

merican
Fencing



ALPAR RETIRES

(Story on Page 24)

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EDITORIAL

Its not too early to order tickets for the Montreal Olympics. We have been advised that it will be extremely difficult to obtain them at the games and it is suggested that you order as soon as possible by mail. To obtain the detailed schedule of events and ticket order forms you should contact your nearest Montgomery Ward Co. store or office. The Montgomery Ward company has been designated the official ticket agent in the U.S.

There is also every indication that accommodations will be difficult to find during the games period, July 17 to August 1. Unless you can make personal arrangements with your fencing friends in Montreal you should contact: the Quebec Lodging Bureau, 201 Cremazie Street E, Montreal, Canada, H2M 1L2.

Those of us with experience in past Olympics know how difficult it is to get what you want when you need it. We urge you to plan ahead and take advantage of this unique opportunity to go to an Olympics when it is so close to the U.S.A. Order your tickets without delay for this worthwhile experience.

NEW RULES

The AFLA is now in the process of preparing a complete up to date supplement to the 1974 Rules Book, to include all the latest rule changes.

CONGRATULATIONS

American Fencing extends its congratulations to Therese and Jacques Piguet on the birth of Alexander on August 5th.

MARRIED

Congratulations to Nikki Tomlinson, the 1975 National Champion in Women's Foil, and Norman Franke on their recent marriage. Nikki is an instructor in the College of Health, Physical Education and Recreation, at Temple University. Her husband works as a representative for Xerox corporation.

AMERICAN FENCING

1975 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS REPORT

McCourt and O'Connor Reach Quarter Finals Saber Team Takes Sixth Place

by Richard J. Gradkowski

The historic city of Budapest was the scene of the 1975 World Fencing Championships from July 11 to 20. The fencing events were held at the Nepstadion Sports complex in three different arenas; the preliminaries, the semi finals, and the finals being separately housed. An unseasonable spell of very hot and humid weather made the participants uncomfortable.

As usual, the U.S. team ran into various administrative problems, caused in large part by poor planning and preparation. There were some last minute changes in line up, as well as schedule, visa procedures, housing, discipline, and assorted financial problems.

Considering everything, we can say that the foil team did badly, the epee team was terrible, the women did nicely individually, but fenced poorly as a team, and the saber fencers did poorly individually, but fenced very well as a team.

FOIL

First Round: Cohen (1-3), Katsidakis, Gre. 4-5, Tiu, Rom. 3-5, Masa, Yug. 5-4, Kaczmarek, Pol. 3-5. **Ballinger** (3-1), Koukal, Cz. 5-3, Kovacs, Hun. 4-5, Martig, Yug. 5-3, Ionnides, Gre. 5-3. **Lang** (1-2), Conyd, Can. 5-0, Noel, Fra. 2-5, Somodi, Hun. 0-5. **Hambarzumian** (2-2), Assadorian, Ira. 5-1, Kamuti, Hun. 0-5, Bell, GB 5-2, Ruzev, USSR 1-5. **Freeman** (2-2), Bachstadt, GDR 0-5, Romankov, USSR 0-5, Campero, Mex. 5-4, Livy, Por. 5-0.

Second Round. Lang (1-4), Montano, It. 4-5, Dabrowski, Pol. 1-5, Simon, Aust. 2-5, Isakov, USSR 3-5, Petrus, Rom. 5-1. **Ballinger** (1-4), Richert, RFA 1-5, Bell, GB 5-3, Pietruska, Fra. 4-5, Sato, Jap. 4-5, Ruzev, USSR 0-5. **Freeman** (0-5), Tiu, Rom. 0-5, Stankovich, USSR 2-5, Musoka, Jap. 4-5, Kamuti, Hun. 3-5, Simoncelli, It. 3-5.

AMERICAN FENCING



The commemorative stamp issued by the Magyar Posta for the 1975 World Fencing Championships, held in Budapest.

The foil individual results were: 1. Cohen, USA (4-1); 2. Talvard, Fra. (3-2); 3. isov, USSR (3-2); 4. Stankovich (3-2); 5. Pietruska, Fra. (1-4); 6. Hun. (1-4).

FOIL TEAM

First Round. USA (11) d. Iran (5). Hambarzumian 3-1, Ballinger 4-0, Freeman 3-1.

USSR (9) d. USA (6). Hambarzumian 3-1, Cohen 1-2, Lang 0-0.

Direct Elimination. Hungary (9) d. Iran (5). Hambarzumian (1-1), Ballinger (0-0), Cohen (0-2).

The foil team was won by France with a score of 9-4 over the USSR, with Freeman third.

WOMEN'S FOIL

First Round. McCourt (1-2), Zolotov: 3-4, Latriille, Fra. 1-4, Estrada, Iv

Pa

Bleamaster (3-1), Fang Yu, Chn. 4-2, Nikonova, USSR 3-4, Badre, Ira. 4-1, Draga, Rom. 4-0. **Orly** (1-3), McChu, Ch. 3-4, Wrigglesworth, GB 1-4, Scheherezade, Ira. 4-3, Gosch, Aut. 1-4; **Armstrong** (2-2), Bobis, Hun. 2-4, Tu Li, Ch. 4-0, Nellen, Sw. 4-3, Smith, Aus. 2-4; **O'Connor** (2-2), LeBlanc, Can. 1-4, Schwarzenberger, Hun. 0-4, Honnen, Dan. 4-2, Hebling, Swz. 4-2.

Second Round. O'Connor (2-3), Hawthorne, GB 1-4, Leblanc, Can. 4-0, Almassi, Ira. 2-4, Muzio, Fra. 3-4, Caglioni, It. 4-2; **Armstrong** (2-3), Radlingmaier, Aut. 4-3, Nikonova, USSR 2-4, Trinquet, Fra. 1-4, Fang Yu, Ch. 4-1, Wrigglesworth, GB 1-4; **Bleamaster** (0-5), McCourt, USA 1-4, Ardelanu, Rom. 1-4, Dumont, Fra. 1-4, Bobis, Hun. 1-4, Cichy, Pol. 3-4; **McCourt** (3-2), Bleamaster, USA 4-1, Bobis, Hun. 1-4, Cichy, Pol. 3-4, Dumont, Fra. 4-3, Ardelanu, Rom. 4-3.

Third Round. O'Connor (2-1), Staszak, Pol. 1-4, Raczova, Cz. 4-1, Shimoda, Jpn. 4-0. Barrage d. Raczova 4-1. **McCourt** (1-2), Schwarzenberger, Hun. 0-4, Muzio, Fra. 4-2, Udbanska, Pol. 3-4. Barrage d. Urbanska 4-2, Musio 4-3.

Quarter Final. O'Connor (0-3), Schwarzenberger, Hun. 2-4, Hoehne, RFA. 3-4, Dumont, Fra. 3-4. **McCourt** (0-2), Zolotova, USSR 2-4, Stahl, Rom. 2-4.

The women's individual results were 1. Stahl, Rom (4-1); 2. Kniazeva, USSR (3-2); Bobis, Hun. (3-2); 4. Sidorova, USSR (3-2); 5. Maros, Hun. (1-4); 6. Wysoczanka, Pol. (1-4).

WOMEN'S TEAM

On the basis of their individual performances, the U.S. team was seeded seventh in a field of 20 teams.

First Round. USA (9) d. **Australia** (7). Armstrong 2-2, O'Connor 2-2, McCourt 2-2, Bleamaster 3-1.

USA (14) d. **Ireland** (2). Armstrong 4-0, O'Connor 4-0, McCourt 3-1, Bleamaster 3-1.

Romania (9) d. **USA** (3). Armstrong 2-1, Orly 0-3, McCourt 1-2, Bleamaster 0-3.

Direct Elimination: Japan (9) d. **USA** (3). Armstrong 0-3, O'Connor 1-2, McCourt 1-2, Bleamaster 1-2.

The women's team was won by the USSR over Hungary, with Romania third.

SABER

First Round. Westbrook (4-1), Spirodonov, Bul. 5-3, Calderon, Mex. 5-4, Burns, Aus. 5-0, Bierkowski, Pol. 2-5, Romano, It. 5-3. **Apostol** (3-1), Lavoie, Can. 5-3, Zerobin, Aut. 5-1, Dericher, Bel. 5-3, Ortiz, Cuba 2-5, **Lekach** (3-1), Mora, Cuba 5-3, Nowara, Pol. 5-4, Gerevich, Hun. 3-5, Laerte, Bra. 5-4. **Kaplan** (2-3), Paraiso, Sp. 3-5, Geodovari, Hun. 4-5, Bena, Fra. 5-4, Benko, Chl. 5-2, Pashapor, Ira. 4-5. **Orban** (2-2), Irimicu, Rom. 4-5, Dumont, Fra. 4-5, Otsuka, Jpn. 5-2, Taylor, GB 5-2.

Second Round. Apostol (2-3), Frunza, Rom. 3-5, Oldcorn, GB 5-1, Gerevich, Hun. 4-5, Dericher, Bel. 5-3, Maffei, It. 4-5. **Orban** (1-4), Salazar, Cuba 4-5, Kovacs, Hun. 3-5, Vitrac, Fra, Nilca, Rom. 3-5, Taracido, It. 5-4. **Westbrook** (0-5), Dudenkov, Bul. 4-5, Bena, Fra. 2-5, Nazlimov, USSR 4-5, Kormocsi, Hun. 4-5, Jablonowski, Pol. 1-5. **Lekach** (1-4), Geodovari, Hun. 1-5, Hernandez, Cuba 4-5, Quivrin, Fra. 5-1, Korfanty, Pol. 1-5, Christov, Bul. 0-5. The saber individual results were: 1. Nazlimov (4-1); 2. Bierkowski, Pol. (3-2); 3. Marot, Hun. (3-2); 4. Gedovari, Hun. (2-3); 5. Kovacs, Hun. 2-3); 6. Vinokurov, USSR (1-4).

SABER TEAM

First Round. USA (11) d. **Mexico** (5). Westbrook 3-1, Apostol 3-1, Orban 4-0, Kaplan 1-3.

Italy (9) d. **USA** (3). Westbrook 1-2, Orban 0-3, Lekach 2-1, Apostol 0-3.

Supplementary Match. USA (9) d. **Bulgaria** (6). Lekach 4-0, Westbrook 2-1, Apostol 1-3, Orban 2-2.

Quarter Final. USSR (9) d. **USA** (3). Westbrook 0-2, Lekach 1-2, Kaplan 1-2, Orban 1-2.

Sixth Place Match. USA (9) d. **Cuba** (6). Westbrook 4-0, Lekach 0-4, Apostol 2-2, Orban 3-0.

Fifth Place Match. Poland (9) d. **USA** (3).

Westbrook 2-1, Orban 1-2, Lekach 0-3, Apostol 0-3.

Thus the Polish team took fifth place, and the U.S.A. came in sixth.

The saber team match was won by the USSR over Hungary by a score of 8-8, with 58 touches against the Soviets to 62 against the Hungarians. Romania was third.

EPEE

First Round. Johnson (2-2), Mamuzic, Yug. 5-3, Bertineti, It. 3-5, Solares, Mex. 5-1, Ribaud, Fra. 3-5. **Cotton** (1-3), Evequoz, Swz. 3-5, Lukomski, USSR 3-5, Iorgu, Rom. 4-5, Kuo Yi, Chn. 5-4. **Reith** (2-2), Hagstrom, Swe. 3-5, Pongratz, Rom. 3-5, Wiech, Pol. 5-3, Chen Ching, Chn. 5-3. **Glass** (3-1), Savics, Yug. 5-1, Edling, Swe. 1-5, Brichacek, Cz. 5-5, Nichol, Can. 5-2. **Makler** (2-3), Hadisaratos, Gre. 5-1, Boisse, Fra. 3-5, Tayla, Tur. 3-5, Pazza, It. 5-4, Munster, Dan. 2-5.

Second Round. Reith (0-5), Hagstrom, Swe. 1-5, Zobl-Wess, Aut. 3-5, Evoquez, Swe. 2-5, Gorlov, USSR 2-5, Riboud, Fra. 2-5. **Johnson** (2-3), Nocula, Pol. 4-5, Hopping, Nor. 2-5, Giger, Swz. 2-5, Mirai, Jpn. 5-3, Popa, Rom. 5-3, **Glass** (1-4), Jacobson, Swe. 2-5, Poffet, Swz. 3-5, Zidaru, Rom. 4-5, Paul, GB 5-3, Abushakmetov, USSR 3-5.

The epee individual results were: 1. Pusch, RFA (5-0); 2. Lukomski, USSR (3-2); 3. Osztrics, Hun. (2-3); 4. Lindner, Aut. (2-3); 5. Abushakmetov, USSR (1-4); 6. Kauter, Swz. (1-4).

EPEE TEAM

First Round. Yugoslavia (8/61 tr.) d. **U.S.** (8/62 tr.) Glass 3-1, Makler 3-1, Reith 2-2, Johnson 0-4.

Hungary (12) d. **U.S.** (3). Reith 2-2, Glass 1-3, Cotton 0-4, Makler 0-4.

Our epee fencers displayed consistently poor tactics, persisting in making badly prepared attacks, even when they were leading a bout. The Yugoslav team was Captained by a Mr. Zivkovics, who it turned out is the older brother of our own Ben Zivkovics of Connecticut, and who greeted us in perfect English.

In the epee team event; Sweden retained her championship by defeating West Germany 9-5, with Hungary coming in third.

COACH'S REPORT

by A. John Geraci

The USA team had two moderates, more than we have had in years, the sabre team took sixth place the placing of two women in the finals (top 24), Sue McCourt and O'Connor.

Sue McCourt, a young vigorous and Denise O'Connor, a wily veteran the Europeans and others that w fence, reaching the quarter final.

After the first round, in the team it was very apparent that the wore fatigued and did not have the strength produce against the strong team slow-down in the ability to react physically and mentally showed up in the first round against the young team. The Japanese women were in physical condition and moved sharply and in excellent tempo. They simply "too fast" for our tiring fence.

Sue McCourt has the potential coming one of our finest women in some years. She has the physique and ability, the emotional balance the high motivation to win. She needs her stamina far beyond what is for the American competitions and Nationals. She needs more precise work and instruction to base and her tactics. Acquiring these, she have the international competitiveness. After the poor results in individuals, the sabre team pull together to defeat the Bulgarians the round of 8, lost to the Polish the round of 8, and then defeated 6th place. (Cuba fenced without the of their best sabre fencer) They hungry in the Pan-Ams.

Stan Lekach and Peter Westbrook showing their international ability tried the team. This is a close-knit with very good experience. They international air of confidence they carry them thru the Pan-Ams and However, they must be extended in the physical training in order to tain their stamina and in so do very good hand and foot work. You

retain precision of effort and sharpness of movement with the rapid onset of fatigue. We lose our physical and visual sharpness too quickly to be effective over a period of days of competition or a strenuous long day of competition.

Some of the fencers are beginning to understand the value of the coach warm-up procedure prior to starting the first round and in each next round. If properly done with each fencer, the coach can tune that particular fencer to the competitive edge. There is a mental, emotional, psychological, physiological and physical let down after a round is over, even though you have qualified. There is usually a two hour break before the next round begins. The body sags from physical and mental fatigue, the muscles may ache more from nervous tension than actual physical drain and exhaustion. Mental and emotional tension and concentration drain the body faster than sheer physical effort.

It is absolutely necessary for the coaches to work quietly and diligently with the fencers on the day of the tourneys. Perrone, the 65 year old fencing master of the Italian Olympic teams, works with them at each round and during the round, warming up Rigoli, Maffei, Montano, Etc. Imre Vass, the Hungarian coach works with Kulscar, Fenyvesi, etc. The Russian Kuznetsov does the same. These are coaches of world stature. But regardless of their stature they still work with their fencers, and vice versa!

The results of the foil and epee squads, which you will find elsewhere speak for themselves. The fencers did not show themselves as of international caliber at this tournament. The brief lead against the Russian team, 4-2, was very short-lived, the Russians were idling until their coach laced into them and they proceeded to win 5 bouts in a row against the USA, finally wing 9-6.

In comparison, let us look at the results of the Swedish Epee team which put one man in the finals, two others in the semi-finals, and won the gold medal. These are extraordinary results from a country of only 8 million people and with a total of 5 fenc-

ing masters in the whole country. The Swedes have concentrated on the epee for many, many years and the results have been impressive over the past 30 years at the World Games and Olympics.

In the Western Hemisphere, Cuba is making a continued high level effort in the international area. Their fencing team has been in Europe for six months prior to the World Games with full government support.

Mexico is developing its team and supporting it at all level.

Canada sent a complete team to the World Games, fully paid for with Government support thru a National Sports Organization. Canada's approach is the development of a cadre of International fencers whose results will influence more support at the National, Provincial and local levels. They have established a financial support structure in the government from the highest level down thru the Provinces to the local town level. They have established a National discipline, control, support and dedicated effort for the development of young fencers to International caliber is quickly as possible. Support from the highest National level is influenced by the International results. As of right now, they have achieved Government support without Government control. This support is outside of the Canadian Fencing Association. The results of the forthcoming Pan-Am Games will show what has happened in the last four years. Perhaps a strong shock is what we need to establish a fully funded fencer and coach program across the country.

Here are some of the reasons U.S. fencers did not perform up to expectations:

1. Late arrival to the tournament. Fencers who arrive within 24 to 48 hours do not have time to recover from the time-lag symptoms or from the physical stress of a 28 hour train ride. It is a waste of money and prestige to do this.
2. The negative influence of the presence of other people on the concentration and positive effort of the fencer at the critical fencing times. These are wives, friends, girlfriends, other fencers, who are part of the official party. The atmosphere of the

World Games and the physical set-up is such that the actual competition and competitors are not physically separated from the mass of well-wishers and spectators and pseudocoaches, all of course wish well to the fencer, but who do not realize the harm they are doing.

3. The relationship of the fencers on the team to each other. There are too many who want to go there own way and dispense with the discipline of the team. Living away from the team is another factor, failure to practice as a team and failure to associate with each other and the coaches, does not foster team spirit and team effort.

4. Fencers who do not know how to eat properly and are distressed at practice.

5. Fencers who are not properly physically conditioned so that they can take a proper daily warm-up.

The following are areas of immediate effort and concentration of endeavor for fencers of International and Olympic caliber:

1. Long range physical education awareness and particular program to increase stamina and muscle strength.
2. Development of reflexive speed reactions and more intense visual acuity.
3. Long range program in development of technical competence.
4. Increased frequency of International competition participation.



MICHEL ALAUX GRAND OPEN by Marilyn Masiero

The Fencers Club and Hunter College will co-host the first annual Michel Alaux Grand Open, the weekend of November 29th and 30th. Individual events will be held in four weapons in the large gymnasium of Hunter College, 695 Park Avenue (at 69th Street), New York City. Entries should be sent to Ms. Ruby Watson, 107 St. Marks Place, New York 10009. The schedule of events is as follows:

| | | |
|---------|--------------|------------|
| Epee | Sat. Nov. 29 | 10:00 a.m. |
| Sabre | Sat. Nov. 29 | 1:00 p.m. |
| Foil | Sun. Nov. 30 | 10:00 a.m. |
| Women's | Sun. Nov. 30 | 1:00 p.m. |

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OFFICIATING — A STATEMENT

by Edgard Mercier, Chairman, FIE
Commission on Officiating

("The following statement, issued by the FIE Commission on officiating, concerns certain fundamental articles of the Rules, and sets forth the precise interpretation that they must be given by directors at all levels, national and international. It is very important to the quality of officiating that it be uniform and impartial, not only in the analysis of the phrase d'armes but likewise in the application of penalties prescribed by the Rules.")

PRIORITY (RIGHT OF WAY) OF "THE LINE"

Article 233/1 and 418/1 establish the right of way of "the line" in foil and sabre.

Moreover, these articles do **not** say that the fencer "in line" loses the right of way when he advances, or retreats — that would be contrary to the convention, since the right of way is not given only to the fencer who stands still on the strip. Accordingly, that right of way must always be respected in the analysis of phrase d'armes and may not be given different interpretations according to whether the fencer advances, retreats, or just stands still on the strip.

Only an action of the opponent by a beat, taking of the blade, or bind can overcome the right of way conferred by the "in line" position.

CORPS A CORPS

1. Foil and Sabre

Article 34 requires the director to stop the bout on a corps a corps, in other words to call "Halt" at once.

Articles 224 and 412 provide that "whenever a fencer intentionally or systematically causes the corps a corps (even with neither brutality nor violence), he must be penalized one touch — **after a warning given in the course of the same bout.**"

Article 641 from the disciplinary code provides, "for seeking the corps a corps in foil and in sabre, the penalty of one touch — **after a warning given in the course of the same bout.**"

Thus in foil and sabre the corps a corps (even without brutality or violence) is not permitted: the fencers do not have the freedom, much less the right, to cause the corps a corps, whether to avoid being touched or

to touch the opponent on the action or following it.

If the corps a corps results from an accident, from some involuntary movement of one or the other of the fencers, the director, who is well placed to judge objectively the origin of the corps a corps, will make a simple announcement to the fencers, calling their attention to the fact that the action is prohibited and subject to the penalties of warning and touch.

On the other hand, if the corps a corps results **from an action or movement that is deliberate, intentional, or systematic** by one or the other of the fencers or by both at the same time, it cannot be tolerated by the director, who must, **without hesitation**, apply articles 223, 412, and 641 — that is, the warning valid for the bout, and subsequently a penalty touch. Such a penalty touch can cause the loss of the bout, since seeking the corps a corps is a fencing fault.

It is clear that if the corps a corps is produced **with violence or intentional brutality**, the director must apply article 645, the warning being valid for the whole pool, or team match, or all the direct elimination bouts.

The replacement on guard, following a halt after a corps a corps, will follow the provisions of article 37. Thus, if there has been no valid touch on the action, and if the corps a corps gives rise to only a warning, the fencer having sustained the corps a corps must hold his position on the strip, and **the fencer having caused the corps a corps must step back** to reestablish the proper distance for the en garde.

However, the director must be alert to apply as necessary the provisions of paragraphs b) and c) of article 37. b) If, at the moment that halt is called, the fencer having caused the corp a corps is located in front of his warning line and has not been warned for reaching it, the replacement on guard cannot locate him behind the warning line, despite the required stepping back. In this case, the director will put this fencer on guard with his back foot on the warning line and give the warning. c) If, at the

moment the halt is called, the fencer causing the corps a corps has already crossed his warning line with one foot or with both feet after having been warned, he will hold his position at the replacement on guard and his opponent will step back.

If there was a valid touch on the exchange, or if one of the fencers is penalized by a touch as a result of the corp a corps, the fencers will be replaced on guard at the center of the strip.

2. Epee

Article 318 permits the corps a corps, even several times in succession in the course of the fencing, but **on the express condition** that it does not involve brutality or violence.

Thus in epee, unlike the conventional foil and sabre, fencers ending an action in a corps a corps are not committing a fencing fault, unless the corps a corps is violent or brutal.

Nonetheless, article 318 cannot modify or contradict the fundamental regulations set out in articles 28, 34, and 37 of Part One of the Rules Book, setting forth the rules common to all three weapons and dealing particularly with combat (chapter VI). Accordingly, the director must require the fencers to abide by article 28, and must stop the bout when there is corps a corps (article 34), and put the fencers back on guard, after stopping the bout for a corps a corps, by applying the procedures set forth in paragraphs b) and c) of article 37 and explained above in the part of this statement dealing with the corps a corps in foil and sabre.

Violence and Brutality. These are fencing faults in all three weapons, thus

- a) When the corps a corps is violent, that is when it ends by jostling the opponent, by a violent or brutal shock, the director, following article 28 and paragraph 1 of article 645, must impose on the fencer at fault:
 - 1) a warning **valid for the whole pool, the same team match, or the direct elimination bouts.**
 - 2) a penalty touch for a repetition.

3) exclusion from the competition a second repetition. With the Director should make clear to the fencer at fault the severity of the penalty to which he exposed himself, particularly of a second repetition.

b) When the corps a corps is produced with intentional brutality, i.e., by the fencer who causes this fact neither can nor should it be missed by the Director), by the article 28 and paragraph 2 of article 645, the Director must impose on the fencer at fault:

- 1) a warning **valid for the whole pool, the same team match, or the direct elimination bouts.**
- 2) exclusion from the competition case of a repetition. With the Director should make clear to the fencer at fault the severity of the penalty to which he exposes him.

c) When a corps a corps that justifies the opponent results from a fencing fault by the power of arm and paragraph 3 of article 645, the Director must impose on the fencer at fault

- 1) a warning **valid for the whole pool, the same team match, or the direct elimination bouts.**
- 2) annulment of a touch causing any repetition.
- 3) exclusion from the competition case of a second repetition. With the Director should make clear to the fencer at fault the severity of the penalty to which he exposed himself by a repetition.

IMPROPER USE OF THE UNARMED HAND AND ARM

Article 30 (the 4th, 5th, and 6th paragraphs) and Article 640 give precise regulations governing improper use of the unarmed hand and arm during fencing.

The 6th paragraph of Article 30, by the 1974 Congress, deals particularly with the unarmed hand, and is dis-

section III below.

The new version of Article 640 (also adopted by the 1974 Congress), as set forth at the end of this section, eliminates all ambiguity and all discussion about the application of the penalties provided therein.

I. USING THE UNARMED HAND OR ARM IN AN OFFENSIVE OR DEFENSIVE ACTION:

In all three weapons, the use of the unarmed hand or arm is prohibited while carrying out an offensive or defensive action. Thus in Article 30, 4th paragraph, in case the hand is used:

- either to deflect or ward off the opposing weapon either at the start of or during an offensive action,
- or to parry an attack or riposte, or even to push aside the opponent's blade,
- or likewise to push off the opponent in close combat; in these cases, the Director must:

1. annual the touch that may be scored by the fencer at fault and give him a **warning valid for the whole pool, team match, or direct elimination bouts;**
2. In case of repetition, penalize the fencer at fault by a touch and likewise annul a touch that he may have scored (on that action) by once again improperly using his unarmed hand or arm;
3. For each additional repetition, impose on the fencer at fault a penalty touch and annulment of any touch scored.

After the warning, a penalty touch can involve the loss of the bout, since what is involved is a distinct fault in fencing, intentionally committed.

II. COVERING OR PROTECTING THE TARGET IN FOIL WITH THE UNARMED HAND OR ARM

Article 30 (5th paragraph) specifies that in foil it is prohibited to cover the valid surface with the unarmed hand or arm. That means that the fencers may not in any circumstances, during a bout, hold the unarm-

ed hand or arm in front of or upon any part whatsoever of the valid surface. Such a position of the unarmed hand or arm, even involuntary, is an abnormal position which improperly puts the opponent at a disadvantage by masking a part of the target.

In such case, the Director must:

1. Give a warning to the fencer at fault, **this warning being valid for the bout;**
2. impose a penalty touch on the fencer for each new offense.

The penalty is applied as follows:

If there has been no valid touch scored by the fencer at fault, then the penalty is a touch added to the score against the fencer being penalized.

If there has been a valid touch scored by the fencer at fault, then the penalty is the annulment of that touch.

However, since covering or protecting the target with unarmed hand or arm is not classified as a fencing fault ("faute de combat"), a bout cannot be won by the application of the foregoing penalties. In these circumstances, the penalty to be imposed on the fencer at fault will be either the reduction of his score by one touch or the annulment of a valid touch that he has scored.

In case the fencer to be penalized has scored no touches, the penalty will be the annulment of the first valid touch, and as may be necessary of subsequent touches, that this fencer will score in the course of the bout.

III. POSITION OF THE UNARMED HAND

In order to avoid, after a warning, incurring the penalties caused

- by improper use of the unarmed hand or arm during an offensive or defensive action in foil and in epee, or
- by covering or protecting the target with the unarmed hand or arm in foil, some fencers have a habit of using the unarmed hand to grab or hold on to the reel wire or the back part of their own body wire.

This position for, and use of, the unarmed hand is now prohibited by the 6th (new)

paragraph of Article 30 and the 3rd (new) paragraph of Article 640, adopted as noted above by the 1974 Congress.

Article 30 (6th paragraph), adopted by the Congress to be added to the end of the article, reads as follows:

"During the fencing action, under no circumstances may the fencer's unarmed hand grasp any part of the electrical equipment. The penalty for violation of this rule is a penalty touch, after a warning given in the course of the same bout (see 640/3)."

As a result, in foil and epee, when a fencer takes hold with his unarmed hand of any part of the electrical equipment (whether his own or that belonging to the scoring apparatus), the Director must:

1. give him a **warning valid for the bout,**
2. impose a penalty touch in case of repetition and for any further repetition.

The penalty will be applied as set forth in II above for covering or protecting the target with the unarmed hand or arm; this penalty cannot lose the bout for the fencer penalized.

New foil text for Article 640:

d) For improper use of the unarmed hand or arm

- 1) Use of the unarmed hand or arm in an offensive or defensive action.

In all three weapons, annulment of the touch that may be made by the offending fencer on his opponent and the penalty of one touch after a warning given in the course of the same pool, the same team match, or during the matches by direct elimination (see 30 and 31). The application of this penalty can involve loss of the bout.

- 2) Covering or protecting the valid surface with the unarmed hand or arm, in foil.

In foil, for protecting or covering, in the course of fencing, the valid surface with the unarmed hand or arm — after a warning given in the course of the same bout (see 30, 31):

—if there was no valid touch made offending fencer, the penalty touch added to the score again; fencer penalized.

—If there was a valid touch made offending fencer, the annulment touch.

However, since a bout may not by the application of this penalty, case the penalty for the offending will be either the removal of a touch he has scored or the annulment valid touch that he has (just) made. the score of the fencer to be penalized zero, the penalty will be annulment first valid touch he scores, and, as necessary, of further valid touches on his opponent in the course of the bout.

- 3) During the fencing action, under circumstances may the fencer's unarmed hand grasp any part of the electrical equipment (see 30).

The penalty for this violation touch after a warning given in the course of the same bout (see 30). However, a bout may not be won by the application of this penalty, in such case the removal of a touch that he has scored or the annulment of the valid touch that he has scored. In case the score of the fencer to be penalized is zero, the penalty of the annulment of the first valid touch successively, as necessary, of further touches that this fencer scores on his opponent.

SUBSTITUTION OF AN INVALID SURFACE FOR A VALID SURFACE

Article 220 defines the valid surface of the foil and its limits.

Article 222 provides for the extension of these limits by specifying: "touches on a part of the body classified as valid are counted as valid when, in an abnormal position, the fencer has substituted this invalid surface for a valid surface."

Thus it is clear and precise: when by an abnormal position, a fencer substitutes, voluntarily or not, an invalid area for the valid surface, the Director without any preliminary warning must count as valid a touch signaled as invalid because of this substitution, provided of course this touch has the right of way in the analysis of the phrase.

What is an "abnormal position"?

It is a particular position contrary to the rules, assumed by a fencer either during the execution of a fencing action or during a displacement on the strip.

Thus:

- protecting, masking, or covering the valid surface with the unarmed hand or arm;
- holding either the armed or unarmed hand or arm in front of or on the valid surface while performing a turn or half-turn;
- lowering the head, with the mask thus covering a part of the valid surface;
- ducking down to avoid or escape from an opponent's offensive action, with the mask being substituted for the valid surface during the execution of this movement,

are all abnormal positions. Whether they are performed voluntarily or involuntarily, the Director must immediately apply Article 222 without any preliminary warning.

One could retort that Article 35 permits displacements, turns and half-turns, including ducking actions in which the unarmed hand comes in contact with the ground (passata sotto).

True, these movements are permitted, but the permission can in no way eliminate the risks and consequences involved in their correct or incorrect performance. That's obvious.

Thus during the correct execution of a turn or half-turn the valid surface of the fencer performing this movement must remain vulnerable to offensive action by his opponent. This offensive action may be realized by a valid touch having the right of way in the analysis of the phrase — this is the risk in correct execution.

On the other hand, if the fencer, in performing a turn or half-turn or an evasion action, substitutes during its execution an invalid surface for his valid surface, a touch landing on that invalid surface and signaled by the scoring machine must be counted as valid if it has the right of way — this is the consequence of incorrect execution.

JUDGES AND HAND JUDGES Articles 31 and 54

When the Director observes that one of the fencers is using the unarmed hand or arm either to perform offensive or defensive actions or to protect or cover valid surfaces, he may ask for the help of two judges, as neutral as possible. These judges will be assigned by the Directoire Technique for the official FIE competitions and major international tournaments. In competitions of lesser importance, these judges may be assigned by the organizers or chosen by the Director himself.

These judges are located on opposite sides of the strip and each watches one fencer. They signal, by raising the hand or in response to the Director's questions, the improper use of the unarmed hand or arm. They do not vote, unlike what is provided in Articles 68 and 69 on the functioning of a jury. The Director alone decides on the penalty to be invoked.

The Director therefore must demand from his judges their sustained and impartial attention and precise response to his questions, in order to render his decision in full knowledge of the facts, whenever a fencer has:

- used the unarmed hand or arm in an offensive or defensive action—in all three weapons, Article 30 and 640/1,
- covered or protected the valid surface with the unarmed hand or arm—in foil, Articles 30 and 640/2,
- substituted an invalid surface for a valid surface—in foil, Article 222.

Under the provisions of Article 54, these two judges are required in quarter finals,

semi-finals, and finals. In epee, these two judges also serve as floor judges.

We noted above that when these judges are functioning as "hand" judges, looking for the improper use of the unarmed hand or arm, they do not vote and the decision is the sole responsibility of the Director. However, when these judges are functioning as floor judges in epee, they, together with the Director, comprise the Jury, and the decisions of this Jury are taken in accordance with Article 74.

OBSERVATIONS BY THE COMMISSION ON OFFICIATING

Directors, at the international and national level as well, have the unavoidable duty and obligation to watch over and maintain the quality and correctness of fencing in the conventional weapons as much as in epee.

This quality and correctness depend on the correct analysis of the phrase d'armes in foil and sabre, and in all three weapons on the strict and rigorous application of the Articles of the Rule Book regarding the corps a corps, improper use of the unarmed hand or arm, the substitution of invalid for valid surface, disordered movements on the strip, removal of the mask, unnecessarily rough movements resulting from a badly executed fleche, etc.

It is therefore important that, in all competitions at which he is called upon to officiate, the Director should manifest his authority—courteously but without weakness—as well in the analysis of the phrase d'armes as in the just and equitable application of penalties for fencing faults, for offenses against good sportmanship, and offenses against good order and discipline. This is an essential condition, necessary lest fencing degenerate and bouts be transformed into single combat somewhere at the outer limits of the rules.

The Commission on Officiating of the FIE hopes and wishes that this appeal will be understood and heeded.

(Ed. Note: Translated by Dr. Joseph Byrnes)

BOOK REVIEW

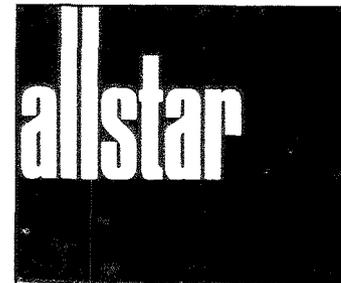
by Richard J. Gradkowski

MODERN FENCING, FOIL, EPEE, AND FROM INITIATION TO COMPETITION. B Alaux. Charles Scribner's Sons, N.Y. p

The late Michel Alaux was Fencer at the Fencers Club in New York three times U.S. Olympic coach, as the teacher of Christian d'Oriola, foil World Champion and twice Olympian.

Modern Fencing includes chapter: History of Fencing, Foil, Epee, Sabre, Apparatus, Lessons, and Conditioning. It is a complete and comprehensive graphically illustrated with over a hundred fifty action photos and drawings by famous artist Edward Vebell, a former member of the U.S. Olympic team.

With his special experience and approach, Alaux has shared his knowledge and skill: positions, attacks, parries, physical conditioning, footwork, strategy, lesson methods, and factors that help to make a champion.



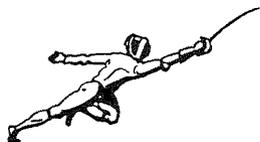
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SABRE Simultaneous Attacks

(Ed. Note: Here are the new official sabre rules, to be followed at all FIE and AFLA competitions.)

Article 423. Simultaneous Attacks.

Systematically and consecutively causing "simultaneous attacks" is prohibited.

Accordingly, after two consecutive "simultaneous attack" decisions, that is, one right after another, the Director must apply the following rules.

Procedure

a) In calculating "simultaneous attacks," those "simultaneous attacks" will be counted (even when there is doubt about the materiality or validity of the touch, see 69/5) in which:

- each fencer is touched on valid or invalid surface,
- one fencer is touched on valid surface and the other on invalid (see 69/5),
- neither fencer is touched—and in this case the Director must annul all the action following the simultaneous attack that produced no result, except an immediate remise by one of the fencers that arrives before the command "Halt."

On the other hand, a decision of "simultaneous attack" on an action in which only one fencer is touched on valid or invalid surface will not be used in this calculation.

b) After two consecutive "simultaneous attack" decisions the Director will give a warning to both fencers. This warning will remain in effect even following the exchange of one or more valid or invalid touches.

c) If, after the warning, there is a new "simultaneous attack" decision (see a above), the bout will be resumed by giving priority on the attack alternately to each

of the two fencers. The fencer not benefiting from the priority is prohibited from causing a "simultaneous attack" decision, on penalty of being declared touched, unless on that action he touches his opponent on valid or invalid surface without being touched himself (see f below).

d) The selection of the fencer to be first given the benefit of the priority on the attack is made by lot, carried out by the Director.

e) After the first exchange that produces a valid result following the drawing of lots (see c above), the roles of the fencers are reversed with the priority on the attack passing to the other fencer on the resumption of the fencing.

f) In case there is an invalid touch or no decision on an exchange, the fencer benefiting from the priority on the attack retains that priority on being put back on guard (see c above).

g) After the second exchange that produces a valid result, following the reversal of priority on the attack (see c above), the bout resumes in normal fashion. However, in every case of two new consecutive "simultaneous attack" decisions the Director will apply this procedure.

h) Score of the bout

If the score of the bout is 4/3, 4/2, 4/1 or 4/0 at the time the lots are drawn, each fencer must alternately be allowed the benefit of the priority on the attack—even if the first valid exchange following the drawing of lots brings the score to 5/3, 5/2, 5/1, or 5/0, and likewise at the expiration of the regulation time.

If the application of this procedure brings the final score to 6/3, 6/2, or 6/1, the bout is halted and the winning score entered on the score sheet for the pool will be 5/3, 5/2, or 5/1, as though this were the actual score.

At 4-all, this procedure will likewise be applied, alternately for each of the fencers, even at the expiration of the regulation time.

If the application of this procedure brings the score to 6/4, the bout is halted, and the winning score entered

on the score sheet for the pool will be 5/4.

If the application of this procedure brings the score to 5/5, the fencing resumes in normal fashion to determine the final touch. However, should three new "simultaneous attack" decisions during the continuation of the bout again oblige the Director to determine priority on the attack by lot, the first valid touch scored will end the bout and the winning score entered on the score sheet for the pool will be 5/4.

The same procedure and the same principles are to be applied in bouts fenced for more than five touches.

CSISZAR EPEE

The Gladius Society of the University of Pennsylvania has scheduled the 1975-76 Lajos S. Csiszar Epee Tournament for 9 A.M., Sunday, December 21, 1975. Just as last year, the meet will be held in Penn's Hutchinson Gymnasium, 33rd Street between Spruce and Walnut Streets, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Annually, this invitational tournament produces the strongest epee field in the country, next to the U.S. Nationals. Invitations are extended first to the U.S. International Squad, secondly to Class A epeemen, thirdly to Class B epeemen, fourthly to leading collegiate epee fencers.

Fencers who do not receive a personal invitation, and who wish to compete, may request entry by sending their name, address, phone number, epee rank or classification, and a check for the \$10 entry fee to Daniel J. Steinman, 206 Lincoln Avenue, Hatboro, Pennsylvania 19040. The check should be made payable to "Daniel J. Steinman" and marked "Entry Fee, Csiszar Epee."

All entries and requests for entry must be received by November 21, in order to allow time for replies. Requests for entry will be returned, if not accepted. Normally, the field is limited to the top 56 entrants.

The organizing committee regrets it will not be able to arrange housing. Entrants are asked to provide for their own sleeping quarters and to bring their own towels and padlocks.

1975 PENTATHLON NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHI

by George Nelson

The 1975 Modern Pentathlon I Championships were held August 2-7 Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas. T sport event consisting of horse-back fencing, pistol shooting, swimmir cross-country running was won by Ar tain Orban Greenwald. The skill were conducted twice on separate d; the resulting scores being averaged

Pentathlon epee bouts are fen- one touch over a three minute tim Double hits are annulled, but if tl limit expires before a winning t scored a double defeat is counted. tathlon, competition scoring points cumulated on the basis of establish centages or standards; in fencing points corresponds to 70% bouts w each victory over or under this worth 1100 points divided by the nu bouts in the entire round robin poc

Seniors Fencing Results

(average of two rounds)

1. Robert Beck, 1039; 2. Orban wald, 1004; 3. Risto Hurme, 1000; Cherry, 991; 5. Bob Nieman, 987; Moreau, 982; 7. Greg Losey, 968; Fitzgerald, 968.

Juniors Fencing Results

(average of two rounds)

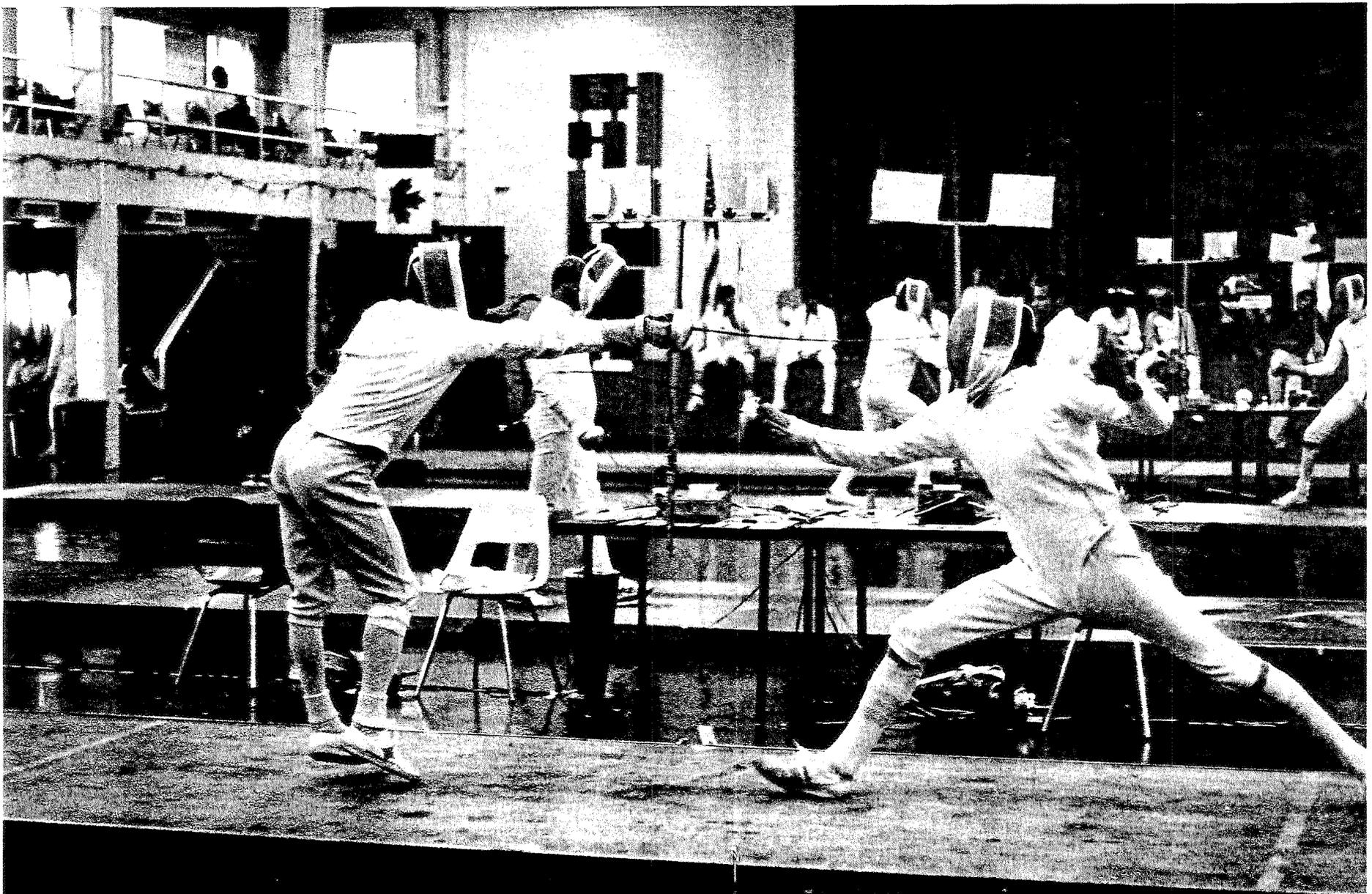
1. Tom Cullum, 1054; 2. Mark C 1025; 3. Harvey Cain, 949; 4. Paul 946; 5. John Shea, 905.



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photo

Greenwald (right) attacks Moreau at
National Pentathlon Championships held
in Antonio, Texas.

FENCING IN THE MEDIA

by Marilyn Masiero

Recently fencing has been making some news in the media. In the last issue of Modern Maturity, a feature article was presented on Ralph Faulkner of California and his coaching career. The interesting article was accompanied by beautiful photographs depicting an extremely active senior citizen, Mr. Faulkner, "doing his thing" — fencing.

Also the October issue of Women Sport has an article on the finalists of the 1975 Women's National Championship and Salle Santelli. The layout features a photograph of Nikki Tomlinson.

"Mid-Day Live" a New York Channel 5 presentation, recently aired a segment on fencing featuring Denise O'Connor and her students Anne Marie Williams and Jennette Starks of Brooklyn College. This trio also give a demonstration at the Colgate Women's Sport festival, in New York this summer. At the festival over twenty sports were represented and outstanding women were honored for developing women's athletics. Denise O'Connor was one of the women so honored by New York City Department of Parks and Recreation.

WOMAN COACH MAGAZINE

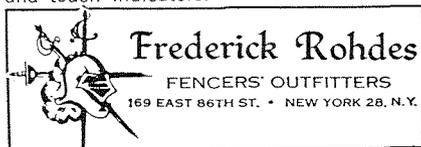
The Sept./Oct. issue of WOMEN COACH magazine will feature an article on fencing by A. John Geraci. The magazine is oriented to the views of women coaches and plans to carry more fencing articles in the future.

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QUALIFICATIONS

For qualification to the next round, fencers must barrage if there is a tie in bout and touch indicators.



AMERICAN FENCING IN LIBRARIES

Does your library carry American Fencing magazine? Copies of American Fencing would be very useful to those people who are researching fencing information, or who may be doing studies on sports in general. If you are a physical education major or a fencer, it would perhaps be useful to have such a file of back copies, as well as the current issue available. Any library can obtain a subscription by contacting our national secretary, **Irwin F. Bernstein, 249 Eton Place, Westfield, New Jersey 07090**. A complete microfilm file of back copies of American Fencing can be obtained from **Xerox University Microfilms, 300 North Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106**. We have printed many interesting articles in the past, and new members of the AFLA might enjoy going over them. Physical Education majors may also be interested in the fact that Xerox films can also supply them with prints of particular articles of special interest.



MICHIGAN GAUNTLET

The 1975 Gauntlet will be presented by the Michigan Division on Saturday and Sunday, November 8 and 9, 1975. The Gauntlet is an open tournament in all four weapons with competition based on the Junior Olympic age classifications.

Age of the Junior Fencers is determined as of January 1, 1976. Under-16 fencers will compete on Saturday, November 8, and Under-20 events will be conducted on Sunday, November 9.

The 1975 Gauntlet will be presented in the Detroit area of Michigan, and housing can be arranged for out-of-town fencers who request assistance on the advance registration form.

Further information and entry forms may be obtained from:

Mrs. Sharon G. Rees, Treasurer
2927 Crooks Road,
Royal Oak, Michigan 48073

SOUTH TEXAS HONORS POUJARDIEU

by George Nelson

1975 marks the tenth anniversary of the founding of the South Texas Division and Gerard J. Pougardieu, Fencing Master of the U.S. Modern Pentathlon Training Center, Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas, has been recognized for his continuous outstanding distinguished service to fencing in the area. Maitre Pougardieu was particularly helpful to Darrell William of Austin (now fencing coach at the University of Texas) and Jerold Bennett of San Antonio (Trinity Fencing Club) in the formation of the South Texas Division in 1965. He has taught fencing in San Antonio, San Marcos, and Austin, and has inspired others to teach fencing. Maitre Pougardieu received the AFLA Certificate of Merit in 1969.

Pougardieu holds the rank of Superior Degree Fencing Master from the French National School for Physical Education and Martial Sports and has been teaching fencing since 1936 in many parts of the world

including France, Morocco, Polan South Viet Nam, and the United States. Whereas Maitre Pougardieu is a champion, and the semi-finals of the U.S. Nationals in epee use several fencers who have taken with him, many fencers of all qualification have benefitted from instruction.

Maitre Pougardieu has coached at the Pentathlon Training Center since 1959. It might be considered that nationally ranked epee fencers have been developed regularly within their years of training from run/swim athletes in their early twenties. USMPTC this result has been achieved year after year through intensive lessons, regular bouts, and thorough physical conditioning. "Pouj" gives to the San Antonio Jewish Community in addition to his Pentathlon duties.

South Texas fencers are very grateful to Maitre Pougardieu and his accomplishments and wish him lifetime success and happiness.

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From The President

by Steve Sobel



At the start of every fencing season, two questions come to mind. How many AFLA fencers will renew their memberships, and how many new fencers will join the AFLA? It seems axiomatic that fencing will grow only if the AFLA grows. Therefore, we must constantly strive to retain all existing members and acquire new ones.

It is always a great loss when our top fencers stop competing. Recently, I can recall two such examples. Bruce Soriano, the only fencer in NCAA history to win 3 individual championships and Ruth White, who won the Nationals and National Under 19 Championships at the same time, both stopped competing after they entered medical school. Yet many of our outstanding fencers continue through graduate schools. John Nonna, #1 in Olympic Foil points in his last year at law school, and Dr. Todd Makler maintaining a position on both Olympic epee and sabre squads during his medical studies serve as two current outstanding examples.

There is a place in the sport for anyone interested in fencing. It can be competing on an international team for our top competitors, serving in various official and administrative capacities at the Division level or at the National level; pleasure fencing in Division competitions and at Fencing Clubs; officiating at college, high school and AFLA competitions. Each require different time demands and abilities. It is important to realize that there is not only a place, but a critical need for everyone to help promote fencing, so let's answer some of the questions of those who are planning to quit in order to encourage them to stay with our sport.

1. **I don't have the time now:** Nobody has the time unless they have the interest to make the time available. How much time

is involved? For strictly pleasure fencing once a week is sufficient to have a good time with reasonable competitive results. A difficult decision faces collegiate champions who cannot be in full time training due to the demands of graduate school. However, if their choice is all or nothing and they quit, it will be a great loss to fencing, and a greater loss to themselves. By practicing once a week with a general conditioning program they can at least maintain a level until such time as they can devote the hours required to win top level events. At the same time, they will be enjoying the recreational advantages of our lifetime sport and have a good work out in periods when they desire to relax from the difficult study routine. In most cases, those who quit will never return to fencing as fencers, as officials, or even as AFLA members.

2. **Why should I volunteer to help if it is not appreciated:** Many fencing officials leave a competition with this question, after giving up an entire day to "help" and instead of thanks, all they hear are complaints. I have one simple answer to this perplexing problem. The only way to do nothing wrong is to do nothing. (Of course — in this way you can do nothing right either). Someone once said "Observe the turtle, it moves forward only when it sticks its neck out." In short, appreciation cannot be measured by an applause meter. If there are only five loud complainers, understand that the silent majority, the other thousands of AFLA members know and appreciate the importance of volunteers. It is also interesting to note that the loudest complainers are usually the same people who do nothing to help, but assume that by paying an entry fee into a competition they have a right to expect others to serve them. If they enter or arrive late, this makes no difference, as they will say "Fencing is for fencers — not for rule

makers". It may be true that there would be no fencing without fencers, but it is also true that there would be no fencing without officials, administrators and volunteers.

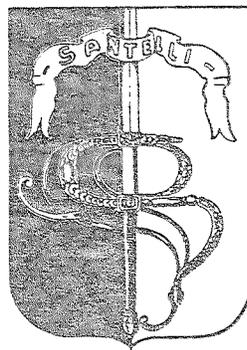
AFLA membership provides numerous benefits to the individual as well as the AFLA. Volunteer work can be stimulating, rewarding and beneficial when viewed in the proper perspective. Since you are now reading this, you already have an interest in the sport. Even a spectator, who has never fenced, can find true satisfaction given such an interest in the sport. My father, Leo Sobel, never fenced a bout. He was just a spectator, yet he became the only non-fencer to hold the national office of Treasurer for over 10 years, and in appreciation was elected to honorary life AFLA membership by a unanimous vote of the Board of Directors many years ago. What a great value to the AFLA when a spectator develops the interest and ability to be elected by the membership to serve as a national officer for many years. What a

great honor to an individual to receive honorary life membership in appreciation for services rendered.

The value of AFLA membership rewards of volunteering cannot be measured in dollars and cents, or in material acknowledgment. There is a greater reward in life than a personal sense of pride and accomplishment well done. Join the AFLA; encourage others to join as well; be an active supporter and contributor of the many AFLA members. The prosperity of fencing and the growth of the AFLA will be achieved as a result of your personal efforts.

1975 NCAA CHAMPIONS

- Foil:** 1. Benko, Wayne State; 2. Penn.; 3. Lebow, Maryland.
Epee: 1. Hurme, NYU; 2. Master State; 3. Shelley, Princeton.
Sabre: 1. Rabinovich, Wayne State; 2. onczy, Columbia; 3. Majtenyi, State University.



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1975 HEIDENHEIM EPEE

By George Masin

The epee tournament at Heidenheim, West Germany, on April 4-6 of this year, was not only the strongest epee competition, as usual, but was also most dramatic. The first part of the competition is a team event open only to the local Heidenheim team and those European club teams which had won their own national championships in the previous year. Over a two day period the original twenty-one teams were reduced to a final of Hungary versus U.S.S.R. This was no surprise since the last time a country other than these two had won this tournament was France in 1963. The final match see-sawed back and forth with each team at one point having a two bout lead. The final score was seven to seven with two double defeats and an exact tie on touches. For the final match of champions to decide the title, the Hungarians picked Dr. Csaba Fenyvesi and the Russians Mõdzelski, who in the previous twelve bouts had lost only one—to Fenyvesi. Fenyvesi lost the first two touches but then came back to win and give the Hungarians the team title.

The individual competition had over 320 entries and was also held over a two day period. The first two rounds were both pools of seven with three qualifying. Semifinalists in the team event were given a bye in the first round. This reduced the field to sixty. The next four rounds were direct elimination by one ten-touch bout. In the first of these direct elimination rounds the four top fencers from the previous round of pools got a bye. Thus the sixty got reduced to thirty-two, then the thirty-two to sixteen, the sixteen to eight, and the eight to four. The final four fence each other in a round robin to decide the championship.

The standing-room-only audience got its first surprise by seeing an American in the round of sixteen. Brooke Makler of Philadelphia eliminated a Pole and a Russian in the first two rounds of direct elimination before being knocked out by a West German, Opgenorth. This West German went on to take second place thus giving Makler the tenth place.

The final consisted of Akerman of Sweden, who fenced foil for M.I.T. last year, Edling of Sweden, World Champion in 1973 and 1974, Evequoz of Switzerland, and Opgenorth of West Germany. In the middle of the final, Opgenorth's blade broke while he was scoring the fifth touch on Akerman. The broken blade entered Akerman's arm. Akerman was rushed to the hospital and the competition was held up for a half hour to allow the strip to be cleaned and the Directoire Technique to consult the rules for the remaining bouts. World Champion Rolf Edling ended up beating all his opponents to take first. Opgenorth fenced off with Evequoz to take second. After the competition they announced that the doctors had operated on Ackerman and that he was in no immediate danger.



1975 NATIONAL RANKINGS

Foil: 1. Ballinger; 2. Nonna; 3. Donofrio; 4. Krause; 5. Axelrod; 6. Kestler; 7. Lang; 8. Wright; 9. Davis; 10. Hambarzumian; 11. Ashley; 12. Tank.

Epee: 1. Bozek; 2. Glass; 3. Netburn; 4. Reith; 5. Pesthy; 6. Greenwald; 7. R. Marx; 8. Masin; 9. Nieman; 10. Elliot; 11. Lyons; 12. McCormick.

Saber: 1. Westbrook; 2. Apostol; 3. Orban; 4. Reilly; 5. Dow; 6. Kaplan; 7. House; 8. S. Blum; 9. Kalmar; 10. Losonczy; 11. Gluckman; 12. Barcelo.

Women: 1. Tomlinson; 2. Armstrong; 3. O'Connor; 4. Bleamaster; 5. O'Donnell; 6. Pechinsky; 7. Dasaro; 8. Mitchell; 9. Waples; 10. McCourt; 11. Steele; 12. Flynn.

U-19 Foil: 1. Massialas; 2. M. Marx; 3. Sullivan; 4. Gerard; 5. Nonomura; 6. Caux; 7. Koester; 8. Tichacek; 9. Thomas; 10. Buro; 11. Piazzola; 12. Forrest.

U-19 Epee: 1. Marx; 2. Shelley; 3. Massialas; 4. M. Marx; 5. MacDonald; 6. Kullman; 7. Neale; 8. Forrest; 9. Fischler; 10. Arenz; 11. Weber; 12. Betton.

U-19 Saber: 1. Thomas; 2. Sullivan; 3. Caux; 4. Renshaw; 5. Cawley; 6. Weil; 7. Edwards; 8. Betton; 9. Koester; 10. Frieder; 11. Garrison.

U-19 Women: 1. Foote; 2. Massialas; 3. Crowley; 4. Konecny; 5. Ellingson; 6. Peck; 7. Brown; 8. Bilodeau; 9. Vari; 10. Beckman; 11. Park; 12. Nagy.

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ALPAR RETIRES

Julius Palffy Alpar, fencing master at the University of California in Berkeley has announced his retirement after completing thirteen years on the faculty. Alpar arrived in California coming from his native Hungary, after a detour in Canada. Having coached numerous collegiate and amateur champions, Alpar wrote a textbook "Sword and Masque" some years ago. Recently he was very active in teaching theatrical sword-play and in the teaching of fencing to sightless people.

FENCING MASTER

Mr. Feigin Efim, a fencing master and graduate in physical education from the Institute of Physical Culture of Leningrad, is available for a coaching or related position. He is married and has over 20 years of experience in all phases of physical education. Interested parties should write to: Feigin Efim, 1239½ W. Greenleaf Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60626.

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IOC SELECTS U.S. COACHES

The Bureau of Olympic Solidarity, a committee set up by the International Olympic Committee in Rome for the purpose of aiding the fencing development of emerging nations, has selected three U.S. coaches to participate in the program. A. John Geraci, M. Sebastiani, and R. Sudre, will be handling a projected fifteen day fencing program in countries requesting such assistance. The solidarity program is funded entirely by the IOC.

FENCING MASTER WANTED

The Kentucky Division needs a Fencing Master. For further information contact: Francis Wolff, 1810 Kline Crt., Louisville, Ky. 40205.

CASTELLO JOINS ELITE

Hugo Castello, former coach of N.Y.U., has been designated as one of seven "elite" coaches with ten or more national championships to their credit, in a recent issue of the NCAA newsletter.

FENCING MASTER AVAILABLE

Mr. Stanislaw Spyra a former faculty member of the Academy of Physical Culture in Warsaw is available for a coaching position. He has had over twenty years of experience in the training of fencers and fencing masters. Interested parties may contact him at: S. Spyra, ul. Podlesna #48, Warsaw, Poland.

COLLEGE OFFICIALS

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Interested person should contact Vincent Surdi at (201) 226-0033.

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FENCING CLINIC by Dick Oles

Twelve American fencing masters and coaches from all over the Eastern seaboard gathered in Washington, D.C. the week of August 18-22 for a teaching seminar conducted by the renowned former Olympic champion and many-times World Championship medalist Eduardo Maniarotti, now carrying on in the footsteps of his equally renowned father Giuseppe. The clinic was arranged by Mike Mamlouk, coach at the Salle d'Armes who is studying under Eduardo Mangiarotti for his fencing master's diploma.

The seminar included daily individual lessons from the maestro, group lessons, sessions on footwork, bouting, discussions of the latest FIE rules, practice directing under supervision with special attention being called to the current FIE interpretation of right-of-way, exercises used in teaching advanced fencers, and swimming. On several nights the discussions ran into the wee hours of the morning, and with all of us trying to speak in various combinations of English, French and Italian, the effect would have seemed confusing to the casual visitor. A tremendous amount was absorbed, most of it involving not so much new material per se, as new subtleties of interpretation, new refinements of known techniques, and better ways of (and reasons for) presenting material to pupils. Everyone went away with the feeling that this was invaluable information well presented, and we're looking forward to the possibility of another such clinic next year.



Some of the participants in the clinic: front row (l or r) Meudt, Steere, Paul; back row: Munson, Michanik, Conomikes, Richards, Mangiorotti, Oles, Mamlouk.

MONTREAL PRE OLYMPIC by Richard Gradkowski

The pre Olympic fencing competition was held at the Winter Stadium of the University of Montreal. This year the event placed the annual Terre des Hommes competition which is usually held the Labor Day weekend. The entire Pan American team participated. A number of top European fencers participated, the competition was fencer vited, the competition was fencer many relatively weak U.S. and fencers. The event itself was wized, with the exception of some shaky officiating. A transportation and province-wide power failure difficulties. Results were:

Foil: 1. Jurka, Czech.; 2. Noel, France; 3. Isoy, USSR; 4. Behr, RFA; 5. J. 6. Soumagne, Bel.

Steven Michaan did the best of men by placing seventh.

Women's Foil: 1. Kniazeva, USSR Hun.; 3. Rodriguez, Cuba; 4. Cuba; 5. Sidorova, USSR; 6. B. Nikki Tomlinson did the best of women, placing sixteenth.

Epee: 1. Osztrics, Hun.; 2. Lukom; 3. Hurme, Fin.; 4. Suarez, Cuba; USA; 6. Rosen, Swe.

Saber: 1. Nazlimov, USSR; 2. USA; 3. Marot, Hun.; 4. De Cuba; 5. Orban, USA; 6. Apos

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FENCING CAMPS

The second annual West Point fencing camp was held in two one week sessions in late June and early August. Forty six young fencers attended. The camp, which was held in the historic setting of the U.S. Military Academy, featured excellent food and lodgings and a review of the 1975 Martini Rossi matches on video tape.

Twenty four fencers, male and female, attended the first Fairleigh Dickinson fencing camp at the Fairleigh Dickinson Campus at Madison, New Jersey, during the week of August 17. The camp was part day-camp and part live in camp, to accommodate those participants who lived too far to travel daily. Several high school coaches brushed up on their teaching skills, in preparation for working with their teams.

Both the West Point and the Fairleigh Dickinson camps were organized and operated by Fencing Master A. John Geraci and his staff.

THREE RIVERS INVITATIONAL

The Western Pennsylvania Division will hold its' 6th annual Three Rivers Invitational in Pittsburgh on November 8th and 9th. In the past, the Invitational has hosted terrific fencers from such areas as Washington D.C., Ohio, West Virginia, and New York.

Men and women's foil, men and women's epee and men' sabre will comprise the events. Starting this year, the division is planning to use cast iron figures, mounted on wood, as rotating trophies for their Iron Man and Iron Woman awards. These go to the best all round fencer in the men's and women's events.

It's one of the biggest and most important events of the fencing season. You won't want to miss it! For more information contact: Kevin Haffey, 24 Zimmerman Street, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15210. Home phone number: 412-884-8232.

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Technical Talks

by
Joseph Byrnes



If you have bought yourself a new foil body wire within the last year, let's say, the chances are that you have wondered what that brontosaurus jaw is doing in the jacket-lead end of it, instead of the nice delicate alligator or crocodile clip that used to be supplied. All right, I exaggerate a bit; but the thing is still a good deal larger than we have been used to seeing. How come, you ask?

So you won't ask, eh? That's no escape; I'm going to tell you anyway, since you will have to know sooner or later. The FIE Electrical Equipment Commission observed that the smaller clips sometimes made an inefficient contact when clipped over thick hems on the edges of some electrical jackets. The solution they hit upon was to set a minimum dimension standard for the alligator clip—one which would insure that the teeth would engage on the lame and not just on the turn-over of the insulating liner. So, from now on, the width of the tooth area on the clip of your body wire must be (at least) 12 mm (let's call it a half-inch) and the depth of the jaw (the area with the teeth and the gap just behind them) must be almost as big—10 mm. That adds up to a pretty hefty clip compared to some of the genteel little things that used to be sold, and its is the size now required in the FIE international events. As always, the new stuff will progressively be demanded all along the line. Does that mean that you have to throw away all your previous small-clip body wires? Of course not. But you, or your friendly supplier or technician, will have to attach a replacement clip to bring your body wire up to snuff.

Incidentally, there has been another slight modification in the specification for the clip and its attachment. The present rule (Article 217) says that the clip is to be attached to

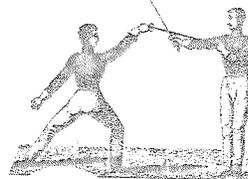
its lead (of 40 cm or more) by soldering only, and that the solder joint must not be covered. That rather restrictive ukase has been liberalized. The FIE Electrical Equipment Commission, using authority voted them by the 1973 FIE Congress, subsequently decided that the clip may be fastened by a stout screw instead of being soldered, the screw also being left uncovered.

I suspect that it was not only the possibility of making a poor contact that motivated the FIE Commission to move for a size specification for the clips. The rule has called for a "strong" or sturdy clip for some time now, but without specifying what size of clip that strength was to be incorporated in. Smaller clips, doubtless strong enough for their size, can be pulled free of a jacket much more easily than these latest big rascals. We all know how much the detachment of a body wire clip, accidental or maybe accidental-on-purpose, can add to the good order of a competition.

I am reminded of another variation that was shot down a few years ago. That was the body wire clip that could be separated from the wire by unplugging a banana plug/jack attachment, leaving the clip attached to the jacket and the wire hanging free. The possibilities for all kinds of accidents were obvious. Anybody with one of those old curiosities around should keep it on the wall (along with the old trophies) or else have a proper new big clip installed, if you plan to use it.

To other matters. When at a competition, you find that one fencer is suffering from a particular and unusual equipment ailment, that's no surprise. When you find two, that's coincidence. Three or more, you suspect an epidemic. Anyway, it's worth a mention. The following notes are based on some observations at a few junior meets this past season. (1) The too-tight point screw. Too much of a good thing, in other words. We're always telling you to keep your point screws tight, true—and that's always true for epee. However, in foil, and particularly with Leon Paul type points, it is possible to drive the screws in too far, or only one of them, either jamming the point,

or shorting it out (no touches, or making it intermittently jammed or shorted. Enough is enough: those screw heads should not sink below the surface of the point housing. (2) Foil and epee point wires not only require sleeving once they enter the guard, but they must be routed properly through the groove in the handle; and be sure that they stay in that groove whenever you work on the handle. Otherwise you risk cutting them neatly, or at least shorting the weapon as you retighten the handle.



"The swords of soldiers are his teeth
his fangs

Scene I Act V
King John

— culled by Lou Shaff

MILWAUKEE SUMMERF

The second annual Summerfe tournament was held on July 12 Milwaukee War Memorial building and overlooking Lake Michigan perfect conditions. The men's and women's foil was held on Sunday July trophies were beautiful beer steins.

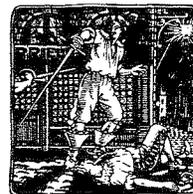
The turnout was smaller than due to the fact that this year it had to be AFLA members only. Standing fencer of the week-end Barcelo (Wis) who won first in Epee and third in foil complete set of steins.

The results are: 1. Pat Gerar John Tank (Wis), 3. Pedro Barcel Mike Duika (Mich), 5. Joe Biebe Howard Labow (Md), 7. Mike (Wis), 8. Art Diamond (Ill).

QUICKIE QUIZ

What is the difference between time and a counter time? (See and 13d, page 15, of the 1974 R)

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AFLA MEMBERSHIP TOTALS FOR SEASON ENDING July 1, 1975

| Division | Active | Associate | Collegiate | Student | Life | Total |
|-------------------------|--------|-----------|------------|---------|------|-------|
| 03 Arizona | 14 | 3 | 12 | 2 | 1 | 32 |
| 04 Central Calif. | 36 | 11 | 70 | 20 | 2 | 139 |
| 05 Northern Calif. | 99 | 27 | 79 | 78 | 2 | 285 |
| 05 Southern Calif. | 108 | 44 | 87 | 80 | 2 | 321 |
| 07 Colorado | 41 | 5 | 77 | 9 | 0 | 132 |
| 03 Columbus | 3 | 1 | 13 | 2 | 1 | 20 |
| 09 Connecticut | 38 | 12 | 45 | 71 | 1 | 167 |
| 10 Delaware (Dissolved) | 1 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 8 |
| 12 Central Florida | 13 | 9 | 23 | 16 | 0 | 61 |
| 13 Gateway Florida | 12 | 1 | 19 | 10 | 0 | 42 |
| 14 Gold Coast Florida | 26 | 7 | 36 | 20 | 1 | 90 |
| 15 Georgia | 24 | 1 | 22 | 7 | 0 | 54 |
| 16 Gulf Coast Texas | 11 | 5 | 10 | 13 | 0 | 39 |
| 17 Harrisburg | 4 | 2 | 13 | 11 | 2 | 32 |
| 18 Hudson-Berkshire | 15 | 6 | 30 | 14 | 0 | 65 |
| 19 Illinois | 48 | 15 | 36 | 135 | 1 | 235 |
| 20 Central Illinois | 2 | 2 | 2 | 11 | 0 | 17 |
| 21 Indiana | 19 | 3 | 41 | 38 | 0 | 101 |
| 22 Iowa | 5 | 1 | 13 | 2 | 1 | 22 |
| 23 Kansas | 25 | 3 | 43 | 43 | 0 | 114 |
| 24 Kentucky | 16 | 2 | 33 | 73 | 0 | 124 |
| 25 Long Island | 40 | 30 | 37 | 98 | 1 | 206 |
| 26 Maryland | 38 | 17 | 66 | 80 | 1 | 202 |
| 27 Metropolitan | 123 | 64 | 180 | 119 | 11 | 497 |
| 29 Michigan | 64 | 22 | 73 | 54 | 0 | 213 |
| 30 Minnesota | 27 | 8 | 52 | 43 | 3 | 133 |
| 31 New England | 74 | 28 | 106 | 82 | 2 | 292 |
| 32 New Jersey | 67 | 34 | 142 | 534 | 12 | 789 |
| 33 New Mexico | 6 | 0 | 17 | 7 | 0 | 30 |
| 34 South Jersey | 30 | 4 | 43 | 19 | 2 | 98 |
| 35 Northern Ohio | 33 | 14 | 47 | 39 | 2 | 135 |
| 36 Southwest Ohio | 20 | 1 | 2 | 10 | 0 | 33 |
| 37 Oklahoma | 25 | 4 | 15 | 13 | 0 | 57 |
| 33 Oregon | 13 | 3 | 26 | 27 | 2 | 71 |
| 39 Philadelphia | 42 | 21 | 63 | 42 | 7 | 175 |
| 40 Western Wash. | 37 | 19 | 22 | 40 | 2 | 120 |
| 41 St. Louis | 34 | 5 | 12 | 19 | 0 | 70 |
| 42 Tennessee | 8 | 1 | 21 | 15 | 0 | 45 |
| 44 North Texas | 20 | 4 | 33 | 20 | 0 | 77 |
| 45 Washington, DC | 67 | 11 | 29 | 18 | 0 | 125 |
| 46 Westchester | 7 | 11 | 4 | 11 | 0 | 33 |
| 47 Western NY | 30 | 17 | 57 | 16 | 5 | 125 |
| 48 Western Penna. | 29 | 6 | 38 | 22 | 0 | 95 |
| 49 West Virginia | 6 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 0 | 15 |
| 50 Wisconsin | 43 | 8 | 71 | 45 | 2 | 169 |
| 51 National | 24 | 18 | 7 | 2 | 13 | 64 |

| | | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|
| 52 West Point | 3 | 1 | 10 | 10 | 0 |
| 53 North Carolina | 12 | 3 | 90 | 10 | 1 |
| 54 Border | 6 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 0 |
| 55 Hawaii | 14 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 0 |
| 56 South Texas | 17 | 3 | 34 | 14 | 0 |
| 57 Virginia | 26 | 8 | 50 | 23 | 3 |
| 58 Alabama | 13 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| 59 Orange Coast, CA | 31 | 8 | 49 | 17 | 0 |
| 60 Louisiana | 18 | 2 | 13 | 1 | 0 |
| 61 Nevada | 6 | 1 | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| 62 Piedmont, SC | 3 | 2 | 18 | 3 | 1 |
| 63 San Joaquin Vall | 9 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 0 |
| TOTALS | 1624 | 553 | 2162 | 2117 | 85 |

LOUISIANA DIVISION

by Renee Navarre

The second annual Beginner's Open was held in Lafayette April 6th at the University of Southwestern Louisiana with fencers from La. and Texas participating. The results were as follows:

FOIL: 1. D. Ridge, Texas A&M, 2. S. Harker, USL, 3. C. Dunning, USL, 4. Patton, USL, 5. S. Murphy, USL.

WOMEN'S FOIL: 1. J. Bell, Texas A&M, 2. S. Huertin, New Orleans, 3. B. Yokum, New Orleans, 4. E. Allen, USL.

NEWSLETTERS

Does your division have a newsletter? Each division should consider publishing its own newsletter including local news, competition schedules and results, and other items of interest to members of the division.

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CASTELLO CATALO

We have recently received a new Castello Co. catalog. This features a postage stamp motif complements each section on Foil, Saber, etc. The attractive layoutures some photos of historic which should make it a collection. Copies may be obtained from the Fencing Equipment Co., 836 Broadway, N.Y. 10003.

RULES CHANGES

Fencers should stay alert to rules changes. Women will soon for five touches, the touch inc changed, foil body cord clip m larged, and the FIE will use the system again in the World an championships.

MIGUEL de CAPRILES RECEIVES SILVER OLYMPIC ORDER

By Steve Sobel

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has designated Miguel de Capriles and two others as silver medalists of the new Olympic Order Award, and has also designated two European fencers for the bronze medal. The Olympic Order is a new concept. Under the official description "any person who has illustrated the Olympic ideal through his actions, has achieved remarkable merit in the sporting world or has rendered outstanding services to the Olympic cause, either through his own personal achievement or his contributions to the development of sport may be admitted to the order." The only gold medal of the Olympic order has been awarded on an exceptional basis posthumously to the late Avery Brundage. His gold medal will remain at the IOC Headquarters.

Miguel de Capriles, former AFLA President, was the only American to serve as the President of the International Fencing Federation (FIE). He is currently a member of the U.S. Olympic Committee Board of Directors, and is the official United States representative to the Pan American Sports Organization (PASO). Miguel has earned the Commander. Ordre du Merite Sportif Award

a competitor, Miguel is a former Olympic medalist in two weapons. He was a member of the third place Epee Team in 1932 in Los Angeles, and a member of the third place Sabre Team in 1948 in London. In 1936 after the Berlin Olympics, he won the Hungarian Balaton Saber Championship.

Three of the nine medals were awarded to fencers. A bronze medal was awarded to Mr. Charles Debeur (Belgium). Charles Debeur is a former Olympic Fencer, former finalist in the World Championships, and member of several Belgium Olympic Epee Teams. He had earned the Ordre du Merite Sportif Award in France in 1963, and is currently the technical delegate of the FIE and member of the Board of Directors of the Belgium Olympic Committee. The other fencer to win the bronze medal award was Mrs. Ellen Muller-Preis (Austria) who won the Olympic Fencing Championship in 1932 in Los Angeles and was a bronze medalist in 1936 and 1948. She is currently a professor at the International Fencing Academy.

ATLANTA FENCERS

Fencing Atlanta invites all visiting fencers to drop in as guests at the Decatur Recreation Center when in the area. For details and information call Rudv Volkmann