

American

November/
December 1985

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My Maestro: *Part II*

**1986 Junior Olympic
Championships Information**

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On The Cover
 Molly Sullivan, 1985 National Women's Foil Champion, 1985 National U-19 Champion. --Photo by Hal Wells.

GIORGIO SANTELLI 1897-1985

Last December we received a manuscript from an old pupil of Maestro Giorgio Santelli, Dr. Joel S. Archer. A biography of the Maestro, it was written by a Justin Tausig and it took us several months to track down any information on the author. We still do not have the full story on this young man, but we received an oblique OK to go ahead and publish, so we took the plunge and the first part of his article appeared in our last issue.

As we go to press with this issue, we have received the overwhelmingly sad news that Giorgio Santelli passed away on October 8th, 1985.

It is only fitting that we continue with Part II of "My Maestro," by Justin Tausig, a young fencer who wrote this biography at the age of 13 and never intended it as an obituary. We publish it, nonetheless. We doubt whether anyone can better express the af-

fection, warmth, and admiration we have all felt for Giorgio Santelli, one of the most beloved maestros in the history of United States fencing.

This fencing season (September 1985 to June 1986) our members will receive only five issues of AMERICAN FENCING instead of six. But, before you start jumping up and down in protest, you should know that you will also receive four National Newsletters with more detailed and timely information from our national office. Beginning in September 1986, our Policy Committee has scheduled a return to six bi-monthly issues of AMERICAN FENCING per year, as well as four National Newsletters. This decision should help solve one of the perennial problems lurking in the background of the content of our publication: how much space to devote to the nuts-and-bolts details of purely organizational concern. So, readers take heart, as you flip, sighing, through some of the pages contained in this issue: we hope to have more lively articles in the future.

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My Maestro

Part II, by Justin D. Tausig

In 1924, the New York Athletic Club was looking for a fencing master, so they wrote Italo Santelli. He felt that he was too old to leave Budapest and suggested his son, Giorgio. As times were hard in Hungary, he left for the U.S.A. When Giorgio came to America there were maybe sixty fencers in N.Y. and six in Boston. Thirty years later there were 22,000 fencers. Giorgio literally brought fencing to America. He started supplying fencing equipment the first year he was here. People kept on asking him where they could get fencing equipment. Since no one made good fencing materials, he began his business. Santelli's imported equipment inexpensively from Europe and sold it lower than their only competitor, Castello. Each weapon was assembled and balanced by Giorgio himself; he still does it today. He calls it "loading them with touches" in his catalog.

"... a wonderful man, and one of the kindest and best. He always staged fights for me at the Civic (Repertory Theatre) in such plays as 'Romeo and Juliet,' 'Twelfth Night,' and 'Peter Pan.' He has a great sense of the dramatic and knows how to make a duel that is actually quite simple seem breathlessly exciting. He has become practically indispensable to the New York Theatre; whenever a 'fight' is called for..." (from Eva LeGallienne, *With A Quiet Heart*, Viking Press, N.Y. 1933, p. 48). Eva LeGallienne was one of his finest students; she insisted that all the actors and actresses in her company take fencing. A basic "Giorgio" day was often eighteen to twenty hours long. It normally started with lessons like Eva's at seven a.m., then business matters until the afternoon when he resumed teaching. Later in the evening, he would travel for miles just to give an exhibition at YMCAs, other fencing clubs, and colleges and universities. In the sixty years that he has been here, it was estimated by J.R. Tishman (May, 1984) that he taught between eight and ten thousand pupils. If you trace back the studies of the fencers in America, you will find it all leads to Giorgio. For five consecutive times, he was the head coach for the U.S. Olympic fencing teams.

After twenty-five years at the NYAC, he left. His business was prospering and

"all the instructors had to go in the back way, where they took out the garbage and what would my students think of their teacher, if he had to enter the building where they take out the garbage?"

Clearly Giorgio is a man of honor, a proud man with a high sense of purpose. He is a gentleman of a bygone age, a musketeer of sorts. He is living proof



Giorgio Santelli, U.S. Olympic Fencing Coach: Amsterdam 1928, Los Angeles 1932, Berlin 1936, London 1948, Helsinki 1952.

that perfect fencers do exist, exhibiting the outstanding qualities that most fencers wish they had. When speaking of his life, he says,

"Maybe I was nervous the day before a competition but once I was on the strip, I forgot to be nervous. I didn't care if I win or lose. I cared to fence well. That was maybe the secret of my success. I lost many times during a competition, a bout, but in the long run the guy who beat me got beaten by other people and was eliminated, and I kept going. I just enjoyed fencing. I didn't try to beat the b'Jesus out of him, unless he was an unpleasant creature."

In most cases the people who are attracted to fencing today are intellectuals, who are fascinated by speed, control, and skill, rather than sheer strength and brute force. Giorgio's 1948 bronze medal sabre team included four doctors and Ph.D.'s

"If you are bouting, that's where your intellect comes in. When you know that a guy is technically good and fast, good timing, you have to use superior strategy so that you can kill his efficiency by counteractions, not giving him a chance to develop his knowledge."

In writing about Giorgio, it has been said that he

(Continued on page 6)

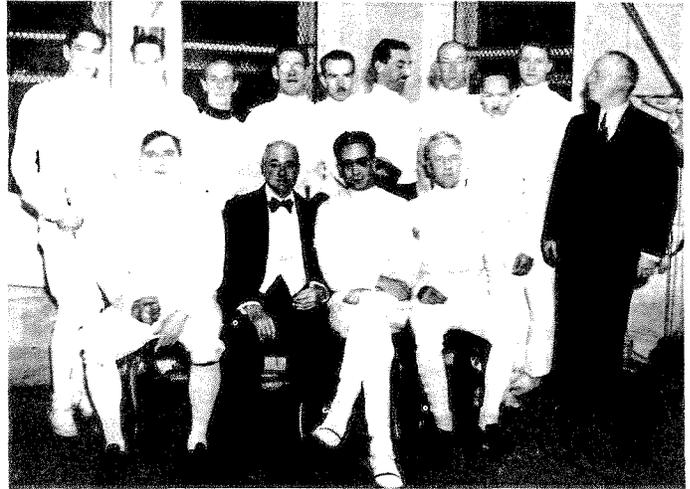
My Maestro (Continued)

could outfence anybody on earth, armed with only a yardstick. Someone else claimed that Giorgio, sleep-walking, could outfence anybody. While Giorgio says that he was not as good as his father, he instructs his students in his father's tradition.

"Hold the foil lightly enough so that you don't crush the bird but hard enough so that it will not escape. The Italians say 'Manno di gomma, braccio di ferro' (hand of rubber, arm of iron). The Italians are vicious, no?"

"In fencing the purpose is to touch and not be touched. This is the fencer's creed." (R.L. Taylor, *The New Yorker Magazine*, January 10, 1953, p. 30).

Giorgio was the first person to have a two-part 'profile' in the New Yorker; that was thirty years ago. Since then, not much has ever been written about this remarkable man. There is no one like him in the world. He is the last of a rare breed, an outstanding fencer and an outstanding human being. At eighty-six years old and despite a broken hip earlier this year, he intends to be jogging within a



A smiling Santelli is surrounded by his many prestigious students. Philadelphia Inquirer photo 1937.

month. Every time I see him, I am reminded of what people could be like: honest, cheerful and courageous. A more perfect fencing master than my 'Maestro' is impossible to imagine.

(Much of the information in this and the previous article is drawn from two articles by R.L. Taylor, "To Touch and Not Be Touched," The New Yorker Magazine, January 10 & 17, 1953, enhanced by conversations with Giorgio Santelli and Jeffrey Tishman.)

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The 1985 World Championships

by Samuel D. Cheric

For ten days this past July, 17 of America's best fencers toiled under adverse conditions to produce a 10th place finish for the U.S. Team at the World Championships.

The organizing committee in Barcelona chose a site fully capable, in size, for holding the championships. However, the facility had neither ventilation nor air conditioning, so that the temperatures were high in the 90's with equal humidity and not even a wisp of fresh air. Many of the top fencers throughout the world signed a protest to the FIE with regard to the conditions found in Barcelona.

I would like to thank those members of the cadre who assisted the American Team in its endeavors to provide results: Nancy and Marius Valsamis, Mitch Gross, coaches Aladar Kogler and Emanuel Kaidanov, officials Alex Orban and Ralph Zimmerman, and armorer Dan DeChaine.

This team produced two notable results which provided us with the points for our 10th place overall.

In the individual sabre competition we had only two entries, Peter Westbrook and Steve Mormando. Due to funding problems, last minute arrangements and travel delays caused by the airlines, Peter and Steve did not arrive at the

competition site until the evening before they fenced. Dan DeChaine, through his continued wizardry, was able to secure approval for their equipment early next morning.

The field of 68 sabre fencers was small but extremely strong. Steve drew a pool of 6 in the first round and in spite of beating Lamour of France, Carson of Ireland, and Kanatsu of Japan, he went out on indicators to Lamour, who had managed to beat Nebald of Hungary, 5-1. Steve did not end his participation in this World Championship with his 37th place; he spent the next two days providing support to Peter in an effort to produce the best possible result for him.

Westbrook's Outstanding Effort

In the first round Peter also drew a pool of 6 fencers, defeating Kostrzewa of Poland, Ong of Malaysia and Kawamura of Japan, while losing to Nolte of West Germany and Alchan of the Soviet Union. Peter was ranked 29th of 36 fencers going into the second round. In round two, he defeated Granger-Veyron of France, and Eifler of West Germany while losing to Gedovari of Hungary, Mindirgassov of the Soviet Union, and Etropoliski, H. of Bulgaria and was seeded 20th into the third round. In order to achieve a position in direct elimination Peter had to eliminate two in a pool consisting of Etropoliski, H. of Bulgaria, Krovopouskov of the Soviet Union, Gedovari of Hungary, Marin of Italy and Lamour of France. He rose to this challenge and cleanly entered the direct elimination, leaving Krovopouskov and Lamour behind.

The direct elimination began the next day with Peter ranked 12th in the tableau. His first draw was Etropoliski, H. of Bulgaria and Peter was defeated ten to four. He next drew Delrieu of France and defeated him, ten to nine. In the seesaw bout for elevation to the finals, Peter lost to Mindirgassov of the Soviet Union, ten to eight, and achieved a final position of 11th at the World Championships, a result which confirms his position as one of the top world class Sabre fencers.

The U.S. Foil Team, seeded 15th out of 18 teams, won a clutch team match against Great Britain, 9-7. The team also took Poland to 4-4 before finally falling, 8-5. The Americans were defeated 9-1 in their match against France and received the final placement of 12th. Among the foil fencers in the team event, Peter Lewison stood out, winning six of his ten bouts and never giving up. Pat Gerard was 2-2 and Don Blayney was 1-1 against Great Britain, and Ed Kaihatsu had one victory against the British and the Poles. Peter Lewison was 3-1 against the English, 2-1 against the Poles, and had our only victory against the French.

The women's team consisting of Elaine Cheric, Katlin Bilodeaux, Sharon Monplaisir, Jana Angelakis, and Lisa Piazza went out in the first round of pools in the team event losing to Hungary and East Germany, while defeating Australia.

The United States Epee Team consisted of Holt Farley, Robert Marx, Lee Shelley, Steve Trevor and Charles Schneider. Since none of these individuals made it to direct elimination, the United States team entered the direct



Peter
Westbrook

Photo
by
Hal
Wells

1985 World Championships

(Continued)

elimination 15th out of 21 teams, seeded above only Spain, Japan, Belgium, Austria, Columbia and Ireland. However this team, which contained four seasoned veterans of foreign competitions, achieved a 4th place result, a result unsurpassed by any American team since the United States began participation in the World Championships. I applaud not only their effort at this tournament and to the training that they have done, but to the financial and time commitments they made in entering World Cup meets during this, and prior seasons. It paid off.

Epee Team Carries On

On Saturday, July 20, 1985 after many fencers of our other teams had returned to the United States, these five men took to the strip. Their first pool included number one ranked Hungary and number 14 ranked Bulgaria. Their first match was against Bulgaria and, when the dust settled, the U.S. had defeated Bulgaria, 8-2 with one double defeat. In the match against Hungary, we were defeated 8-1.

Since Austria had upset Canada in the first round, the U.S. went into direct elimination seeded 13th to meet 5th ranked Rumania. Holt Farley lead off with a victory and the match seesawed until the bout score reached 4-4. Four more victories and two losses brought the score to 8-6, with the Americans needing only five touches in the next two bouts to achieve victory. Lee Shelley, although unable to put away the next bout, scored four touches against Saitoc to make the score 8-7, with the U.S. needing but one touch more to win the match. Holt Farley opened his bout with Szabo with that touch and the Americans moved on to the next round.

The tableau next pitted France against Italy, West Germany against Korea, the Soviet Union against Hungary, and the U.S. against Sweden. A confident U.S. team won the first four bouts, receiving only 6 touches in that period. Lee Shelley won the eighth bout to make the score 8-4 for the U.S. and Steve Trevor iced it with a 5-4 victory to move the U.S. into the final four. Steve was 3-1 during this match, with Lee, Bob, and Holt all having 2-1.

The U.S. was then pitted against Italy in the top bracket, with West Germany fencing the Soviets in the bottom bracket. Our team, after dropping the first two bouts, pulled the score even at three all. However, the score soon fell to 7-3 for Italy and Holt Farley's defeat of Cuomo was the last victory against the Italian team which defeated us 9-4.

When West Germany defeated the Soviet Union, the U.S. drew the Soviets for the bronze medal match. The teams traded victories until the score reached 4-4, at which time the Soviets won the next three bouts to take a commanding 7-4 lead with an 11 touch differential. However, this American team rose to that challenge and had its own three bout winning streak with Bob Marx, 5-5, Lee Shelley, 5-2, and Steve Trevor, 5-3. The score was now 7-7 with the touch count in favor of the Soviets 59-53. The Soviets now needed either one victory or five touches in the next two bouts. Holt Farley took an early 2-1 lead but fell to Chouvalon 5-3 ending the U.S. hopes for a medal, but still placing them in the top echelon of world epee fencing. The team was that evening invited to the Tournament of Seven Nations to be held the week following the Heidenheim at Tauberbischofsheim.

After their loss to the Russian team, each of the fencers sat and dealt with his own feelings. Their first group thought after the disappointment of the loss was the fact that they were still winners, they were a team seeded 15th that finished 4th. We then retrieved the American flag from the stands and, placing it behind them, had a team picture taken; this was a proud moment for them and a proud moment for America.

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A Note on Point Control

by William M. Gaugler
Director, Fencing Masters Program
San Jose State University

Among the more unhappy features of contemporary fencing are poor point control and lack of sensitivity in blade contact. Even at the world-class level of competition today it is not uncommon to see a fencer missing the valid target several times before scoring a touch, or losing numerous opportunities to control his opponent's blade. The distressing aspect of this is that both shortcomings could easily be rectified in the individual lesson by including traditional exercises centered on multiple feints and actions on the blade. Such work was, in fact, typical of fencing instruction during the earlier decades of the century. For example, Maestro Aldo Nadi generally employed triple feints in his advanced foil lessons, and Maestro Amilcare Angelini often carried his actions on the blade into the parry-riposte exercises.

While it can be argued that the most effective swordplay is also the most simple, it is equally true that the level of technical skill necessary to arrive at a simple game is achieved through exercises that are in themselves very complex. Since Nadi and Angelini were both world-class fencers and produced competitors of the highest order, it is worth considering how they accomplished their results.

To develop fine point control, Maestro Nadi led his pupils progressively from simple to compound attacks, beginning, in the compound attacks, with the feint direct and ending with the feint direct, deceive, disengagement, and deceive. In this way his students would learn to elude or deceive parries ranging from a simple parry to a combination of a circular, simple, and circular parry. Following his exacting method of instruction, each feint moved progressively forward, as close to the opposing steel as possible, with emphasis upon penetration. When point motion was sufficiently tight, every compound attack was executed in time, and with an advance. By keeping the point in line as much as possible, and initiating the attack only when the adversary stepped forward, accuracy and timing were such that it was difficult not to score a touch.

Usually, at the conclusion of the lesson, the pupils were directed to perform combinations of parries succeeded by ripostes that echoed the compound attacks previously effected in the lesson. Progressions of this type would frequently consist of a direct riposte, a riposte by disengagement, and disengagement (one-two), and a riposte with a feint by disengagement and deceive (double). Particular stress was placed on parrying with the point close to the hostile blade, so that no time was lost in delivering the riposte or feint.

Like Nadi, Angelini moved from simple to compound actions in careful stages. Having developed actions on the blade during the portion of the lesson devoted to attacks, he would transfer some of these to the parry riposte exercises. For instance, when his students reached the point in the lesson where they executed two circular parries, he would instruct them to follow a double counter of third (French sixte) with a change of engagement into fourth, and riposte by glide to the high line, lunging. After this combination of actions was properly accomplished, first

from immobility and then with a retreat, he would direct his pupils to repeat the same parries and change of engagement, but riposte by flaconade (croise) in fourth with a lunge. When this was mastered, Angelini would, occasionally, parry the final thrust with a ceding parry of fourth succeeded by a direct riposte, thus provoking a counter-parry riposte from his students while they were still in the lunge. And by adding one more counter-parry riposte, second intention could be prompted. In other words, the pupils would terminate the exercise with two counter-parry ripostes from the lunge: simple parry of fourth and riposte direct, and simple parry fourth and riposte by disengagement.

The high degree of technical skill enjoyed by the older generation of swordsmen was, unquestionably, derived from such controlled exercises. If it is, indeed, our intention to improve the quality of fencing, then we must seriously return to the certain of the pedagogical methods of the past. Fencing efficiency, regardless of time period, will always be dependent upon point control and sensitivity of touch.



Molly Sullivan (left) and Jessica Yu at the National Sports Festival. Photo by Hal Wells.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

As a collegiate fencer, I was very interested in the article in the March-April issue of the *AMERICAN FENCING*. As a fencer of five years in my old division (Minnesota), I am disturbed by the fencing here at Oberlin and in the Ohio collegiate division. The Oberlin fencing team was, at one point, very strong, and is now coming back. As mentioned in the article, our most pressing problem is lack of funding. We have a plethora of equipment, but most of it is 15 or 20 years old. The competition with other colleges is very low level, with the exception of one or two schools.

We need more contact with the Northern Ohio division and would like to compete in more of the USFA meets—this would benefit both the collegiate fencers and the division. Any assistance, either monetary or moral support, that the national office can give our team would be greatly appreciated.

Jonathan Westreich, Oberlin, Ohio

SPORTS FESTIVAL, 1985

by Scott Knies, Fencing Manager

Some people said the USFA was finally doing something right: they looked at the 80 Sports Festival fencers and saw that 40 of them were juniors under the age of 20.

The concept of allowing so many juniors on the NSF team was based on common sense. Since no Olympic team or circuit points are earned in the festival tournaments, the competition is a perfect forum for the country's promising junior fencers to gain confidence and experience side by side with veteran fencers and coaches.

Additionally, the NSF is really just that—a festival. It is more a giant showcasing of America's amateur sports than a serious competition.

Overall, the juniors more than held their own, leading one veteran fencer to observe at the festival's conclusion: "Sometimes I had trouble telling the juniors from the seniors."

The 1985 "American Games," held in non-Olympic years, was spread over humid Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The city made a great effort to host NSF VI and although the number of spectators at events was low, the locals made up for the small numbers with their warmth and enthusiasm.

The individual epee final bout between Rob Stull and Lee Shelley was thoroughly enjoyed by a Sunday morning crowd. The exciting match, won by Stull, was aided in its obvious spectator appeal by the easily understood scoring system of epee. Foil, and especially sabre, did not generate as much spectator enthusiasm as the epee final.

In each weapon category at least one junior made the eight person finals. Sabreur Bob Cottingham finished eighth, Chris O'Loughlin placed seventh in epee, and foilist Wilbur Wheeler was fifth. Three junior women foilists, already dominant in the national field, were in the finals: Mary Jane O'Neill, Molly Sullivan, and Jessica Yu.

Results alone were not the most important part of the NSF—experience for the juniors, not just victory, was the focus.

In the team competitions, the 20 fencers in each weapon were divided into five person teams and the four teams fenced a round robin. Each team's substitute was guaranteed at least two bouts and the older fencers were cheering and coaching the juniors along all day. For example, even though 16-year-old Nick Faroujda didn't win a bout in the sabre team, he fenced tough against such seniors as Peter Westbrook, getting his touches and making a contribution to his team's indicator-close gold medal finish.

The fencing delegation was well organized by USFA Executive Director Carla-Mae Richards both in the dorms and at the competition site. The Fencing Officials Commission utilized the NSF low-pressure atmosphere for testing certain directors and an impressive eight-man coaching staff supervised training sessions and the tournaments.

Next year's "American Games" will be in Houston, Texas, and the USFA will continue with the 50/50 split of junior/senior athletes. Start training now, work hard, earn some points, and we'll see you in Texas next summer for NSF VII.

How to Lose a Bout Without Getting Hit

by George Kolombatovich

An interesting question (not so interesting to the fencer that lost!) came up at a competition recently. Can someone lose a bout by removing a touch? The answer is in the Rules Book, but it is not as clearly stated as it could be.

Sometimes you can drastically change a rule by removing something. This has happened when, some years ago, the FIE removed the phrase "which can cause loss of bout" from some of the penalty rules. The revised rules simply didn't have it in because:

All penalties that either add or remove a touch may cause the loss of the bout.

An example of this is the fencer who is warned for covering target, a simple (formally called "minor") warning. If, after all time has expired, the score is tied, and the fencer repeats that offense (which causes the removal of a touch), that fencer loses the bout.

Another example: Fencer "X" has received a warning for a non-conforming weapon and then attempts to replace that weapon with another non-conforming weapon in the same bout. The time expires for the bout without any fencer being hit and no further penalties being given. Fencer "X" loses the bout by one touch.

Remember—know the rules!

A Report on the National Coaches Clinic

by Laurie Katz, Wellesley College coach

Most fencing teachers, myself included, are do-it-yourselfers; resilient people who have had to figure out how to teach what we know about this multi-leveled sport through trial and error and great effort. Few of us have had the chance to study to become fencing masters; most of us are self-made. Naturally we are reluctant to give up what we have painstakingly developed, what works for us. Yet we remain curious, open to suggestion, willing to listen, even eager for the chance and time to exchange ideas.

Just such an opportunity was afforded in August at the first USFA-NFCAA National Coaches Clinic at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, and just such a group of teacher/coaches chose to attend. It was beautiful.

The clinic was much more than just a get-together, more than just a bull session, more than just you-tell-what-you-do-and-I'll-tell-what-I-do. Nor was it just one man saying, "My way is The Right Way to do things so do it." Instead it was 10 men, the national training staff, all established teachers whose primary interest is the teaching of fencing, presenting their system (the combined efforts of a year's work together) of how basic fencing skills should be taught. We were asked to listen, to learn it, to practice teaching it and to analyze it during our week in Colorado, then go home, try it out, adapt it to our needs and report back on its usefulness.

We were busy morning, noon and night. The format varied; lecture, large group work and demonstration, and one-on-one with supervision. We practiced our teaching skills with our colleagues acting as pupils, using materials and techniques agreed upon by the National Training Staff. Consequently, each of us was at one moment the student, at the next moment the teacher, with frequent feedback from members of the staff as they roamed among us. The content, basic fencing footwork and handwork, was obviously not "new" to our group; the teaching cues and aids were indeed new to many, and the emphasis on balance and centering may have seemed new to an unfortunately large number of us who had forgotten that they were important! We worked primarily in foil though two evening sessions included sabre and epee.

The new approach seems characteristically American. It borrows heavily from the European traditions (primarily from the Hungarians through Kogler and the French through Gillet and Beguinet) and it is non-dogmatic. Individual differences in style, background, and demeanor are tolerated, even accepted as important elements in the teaching situation, the goal being not that we should all look alike when we fence or teach, but that we should all understand and (probably) agree on certain basics. This individualism was underscored by the presence of fully 9 staff instructors who themselves varied widely in style and demeanor, who said things differently (accents included)

and who were all competent, helpful and interesting. The unity in their message did not stifle the importance of the individual's uniqueness.

The group of 55 teacher/coaches that attended the week long clinic was a pleasant mixture of brand new coaches and experienced ones, young and "old" (ages 22-70), women (only 12) and men, competitors (one '84 Olympic team member) and former competitors. The common bond was a love of fencing and universal characteristics seemed to be curiosity, open mindedness and humor. Beyond that it was viva la difference!

Everyone that I spoke with felt that it had been a very worthwhile and enjoyable week. One coach who has studied to be a master in Europe said that this clinic was the best thing he has ever done for his teaching. I, too, came home enriched with new ideas and friends and happy that the USFA had finally acknowledged, through its financial support of the staff and the participants, the importance of good teachers and coaches.

Every teacher should become a student again from time to time. The USFA plans to offer coaches clinics again next summer.

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A Fencer's Ballad

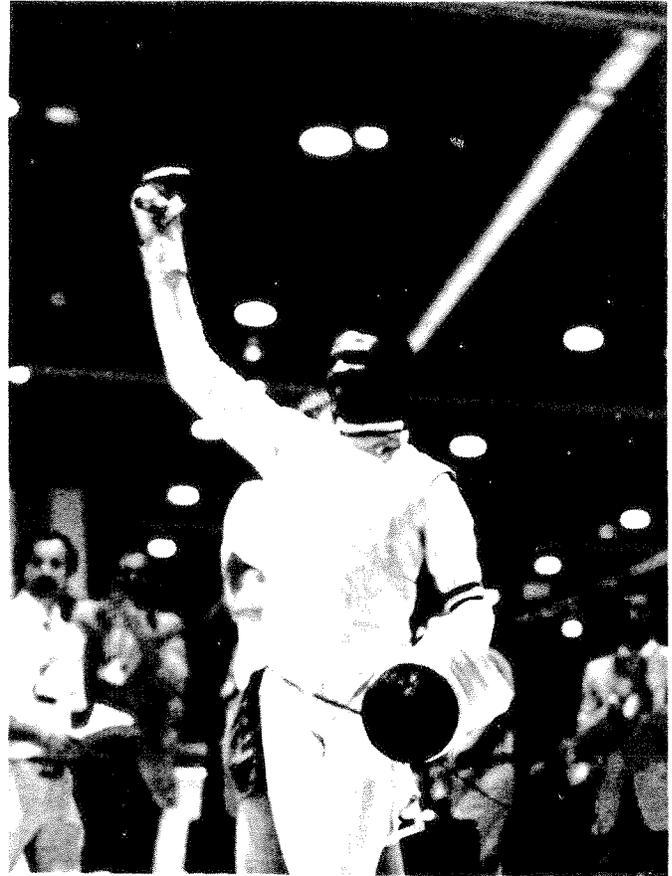
The day had been a long and hard one,
My vigor was all out.
I had to build myself back up
for this, the final bout.

I waited on the combat strip
for the match to get under way.
I charged out of the starting gate.
The judge had cried "Alle!"

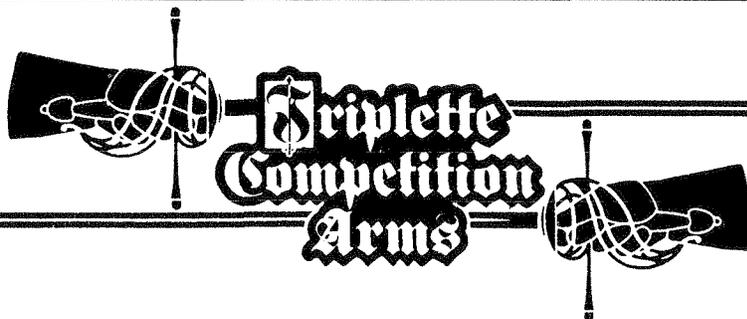
The seconds seemed like hours on end,
My vim began to flee.
He hit me with a flank attack,
the score was one to three.

I built my fading initiative
into one last flurry
And when the dust had settled down
My cry was, "Victory!"

*by Eric Reed,
Junior member, USFA Harrisburg Division
for 10th grade Honors English Class*



Peter Lewison at the 1984 Olympics. Photo by Robert Millard.



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A Left-handed American Dream

by Dave Baldrige

Media Relations, Professional Rodeo Cowboys Assoc.

One Saturday morning last June, American fencing coach Michael D'Asaro strolled down the gangplank of Queen Elizabeth 2 at New York's Pier 52—his debut as the undisputed West Coast Zorba of cruise ship fencing an unqualified success. Michael is, in the opinion of his peers, one of the most outstanding sabre fencers this country has produced. And if statistics count for anything, he singlehandedly produced one of the greatest women's fencing teams in America collegiate history.

The story, a little oblique by American sporting standards, is still unfolding.

Take Carl Borack, the Hollywood producer (*The Big Fix*) and promoter of this high seas lunge and parry fencing reunion. He has competed in two world cup teams, two Pan Am Games teams, and one Olympic team. He has been nationally ranked in all three of the sport's disciplines—foil, epee, and sabre.

Curly-haired, handsome, articulate and passionate about his sport, Borack figured it was time to bring fencing out of the American amateur sports closet.



Together again on board the QE2.

So why not the QE2?

At Los Angeles last summer, Borack stood helplessly, an invited but unused guest commentator in an ABC control room, watching his sport get a total of 17 minutes coverage out of 180 hours of ABC air time.

"Germany saw four hours of fencing, France saw four hours of fencing, the Italians saw four hours of fencing, and the American public saw 17 minutes! At one point, only two sports hadn't been seen in the U.S.—archery and fencing. And archery hadn't started yet. We finally won a medal (Peter Westbrook's bronze in sabre) and got their attention. Fencing's first American medal winner in 24 years and ABC wouldn't give us as much air time as Mary Lou Retton's vault slo-mos."

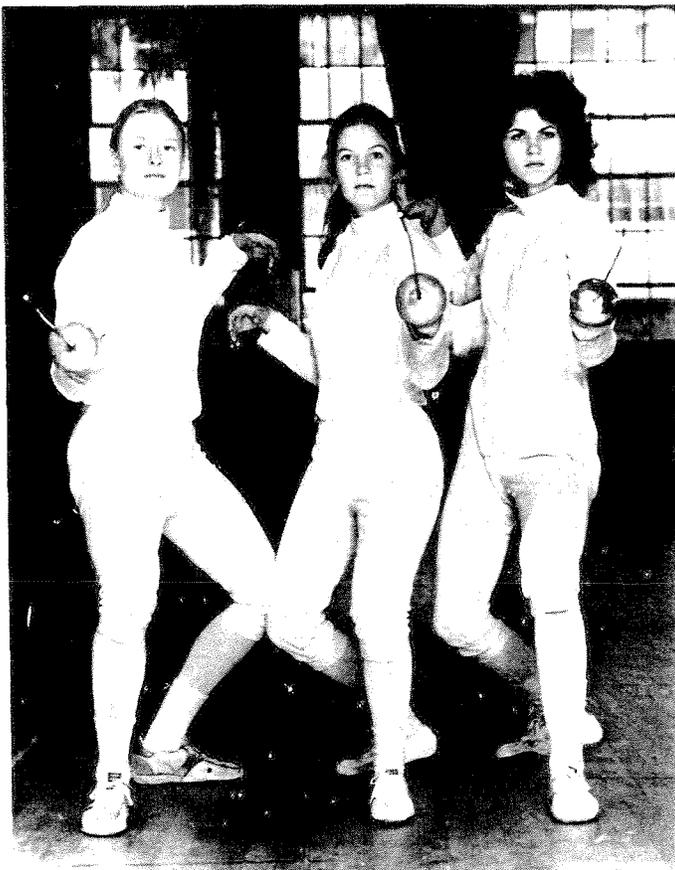
Carl Borack can name 10 commercial products in 30 seconds that use swordsmanship imagery, and he is—let's get this straight—looking for a sponsor.

Or take Vinnie Bradford. Like D'Asaro, another lefty. She helped the L.A. Olympic women's fencing team to a best-ever 6th place finish, and reigned as the '84 women's national foil and epee champion.

At 6 feet and skinny, she grew up an outsider, sporting a name to make even Johnny Cash smile. Up-front and personable, she now looks more like a fashion model than a Ft. Worth high school dropout.

These days she's into frisbees—an instructor at the San Antonio YWCA, she's organizing a club. You can call her Vincent, Virce... or Vinnie. But don't call her into fencing combat, because she can make your protective vest look like a cheese grater in a matter of seconds.

Another improbable player in the female cast of Carl Borack's bizarre high-seas scenario, Stacey



The fearsome San Jose trio: Gay D'Asaro, Stacey Johnson and Vincent Bradford.

Johnson, is a converted lefty. A Texan like Bradford, she first picked up a foil when it (3 feet) was longer than she was tall. Told she was hopeless fencing right-handed, she begged for, and got, a second chance from her first coach as a lefty. It turned out to be a great decision.

In 1974, Stacey Johnson—a San Antonio waitress and high school graduate, together with Vincent Bradford, the high-school dropout, loaded a friend's pickup truck with their possessions, "two plates, two spoons, and \$700." They put Texas in their rear view mirror and headed to the West Coast in pursuit of their mutual dream, an Olympic team qualification.

They knew of only one coach who could get them there. Michael A. D'Asaro, already married to national foils champion, Gay, took the other two under his wing and developed a winning combo for an unprecedented four-year reign of terror over NCAA women's fencing.

So here they were, steaming across the Atlantic at 28 knots, reunited as a team for the first time in five years. After the U.S. women's team victory on board, it was another first for "D'Asaro's girls," now grown up. The eclectic Zorba of cruise ship fencing smiles a broad grin as the QE2 and American amateur sports together lurch, for a moment, slightly to starboard.

The QE 2

by Mitchell Gross

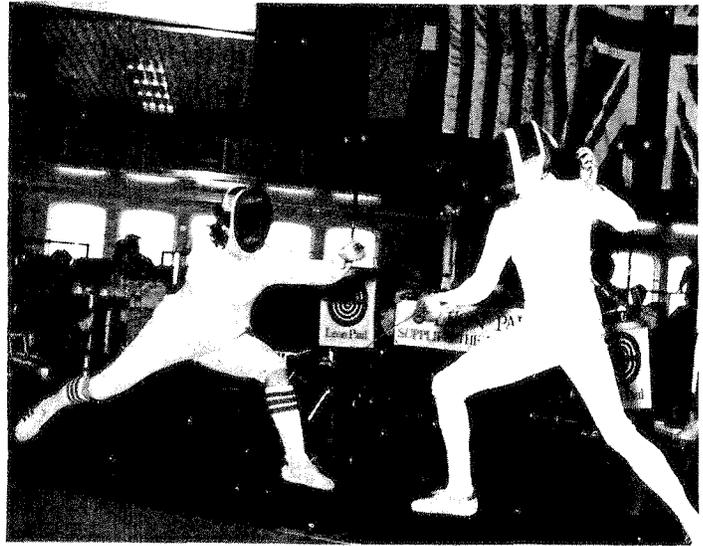
There is something in an athlete that rejects mediocrity. Those who participate know. During the five days of competition on board the magnificent Cunard ship, the Queen Elizabeth 2, you could see it.

Time and again, they drew deep within themselves, tapping reserves of pride and talent that were never fully exhausted even after months and years of inactivity.

You could see it in fifty-nine year old Paul Nauge's win from behind to capture the team match for West Germany over Great Britain. You could see it in Gay D'Asaro's reflexive prime riposte to the back against Linda Martin, the brilliant British champion. And hear it in Stacey Johnson's scream, which reemerged after only two touches.

Over two hundred people per day came to watch the competitions, take classes from Mike D'Asaro, or just to look at the Olympic films. The audiences cheered for their countries or adopted favorites and the applause grew louder as they grew more knowledgeable. One fellow who had recently completed his second fencing class, advised me that my calls were "mostly correct."

The people at Cunard and the staff of the QE2



On board the Queen Elizabeth II: Linda Martin Gr. Britain vs. Gay D'Asaro, U.S.A. Ocean Pictures Photo.

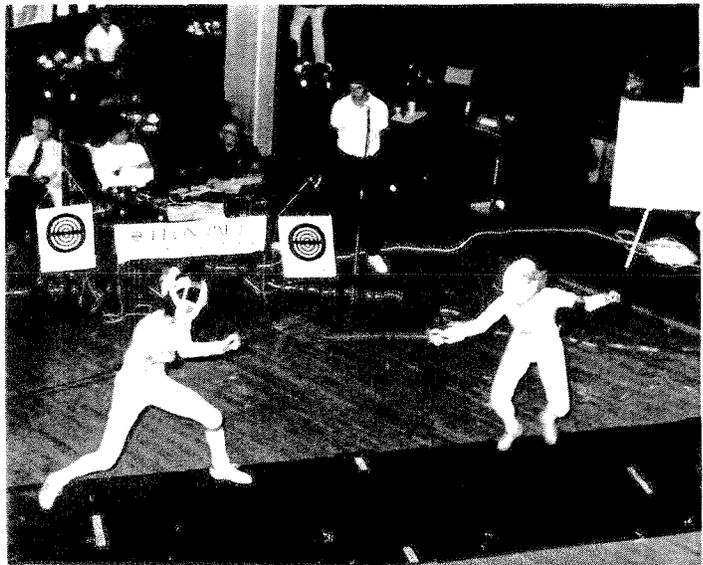
could not do enough for the athletes and the press corps that traveled with the teams. If you have never seen the ship, there is nothing quite like it in the world in terms of elegance or size.

At the embarkation center, George Masin asked, "When do you think we will see it?"

"Actually, I think it's behind that building," Lew Siegel replied.

"It is the building, sir," a passing porter remarked.

In the end, the fencing, though excellent, turned out to be secondary to the event itself. This was more by design than accident. Carl Borack and Lew Siegel were everywhere and are, perhaps, the best ambassadors our sport has seen in years. The value that United States fencing derived in terms of publicity and improved international relationships is inestimable.



Vincent Bradford U.S.A. vs. Hilary Cawthorne, Gr. Britain. Ocean Pictures Photo.

Qualifying to the 1986 National Junior Olympic Championships

by Carla-Mae Richards
Executive Director, U.S.F.A.

There have been a number of changes to the USFA Operations Manual regarding the qualification procedures for all National Championships. In this issue we will address the specific means by which one can qualify to the 1986 National Under-16 and Under-20 Championships. First of all, it is important to understand that only those who are Under-16 or Under-20 as of January 1st, 1986 can have the opportunity to qualify for the Under-16 or Under-20 events respectively. The other condition that must be met by all fencers meeting these age requirements is that they must be citizens of the United States or permanent residents. Permanent residents must have a green card from the Department of Immigration and will have to submit a copy of that green card with his/her entry form. It is recommended that Division qualifying events allow only those fencers who meet these basic criteria to participate in the qualifying event. If a fencer states that he/she will be issued a green card shortly, it is better to allow that fencer to participate in the qualifying event so that the fencer is not denied the opportunity to fence if, in fact, he/she will have received the green card prior to the Championships. This is particularly true for those divisions that need to schedule the qualifying rounds two months or more prior to the Championships. Divisions please be aware that, although a fencer is a junior member, that does not necessarily mean that the fencer meets the age requirements, since there are juniors with three year memberships who had an age change during that three year period. Divisions can request a total membership list any time during the year which will include birthdate for each member. If there is a doubt at the qualifying event then the division can request the fencer to show some ID in which the birthdate is reflected.

Divisions will submit the complete results of each qualifying event as the official report form. These result forms will be sent to each Division Secretary in October. If another person is responsible for the conduct of the qualifying event that person can request these forms from the National office. Results will not be accepted over the phone; they must be sent to the office. Entries cannot be accepted until the Division has filed its report.

How To Qualify

Now for the important aspect—the different ways in which a fencer can qualify to fence in the Under-20 or Under-16 National Championship events next February. The following paragraphs cover the specific rules by which one can qualify to these Championships. Following these criteria there is a list of those who, as of October 1st, have already met one of these criteria and are qualified to enter the Under-20 or Under-16 events. These criteria must be met for each event (weapon); qualification for one event (weapon) does not imply qualification for any other event.

A. Qualification Criteria: National Under-20 Championships:

1. Finished in the top eight (8) at the 1985 Under-19 National Championships; OR
2. Finished in the top twenty-four (24) at the 1985 National Under-20 Championships; OR
3. Placed in the top thirty-two (32) in any one North American circuit or World Cup competition since the 1985 National Under-20 Championships; OR
4. Finished in the top six (6) of certain competitions open to collegiate fencers only (including the 1985 NCAA Championships). These competitions will be designated by the USFA Executive Committee at the start of each season.
5. Placing in the Division's Under-20 qualifying event per the following rules. Each Division is entitled to a minimum of three (3) and a maximum of six (6) qualifiers who do not otherwise qualify by the above criteria. The actual number of qualifiers from a Division is based on the number of eligible fencers in the Division's Under-20 qualifying event in each weapon: less than 12 = 3 qualifiers, 12-20 = 4 qualifiers, 21-30 = 5 qualifiers, 31 or more = 6 qualifiers. The host Division will be allowed double the number of qualifiers it would normally be permitted.

"Eligible" fencers are those who are members of the Division and are eligible to fence in the National Under-20 Championships, even if they have already qualified through other means.

B. Qualification Criteria: National Under-16 Championships:

1. Finished in the top eight (8) at the 1985 Under-16 National Championships; OR
2. Finished in the top sixteen (16) at the 1985 National Under-19 Championships provided they still meet the age requirement; OR
3. Finished in the top twenty-four (24) at the 1985 National Under-20 Championships provided they still meet the age requirement; OR
4. Placed in the top thirty-two (32) in any one North American circuit or World Cup competition since the 1985 National Under-16 Championships; OR
5. Placing in the Division's Under-16 qualifying event per the following rules. Each Division is entitled to a minimum of three (3) and a maximum of six (6) qualifiers who do not otherwise qualify by the above criteria.

The actual number of qualifiers from a division is based on the number of eligible fencers in the Division.

Junior Olympic Championships

(Continued)

sion's Under-16 qualifying event in each weapon: less than 12 = 3 qualifiers, 12-20 = 4 qualifiers, 21-30 = 5 qualifiers, 31 or more = 6 qualifiers. The host Division will be allowed double the number of qualifiers it would normally be permitted.

"Eligible" fencers are those who are members of the Division and are eligible to fence in the National Under-16 Championships, even if they have qualified through other means.

Status of Alternates:

For these events the Division will designate a number of alternates equal to the number of qualifiers in the order in which they placed following the qualifiers. Any alternate who desires an opportunity to fence must submit an entry by the designated entry deadline. After the close of entries alternates from a division for a particular event will be accepted in order corresponding to the number of qualifiers who did not send in a timely entry. Those alternates who are not accepted will be so notified with a refund of their entry fees. Alternates will only be accepted in place of a qualifier who has not entered that event from the Division; alternates will not be accepted at the site of the tournament even if an entrant from that Division in the event has withdrawn.

Fencers Who Have Qualified For The Under-20 Championships

Men's Foil	Women's Foil	Men's Sabre	Men's Epee
M. Ellingson, GA	A. Barreda, N.E.	T. Byrne, JN	D. Blake, N.E.
T. Gagiulo, C.CA	T. Collins, L.I.	P. Clemens, N.OH	C. Block, N.C.A
S. Gillette, ILL	D. Dobesh, WISC	R. Cottingham, NJ	M. Caggiano, N.E.
D. Holeman, OR	E. Garfield, PHIL	P. Cox, N.E.	T. Griffie, IN
K. Hunter, N.OH	J Hall, N.E.	M. Cramer, C.CA	S. Griffiths, NJ
A. Kaliouby, N.E.	S.Harutunian, CT	N. Faroudja, C.CA	D. Horn, OR,CST
M. Kent, CT	J. Hynes, N.E.	R. Flynn, S.J.	K. Hunter, N.OH
I. Madrid, Mich.	M. Jones, N.OH	R. Kamper, IL	S. Kline, MN
W. Mindel, MET.	T.J. Lee, MET	J. McNulty, IL	J. Marsh, NJ
E. Mufel, MET.	T.L. Moy, MET	C. Owen, N.OH	J. Normile, N.OH
J. Normile, N.OH	D. Pratschler, NJ	C. Roehr, PHILA	C. O'Laughlin, S.CA
J. O'Neill, N.E.	G. Rossman, L.I.	R. Rossi, IN	J. O'Neill, N.E.
John Orvos, NJ	O. Sandler, MET	K. Small, N.CA	John Orvos, NJ
M. Phillips, MN	M. Sullivan, N.E.	D. Stollman, MI	Joseph Orvos, NJ
A. Quattrociochi	C. Weber, PHILA	J. Toomer, NJ	M. Phillips, MN
I. Schenck, NJ	J. Wichick, LI	D. Whang, WI	I. Schenck, NJ
B. Schicker, NJ	Jessica Yu, CT		S. Shinberg, NJ
J. Socolof, NJ			A. Smithline, S.CA
A. Weber, MET			J. Socolof, NJ
W. Wheeler, N.OH			W. Wheeler, N.OH
M. Yorukoglu, GA			
M. Yu, C.CA			

Fencers Who Have Qualified For The Under-16 Championships

Men's Foil	Women's Foil	Men's Sabre
B. Atkins, MET	A. Batson, VA	P. Kane, NJ
D. Bases, MET	S. Isenberg, N.E	J. Maggio, MET
N. Bravin, S.CA	M. Jones, N.OH	
R. Clark, C.FL	K. Kowalski, GU.CST	
S. Flores, C.CA	L. Posthumus, C.CA	
J. Maggio, MET	J. Posthumus, C.CA	
T. Mroczek, MN		
B. Ratliff, GO. CST		

Men's Epee

None from '85 U16

1985 KADAR OPEN

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9:00 A.M. MEN'S EPEE

Alan Ruben Trophy
 Alan Ruben Sportsmanship Cup

11:00 A.M. WOMEN'S EPEE

Ilona Kadar Memorial Trophy
 Ilona Kadar Memorial Sportsmanship Cup



1:00 P.M. MEN'S SABRE

Menyhert Kadar Trophy
 Zoltan Gombos Sportsmanship Cup

3:00 P.M. WOMEN'S SABRE

Frank Nagorney Trophy
 Herb James Sportsmanship Cup

\$10 per event: \$8 per event for students. Entries should be postmarked by DECEMBER 10th. Refunds will be given for cancellation (by mail or telephone) received by 9 P.M., December 12th. Check in at least 30 minutes prior to starting time. USFA cards requested at check-in. Students show proof of age (under 18) or student I.D. to qualify for lower entry fees.

1985 KADAR OPEN ENTRY FORM

NAME _____ CLUB OR SCHOOL _____

ADDRESS _____ TELEPHONE _____

DIVISION _____ USFA MEMBERSHIP # _____

Event(s) entered _____ Classification or Nat'l rank _____ Fee _____

Men's epee ____ Women's epee ____ Men's sabre ____ Women's sabre ____

RELEASE FORM MUST BE SIGNED AT CHECK IN. TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

Make checks payable to 1985 KADAR OPEN and mail with this form to: Anthony Ignagni, Salle Kadar, 7127 Brecksville Rd., Independence, Ohio 44131. For information call (216) 524-3421, 228-2479.

FENCER'S SIGNATURE _____

(Parent's Signature For Under 18).

1986 USFA JUNIOR OLYMPIC CHAMPIONSHIPS INFORMATION

- Date:** February 15-17, 1986
- Location:** Radisson St. Paul Hotel, 11 East Kellogg Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55101. (612) 292-1900
- Lodging:** Radisson St. Paul Hotel, 11 East Kellogg Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55101. (800) 228-9822. Rates: Single \$50/person, Double \$22.50/person, Triple \$18.50/person, Quad \$14/person; in addition there is a 9% tax. Call for reservations and mention you are with the Junior Olympics. There is transportation from the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport; it is a 15 minute ride. Other local housing information will be sent with confirmation materials.
- Schedule:**
- | | Saturday, Feb. 15 | Sunday, Feb. 16 | Monday, Feb. 17 |
|------------|-------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 8:00 a.m. | U-20 M Foil | 8:00 a.m. U-20 W Foil | 8:00 a.m. U-20 M Epee |
| 11:00 a.m. | U-16 M Epee | 11:00 a.m. U-16 M Foil | 11:00 a.m. U-16 W Foil |
| 1:00 p.m. | U-16 M Sabre | 1:00 p.m. U-20 M Sabre | 1 p.m. U-20 W Epee |
- Weapons Check:** Schedule of Weapons Check will be included in confirmation material. All masks will be tested with new punch criteria of 12 kg and requirement for an elastic band across the back of the mask. For Women's Epee only the French handle is permitted.
- Meetings:** Board of Directors, Friday, February 14 at 7:30 p.m.
- Eligibility:** The Junior Olympic National Championships are open to members of the United States Fencing Association who have qualified through their respective Divisions in accordance with the rules of the USFA or who have achieved qualification via other means. See Article in this issue of the magazine regarding ways in which one can qualify to the JOs. All fencers in the qualifying rounds must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents and members of the USFA. All permanent residents entering this competition must submit a copy of their Green Card with their entry.
- Age Requirements:** All fencers in the qualifying rounds must be Under-16 or Under-20 years of age, depending on the event, as of January 1, 1966. Persons turning 16 or 20 on Jan. 1, 1966 are ineligible. For U-20 Women's Epee, fencers must be 15 years of age or older at the time of the qualifying event.
- Certification:** Division Officers: immediately upon completion of the Divisional Qualifying Events, please submit the Complete Results (Qualifying Report - forms provided by the National Office) to: Anne Whiting, JOs, USFA, 1750 E. Boulder Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80909. These forms must be submitted no later than January 15, 1986. No entries will be accepted until these reports are received and the membership of all participants has been certified.
- Doping Control:** Competitors will be subject to doping control according to procedures established by the USOC and USFA. Any questions regarding medication can be directed to Dr. Marius Valsamis, Chairman of the USFA Medical Commission (718) 636-8989 or the USOC Drug Hotline (800) 233-0393. **Beware:** there are some over-the-counter medications that contain banned substances.
- To Enter:** Complete the Entry Form on the opposing page and send it with registration and entry fees to: Anne Whiting, JOs, USFA, 1750 East Boulder Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80909. Enclose a stamped, self-addressed business (long) envelope for confirmation materials.
- Fees:** Registration Fee - \$15 per person, **not refundable**; Entry Fees - \$10 per event. Make checks payable to the USFA.
- Deadlines:** **Deadline for entry is Jan. 28, 1986!** Entries must be received by the USFA Office no later than January 28th; entries arriving after that date will be returned and not processed. Withdrawals must be postmarked on or before February 1, 1986 to receive a refund. Only entry fees will be refunded; no registration fees will be refunded.

Competitors may enter all events for which they have qualified; however, in case of two or more events running concurrently, the fencer bears the burden of choosing one or the other or fencing bouts in each weapon in rapid order when called.

ENTRY FORM

1986 USFA JUNIOR OLYMPIC CHAMPIONSHIPS

Name: _____ Birthdate: _____
 Mailing Address: _____ Phone # _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Affiliation for this tournament _____ Division _____ Section _____
 Citizenship: US Citizen _____ Permanent Resident _____ (attach copy of Green Card or entry will be rejected)
 Weapon Classification: Foil _____ Epee _____ Sabre _____

1. Registration Fee: \$15 per person; **not refundable!** \$ _____
 2. Entry Fee: Entry Fees are \$10 per event you are entering. Indicate with check mark the events you are entering and your qualifying position in your Division and/or other qualifying status.

Event Check Event Entering	Div. Qualifying Position*	Other Qualifying Status +	
U-20 M Foil _____	_____	_____	\$ _____
U-20 W Foil _____	_____	_____	\$ _____
U-20 M Epee _____	_____	_____	\$ _____
U-20 W Epee _____	_____	_____	\$ _____
U-20 Sabre _____	_____	_____	\$ _____
U-16 M Foil _____	_____	_____	\$ _____
U-16 W Foil _____	_____	_____	\$ _____
U-16 M Epee _____	_____	_____	\$ _____
U-16 Sabre _____	_____	_____	\$ _____

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____
 (Payable to USFA)

*Indicate if alternate. +e.g. Circuit results, 1985 U-19 or U-20 or Senior Nationals.

Please do not send cash! Mail to Anne Whiting, JO's, USFA, 1750 East Boulder Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80909. Include a self-addressed and stamped business (long) envelope with your entry for confirmation materials.

DEADLINE FOR ENTRY IS JANUARY 28, 1986

Entries **must be received by the USFA Office no later than January 28th**. Entries arriving after January 28th will be returned and not processed.

Waiver of Liability: Upon entering these events under the auspices of the USFA, I agree to abide by the rules of the USFA, as currently published. I am a U.S. Citizen and/or a permanent Resident. I enter these competitions at my own risk and release the USFA and/or their sponsors and officials from any liability. The undersigned certifies that the individual for which this entry is submitted is duly qualified to enter the 1986 Junior Olympic Championships, that the individual's birthdate is as stated above and the individual is a current member of the USFA for the 1985-86 season.

Parent/Guardian Signature (Under 18) _____

Fencer's Signature _____

DRUG USE AND DOPING CONTROL

I understand that drug-testing may be conducted on a **formal** basis for athletes who are registered for this competition and that the detection of use of banned drugs would make me subject to suspension by the United States Fencing Association and the USOC for at least six months. By registering for this competition, I am consenting to be subject to a drug test if selected and its penalties if declared positive for a banned substance. If selected, I am aware that failure to comply with the drug test will be cause for the same penalties as for those who are positive for a banned substance. I know that I may call Dr. Marius Valsamis, Chairman of the USFA Medical Commission (718/636-8989) or the USOC Drug Hotline (800/233-0393) for any questions about medications and banned substances or practices.

Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

(Athletes of minority age): I have explained to my son/daughter the aforementioned stipulated conditions and their ramifications and I further consent to his/her registration for this USFA competition under the above-stipulated conditions.

Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Parent/Guardian

Changing the name of our hotel cost next to nothing.

Making our hotel worthy of the name cost \$20 million.

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The New York Penta is the official hotel of the World University Games Fencing team.

Fencing Women's Epee in France

*The Challenge Jean Clouet
by Anne Klinger & Marlene Adrian*

The sports centre Pompidou in Vincennes, France, was the site of the fourth annual Jean Clouet Women's International Epee Tournament. The event was held on March 17, in conjunction with the men's epee. Fifty women from twelve nations, including two from the United States, participated in this event.

All the women were required to use the French grip, even in practice. This put the women at a great disadvantage when practicing with the men, who used whatever grip they chose.

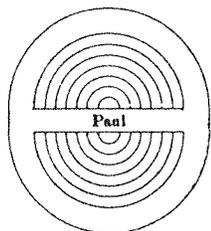
The fencing itself was excellent. Most interesting to us from the United States, however, was the atmosphere surrounding the event. Unlike some of the U.S. women's epee events, this one received equal billing with the men. The women epeeists were respected and taken very seriously. The finals of the men's event were not held until the women were also ready for their finals, then both finals were held concomitantly on adjacent raised strips so that spectators could view both finals. All finalists for each event were introduced separately (unlike our experience in

San Antonio where the women's tournament was delayed half an hour to watch the men's final bout, and then we were told there was "no time" to introduce the women finalists). At the end of the finals, all the winners mounted the podium and were introduced by place i.e., women's first, men's first, and so on.

It was evident to us that women's epee has arrived in France, and in other countries in Europe. Women are being trained in epee by European coaches with an eye to the world championships.

Results, Jean Clouet Women's Epee:

1. Blum-Helbling (Switzerland)
2. Bouzou (France)
3. Benon (France)
4. Rastoul (ASPTT)
5. Minner Bagry (Great Britain)
6. Pfaw-Fendant (France)
7. Appert (VGA)
8. Srecki (Garde Republicaine)
9. Hugenschmitt (Pentathlon)
10. Adrian (U.S.A.)



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WITH SOME OF THE FUNDS MADE AVAILABLE TO FENCING FROM THE SUCCESSFUL LOS ANGELES OLYMPICS, THE U.S.F.A. DECIDED TO PURCHASE SCORING EQUIPMENT FOR VARIOUS DIVISIONS TO USE IN CIRCUIT EVENTS.

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Expansion of the National Championships

—A Look at the New System

by George Masin
Vice-President, U.S.F.A.

In the 1970's the National Championships were expanded by the creation of the Junior Olympic Championships. In the 1960's the Nationals were expanded by the creation of the Under-19 Championships. But the non-age group Championships have remained pretty much the same since the abolition of the outdoor championships in the 1940's.

That all changed at the National Board of Directors meeting in June when the Board passed a proposal to try out an expansion of the National Championships at the 1986 Nationals in New York. The USFA has always had success with competitions only open to fencers ranked below a certain classification. (Last season the individual competition in the Metropolitan Division that had the largest entry was a Foil C which had a larger entry than any of the Opens.) The Board voted to try a format that has been used successfully by many other sports: the establishment of Division I and Division II National Championships.

The Division I Championships are open to all fencers, regardless of age or classification, but are oriented toward the elite junior and senior fencers. Qualification is from the Sectional or National level. The Division II Championships are open only to those fencers who are classified "C" or lower when they qualify and so are oriented toward the recreational and developing fencers. Qualification is primarily from the Divisional and Sectional level. A fencer who qualifies for the Division II's can also qualify for the Division I's—there are no restrictions on who can qualify for the Division I's.

Benefits of the New System

1. The total number of entries to the Nationals should increase, allowing more fencers to participate. At the same time the size of each of the individual events should decrease, making them easier to run.
2. The number of entries to the Under-19 events should increase, since all of the Under-19 competitors also automatically qualify for the Division II events and the Under-19 Sectional Champions also qualify for the Division I events. This should make it easier for them to justify making the trip.
3. Developing fencers will get to fence many more bouts. They will also have a greater sense of accomplishment in being able to say that they are a National Finalist (Division II) rather than that they were eliminated in the first or second round.
4. The Division II's will provide a more gradual stepping stone from the junior to the senior National Championships, enabling fencers graduating from the junior ranks to better gauge their progress.
5. The number of entries to the team events should increase since Division II fencers will be available to fence on teams.
6. The increase in the number of entries will result in an in-

crease in revenues to the host division. This will make the hosting of the National Championships more attractive to the divisions.

7. It will revitalize the Sections.

8. Under the new system, former national champions and members of the previous Olympic and Pan American Teams are no longer automatic qualifiers. All qualification is based on a result within one year of the Nationals.

9. Each division will still be able to send at least three fencers to the Nationals in addition to its juniors.

10. It will enable the Association to test the popularity of expanding the National Championships by providing the same restricted competitions which have proved popular at the divisional level. If they prove popular, the Nationals could be further expanded to have five National Championships, one for each classification.

Impact of Changes

What impact will these changes have on the divisions and sections? The divisions must still hold a qualifying event for the National Championships—only now these qualifying events are open just to fencers classified "C" or lower and will qualify fencers to the Division II's. The Sectional Championships have become more important. Previously, only the Sectional champion qualified to the Nationals. If that person had already qualified by other means, the qualifying spot did not go to the next person, it was lost. Now at least six fencers in addition to the fencers who have qualified through all other qualification paths will qualify from the Sectional Championships to the Division I's. At least four fencers in addition to the fencers who have qualified through all other qualification paths will qualify to the Division II's.

What impact will these changes have on the fencers? A fencer who is seriously interested in fencing in the Division I's should plan to compete in the Sectional Championships and at least one North American Circuit event. Since all fencers have at least six competitions from which they can qualify for the Division I's (the previous Nationals, four Circuit events, and the Sectionals), qualification by petition has been eliminated. Fencers who have not qualified from the previous year's Nationals should therefore try to qualify via the Circuit events and leave the Sectional Championships as a last resort.

I would be interested in hearing the comments of fencers throughout the nation about the new system. These comments can be sent directly to me (77 West 55th Street, Apt. 5J, New York, N.Y. 10019) or to the editor of "American Fencing." The publication of a discussion of the new system in "American Fencing" will be in the best interest of the fencers and the Association and may help clear up some of the misconceptions which have arisen about the new system.

From The Secretary

by Fred Rhodes

Welcome to the 1985-86 season. This may well be the most eventful and event-full years in recent USFA history—starting with the new format of **American Fencing**. The North American Circuit begins about the time you receive this issue and I hope that as many of you as possible participate.

It seems to have been forgotten somewhere that one of the original purposes for the Circuit was to bring the best fencing to regions other than those which are “strongholds” of the sport. Yet, entries to the meets have fallen during the past two years. This is, I think, attributable to a reluctance on the part of developing fencers to part with \$25 for the right to fence 4 or 5 bouts.

The problem is that attendance has fallen off as well. It doesn't cost anything to come and watch a Circuit event and there are lessons for the asking—if you just sit and watch. See how the top fencers move on the strip, what tactics they utilize, how a good technique for one is an anathema to another. The same holds true for officials. Just because you don't have a rating to direct at a Circuit doesn't mean that you can't build your skills. Watch the action and compare your call to the assigned director. Are you seeing the same things? If not, talk with the director after the pool and ask why he or she made a certain decision.

Use the Circuit for more than just trying to get points. Use it to build your skills by learning from others. It has been my experience that fencers as a group are more than happy to share—you only have to ask.

I would like to announce to our junior fencers that thanks to a generous donation of equipment by the France-Lames Co., each member of this year's Junior World Championships team will receive 4 HOSTIN PLUS “Gold” blades for use at that tournament. This is just one of many pieces of equipment being put together by the Financial Resources Committee for U.S. teams, but it is part of an agreement which guarantees blades for our juniors for the next four years. Thank you, France-Lame.

I am in the process of compiling a National Calendar, that is, a listing of every event in every Division. I haven't received schedules from many Divisions but what I have so far looks pretty good. If you would like a copy, please send a self-addressed stamped

business-size envelope to USFA Schedule, 1750 E. Boulder St., Colorado Springs, CO 80909. International schedules are also available.

And now . . . it's solicitation time!

I need lots of help from the teeming millions out there. Please be on the lookout for the following:

1. Examples of fencing used in advertising.
2. Fund-raising ideas for fencing clubs and Divisions.
3. Interesting competition ideas, e.g., a meet where you must fence with the opposite hand (thanks and a tip of the hat to the Central Cal Div.)
4. Offers of corporate-rate discounts (for rental cars, hotels etc.)
5. Good ideas for me to steal and take credit for.

If you see or hear of any of the above, please send them to me at 458 W. Briar Pl., Chicago, IL 60657.

I would like to get some news about club activities in the USFA. Please send me your club newsletter, or just write up a little note about when and where you meet and any interesting activities. Thanks for reading.

Board HiLights

Total membership in the USFA at the end of July, 1985, was 7,468, including 76 club memberships. This represents an increase of 631 members over the total for 1984.

Additional changes were made in the new rules for qualifying to our national championships. The top finishers of certain competitions open to collegiate fencers only are additionally qualified for Division I and Division II. Changes were also made for qualifying to the National Under-16 and Under-20 Championships. (See article on page 16).

A new section, the Pacific Northwest, was approved. It contains the Oregon, Western Washington, Inland Empire, and Alaskan Divisions. The Pacific Coast Section now comprises the Northern California, Central California, Southern California, Orange Coast, San Diego, Hawaii, and Nevada Divisions.

The International Selection Committee is reviewing a new set of standards and point tables for selection of members of international teams.

Two accidents, one serious, occurred at the World Championships in Barcelona. As a result, the FIE has advanced the effective date to 1 January, 1986 for the requirement of the new steel MARAGING blade and for a resistance of 80 kilos for clothing and mask. This is for all international Category A and World Championship events. We hope to have our experts, Joe Brynes and Dan DeChaine, tell us what this all means.

Bulletin Board

Kadar Open

The 6th Kadar Open will be held on Saturday, December 14, 1985 at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio.

Schedule of Events:

Men's Epee	9:00 a.m.	Women's Epee	11:00 a.m.
Men's Sabre	1:00 p.m.	Women's Sabre	3:00 p.m.

Entry fees are \$10 per senior fencer and \$8 per collegiate/junior fencer. For entries (see ad in this issue) and information, contact Anthony Ignagni, Salle Kadar, 7127 Brecksville Rd., Independence, Ohio 44131. T.: (216) 524-3421 or 228-2479. Hotel arrangements are with the Lakeside Howard Johnson's at the E. 55th Street of I-90, T.: (216) 432-2220.

Beguinet Moves To Duke

Alex Beguinet, who started his American career in Portland, Oregon in 1977, has been named Duke's new head fencing coach for men and women. He will also work with the USFA to develop junior fencers in North Carolina.

Alex received his Master of Arms degree from the NIS in Paris in 1976. Prior to arriving at Duke, he coached at Lewis & Clark College and was director of Salle Boessiere in Portland. He has appeared as lecturer and instructor at many U.S. Olympic training sessions and national coaches seminars and clinics.

Third Olympic Training Center at Northern Michigan University

The USOC's newest training center is located on the NMU's campus in Marquette, Michigan. A contract to govern its operation was announced by the USOC Sec. Gen. George Miller and NMU's President James Appleberry. Their joint statement declared that "This Center will coordinate with the Colorado Springs and Lake Placid Centers and will offer athletes, coaches, and the Olympic movement in this country the very best we can in training, research, sports medicine, and the opportunity for educational advancement."

Women's Epee in Pan-Ams

With four events in the North American Circuit, women's epee is a rapidly developing new sport. It has now been accepted in the Pan American Games, in our Under 20 National Championships, as well as in many European countries.

To help build a strong U.S. international contingent, the USFA Women's Epee Committee is establishing a "Bed and Breakfast Program" at each circuit event to help the athletes defray the costs of travel. The program will be available first to our top five athletes, then to foreign entries, then to remaining epeeists in order of national standings.

To participate in this worthwhile and rewarding program, write or phone Vincent Bradford, 4600 Jinx, Austin, Texas 78745. (512) 445-2234. She needs to know not only your name, address, and phone number, but which circuit event you are close to, how many athletes you can house, and whether you would be able to provide transportation for the event and to and from the airport.

Nov. 17	San Francisco, California
Dec. 13	Cleveland, Ohio
Jan. 12	Colorado Springs, Colorado
Apr. 13	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Be an angel and support a woman epeeist!

Women's Sabre Series

Four events with special awards are planned to encourage women to fence sabre during the 1985-86 season. A tentative schedule is:

- Fall Atlanta Open Women's Sabre, October 19/20, 1985
- Winter Chicago Open Women's Sabre, Feb. or March, '86
- Western Women's Classic Sabre, April or May, San Francisco
- Sophie Trett May Classic
- Metro Women's Open Sabre at USFA Nationals, June '86

For further information, contact Eugenia Wollenziehn, 14825 W. Small Rd., New Berlin, WI. Phone: (414) 422-0927.

We Salute:

Aaron Bell:

Fencing was honored to have Aaron Bell, 69, of Marblehead, Mass. win a Giving It 100 Percent Award, presented at the closing ceremonies of the Bay State Games by the NutraSweet Group. He competed in foil, epee, and sabre, and won the Men's Masters category. Bell is a former New England champion, a karate expert, and ran in the 1982 New York Marathon.

Stephen Sobel:

A recent Pan American Sports meeting, Steve was designated the U.S. Olympic Committee's representative to the Indianapolis 1987 Pan American Games.

Michael Marx:

At the World University Games in Kobe, Japan, Mike met the top foilists and captured the silver medal. He defeated Omnes, 10-7, and Groc, 10-6, before succumbing, 7-10, to Robak in the final bout for first place.

Cleveland North Coast Challenge

Four Circuit events will be held from December 13 to 15 at the Millcreek Raquet Club, 18909 S. Miles Rd., Warrensville Heights, Ohio 44128.

Men's Epee	Friday, December 13 (finals on Sat.)
Women's Epee	Friday, Dec. 13 (finals on Sat.)
Men's Foil	Sat., Dec. 14 (finals on Sun.)
Women's Foil	Sat., Dec. 14 (finals on Sun.)

Lodging can be arranged at the Somerset Inn, 3550 Northfield Rd., Shaker Heights, Ohio 44122. Telephone: 1-800-323-3564.

Entry fee is \$25., Jrs. \$15. plus \$5 for registration. Contact: William Reith. Alcazar Fencing Club at Mill Creek Raquet Club. Obtain entry forms from our national office.

Westside FC in Beethoven Spectacular

At the Hollywood Bowl on August 30 and 31 a featured part of the Beethoven Spectacular was a new staged battle sequence of "Wellington's Victory" (Op. 91). While the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra played under the direction of Claus Peter Flor, the traditional finale featured a battle sequence with trained and costumed swordsmen drawn from fencing clubs throughout Southern California. Ted Katzoff, master-at-arms of Sallie Gascon, helped design the sequence and trained the fencers in the use of "real" calvary swords. To add further validity to the proceedings, costumed townspeople watched from the sidelines and the excitement of battle was highlighted by fireworks overhead.

Results

World University Games

Aug. 24-Sept. 4, Kobe, Japan

Men's Foil (52)

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. A. Robak, POL | 6. M. Numa, ITA |
| 2. M. Marx, USA | 7. F. Omnes, FRA |
| 3. A. Ibragimov, URS | 8. A. Cipressa, ITA |
| 4. P. Groc, FRA | 23. P. Lewison, USA |
| 5. L. Bandach, POL | 30. E. Kaihatsu, USA |

Men's Sabre (38)

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. S. Minisgraso, URS | 7. G. Pogosov, URS |
| 2. L. Csongradi, HUN | 8. J.P. Banos, CAN |
| 3. V. Etropolski, BUL | 18. M. Lofton, USA |
| 4. P. Guichot, FRA | 19. G. Gonzalez-R., USA |
| 5. S. Dalla Barba, ITA | 28. B. Keane, USA |
| 6. M. Marin, ITA | |

Men's Epee (50)

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1. A. Mojaev, URS | 7. S. Saitoc, ROM |
| 2. R. Manzi, ITA | 8. Z. Ma, CHN |
| 3. P. Merencio, CUB | 16. R. Stull, USA |
| 4. S. Cuomo, ITA | 31. S. Trevor, USA |
| 5. W. Loyola T, CUB | 34. C. Michaels, USA |
| 6. I. Lee, KOR | |

Women's Foil (41)

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. J. Luan, CHN | 6. C. Bilodeaux, USA |
| 2. O. Voshakina, URS | 7. L. Mondaine, FRA |
| 3. M. Soboleva, URS | 8. G. Stefanek, HUN |
| 4. A. Gandolfi, ITA | 9. S. Monplaisir, USA |
| 5. Z. Janosi, HUN | 30. J. Angelakis, USA |

Men's F Team (14)

- | | |
|------------|---------------|
| 1. Hungary | 5. USSR |
| 2. France | 6. Japan |
| 3. Italy | 7. W. Germany |
| 4. Cuba | 8. U.S.A. |

Sabre Team (11)

- | | |
|-------------|------------|
| 1. USSR | 5. Hungary |
| 2. Bulgaria | 6. France |
| 3. Italy | 7. U.S.A. |
| 4. Cuba | 8. Canada |

Epee Team (13)

- | | |
|-----------|------------|
| 1. USSR | 5. Romania |
| 2. Cuba | 6. U.S.A. |
| 3. Italy | 7. Poland |
| 4. France | 8. Korea |

Women's F. Team

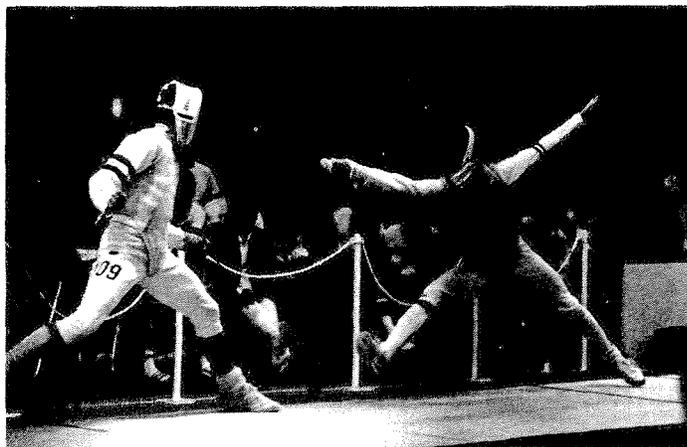
- | | |
|---------------|------------|
| 1. Italy | 5. Romania |
| 2. USSR | 6. Poland |
| 3. W. Germany | 7. China |
| 4. Hungary | 8. U.S.A. |

National Sports Festival

July 22-Aug. 4, 1985 Baton Rouge, LA

Epee

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Robert Stull | 5. Charles Schneider |
| 2. Lee Shelley | 6. Tristram Thompson |
| 3. Robert Marx | 7. Chris O'Loughlin |
| 4. Charles Michaels | 8. George Masin |



Michael Marx, U.S.A. (right), scoring against P. Groc, France, at the World University Games, Kobe, Japan. Marx went on to win the silver medal. Photo by John Friedberg.

Women's Foil

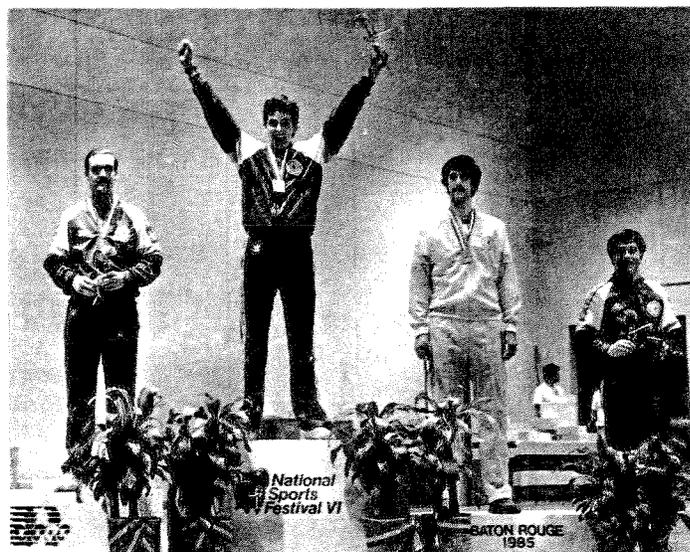
- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Margo Miller | 5. Sharon Monplaisir |
| 2. Michelle Verhave | 6. Jana Angelakis |
| 3. Lisa Piazza | 7. Molly Sullivan |
| 4. Mary Jane O'Neill | 8. Jessica Yu |

Sabre

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Peter Westbrook | 5. Phil Reilly |
| 2. Steve Mormando | 6. Geo Gonzales—R. |
| 3. Donald Anthony | 7. John Friedberg |
| 4. Paul Friedberg | 8. Robert Cottingham |

Men's Foil

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Ed Kaihatsu | 5. Wilbur Wheeler |
| 2. Pat Gerard | 6. Peter Lewison |
| 3. Michael Marx | 7. Marc Kent |
| 4. Phillip Mathis | 8. George Nonomura |



(L to R) Lee Shelley, Rob Stull, Bob Marx and Chuck Michaels at the National Sports Festival in Baton Rouge. Photo by Hal Wells.

Results *(Continued)*

Mexico 5 Armas

June 20-23, Mexico City

Men's Foil

1. G. Olivares (Ven)
2. V. Robles (Mex)
9. P. Marcus (USA)

Men's Epee

1. A. Ordaz (Mex)
2. J. Torres (Mex)

Sabre

1. A. Ovale (Ven)
2. M. Benitez (Mex)
7. C. Trammel (USA)

Women's Foil

1. Christine Hamori (USA)
2. L. Lozano (Mex)
3. F. Lopez (Mex)
4. P. Roldan (Mex)

Women's Epee

1. Margo Szabunia (USA)
2. J. Martinez (Mex)

Men's U20 Foil

1. D. Demars, Mont. FC
2. B. Marks, Mont. FC
3. J. Moore, Corsairs

Women's U20 Foil

1. M. Perry, Jacksv.FC
2. J. Statham, BamaFC
3. L. Guest, BamaFC

Bay State Games

July 13 & 14, 1985, Boston

Fencing was presented for the first time in the Massachusetts Bay State Games, which have been an annual event for three years and involve over 14,000 athletes competing during the spring and early summer months with the finals held in July.

Eight fencing events were held: men's and women's foil and men's epee and sabre in two age divisions. The open included just-graduated high school students and above; the scholastic division included high school juniors and below. Four events were held each day.

Men's Foil

1. A. Kaliouby, Metro
2. G. Kaliouby, Metro
3. M. O'Donnell, Metro

Women's Foil

1. C. McClellan, NE
2. M.J. O'Neill, NE
3. J. Hynes, NE

Boys' Scholastic Foil

1. D. Blake, NE
2. C. Donaldson, Metro
3. S. McWalter, NE

Girls' Scholastic Foil

1. A. Barreda, NE
2. S. Isenberg, NE
3. V. Wu, NE

Men's Sabre

1. A. Prochniak, West
2. J. Vozella, NE
3. S. Hengen, West

Men's Epee

1. A. Williams, Metro
2. J. Amoroso, Metro
3. A. Lesser, Metro

Boys' Scholastic Sabre

1. E. Meserve, NE
2. A. Ihara, NE
3. D. Howe, NE

Boys' Scholastic Epee

1. D. Blake, NE
2. M. O'Brien, NE
3. A. Blake, NE

Alabama Sports Festival

June 22, 23, Birmingham, Ala.

Men's Foil

1. M. Sullivan, Bir. FC
2. J.R. Jordan, M.A.R.S.
3. K. Deal, Mont. Col. FC

Men's Epee

1. J. Jordan
2. M. Sullivan
3. F. Romeo, BamaFC

Women's Foil

1. B. Dudley, Mont. FC
2. T. Walker, Corsairs
3. R. Kellenb., MobileF

Women's Epee

1. T. Walker
2. M. Perry, Jacksv.FC
3. R. Kellenberger

Men's Sabre

1. R. Griffith, Mont. FC
2. J. Dabbs, M.A.R.S.
3. K. Deal

Women's Sabre

1. T. Walker
2. R. Kellenberger

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