



United States Fencing Association, 1986-88

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On The Cover

Technical Talks-Electrical Saber Equipment Status

Olympic Saber Team trains as a unit at The Fencers Club of New York. Kneeling are Paul Friedberg (left), and Peter Westbrook. Standing, from left to right, are Michael Lofton, Steve Mormando and Robert Cottingham.

photo by Albert Axelrod



Jun/Jul/Aug 1988



Olympic Coverage

It can only be hoped that NBC will modify their stand on coverage of fencing in Seoul. There is no way of finding out how many members took the trouble to write to the responsible NBC corporate officers. I did receive copies of letters written by three members (only?), specifically, by Theodore Katzoff, Director of the Westside Fencing Academy, Paul

Spletzer, an Attorney-at-Law from Pound Ridge, New York, and Arthur De Santis, a USFA member of many years. The letters were eloquent and presented strong cases for coverage of fencing—the question is, however, how many members took the time to write a letter?

Adequacy and Safety

The Nationals of 1988 was the largest gathering of competitors yet, and all indications are that our national and circuit events will continue to grow. The obligation of organizing committees is to ensure that the health and comfort of competitors and officials is not jeopardized by facilities which are inadequate for these highly aerobic activities. In Chicago, an airconditioned gymnasium turned out to be a "cavernous" gymnasium with blowers which exhausted hot air and drew in replacement air from the 100° outside. Nor was there adequate space between strips for the safety of Presidents of Jury, directors and scorekeepers.

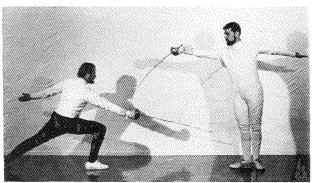
Nationals are held in June, and unusually hot weather may become the rule. The Pheonix organizing committee recognized a problem and provided excellent facilities. It is essential that proper environment be de rigeur for all future events scheduled at times and in places where weather can be an important factor.

The Chicago organizing committee did move to appoint a PR person to assure that the Nationals would have daily publicity. An additional assignment was made to prepare an article on the Nationals, with photographs, for American Fencing. I don't know how well the daily publicity job was done, however, as soon as the Nationals were over and the limelight disappeared, the second part of the assignment was forgotten, leaving American Fencing (and with it, the general membership) completely in the dark.

We are all volunteers, I know. Nevertheless, people who are selected for an assignment should have the commitment to see it through to the end. That there is an article and photographs in this issue is fortuitous, and were obtained by the editor, well after the magazine's deadline, from David Pitt, a fencer and sportswriter who works for the New York Times.

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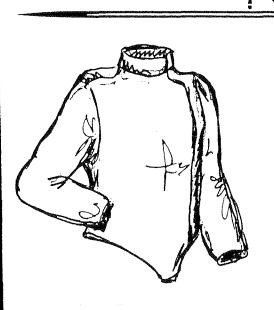
West German Olympic Fencers Coming-

The Fayette Fencing Academy, of Fayetteville, Georgia, will be sponsoring a Women's Open and Men's Open Foil tournament which promises to be an exciting event. Zita Funkenhauser and Matthias Behr have firmly committed to participate in this event. Arrangements are going well, and

Turner Broadcasting has agreed to produce a short feature film of the event, and work is in progress to have nationwide coverage for the tournament.

The dates are March 4th and 5th, 1989. Further details will be provided in the next issue of American Fencing.

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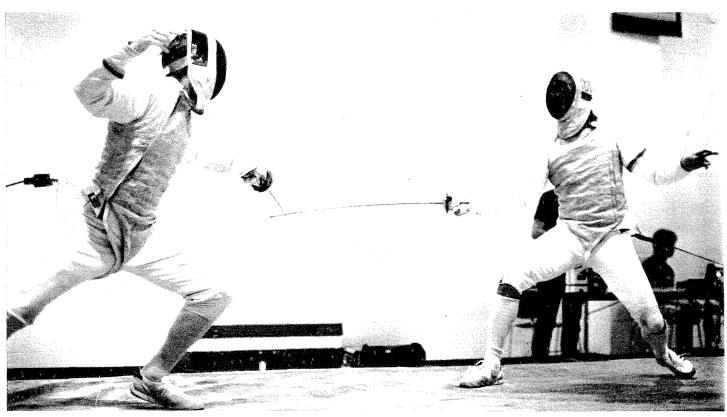
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David Littel, left, takes Michael Marx's blade

photo by David E. Pitt

The National Fencing Championships ended in Chicago after a grueling 10-day run marked by some startling upsets.

Fifteen men and five women, nearly half of them from New York and New Jersey, won places on the United States Olympic Team. Of the 25 United States Fencing Association titles at stake, four involved Olympic berths: men's foil, épée and saber, and women's foil.

The 1500 foil, épée and saber contestants, clad in heavily padded masks and multi-layered uniforms, had to cope with more than just the pressure of an Olympic trial. With the middle west gripped by heat, temperatures at the site, a cavernous, non-air-conditioned gymnasium at Northeastern Illinois University, frequently exceeded 100 degrees. About a dozen athletes were treated for heat exhaustion, and two officials were briefly hospitalized.

In épée, a 20-year-old New York Athletic fencer from Berea, Ohio, seventh-ranked Jon Normile, upset top-ranked Steve Trevor, a fellow Ohioan from Shaker Heights. Trevor, who had waltzed through the finals without anyone landing more than four touches against him in the ten-touch bouts, bowed to Normile 10-6. However, Normile's first-place finish did not give him enough points to make the team and he was named alternate.

Richard Vidor of Los Angeles and Italy, ranked 36th in the country in épée before the nationals, took third place, defeating 18th-ranked Geoffrey Russell, 20, a former foil fencer who represents Salle Gascon in Los Angeles. The score was 10-4.

Although Trevor secured the No. 1 berth on the team that will compete in Seoul, South Korea, in the fall, none of the other four top-ranked épéeists in the country managed to reach the eight-man final. All, however, had amassed enough circuit event points earlier in the year to preserve spots on the team. They are Robert Stull, 27, of Austin, Texas, who fences for the United States Modern Pentathlon Club; Robert Marx, of Salle Auriol in Portland, Oregon; Charles (Lee) Shelley, 31, of Hackensack, New Jersey, representing Salle Santelli New Jersey, and John Moreau, 37, of Austin, Texas, who fences for the United States Modern Pentathlon and Salle Cinco.

In women's foil, 22-year-old Caitlin Bilodeaux of Concord, Massachusetts, the defending national champion for the last two years, was toppled, 8-5, in the second direct-elimination final by second-ranked Sharon Monplaisir of New York City. Monplaisir, 27, went on to win the championship by defeating No. 4 ranked Molly Sullivan, 21, of North Andover, Massachusetts., 8-5.

In direct elimination, a ladder format used in eight fencer finals, defeat means automatic exit.

Bilodeaux's fifth-place showing had no effect on her Olympic team prospects; she was named to the No. 1 berth based on her victories in three of the four national circuit events.

Monplaisir, a fellow member of the New York Fencers Club, won the second position on the team, followed by O'Neill, Cheris and Sullivan. In men's foil, the 29-year-old defending champion, Michael Marx, representing the Salle Auriol of Portland, saw his hopes for a seventh national foil title tumble, 10-7, against a long time adversary, 31-year-old Gregory Massialas of San Francisco.

David Littell, 34, of Salle Csizar in Philadelphia, took third, defeating Marc J. Walch of Salle Okawa in Los Angeles, 10-6, a newly naturalized American from France.

The Olympic foil team will consist of Marx; No. 2 ranked Peter Lewison, 26, of Brooklyn and the New York Fencers Club; Littell; Massialas, and George Nonomura, 29, of Haberstadt Fencers of San Francisco.

The only event in which results went largely according to expectations was in men's saber, where Peter Westbrook, 35, of New York City, won his 11th national title, defeating Paul Friedberg, 28, of the New York Athletic Club, 10 to 8.

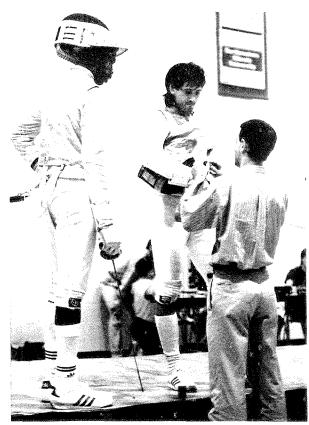
Michael Lofton, 24, of Hempstead, Long Island, took the bronze medal, over 21-year-old Robert Cottingham of Orange, New Jersey.

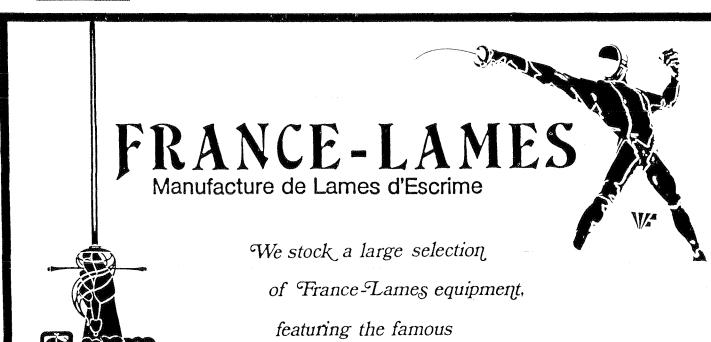
All four—three of them from the Fencers Club—were named to the Olympic team, along with a fourth Fencers Club member, 6th-place winner and No. 2 nationally ranked Steve Mormando, 32, of Jersey City.



To the right Director Brouquier checks Marx's weapon as Peter Lewison watches photo by David E. Pitt

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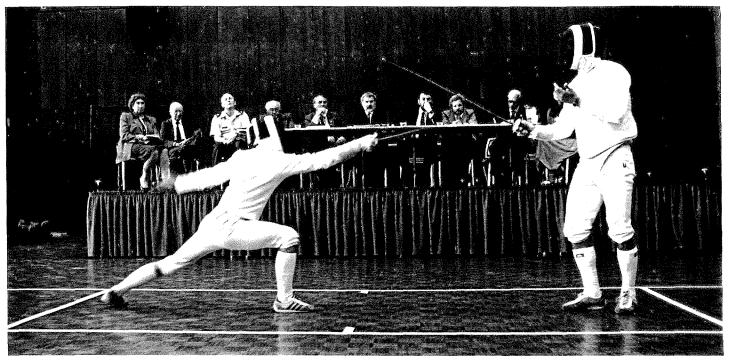
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Evaluation of the rending masters Program Examinations

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



Instructor candidate Mandoza giving test lesson to cadet Vlaches

photo courtesy of SJSU

Maestri Niccolò Perno and Enzo Musumeci Greco, two of the most distinguished European fencing masters engaged in accreditation, were invited on an official visit to the San José State University campus to evaluate the Military Fencing Masters Program. They came as representatives of the Italian Fencing Masters Association, and the Italian Federation of Fencing, two organizations that have been supportive of this program since its inception.

Maestro Perno is a graduate (1933) of the celebrated Italian Military Fencing Masters School in Rome, and ten times professional saber and épée champion of Italy. He was National Fencing Coach for the modern pentathlon team over many years, as well as National Coach for the German Reich, and later, for Western Germany, and more recently, Nationalist China. He is currently the President of the International Academy of Arms (the world organization of fencing master associations), President of the Italian Fencing Masters Association, and a member of the Examining Board of the National Academy of Naples (the national licensing body for Italian fencing masters).

Maestro Musumeci Greco was National Fencing Coach for the Italian team since 1960. Since 1981, he has been a member of the Examining Board of the National Academy of Fencing at Naples.

During their visit, Maestri Perno and Greco interviewed faculty, examined instructional materials, gave demonstrations in fencing pedagogy, worked with diploma candidates, and sat on the commission of masters, as voting members, during the oral and practical examinations of April 30, 1988.

The Italian masters indicated that they were impressed with the candidates' knowledge of fencing theory, the degree of discipline evident in the coordinated group lessons, and the precision of the actions in both the collective and individual lessons.

When their work was completed, Maestri Perno and Greco wrote a formal evaluation in which they concluded that the SJSU teacher-certification program was comparable to the best programs presently found in Europe, and that the diplomas awarded by the Department of Military Science were worthy of international recognition.

The positive evaluation of the program is the result of nine years of work; and it is the realization of a dream that began at the last century. Maître Louis Rondelle, recommended, on page 198 of his text, Foil and Sabre: A Grammar of Fencing, published in Boston in 1892, that we establish in America "a normal school, where every man would be obliged to stand a rigid examination before he was permitted to teach." Maestro Aldo Nadi, some fifty years later, in his book, On Fencing, wrote:

"What confounds the qualified teacher is that anyone, here, can proclaim himself a Fencing Master overnight, and get away with it.... Well aware of the problem...two of our champions (prominent members of the Board of Governors of the Fencers League) tried to remedy the situation. Both being professors at a New York university, they suggested...that a course to produce fencing instructors be initiated. But the plan did not go through...and no one can do anything about it unless some other university, or national institution, undertakes the task."

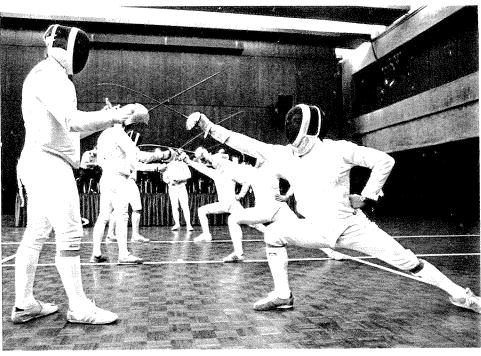
In 1979, more than thirty years after publication of his book, and fourteen years after his death, the Military Fencing Masters Program was founded at San José State University. The program has three levels of certification:

Military Instructor at Arms, Military Provost at Arms, and Military Master of Arms. These require, respectively, one, two, and three years of study. The provost's diploma is a prerequisite for entry into the masters program; and a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university must be completed before the master's examination can be taken. Candidates for the instructor's diploma are examined in one weapon, while candidates for the provost's and master's diploma are tested in all three arms.

Written, oral, and practical examinations in fencing theory and practice are required for each of the certificates. In the case of the master's diploma, candidates must also complete a thesis. The examinations cover all aspects of fencing theory and practice, as well as familiarity with F.I.E. regulations and fencing safety. The method of instruction follows exactly the pedagogical approach that is employed in the Italian Military Masters School. Students are also exposed to the methods of other

schools, for example Maître Daniel Revenu, National Director for the French Federation of Fencing and Maestro Ferenc Marki, Hungarian trained fencing master, gave demonstrations of the systems of instruction they use for collective lessons.

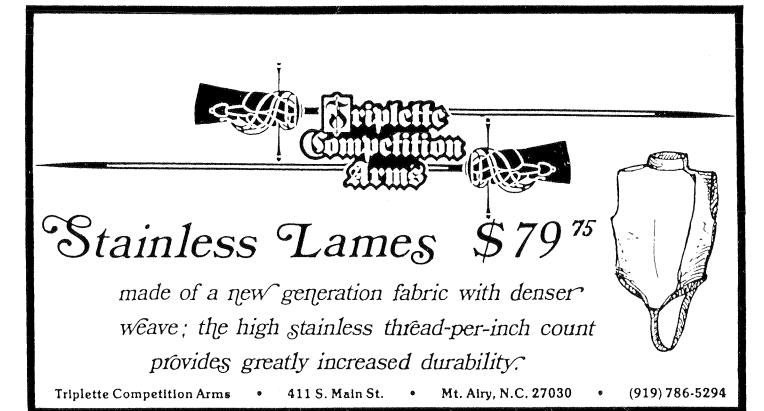
Finally, it should be noted that since 1981, twenty-four



Group saber lesson directed by candidate Warlick

photo courtesy of SJSU

diplomas have been awarded at SJSU: nine instructor's, twelve provost's, and three master's diplomas. The majority of our graduates are currently teaching, and several continue to fence competitively at national or international levels (Peter Burchard, Dean Hinton, Gregory Massialas, and Saul Mendoza).



I ne Enterprise world Cup Saber Iournament - A Successful Repeat - by Alb

by Albert Axelrod

The 1988 World Cup Class A Enterprise New York International Saber Tournament has demonstrated its acceptance by the world community as a major tournament by the presence of the many Olympic medalists and top saber fencers of the world. Robert and Michael Hort of Enterprise Press, sponsors of this event are to be commended on their continuing support for the fencing community.

Olympic champions and World Cup champions battled for victory at the Coles Sports Center of New York University in the final rounds of the Enterprise Press New York International Saber Tournament.

Among the 32 fencers who reached the final direct eliminations after having survived a full day of round-robin competition were an array of stars, each one of whom could, on the basis of prior performance, lay valid claim to the right to be first.

From the Saturday combatants, two Poles, Robert Koscielniakowski and Janusz Olech, reached the championship round of eight. Accompanying them were Vassili Etropolski of Bulgaria and Imre Bujdoso of Hungary. Their standings going into this competition? Olech was the 1987 World Cup Champion, and Bujdoso was first and Etropolski second in the current race for the World Cup saber championship. Whatever their expectations, the presence of three Russians and the previous year's winner, Lamour, must have dimmed their hopes.

When the smoke cleared, Sergey Mindirgasov of the USSR was the victor and Bujdoso was second. The Russians also took third and sixth, indicating future dominance in this weapon.

Michael Lofton, a four time National Collegiate Athletic Association champion, was the only American to make it to the direct elimination phase. Lofton went out, however, in Saturday's direct elimination round of 32.

The gym floor at N.Y.U. was an expanse of fencing strips and participants, judges and fans moved freely on the fencing floor, adding a touch of confusion to the almost festive atmosphere of the tournament. However, the contestants were able to maintain their concentration and their fencing was at a very high level.

Of the seven World Cup saber tournaments, the Enterprise World Cup Tournament is the only one held in the United States. A number of countries, including the United States, use World Cup results to assist in determining eligibility for national teams. Because this is an Olympic year, the results carried even more weight than usual.

The fencing ranged from friendly to fiercely competitive. The atmosphere was at times charged with argument, protestation and histrionics—at least until the electric equipment was put into service. From this point on, the fencing was hard, fencers accepted the decisions with minimum displays of emotion, seemed to become more aware of what they might have done wrong and made corrections more quickly. The only thing the electric equipment did not reduce was the frequency of the double touches.

In an early bout the day before, Jean-Francois Lamour, the 1984 Olympic gold medalist, fenced Nikola Mateev of Bulgaria in the loser's repechage round, each fighting to be one of the four winners to advance to the tournament final. Lamour fenced as though fighting for his life. There were



Lamour (FRA) embraces the winner, Koscielniakowski (POL), left, after their hard fought match

photo by David Bernstein

mask-peeling arguments, upturned hands, pleadings with judges and ultimately a 10-9 victory. It was hard to tell whether skill or acting ability was the final arbiter in the match, but when the bout was over, Lamour and Mateev left the strip in friendly embrace.

The tournament results made inescapably clear that this is a sport dominated by the Europeans—East and West. Different styles could be sensed here, in spite of the fact that the Europeans fence each other often enough to develop an amalgam of the many styles. The French style seems to be more open, creative, seizing the moment, taking every advantage, as illustrated by Lamour. The Russian style, as might be expected, is highly technical in every phase, however it seems more deliberate and more mechanical than the French.

The Hungarians with their style have long been a power in international saber fencing. Between 1924 and 1960, Hungarian national teams were unbeaten in international and Olympic competition, a record unparalleled in any sport.

Hungarian fencing once emphasized methods of attack and defense, actions that control distance and tempo. Now, to meet the new rigors of competition, there is added emphasis on athleticism, speed and strength.

The American style is essentially Hungarian, because the leading saber coach in this country is Csaba Elthes, a Hungarian. However, our competitors are still essentially amateurs. They fence for love of the sport and must fight for funding perhaps even harder than they fight for victory in competitions such as these.

Enterprise Results

- 139 Entries -

	-139Entries	_
1.	Mindirgasov, Sergey	USSR
2.	Bujdoso, Imre	Hungary
3.	Pogosov, Georgi	USSR
4.	Koscielniakowski, Robert	Poland
5.	Lamour, Jean-Francoise	France
6.	Alshan, Andrey	USSR
7.	Etropolski, Vassili	Bulgaria
8.	Olech, Janusz	Poland
9.	Szabo, Bence	Hungary
10.	Kirienko, Grigory	USSR
11.	Granger-Veyron, Herve	France
12.	Varga, Jozsef	Hungary
13.	Guichot, Pierre	France
14.	Burtsev, Mikhail	USSR
15.	Delrieu, Philippe	France
16.	Becker, Felix	W. Germany
17.	Ibragimov, Samir	USSR
18.	Koryazhkin, Sergey	USSR
19.	Etropolski, Christe	Bulgaria
20.	Daurelle, Philippe	France
21.	Gedovari, Imre	Hungary
22.	$\it Mateev, Nikola$	Bulgaria
23.	Kostrzewa, Andrzej	Poland
24.	Kempenich, Joerg	W. Germany
<i>25</i> .	Nebald, Gyorgy	Hungary
26.	Marincheshki, Nicoly	Bulgaria
27.	Csongradi, Laszlo	Hungary
28.	, 0	W. Germany
29.	*	France
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- Standing of USA Fencers (33 to 64) -

Cuba

Poland

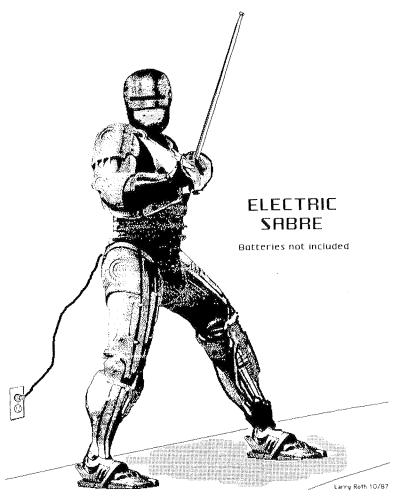
USA/NYU/NYFC

30. Trejo, Carlos

31. Lofton, Michael

32. Wodke, Dariusz

41.	Westbrook, Peter	USA/NYFC
47.	Cottingham, Robert	USA/COL/NYFC
48.	D'Asaro II, Michael	USA/NYAC
49.	Pleskun, Igor	USA/NYAC
54.	Gonzales-Rivas, George	USA/NYAC
55.	Friedberg, Paul	USA/NYAC
<i>62.</i>	Mormando, Steve	USA/NYFC
64.	Mandell, David	USA/COL





Etropolski (BUL) and Mindirgasov (USSR), in one of the day's many double touches photo by David Bernstein

Methodology of Success

During the past years many of my friends on the Olympic squad have asked my advice on how to make the Olympic Team. In addition, my involvement with pre-high school, high school and college students has made me aware of a great gap in the knowledge of success methodology. Many seem to be playing a lottery with regard to important life and sport goals.

The intent of this article is to give those without a clue about how to achieve an objective, a path to follow, and to help those already on the path to keep their feet dry and in the right direction.

The first advice I would give is to utilize what I have to say as you would utilize a tool, not as absolute dogma.

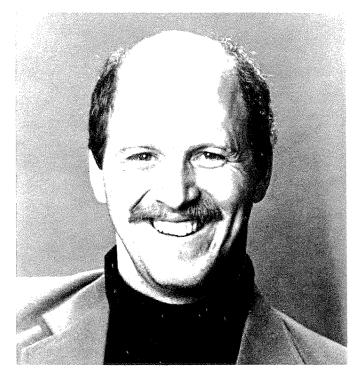
I suppose there are as many different methods to achieve success as there are ways to succeed. The object of my method is the acquisition of one's goal in the shortest possible time with the least amount of wasted effort. One of the reasons I have been approached so often is due to the fact that I made my first Olympic team within six years of starting from scratch in the sport.

The first priority is to establish your goal. Know what you want to do, and create a goal that is larger than your dream. Prior to 1984, my goal was to become the best international competitor in my sport in the world. My dream was to make an Olympic team. In trying to attain the goal, I was able to realize the dream.

The second priority is to reach out and attain your goal. Obviously, the second priority is the one that adds challenge to your life. One must have direction and strength of purpose, and the greater your inner strength, the better your chances of attaining your goal.

Once the two major priorities have been established internally, one must develop the methodology for making them external realities. The following points generalize the basic approach of my methodology.

- 1. Once you establish your goals, you must study the situation and create the best possible circumstances for attaining your goals. In 1978, I looked around at both different sports and the athletes that were in them. At the age of twenty-two, I had never participated in sports. I realized immediately that it would be an enormous task to become a professional athlete in one of the major sports. The major or popular sports had individuals that started training at a very early age. In addition, the size of the major sport made it too competitive, considering the total number of athletes that started training at an early age. Therefore, the first thing to do was to find a sport that I liked, that would allow me to utilize my physical and mental abilities to a maximum, against a more reasonable pool of competitors. This is what I mean by creating the best circumstances and giving yourself the best chance.
- 2. Look around you. Perceive your sport. Who is the best coach in the country for this particular sport? Who has the best reputation, and the strongest pool of competitors as students? Absolutely make that coach yours! Whatever it takes, make it so. No matter how hard it seems, stick to that coach like glue. That coach probably will have a million things to do, and more successful students that he wants to concentrate on. It is your job to become as familiar to that coach as an old pair of shoes. Do so, and you cannot fail.
- 3. Find the center. That is to say, find where the greatest majority of top athletes in your sport are located. Get your



Steve Mormando, two-time Olympian

things together, and get there. In order to reach a certain level, you must have competitors that can take you there. You will find that the coach you are looking for and the athletes you need are in the the same area. Both the second and third points are critical. If you do not follow theses points, you will not reach your goal. There are no excuses. It is your dream—how much do you want it?

- 4. Commit yourself totally to your goal, whatever sport you choose. Only the individuals who possess the courage to gamble everything on their goal will have the opportunity to attain that goal. Once I determined my priority goal, all else was utilized in the attainment of that goal. College and job future were all designed to allow me to train and compete. This is not an easy thing to do in this country, but once you have chosen your priority, you must sacrifice all to that priority. That is not to say that the educational and career goals that you pick will be wasted or compromised, only that it is very difficult, and you may have to make hard decisions to stay on the chosen path.
- 5. Edison said something to the effect that genius is tenpercent inspiration and ninety-percent perspiration. Absolute hard work with total concentration is necessary for success. During your development, enter every competition that is possible. Compete against your peers at every opportunity. Doing this teaches you how to win, and hopefully, to understand why you lose when you lose. You must learn to do both well in order to succeed. This exposure trains your competition skills, and like steel, tempers your strength and courage in the heat of competition.

Practice at every opportunity. You must train and take lessons every day. Your sport must become as easy and natural to you as driving a car is to an accomplished motorist. When you go to practice, waste little time on talking and socializing

until you are finished. Have focus and concentration during your training or it is a waste of time. Be harsh on yourself during training, accept no mistakes, and work hard on basic skills. Allow no sloppy or only partially correct movements.

6. Know your sport. This is a tactical must. Know all the rules of your sport. Be able to officiate. Be able to organize and run a competition.

Volunteer in organizational activities needed to run events. Become involved in your sports activities.

By knowing the rules, by being able to officiate, by being active, you develop respect for yourself. This is where you develop a tactical advantage. If, for example, should a situation arise where there is a difficult decision to be made, the competitor who has developed this respect may well be given a favorable decision over one who just shows up, or complains, or is new to the scene. You may well cause directors to focus on the negative aspects of your opponent. These skills are as necessary as the sport skills you need to compete with.

- 7. Keep your mouth shut! You can call this the Mormando Rule for the number of times I have broken this golden rule. Do not lean on the director or the judges, or even the scorer. There will be directors who are off in their judgment, and there will be bad calls—it's part of the sport. It happens in all sports, and I can defend that statement with you 100-meter fans. The more you keep your mouth shut, the better your chances for sympathy and a favorable call at a crucial moment. I have personally broken this rule more times than you can imagine, but one must always strive to improve one's weaknesses. The easier time that you give to directors will mean an easier time for you, plus the fact that you may earn their respect. Good luck—this only took me ten years to learn.
- 8. Learn strategy. Mankind has been involved in warfare and competitions for millenniums. During that time, strategy and strategical maneuvers have been developed that are beyond anything you could believe. Watch the good athletes, learn and rehearse the tactics that work for them. Read the history of your sport. The individual without historical knowledge of the sport loses a great advantage. You may also learn tactics and strategy for your sport from the history of war and competition. Invent tactics and experiment with strategies during your training, see what works, reject what does not. The athlete without strategy is the athlete vulnerable to manipulation.

A coach can only teach basic tactics. Individuals with a good competitive sense should be able to progress, either through rational development or intuitively, to higher levels of tactics and strategies.

9. Final notes. Know how to advance to the finals. If you have a pool, know who you must beat. One must always win over an opponent who is weaker than you. Don't ever think it is your right to win, just that it is necessary to do so. Do not under-estimate or over-estimate your opponent; assess them for what they are. Should you lose to weaker opponents in the pool format, you will probably fail to advance, even if you win out over stronger opponents. You must beat the weaker players in the pool.

Leave friends and family at home or up in the stands. It is your duty and pleasure to win or lose on your own. Support is a great thing, yet the strongest athlete is the one who stands on his own feet, and the only thing they will do is disturb your concentration, feeling and rhythm.

Do not allow or focus on advice coming from the sidelines. Under great pressure, advice can only disturb an athlete. You must learn to make those pressure decisions correctly without help from others.

In my opinion, one of the best books written on competition is The Art of War by Sun Tzu; make it a must to read. This book was written over twenty-four centuries ago. Sun Tzu said "When campaigning, be swift as the wind; in leisurely march, majestic as the forest; in raiding and plundering, like fire; in standing, firm as the mountains. As unfathomable as the clouds, move like a thunderbolt."

Accept defeat for what it is—a condition where you lost. Do not blame it on luck, bad officials, cheating, or injury. You must learn to view defeat as one of the steps on your path to learning the method of winning. Those who fear losing will never learn to win. Being a champion means fighting your way up through the ranks and being able to cope with occasional losses on the way.

Above all, do not lose sight of your priority goal—it is the reason for your involvement and the source of your drive on the path to success.





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Dear Albie.

A copy of a letter addressed to you by Mr. Sean Kline of Saint Paul, Minnesota has been sent to me by the national office.

Mr. Kline extemporizes on the unfairly high entry fee charged at the National Championships in Chicago.

May I express my wholehearted agreement with Mr. Kline's complaint.

If you recall during the board meeting of the United States Fencing Association in Colorado Springs, I fiercely fought the unreasonable and unjust increase which was promulgated and finally pushed through by Dr. Fred Rhodes, USFA Secretary, for this year and subsequent National Championships.

It is my opinion that the increase in entry fees, justified to pay certain expenses to officials is completely unreasonable, unjustified and unfair to the competitors. It is the responsibility of the USFA to provide services to all of its members, not only to elite athletes, who appropriately based on their performance, receive financial assistance, but also to the membership at large.

I, as an official who participated at many international and domestic events as well, am of the opinion that the so-called expense payments and benefits offered to the officials by the organizers of the Chicago Nationals should not be passed on to the competitors. Indeed, it is the responsibility of the organizing committee to absorb these expenses, and find appropriate sponsorship to defray them.

What benefits, if any, does an average member of the league get? It is in our interest to promote fencing in the United States, and the Nationals is one competition where we can bring champions and beginners together under the same roof. With the new system of splitting the championships into two categories, we should encourage participation rather than discourage it.

I believe that the vote by the Board of Directors was unfair, inconsiderate and self-serving. I strongly urge that the next annual meeting should bring back standard fees and reduce these unjustifiably high entry fees to the Nationals!

Very truly yours, Chaba M. Pallaghy



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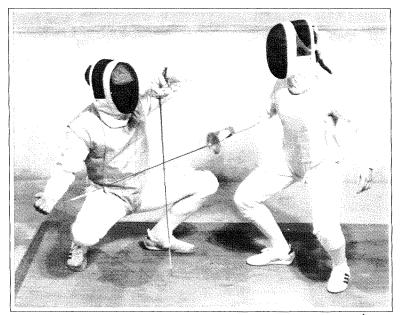
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2421 N. 56th Street Philadelphia, PA 19131 (215) 477-6954 Welcome to the 1988-89 fencing season. The 1988 Olympic Games should be in progress as you receive this issue of American Fencing. Our team is in Korea culminating a four year effort, doing its best to produce results for themselves and for fencing in America. We hope that NBC has brought fencing into your living rooms and that the newspaper coverage has been good

At the same time as our Olympians are performing in Seoul, we are starting a new quadrennial, one filled with hopes and dreams for the future. Our first Youth Foil Circuit (under-15) is half over with Phoenix having hosted the Labor Day event. Denver will host the Clarion Cup on Columbus Day. A new Junior Circuit with all 5 weapons represented will soon begin and the Senior Circuit will start in December.

This year U.S. athletes producing results in the circuits and designated World Cup "A" events will be supported with more dollars than ever before. We are trying to bring in new areas of the country to our circuit family by providing technical and other assistance to groups desirous of sponsoring these national events. We will also be imposing stricter requirements on those circuits to assure you, the fencer, the best possible conditions for your events.

This year, in addition to the Enterprise Press Saber, we will be hosting the World Championships at Indianapolis next July. We will be sending our best fencers, seniors and juniors, to World Cup competition.

The Coaches College, which has proved so successful, will provide an expanded curriculum next summer. Video and print materials for Physical Education teachers to use in teaching fencing in elementary, junior high and high schools are in preparation. In addition, a second video for directing is being planned. Next summer's camps will be subjected to an accreditation process by the National Coaching Staff to help you, the consumer, choose the best products and the USFA will provide scholarships to those camps for our top junior and youth fencers who would otherwise be unable to afford to go.

We will try to communicate to you through American Fencing, the USFA National Newsletter, and YoFen, the youth newsletter. We hope to take fencing to the next plateau, to return it first to the international position it held in the 50's (4th or 5th best overall team in the world) and then beyond. It will be a long road. Please join us in making FENCING the sport of the 90's.



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Recommendations and Compliance

by Sidney Romeo (translated from Scherma by Phyllis Elliott)

Engineer Sidney Romeo, Vice President of the Italian Fencing Federation and President of the S.E.M.I. Commission of the International Fencing Federation (FIE), not to mention proponent and strong protagonist of the campaign for safety in fencing, makes a point on two particularly prominent subjects: safety, and the advent of electrical scoring devices in electrical saber. Here, Romeo takes into account only two considerations: the recommendation, with respect to weapons and equipment, to all athletes and clubs to comply with the decisions of the FIE and the invitation to all manufacturers to comply fully with the technical directions of the international federation. Concerning electric saber, the Italian Federation has successfully postponed the introduction of electrical equipment for some eight years, due to the unreliability and the risk of certain experimental systems. We finally granted our approval because, finally, machines were being considered which were more reliable, and this must be considered a real victory for the Italian Fencing Federation.

This article presents, in outline, the significant subject elements of safety and of electric scoring for saber.

Safety—With regard to safety, let us answer a series of questions—

What is happening with the new blades?

Production currently limited to France and Italy, has not yet achieved the optimal results that we predicted. That is the result of the fact that the manufacturers have not yet retooled appropriately, and are not following all the directions and technical specifications of the FIE.

Adequate measures are being taken to avoid abuses and imperfections. Recently, in Germany, production of maraging steel blades has started, but what is more important is that Russia and China have also begun production.

The new blades, if produced according to the FIE recommendations, should last at least ten times longer than the old-style blades, and should break in such a way that the breakage is gradual and not abrupt.

Specific studies are in progress to modify the sections of the foil and saber blades so as to increase their durability.

With the safety factor always in mind, possibilities for nondestructive weapon control are being explored with a view to excluding from use those blades which are on the verge of breaking.

What observations should be made by vendors and by users? Vendors should ensure that, on subjecting the blade to bending the blade in opposite directions according to FIE directions, the same blade will bend at least 400 times without breaking.

Vendors and users should look closely at the surface of the blade and ascertain that no superficial cracks or defects are present.

Vendors and users should confirm that the blade bears the mark of quality that can be applied by the manufacturer only after having provided to the FIE all the required documentation and have received certificates of approval by the authorities.

What is the current situation of masks and clothing?

For masks, things are going fairly well. A new mask produced according to the recommendations of the FIE, if well taken care of, should last a lifetime! In fact, it will be possible to replace the non-metallic parts, should they be ruined, while keeping the original frame.

For foil masks, ways of producing bibs with metallic cloth are being studied, so as to avoid discussions of the valid target being obscured by any excessive length of the bib. Remember, however, that the rules require a bib ten centimeters long and rigid. But it is not permitted to use a mask whose frame extends below the chin of the fencer.

For the garments, as we know, the FIE recommendations look to the use of outfits of fabric that can resist up to 800 Newtons for the vital areas and at least 350 Newtons for the rest

For the old style outfits, the transitional provisions, which authorize their use as long as the fencer wears an undergarment of resistance equal to 800 Newtons of protection for vital areas, will be extended for another year.

The user must be attentive to the fact that, if the protective fabric used is of Kevlar, the garment cannot be bleached, since, if subjected to bleaching, Kevlar loses its original resistance.

In addition, it is necessary to be careful that the Kevlar fabric not come into direct contact with the skin, because in that case it could cause irritation.

Electric Scoring for Saber-

We have defined all the details of the dress, equipment, and weaponry of a saberman.

Sometime this year, it will become possible for sabermen to present themselves on the strip with their own equipment and their own sabers, without having problems arise of incompatibility with all the machines that have been experimented with up to now.

It will suffice that the fencer insert the "sensor" (a small object that is provided with the central apparatus) into the standard socket placed inside the guard of his own saber, and attach the line to the other socket, similar to the foil plug, which is also inside the guard and which may be of any type chosen by the fencer.

The sensors are permanently calibrated in the workshop in such a way as to put the fencers on an equal footing.

Precise technical standards regulate the functioning of the scoring box, whose standardization is the responsibility of the S.E.M.I. Commission of the FIE.

The scoring boxes do not register off-targets hits. They are equipped with an "anti-block" system and must be regulated in such a way as to not register a colpo di fuetto (whip-over) across the blade or across the guard, or passing hits, all thanks to a pre-established and controlled regulation of the circuits of the box.

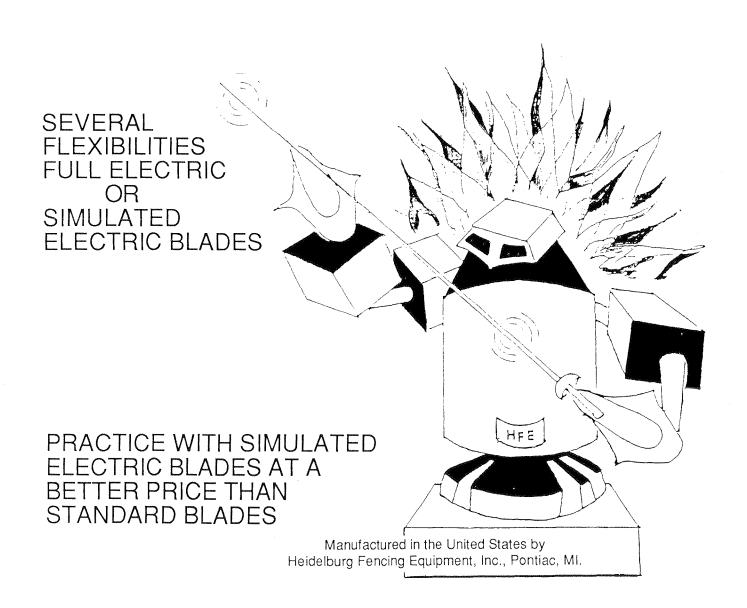
As far as the non-registering of colpo di fuetto across the guard is concerned, for 1988, pending definition of a more trustworthy unified system for excluding, or limiting as much as possible, any supplemental devices to be incorporated into saber other than those currently foreseen, boxes which do register such hits will be permitted.

The road traveled up to now has been long and difficult, but we can be satisfied, and, above all, can hope that the Presidents of Jury, with the help of the electric scoring system which will indicate the validity of the touch, and of the two judges whose duty will be to designate the off-target hits and the improper use of the unarmed hand, will find themselves in a better position to judge saber bouts.

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The author discusses the effects of eating and drinking before the competition and suggests that habit and environment conditions be considered in planning such nutritional intake.

What effect, if any, might a pre-game meal have on a fencer's performance? Eating prior to a contest should allay feelings of hunger which might be distracting. Most importantly, however, it should insure adequate energy supplies and adequate hydration. Any consideration about what to eat, and when to eat, should take into account these two factors. It is essential that food and liquid ingested prior to games, support, rather than hinder, the player's efforts.

In events of less than thirty minutes duration, there is probably very little contribution that the pre-game meal makes toward energy supplies. A greater impact can be made on individuals fencing in long competitions, particularly by insuring adequate levels of blood sugar which helps to avoid feelings of weakness. In order for the meal to have any value, it must be taken sufficiently in advance of the game to have cleared the stomach and have been digested. In the case of carbohydrates, at least 2½ hours should be allowed, and preferably longer. Eating shortly before exercising leaves the body with the choice of diverting blood to the exercising muscle, or to the digestive organs. Since the working muscles receive preferential blood flow, that leaves an inadequate supply for digestion, and the individual experiences sensation of fullness which may hinder performance.

Nervousness and anxiety will also diminish an individual's ability to digest food. Since many athletes become more anxious as the performance approaches, eating three to four hours prior to the competition might be helpful.

Food selection should be based on the ease with which the food can be digested, the familiarity of the food, and the eater's preferences. It is probably a good idea to avoid foods which require long periods for digestion, such as fats and meats, as well as gas-forming foods, and highly seasoned foods (which demand a high compensating level of fluid intake). The majority of the meal should consist of carbohydrates, which are easy to digest, and will help keep the blood glucose at an appropriate level.

Research published in 1977 by Costill, et al¹, suggests that while carbohydrates are valuable foods on competitive days, consuming large amounts less than one hour before an event can actually lower blood glucose availability. This would cause the undesirable effect of increasing the utilization of stored muscle glycogen as a fuel source, precisely what the athlete is trying to avoid.

In an excellent discussion of nutrition and exercise, Fox and Mathews², point out the popularity of liquid pre-game meals. Commercially available formulas such as Ensure, Ensure Plus, Nutriment, Sustagen and Susta Cal offer high carbohydrate content, nutritional balance, are digested quickly and even taste good. In addition to supplying energy, they also add to the body's fluid reserve.

The practice of carbohydrate loading has received considerable attention during the past several years, but it is of dubious value for the fencer. There is some support for this practice in long duration aerobic events, such as marathon running, where the possibility of glycogen depletion exists, but the duration of most fencing competitions is not suffi-

cient to make loading a reasonable part of the diet (there is always adequate time for carbohydrate replacement). For the fencer who does utilize this technique, it is becoming more acceptable to do so without prior depletion because it allows the performer to continue normal practice schedules without the intense feelings of fatigue which are associated with depletion. One should also be aware of the probability that there will be a weight gain of a few pounds due to associated water retention.

It might be useful to note that the type of food eaten by fencers on a performance day should be compatible with the environment. Hot, humid conditions in particular should be taken into account. One means of cooling the body is to divert blood to the periphery, or skin surface. This might have a retarding effect on the rate of digestion.

A particularly important aspect of pre-performance preparation is fluid intake. There is absolutely no physiological basis for limiting fluid either before or during performance; on the contrary, fluid deprivation can be harmful and counter-productive. To avoid feelings of fullness, diarrhea, and nausea, non-carbonated fluids should be ingested. It is also helpful to drink cool, rather than iced, fluids. Two or three glasses of fluid with the meal, and regular hourly drinking, should offset the fluid lost through sweating (due to nervousness as well as exercise).

As in the case of food intake, fluid intake should also be geared to the environment. During exercise, sweating becomes a significant means of heat loss, and during performance under humid conditions fluid loss can be considerable. Thirst sensations do not adequately reflect the degree of fluid loss (the individual stops feeling thirsty before appropriate fluid levels are reached) so that establishing patterns of regular and frequent drinking is important. Maintaining good nutritional status to allow for vigorous practices and conditioning workouts is a constant process. It requires establishment of regular habits which provide a balance of nutritional substances to support all bodily functions. While the contest-day meal might differ from the daily pattern, the day of a competition is not a good time to experiment.

1. Costill, D.L., Coyle, E., Dolsky, G. Fink, W., and Hoopes, D. Effects of Elevated Plasma FFA and Insulin on Muscle Glycogen Usage During Exercise.

Journal of Applied Physiology, 43 (4): 695-699, 1977.

2. Fox, E.L., and Mathews, D.K.

The Physiological Basis of Physical Education and Athletics Saunders Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 1981, Chapter 19.

Supplemental-Eisenman, P., and Johnson D.

Coach's Guide to Nutrition and Weight Control.

Human Kinetics, Champaign, Illinois, 1982

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Electric Saber

A lot of us thought—certainly I thought—that the "establishment" among saber fencers would not take too kindly to the idea of electrical saber. It turns out that we were all wrong—at least judging from the reactions of some of the most prominent among them, certainly in this country.

Maybe the idea has around long enough that it doesn't seem quite so shocking as it did at first. Maybe (dare I suggest it?) the boys are getting a little tired of the imperfections of the human eye in trying to track their very fast actions. Maybe they suspect something other than mere imperfection. Maybe something else. Anyway, the concept now seems to be getting a better reception among the top-ranking contenders than I would have been willing to bet on just a couple of years ago.

This reaction is the more interesting in that the FIE has yet to stop tinkering with the basic details of the system. Less than a year ago, they had not really decided on whether or not they wanted a saber with the guard rather elaborately (and expensively) separated from the blade. The latest FIE decision seems that they, and of course we, can live with the blade and guard being, electrically so to speak, all of a piece. This approach will be simpler and cheaper, of course, but has one interesting effect: it will allow a fencer in close to hit his opponent with an uppercut from the guard and have it register as a valid touch. Oh well, you can't have everything, I suppose, and the director can surely keep an eye out for that sort of nastiness. One other effect that was feared from such an assembly is the possibility of difficulty in separating out the whip-over onto the wrist after a solid block from the guard. For that problem, an electronic (timing) solution is being sought. How effective it will prove is still a matter for some argument.

Again, a year ago, it looked as though the saber would come with its own built-in sensing device, an accelerometer (what the French are calling the "capteur"). More recently, it has been decided that these things, whatever you want to call them, would not be permanently mounted in the guards, but would belong to the scoring machine and thus be plugged into the sabers just before each bout. A particular form of socket was decreed to hold the device: a type of twist-lock or screw-in connector generally available in the more advanced countries. The latest word, as I am writing this (July '88), is that this requirement for the socket has already been changed: a more easily available microphone connector has been decreed instead. It will be interesting to see if this is the last of these tinkerings.

The location of the sensing device is of some significance, as you might guess. That is the reason that the socket to take the new connector now must be permanently attached to the guard, inside the shell, located below the knuckles when in their normal position. The original idea had the socket mounted on a separate metal strap that would be gripped between the inside of the guard and the handle, just like the brackets we are used to for foil or epee sockets. Naturally, the electrical saber will have to have a foil-type connector socket, too (your choice which: bayonet or two-pin). That idea apparently began to look dubious. For one thing, the prospect of a slippery double bracket arrangement is daunting. For another, and what is worse, it might have—what do I mean, might have?—it would have—given the clever fencer the opportnity to try adjusting

by Joe Byrnes



Joe Byrnes and apprentice

photo by A. Axelrod

the location of his sensor socket to find the "sweet spot" to suit his game, or some arcane fiddlings of the sort. Now, all the sensors are to be fixed in the same location, and thus will put the sabers, if not the competitors, on something like a plane of equality. What has also not yet been decided, it is clear, is how we are to test these sensors—they are really a very critical part of the system. Therefore, some standard test will have to be forthcoming. So far, no news from the FIE.

As for the saber game itself: there will be some changes, for sure. For one thing, even the most responsive machines, to this date at least, have proved less responsive to the point thrust than to the cut as it is now oh so liberally defined in the rule book. A nice soft saber blade, applied in the classic saber point mode, with a neat rising bend on the opponent's chest, can be relied on *not* to register—in almost all cases. What is required is a smart push at the moment of impact. Similarly, at the moment of impact of a saber cut, a smart—not violent, just smart—cutting/snapping action is ideal to get the message through to the machine. So, instead of having to convince the eyes and ears of a bunch of human judges, the saber fencer will have to convince a machine: one thing that will be wanted will be a blade a bit stiffer, and straighter, than what we have been used to.

As very old-time epee fencers remember, the replacement of ink epee with electrical made some changes in that game; not quite so old foil fencers will remember what electrical foil did to their game, too. We are far from the last word on the electrical saber system, I am sure; I am also sure that it will get better, from the electrical, mechanical and technical point of view. What die-hard old-time saber fencers will think is another matter, of course. Still, as I imagine we all know, the survival of saber as a separate fencing weapon has been at stake in this movement. Certain international bodies have looked with disfavor at continuing with a primitive, eyejudged, form of the sport, when the wonders of electricity and solid state mechanisms have done so much for foil and epee.

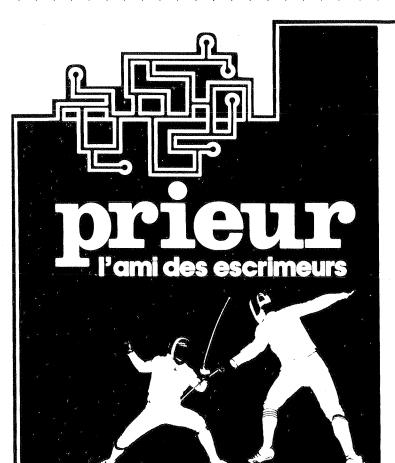
Since it looks as though our major USFA events, the finals at least, will all be fenced electrically for the next season, we will all get lots of opportunities to see how it works, to learn how to beat the system, maybe, and to enjoy it, we hope.

Interestingly, this requirement actually reinforces the old-traditional description of the saber cut. The classic saber cut has thus been reaffirmed, at the same time that the traditional thrust, particularly the stop thrust, has been somewhat weakened. The reason for this joint phenomena is the nature of the electrical saber system. Two signals are need by the machine if it is to show the valid lamp. Furthermore, blade metal contact, even that of a beat as in a good traditional beat attack, will be read as a parry.

The way it works is like this: the blade carries a very lowlevel electrical voltage, which causes a current to flow through the opponent's metallic target (mask and jacket) when the latter is touched. That is one of the two required signals. However, to make sure that something like a proper saber touch is being registered, and not a mere glide along the flank, say, the sensing device in the guard has to send its own concurrent signal, indicating that a collision of the blade, causing the functioning of the switch, has occurred, essentially at the same time as the contact with the target (it's a matter of a few thousandths of a second, adjustable by the machine manufacturer). That is the second signal. If the blade hits on the opponent's grounded metallic blade or guard, there is no valid touch signal, merely a flickering of the "switch lamp" that shows that a contact occurred. Any such contact is read as a "parry", and here is the interesting thing: it will also block the machine

from showing a touch for a few thousandths of a second thereafter. That provision of the design is required by the FIE to hold down the number of whip-overs on the guard, for example; but it might have a negative effect for a very fast fencer who executes a beat-cut that may be faster than the machines turnback-on time. Admittedly this delay is down below the range of an epee double touch, as it is set at the present time, but some fencers might be affected. Certainly, anyone who cut into a weak or ineffectual parry and slid his blade onto his opponent's mask, for example, would be merely parrying himself all the way, unless he could pull away for a few thousandths of a second before administering the smart rap needed to register a touch. Similarly, a defender who merely gets the metal of his blade into contact with the opponent's attack, even in a weak opposition with the foible, will have accomplished something like the "electronic parry" that I spoke of some years ago, as I recollect.

These areas of adjustment are subject to revision by the FIE, and studies will doubtless be carried pretty much continuously, as I would imagine, for the next few seasons. We observed, at the USFA Nationals, that of the three saber machine demonstrated, the one which was oldest (a matter of only several months) proved less satisfactory than the two others, which had been given their latest tweakings up only about a week, in one case, and a couple of days, in the other, earlier.



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1988 NATIONAL **DIVISION I CHAMPIONSHIPS**

June 14-22, 1988

Men's Foil-90 Entries

- 1. Massialas, Gregory No. California
- 2. Marx, Michael-Oregon
- 3. Littell, David-Philadelphia
- 4. Walch, Marc J.-So. California
- 5. Lewison, Peter-Metro., NY
- 6. Fox, Frank Oliver-So. California
- 7. Bukantz, Jeffrey-New Jersey
- 8. Mufel, Edward-Cent. Penn.
- 9. Kaihatsu, Edward-Philadelphia
- 10. Not Awarded
- (Mendoza, Saul-No. Cal.
- expelled for improper behavior)
- 11. Nonomura, George-No. California
- 12. Bravin, Eric Nicky-So. California
- 13. Tichacek, Jack D.-New Jersey
- 14, Burchard, Peter-No. California
- 15. Cheu, Elliott-Western New York
- 16. Rosario, Nestor-So. California

Men's Epee-81 Entries

- 1 Normile Jon-Metro, NY
- 2. Trevor, Steven-Metro. NY
- 3. Vidor, Richard-No. California
- 4. Russell, Geoffrey, B.-So. Calif.
- 5. Carpenter, James-National
- 6. Phillips, Miles D.-Illinois
- 7. Thompson, Tristram-Cent. Calif.
- 8. Peterman, Bryan-Philadelphia
- 9. Marx, Robert-Oregon
- 10. Siegel, Lewis W.-Metro., NY
- 11. Beres, Laszlo T. So. Texas
- 12. Thomas, William P.-So. Texas
- 13. Soter, Paul-No. California 14. Glass, Timothy C.-Illinois
- 15. Farley, Holt-Metro., NY
- 16. Kline, Sean-Minnesota

Men's Saber-72 Entries

- 1. Westbrook, Peter-Metro., NY
- 2. Friedberg, Paul-Metro., NY
- 3. Lofton, Michael-Metro., NY
- 4. Cottingham, Robert-New Jersey
- 5. Reohr, Christopher-Metro., NY
- 6. Mormando, Steve-Metro., NY
- 7. Gonzalez-Rivas, George-Metro., NY
- 8. Rodriguez, Gerard-Metro., NY
- 9. Friedberg, John-Metro., NY
- 10. D'Asaro II, Michael-Metro., NY
- 11. Pleskun, Igor-Metro., NY
- 12. Cox Jr., Peter T.-Cent. Penn. 13. Cox, David B .- Cent. Penn.
- 14. Randolph, Robert-So. California
- 15. Goering, William A.-Michigan
- 16. Moriarty, Sean-National

Women's Foil-85 Entries

- 1. Monplaisir, Sharon-Metro., NY
- 2. Sullivan, Molly New England
- 3. O'Neill, Mary Jane-Philadelphia
- 4. Cheris, Elaine-Colorado
- 5. Bilodeaux, Caitlin K.-Metro. NY
- 6. Piazza, Lisa-Metro., NY
- 7. Hayes, McDaniel, Rachael-Phila.
- 8. Yu, Jennifer-Cent. Cal.
- 9. Stone, Donna Lee-New Jersey
- 10. Hamori, Isabelle-Metro., NY 11. Clark, Laurel-No. California
- 12. Marx, Suzanne Brown-Oregon
- 13. Samet, Randi-Long Island, NY

- 14. Miller, Margo-So. California
- 15. Yu, Jessica No. California
- 16. Verhave, Michelle-Westchester

Women's Epee-78 Entries

- 1. Brown, Xandy-So. California
- 2. Maskell MD., Laura-Oregon
- 3. Turpin, Barbara-Oregon
- 4. Szabunia, Margaret-Philadelphia
- 5. Klinger, Anne-Pregon
- 6. Gilbert, Jennifer-No. California
- 7. O'Donnell, Judith-New England
- 8. Wylie, Dorshka-New England
- 9. Stone, Donna Lee-New Jersey
- 10. Hartman, Kathy-So. California
- 11. Adrian, Marlene-Illinois
- 12. Still, Sally-Florida Gold Coast
- 13. Littman, Dr. Jane R.-Piedmont, SC
- 14. Lewis, Kathryn C.-Philadelphia
- 15. Pratschler, Darlene E.-New Jersey
- 16. Summers, Chanel-France-So. Calif.



1988 NATIONAL **DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Men's Foil-111 Entries

- 1. Rawn, Clifford-Long Island, NY
- 2. Hills, Tom-Georgia
- 3. Rayot, Ron-New Jersey
- 4. Rosen, Jeff E.-Colorado
- 5. Leary, Philip Adam-Indiana
- 6. Schicker, Glen-Illinois
- 7. Hayenga, Gary Michael-New Jersey
- 8. Robertson, Grant-So. California
- 9. Rolando, Doc-New Jersey
- 10. Washburn II, Charles-Philadelphia
- 11. Carberry, Mark-Colorado
- 12. Signorelli, Carl-No. California
- 13. Colovas, Peter W.-West Michigan
- 14. Boustany, Marc-Philadelphia 15. Mueller, Donn-No. Carolina
- 16. McMann, Arnold H.-Kansas

Men's Epee-122 Entries

- 1. Baxter, David C.-Metro., NY
- 2. Marsh, Alexander M.-New Jersey
- 3. Tobias, Gregg-Minnesota
- 4. Weisman, Daniel O.-Kentucky
- 5. Boydston, Michael, J.-Connecticut
- 6. Marystany, Daniel-No. Ohio
- 7. Charlick, Daniel-No. Ohio
- 8. Freitas, Carlos-Hudson-Berkshires
- 9. Hoberg, Michael Dean-No. California
- 10. Oliver, William-Colorado
- 11. Elgart, James Preston-New England
- 12. Boylan, Cornelius-Connecticut 13. Slota, Thomas J.-Illinois
- 14. Speicher, Eric-San Diego
- 15. McEldery, Sean Colin-Inland Empire 16. Dreyhaupt, Scott Y.-New Jersey

- Men's Saber-98 entries
- 1. Beatty, Christopher-Colorado
- 2. Stollman, David-Michigan
- 3. Dosman, Matthew-Michigan
- 4. Novotny, John Emil-Connecticut
- 5. Jafri, Mohsin Saleet-Metro., NY
- 6. Chung, Sung-New Jersey
- 7. Kane, Phil-New Jersey 8. Warshaw, Larry-Illinois
- 9. Burget, Brad-Illinois
- 10. Cilio, Todd-New Jersey
- 11. Rosen, Jeff E.-Colorado
- 12. Helewa, Kevin-New Jersey
- 13. Ansani, Michael D.-Illinois
- 14. D'Amico, Leonard-Cent. California
- 15. Friedlich, Avi-So. California
- 16. Sarraf, Shimon-New Jersey

Women's Foil-129 Entries

- 1. Martin, Margaret-Western NY
- 2. Kavaler, Betsy-Metro., NY
- 3. Jones, Melanie-No. Ohio
- 4. Campbell, Kristine-Georgia
- 5. Le, Nhi Lan-Georgia
- 6. Metzger, Mary-Cent. California
- 7. Kralicek, Kristin-Oregon
- 8. Kowalski, Katie-Gulf Coast, TX 9. Petit-Michel, Marie-Philadelphia
- 10. Westrick, Judy A.-Philadelphia
- 11. Krusen, Kathryn-No. California
- 12. Frye, Mary Patricia-Michigan
- 13. Kass, Sara K .- Metro., NY
- 14. Reynolds, Deidre Ann-Connecticut
- 15. Powell, Helen E.-Capitol 16. Bai, Grace-New England

Women's Epee-73 Entries

- 1. Furu, Kathryn-Illinois
- 2. Morrison, Veronica-Capitol
- 3. Zester, Jennifer-New Jersey
- 4. Askins, Leith-So. Texas 5. Bottone, Maria-Western New York
- 6. Thompson, Jeanne-St. Louis 7. Pendleton-Parker, Carolyn-Gold Coast
- 8. Serafini, Cheryl-Cent. Florida
- 9. Barry, Nora L.-Philadelphia 10. Reibman, Amy Dunham-No. Carolina
- 11. Obenchain, Janel-Illinois
- 12. Summers, Chanel-France-So. Calif.
- 13. Haugh, Kelly-Oregon 14. Zamoyta, Rueh-Hudson-Berkshire
- 15. Powell, Helen-Capitol 16. Sourada, Martina-Western New York

- Women's Saber 37 Entries 1. Ganchev, Sylvana-So. California
- 2. Adrian, Marlene-Illinois
- 3. Krusen, Kathryn-No. California 4. McCreary, Michele-So. Texas
- 5. Serafini, Cheryl-Cent. Florida
- 6. Kass, Sara A.-Metro., NY 7. Kramer, Susan W.-Georgia
- 8. Roberts, Jessica-Flor. Gold Coast
- 9. McKenzie, Randi E.-San Diego 10. Fadner, Sydney Jane-New England
- 11. Hall, Linda Burdick-Illinois
- 12. Sammarco, Alissa-No. Ohio 13. Cameron, Christine B.-Michigan
- 14. Felty, Louisa-Kentucky
- 15. Beegle, C.J.-Western Washington
- 16. Rosenberg, Stefanie Marie-Iowa



The Fencers Club wins the Martini Trophy again. Shown above are members (five missing) of the first place foil, saber and women's foil team events, and their proud coaches, S. Pinkhasov, Csaba Elthes and Aladar Kogler

photo by David Bases

1988 USFA NATIONAL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

Men's Foil Team - 23 Teams

1st. Fencers Club

- Metropolitan, NY –
- J. Bukantz, N. Cohen, P. Lewison,
- E. Rosenberg, J. Tichacek

2nd Salle Auriol

- -Oregon-
- P. DesGeorges, P. Gerard, D. Krogh,
- M. Marx, R. Marx

3rd Letterman Fencers Club

- -Northern California-
- L. Bello, D. Blayney, P. Combes,
- M. Headley, R. Vidor

4th New York Athletic Club

- -Metropolitan, New York-
- E. Ballinger, M. Kent, T. Madrid,
- C. Maggos, T. Mueller

Men's Epee Teams - 19 Team

1st New York Athletic Club

- -Metropolitan, NY-
- E. Bianchi, H. Farley, G. Masin,
- J. Normile, S. Trevor

2nd Halberstadt Fencers Club

- -Northern California-
- C. Block, R. Cotter, P. Skollman, P. Sloter,
- T. Thompson

3rd Salle Santelli, New Jersey

- NewJersey –
- S. Griffiths, J. Gryzmski, L. Shelley,
- K. Swick, J. Urban

4th Fencers Club

- -Metropolitan, NY-
- R. Alexander, M. Giuliotti, C. Melcher,
- J. Melcher, L. Seigel

Men's Saber Team - 15 Teams

1st. Fencers Club

- -Metropolitan, NY-
- P. Westbrook, M. Lofton, S. Mormando,
- G. Rodriguez, R. Cottingham

2nd New York Athletic Club

- -Metropolitan, NY-
- M. D'Asaro, P. Friedberg, I. Pleskun,
- J. Friedberg, G. Gonzalez-Rives

3rd Salle Csizar

- Philadelphia
- D. Anthony, A. Bullock, E. Dew,
- A. Lewis, C. Reohr

4th Yale Fencing Club

- -Connecticut-
- S. Baz, S. Blum, J. Chai, M. Haspek,
- J. Novstny

Women's Foil Team - 13 Teams

1st Fencers Club

- -Metropolitan, NY-
- C. Bilodeaux, I. Hamori, L. Piazza,
- S. Monplaisir, M. Verhave

2nd Salle Csizar

- -Philadelphia-
- J. Hall, R. Hayes-Daniel, J. Yee,
- M.J. O'Neill, G. Rossman

3rd Fencing Center

- –Central California –
- S. LaHara, M. Metzger, J. Posthumus, Jennifer Yu, Jessica Yu

4th Salle Santelli, New Jersey

- -New Jersey-
- M. Bitar, C. Black, I. Hayes,
- D. Piccininno, D. Stone

Women's Epee Team-14 Teams

1st Halberstadt Fencers Club

- -Northern California-
- L. Clark, E. Erdos, J. Gilbert, K. Krusen

2nd Salle Csizar

- -Philadelphia-
- M. Kosch, K. Lewis, M.J. O'Neill,
- M. Szabunia, J. Yee

3rd Salle Auriol

- -Oregon-
- M. Adrian, T. Goodnight, A. Klinger,
- L. Maskell, B. Turpin

4th Boston Fencing Club

- -New England-
- S. Fadner, J. O'Donnell, D. Wylie,
- S. Wyss

1988 USFA UNDER-19 CHAMPIONSHIPS

Men's Foil-57 Entries

- 1. Carter, Al-So. California
- 2. Huttenbach, Joshua-Metro., NY
- 3. Weber, Alan A.-Philadelphia
- 4. Skrabonja, Randall New Jersey 5. Yorukoglu, Murat-Cent. Pennsylvania
- 6. Maggos, Christopher-Metro., NY
- 7. Bravin, Eric Nicky-So. California
- 8. Atkins, Ben-Metro., NY
- 9. Osborn, Frank-Michigan
- 10. Leary, Philip Adam-Indiana
- 11. Maggio, Jonathon S.-Metro., NY
- 12. Herries, Josh-Colorado
- 13. Bases, Daniel-Westchester
- 14. Krogh, Daniel-Oregon
- 15. Flaschka, Walter-Arizona
- 16. Longenbach, Zaddick-Metro., NY

Men's Epee-54 Entries

- 1. Thompson, Spenser-So. California
- 2. Andresen, Matthew-No. California
- 3. Schwartz, Michael-Oregon
- 4. Patton, Eric D.-Oregon
- 5. Tausig, Justin David-New Jersey
- 6. Atkins, Ben-Metro., NY
- 7. Butler, Chris-Cent. Florida
- 8. Adamovich, Dennis-Long Island, NY
- 9. Brett-Major, David-Central Florida
- 10. Feldschuh, Michael-Metro., NY
- 11. Mergen, Matthew-Indiana
- 12. Horn, Deric-Or. Cst. Ca.
- 13. Pavese, Marc-Metro., NY 14. McEldery, Sean Colin-Inland Empire
- 15. Herries, Josh-Colorado
- 16. Blat, Robert-Minnesota

Men's Saber-40 Entries

- 1. Talioferro, James D.-New Jersey
- 2. Kane, Phil-New Jersey
- 3. Cilio, Todd-New Jersey
- 4. Strzalkowski, Tomasz-Virginia
- 5. Maggio, Jonathon S.-Metro., NY
- 6. Baguer, Edward-New Jersey
- 7. Friedlich, Avi-So. California
- 8. Kovacs, Stephen M.-New Jersey
- 9. D'Amico, Leonard-Cent. California
- 10. Rhines, Jared-New Jersey 11. Chou, Henry-New Jersey
- 12. Haegele, Scott-New Jersey
- 13. Yu, Daniel-Indiana
- 14. Rezazadeh, Ali-So. California 15. Baguer, Christian E.-Indiana
- 16. Sarosi, Garreth A.-Gulf Coast, TX

Women's Foil-50 Entries

- 1. Moy, Tzu Ling West-Metro., NY
- 2. Marsh, Ann-Michigan
- 3. Campbell, Kristine Ann-Georgia
- 4. Jones, Melanie-So. Ohio
- 5. Clinton, Marijoy Western New York
- 6. Honig, Lisa-Colorado
- 7. Rossman, Janet-Cent. Pennsylvania 8. Kowalski, Katie-Gulf Coast, TX
- 9. Posthumus, Jennifer-Cent. California
- 10. Posthumus, Lisa-Cent. California
- 11. Spilman, Elisabeth-No. California 12. Turner, Susan M.-So. California
- 13. Tobia, Jill-New Jersey
- 14. Zimmerman, Felicia T.-Western NY
- 15. Kang, Lana-New Jersey
- 16. Murray, Jennifer-Long Island, NY

Results.

Women's Epee-18 Entries

- 1. Kmetzo, Laura-Connecticut
- 2. Haugh, Rachel-Oregon
- 3. Goodnight, Tracy-Oregon
- 4. Obenchain, Janel Illinois
- 5. Sourada, Martina-Western NY
- 6. Haugh, Kelly-Oregon
- 7. Summers, Chanel-France-So. California
- 8. Spilman, Elisabeth-No. California
- 9. Kelly, Tara-South Texas
- 10. Spilman, Frederica-Maryland
- 11. Campi, Lisa Michele-New Jersey
- 12. Howard, Michele Renee-South Texas
- 13. Honig, Lisa-Colorado
- 14. Cutler, Melissa-Minnesota
- 15. Flaherty, Brenna-Michigan
- 16. Wyss, Sarah-New England



SECTIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS NORTH ATLANTIC SECTIONALS

Suny, Purchase, NY

May 7-8, 1988

Men's Foil

- 1. Epply-Schmidt, Paul-Connecticut 2. Comas, David-Connecticut
- 3. Bloomer, W. Martin-Connecticut
- 3. Bloomer, w. warun—Connecticu
- 4. Cheu, Elliot-Western New York 5. Raim, Clifford-Long Island, NY
- 6. Boyer, Jr., Robert-Westchester

Men's Epee

- 1. Poslusny, George-Long Island
- 2. Gorman, Tom-New England
- 3. Elgart, James P.-New England
- 4. Boyer, Jr., Robert-Westchester
- 5. Adamovich, Dennis-Long Island, NY
- 6. Nemeth, Gary-Long Island, NY

Men's Saber

- 1. Moves, Herbert-Long Island
- $2.\ Heyworth, Greg-Connecticut$
- 3. Novotny, John-Connecticut
- 4. Schlick, Calvert-Westchester
- 5. Young, Wang-Connecticut
- 6. Boyer Jr., Robert-Westchester

Women's Foil

- 1. Samet, Randi-Long Island, NY
- 2. Verhave, Michelle Western New York
- 3. Martin, Margaret A.-Western New York
- 4. O'Donnell, Judith B. New England
- 5. Fadner, Snyder Jan-New England
- 6. Burton-Malkani, Tracy-Connecticut

Women's Epee

- 1. O'Donnell, Judith B .- New England
- 2. Bottone, Maria-Western New York
- 3. Sourada, Martina-Western New York
- 4. Annaveder, Mary-New England
- $5.\ Whitefield,\ Heather-Hudson-Berkshire$
- $6.\ Kmetzo,\ Laura-Connecticut$

Women's Saber

- 1. Dodd, Eileen-New England
- 2. Newman, Sheryl-Western New York
- 3. Smith, Libby-Connecticut
- 4. Wallfesh, Sandra-Connecticut
- 5. Adams, Peg-New england
- 6. Rudolph, Dana-New England

MID-ATLANTIC SECTIONALS

York, PA May 7-8, 1988

Men's Foil-41 entries

- 1. Littell, David
- 2. Feldman, Adam 3. Boustany, Marc
- 4. Washburn, Charles
- 5. Edgington, Robert
- 6. Huis, Louis

Men's Epee-37 Entries

- 1. O'Loughlin, Chris
- 2. Hughes, Michael
- 3. Allgeier, Axel
- 4. Daggs, Steven
- 5. Flint, James
- 6. Chavin, Ken

Men's Saber-30 entries

- 1. Mun, Ki Chang
- 2. Krasowitz, Jason
- 3. Tishman, Jeffrey
- 4. Bullock, Andrew
- 5. Parilla, Ulpiano
- 6. Morrow, Wes

Women's Foil-31 Entries

- 1. Bosco, Marianne
- 2. Petit-Michel, Marie
- 3. Bitar, Muna
- 4. Raimondo, Norina
- 5. Theriault, Debbie
- 6. Turney, Patricia

Women's Epee-19 Entries

- 1. Szabunia, Margo
- 2. Chaplinski, Sharon
- 3. Collinge, Sharon
- 4. Merski, Chris 5. Lewis, Kathryn
- 6. Raimondo, Norina

Women's Saber-4 Entries

- 1. Gertz, Caroline
- 2. Campi, Barbara
- 3. Bender-Davis, Jeannine
- 4. Brock, Francis

State College, PA April 30-May 1, 1988

Under-19 Men's Foil-24 Entries

- 1. Stanczak, Thomas
- 2. Calallero, Raul
- 3. Siebenlist, Brien
- 4. Borin, Thomas 5. Tifft. Robert
- 6. Rosa, Thomas

Under-19 Men's Epee-23 Entries

- 1. Devine, Peter
- 2. Clinton, Colin
- 3. Zakow, Andre 4. Bayer, Cliff
- 5. Carlino, Jeff
- 6. Derrick, Alex

Under-19 Men's Saber-22 Entries

- 1. Baguer, Ed
- Haegele, Scott
 Chou, Henry
- 4. Kulakowski, Dom
- 5. Kane, Philip
- 6. Cilio, Todd

Under 19-Women's Foil-24 Entries

- 1. Bitar, Muna
- 2. Tobia, Jill
- 3. Trunnel, Lea
- 4. Dhondt, Jennifer
- 5. Kang, Lana 6. Gray, Nicole

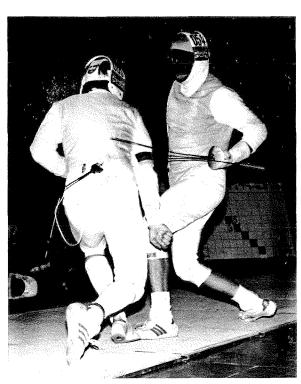
Under-19 Women's Epee-7 Entries

- 1. Campi, Lisa
- 2. Lane, Erin
- 3. Wollock, Amy
- 4. Starcher, Kim
- 5. Knowles, Heather
- 6. Clark, Kristen

NOTICE:

The number of entries in National Division I and Division II Competitions, Circuit Opens and J.O. events have grown significantly in recent years. The use of repechage and inclusion of the Brazilian system has added still further to the amount of records required for each competition. For this reason, complete reporting of all events cannot be accommodated in American Fencing.

Complete records can be obtain from the USFA office in Colorado Springs for \$2.50 + postage.



Jeffrey Bukantz, right, hits Klaus Reichert (W. GER) on the back during the Pan-Am Games

photo by Karina A. Hoskyns



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