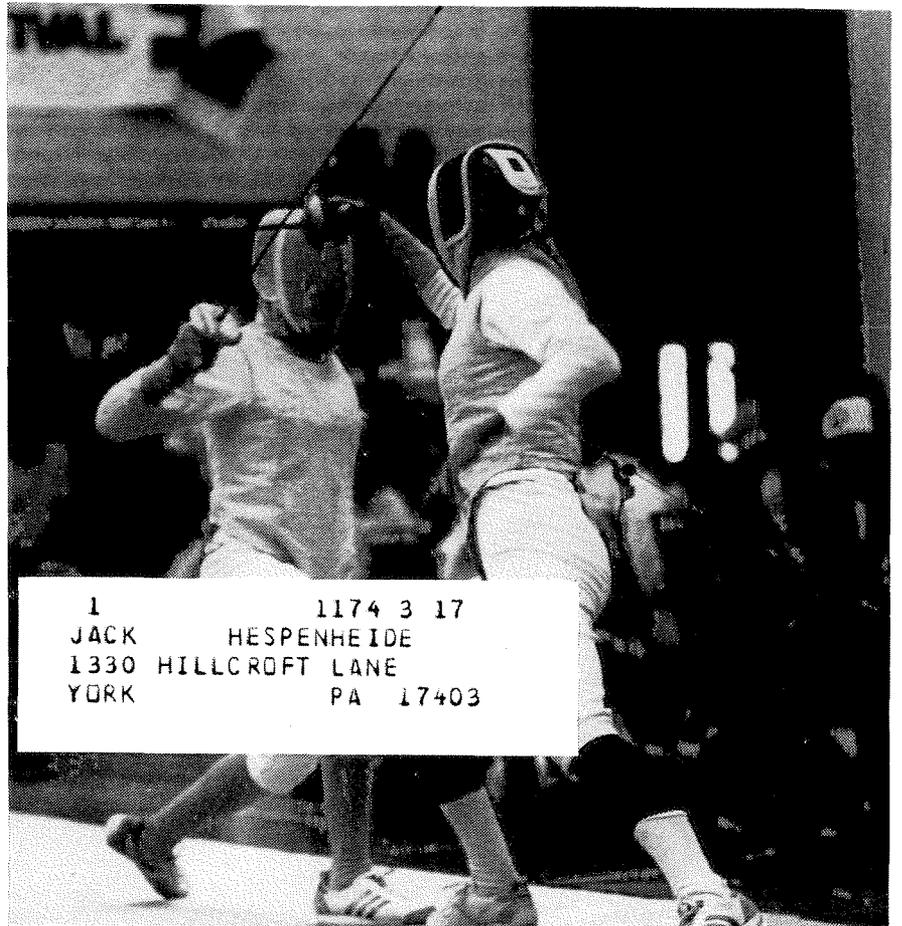


American FENCING

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1979
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JOSE R. deCAPRILES, 1912-1969

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Editor: Emily B. Johnson
Associate Editor: Harriet King
Art Director: Diane King
Business Manager: Eleanor Turney
Policy Board: Irwin F. Bernstein, Chairman; Harriet King, Ralph Goldstein (Editor Emeritus), Howard Goodman, W.L. Osborn, Eleanor Turney

Send all contributions and correspondence to:
American Fencing
1250 Ellis #11
San Francisco, CA 94109

President: Irwin F. Bernstein
Secretary: Eleanor Turney, 601 Curtis St.,
Albany, CA 94706

Send all returns and changes of address to:
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CONTRIBUTORS PLEASE NOTE: Articles, results of competitions, letters to the Editor, photos and cartoons are cordially solicited. All manuscripts must be typewritten, double spaced, on one side of the paper only, with wide borders. Photos should be glossy finish and with a complete caption. Unsolicited manuscripts cannot be returned unless submitted with a stamped self-addressed envelope. No anonymous articles accepted.

DEADLINE FOR 1979 - 1980 ISSUES

Issue Date	Closing Date	Mailing Date
NOV/DEC	OCT 1	DEC 1
JAN/FEB	DEC 1	FEB 1
MAR/APR	FEB 1	APR 1
MAY/JUN	APR 1	JUN 1

NOV/DEC	OCT 1	DEC 1
JAN/FEB	DEC 1	FEB 1
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MAY/JUN	APR 1	JUN 1

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About the Cover

This is a shot of Nikki Franke: D'Asaro battling it out at the Sports Festival at Colorado Sp July, 1979. The photograph w by Diana Graham. We hope t report of the National Sports in the next issue. It had not l ceived when this issue went t

Editor's Notes

by Emily Johnson



It's potpourri time ...

First, about photographs. We love them, use them, gobble them up. Unfortunately, many good photos, are not suitable for reproduction in the magazine. What follows is what what the printer and the art director tell me.

The photograph must be clear with a lot of contrast. If the photograph is slightly blurred in the submitted print it would be very blurred in the magazine. The shadowed face becomes unrecognizable. If there is little variation in the shades of gray it would look like a blob.

Background is extremely important. When we look at the photo we took we mentally block out disturbing elements. When it is reproduced the disturbing elements are prominent. If there is someone scratching his ear next to the fencer who is caught making a magnificent lunge a reader looking at the reproduction in the magazine might well wonder why we are printing a picture of someone scratching his ear. An audience blurred in the background may be an asset if the fencers are high-lighted in the foreground. An individual in the background may ruin the picture. We really don't want to print a picture of a chair with a sweaty jacket on it. That might be what you see in the reproduced picture. We can sometimes cut out part of the background around the edges but not if the background is part of the picture that is to be reproduced.

The fencers must be in correct uniform in competition shots. Aside from the black and white stockings becoming the most noticeable part of the picture we can hardly implicitly approve the use of such stockings by printing the picture.

The pictures should be dramatic and the form at least reasonably good. An occasional "funny" picture is all right but we really can't have a magazine full of fencing contortionists.

Posed pictures tend to look posed and uninterestingly unreal. They are fine when used for illustrating an article. Some shots are good when the background and lighting are carefully set but the bout is a genuine one.

We can always use "timeless" pictures -

ones not identified with any particular competition. But a picture that is clearly of a particular competition gets a bit out of date the following year.

Please continue to send us picture with your name and address and the name and address of the fencers written on the back of the photo. But, please also, think before you send it if it can be used and if it is of general interest to the fencing community.

New subject. If I seem to nag you to send in information about your club for publication it is because I am nagging you. Fencing belongs to all of us throughout the entire country. We should all do what we can to help make it into the major sport that it rightfully is. One way to help is to publish the names of the clubs so that others can learn of their existence and get in contact with them. I have received letters from fencers since the first list was published telling me that they have learned of nearby clubs for the first time from the list. Hopefully, you will not only find someone different to fence but, perhaps, be able to share coaches, competition sites and so on. You might also get schedules from other near-by divisions and increase your competing.

It is time for everyone to join the AFLA so that we can help small fencing areas to become big fencing areas. We should all promote fencing and AFLA membership so that we can get our kids involved in fencing - controlled violence-rather than uncontrolled violence.

If we all work at it we will all be slim, stunning looking and young forever. That may be an exaggeration.

A complete club listing will be published in the January-February issue so keep sending in your club name and contact person. Next

Next to last subject. The season is starting and as an old hand at the running of competitions I have a suggestion to make Enforce your check-in time and competition starting time strictly. If check-in time is at 9:30 A.M. don't be nice to old Joe who arrives at 9:31 A.M. Don't pay any attention to his screams of anguish or threats. If you start letting in late arrivals where do you draw the line? If you decide to let in every-one who gets there before 9:45 AM then check-in time is 9:45 AM. If you tell everyone you intend to be strict and then are strict, surprisingly,

everyone gets there on time. The fencers are happy, the competition runs smoothly and the bout committee has a chance to warm up. It really works.

Last subject. There is a certain amount of administrative work that has to be done in the League by the fencers. Do your share of it. If you are already doing it get others involved to help you and train them to take over. One mistake we all make is to discourage others who want to help by letting them do nothing but the repetitive and tedious work and them getting mad when they wander off. We need as many trained people as we can get.



COACH WANTED

Fencing master wanted for the Chicago-Northern Illinois area. For further information contact:
Illinois Fencers Club
c/o Mt. Prospect Park District
411 S. Maple St., Mt. Prospect, ILL 60056

FENCING POSITIONS WANTED

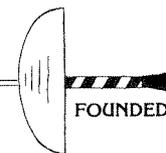
Stanislav Bardakh, coach for five the former U.S. National Champion has recently arrived in the United States seeking a position as a fencing coach. M. Bardakh was awarded the title of Coach by the Soviet Government as a fencing coach. His resume is impressive. For further information contact Leonid Dervbinskiy, 321 bridge Ave., Bronx, N.Y. 10463.

* * *

Moshe Homot, Israeli National Coach, is considering a move to the States or Canada. He would be interested in hearing about possible employment as a fencing coach. He is also experienced in training coaches. For further information please contact him directly - Homot, Moshav Amirim, Israel.

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From the President



by Irwin Bernstein

As we begin the last year of a four year organization cycle, it is appropriate to look back at what has been accomplished and what more we hope to achieve by 1980.

Since 1976, the AFLA has been caught up in an amateur sports explosion. Working diligently within the U.S. Olympic Committee's umbrella, we have obtained unprecedented direct financial assistance for the near and long term improvement of fencing in the U.S.A. This has enabled us to implement far reaching programs, whose greatest visibility, to date, has been in the "elite" area. With our heavy involvement in the operation of these programs there may be a tendency to overlook the things we are **not** yet doing. It is essential that we maintain a broad perspective and initiate new projects this season, even as we continue to manage the existing ones.

1. Obtaining funds from new sources

Other amateur sports bodies have been able to take advantage of the current favorable climate for amateur sports in our country to obtain commercial sponsors for programs and events. This requires diligent professional effort to present our sport to the right people in the right manner (it also requires much luck). We have attempted to follow through on all leads we receive, but such tasks have usually been handled by fencing leaders who have other heavy AFLA responsibilities. We must make a **concerted** effort in this direction through the use of professional talent on at least a part time basis.

2. Increasing membership/expanding public awareness

We have talked for years about creating publicity media for local use, enhancing membership services to retain more members and attract new ones, and operating "grass roots" projects to bring more youngsters into fencing, but we haven't done nearly enough towards any of these worthwhile goals. In the long run we will need significant additional funds to maximize our potential gains in these directions but we can't afford to merely wait for someone to come to our aid. We should be able to accomplish much more right now with our own resources, if we follow the recent examples of a few individuals and

Division we can achieve dramatic results through the initiative and determination of small groups of fencers who resolve to do something within their local fencing area.

3. Improve and expand coaching resources No grass roots effort can succeed without adequate coaching resources in every part of the country. Similarly our ability to improve the quality of our international fencers is dependent on the elevation of our coaching as well as on the frequency of our participation in international events. Much of the emphasis in the first 2 years of our Fencing Development Program has been on projects that will strengthen our coaching. We must now start to capitalize on this investment by taking our new coaching methodology out from the regional training centers to **all** coaches who wish to participate in the program, and through them, to create new coaches in areas with no trained coaches or no fencing at all. This season, this task will move forward as a joint undertaking of the AFLA and NFCAA.

In the past 3 years we have started changes in fencing in our country that should have major long term benefits but we cannot be complacent for even a minute; the momentum we have generated must be sustained if the desired results are to be achieved.



Sala dell'Orso, f. c.

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EN GARDE! CHINA CHALLENGING FOR TOP FENCING TITLES

One day in Vienna in April, 1977, something happened which could prove to have been the turning point in Chinese fencing — and which may have sowed the seed for the birth of one of China's first Olympic medalists.

A then 18-year-old Chinese girl, Luan Jujie, her country's national title-holder, was making her international debut at the 28th World Youth Fencing Championships.

At a pre-championship practice session, she invited several European competitors to fence with her. They declined, unwilling to sacrifice their precious training time on an opponent of — so they thought — such inferior skills.

The incident left an indelible mark on young Luan Jujie. She took a personal vow to avenge this slight — to show the world that the Chinese could be as good as anyone else at this European-dominated sport, despite their relatively short experience.

After all, China was already making her mark in such untraditional sporting fields as badminton, diving, gymnastics and shooting — so why not fencing?

"I just did not believe that we could not catch up with the foreigners," she said.

So during the tournament, she set about making a detailed study of the techniques of the leading fencers. She was impressed by the stamina, the speed, the reflexes and the precision of the European competitors — and resolved to improve her own performance in these areas.

After finishing 17th in the women's individual foil event, she returned home determined to do better the following year.

With the help of her coaches, she worked out a rigorous training programme, which involved long-distance running, interspersed with short sprints, and running up and down steep stairs to improve her stamina and explosive power; special leg and wrist exercises for better coordination; and daily workouts with a strong spring grip to increase the strength of her arm, wrist and fingers.

She also made a point of practicing with male fencers, whose longer reach posed

special problems.

The result was the emergence of style, marked by a readiness to initiative in attack, quick counter-reflexes, nimble footwork and thrust.

Last March, she returned to youth championships, this time in and proved what she had set out to finishing runner-up in the finals of men's foil, winning three bouts of two, despite receiving a cut on her arm in the opening match.

It was the first time an Asian qualified for the finals of any world event.

Nine months later, at the eight Games in Bangkok, the Chinese emerged as a world fencer. Luan captured the women's foil title; teammates finished first in three events, second in four.

The president of the International Federation, which China only re-joined in 1974, commented that China is close to the highest international level in the sport.

It is a view shared by Lin Hou, Chinese Fencing Association, who predicted that if China takes part in the next Olympic Games, she could reach in any of the events, such is the strength-in-depth now.

International-style fencing was introduced into China until 1956, though the traditional Chinese version of the sport existed before then. This employment of an ancient Chinese weapon from wrapping sticks of rattan in leather.

It involved two fencers at once in three three-minute bouts, with contestants to score three hits in a bout. Hits were scored on any part of the body except head, throat and vital organs.

Because of the basic similarities between the two sports, making the switch from traditional Chinese to international-style fencing was quite easy. In 1958, a national tournament joined by 25 teams

EN GARDE!

The next year saw a Hungarian fencing team visit China for a series of friendly contests, and visits by other foreign teams followed.

China's first appearance in international competition — at the 1966 Asian Games in Phnom Penh — resulted in her winning the men's foil.

Like all other sports in China, fencing failed to make much development during the country's Cultural Revolution, but in 1975 China re-appeared on the world stage at the 32nd world championships in Budapest.

Two Chinese fencers got as far as the third round and one, Fang Yujie from Liaoning province, upset the 1973 world women's foil champion from the Soviet Union.

Three years later came Luan Jujie's sensational performance at the world youth championships in Madrid.

Luan, from Nanjing, east China, is the daughter of a sports enthusiast who has encouraged her throughout her career. She first showed promise as an athlete when she joined a youth sparetime sports school at 13. She was good at various track and field events and was also a talented badminton player.

But a fencing coach at the school spotted her and decided that her tall, slim physique, fast reflexes and the fact that she was left-handed could be turned to advantage as a fencer.

She learned quickly and after only four months of training, finished second in the 1974 Chinese championships. Two years later, at the age of 16, she won the national title.

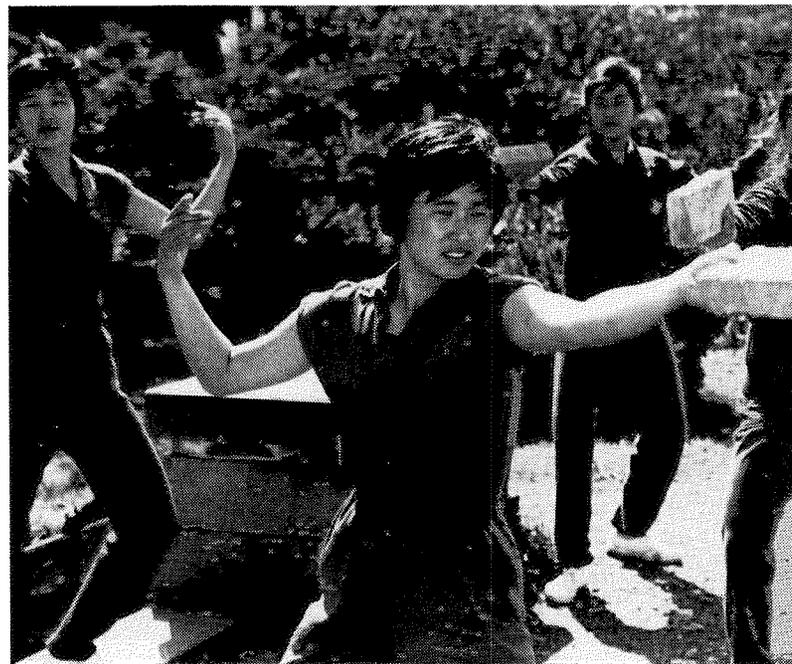
Luan Jujie is presently China's most outstanding prospect for a world fencing title — but there are a lot of talented youngsters hot on her heels.

It is estimated that there are from 30,000 to 40,000 fencers in China and facilities for the sport, which have improved greatly over recent years, are to be found in more than 20 provinces.

Last year, the national championships attracted around 300 entries.

Though China did not fare too well at last year's world championships in Hamburg — and poor Luan, competing for the first time at adult international level, was suffering from kidney trouble and fell at the semi-final stage — confidence is high in the Chinese camp.

Luan Jujie practises basic movements in fencing.



Luan Jujie trains her foil.

Preparations are under way for the country's participation in this year's championships in Melbourne in August, though of course a question mark still hangs over next year's Moscow Olympics while the problem of China's Olympic membership remains unresolved.

But whether this year, next year or the year after, China seems certain to become a fencing nation to be reckoned with in the near future!

And Luan Jujie, who has already demonstrated the force of her determination, has her sights set on nothing less than a world title — and an Olympic medal.

MURPHY'S LAWS FOR FENCING

I. In any given bag of weapons in which one or more weapons do not work and all the rest do - the first weapon removed from the bag will not work.

II. If in any given tournament there is one director who (1) you dislike personally or (2) you have a great deal of difficulty fencing under-then that director will direct your most important bout in the finals.

III. A director's competence to do is inversely proportional to his desire to do it. ie.-the worse the director the greater the eagerness to direct.

IV. Given a fault in the electrical system which appears on strip neither the fencers will be able to find it nor the problem. Any other person or passing by will spot the cause of the problem at once.

V. It is always your favorite weapon that breaks first and your least favorite that breaks last.

X. A watched never lights. (on and in your favor.)

XIII. 95% of all weapons submitted for weapons check are in rotten shape other 5% while they do lighten the work load also increase his or her frustration.

XVI. It is axiomatic that in any given tournament two or more fencers that the coach will inevitably turn to fencing or to someone else sooner or later.

These special cases of Murphy's Law are recognized and recorded by Dale Arthur Robinson and Shirley Perry.

A CRITICAL DECISION

by Shelly Berman

The AFLA is at the brink of making a decision that could change the direction of American fencing. In June the Board voted to accept a long-range plan for the grass roots expansion of fencing in the U.S. In September the Board will be faced with the decision of allocating the \$25,000 for the staff and expenses to set this program in motion. Up to this point grass roots development has been the province of enthusiastic divisions. This would be the first national effort in this direction.

The lack of fencing instructors and the lack of public understanding of fencing have long inhibited our growth. These are the two basic problems that grass roots development will confront.

The goals of this proposed development effort are quite simple. The first will be to strengthen our relationship with our members and expand our membership services to stop the high turnover rate that leaves us with 6,000 members out of 200,000 fencers in the U.S.

The second is to strengthen our existing clubs and fencing programs so that they can more readily integrate new members, expand their instructional staff, and become more stable fencing centers.

The heart of the program, expanding the number of instructors and programs so that more people in more places can learn and enjoy fencing, is the third goal.

Increasing public awareness and knowledge of the sport is the fourth goal. We are traditionally seen as an elite and exotic European form of entertainment rather than a demanding, modern sport of tremendous intensity. If people see and understand fencing as a sport they will be drawn to participate.

Finally to support the grass roots projects in achieving these goals the development program will need to secure a solid financial base through a variety of fund-raising projects.

Although development will span five to ten years, the timing of our projects will be crucial. The first phase of development will have as its primary focus establishing an organizational and financial base of support. This means building our membership services to encourage continued membership, pro-

viding supportive services for our existing clubs and fencing programs, and securing financial support through extensive fund-raising projects. The second phase focuses on training instructors and building strong fencing centers. The AFLA would provide clubs and programs with a wide variety of services from advertising support to management workshops to help them expand as well as aiding the placement of instructors and masters in new areas. This phase of the program would also offer workshops and provide instructional materials to physical educators to help them integrate fencing into their curriculum. The final phase will focus on publicity and advertising to increase public awareness and draw new participants to our clubs and schools. This means extensive work with the media as well as producing our own films, advertisements and promotional materials. In this way we are continually building a solid foundation for continued growth.

The specific projects to be undertaken next year would include:

1. Expanding our contacts with members through a welcome letter to accompany their membership card, a letter detailing AFLA accomplishments to accompany the renewal notice, an informational/fund-raising mailing on development, and a letter to student members listing colleges with fencing programs.

2. Surveying the strengths and needs of our existing clubs and compiling a complete listing of these programs.

3. Providing our fencing programs with the loan of films, the Maine Division slide shows, and instructional videotapes of lessons and competition finals.

4. Providing clubs and divisions with a "How To Do It" manual from the Maine and Oregon experience.

5. Arranging for a clinician to offer workshops on fencing at the regional and national conventions of the American Alliance for Physical Education, Health and Recreation and the Presidents Council for Physical Fitness and Sport to interest recreation and physical education personnel in fencing.

6. Establishing a mailing list of people interested in teaching fencing and informing them of coaching clinics.

7. Seeking memberships and financial support for development from collegiate alumni.

8. Seeking corporate sponsorship for AFLA tournaments and training trips.

9. Seeking financial support for development from AFLA members.

10. Working with the American Fencing Academy to develop a scholarship fund for the instructors and masters training programs.

It is vital that we employ a professional staff and provide a budget to support their efforts. This staff will insure a thorough, consistent, and effective program. Volunteers will never have the time or accountability to accomplish this. The proposed budget of \$25,000 for the first year includes a 3/4 to full-time development coordinator and a part-time secretary. As the program builds and financial support for our efforts improves this staff will expand as will the programs that they will undertake.

At present four fencing companies have pledged to financially support this grass roots development. Santelli Equipment Company and American Fencers Supply have become Development Sponsors, pledging \$2,000 each for the 1979-1980 project year. Ed Richards' Academy of Fenc-

ing, a division of Creative Sports, International Fencers Supply have Development Contributors with a \$500. Several other companies are considering support. This \$5,000 toward the \$25,000 budget. The remaining \$20,000 would come from the appropriated surplus AFLA accounts.

Fencing has tremendous potential. If we develop it properly. With the Olympic boost in 1984 and the boost in sports participation in other countries receive, the timing of this is perfect. If the board approves this in September, the AFLA will have taken a giant step in the expansion and development of fencing.

* * *

PENTATHLON GOLD MEDAL

Robert Nieman won the gold medal in the Pentathlon World Championships in Budapest. The United States Team has won home gold medals with Robert John Fitzgerald and Michael Burl-

allstar

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HOW WELL DO YOU RECOVER FROM THE LUNGE

by Gene Gettler, Master of Arms, Atlanta Fencers' Club, Member of the National Coaching Staff

Several articles about the mechanics of the lunge have appeared in recent issues of *American Fencing*. Equally important is the ability (or inability) to recover backward from the lunge. With every lunge you hope to score the touch, but realistically speaking you are doing extremely well if even half of your attacks reach the target. The purpose of a good recovery is to return the fencer as quickly as possible to a low, balanced en garde position, ready to continue the phrase d'armes whether it be moving forward, backward, renewing the attack or parry-riposting.

Often a poor recovery is caused by a poor lunge. If you roll the back foot in the lunge, you don't have a good anchor to help in the recovery. Another common error is the temptation to overlunge, leaning the torso too far forward in order to maximize reach. The more weight put over the front leg, the more work it must do in order to push you back up. There is a definite tradeoff between reach and balance in the lunge; a good fencer goes for the extra reach judiciously, not habitually.

A proper recovery involves a push off the ball of the front foot. Fencers with poor muscular development try to compensate by "yanking" the front foot back, which throws the torso forward and leaves the fencer off balance. Many fencers even forcibly pull back their weapon arm to gain a little momentum in the recovery. This is a serious mistake; the return to guard requires the correct coordination of the front leg, rear leg and rear arm, while the weapon arm is free either to smoothly follow the line of the opponent's riposte or stay extended for the remise or reprise.

An important key to a good recovery is the immediate unlocking and bending of the back leg as you push off the front foot. This combination shifts the center of gravity towards the rear foot, facilitating an easier

thrust from the front leg. A fencer who keeps the back leg stiff is actually impeding the effort to recover, and will find himself "standing up," a precarious and vulnerable position to be in.

The following two exercises are designed to improve the coordination and muscular development needed in the recovery. These exercises should be included in your daily footwork training program.

Exercise I:

Make a full, balanced lunge, as in Figure 1. Simultaneously, bend the back leg very low, and straighten the front leg, arching back the front foot and balancing on the front heel (see Figure 2). Then rock forward, extending the back leg fully and bending the front leg, rolling the front foot down until it is flat (back in the original position of a balanced lunge). Repeat the procedure smoothly. As you begin to rock back for the third time push with the front foot and recover backward low and in balance with the front foot touching down heel first. You should raise the back arm only with the final recovery. Do the rocking movements very slowly at first until you become comfortable with the exercise. For conditioning as well as technical improvement, practice in sets of 5-10 advance-lunges, preceding each return to guard with the "rocking recovery" exercise.

Exercise II:

Recover from the lunge as previously explained, but do not let the front foot touch the floor. Just balance on the back foot, with the front heel as low as possible without actually touching the floor. Keep the back leg bent low but do not lean too far back (see Figure 3). Balance in this position for just a moment, then lunge again. Practice this exercise in sets of 10 repetitions. Not only is this an excellent conditioning exercise, it is a good test to see if you pull back rather than push off the front leg, because the "puller" will not be able to do this exercise.

Treat your recovery with respect. Don't stand up, give up, yank back, or drop your weapon arm on the return to guard — learn to do it right. Recover ready to continue the action and your fencing will profit from it.

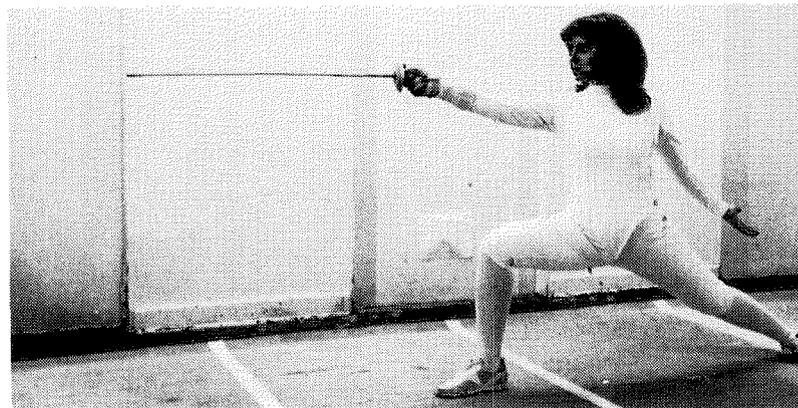
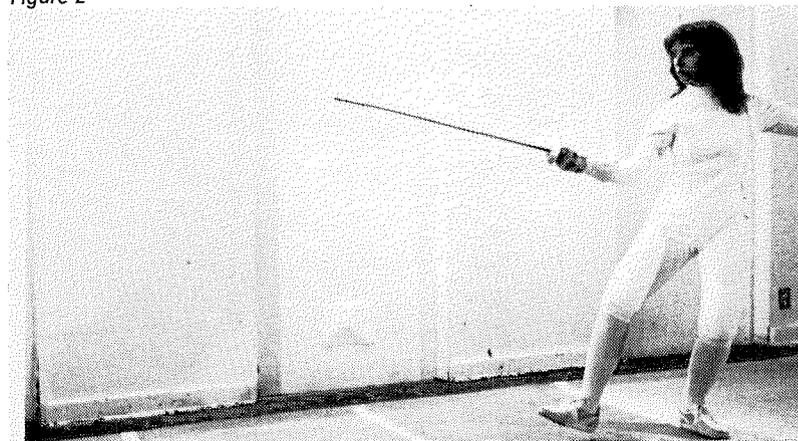


Figure 1

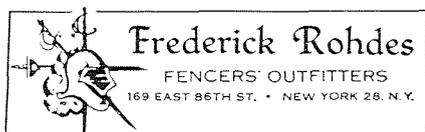


Figure 2



Subject: Helen W. Kasten

Photo by Rick Gils



FENCING ON THE SIX O'CLOCK NEWS

by David Scyster

What is the future of fencing in America? Will it continue as today, primarily on college campuses, a few YM & YWCA's and an occasional city club, or will it unfold to take its place as one of the most rewarding and enjoyable sports available? The eventual direction lies in the hands of the fencers of today.

Think back to the Fisher-Spasky chess championship. The burst of popularity chess experienced was a direct result of the presence of an American in the game. Fisher caught the attention of the American press which fed the story to the American public. The interest sparked by the media brought new people to the game.

Imagine what an American fencer in reach of Olympic gold would mean to fencing in this country.

Twenty years ago getting a tennis court for a weekend game was no problem. Today, nearly impossible. In part responsible for the rapid growth of the sport was media coverage. When tennis became part of network weekend sports coverage, new players by the thousands flocked to the courts. Not all of them stayed with the game, but certainly those who even gave it a try came away with a new appreciation of the sport and its players. Today it is one of the staples of the American sports diet.

If fencing is to grow its participants must use the tools available to raise the visibility of the sport on the American scene. Doing this is easy. Fencing has strong romantic appeal, is a different kind of exercise, and limits no one from participation on the basis of age or sex. These are the elements which strike the attention of the news reporter and form the foundation for an exciting story.

Fencers in the New Orleans area have started a campaign to raise the awareness of the sport in this city. The sport has such strong initial appeal that we only have to tell our story, no salesmanship is required. Our approach has been along these lines.

A letter to a specific local sportscaster (television) forms our first contact. Points touched on in the letter include:

1. Fencing is great exercise and it is fun. Jogging is hailed as the ideal exercise, but many find it too boring to stay with it.

2. Fencing is open to both sexes, all ages

and not hampered by bad weather.

3. Include a line on the long history of the sport. Keep this brief. Establish your knowledge about the evolution of the game, but don't give the impression you want to give a history lesson.

4. Mention where your group meets, but not when. Giving too many specific details might get you a Public Service Announcement (PSA), but you will need to catch the interest and imagination of the sportscaster to get a feature spot.

5. Stress FUN, LEARNING, and PHYSICAL FITNESS.

Imagine you are watching this spot on the news. If you knew little about the sport what would you want to hear? Is it hard? Is it expensive?

No sportscaster adept at his or her job will allow themselves to be used as a recruiter, so don't try. Fencing is good, fresh news. It is interesting. This alone will create the story and reach prospective new fencers in the audience without using heavy-handed recruiting tactics.

Close the letter by saying you will contact the person by phone in a day or two to speak with him about his feelings on the subject. You can include your phone number in the letter but do not expect the sportscaster to contact you. Journalists are always busy and their time in short supply.

When you do call, having allowed time for the letter to reach the individual, don't be alarmed if he or she never received it. It's a common occurrence. Ask for a moment of their time and then make over the phone all the points raised in the initial letter. Ask if this would make an interesting story for his/her viewers. Then shut up and let the sportscaster talk.

Be clear in your own mind that your goal is to help the growth of the sport in the city where you live. Let the sportscaster know this and that your club represents a new, exciting form of exercise for the person tired of jogging or racquetball, or whatever sport is "in" in your town.

Keep answering for yourself the questions, "What and why would a member of the audience like to hear/know about fencing?" As long as you do you are thinking like a reporter. NEVER TELL A PROFESSIONAL

NEWSPERSON WHAT HIS AUDIENCE WANTS TO HEAR. This is like telling your doctor how to take out your tonsils. Ask, don't tell. The former encourages cooperation, the latter only resistance.

When the arrangements have been made for taping the spot, turn your attention to the fencers themselves. Consider the image of the club. Are all ages and both sexes present? Will the television crew have the chance to see every level of proficiency? Again return to the thought, "What would a person who might try fencing want to see?" You will be serving both the goals of the reporter and of your group by understanding this specific point of view.

If you can get the reporter to put on a mask and pick up a foil it will make a great spot for the feature. Have the coach, or one of the better fencers go a pass or two with him. Don't be afraid to help him look good. His smile when that mask comes off is worth a thousand words to the viewer.

Finally, a thank you letter or phone call is always valuable. Let the reporter know what kind of feedback you received. He is interested and often does not hear how effective his choice of subject matter is. Invite him to your next tournament, not so much as a reporter but as a friend. Who knows, he might be a fencer and just not know it, yet.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENT

In conformance with AFLA By-Laws, the Nominating Committee was elected at the Annual Meeting at the 1979 National Championship. This Committee is charged to nominate candidates for the offices of President, Executive Vice President, additional Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and National Directors to take office in August 1980. The Committee must file its nominations with the Secretary of the Federation on or before 1 February 1980.

As Chairman of the Nominating Committee I call upon all AFLA members who wish to be considered for these offices to submit a request at the address below outlining the fencer's experience and qualifications. A Nominating Committee, which is composed of a member from each State, will carefully consider all candidates and propose a qualified slate of candidates that can work together for the sport.

W.A. Goering, Chairman
AFLA Nominating Committee
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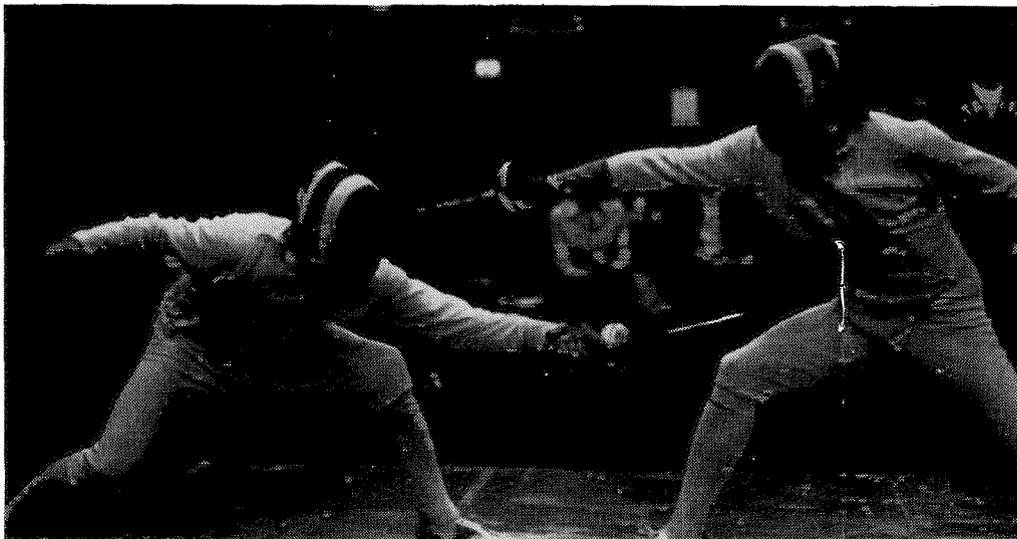
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Shelley (left) vs Nieman (right)

Photo by Nelson

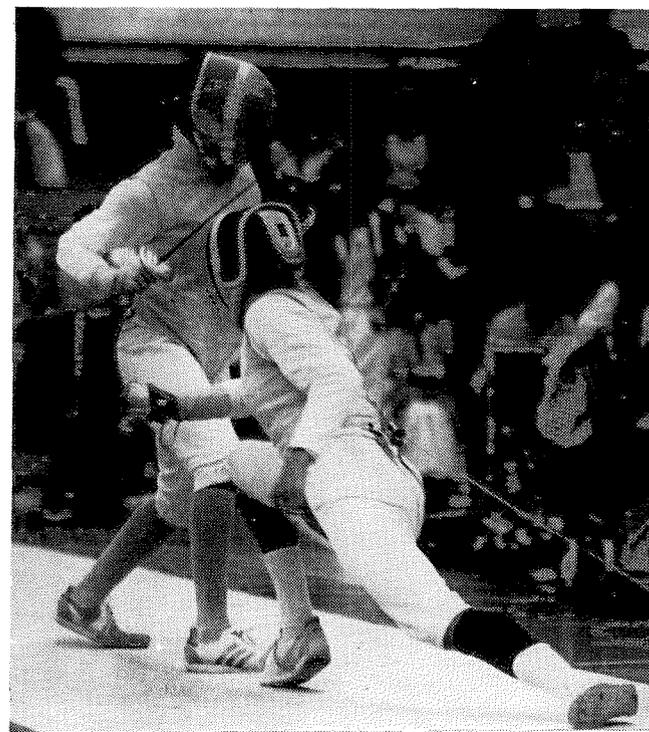


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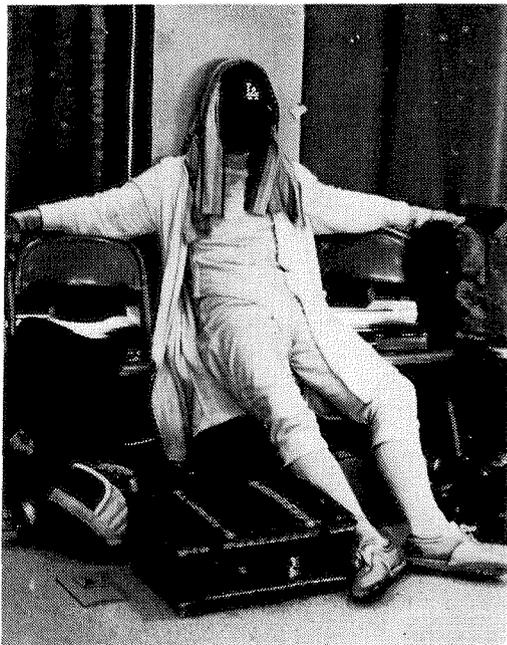
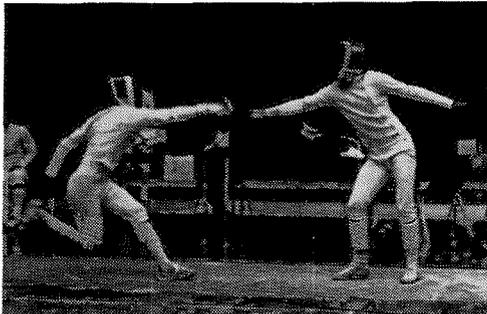
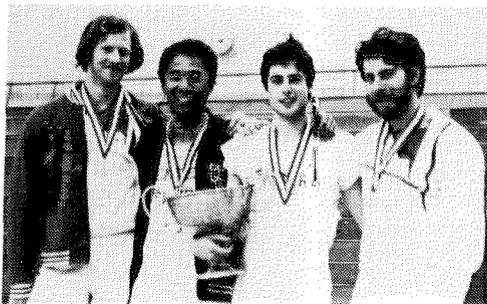


Photo by Lewis



Sabre team final

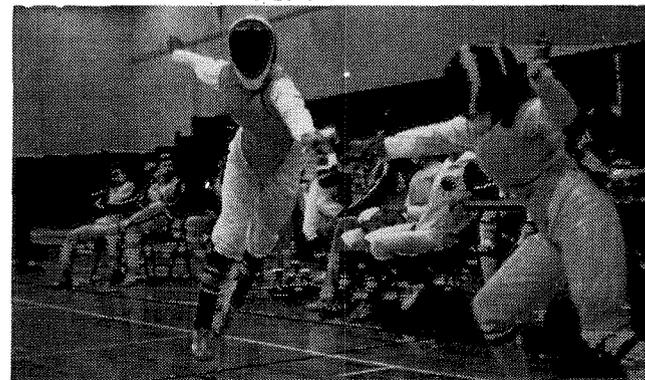
Photo by Poulos



Mormands, Westbrook, Kaplan, Glucksman

Photo by Poulos

FENCERS AT WORK AND PLAY!



Robbie Stewart (left) teaching on unidentified opponent at Pomona

Photo by Metcalf

FENCING TEACHER'S HANDBOOK

Marek Szafirowski

Eds note: Mr. Szafirowski is a fencing teacher from Warsaw Poland. He submitted a manuscript in english which contains many interesting ideas for fencers at all levels. This is the first of a number of extracts from his manuscript.

First Level Beginners

The basic form at this level is group lessons. There is no use giving individual lesson to beginners, especially in situations where there aren't enough teachers. The group has to consist of at least 10 persons. Working with a group is much more difficult for teachers than individual lessons are, because there is a lot of organization we must do. The teacher is obliged to prepare a program for a long period (3 months at least) and also has to prepare himself for each lesson. If the exercises are not interesting enough for pupils, they will go away. How to do it interestingly? Try this way:

1. Use a lot of different interesting exercises not only from fencing. Because our goal for the first 6 months is not only to teach fencing we have to find exercise in other sports which can help us. Teaching fencing only through fencing exercises looks like the shortest way, but it doesn't work for a long time. After teaching this way, very often it can happen that fencers do not have enough speed, power etc. when they start fencing. Teachers have to be creative.

2. It is a big help in holding the group together when during each lesson there is some kind of rivalry by which pupils can get points on a ranking list. We can use a lot of exercises for that. Fencing is a fight and we have to prepare our pupils for it from the first moment.

3. Group lessons have to be much better organized than individual ones. It means: no mess. No breaks without reason.

4. There is one more piece of advice for teachers: do not tell too much. Show the exercise, say what's important and then say: "Do it!" Further, do not correct errors of a particular pupil for too long at a time. Generally it's much better to correct common errors.

Passing the first level takes about one year. During the first 6 months the proportion between different kinds of exercises should

be as below:

general preparation	45%
fencing movements	30%
movements by weapon	10%
other/history, competition rules,	
weapon preparation/	10%
school fights	5%

During the first year we have to organize exercises for beginners three times a week, 1 hour each - this is about 12 hours per month. The proportion above doesn't mean that we have to divide each lesson into all different kinds of exercises. We should divide each monthly period.

In next 6 months the proportion varies a little bit as follows:

general preparation	40%
fencing movements	20%
movements by weapon	20%
other/history, competition rules,	
weapon preparation etc.	10%
school fights	10%

Generally we can use no longer than a school year for passing the first level, so both the parts are shorter.

At this time we have to organize two competitions with and without weapons. It is important to organize those competitions well because it is a strong experience for students and they'll remember it for a long time.

As it was stated the basic form at this level is group exercise. Sometimes we can use also individual lessons but they are very short, 5 minutes, and the main idea is to make group lessons more interesting.

Another goal to realize during the first period besides teaching different movement is to teach pupils that without individual work there is no hope to get good results in the future. If we can get this idea across, we should avoid a lot of troubles later.

No doubt some of our pupils will leave us. It is quite normal and it doesn't particularly depend on us. We can always get new candidates. Fencing is not an easy sport, and the first one or two years aren't especially interesting. It is a little bit like learning music. A lot of strange exercises and a hope that maybe after that I will play.

Second level:

At this level we start to train our pupils: it means not just teaching them different

movements but also preparing them for fights and competitions. How is still important but now we also ask when, what kind of fencer is our opponent? How can we fight against him? All those questions relate to tactics.

It doesn't mean that we can stop improving technique. Perfecting technique is always the main goal. Technique and tactics are like two legs—one can't walk very well without the other.

Passing the second level takes about two years. The proportion between different kinds of exercises is as follows:

general preparation	20%
fencing movements	15%
movements by weapons	30%
school fights	10%
free fights	25%
school competitions	- once a month
competitions	- 6 times a year
competitions rules	- 10 hours
tactics: practice	- at the time individual lessons, exercise in pairs, school fights, free fights, school competitions
theory	- 10 hours
weapon preparation	- 10 hours

Of course, the distribution above isn't pre-

cise. It's only a scheme.

We divided the first level into periods. At the second level we do the same way. Because our pupils are better, we take part in competitions, we must take them according to the competition. We should do it, for instance, as follows:

In this example the most important competitions are in April and May.

I part September-January

In this period, the most important are general preparation and technical exercises. We also have to teach various theoretical exercises. During this period fights and competitions have to be more for school results. Our goal is to teach new movements and correct errors. Pupils have to prove old habits and acquire new habits in February-June.

The main part of this period consists of different kinds of fights and lessons. Pupils learn new movements also through competitions. They have to get experience in more difficult conditions. This period is very difficult for teachers. They are obliged to finish soon as possible why some movements do not work in fights.

continued in the next issue

Official Strips and Equipment of the:

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

ziukovic



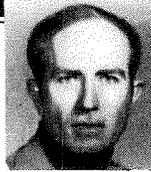
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TECHNICAL TALKS



by Joe Byrnes

I try to avoid spreading stories that make for bad publicity for fencing, but in the light of the experience that I have to mention later in this article, I am making an exception today.

In January 1979 there was a brief but startling AP dispatch from Europe that made its way into some of the bigger US newspapers. **The New York Times** carried it tucked away in a corner on a Saturday with a rather peculiar caption, "Clue in Fencer's Death." The report was that an epee fencer in Hungary, a pentathlete in Budapest, had collapsed on the strip, apparently the victim of an electrical shock. He was DOA at the hospital. The story helpfully noted that fencers are connected to an electrical scoring system. The implication was clear, that the scoring machine had done it, and perhaps that such was a regular risk of fencing.

Since a breakdown capable of connecting a fencer to a lethal electric current would normally be carried off to ground in a properly wired-up and connected machine (if it didn't fuse the transformer before ever getting beyond it), it seemed as though a sensation-hunting reporter had simply leaped to a conclusion at the Budapest hospital. My first reaction was therefore skeptical.

port on the accident. It turns out that my first reaction was only partly right. The unfortunate pentathlete was indeed the victim of electrocution, which occurred, however, because of a freakish mix of error and bad luck. The error was someone else's; the bad luck was the innocent victim's.

A point I would like to stress here is that the accident would never have happened if the scoring machine had been in proper working order. Your ordinary scoring machine is safe, when properly connected. This fatality in Budapest is the first I have ever heard of to be attributed to an electrical shock. Now we should recollect that foil has been electrically fenced for about a quarter of a century, and electric epee for about 45 years. Much — probably most — of the time, the machines used have had AC power line connections that led to transformer-rectifier

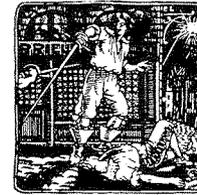
arrangements to produce the low-voltage DC that they really work on. In other words, all these machines have generally been like the machine in Budapest — in all respects but one: that machine was not in proper working order. Unfortunately, that fact was not obvious; the machine was able to register touches and otherwise behave as though everything was normal, even though it was completely unsafe. It is grim to contemplate the probability that it had been used in that defective condition, maybe for months.

What had happened was simple enough for the investigators to determine — after the event. At some time unknown, it appears that a repair had been made to the power plug, from which the wires had probably been torn free by rough handling. Whoever put it back together wired the ground lead to the wrong pin, thus putting one side of the AC line (European AC is 220-240 volts, too) onto where the ground should be, i.e., the metal case — and therefore onto the blade, bell-guard, and handle of the fencers' weapons as well.

The fencers were practicing on rubber strips; no problem there. If they had been on a metal strip, things would still have worked the same, and been as dangerous (though not as far as the copper strip was concerned; so long as the machine was "grounded" to the copper strip the same line would have made the non-ground "ground"). It is ironic to think that if someone had connected a separate ground from the machine to earth, a fuse or circuit breaker would have popped, thus calling attention to the problem. However, as it was, if someone was hooked up to that machine and holding a weapon, and then also came into contact with a real separate ground (a connection leading to the earth), a potentially (and in the event actually) deadly shock could result.

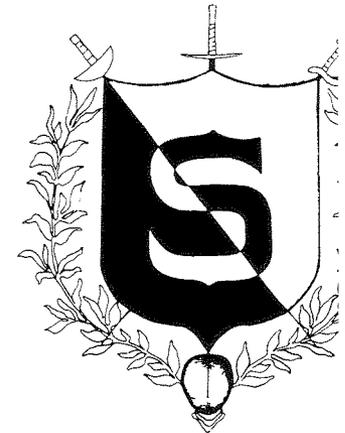
The way that condition was created in Budapest is hard to believe, but it actually happened. The report states that the victim, having finished a practice bout, and still holding an epee connected to one side of a

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220-volt "hot" line, kicked off his shoes and walked back to the rear of the room to take a breather. His bare foot came into contact with a rolled-up copper strip that was stored back there. That roll of copper happened to be in contact with another, which in turn was touching yet another, which in turn was touching a radiator pipe. As any electrician will tell you, a radiator is one of the better ground connections you can find indoors. Nothing more was needed to produce a deadly shock.

Reading the report on this case, I was forcefully reminded that a couple of years ago, at a local high school competition, I was brought a scoring machine that "wasn't working quite right." I noted immediately that the ground pin of the power plug had been bent back. I asked why. The coach who brought it said that it didn't work with the pin in place, but that it would if only the two flat pins were used, but only if the plug were inserted in the outlet in one direction! Needless to say, I didn't let him plug in that hot potato to show me what he meant (he was ready to do so). I checked it with an ohmmeter at once, and sure enough, somebody had wired it up in essentially the same fash-

ion as the killer machine from Bu fixed it, of course, and tried to impress man how serious the error was. He unworried or uncomprehending — just unwilling to contemplate the risk team had been undergoing for what how long.

The moral, I suppose, is a double one: don't disconnect the ground your scoring machine's plugs and you are using three-conductor power cables; and above all, unqualified people fool around with

DANIEL M. TISHMAN KIL

Daniel M. Tishman, while work bank teller was killed by a hold-up August 20, 1979. Daniel, a fencer, son of Maria Cerra Tishman and Tishman. The staff of American Fencing tends its deepest sympathy to Maria and their family.

A scholarship fund in Dan's memory the purpose of furthering amateur has been established at N.Y.U. c/ Reynolds, Alumni Fed., N.Y.U. We So., N.Y., N.Y. 10011

THE ART OF DIRECTING THE FENCING WEAPON BY MEANS OF THE FINGERS

A CHAPTER FROM THE BOOK IN PREPARATION FOR PUBLICATION BY MARK L. BERGER - "THE A B C'S OF FENCING"

Often in Fencing Salles one hears the advice: "Direct the sword with your fingers!" This is correct. But how do you do this, what type of system or technique do you use?

Some fencers hold the handle of the sword as they would a mouse by the tail — with the tips of the thumb and index finger. The end of their sword moves from side to side. Others hold their weapons like pickles in their fists. In such a position the technical functions must be fulfilled by the fist, the forearm and the shoulder. In such a case one may not speak of "fine fencing." After a short time the shoulder and hand become stiff. Some hold the handle in four fingers, having raised the little finger charmingly as if they were holding a glass of champagne. In contemporary "electrical" fencing such a hold does not provide sufficiently strong contact with the heavy blade of the opponent and the precision of the point will be insufficiently high. When attacked the blade can go out of control immediately. Finally, fencers who have despaired from failures buy Belgium or Russian epee pistol grips and cover their fingers with aluminum. So they become bare-fisted fighters. But . . . the points of their blades regularly miss the target. There is power, but what use is there in a powerful miss?

Thus, how is one to direct a fencing sword accurately and in time during the course of an entire fencing tournament?

After many years of practice and after analyzing the victories and defeats of my students, I have devised a system of using the fingers in fencing with thrusting weapons. I advise both athletes and their coaches to try this system. Positive results will be seen by the third to the fifth lesson. This should drop down and the number of misses and non-realized thrusts will noticeably decrease. For complete mastery of this system, just as for the automation of any reflex movement, one must devote time and patience to some exercises. If my advice will help you at all then I will consider my work to be necessary.

Thus, you take the fencing sword with the proper "french" handle, or with the FOIL, nis-

tol (for both foil and epee). Place the thumb on the "spine" of the handle along the entire first row of knuckles. Lay the "belly" of the handle on the second phalange of the index finger. The remaining three fingers are to be placed flatly with the phalange on the upper surface. Your entire palm softly grips the handle, not leaving any space between them (i.e., between the palm and the handle). You will gradually get the feel of the entire surface of the handle and together with it, the position of your blade.

. . . The weapon must be held like a bird — not so strongly so as to suffocate it, and not so weakly so as to let it go. . .

The sword is held thus when in neutral position. All the fingers of the armed hand fulfil the fundamental mission of directing the blade during fencing. I subdivide all five fingers into two groups:

1. "ATTACKING" — this is with the index finger and the thumb.
2. "PREPARING" — *this is with the middle, fourth and pinky fingers.

ILLUSTRATION

The "attacking" fingers perform the thrusts, whereas the "preparing" fingers perform the actions on the opponent's weapon, engagement, defence moves, switching and transferring of the blade from line-to-line.

For example: in attempting to carry out a direct attack from the sixth engagement by means of soft pressure of the "preparing" fingers, direct the strong part to the blade in conjunction with the weak part of your opponent's blade. As soon as the "preparing" fingers get the feel (and tactile reflexes are much faster than visual ones) of the continuity of the opponent's blade the "attacking" fingers send the point right into the striking zone. Fulfilling their attacking function, the liberate the "preparing" fingers which continue to hold the handle lightly in equal weight.

As it often occurs in fencing, the first action does not bring success. Your opponent has rejected your attack with a defensive move and is ready to give a riposte! So the fencing coach continues: "The . . ."

fingers are now ready to take the fencing game further, they return the blade to counter-defense. Having caught the blade in parade, they give the place to the "attacking" for the counter-riposte. And so on, ad-in-finitum.

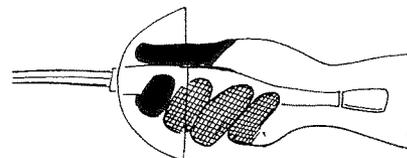
An example of the defensive fencing phrase: You invite your opponent to attack, placing the point of your blade by means of the "attacking" fingers into a false attack under his "pris de fere." Naturally, his attack with beat (bateman) follows. You respond to with your three "preparing" fingers. As soon as they have caught your opponent's attacking blade, they automatically give the order to the "attacking" fingers to act, respectively they direct the point of your sword into the target! If the "attacking" have sensed his defense, they will yield the action to the other group of fingers. They, having rested during the riposte, decisively catch the counter-riposte.

An example with the "attacking" fingers in counter-tempo: You feint with the "attacking" fingers toward the lower sector (the opponent's vulnerable area) inviting him to stop hit (arret) your own upper sector. As soon as you have noticed, the defensive fingers intercept the opponent's weapon and the "attacking" fingers complete the affair with a victorious touche.

Just like a violinist after long hours of exercises, a fencer training according to my system will not have to think of which finger must press the required string.

The length of this article does not allow me to describe the many examples of the application directing the weapon by the fingers. It is not really necessary. I have just described the basis which with luck will successfully demonstrate new dimensions and qualities of the fencer himself.

The usage of the high sensitivity, mobility, strength and endurance of your fingers according to the system — "work and rest," will successfully enrich your technical and tactical plans at any level of fencing.



Fingers 1. ■ "Attacking"
2. ▣ "Preparing"



CAROL JURSIK, .
1978 PENN STATE FENCER MU

Carol Jursik, a 1978 Penn State disappeared while jogging at he Pittsburgh. Her body, with one stat her chest and heart, was found o August 5th, one week later, by a fireman walking his dog. Carol, ag a summer job with U.S. Steel, an cepted for the Penn State graduat in mineral processing.

Carol was an outstanding fence State. A transfer student from Iv she won 34 consecutive bouts cc 39-9 dual meet record, and went o 9th in the 1978 NIWFA Champions also won the state and individu: championship, and the Penn State Award for the outstanding fencer o She was regarded as a team le performed well under pressure ived leadership and inspiration bers of her team. She was well lik teammates, and was describe coaches as being an all-Ameri doing everything 100%, her fencin studies.

Fencers throughout the United § shocked by the news of this trag share the grief of her family and fri parents have indicated that a Ca memorial scholarship fund will t lished at Penn State University to c rate her name. Contributions can t fencing coach Beth Alpin or to the A her name for the AFLA Olympi cement fund.

VENICE CUP COMMENTS

By Semyon Pinkhasov

The competition showed the two main directions in the development of modern foil fencing. On the one hand there were the French and Russian fencers, who showed a preference for "soft" fencing, executed with good technique. The main strength in their style consisted of the coupling of excellent footwork with perfect balance. The distinguishing feature of the Soviet fencing style lies in constant movement on the strip, with the intention of finding good distance for their attacks, yet at the same time keeping good balance. This enables them to immediately retreat when necessitated by the changing conditions in the bout.

On the other hand, the athletes from Italy and West Germany showed a preference for physical fencing. This type of fencing is directed against the opponent, with the purpose of forcing him into making an error. For example, the Italians will very often use surprise attacks, attempting to shake their opponent from the right balance. Thus, when it would be more difficult for the opponent to defend himself, the Italian would continue his attack. This tactical approach was successful all the way to the finals. However, in the finals it was ineffective against the Soviet fencers, who were able to keep their balance in all situations at all moments of the bout.

In the finals, three Russians met two Italians and one fencer from East Germany. In the six bouts between the Soviets and the Italians, the Soviets won four and lost two. Statistics of the bouts show the following: the Russians and the Italians made about the same number of attacks, on the average 15. But the number of parry-ripostes were in favor of the Russians, 10:4.5 (more than twice as many), very clearly showing that the possession of the correct balance allowed the Russians to quickly and easily change actions in the bout, moving from attacks to good defensive actions. In 45 attacks the Russians missed 15 times (33%), while the Italians missed 13 out of 29 attacks (45%). The last again illustrates the advantage of one style of fencing over the other. The results of the final were: 1. Ruziev, USSR; 2. Smirnov, USSR; 3. Numa, Italy; 4. Lapitsky, USSR; 5. Dal-Zotto, Italy; 6. Behrens, E. Germany.

While watching such a final, one thinks back to our training program, and comes to the conclusion that our program is on the right road. Our main emphasis for both coaches and fencers is on developing an appreciation of correct balance in every second of the bout, and this is the prime focus of international fencing today.

On the closing day of competition, we were able to spend a training session together with the coach of the Soviet team. He gave lessons to J. Nonna and G. Massialis. The comments during the lessons can be summarized as follows: our fencers do not stand well enough in the fencing position, they are too tense, they do not extend their arm clearly enough before making the lunge, and after extension the shoulder muscles are too tight, making it easier to miss. After the training session the Soviet coach told me that he considers the American fencers very talented, but that they do not have a good enough grasp of the main game of fencing: that is, not a good enough foundation in basic fencing.

On the sixth of March, there was a meet between the fencing teams of the USA and Italy. Our team lost with a record of 4v, 9d. Victories were made by J. Nonna (2v, 1d), M. Lang (1v, 2d) and M. Smith (1v, 1d). The statistics of this meet were quite interesting. The Italians made 69 attacks, the Americans made 26. The Italians missed 27 times (39%), the Americans 9 times (30%). The Italians made parry-riposte 13 times, missing 7 (54%); the Americans made 12 parry-ripostes, missing 8 (67%). The Italians missed 3 of the 9 counter attacks that they made (33%), while the Americans missed on 8 out of 28 attempts (29%). It is quite clear that the Italians won mostly due to their attacks. It is also clear that the Americans were unable to defend themselves against these attacks. In the course of the meet it was worthwhile noting why the defensive actions of our fencers were ineffective. Poor mastery of the technique of footwork and the lack of good balance enabled the quick unexpected, even risky attacks of the Italians to somehow "beat" our fencers from their balance. Thus, our fencers would lose control over their weapons, and therefore had only a minimum effective defense. Our team was

only able to stop 12 out of 69 attacks.

Today, more than ever, I am convinced that the teaching of the techniques of good movement and consistent balance are the key to the successful development and progress of American fencing.

* * * Annual Membership Report

The 1979 Annual Meeting of the A.F.L.A. was held June 23, 1979 at the Colorado Springs Hilton. Irwin Bernstein, President, called the meeting to order after a slight delay. Officers present were: Irwin Bernstein, president, William Goering, vice-president, Eleanor Turney, secretary, Howard Goodman, Treasurer. There were nine people present with 16 proxies.

1. Reading of Minutes: The minutes of the 1978 meetings were accepted as published in the American Fencing Magazine Volume 29 #6 July/August, 1978.

2. Report of Officers and Committees: The president reported to the members present at the annual meeting that in accor-

dance with past practice there were officers reports.

3. Proposed Amendments to The Proposed Amendments to the published in the American Fencer Volume 30 #4 March/April 1979 were dered as a package. The By-L moved as published. The vote to Amendments as published passed with one abstention.

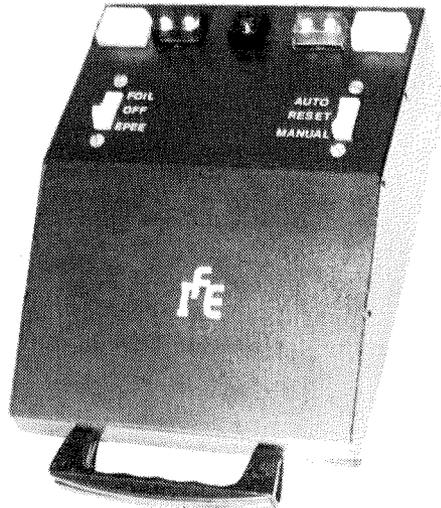
4. Elections. The election of tions committee to nominate can the office of the President, Exec President additional Vice Presid retary and Treasurer, and for the Divisional Directors which candid be voted upon at the next annual The National nominating committee William Goering, Chairman; Lois C (S.W. Section), Rudy Volkmann (North-Atlantic Section), Eric Sosman (North-Atlantic Section), Scott Bozek (Mid-Atlantic Section), I lry (Rocky Mountain Section), I meyer (Pacific Coast Section), Masiero (Metropolitan Section)

5. There was no unfinished bu

continued

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COMING ATTRACTIONS

CSISZAR TOURNAMENTS

The Gladius Society of the University of Pennsylvania announces that it will hold the Annual Lajos S. Csiszar Epee and Women's Foil on the first weekend of December every year, from now on. In 1979, the Epee will be on Saturday, December 1; the Women's Foil will be on Sunday, December 2. The two events will alternate dates each succeeding year, so that in 1980 the Women's Foil will be on Saturday and the Epee on Sunday. New attractive awards are planned for this year's meet.

Entries are invited from all members of the U.S. International Squad and Squad Alternates (point holders) from visiting internationalists, Class A and Class B fencers, outstanding collegiate and junior fencers. Those desiring to enter please send a check for \$10 payable to "Daniel Steinman"

c/o D. Nast Co.
206 Lincoln Avenue
Hatboro, Pa. 19040

Entries should be received not later than November 14, 1979. Include your name, address, phone number, club division, squad rank, classification.

For additional information contact:

David M. Micahnik, Fencing Coach
Ath. Dept. Weightman Hall, E-7
University of Pennsylvania
Phila. Pa. 19104
(215) 243-6116

MARATHON EPEE

The second Marathon Epee Open Fencing Tournament, featuring top European and American epee fencers will be held on November 17 and 18, 1979, at the Roadrunner Recreation Center on Stanley Road at Ft. Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas. The tournament will again be a two-day, two-competition event sponsored by the U.S. Modern Pentathlon Training Center and the South Texas AFLA.

Send entry form and fee, postmarked not later than entry deadline, Nov. 3, 1979 to: South Texas AFLA, PO Box 12062, San Antonio, Texas 78212

1979 DUKE EPEE OPEN

The first annual Duke Epee Open competition will be held in Came Stadium on the Duke University Durham, North Carolina. Mario Deleon, fencing coach at Duke, hopes to premiere epee tournament in the South. Schedules, housing information further information is available from

Mario Deleon
P.O. Box 12185
Research Triangle Park, NC
(919) 544-2108

Gary H. Ray
1655 Patton Ave.
Asheville, NC 28806
(704) 252-8155 (home)
(704) 252-2785 (work)

* * *

18th ANNUAL WFC CHRISTMAS OPEN

18th Annual WFC Christmas Open will be held Dec. 15 & 16. For further information contact Major Brodkey, 312 Mississippi Ave, Silver Spring, Md. 20918 or call Dr. Johnson, 7249 or Major Brodkey (301) 581-1111

Please send your announcement to: Major Brodkey, Editor American Fencing, No. 11, San Francisco, CA 94111. Remember our deadlines

* * *

1979 BLUE RIDGE MIXED FOIL OPEN

The Asheville Amateur Fencers Association and the North Carolina Division will host the third annual Blue Ridge Mixed Foil Open on Saturday, December 1, 1979. Competition will also be held in men's sabre. The tournament will be held in the main YMCA on Woodfin Street in Asheville, North Carolina—deep in the heart of the Blue Ridge mountains. Registration will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Fencing will begin at 9:45 a.m. for foil, and sabre will begin at the conclusion of the preliminary foil round. The fee for one weapon will be \$4, and \$6 for two. General information on travel and accommodations is available from:

Gary H. Ray
1655 Patton Ave.
Asheville, NC 28806
(704) 252-8155 (home)
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GIORGIO SANTELLI TROPHY MEET

The Western NY Division of the AFLA and SUNY-Brockport are sponsoring the third annual Giorgio Santelli Trophy meet on Saturday, November 17, 1979. The events are Men's Foil and Women's Foil. The competition is located at Tuttle South Gymnasium, SUNY-Brockport, Brockport, N.Y. Contact Natalie Goodhartz, 34 E. Wautoma Beach, Hilton, N.Y. 14468. (716) 392-3598 (home); 395-2579 (office).

1979 CLEVELAND GRAND PRIX

The 1979 Cleveland Grand Prix will be held November 23, 24 and 25 in the ballroom of the Bond Court Hotel, E. 16th and St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, Ohio. The events are Men's Foil, Sabre and Epee and Women's Foil and Epee (Gilman). For information and entry forms contact the Northern Ohio Division AFLA, c/o William Reith, P.O. Box 18027, Cleveland Hts., OH 44118. PHONE (216) 932-8004 evenings.

RESULTS

SEATTLE FLECHE TOURNAMENT

The Lewis & Clark Division held the first annual Seattle Fleche Tournament, formerly called the Seafair Tournament, on July 28th & 29th, 1979. There were 69 entries in six events with a large turnout from within the Division.

RESULTS

MEN'S OPEN FOIL

1. Russ Redding, Silver Stein Club
2. Jamie Osborn, Silver Stein Club
3. Mike VanderVelden, Salla Auril(WA)

EPEE

1. Tom Wollner, Vancouver Blades
2. Bill Walker, unattached
3. Ho Quan, Vancouver Blades

MEN'S SABRE

1. Bob Waye, W.S.U.
2. Leigh Power, Silver Stein Club
3. Curt Neilson, Univ. of Montana

WOMEN'S OPEN FOIL

1. Anne Klingler, unattached
2. Marlene Adrian, unattached
3. Diana Noe, Silver Stein Club

MEN'S NOVICE FOIL

1. Hunter Zuker, Boeing Club
2. Rick Anderson, S.C.C.
3. Tim Redway, Tacoma YMCA

WOMEN'S SABRE

1. Anne Klingler, unattached
2. Diana Rudenberg
3. Marlene Adrian, unattached

* * *

10th ANNUAL SENIOR OLYMPICS FENCING

10th Annual Senior Olympics Fencing
June 23, 24, Air Force Academy
Colorado Springs, Colorado

SABRE

- | | | | |
|-------|-----|-----------------|----------------------|
| 35-39 | 1st | Rudy Volkman | Gainsville, GA |
| | 2nd | Dave Staup | Denver, CO |
| | 3rd | Ben Stroman | Cocoa, FL |
| Women | 1st | Carol Brodkey | Silver Springs, MD |
| | | Pat McCue-Chang | Hood River, OR |
| 40-44 | 1st | Stewart Reuter | Colorado Springs, CO |
| | | Anthony Gilham | Madison, WI |
| 45-49 | 1st | Stephen Sobol | Cedar Grove, NJ |
| | 2nd | Her Rogers | San Mateo, CA |

50-54	1st	Nikolai Kariagan	
	2nd	Joseph Steiner	
55-59	1st	Herb Spector	Silv
	2nd	Werner Kirchner	
	3rd	Leroy Jones	Cleveland
Women	1st	Mary Jane Stevens	Lo
60-64	1st	V. Fred Rayser	Lo
	2nd	Lawrence Platt	
	3rd	Aaron Bell	M
Women	1st	Maxine Mitchell	
35-39	1st	Dave Staup	
	2nd	Ben Stroman	
	3rd	Harvey Jacobs	
Women	1st	Mary Gilham	
	2nd	Carol Brodkey	Silv
	3rd	Pat McCue-Chang	F
40-44	1st	Anthony Gilham	
	2nd	Stewart Reuter	Colorad
	3rd	Paul Levy	La
Women	1st	Jaqueline Sapulski	
45-49	1st	Irwin Bernstein	
	2nd	Andy Rivera	Lo
	3rd	David Brown	
Women	1st	Arnanda Kariagan	C
50-54	1st	Joseph Steiner	
	2nd	Nikolai Kariagan	C
55-59	1st	Leroy Jones	Cleveland
	2nd	George Willis	Ch
	3rd	James Humphrey	Ranch
Women	1st	Mary Jane Stevens	Lo
60-64	1st	Lawrence Platt	
	2nd	Aaron Bell	M
	3rd	Erwin Guttman	
65-69	1st	Dale Douglas	Alb
	2nd	George Miller	Alb
EPEE			
35-39	1st	Dave Staup	
	2nd	Ben Stroman	
	3rd	Louis Novak	
Women			
	1st	Mary Gilham	
	2nd	Carol Brodkey	Silv
40-44	1st	Paul Levy	La
	2nd	Anthony Gilham	
	3rd	Stewart Reuter	Colorad
45-49	1st	Irwin Bernstein	
	2nd	Burton Moore	
	3rd	Andy Rivera	Lo
50-54	1st	Joseph Steiner	
	2nd	Nikolai Kariagan	C
55-59	1st	Herb Spector	Silv
	2nd	George Willis	Ch
	3rd	Leroy Jones	Cleveland
Women	1st	Mary Jane Stevens	Lo
60-64	1st	Lawrence Platt	
	2nd	Aaron Bell	Me

RESULTS

THIRD GOVERNOR'S OPEN

The Third Annual Governor's Open was fenced in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on June 2nd and 3rd. The results are:

FOIL

1. Pepper Zylks, BYU; 2. Frank Lategano, New Orleans FC; 3. Brian Reed, Belaire FC; 4. Clarence McCraw, Houston, Tx.; 5. Greg VenSeggern, Cent. Fla.; 6. M. Watson, Houston.

EPEE

1. Matt Monrad, Baton Rouge HSFC; 2. Bruce Markovich, Salle Sebastiani; 3. Bob Reber, LSU; 4. Ben Price, LSU; 5. Harry Ferrell, San Antonio; 6. Martin Johnsen, NOFC.

SABRE

1. Chris Trammell, NOFC; 2. M. Johnsen, NOFC; 3. Gary Danna, NOFC; 4. B. Reed, BFC; 5. C. McCraw, Tx; 6. Clay Fingerman, NOFC.

WOMENS FOIL

1. Christine Hamori, NOFC, 2. Janet Trammell, NOFC; 3. Elizabeth Hamilton, NOFC; 4. Isabell Hamori, NOFC; 5. Michel Danna, NOFC; 6. Kathy Vail, LSU.

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MID-ATLANTIC INTERCOLLEGIATES

John Hopkins University regained the Yale Cup it last held in 1976 by finishing 6 bouts ahead of defending champion William & Mary in the 28th annual MAFCA championships.

Mike Mamlouk of George Mason was voted Coach of the Year by his colleagues, and GMU also earned the Team Sportsmanship award.

Team Results:

Team	Foil	Epee	Sabre	Total
Johns Hopkins	10	13	17	40
William & Mary	12	10	12	34
Stevens Tech.	15	8	9	32

FENCING CLUBS

(Editor's note: Here are some additional listings of Clubs that I have received. Several people wrote to tell me that they had learned of the existence of other Clubs nearby through the first listing. We will publish a revised and updated list in the January-February issue. Don't just mean to send in your listing, send it in now!)

CALIFORNIA

Monterey Peninsula Fencers' Club, Armed Services YMCA, Corner of El Estero and Webster, Monterey, CA, contact Milton H. Bank, Coach 373-6496

U.C. Davis Fencing Club, University of California, Davis, Contact Tom Kemp 756-6201

DELAWARE

Wilmington Fencing Club, Old Mill Lane School, Liftwood, Wilmington, DE, Roger Owings, Coach (302) 478-6280

ILLINOIS

College of Lake County Fencers Club, College of Lake County, Grayslake, IL 60030, Contact Fernando Delgado (312) 223-7990

Illinois Fencers Club, c/o Mt. Prospect Park District, 411 Maple St., Mt. Prospect, IL 60056, Contact Cathleen A. Weigley, 1428 Main St., 2nd Floor, Evanston, IL 60202

IOWA

Greater Des Moines Fencing Club, Contact Mr. Steve Greenharn, 4502 62nd, 276 7073 or 3939 57th, 276 3785, Des Moines, IA 50322

KANSAS

Wichita Fencing Club, Contact Tom Derber, 905 Jewell, Wichita, KS 67213, 263-7773 or Cynthia Crabbs Heller, 911 North Terrace, Wichita, KS 67208 (316) 683-1416

LOUISIANA

Baton Rouge High School, Fencing Club, c/o Nancy Anderson, 2110 Pollard Pky., Baton Rouge, LA 70808 (504) 766-8695

Baton Rouge Fencing Club, P. O. Box 2245, Baton Rouge, LA 70821, or Chris Lusk, 8686 Coy Ave. #88, Baton Rouge, LA 70808 (504) 766-2621

L.S.U. Fencing Club, c/o Ben Price, Coach, 1940 Birch St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802 (504) 383-1685

MASSACHUSETTS

Salle d'Armes Richards, 125 Walnut St., Watertown, MA 02172, Maitre: Ed Richards (617) 926-3450

MISSOURI

U. of Mo. in Kansas City, Fencing Club, 5100 Rockhill Rd., Kansas City, MO 64110, Contact Diane Smalley Coach (816) 276-2715 or Kristy Lake (816) 361-5663 (They would like some inter-club competitions.)

NEW YORK

Onondaga Fencer Club, Onondaga Community College, Syracuse, NY, Contact Les Monostory (315) 446-5440 or Chris Cummings (315) 488-3706

NORTH CAROLINA

Andrews Fencers Club, Contact Scott Angel, P.O. Box A.J., Andrew, NC 28901 (704) 321-4469

Asheville Amateur Fencers Assn., Contact Gary Ray, 1655 Patton, Asheville, NC 28806 h. (704) 252-8155, w. (704) 252-2785

U. of NC — Chapel Hill, Contact Ron Miller, C-6 Greenbelt Apts., Carrboro, NC 27510 (919) 929-9586

Charlotte Fencers Club, Contact Gary Carter, 225 Cottage Place, Charlotte, NC 28207 (704) 377-9824

Duke University, Contact Mario Delean, P.O. Box 12185, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709 (919) 544-2108

Durham Fencers Club, Contact Walter Triplette, 1400 Arnett, Durham, NC 27707 (919) 489-0318

U. of NC at Greensboro, Contact Harry

Stone, 1320 Keough St., Burlington, NC 27215 (919) 226-4629

N.C. State U., Contact David S Union St., Cary, NC 27511 (919)

Raleigh Fencers Club, Contact Stanley, 6705 Colony Ct., R 27610 (919) 782-9462

PENNSYLVANIA

Pittsburgh Fencers Club, YWC, Wood Sts., Pittsburgh, PA 15215, Frank Raspey (412) 237-7782

3L Fencing Club
c/o 3-L Physical Arts Center
215 W. Pittsburg St.
Greensburg, PA 15601

SOUTH CAROLINA

U. of SC Fencing Club, Contact A lock, U.S.C. Fencing Club, F U.S.C., Columbia, SC 29208

Palmetto Fencing Society, Cor Miklos, 1107 Maple St., Col 29205 (803) 254-1815

TEXAS

L.D.S. Fencing Club
c/o Richard Edwin Howard
3605 South Lipscomb St.
Amarillo, Tx 79110

Austin Fencing Alliance
P. O. Box 3795
Austin, Tx 78764
C/O Gabe Balla

TENNESSEE

Oak Ridge Fencers Club, Oak Contact: Mr./Mrs. Harold Ne Virginia Rd., Oak Ridge, TN 3 483-7860

Sewanee Fencing Club, SPO, Se 37375

VIRGINIA

Northern Virginia Fencing Assn Bruce Callander, 3790 Lynd 101, Fairfax, VA 22301

6. There was no new busine. was made of the new J.O. bro lished. The featured junior fenc on the international squad and 4 champions.

The meeting was adjourned a Respectfully submitted.
Classics Editor, Secretary