisions may compete. The schedule of events is:

Saturday, May 17, 9:00 A.M.: Epee
1:00 P.M.: Sabre

Sunday, May 18, 9:00 A.M.: Women's Foil
12:00 noon: Foil

All fencers must pre enter the Championship. Entries must be accompanied by a \$6.00 entry fee per weapon, and be post-marked by May 5. Send entries to **Ms. Marilyn Masiero, 401 First Avenue, Apt. 20C, New York 10010.** All finalists will receive awards.

MICHEL ALAUX In Memorium

by Eugene Blanc

For nearly eighteen years Michel Alaux reigned as Master of the Salle at the Fencers' Club with panache and gallantry and dedication. With typical Gallic verve and elan he inspired us, infuriated us, and generally endeared himself to us as a great master and devoted friend.

When Rene Pinchart retired, Bob Driscoll and Tracy Jaeckel focussed their search on Michel, then resplendent with the making of the incomparable Christian d'Oriola, World and Olympic champion.

With the help of the late Col. Henry Breckinridge we managed the transplant to the United States of Michel, his wife and two daughters. After a harrowing voyage and in a state of mild shock he arrived at the old club (on 53rd street).

With the courage that was basic to his nature, he plunged into all the problems that surrounded him. His talents and his strengths brought him the conquest, and he emerged as a towering figure in American fencing.

Michel stayed with us during our difficult times, our move to 38th street, loyal and devoted, always seeking in his pupils the same perfection of technique which he required of himself. He was "The Fencers' Club" in a symbolic way.

When last summer we learned of the lethal grip which an incurable disease had fastened upon him, we were shocked and stunned beyond belief. It was only slowly that we could assimilate the full scope of the tragedy. But Michel knew and he even tried to hide it from us to spare us. He fought back; we fought and suffered with him.

He died on December 30, 1974, and he faced death as he had lived, with the panache and gallantry that had characterized his life, and with which he had come to us.

Whatever the future of Fencer's Club, something of Michel, his bravery and his spirit, will be a part of the Club forever.

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A SKILL TEST FOR BEGINNING FOIL FENCERS

by Dewayne J. Johnson

(Ed. Note: Dr. Johnson is a member of the Dept. of Physical Education of the George Peabody College in Nashville, Tennessee.)

Skill tests are considered an important aspect of any activity class by nearly all physical educators. There are few instructors of activity classes that grade without the use of some type of skill test. In most activities, there exist skill tests that have been validated and for which reliability coefficients have been established. This is not true with foil fencing. Skill tests used by instructors in foil fencing usually amount to tests that they were graded on or tests that are made up. Many instructors use no validated test. The purpose of his investigation was to check the validity and reliability of the fencing skill test used by the investigator in beginning foil fencing classes.

Procedures

The skill test investigated in this study was administered to fifteen college students enrolled in beginning foil fencing. The skill test consisted of three parts: (1) thirty second speed test, (2) six compulsory parry-riposte maneuvers, (3) three compulsory offensive maneuvers. The thirty second speed test was included in the test battery because from personal contact with other instructors, it was determined that this type of skill test is the most often used of any individual test item. In this particular test, the fencing student would assume a correct on-guard position with correct fencing distance from a target. The target was twelve inches by six inches marked on a wall. The student would begin from an on-guard position and on the signal to begin, execute as many hits on the target as possible in thirty seconds. The student was required to maintain correct fencing distance and return to a proper on-guard position between each hit. A good hit was counted as anytime the foil tip touched the target as long as the student followed instructions concerning the fencing distance and the on-

guard position. The score was the total number of good hits in thirty seconds.

The six compulsory parry-riposte maneuvers were executed against an opponent. Both of the fencers were told to execute all movements at moderate speed, moderate speed was interpreted as half speed. The dummy fencer would make a simple lunge-attack into one of the four designated areas; high inside, high outside, low inside, and low outside. The student being evaluated was required to parry the attack and then execute a riposte properly. The dummy fencer was instructed to keep the foil in the position that the parry had placed it, and to return the feet to the on-guard position. This way, the fencer being graded would not be obstructed by the dummy's foil. The fencer was given one point for a proper parry and one point for a valid hit on the riposte. Criterion for a proper parry was: (1) keep point on-line, (2) move the dummy's foil off-line, (3) use the proper parry designated for defending the area which the dummy had attacked. Total score for this portion of the test was the total for the six parry-riposte maneuvers. The subjects were required to execute at least one parry in defense of each area. The order at which the parries were executed were randomly assigned, using a table of random numbers.

The third part of the skill test was three compulsory attacks: (1) beat attack, (2) lunge-disengage attack, (3) beat-disengage attack. All three of these attacks were executed against a dummy fencer. The dummy was instructed to permit the beat to carry the dummy foil off-line and to make no attempt to parry the beat-attack. On the other two attacks, the dummy fencer was instructed to attempt to parry the first line of attack but not to recover, thus leaving an open line for the disengage. The fencer being graded was required to: (1) extend foil arm prior to moving feet, (2) keep the foil tip on-line, (3) retain right-of-way by

continuous forward movement. The student was given two points for each maneuver, one point for executing the maneuver properly, and the second point for scoring a valid hit. The total score for this part of the test was the total points received on all three maneuvers. The sum of points on all three parts of the skill test was the total score for the skill test.

The test-retest method was used to establish reliability. Subjects were tested on two consecutive days. Validity was established by comparing skill test scores and knowledge test scores with won-lose percentage and the hit ratio (hits scored/hits received) established from double round-robin competition.

Results

An interesting result is that the relationship between hit ratio and winning percentage was .90 while the coefficients between skill test and hit ratio do not reach the level as do the coefficients for skill tests and won-loss percentage. When the relationship between the thirty second skill test and winning percentage was investigated, it was seen that there is no relationship and as a result, reduces the coefficient of the total score and winning percentage. This is substantiated when the total score for the nine compulsory maneuvers are correlated with winning percentage, producing an r of .89. Coefficients received on the knowledge test indicate that cognitive knowledge does not affect beginning fencers won-loss record. The test-retest provided reliability coefficients of .92 for the nine compulsory maneuvers.

Conclusions

Based on the correlation coefficients calculated in this study, the following conclusions are made:

1. A speed-accuracy test should be used to evaluate skill.
2. A test similar to the nine-compulsory maneuvers test, described in this paper, should be used to evaluate skill of beginning foil fencers.

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From The President

by Steve Sobel



There is an energy crisis in the United States. Similarly, there is an energy crisis in fencing, and long-range programs must be established to create an available source of supply in order to maintain a healthy growth for the sport in the United States.

Unfortunately, emphasis is usually placed on solving the immediate problems of the AFLA, thereby overlooking the need to make an investment of time and effort for the long run.

The establishment of fencing as a varsity sport for men and women at the high school level is definitely one critical need. When my daughter began her freshman year in Cedar Grove High School, I made an appointment with the Director of Athletics to discuss a fencing program. I prepared information from coaches, equipment suppliers and AFLA officials prior to my appointment. The Director of Athletics and the Principal reacted favorably, and the Superintendent of Schools submitted this proposal to the Board of Education. After it was approved, equipment was purchased, and the program seemed ready to begin. Only one problem remained, there was no coach. The school officials said "Don't worry," but I did, and for good reason. The New Jersey State High School regulations require all sports programs to be supervised by a full time faculty member. In New Jersey an Olympic coach could not teach students fencing without supervision.

Any full time faculty member, regardless of training or knowledge, must be present as a "babysitter," to comply with this absurd requirement. There was no faculty member who knew fencing, and every effort to fill a vacancy in the school system with a fencer who would meet their academic requirements was without success.

As a temporary stopgap this program was kept alive through the generosity of Ray Miller, William Paterson College coach, and Nancy Murray, a student at Montclair College. She received no expense reimbursement since the limited budget available was used to pay the "babysitter" teacher who, with no qualifications in fencing, "supervised" the instruction in accordance with the rules of the State High School Association. Now, a year later, there is still no coach, and the future of the program is at best, uncertain.

It would be helpful to indicate what action must be taken in order to make a program of this type successful at the national level.

1. More teachers must be exposed to fencing, preferably as members of college varsity team. If this has not occurred, the next best alternative is to teach fencing to phys-ed teachers at special clinics. The appointment of a national clinic committee for this purpose was submitted to the Board of Directors at the February meeting.
2. Many rules which may be generally beneficial to other sports and which may be needed for "gate receipt" sports such as football and basketball are not appropriate in fencing. When they exist, they must be repealed. Close contact must be maintained with the various rules committees to prevent their enactment.
3. The importance of introducing fencing as a varsity sport in high school must be recognized.

It is obvious that if more school teach fencing, there will be more fencers. This will produce better College and U.S. teams, better officials, a larger AFLA membership, and more funds available to promote fencing.

REVISED PROCEDURE FOR CLASS 2 OFFICIALS EXAMS

by William A. Goering

The procedures and requirements for attaining the Class 2 Official's rank have been revised by the U.S. Commission on Fencing Rules and Officials. As in previous years, the written and practical exams for Class 2 candidates will be administered at Sectional Tournaments (and perhaps other events) by Commission-appointed officials. Candidates must apply to their division officers who will forward acceptable applications to the Section Chairmen. Section Chairman must consolidate the candidate lists and notify William A. Goering, 31065 Pheasant Run, Farmington, MI 48024, at least 45 days in advance of the Section Championships. Examiners will be appointed who must then be contacted by the Section to make travel and examination arrangements.

Candidates for Class 2 official must have had a 1A officials classification for at least one year. Division and Section officers should refrain from recommending for examination officials who have not officiated often at AFLA or intercollegiate tournaments during the current season. In general, to gain a Class 2 ranking, an official must demonstrate that he is capable of officiating in **finals** of Section Championships. If you are not at that level, please do not apply for examination. A thorough knowledge of the Rules is a necessity.

Three minor modifications are to be introduced this year. The first is that Class 2 candidates must pass both written and practical exams in one fencing season. Failing either will require re-application and the taking of both exams in a subsequent season. The second is that a new form will be used for the practical exam to help insure consistency of examination among the examiners. The third is that no candidate who is **stoppily** or **inadequately attired** will be examined. The Commission's firm policy is that fencing officials represent the AFLA and that their demeanor and attitudes must reflect the responsibilities they assume when they officiate at any level.



photo by KLM
A KLM Boeing 747 Jumbo Jet in flight from N.Y. to Amsterdam.

1975 AFLA FLIGHT TO BUDAPEST ORGANIZING

The AFLA's Charter Flight to Budapest and the 1975 World Fencing Championships is continuing to organize. The flight will leave New York on Saturday July 5 by a KLM 747 jet to Amsterdam. **AFLA members and their immediate families only are eligible.** You will have a chance to travel with the team, see the world championships, and do some sightseeing and vacationing as well. By going as a group we will be able to save an enormous amount over the regular air fare. For further information send your name and address to **Irwin Bernstein, 249 Eton Place, Westfield, New Jersey 07090.** Don't delay! Do it now!

UNIVERSITY GAMES CANCELLED

The Yugoslavian Student Sports Association has notified the International University Sports Federation that it has withdrawn its candidate to host the 1975 F.I.S.U. World University Games.

In the event that we are notified that the 1975 World University Games will be definitely held at another site, letters now on file as declarations to participate will remain valid and the U.S.C.S.C. Fencing Committee will proceed with the preparation and selection and advise accordingly.

Letters to the Editor

Editor
American Fencing
Dear Ralph,

While watching Wide World of Sports yesterday, I suddenly realized that the only I have seen any fencing on TV is during the late show reruns.

Why can't it be presented on a sport show as the exciting sport it is. Can you imagine the sabre final of the Nationals on 4 pm instead of the 8th surfing World Championship of the year? Well, I can. Why isn't it? Have I missed them the last 7 years in a row? The AFLA is supposed to promote the sport and in our time the way is through the visual media. Have AFLA officers done all they can? If so, why can't the members do?

The people "back east" must realize that there are other people who want to see these tournaments and due to either lack of finances or other responsibilities (i.e., school, family) are unable to just pack up and go to these events.

I'm sure that I'm not the only one interested in a written reply on this matter.

Thank you,
Jesse Brown
Stillwater, Oklahoma

Note: In our opinion the reason why fencing is rarely shown on TV is related to "lack of interest" of the AFLA. If we had a professional publicity agent, we suspect that you would see some improvement in public relations.)

Editor
American Fencing
Dear Ralph,

I must disagree with Emily Johnson's recent article where she outlined four steps for protesting. I have always thought that on a protestable decision of the Director, the Bout Committee Chairman must call for a meeting of the Bout Committee, who then decide together on the particular rule in question.

However, according to Emily Johnson, when she is acting as Bout Committee Chairman, she states, "If the protest is legitimate, I can make the ruling without further fuss."

The rule on Page viii of the AFLA Manual, Chapter II, Part 3, Section B, states that the following is the decision making procedure: "The Bout Committee itself is not a parliamentary body which makes administrative decisions by majority vote. All of the committee's authority is vested in the Chairman who may delegate it as he sees fit." This applies only to administrative matters.

The rule continues, "Only on questions properly brought to it on appeal does the Bout Committee decide by a majority vote. In such cases, the Chairman has only one vote." I interpret this to mean that on administrative matters only, the Committee members are assistants who serve in an advisory capacity and cannot overrule the Chairman. But on questions brought to it on appeal, the Bout Committee decides by majority vote, in which case the Chairman has only one vote.

Since you made no editorial comment on this fact, I felt the matter should be reopened and the application of the rule be clarified.

James Walker
Opa Locka, Florida

(Ed. Note: Printed below is a reply by Ms. Johnson.)

IN RESPONSE

In my article on protesting I made the point that there are very few borderline protests. Ninety nine percent are clearly either valid or invalid. If the protest is clearly valid (such as situations where the fencer making the touch was off the strip at the time it was made and the director awards it in error) the Chairman of the Bout Committee can overrule the Director. Practically, with an experienced bout committee, the chairman delegates that power to any member of the Committee. The same is true of the clearly invalid protests. (My stop, not his attack). You don't disrupt a whole competition to make rulings in such cases.

The only "questions" that are "properly brought to it on appeal" are the borderline cases that are not covered in the rules. In such cases the Bout Committee discusses

all aspects of it and votes. The key word is "properly". The Bout Committee runs the competition, not a disgruntled fencer who is unhappy with his fencing and/or the director and wants to have some changes made by demanding a meeting of the bout committee.

Emily Johnson

The Editor
American Fencing
Dear Mr. Goldstein,

I was very gratified to read Mr. Raoul Sudre's article proposing the establishment of a unified system of fencing instruction in our country ("U.S. Academy of Arms," AMERICAN FENCING, January/February, 1975).

I have been involved in fencing for over ten years as a physical education major, researcher, instructor, coach and AFLA competitor. My teaching methods are derived somewhat from experience but largely from the techniques of the four different maestros under whom I have studied. I have altered my techniques and methodology of instruction to comply with the style of the Maestro under whose tutelage I was at the time, on many occasions. I have studied with Italian, French and Hungarian Maestros and each one repudiated the others' techniques to some extent. The results can be quite confusing and possibly devastating to one's fencing.

Even less fortunate are those fencing instructors I have known who have never studied with a "Fencing Maestro" and hence have adapted their techniques from conflicting literature and possibly falsely acquired conclusions.

I must, therefore, wholeheartedly concur with the need for establishing a unified system of teaching in the United States that would clarify technique and methodology for instructors, coaches, and maestros involved in fencing programs. This kind of standardization might permit the transition of any beginning student to any fencing coach or maestro anywhere in the country. What may be more important, is that this system would facilitate the development of more qualified instructors and coaches to fill the void created by our

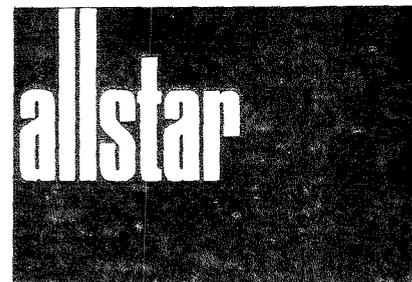
dwindling supply of fencing maestros. Also, the painful and time consuming procedure of unlearning and relearning might be eliminated or at least minimized by some sort of standardization.

The results of this should be an overall increase in participation, greater following, unification and respect for our sport and improvement in both the caliber of instruction and Fencing from our beginners all the way up to our National Champions.

Sincerely,
Ms. Stacy A. Frey
Metropolitan Division

ADAMOVICH COACH

Tanya Adamovich, our 1973 Women's Foil champion, is now coaching the ladies' team at Pace University in downtown Manhattan. Tanya joins our Olympic coach, Csaba Elthes, who is training the men's team.



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MORE ON AN AMERICAN SYSTEM

by John Bosco

I read with interest the article "An American System of Fencing . . ." in the Mar./Apr. issue. Mr. Lyons laments the fact that there are so many different styles of fencing used by fencers and coaches. Because of this he envisions an American school of fencing to set guidelines for proper form and technique. While I can hardly disagree with his observations, I cannot agree that this is necessarily harmful or that an American school is needed.

Disagreement and variety in any intellectual society is good assuming there is a true exchange of ideas and a willingness to change. What is needed is not an elimination of variety, but the establishment of an environment in which healthy change can take place. Any coach worth his salt will never accept the dictates of a national school no matter how prestigious it may be. A coach must be convinced, truly convinced, before he will change well-established methods. Before I present a scheme to accomplish this I will first outline my objections to the proposed national school.

While there would be many problems associated with the formation of an American school, the more serious ones are as follows:

1. We would need no less than Secretary of State Kissinger to bring the better coaches of this country to some agreement as to what methods are best, who will be top coach, etc. This is assuming that it could be decided which top coaches would attend the first meeting. One has only to look at the current state of the NFAA to realize the enormity of this task.

2. Because most coaches are very independent, only time-tested methods would be accepted. By the time a method gained acceptance it would be obsolete unless it were very basic in nature.

3. In all probability appointments to this committee or school would tend to be politically motivated.

What Mr. Lyons and I both want is an upgrading in fencing and coaching. However, this will only come about through a system of free flow of ideas and communication.

I am a research physicist and I find a strong parallel between the scientific researcher and the fencing master. Both are strongly independent and motivated. Ego is an important quality of the job and both constantly strive for perfection and knowledge. While the scientist may belong to many organizations, none of them suggests an American method of research. All of them encourage innovation. Innovation is the highest level of both scientific research and fencing coaching. When a scientist innovates, the only test of its merit is presentation for critical review by his peers. This can be a traumatic experience if these new findings are not based on sound reasoning. In time the scientific community will accept those ideas that cannot be discredited and the total body of knowledge increases.

Why is it not possible for fencing coaches to put their techniques before their peers for critical review. I realize that many clinics are held where coaches are questioned, but it is bad taste at these clinics to force a coach to defend every point. If critical review is allowed while criticism is kept non-violent, an American method will gradually evolve and continue to grow. Under these conditions an unknown coach can have as much impact as one that is well known. A further benefit of this system is that coaches would be forced to know all the reasoning behind the moves that they teach. An authoritative coach with little more than a reputation would not submit to these conditions.

It is time to hear from all American coaches and thus an American "style" can begin to evolve.

QUICKIE QUIZ

What procedure should the Director follow if a sabre fencer arrives at the strip with a sabre whose blade sticks out beyond the pomme! (See Para 21 and 22, pages 20 and 21 of the 1974 Rules Book).

SCHEDULE CHANGED FOR SENIOR OLYMPIC FENCING

by Fred Rayser

The schedule for the Senior Olympics Fencing has been revised in order to enable some of the events to be held at the International Hotel, Los Angeles, in conjunction with the U.S. National Championships.

The Senior Olympics Foil and Epee will be held Saturday June 28, at the International Hotel. These events were originally scheduled for Sunday, June 29 at the Los Angeles Athletic Club.

Sabre and Women's Foil will be held Sunday, June 29, at the Los Angeles Athletic Club. These events were originally scheduled for Saturday, June 28, at LAAC.

Events are open to all fencers 35 or older. Competitions are staged in age groups in 5-year increments and awards given in each age group. Age groups start with 35 through 39, 40 through 44, etc. First, second, and third place awards are given.

For information and entry forms send stamped, self addressed envelope to: Senior Sports International, Mutual of Om: Bldg., Suite 302, 5225 Wilshire Blvd., Angeles California 90036.



NEEDED: FENCING COACHES

Guy Burton, Chairman of the Professional Development Committee of the National Fencing Coaches Association of America is making a survey of all persons, amateur and professional, throughout the fifty states who are currently teaching or coaching fencing at any level. If you have not already been contacted directly by Mr. Burton asks that you send your name and address and fencing affiliation to:

Guy Burton
Physical Education Department
Pratt Institute
Brooklyn, New York 11205

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photo by Lare

N.I.W.F.A. Christmas Invitational finalists: from L. to R., 1. Jeannie Lynch, Paterson; 2. Kathy Stevenson, Cornell; 3. Anne Marie Williams, Brooklyn; Julia Jones Pugliese, Award donor; 4. Jeanette Starks, Brooklyn; 5. Loree Keleher, John Hopkins; 6. Debra Porter, Paterson.

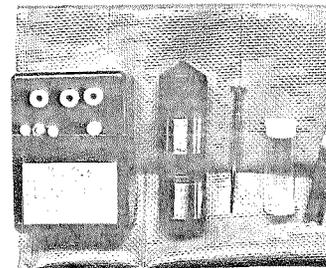
N.I.W.F.A. CHRISTMAS MEET

by Denise O'Connor

Jeannie Lynch of William Paterson College defeated Kathy Stevenson of Cornell University by the score 4-3 in a fence-off to win the Christmas Fencing Competition held at Brooklyn College on December 14. Ninety two competitors, representing twenty-eight member colleges participated in the event sponsored by the National Intercollegiate Women's Fencing Association. The annual competition has traditionally opened the N.I.W.F.A. fencing season since its inception in 1933.

Anne Marie Williams of Brooklyn College placed third followed by teammate, Jenette Starks. Loree Keleher of Johns Hopkins place fifth and Debbie Porter of William Paterson, sixth. The six N.I.W.F.A. medals were donated by Julia Jones, one of the three founders of the association.

The first Christmas Competition was held on December 27, 1933 at the New York Fencers Club. Ten college fencers competed in the event won by Miss Natalie Seiden of New York University. Madeline Dalton of Hunter was runner-up and Stella Fox of Brooklyn College, third. The medals were donated by the New York Women's Committee of the A.F.L.A. and presented by Mrs. Harold Van Buskirk, president of the committee. The HERALD TRIBUNE reported that "Alternating moments of fiery and cautious play marked the bouts which lasted all evening and showed the fact that there is material of promise among the Metropolitan college fencers."



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FENCERS EQUIPMENT

Fencers are responsible for the condition of their gear (weapon and other equipment and clothing) at the moment they appear on the strip. The inspection procedures prescribed by the present rules are intended only to assist the organizers who must enforce the rules and the fencers who must abide by the rules. Accordingly, the existence of inspection procedures cannot in any way relieve the fencers of responsibility for infractions of the rules.

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SOUTH JERSEY SCHEDULES

by John Lillback

A new approach to meet scheduling has been tried and found successful. This is the pairing of a men's fencing event with a women's meet on the same day, with slightly different starting times. One event is always electrical, the other non-electrical. Our executive committee feels that this type of scheduling gives all fencers something to do on a regular basis, rather than wait several weeks for a meet in which to participate.

Also, several dry foil meets for prep and novice fencers are scattered throughout the season as it is felt that the interest of new fencers should be maintained by events in which they can easily enter. As equipment is gathered there are prep and novice electrical meets to enter, interposed with the regular invitational, qualifying and divisional series.

Test boxes for equipment, reels, weapons and body cords have also been used during the sign-up period so as to eliminate faulty equipment prior to weapons check, and to give the fencer a chance to repair or replace well in advance of pool or strip announcements.

As before, in our newsletter, full credit is given to directors, scorers and timekeepers, plus mention of awards and meet managers. Like other divisions, South Jersey has its share of problems concerning sites, officials and conflicting schedules, and it is hoped that constant attention will bring about some solutions.



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MICHIGAN GAUNTLET

by Sharon G. Rees

The Michigan Division inaugurated a major tournament for junior fencers on November 16 and 17, 1974. Inspired by the glove-like shape of the state of Michigan and by the challenge of presenting a prestige event for young fencers, the new tournament was titled **The Gauntlet**.

The competition took place in the spacious facilities of Wayne State University in Detroit.

Winners took home custom-designed plaques with jeweled swords imported from Spain. Finalists were awarded permanent trophies or miniature swords with leather scabbards, which were also imported from Spain.

As the junior fencers departed for home, they asked, "Will there be a Gauntlet next year?" After pondering the work, worry and planning involved, the Executive Board of the Michigan Division can only answer, "You Better Believe It!"

1974 GAUNTLET RESULTS

U-16 Foil:

1. Bradley Thomas, Calif.; 2. David Abramowitz, Mich.; 3. Tom Klekner, Mich.; 4. Howard Cash, Mich.; 5. Tom Lansford, Ind.; 6. Jay Rees, Mich.



photo by Harms

The Under-20 foil finalists in the 1974 Michigan "Gauntlet" tournament with their trophies (from l. to r.) Dixon, Thomas, P. Gerard, Glass, M. Gerard, Bascom.

U-16 Women's Foil:

1. Terri Harms, Mich.; 2. Sheryl Harms, Mich.; 3. Marcella Lansford, Ind.; 4. Margaret Rees, Mich.; 5. Karen Knapp, Mich.; 6. Angela Diegel, Mich.

U-16 Sabre:

1. Bradley Thomas, Calif.; 2. Tom Klekner, Mich.; 3. Tom Robinson, Mich.; 4. Howard Cash, Mich.; 5. Steven Lupsiewicz, N.J.; 6. Jeff Arnold, Mich.

U-20 Foil:

1. Part Gerard, Ill.; 2. Tim Glass, Ill.; 3. Bradley Thomas, Calif.; 4. Noah Dixon, Wisc.; 5. Mike Gerard, Ill.; 6. Paul Bascom, N.Y.

U-20 Women's Foil:

1. Christina Massiala, Mich.; 2. Ildiko Mandy, N.Y.; 3. Terri Harms, Mich.; 4. Debbie Fischer, Mich.; 5. Carol Rees, Mich.; 6. Marcella Lansford, Ind.



photo by Harms

The Under-20 Women's foil finalists in the Michigan "Gauntlet" tournament with their trophies (from l. to r.) Rees, Harms, Massiala, Mandy, Fischer, Lansford.

U-20 Epee:

1. Tim Glass, Ill.; 2. Kevin Smith, Mich.; 3. Jim Neale, N.J.; 4. Lee Shelley, N.J.; 5. Glen Leggoe, Wisc.; 6. Raul Toro, N.Y.

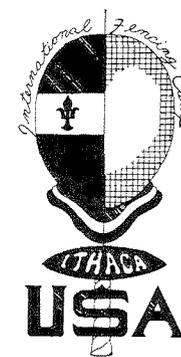
U-20 Sabre:

1. Tom Edwards, Missouri; 2. Ed Majte N.J.; 3. Bradley Thomas, Calif.; 4. Bill Bley, Wisc.; 5. Steve Renshaw, N.J.; 6. Russell, Mich.

INTERNATIONAL FENCING CAMP AND CLINICS

Summer 1975

- I. **June 18 to June 23:** Pre National Training Camp. Open to all fencers. National Qualifiers will be awarded. **San Diego, Cal.** National Qualifiers will be awarded scholarships. **Fee \$125.00**
- II. **June 30 to July 9:** Development clinic for fencers of all ages and skills. A coaches' clinic will also be run concurrently. **San Diego, Cal.** **Fee \$400.00**
- III. **July 25 to August 6:** Development clinic for fencers of all ages and skills. A coaches' clinic will also be run concurrently. **Cornell University** **Fee \$400.00**



Director: Raoul Sudre

Fees cover tuition, room and board. Staff will consist of internationally famous fencing masters and top ranked international fencers in a ratio of 8 to 1.

Applications: A deposit of \$50 should be sent to Raoul Sudre, 5 Westwood Knoll, Ithaca New York 14850. Group rates available. Applications in by May 1 receive a 10% discount

14th ANNUAL N. J. INTERSCHOLASTIC CHAMPIONSHIP

By Irwin Bernstein

A near-record 215 young competitors took to the strips at Newark's Essex Catholic High School in the fourteenth renewal of the New Jersey Division's Megaro-Cundari Welfare Association tournament. Held in twelve hour sessions on each of the last two Saturdays in December, this tournament is second only to the Nationals in terms of number of competitors accommodated during a comparable period of time. One of the key factors in the successful conduct of this major event is the dedicated service of many alumni of the tournament who return each year to officiate. Noteworthy this year were several who worked both full sessions: Tom DePoto, Angelo O'Harriz, Nick Franzi, all Essex Catholic alumni, Jim Lawless, who served as Assistant Meet Manager, and the incomparable super-armorer Joe Byrnes, with many others helping out as well.

FOIL (86 competitors): Ian Roberts of Thomas Jefferson HS, Elizabeth and the Summit Fencing Club, won his crucial final bout 4-4 over Brian McIntee of Essex Catholic to emerge the Champion with a 6-2 final round record. A very evenly balanced field seemed headed for a multiple fence-off for first place with just a few bouts to go but contenders fell back and the result was sealed when Rene Miranda of Essex Catholic was upset by James Sohl of Morris Hills 5-2 in the final bout. Steven Dickman of Morris Hills placed second with a 5-3 mark and an indicator advantage over McIntee and Miranda. Dickman compiled the best overall record in the tournament with only 4 losses in his 25 bouts. Other finalists, in

order, were 5. Richard Pantel, Somerville; 6. Kevin Becker, Manchester; 7. Sohl; 8. Dom Giorgi, Pingry; and 9. Michael Melilla, Barringer.

EPEE (64 competitors): Lewis Gasorek became the second Pingry epee champ in as many years when he compiled a 7-1 final round mark for a two bout margin over Bryan Peterman and Kirk Wells of North Hunterdon. The issue was still in doubt however as Gasorek fenced his final bout against Dave Fanale of Ramapo. Fanale, down 4-2 with one minute to fence, rallied spectacularly to tie the score with 16 seconds remaining but Gasorek, with a possible double-loss in the offing, came through with a lightening like attack to win the bout. Four fencers tied with 4-4 records and were awarded 4th through 7th places on indicators: 4. Bennett Baker, Pingry; 5. Jim Cozine, Ramapo; 6. John Stansfield, Manchester; 7. Rolf Schudel, Ramapo. Eighth was Panale; and ninth Charles Trimmer of North Hunterdon.

SABRE (65 competitors): The best overall record in the entire tournament was compiled by Peter Vallario as he became the first Morris Hills sabre champion with a 7-1 final mark and 18-1 overall. Vallario's only loss was by 5-0 to Dave Mocenti of Ramapo who did not win any other final round bouts. Runerup with a 6-2 record was Steve Renshaw of Wayne Hills, a very young fencing school which is showing much progress. Third and fourth with 5-3 were Todd Spohn of Manchester and Greg Canova, Indian Hills. Other finalists, in order, were 5. Bob Grove, Ramapo; 6. James Heck, North Hunterdon; 7. Jay Butan, Newark Academy; 8. Bruce Pfister, Ramapo; 9. Mocenti.

FDU MADISON FENCING CAMP

A fencing camp for boys and girls eight years old and up will be held at the Fairleigh Dickinson-Madison University Campus in New Jersey from August 17 to 22. For further information contact: A. John Geraci, 279 East Northfield Rd., Livingston, New Jersey 07039.

COACHES' REFERRALS

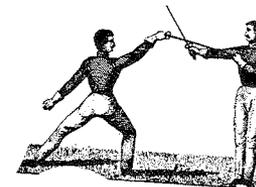
The National Intercollegiate Women's Fencing Association has established a coaches' reference service. Schools, colleges, and universities seeking a women's fencing coach may contact the Executive Secretary of the NIWFA, giving the qualifications desired, duties, compensation, date to start, term, any other pertinent data, and appropriate contact information.

Active coaches, aspiring coaches and former coaches seeking a new position may send their resumes and/or statements of qualifications, desired duties, compensation requirements, contact information, etc. to the Executive Secretary of the NIWFA, with a request that appropriate referrals be made.

Confidentiality will be observed if requested. However, the NIWFA assumes no liability or responsibility in initiating this service. It is a free service intended to

help promote the growth and develop of women's intercollegiate fencing in United States.

Mrs. Cathy Taylor
Executive Secretary, N
18 Pleasant Place
Kearny, New Jersey 0



Cupid's butt shaft is too hard for Hercules' club, and therefore too much odd for a Spaniard's Rapier

Act I, Scene II
Love's Labour Lost

— culled by Lou

allstar

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FENCING CHAMP LOANS TROPHY TO FORMER CHAMP

by John Basch

(Ed. Note: The following story is reprinted by courtesy of the Royal Oak Daily Tribune.)

"Be patient and have a good time."

That was the advice Dick Berry, a former two-time national fencing champion, gave to his student, Dan Cantillon, before Cantillon entered a collegiate match in epee at the University of Detroit some eight years ago.

That advice proved sound. Cantillon won the meet and eventually went on to make the U.S. Olympic team and win his first national championship in New York last June.

But Berry has the trophy.

Cantillon decided to loan his national trophy to Berry as a gesture of appreciation for his help and made the presentation at a meeting of the Ferndale Rotary Club.

"I don't know where he got the idea," Berry said.

Since fencing is not a well-financed sport, winners of the national championship keep the trophy for only one year, at the end of which they must defend their title and trophy.

Berry's name is engraved on the trophy twice. He was national champ in 1957 and '58.

"There is absolutely no money in fencing so I can't speak highly enough for these athletes. They get very little recognition and have to finance their own traveling expenses to various tournaments around the country," Berry said.

While those tournaments may be as far away as Los Angeles or New York, serious fencers are expected to participate, especially if they expect to gain a berth on the Olympic team.

"The rush is on to score points toward Olympic selection whenever possible," Berry said. "It's a repeat of what I went through 15 years ago."

Cantillon was a fencer at the University of Detroit and later worked under Wayne State University coach Istvan Danosi.



photo by Tribune

Dan Cantillon (left) presents his 1975 U.S. National Epee Championship trophy to former national champ Richard Berry. Berry won the U.S. Nationals in 1957 and 1958, but his family had never seen the prize.

Berry, a former Michigan State University fencer, was Big Ten champion in 1952 and '53. He still fences but is no longer active in competition.

"I'm 43 years old and work out whenever I'm in the mood," he said. "But I leave the competition to the younger set." "There's no substitute for winning or for having a good time," Berry said.

1974 RULES BOOKS

Do you know the fencing rules? An order form for the new 1974 rules book will be found on page 31. Every fencer should have one.

HELP WANTED

An enlisted man (U.S. Army) for Assistant Coach/Armorer at the U.S.M.A. at West Point. Contact Coach A. John Geraci, U.S. M.A., West Point, N.Y. 10996.

PENTATHLON CAMP

by Jim Griffin

Each year the United States Modern Pentathlon Training Center, in conjunction with the United States Olympic Committee, sponsors a one-month Olympic Development Clinic at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. The clinic consists of approximately 30 athletes between fourteen and twenty-one years of age who learned the fundamentals of riding, running, shooting, fencing and swimming (the five sports of Modern Pentathlon). The clinic is concluded with a three-day Clinic Championship, and promising athletes are retained for the Junior National Championship. From this competition a four-man team is chosen to compete in the Junior World Championships. In the 1974 Junior World Championships in Moscow, Russia, the United States team (consisting of Mike Burley, Harvey Cain, Keith McCormick, and John Shea) took the Team Silver with Shea capturing the Individual Bronze.

The Modern Pentathlon Training Center is constantly searching for talented athletes

with background in the five sports of Modern Pentathlon. Several of the more successful Junior Pentathletes are also successful junior fencers. Pentathlon fencers have enjoyed great success in national petition, with former Pentathlon National Champion Paul Pesthy in the point lead selection to the Pan-Am Team.

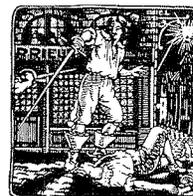
The five diverse sports of Modern Pentathlon make it a challenge of skill and endurance unique to the modern world sport. For further information and applications, write:

Director of Development
U. S. Modern Pentathlon Training Center
Fort Sam Houston, Texas 78234

NORTH CAROLINA STATE

High School fencers interested in joining North Carolina State University in Raleigh, North Carolina, should contact Larry Minor, Fencing Coach, N.C. University, Raleigh, N.C. 27607.

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Technical Talks

by
Joseph Byrnes



I have recently been reminded by a correspondent knowledgeable in metallurgy that the nasty habit that aluminum handles have of continually loosening up is just a part of the nature of the stuff they're made of. That got me thinking about handles, and so we could call this column "how to handle a handle".

In the first place, we're talking about what I will call the various "shaped handles," usually made of a light metal (and that usually means aluminum), that are sometimes generically called "pistol grips" or even "orthopedics." That last term was originally intended to be contemptuous, as a glance at some of its early appearances will demonstrate, but neither it nor "pistol grip" is very accurate or enlightening. Shaped handles have more varieties than you can shake a stick at. The distinguishing character is that most of them are a good deal shorter than the conventional French handle overall, and most (but not all) use a small nut inside the rear of the handle rather than an exterior pommel to hold the weapon together.

Anyone who uses any kind of handle of this sort and has broken a blade and tries to replace it must watch out for a number of pitfalls. Not all shaped handles require the same length of tang or the same depth of threading on the tang. If you regularly take your broken weapons to an equipment supplier or an armorer or coach who handles these things, you may never need to know about this, but if you ever have to do it yourself, or have to order your blades by mail, it will pay you to take a measurement of the tang and the depth of threading on the broken one, and send that information along when you order your new blade(s).

If you get a tang that's too long, of course it can be cut down, if you have a hacksaw, but then you will probably have

to re-thread part of the tang to get some more threads on there to hold your nut firmly. The threading standard in this country, by the way, is "12-24 National coarse." It is not always easy to thread deeper than the blade was originally cut, however; sometimes the tang will have to be ground down to the right diameter, and for that you need a big grinding wheel, or a big file and the patience of a prisoner from "The Count of Monte Cristo." Sometimes the lower tang will prove so tough that it is not possible to thread it without doing something about the temper—it's not yours at least at first—but I'm not going into that here.

The opposite problem is, in a way, easier, though more immediately frustrating: if you are shipped blades with tangs too short, send 'em back. There's nothing else to do.

I mentioned above the U.S. threading standard for tangs and pommels and pommel nuts. Bear it in mind if you are laying in tools. And bear in mind that European threaded blades and nuts will come in metric threads that will not match. If you buy foreign-made equipment not specifically aimed at the U.S. market, you have to be careful not to try mixing the breeds, or forcing a fit, which won't work.

As for the problem of aluminum handles regularly loosening up, the only efficient way to cut down on it is by the judicious use of one (or preferably more) lockwashers on the tang between the nut and the bottom of the bore of the handle. The most efficient assembly would use a plain flat washer immediately against the handle the lockwashers on top of it and the nut on top of them. And don't drive the nut down too hard. Why? Well, it seems that aluminum has the quaint habit, so to speak, of squirming out of the way of pressure applied too fiercely—which is why aluminum handles firmly screwed down, without the resilience of lockwashers in there, will usually keep loosening up.



1975 PENTATHLON OPEN

by George Nelson

The 13th Annual U.S. Modern Pentathlon Open Fencing Tournament was held January 25-26, 1975, at Ft. Sam Houston, Texas. There were 160 entries for the three events, with participants attending from Portland, Louisville, New York, San Francisco, Los Angeles, and Finland, Sweden and Mexico, as well as Texas, Oklahoma, and Louisiana. The epee competition jumped from 62 entries in 1974 to 82 entries this year.

EPEE:

1. Hurme, Finland; 2. Pesthy, San Antonio; 3. Nieman, Pentathlon; 4. Cotton, Pentathlon; 5. Johnson, Pentathlon; 6. Lager, Sweden.

WOMEN'S FOIL:

1. Larranaga, Mexico; 2. Bleamaster, Los Angeles; 3. Estrada, Mexico; 4. Raygosa, Mexico; 5. Davis, New Orleans; 6. Robertson, Los Angeles; 7. Perez, Austin; 8. Goldthwaite, Ft. Worth.

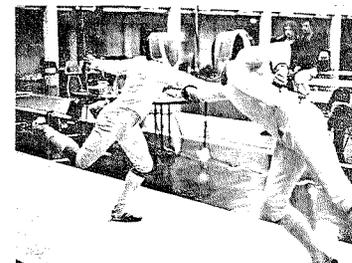
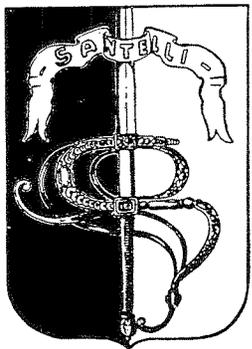


photo by

Risto Hurme of Finland (r) score with thrust against Bengt Lager in the final 1975 Pentathlon Open.

FOIL:

1. Hurme, Finland; 2. Marin, Pentathlon; 3. Pesthy, San Antonio; 4. Marx, Pentathlon; 5. Dubox, Lafayette; 6. Campero, Me



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1975 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS INSTRUCTIONS

The 1975 National will be hosted by the Southern California Division at the Los Angeles International Hotel, adjacent to the Los Angeles International Airport, June 21-28. The Chairman of the Organizing Committee is Fred Linkmeyer.

WHAT TO FILE: Every entry must contain an entry application with the entry and registration fees payable to AFLA Nationals (checks or money order) along with a stamped self addressed legal size envelope.

WHERE AND WHEN TO FILE: Entries must be received by May 24 and sent to Mrs. Bonnie Linkmeyer, 5105 Fulton Ave., Sherman Oaks, CA. 91423.

WHO MAY FILE AN ENTRY: Entry is open to all American citizens and permanent residents of the U.S., who have qualified thru Divisional qualifying rounds or through automatic qualification (Chap. V, section B 1974 AFLA Operations Manual). Team entries must be filed by Team Captain, Anyone wishing to enter, is personally responsible for filing a complete entry on time.

ACCEPTANCE: 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 the same time.

CERTIFICATION: 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 14, 1975. Each Sectional Secretary MUST SUBMIT the list of Sec-

tional Champions, finalists and Under 19 qualifiers to the National Secretary by May 14th. Each Under 19 competitor must have present at the Nationals, evidence of birth date.

FEES: Registration fee is \$7.50 for each competitor. The fees for events are as follows: each senior event \$12.00, for each Under 19 event \$7.50, for each team event fee is \$25.00 per team. All fees must be included with the entry. Entry with insufficient payment will be returned.

FORMAT OF NATIONALS: The individual event will be conducted by round robin pool method through the Final six fencers. All ties for qualification to the next round will be resolved by use of indicators, with a fence off only in case of a tie on indicators.

GALA NIGHT: All registered fencers at the Nationals will receive a ticket to Gala Night held Saturday June 28 at 8:30 P.M., in their Hospitality Folder. Others may purchase tickets during the week of the Nationals at the Hospitality Desk.

1975 NATIONALS SCHEDULE

Sat. June 21 — 8:30 AM Foil (to QF)
5:00 PM Director's Clinic

Sun. June 22 — 8:30 AM Sabre (to QF)
5:00 PM Foil (SF & F)

Mon. June 23 — 8:30 AM Foil Team
5:00 PM Sabre (SF & F)

Tus. June 24 — 8:30 AM Women's Foil (to QF)
1:00 PM Sabre Team
8:30 PM Annual General Meeting

Wed. June 25 — 8:30 AM Epee (to QF)
5:00 PM Women's Foil (SF & F)

Thur. June 26 — 8:30 AM Women's Team
11:00 AM U-19 Foil
5:00 PM Epee (SF & F)

Fri. June 27 — 8:30 AM Epee Team
11:00 AM U-19 Sabre
7:00 PM Board of Directors Meeting

Sat. June 28 — 8:30 AM U-19 Women's Foil
10:00 AM U-19 Epee
10:30 AM Senior Olympics, Foil & Epee
8:30 PM Gala Night

Sun. June 29 — 11:00 AM Senior Olympics,
Women's Foil & Sabre. (at Los Angeles
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WASHINGTON FENCERS CLUB CHRISTMAS OPEN

On December 14 and 15, the Washington Fencers Club held the 13th annual Christmas Open at the University of Maryland's Cole Fieldhouse. An innovation this year was a three weapon individual competition, open to both men and women. Three women and nine men entered, and the winner, after several rounds of direct elimination, was Ken Poyd. In the other events, Bruce Lyons won in both epee and foil, Tanya Adamovich won in women's foil, and Jim Karangelen won in sabre.

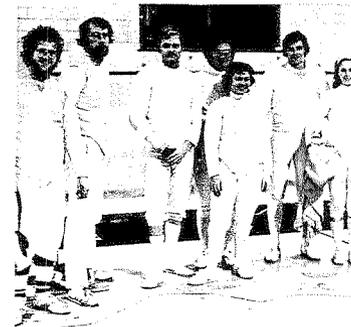
Foil: 1. Bruce Lyons, Salle Csiszar; 2. Howard labow, U. of Md.; 3. Jeff Kestler, Marines; 4. Treitz; 5. Bert Freeman, Marines; 6. Victor Kan, Salle d'Armes.

Women's Foil: 1. Tanya Adamovich, NYFC; 2. Cynthia Carter, Salle d'Armes; 3. Veronica Smith, S.d'A.; 4. Szabunia, NYFC; 5. Esther Jorolan, Washington FC; 6. Gray.

Sabre: 1. Jim Karangelen, U.S. Naval Academy; 2. Laszlo Szerenyi, Washington FC; 3. Herb Spector, WFC; 4. Larry Pincus, WFC; 5. Mike Dowhower, Drexel U.; 6. Richard Livingston, WFC.

Epee: 1. Bruce Lyons, Salle Csiszar; 2. Scott Bozek, Tanner City FC; 3. Eric Hanson, Carter FC; 4. Hoffman; 5. Jose De Olivares, Salle d'Armes; 6. Patterson.

Three Weapon: 1. Ken Poyd, U. of Md.; 2. Sean Fitzpatrick, Center FC.; 3. Richard Livingston, Washington FC.; 4. Jim Carberry, Georgetown; 5. Rufus Sessions, Salle d'Armes; 6. Herb Spector, WFC.



Finalists in the Washington Fencers Club Christmas Open of Dec. 4. From l. to r. 1. Jim Poyd, 2. Sean Fitzgerald, 3. Rufus Sessions, 4. Carol Brodkey, 5. Richard Livingston, 6. Richard Livingston, 7. Veronica Smith, 8. Herb Spector.



OFFICIALS PINS

All AFLA Officials are reminded U.S. Commission on Fencing Rules officials has authorized an official U.S. rated Directors (Class I and up). The five blue and gold lapel pin is in the form of a shield (pictured above). Any Commission rated official is eligible to wear the pin, and should contact Denise O'Connell, 21 A West 35 Street, Bayonne, New Jersey 07002. The pins cost \$1.00 each.

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MISTEAKS

A number of our readers have graciously pointed out some mistakes that have appeared in our magazine. We would like to thank them and wish to also point out that these mistakes were put in for a purpose. We try to offer something for everyone, and as some people are always looking for mistakes, we sprinkle a few into each issue.

WEST POI

The second annual Camp for boys 12 to held from June 22 to 3 to 8, 1975. Gradua iors are not eligible. Fr A. John Geraci, Fen U.S.M.A., West Point,

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