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ANTHONY (Jack) KEANE
Pan American Sabre Champion

(See Page 6)

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DEADLINES FOR 1967-68 ISSUES

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JUNIOR 20 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

by William Latzko

Junior 20 World Championships is held for the weekend of April 12 through 14, in London, England. All eligible fencers, who desire to participate in this competition, should send their request and or eligibility to Mr. George Worth, Secretary, before December 31, 1967. The committee will consider the requests and those who will be permitted to enter.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

by Joan Huguenin

"C": 1. Bente Wasserman, DCFC; 2. Lyons, DCFC; 3. Joan Huguenin, DCFC.
1. Bruce Lyons, DCFC; 2. Sid Huguenin, DCFC; 3. Robert Fonner, WFC.

COLORADO

by Elizabeth Green

1. Jed Chapin, CFC; 2. Earl Winston, CFC; 3. John Kreisheimer and John Kalinowski, CFC.

Open: 1. Jules Kreisheimer, CFC; 2. Joe Cook, CFC; 3. Brenda Cook, LaSalle D'Armes.

CONNECTICUT TROPHY

by William J. Latzko

The Connecticut Trophy was won by the Gulf Coast division on the basis of their fine increase in membership and large program of competitions. This division has in the past achieved the Award on several occasions. Runner-up, North Texas division, has held the cup two years in succession. Third place, Northern Ohio division, showed strong growth this year.

Of 51 divisions, 31 submitted reports. Below are listed those with more than the 300 points which constitutes average performance:

1. Gulf Coast	624
2. North Texas	446
3. Northern Ohio	434
4. Kansas	407
5. South Texas	398
6. Western Washington	390
7. Southern California	374
8. West Virginia	367
9. Maryland	364
10. Long Island	354
11. Kentucky	348
12. Central Florida	300

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Membership. Initial responses to our annual AFLA membership mailing in September 1967 appear to be quite encouraging. Each member of the league for the 1965-1966 and 1966-1967 fencing season received a copy of our brochure "Spectator Understanding of Fencing." The reverse side of the membership card contained a listing of the various promotional materials available from the AFLA. Many requests have been received. However, we should like to remind all fencers that our supplies of such material is not endless and reasonableness should be exercised in requisitioning.

Riviera Fencing Classic: Arrangements have been concluded with the Riviera Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada for the second annual Riviera fencing tournament. For its part in arranging and conducting the competition, the AFLA Trust Funds will be the recipient of a contribution of \$2,500.00 (less applicable expenses). Each AFLA member will receive a brochure from the Riviera Hotel containing information regarding to meet. A full page ad also is included in this issue of the magazine. We hope that many of you will attend what promises to be an outstanding event — both from a fencing and social viewpoint.

National Championships — 1968. At its meeting in September, the Board of Directors confirmed the site of the 1968 U. S. A. National Championships in Miami, Florida — from June 21 to June 29. We are confident that the Florida Gold Coast Division will be prepared to conduct an outstanding competition and your National Office is more than eager to assist in any way possible to ensure its success.

The fencing events will take place in the Bayfront Auditorium which has 20,000 square feet of air conditioned space available for the strips. The staging of the meet in Miami should tremendously aid the growth of fencing in the area. Publicity coverage via radio, newspaper and T. V. will be generated by the Convention Bureau of the City of Miami.

Fund Raising. To foster fund-raising activities, the National Office provided that organized campaigns may be instituted by AFLA Divisions where the proceeds of such efforts

may be apportioned between the AFLA National Office and the respective AFLA Divisions. Division Chairmen should write for complete details.

Junior Olympic Development. We hope that AFLA Division Chairmen will actively supervise this phase of our sport. Complete details of how to apply for Development Funds was contained in the September issue of American Fencing Magazine. Clinics, seminars, etc. primarily at the high school level are the secret for growth in fencing activity.

High school and college AFLA competitions should be provided to expose the fencers to the Amateur Fencers League of America. Films are an excellent means to arouse interest — a listing of available fencing films can be obtained from your National Secretary.

Trans-World Airlines. Your response to the travel questionnaire included in the July issue of the magazine was most instrumental in allowing us to renew our advertising contract with TWA for another fencing season. Please travel by TWA wherever possible. If traveling on official fencing affairs, your ticket is tax-exempt.

Norman Lewis

OLYMPIC TRAINING

by Norman Lewis

To assist us in our training program for the Olympics in Mexico in October, 1968, Mr. Eugene Blanc, President of the Fencers Club of New York, has generously donated the facilities of the Club every Saturday, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Olympic squad members will train under the supervision of Olympic coaches, Messrs. Michel Alaux and Csaba Elthes. The training program will be solely under their supervision and should prove of tremendous assistance to our fencers in enabling them to have planned workouts and training bouts. It is hoped that fencing clubs and salles throughout the country will follow the lead of the Fencers Club and arrange for similar training sessions for our Olympic hopefuls. Only by such programs can we hope to obtain medals in the Mexican Olympics.

NATIONAL RANKINGS

by William J. Latzko

Below are the rankings approved by the Board of Directors at its annual meeting of September 29, 1967. The rankings are based upon the performance of the fencers in the 1967 National Championships, and consider only the American finalists and their scores.

MIL	EPEE	SABRE	WOMEN'S
1st Axelrod	Paul Pesthy	Al Morales	Harriet King
2nd Ananias	Carl Borack	Walter Farber	Veronica Smith
3rd Richards	Frank Angler	Mike Dasaro	Maxine Mitchell
4th Checks	Jay Miller	Robert Blum	Bonnie Linkmeyer
5th Russell	Ralph Spinella	Alex Orban	Janice Romary
6th Jones	Stephen Netburn	Thomas Balla	Sally Pechinsky
7th Mannino	Henry Kolowrat	A. Jack Keane	Tommy Angell
8th Esponda	Robert Beck	Csaba Gall	Averil Genton
9th Gaylor	Gil Eisner	Laszlo Pongo	Margaret Jesseph

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

by William Latzko

The following committees have been appointed for 1968:

NOMINATING — Steve Sobel*, James Melcher, Dr. John Shinner, Mary Gehant, Paul Etter

EXECUTIVE — Norman Lewis*, William Latzko, Leo Sobel, George Worth, Steve Sobel, Wally Farber, Michel Alaux

LAW — Alan Ruben*, Ed Zeisig

RULES — Steve Sobel*, Dan Bukantz, Ralph Zimmerman

ELECTRICAL — Joseph Byrnes*, Dan DeChaine, Cadol Eskeson, Fred Duncan, Manny Forrest

PLANNING — Eugene Blanc, Jr.*, Michel Alaux, Robert Blum, Dan Bukantz, Hugo Castello, Irving Dekoff, Harold Goldsmith, Ralph Goldstein, Nat Lubell, Stan Sieja

REINSTATEMENT — Dr. J. Flynn*, A. John Geraci, Gerald Biagini, Art Olson, Walt Gaylor, Fred Rayser, Jack Keane

AAU DELEGATE — George Worth*, Daniel Bukantz

MODERN PENTATHLON DELEGATE — General John V. Grombach*

TRANSPORTATION — Roland Asselin*

AUDITING — Peter Tishman*

* Chairman



NOTE YOUR SPORT

Five full-color decals available for \$1.00. Can be used on luggage, bags, book covers, etc. Order from 1-62 Street, West New York, N. J. Also available for Division fund raisings — write for details.

REMINDER: This is your last issue unless you have paid your AFLA dues.

AMERICAN FENCING



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7 PAN AMERICAN FENCING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Leon Zeisig, U.S. Team Captain

Fencing was conducted in The High-rolling Club and facilities were excellent. Winnipeg went all out to welcome us and there was great interest in the event. I would you believe 1200 spectators for the event?

Complete results are printed herein, but this report will limit itself to the U.S. team. In the eight events we won two places, four seconds and one third. In the individual events we were permitted in each round every one of our selections was allowed a round of six. In choosing the competitors we had the benefit of our National Championships and the U.S. Championships. The captain also had the benefit of helpful comments from the manager and the fencers themselves in making his selections.

Farber received excellent support from Stan Sieja and coaches Delmar and Csaba Elthes. A special tribute is due to Dechaine for his efficient attention to the needs of our team and the international good will he is lending a helping hand to fencers from other countries when the need arose.

The choice of Axelrod was obvious, but the second choice was more difficult. Richards and Russell placed higher than the Nationals, but Russell had the edge in the World Championships and so he was at the top of his game, so he was chosen.

Keane reached the final. Russell had the advantage of facing Axelrod and defending-American Champion Saucedo of Cuba in his first two bouts. He lost both bouts and seemed to lose momentum. However, the team man, he defeated Argentinini who seemed to have Axelrod's number by knocking Nannini out of any possibility of winning. With a 2/3 record Russell won the fourth.

Keane reached his final bout. Axelrod could not win the championship if he beat Saucedo. Saucedo led 3-0, then Axelrod ran off 3-0 and it looked like he had the corner situation. Saucedo proved his hip caliber by winning the next two bouts and thus giving Keane his fourth Pan American foil silver medal.

Preliminary (4 qualify)

Pool I - Garcia, Venezuela, 4/1; Wiedel, Canada, 4/1; Saucedo, Argentina, 3/2; Tamayo, Colombia, 3/2; Veitroni, Uruguay, 1/4; Cabrejos, Peru, 0/5.

Pool II - Russell, USA, 5/0; Penabella, Cuba, 3/2; Nannini, Argentina, 3/2; Badano, Uruguay, 3/2; Hernandez, Colombia, 1/4; Harris, Panama, 0/5.

Pool III - Axelrod, USA, 5/1; Ruiz, Cuba, 5/1; Obst, Canada, 3/3, 22 t.r.; Fernandez, Venezuela, 3/3, 22 t.r.; Guillen, Peru, 3/3, 23 t.r.; Illueca, Panama, 1/5.

Semi Final (3 qualify)

Pool I - Saucedo 4/1; Ruiz 3/2; Russell 3/2; Fernandez 2/3, 18 t.r.; Tamayo 2/3, 21 t.r.; Wiedel 1/4.

Pool II - Nannini 4/1; Axelrod 3/2; Penabella 3/2; Obst 2/3; Badano 2/3; Garcia 1/4.

Final

1. Saucedo, Argentina, 5/0; 2. Axelrod, USA, 3/2, 15 t.r.; 3. Nannini, Argentina, 3/2, 20 t.r.; 4. Russell, USA, 2/3; 5. Penabella, Cuba, 1/4, 20 t.r.; 6. Ruiz, Cuba, 1/4, 22 t.r.

Sabre. Farber was our logical first choice but the selection of the second man was probably the most difficult decision to be made. On the record Balla had a slight edge over Keane but the latter had more experience in international competition. We believed his dramatic style and great will to win would carry him farther and fortunately the decision proved to be the right one.

Both of our men reached the final with relative ease. However, although Farber was the favorite, the tenor of the final was established when Keane defeated Farber in the opener 5-4. Fencing with keen (no pun) strategy and in very crisp fashion, Keane locked up the championship before his final bout against P. Samek of Canada. Jack knew that if he beat Samek Farber could still win third by defeating L. Samek 5-3 in his last bout. Keane did his part, but Farber lost 5-4 after leading 4-1 and thus finished in sixth place.

Pool I - Quinos, Argentina, 4/0; Ibarzabal, Cuba, 3/1; Farber, USA, 2/2; Duran, Colombia, 1/3; Alarcan, Peru, 0/4.

Pool II - Bravo, Chile, 5/0; Keane, USA, 4/1; Muller, Neth. Antilles, 3/2; L. Samek, Canada, 2/3; Harris, Panama, 1/4; Salazar, Peru, 0/5.

Pool III - P. Samek, Canada, 4/1; Lanteri, Argentina, 4/1; Boutmy, Neth. Antilles, 3/2; Penabella, Cuba, 3/2; Posada, Colombia, 1/4; Illuega, Panama, 0/5.

Semi-final (3 qualify)

Pool I - Lanteri, 4/1; Farber, 4/1; L. Samek, 3/2; Ibarzabal, 2/3; Bravo, 0/4; Boutmy, 0/4.

Pool II - Keane, 5/0; Quinos, 4/1; P. Samek, 3/2; Penabella, 2/3; Muller, 1/4; Duran, 0/5.

Final

1. Keane, USA, 5/0; 2. Quinos, Argentina, 3/2; 3. P. Samek, Canada, 2/3, 20 t.r.; 4. Lanteri, Argentina, 2/3, 22 t.r.; 5. L. Samek, Canada, 2/3, 23 t.r.; 6. Farber, USA, 1/4.

Foil Team. We decided to use Richards and Checks against the first two teams (Venezuela and Cuba), alternating Russell and Axelrod, so as to judge who to use as the competition grew tougher. After two losses against a weak Venezuelan team it was obvious that Axelrod was not his usual self.

We knew Argentina was the team to beat and they were our last match. To that point the three other fencers had done very well: Checks 9/0, Richards 9/0, Russell 5/2 while Axelrod had lost twice to Nannini in the individuals and had also lost to Saucedo. I decided to go without Albie. Unfortunately the winning trio had come to the end of their string. Russell and Checks had 1/1 records and Richards stood 0/2 when he faced Petrella. He had to win to keep us alive. The bout went to 4-all but Ed lost the fifth touch and we had to settle for second place.

Preliminary (2 qualify)

Pool A - Venezuela d. Peru 6/3
Argentina d. Peru 5/4

Pool B - U.S.A. d. Colombia 5/1 (Richards 2/0, Checks 2/0, Russell 1/1)
Uruguay d. Colombia 7/2

Pool C - Canada d. Panama 6/3
Cuba d. Panama 6/0

Semi-Final (2 qualify)

Pool A - Canada d. Uruguay 6/3
Argentina d. Uruguay 5/1

Pool B - U.S.A. d. Venezuela 5/2 (Richards 3/0, Axelrod 0/2, Checks 2/0)
Cuba d. Venezuela 6/3

Final

1. Argentina d. Canada 5/4
d. U.S.A. 5/2 (Richards 0/3, Russell 1/1, Checks 1/1)
d. Cuba 5/4

2. U.S.A. d. Canada 5/1 (Russell 1/1, Checks 2/0, Richards 2/0)
d. Cuba 8/1 (Russell 3/0, Checks 3/0, Richards 2/1)

3. Cuba d. Canada 5/2

Sabre Team. Ah, those sabre fencers! They were superb.

We used Gall in the first two matches and he came through in fine style with a 4/1 record. However, we needed our greatest strength in the final round and stayed with Keane, Farber and Balla.

Keane demonstrated that his individual championship was no fluke by winning six and losing only one by 5-4 on a questionable decision. Cuba proved to be our toughest opponent as we nosed them out 5/4, but the match for gold medal was against Argentina and we won 5/1. Farber re-established his reputation as a team man with a 10/2 record and Balla, out to prove he should have been selected for the individuals certainly made a good argument with his 11/2 record.

Preliminary (2 qualify)

Pool A - U.S.A. d. Peru 9/0 (Gall, Farber, Balla)
Cuba d. Colombia 5/4 and Peru 5/4
U.S.A. d. Colombia 6/1 (Balla 3/0, Gall 1/1, Farber 2/0)

Pool B - Canada d. Neth. Antilles 5/4
Argentina d. Neth. Antilles 5/2

Final

1. U.S.A. d. Argentina 5/1 (Balla 2/0, Farber 1/1, Keane 2/0)

d. Cuba 5/4 (Keane 2/1, Balla 1/2, Farber 2/1)
d. Canada 6/0, (Balla 2/0, Keane 2/0, Farber 2/0)

2. Argentina d. Canada 5-4 and Cuba 7/2
3. Canada d. Cuba 5/3.

Women. National champion King was of course the first choice, but again a decision as to the second spot was difficult. Mitchell had fenced well in the World Championships; Romary had not fenced well in the Nationals due to a bad knee and hadn't participated in the World Championships; Smith out-ranked both Mitchell and Romary in the National standings. However, it was felt that Smith had to yield to the greater experience of Mitchell and Romary and that as between Smith and Romary the latter's consistent top-shelf performance over the past many years couldn't be denied.

King breezed through the prelims and semis with a 9/1 record. Romary reached the final with considerably more difficulty. The knee, which had given no trouble throughout the practice sessions, started acting up again and greatly handicapped her.

In the final it appeared from the outset that Roldan of Mexico was the girl to beat. Her only loss in the final was to King 5-1 but at that point she already had won the gold medal. King was clearly the second strongest fencer on this day deserved her silver medal. Unfortunately, her inability to handle Wiedel of Canada still plagues her and she lost 5-0

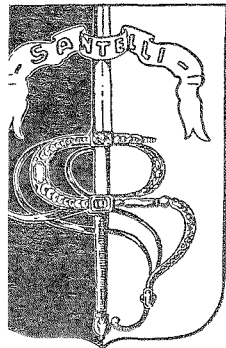
casian in addition to a 5-2 loss
z of Cuba, a strong fencer.

there was a three-way tie for
e. King took second with eleven
ceived, Wiedel was third with
Romary fourth with fourteen. We
know how a sound Romary might
but she showed great spirit in
ee bouts with her very bad knee.

Preliminary (4 qualify)
USA, 4/0; Obrador, Cuba, 2/2; Rubio,
2/2; Falcon, Argentina, 1/3; Chatel,
/3.
dan, Mexico, 5/0; Romary, USA, 3/2;
Cuba, 3/2; Anselma, Neth. Antilles,
r.; Espino, Panama, 2/3, 17 t.r.; De
Colombia, 0/5.
nana, Argentina, 4/1; Wiedel, Canada,
rro, Venezuela, 3/2; Pereyon, Mexico,
, Neth. Antilles, 1/4; Worthington,
/4.

Semi-final (3 qualify)
an, 4/1; Wiedel, 3/2; Romary, 2/3; 13
or, 2/3, 13 t.r.; Anselma, 2/3, 17 t.r.;
/3, 18 t.r.
g, USA, 4/1; Rodriguez, 4/1; Pereyon,
no, 2/3; Rubio, 1/4; Falcon, 1/4.

Final
exico, 4/1; 2. King, USA, 3/2, 11 t.r.;
Canada, 3/2, 12 t.r.; 4. Romary, USA,



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3/2, 14 t.r.; 5. Rodriguez, Cuba, 2/3; Pereyon,
Mexico, 0/5.

Epee. Pesthy's selection as our national
champion could not be denied. It was felt
that the greater experience of Anger and
Spinella made either of them choice over
Borack. As between Anger and Spinella the
choice was a difficult one, but on over all
balance Anger was the choice. (Ed. Note:
Anger was the defending Pan American
Champion).

The epee field was the largest in the
tournament and perhaps the toughest. Oliveros
of Cuba was supposed to be very strong, but
the ultimate trouble came from another
source. Oliveros was knocked out in the first
round and our two men made the final.

In their first bout of the final Anger and
Pesthy went to five-all with Pesthy scoring
the win-as time was running out. It soon be-
came apparent that Telles, a lean younger
fencer from Brazil, was a man to be reckoned
with. He beat Anger 5-4 while Pesthy dropped
bouts to Bakonyi of Canada and Taboado
of Argentina to put him out of the running
for first place. Pesthy did defeat Telles 5-2
but by then the Brazilian had the gold
medal clinched. Both of our men finished with
3/2 records with Anger taking second over
Pesthy by the margin of one touch.

Preliminary (3 qualify)
Pool I - Von Nostitz, Canada, 4/1; Almada, Mexico,
3/2; Loyer, Chile, 2/3, 17 t.r.; Hellement, Neth.
Antilles, 2/3, 20 t.r.; Fernandez, Venezuela, 2/3,
21 t.r.; Pinilla, Colombia, 2/3, 22 t.r.
Pool II - Telles, Brazil, 4/1; Pesthy, USA, 3/2;
Taboada, Argentina, 2/3, 20 t.r.; Ruiz, Cuba,
2/3, 22 t.r.; Drayer, Venezuela, 2/3, 23 t.r.;
Sastre, Colombia, 2/3, 23 t.r.
Pool III - Vergara, Chile, 5/0; Bakonyi, Canada,
4/1; Smith, Neth. Antilles, 2/3, 17 t.r.; Arias,
Panama, 2/3, 21 t.r.; Byer, Trinidad, 2/3, 21 t.r.;
Salazar, Peru, 0/5.
Pool IV - Anger, USA, 4/1; Marcondes, Brazil, 4/1;
Obeid, Argentina, 3/2; Oliveros, Cuba, 2/3, 19
t.r.; Guillen, Peru, 2/3, 20 t.r.; Fernandez, Mexico,
0/5.

Semi-final (3 qualify)
Pool I - Anger, 3/2, 15 t.r.; Taboada 3/2, 16 t.r.;
Almada, 3/2, 18 t.r.; Marcondes, 3/2, 21 t.r.;
Loyer, 2/3; Von Nostitz, 1/4.
Pool II - Telles, 4/1; Pesthy, 3/2; Bakonyi, 3/2;
Obeid, 2/3; Vergara, 2/3; Smith, 0/5.

Final
1. Telles, Brazil, 4/1; 2. Anger, USA, 3/2, 19 t.r.;
3. Pesthy, USA, 3/2, 20 t.r.; 4. Taboada, Argen-
tina, 3/2, 22 t.r.; 5. Bakonyi, Canada, 2/3; 6.
Almada, Mexico, 0/5.

Women's Team. With Romary disabled,
we went along with King, Mitchell and
Smith. The latter, with her relative inex-
perience, was the question mark. She fenced
very well, winning two out of two against
Panama in the preliminary, and with 3/0
against a strong Canadian team and one win
each against Argentina and Cuba. King
and Mitchell once again demonstrated their
"cool". King was 8/2 and Mitchell 7/2. In
the match against Argentina Mitchell's 3/0
record was most important since King dropped
one and Smith lost two. King reciprocated
against Cuba by taking three while Mitchell
dropped one and Smith two. This excellent
team work earned us another piece of gold.
I am sure the results would not have been
different, but it is too bad that Mexico is
having internal administrative problems and
did not field a team.

Preliminary (2 qualify)
2 V, King 1 V; Argentina d. Panama 6/3.
Pool A - USA d. Panama 5/0 (Smith 2 V, Mitchell
8/1.
Pool B - Canada d. Colombia 5/1; Cuba d. Colombia
8/1.

Final
1. U.S.A. d. Cuba 5/3 (Smith, 1/2, Mitchell, 1/1,
King 3/0);
d. Argentina 6/3 (King, 2/1; Smith, 1/2;
Mitchell, 3/0);
d. Canada 6/2 (King, 2/1; Smith, 3/0; Mitchell,
1/1).
2. Cuba d. Canada, 5/4 and Argentina 6/2
(Result of Canada-Argentina match not received).

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA by Beth Murray

Two summer workshops were recently
concluded, one on Teaching Fundamentals
and one on Officiating. As the result of
these workshops, the division has an addi-
tional five people qualified as Class 1 Direc-
tors. The Class 1 exam was thorough and was
conducted in three parts: written, oral, and
observation while directing a bout.

Considerable interest has been generated
in the division, as evidenced by the thirty-
four AFLA members we have now (an all-time
high) with membership dues still coming in.



Epee Team. It appeared from the very
outset that Pesthy was out to prove that
the best man had not won the individual
championship. He was unbeatable in ten
consecutive bouts, including among his vic-
tims the champion Telles of Brazil. With
Pesthy leading the way, we took the title.
There were some anxious moments against
Cuba when after leading 4-1 we let them
square the match at 4-all. However, Pesthy
came through with the important final bout.
Anger fenced steadily and came through
with 9/3.

In the first round we used Borack and
Spinella with Pesthy on the side lines. Borack
was 1/1 but Spinella looked sensational in
winning his two bouts. We stayed with
Spinella until he dropped two against Ven-
ezuela and then decided to give Borack an-
other chance in the match against Cuba.
When he dropped three, even though by
very close scores (5-5; 5-5; 5-3) we went
back to Spinella for the gold-medal match
against Brazil where he came through with
one victory.

Preliminary (2 qualify)
Pool A - U.S.A. d. Neth. Antilles 5/1 (Borack 1/1,
Spinella 2/0, Anger 2/0)
Cuba d. Neth. Antilles 5/4
Pool B - Brazil d. Colombia 5/0 and Peru 8/1
Chile d. Peru 5/0 and Colombia 5/1
Pool C - Canada d. Argentina 5/3
Venezuela d. Argentina 6/3

Semi-Final (2 qualify)
Pool A - U.S.A. d. Chile 5/0
Cuba d. Chile 7/2
Pool B - Argentina d. Canada 5/4
Brazil d. Canada 5/3

Final
1. U.S.A. d. Cuba 5/4 (Borack 0/3, Pesthy 3/0,
Anger 2/1)
d. Venezuela 6/3 (Anger 2/1, Spinella 1/2, Pesthy
3/0)
d. Brazil 5/2 (Anger 2/1, Spinella 1/1, Pesthy
2/0)
2. Brazil d. Venezuela 5/4 and Cuba 5/4
3. Venezuela d. Cuba 5/1

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REMINDER: This is your last issue unless you have paid your AFLA dues.

COMMENTS — PAN AMERICAN GAMES

by George V. Worth,
Member of Directoire Technique

an honor and great pleasure to be the Directoire Technique with Dr. Rene, past president of the Argentinian Committee; Virgilio de Leon, of the Panamanian Olympic Committee. David Romero Vargas, president of the Mexican Fencing Federation; and Imre Szabo, president of the National Fencing Federation.

Way to describe the preparation, organization and the site of the event is — it was the best ever. From other sports also expressed in Winnipeg is a fast growing, lovely scene that the people, to the last minute the success of the Games a goal. It was truly a community effort. The organizing Committee recruited leading men on all walks of life to pick a man would take charge of, organize and run his own handpicked volunteer staff. Active and produced some interesting events. The equestrian events, for example were run by an undertaker. Con- sideration in general has to be spelled with care. The leading car dealers turned in a number of luxury cars for the Games and the drivers, all were on call 24 hours a day. They were craftsmen, teachers, students, house-

Rothmann's, Canada's leading company, supplied about 50 station wagons by their salesmen who received a bonus for the service. More courteous and polite people I never

ing competition was held at the new curling club. In 32 years of international fencing I have never seen facilities for competition, training, and officials. The fencers lived in camp just 20 minutes away.

bad that the new rules, used for the first time in these Games, cut the entries to two per nation and the number of teams was reduced to three. The total entry of 16 to 20 seems to be of great importance of the championship, on the other hand it serves the

purpose of the change in that it gives the weaker countries a better chance for a prize.

I want to pay special tribute to the man responsible for the organization of the fencing events. Al Moore, a leading CPA in Winnipeg, had never seen fencing until the 1965 pre-Olympic events in Mexico. He was given a choice of ten sports but chose fencing because of its romance and a belief it would not require a lot of work to run. How sadly mistaken he was. He and I had several early discussions about what would be needed in terms of equipment and personnel. Al recruited a large group of volunteers who handled everything — hospitality, transportation, communications, operations, ceremonies, etc. — to the minutest detail. It is impossible to list all who with Al made these Games such a great success, but there is one man who must be mentioned. He is our own Phil Geller of Texas, a native of Winnipeg. Phil took a vacation from his work, went to Winnipeg and told Al he had come to help. And help he did. I don't know how we could have done without him. He and Al Moore were everywhere at once, with the smartly uniformed staff, asking "what can we do for you, what do you need". They had conducted a thorough training course for scorekeepers, time keepers, technicians, etc., so that everything went smoothly.

Under these circumstances the job of the Directoire Technique was made easy. M. Edgar Mercier of France was the FIE representative and Carlo Filogamo was present not only as FIE director but also as a member of the FIE Commission on Juries to observe and test prospective candidates for FIE list No. 2. Other FIE directors were Guido Malacarne of Italy, Ralph Goldstein and Chaba Pallaghy of the U.S., but Canadians and directors of other nations were used wherever possible.

There were an average of 1,000 people watching fencing every day. We had excellent press, radio and television coverage. Two of the most familiar faces among the spectators were Mike de Capriles, Chef de Mission for the U. S. and his Virgin Island counterpart, Tracy Jaeckel.

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AMERICAN FENCING

Page Eleven

THE U. S. NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS WHO SHOULD COMPETE?

by William J. Latzko

the newly formed Amateur Fencing League of America held its first championship in New York. Since these championships have grown in importance. More and more foreign fencers are attracted by the strength of the competition. The requesting admission to the U.S.A. Championships. Their entries were in the past since they added to the competition and allowed fencers to meet fencers from outside the U.S.

Should we continue this practice? It arises from two sources. First, even an expression among fencers that the U.S. National Championships should be U. S. Champion only. Secondly, there has been a great deal of concern of the U.S. and otherwise ineligible members of the eligible fencers' chances with the U.S. Pan American Games team. The range from retaining our present limiting the National Championships to eligible to represent the United States Olympic team. The subject is new at the next meeting of the Board of Directors. In order to allow all fencers to present their views to the Division Chairman, and he in turn present them to the Board, the various policies and motions, their pros and cons are set down here.

1. Entry to the U. S. National Championships to those qualified members who can represent the United States on an Olympic Team. Those in favor of this motion argue that the results of the National Championships should be used to assign points which count toward a final Olympic team. Those opposing this motion argue that ineligible members (U. S. fencers who are reinstated amateurs, permanent residents and foreigners) should be considered when the points are assigned to the top nine eligible fencers, they should be in the final rounds of the competition, but not in the following round thereby an eligible person from achieving a final Olympic team. Consequently, it is argued

that eligible persons are eliminated early in the competition by ineligible fencers and never get to the stage where they are considered for any points.

Those opposed to the motion point out that the promotion of an eligible fencer in early rounds is not dependent on a loss to an ineligible fencer, but on a loss to several eligible fencers. Further, if the ineligible fencer were replaced by an eligible fencer of the same caliber, the eliminated fencer would still be eliminated. His handicap is in his fencing, not in the eligibility of his opponent.

They further point out that to limit the entry as proposed would deny some AFLA members in good standing access to the National Championships. Since the qualifying rounds of a division are part of the Championships, these members may not enter the qualifying rounds. Many divisions use the division championship as qualifying rounds; the proposal would eliminate a number of AFLA members from competing. Another extension of the proposed rule is that these members would have to compete hors concours in the Sectional events; the Sectional Champion is an automatic qualifier to the Nationals. Those opposing the motion question whether the Board of Directors should restrict the rights of these members.

Lastly they point out that the U. S. National Championships are a matter of concern only to the Amateur Fencers League of America. The fact that an independent body, the U. S. Olympic Fencing Games Committee, assigns points to the top eligible fencers is their business. The League can run its National Championship as it sees fit in the best interest of its fencers. There is no need to change the running of the Nationals to conform to the USOC rules. It should be noted that it is not necessary to use the National Championship for selecting the Olympic Team. As in other sports, the U.S. Olympic Committee could hold trials, both regional and national, for the selection of the team. In fact, in 1968 a special Olympic trial will be held after the National Championships are completed (see **American Fencing**, Volume 18, Number 1, September 1966, p. 10).

2. Limit entries to the U. S. National Championship, in those years in which Olympic points are assigned, to those qualified members who can represent the United States on an Olympic Team. This motion is a limited form of the first motion, where those in favor of the motion feel that their arguments apply only in the year or two prior to the Olympic Games when the USOC makes its selection. Those opposed use the same reasoning as before, saying that the restriction, whether for every Nationals or for a few, has the same basic drawbacks.

3. Limit entries to the U. S. National Championships of qualified U. S. citizens and permanent residents only. Those in favor of this motion contend that the National Championships are for the purpose of determining the United States National champion in each weapon. This should be the sole consideration, limiting entry to those who can truly be our National champion. They point out that many other nations follow this practice.

Those opposed argue the point of Olympic selection outlined above. Another group feels that the restriction to citizens and permanent residents denies us the opportunity to meet strong foreign competitors and thereby gain experience, as well as creating international goodwill. European nations are so close to each other that if they did not limit their championships, they would be outnumbered by those from other countries. In rebuttal it is stated that we now have the NYAC Martini-Rossi International Competition, and the Tucson Competition to gain experience and create goodwill.

4. Allow the same entries as now, but promote to each succeeding round the next eligible fencer if an ineligible fencer is promoted. Those in favor of this motion argue that it represents the best of all possible worlds, no one is denied entry and no one is "penalized" by the presence of an ineligible fencer.

Those opposed to the motion point out that foreign fencers can still win the Championship. They also point out that for pools of six with four to qualify, the number 5 man in a pool with an ineligible fencer has an unfair advantage over the number 5 man in a pool with eligible fencers. Furthermore, no orderly schedule can be maintained, seedings become nearly impossible, and competitions are likely to be greatly lengthened with finals of 12 or 15 instead of 8 or 9. Such action would require lengthening the

National Championship beyond the present nine days.

5. Allow all qualified AFLA fencers to enter the U. S. National Championship, promoting to each succeeding round the next eligible fencer if an ineligible fencer is promoted. This motion excludes foreign fencers at the loss of experience, but does not overcome the basic unfairness mentioned above, nor does it allow the competitions to complete within a reasonable time limit as well as upsetting any plan of competition. In the case where such a method was attempted, the fencers involved reported that they did not care for the confusion of such a competition.

It is also pointed out that the reason for such a move is to overcome the situation of ineligible fencers "eliminating" eligible fencers; a premise which is questioned by those against this motion (see motion 1).

6. Retain the Status Quo. Those in favor state that no one is hurt by this method while it benefits the fencers with broader experience and contact with strong foreign fencers. Those against state the arguments reported in Motion 1.

It is up to the League on what to do. The above motions will be presented at the next meeting of the Board of Directors. Give your representatives guidance by discussing this matter and informing your Division Chairman.

WESTERN WASHINGTON

by Marianne Roy

The Annual Seattle Seafair Tournament, on August 5 and 6, 1967, was again held outdoors near International Fountains at Seattle Center. A record of 58 Northwest fencers participated in the team and junior sabre events.

The Seafair Perpetual Trophy, a silver champagne cooler, presented last year by Greater Seattle, returned from Oregon to be captured by the Western Washington 4-Weapon Team 1.

Four-Weapon Team: 1. West. Wash. I (James, Foil; Brewster, Women's Foil; Jensen, Epee; Van Dooren, Sabre); 2. Oregon Division Team (Longworth, F; Marx, WF; Jaros, E; Hernandez, S); 3. Wash. Composite (Hicks, F; Roy, WF; Knodle, E; Andre, S).

Boys Under 14 Sabre: 1. Bart Klein; 2. Charles Swanson; 3. Mark Eddington.

Women's Foil Team: 1. West. Wash. I (Ramm, Meadoff, Brewster); 2. West. Wash. II (Roy, Poe, Bonfield); 3. Oregon Div. (Eckland, Jarrell, Hansen).

Men's Foil Team: 1. Oregon Division (Longworth, Hernandez, Hicks); 2. West. Wash. I (Hall, James, Van Dooren); 3. Portland Metro. Fencers Club (Brad Roth, Bob Smith, Jaross).

1967 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

by Michel Alaux

Mr. Alaux, coach at the New York Fencing Club, was one of the three selected for the team which competed at the 1967 World Championship.

Over the years we have heard and read in the press articles that our weakness in fencing is due mostly to a lack of international competition and consequently a lack of international experience. If there is any one basic problem in our fencing, it is the lack of international competition. The approach and attitude of our fencers toward their preparation, the 1967 World Championships should constitute the benchmark for all for those who have not had this experience.

It is rather disappointing, if not disastrous, to see our team captain, Norman Pons, have so much difficulty in getting our fencers to make up a full team for a World Championship. It is especially so at our back door. These Olympics were an opportunity to test our fencers before the 1967 Olympic Games.

Our United States team had to change its approach (thanks to the understanding of the Japanese Technique) in two instances, and had to do so a third time because our fencers cancelled their participation at the last minute, and others arrived just the day before their event started.

It is at the great effort made by so few of our fencers to the top is met with such criticism, and, more often than not, with the criticism.

As a result of these Championships, our team was very successful, if we exclude the foil team which finished an excellent foil team and Epee team performance very disappointing, although some of our performances give us some hope for the future possibilities if proper training is set up for the Olympic Squad.

Robert Russell showed his real fencing to the "right attitude". He was our strongest man in the individual foil team. Although he lost his final elimination, he beat Okawa in his "right attitude" which placed him among the best of this Championship. He showed terrific team spirit, never quitting

and fighting until the end. With continued serious training, Bob is sure to earn a place on the Olympic team.

Jeffrey Checks was eliminated in the 2nd round of the individual (same "touches received" count, but less "touches given".) If it were not for an unaccountable loss by Losert of Austria and to Jay of England, Checks would have made the direct elimination. Jeff held his place excellently in the team and showed great determination coming from behind to make two exciting victories against Hungary. He showed a very mature attitude on the strip although it was his first international experience. He has to concentrate on developing better attacks.

Albert Axelrod was off for the entire competition, being eliminated in the 2nd round of the individual with two victories and three defeats. He lost all four bouts against the Japanese team and on this basis was replaced by the young Esponda so as to give the latter an opportunity to fence with the team.

Edwin Richards and Gerard Esponda did not pass the 1st round of the individual. Although Ed scored two victories against the Japanese team, he did not score against Hungary, nor did Esponda.

Women's Foil. Among the ladies we were proud of Maxine Mitchell's performance. Passing the 2nd round, she lost her third bout of the Direct Elimination to a former World Champion, Sakovics of Hungary, and finally lost in the repechage to another World Champion, Ghrokova of Russia.

Harriet King's counter-attacking game, as successful as it may be in the United States, could not be a match against the classic attacks of her opponents. Barely passing the 1st round of the individual she was eliminated in the 2nd round with no victories. She lost one bout in two minutes making 4 counter-attacks against 4 beat-disengages. She was far from her form of the 1964 Olympic Games.

Bonnie Linkmeyer fenced quite well. She has excellent potential, but has to learn to concentrate her energy into the final action rather than wasting it in too many incomplete attacks, or too many preparations (without intent).

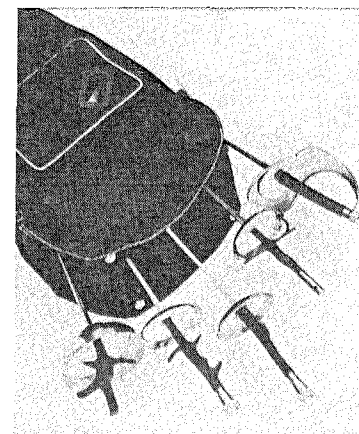
Veronica Smith's performance was somewhat disappointing as was Sally Peckinsky's in the individual. We expected more from them in this event. However, they both fenced better in the team event, particularly Veronica. In both instances lack of experience and emotional factors were involved and constituted a valid excuse, particularly for Sally who is certainly one of our best young prospects for the years to come. With proper training they should both improve rapidly.

Epee. Paul Pesthy, undefeated in the 1st round of the individual against fencers of the calibre of Nielaba of Poland and Losert of Austria, could not manage one victory in the 2nd round. Granted that the Epee field seemed to be the strongest of all weapons, this, nevertheless, seems to be a pattern for Paul, and his weakness probably lies in the fact that he is unable or unwilling to change his game, or at least his tempo, once in a while. He tried to fence exactly the same way in the 2nd round as he did in the 1st; the same way against weaker fencers as he did against internationally ranked fencers.

Ralph Spinella was eliminated in the 2nd round and gave a good account of himself in the individual. His personal style is a difficult problem for all Epee fencers of all calibre, however difficult it is to effect an improvement in it.

Frank Anger, eliminated in the 1st round, was clearly not prepared mentally. He reacted defensively to every move of his opponents, then attacked without being prepared to make a definite action. He was unable to select the right moment to attack. He should concentrate his training on this very tactical aspect of Epee fencing.

Jay Miller (eliminated in the first round on touch count) has to his credit a victory against Poland's Gonsior (over 6'8"). What is encouraging is the fact that his victory was one of strategy. When I asked him what he planned to do against Gonsior his answer was, "I think I can beat him; he has an extremely long reach, so I will make him attack and will parry and riposte moving in." This was the right tactic which he carried all the way through a well-deserved victory. **This is the kind of analysis our fencers need most to develop.**



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Borack did not show any of the indicated by his 3rd place victory in finals; he needs to concentrate more on his bouts. He will then be able to show his excellent fencing qualities.

The absence of Morales and Blum individually may have cost the team a place in the final. The seeding, based on the performance of the individual, could have been different with either one entering the individual. Orban, although he was the only one to the Direct Elimination round, has to concentrate his mental energy, use appropriate strategy, and develop determination toward scoring rather than complaining constantly about the results. This is a negative form of fencing which is detrimental to team spirit (as well as to proper judging in his case). However, he did quite well in the team, scoring 4 victories against England, Germany and especially Italy.

Morales was the solid pillar of a victorious team against England, Italy and France, despite a stubborn cold that kept him from entering the individual. He is undoubtedly our best Sabre fencer. Thomas Balla was certainly the deciding factor in the team performance. His perfect attitude and consistent actions gave a good lift to the team. His actions and victories were clean and considering that it was his first international event and the first time with a national team, we have here a fencer of international calibre.

Although not quite at the peak of their abilities, Albert Blum and Walter Farber made necessary touches and victories when Chaba Gall, who was our fifth man individually, fought very hard but was hampered by poor footwork.

How certainly did we learn a lot in these Championships, individually and as a team? Will we gain from them? We will if we understand that the result of international fencing is not so much the result of our individual representatives, but the result of organization, teaching and directing at

the respect, these Championships have definitely shown that the trend already manifested in Tokyo concerning the right of way has been confirmed and that its strict

application leaves no chance to indiscriminate counter attacks. This can be translated as "The attack is always favored, then the riposte in order of importance. The counter attack and remise have to be made clear cut to be allowed." The implication is more than merely recognizing a point of rule. It means a basic change in our teaching and directing.

In our teaching we must be concerned only with attack, parry and riposte. There is no middle ground, and it has to be on a national basis if we want to produce fencers of top calibre. As I have mentioned before, the technique of our top fencers is the reflection of the technique of all our fencers which does not start on the Nationals level, but at the high school level.

In view of confirming and helping this trend to develop, the National Judges Committee in charge of matters of Directing should insist upon the application of the right of way which gives precedence to the fencer who starts the attack first. If any doubt exists as to the validity of the counter attack, it means that the right of way stays with the attacker.

The sequence in which the lights come on has no bearing on who is right. (At the Championships, on repeated occasions the attack was given right of way, and justly so, even though the lamp of the counter attacker was lighted ahead of the lamp of the attacker.) As a general principle, a good counter attack usually delayed the final movement of the attack, or kept it from arriving.


For example, an attack made with a balestra or a step forward is **not considered** as a two-tempo action (unless there is a definite stopping between the step and the lunge) no more than is a beat-disengage (unless the disengage does not immediately follow the beat). Consequently, the counter-attack executed either against the lunge attack (in the first cast) or on the beat (in the second case) is out of time.

IF ANY ERROR IN DIRECTING IS TO BE MADE, LET IT BE IN FAVOR OF THE ATTACK.

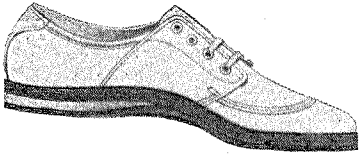
It seems also that in Sabre there were less double touches allowed than was the case in Tokyo. Directors are no longer afraid to favor the attack as against a counter-

attack executed to the head. Still, judging has to be improved measurably if Sabre fencing does not want to lose its claim to being the "most spectacular" of all three weapons. Nothing is more boring for the spectators than to watch two fencers attacking at the same time, all the time, or decisions putting fencers on guard without awarding a touch through failure to give the right of way to the attack.

This matter of judging reminds me of an old French fencing master who, once when directing a training match between young fencers, came up with the following: "The attack (which is not too well executed) hits, but the riposte is too beautiful"; so he allowed the riposte. There was, perhaps, some wisdom in this decision.

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ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

by William Latzko

Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors was held on September 29, 1967 at the AAU House in New York. It was attended by forty members and Directors. President reported on the National Championships, the World Championships, the Pan-American Championships, as previously reported or are being reported in **American Fencing**. Mailings were made to members; articles on fencing appeared in **American Fencing** magazine. A decal is in the process of being prepared, which will be sold to the members. The President reported that the National Fencing Federation has raised its dues which has caused us to request a reduction in votes from 3 to 2.

Junior Olympic Program has been reported in the last issue of **American Fencing**. Division participation is expected this year. The U. S. Olympic Committee has ruled that fencers who are on the Olympic team must report for the opening day parade and leave after their events have finished. Gene Blank, President of the Fencers Club, has donated the Club's facilities on a basis for Olympic Squad training.

Secretary reported that membership, as of August 31, was 4,114 as compared to 3,812 last year. This is an increase of approximately 12%. He reported that the various divisions are in great demand and suggests that those who wish to obtain **Omnibus**, **Tokyo**, **Santelli Foil Fundamentals**, or **Like A Trip**, give several weeks' notice of their needs and have alternate dates available.

Connecticut Trophy was won by the Eastern Division as reported in another issue of the magazine.

Foreign Secretary reported on the Pan American Games. The report on this is in another section of the magazine.

Treasurer submitted a report which was published in the next issue of the magazine.

Recommendation of the Reinstatement Committee, the Board moved unanimously to reinstate Mr. Dean Dellis.

The Board approved the appointment of all

standing and special committees and authorized the Executive Committee to act in its stead in the interval between meetings.

National rankings were based upon the results of American competitors in the National Championships. These are reported elsewhere in the magazine. In addition it was voted by the Board that National Ranking Certificates be established and given to all of this year's Nationally ranked fencers. Any past ranked fencers may obtain such a certificate upon request and paying a mailing and handling charge. Mr. Keane was appointed a committee of one to prepare the certificates.

To overcome conflicts in timing between National Collegiate Championships and qualifying rounds for the Nationals, the Board voted that in the event that the winner of a recognized Intercollegiate Conference is unable to qualify from his AFLA division by virtue of conflict between his Collegiate schedule and his Division Qualifying Round, then he shall be eligible for automatic qualification as provided in the rules, notwithstanding his failure to qualify in the preceding year. The Board also voted that Sectional Championships be held at least four weeks prior to the opening date of the National championships, and that the qualifying rounds for the Nationals be held at least 6 weeks prior to the opening date of the National championships, to allow all qualifiers to make timely entries into the Nationals.

The Board reaffirmed that the 1968 National championship be held in Miami on June 21 through June 29, 1968. It further approved the appointments of Connie Latzko, Corresponding Secretary, Marge Rocko, Recording Secretary, and Alan Ruben, Counsel of the League. The Treasurer was voted a salary of \$50 a quarter, effective June 1, 1967. The Board approved the holding of the New York Athletic Club International Tournament on April 19, 20 and 21, 1968. It also approved the holding of the Tucson International Tournament on April 27 and 28, 1968.

The Board approved a petition from Virginia to form the Virginia Division, the boundaries of which to be the Commonwealth of Virginia.

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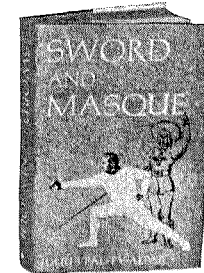
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CHES CLINIC HELD AT 32ND WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP MONTREAL, CANADA

Note: As part of the Development program of the Amateur Fencers League of America a \$1,500 coaches clinic in Montreal, Canada. The funds were turned over to the President of the National Fencing Coaches Association (NFCAA) for instituting this clinic as a benefit. A report of the findings were requested from the coaches who attended the event. Printed here are some of these reports.)

REPORT BY MEL NORTH

As fencers, go to a World Championship and come back with many versions of what has passed. Most often, reports are concerning what our team did or didn't do, the results of what the best fencers in the world did do, and little observation of what really makes the European more successful. As a professional, I have a different view of the World Championships vastly different from the picture the amateur fencer received. My conclusion is that as a professional, my responsibility is to observe the fencing as a reflection of the masters' labors and ideas. We have a sensitive and difficult obligation of pointing out our flaws, to tear things apart when we put the game together again, to be more successful in world competition these will be the major themes of the report.

We have so much, so very much, to learn about this game that it is staggering. The attitude of the American fencer has been revised if we hope to survive in the fencing circles. By attitude, reference to the approach that is taken by professionals and amateurs alike. First let's admit that we have something to recommend, let us realize once and for all the old and tired excuses of "Oh, they're . . . they're in better condition . . . never give stops, etc." are passe. Now, we need and for all, the American fencer realize that fencers are athletes, and if you want to be an athlete, well, train like a business of staying in condition is a valuable property that belongs solely to athletes. We can stay in shape in the way we want. The supercilious statement concerning has gone to the athletes (gone dogs) is a feeble excuse for laziness, and the fact that Europeans understand

the game better and consequently play it better. Let us not confuse speed and conditioning with lack of skill. Our swimmers are faster than ever, and they are certainly not worse than the swimmers of yesterday, and just because fencers are in better condition and can move faster than they used to, they are not necessarily worse than former stars. In our reflections on fencing, let's not be so concerned with what was, but try to appreciate what is.

The American product talks a good game, but is limited in performance because of his misunderstanding of even the most basic facts. Even our best fencers have more to learn, and they can't be educated by fencing Europeans and being beaten by them. The education is up to the professionals. The professionals must accept the plain and simple fact that the methods and approaches to lessons, training and coaching of 25 years ago are really behind the times. A fencer's success must be likened to the actor's success, in that he is only as good as his last performance, not what he did 25 years ago. I place the responsibility of this attitude upon the shoulder of the professionals. It is not enough to have clinics to teach amateurs and coaches the game. We must also be aware of what we are teaching and realize also that our attitude towards European professionals is mirrored in our amateurs' attitudes towards European amateurs. We professionals must study. We must study the European professional as well as study with him, and amateurs must be made to realize that his personal success depends upon the ability of his master.

The most controversial subject in the United States is the matter of time. The most serious problem is improper identification of moves. Many mechanical actions are identical in physical movement, but the intention behind these movements determines the name of the action. For an example: a circle 6 change of line is only a change of line because the intention is to get a reaction. If the reaction is a degage attack, then exactly the same mechanical action now becomes a circle 6 parry because the intention now is to defend.

By the same token, what is a stop hit? By definition, a stop hit is designed to actually stop the attack, or, and this is the key, to land a full fencing tempo ahead. Now we come to the heart of the problem—mistaken identity. When does the stop hit take upon itself the title of intra attack? Once gain, the mechanics are identical, as a stop hit must land a full fencing tempo ahead to be valid (into the preparations, and feints are preparations) and as the intra attack is made in the preparation of the attack, which is which? The line of distinction between the two is so thin that it is almost impossible to tell them apart. I observed our Americans making stop hit after stop hit, constantly reacting to the action, and as a result, not being in time. The intention should have been intra attack not the last resort attempt to stop hit. The Europeans are not making stop hits as we are, but are making intra attacks, having just about eliminated the stop hit from their game.

Now, in reference again to attitude, Maestro Czajkowski of Poland graciously gave a demonstration of distance, timing and observation. During the question and answer period, I brought up the subject of right of way in regard to stops. I knew what his answer would be, because I asked the same question in Rotterdam two years ago. His answer expained the current internationally accepted interpretation of the rules of right of way, and he demonstrated how they were applied in world competition. Our Americans actually tried to prove that he was wrong. How embarrassing, how typically American. The thought flashed through my mind, when

will we ever learn that we have more to learn.

While in Rotterdam, I engaged in study with four different masters from four countries, including Russia. The experience was an eye-opener. Again, in Montreal, I had the opportunity to study with the Russians, and again I say, we have so much to learn about teaching methods, training, coaching, psycho-physical factors and application of these elements, not discounting rhythm and cadence.

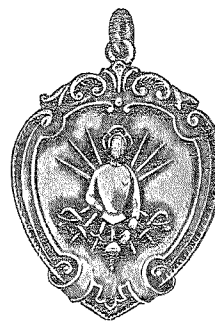
An example of rhythm and cadence in a most sophisticated form was the Russian-Romanian team match. The Romanians executed a beautiful coup by a simple ruse, not discounting their beautiful attacks, parries, intra-attacks, etc. The Romanians came out after the Russians, setting a pace that completely caught them off guard. Then, when the Russian foilsman accelerated, the Romanians changed pace and rhythm so that the Russians found themselves moving too fast and getting caught in traps that cost them some very important bouts. The Russians in turn decelerated, and the Romanians responded with a flashing, dynamic, speedy game that resulted in the winning of the World Championship.

Sabre was the least impressive of the weapons, generally speaking. The directors for the most part allowed constant attacks into attacks, passed them off as simultaneous action and by this means encouraged the sabreurs to attack into any attack with a feeling of safety, knowing the attack would be nullified by a call of tempo commune (double touch). To teach a sabreur to attack

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attack destroys the game of sabre and vites disaster for the unfortunate ir. There is still a great deal of l sabre fencing. The classic game still he bout between Pawlowsky of Poland vadore of Italy was an example of all fenced. Both men are fast, well-f, know distance, make beautiful tacks, as well as contre temps actions wlowsky with that intra attack is l. There wasn't a single tempo com-illed in this particular bout.

abre team fenced well, showing good id great deal of poise. The hand work American sabre men is as good as ne world. Our men make million dollar but they are too generous and made y of them. When our sabre men will riscing economy of motion, eventually l enhance their game to the point of g in world competition. It was obvious t Csaba Elthes welded this group into reflecting his virtuoso skill as a sabre and coach. Bravos to our sabre team.

tunately our other teams, especially oil and women, were a disorganized and the men's team an unhappy lot. hest country in the world fielded a hat was the most poorly cared for and ized of any delegation present at the Championships. Our fencers had to r themselves with regard to meals, tation and in some instances, even for juice, coffee or other aid during the ent, in marked contrast to the ns. The lack of organization didn't enabling our foilsmen to give their orts. We must evaluate the importance g for our athletes and make it our ; to see that the fencers' only concern rld competition is to stay in shape and best for their country. Care should be hat our teams are in USA uniforms, ir equipment is in working order, that ve lodging, transportation, meals, train-ilities and trainers, besides having counseling on and off the strip. By e token, fencers should be treated like ; in any other sport. When it comes to nting our country in international com-, fencers should be judged coldly, and se that can give the best performance

at that time should be chosen. A team, of ahtletes that represents our country must present the best picture they can. Our fencers should be encouraged to think and hustle as a team and hustle stems from desire. A feeling that one doesn't count is a quick killer of incentive. I realize that it is not easy to operate on the small amount of funds AFLA has available, but it doesn't cost anything to organize, follow through, and above all to care. It is so easy for us to laugh at the European delegations with their 4 and 6 coaches, trainers, nurses and babied fencers; it is so easy to laugh at their methods of teaching and training; it is so easy to laugh at their concepts of the game; but he who wins the gold medal laughs last.

We must care. We professionals must care enough to better ourselves. The student must care enough to accept change. Let us not promise to change our attitudes and approaches and methods of teaching and training. But let us actually do so. Exhortations to care, to better oneself, to study are worse than useless if all the efforts and good intentions result in zero change in the level of American fencing.

In the past, fitful efforts have been made to improve, but sadly, the record just doesn't show it. What's wrong. We can't look for an answer from the fencer directly involved in the competition, as he is very much limited in what he really gets out of it. He is too deeply involved, fighting for his life in most cases. In my personal opinion, I believe the answer is that the many of the coaches go to these international tournaments and return with information that has the same amount of validity as this statement. "The reason the Europeans are better than us is because they wear long socks and we wear short ones."

It will take a great deal of intestinal fortitude to accomplish our aims, but with honest concentrated effort upon the part of all of us, we will eventually gain a more than respectable position in the circles of international fencing.

Articles by

Delmar Calvert, Richard Perry and
Clifford Kirmss in next issue.



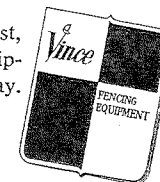
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SOUTH EAST CHAMPIONSHIPS

Richard Coll, Section Secretary (WF), Colwell (MF), Simmons (S), (E) battled to the four championship the Second Annual Southeast Section Championships. Held at the plush Sheraton Resort in St. Petersburg, the drew a host of fencers from eight states. Events for the two day events were Dr. Mark of the Scottish Olympic Squad, Ver, Coach at Duke University, Mike Salle Csiszar, and Dr. John Shinner, Florida Division Chairman (66-67). Mark was excellent. Credit for the of the tourney goes to Dr. Shinner, also Tournament Chairman and his e. A luau, banquet and Executive were held. The site of next year's championships will be Raleigh, North April 27-28.

man, earned second on the strength of a fine display of technique, most notably a fast in-line deceive of attack. Third was indefatigable Sy Eisenfeld, Gold Coast Division.

MEN'S FOIL FINAL ROUND.

Colwell (CFD) 5-0, Forrest (GCD) 4-1, Eisenfeld (GCD) 3-2, B. Swennes (North Carolina Div.) 2-3, C. Preston (Ga. Div.) 1-4, R. Sessions (CFD) 0-5.

In a super-final of nine fencers, Rick Coll, Dunedin Recreation F. C., used fine technique to go undefeated until the Championship was assured. He then lost his final bout. David Simmons, GCD, took second with good timing and an excellent point. Robert Colwell, CFD, captured third.

EPEE FINAL ROUND

Coll (Dunedin Rec.) 7-1, Simmons (GCD) 6-2, Colwell (CFD) 6-2, C. Preston (Ga. Div.) 5-3, Clark Gateway Div.) 4-4, M. Forrest (GCD) 3-5, R. Brown (CFD) 2-6, Rogers (CFD) 2-6, S. Eisenfeld (GCD) 1-8.



OLWELL, R. COLL, L. KUSHNER, D. SIMMONS

L. Kushner, Gold Coast Division, the women's title in what was the most electrifying series of bouts wo days of fencing. Mrs. Kushner with Joan Coll and Inge Shinner, m Central Florida Division, in a y deadlock for the crown. A strong d fence-off left the women still he fence-off, Kushner defeated Coll ner. Coll then defeated Shinner for er-up slot.

MEN'S FOIL FINAL ROUND. GCD) 6-1, Coll (CFD) 6-1, Shinner (CFD) Alexander (GCD) 4-3, E. Verrall (CFD) 2-5, erg (GCD) 2-5, G. Ericson (GCD) 1-6, M. (GCD) 1-6.

ice-off: Kushner 1-1, Coll 1-1, Shinner 1-1. fence-off: Kushner 2-0, Coll 1-1, Shinner

Colwell again evidenced his domin Southern foil by going undefeated nals. Manny Forrest, Sectional Chair-

Fencing undefeated through the eight man final with only 16 touches received, Dave Simmons handily copped his title. Robert Colwell, CFD, placed himself in the runner-up position with four wins, three losses. Dean Alexander, GCD, slipped to third on the short end of a touch count with Colwell.

SABRE FINAL ROUND

D. Simmons (GCD) 7-0, Colwell (CFD) 4-3, Alexander (GCD) 4-3, R. Brown (CFD) 3-4, J. Sasek (GD) 3-4, M. Forrest (GCD) 3-4, R. Sessions (CFD) 2-5, D. Raab (CFD) 0-7.

Sylvia Feinberg and Hal Miller both fenced nicely and, interestingly, are both students of Barbara Kerchval, coach at Miami Dade Junior College.

WOMEN'S UNDER 19 FOIL FINAL.

S. Feinberg (GCD) 3-0, E. Verrall (CFD) 2-1, W. Kercheis (CFD) 1-2.

MEN'S UNDER 19 FOIL FINAL.

H. Miller (GCD) 3-0, G. Fox (CFD) 2-1, R. Dale (GCD) 1-2, M. Cochrane (GCD) 0-3.

1967 MODERN PENTATHLON NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

by **Connie Latzko**

Among the members of the AFLA there is a group of athletes who fence and also excel in four other sports; swimming, riding, running and target shooting. These men engage in Modern Pentathlon.

The drama and excitement of the five days of competition, hosted by John duPont at his Foxcatcher Farm in Pennsylvania, began with a round-robin of 29 fencers competing in one-touch epee. This was followed by 22-caliber pistol shooting at a moving target; a 300 meter swim, a cross-country run, and a 16 jump 1200 meter steeple-chase race course. Each event earns points for the contestants; the highest total determines the champion.

The epee even of the 1967 U. S. National Pentathlon Championship was won by Bjorn Fern, a 23 year old Swedish graduate

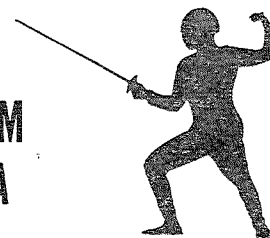
student. He went on to win the Championship with 5058 points. Captain William Matheson, U. S. Army, of the U. S. Modern Pentathlon team, with the fourth highest point score in fencing, nevertheless took second place in the Championship with 4826 points. His victory in running, and a fine ride materially aided him.

Third place winner, Captain Don Walheim, placed seventh in the fencing event but did well in swimming to finish third with a score of 4787. Louis Cotton of Chico State took fourth with 4758 points. Our national epee champion, Paul Pesthy, placed ninth in epee as well as ninth overall with 4523 points.

Former national epee champion, Dr. Bob Beck, tied for third place in epee, won the shooting, took third in riding, and finished fifth overall with a score of 4659 points.

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER

Division	Event	Time and Place
Central Fla.	Intercolleg.	1:00 p.m. USF
	Open USF Trophy	
	Indiv. Foil	
No. California	Class B Foil	1:00 p.m. P.A.C.
Western Wash.	Fall Open Tourn.	9:00 a.m. Portland
	Men's Foil	
Western Wash.	Fall Open Tourn.	9:00 a.m. Portland
	Women's Foil	
Gold Coast	Closed Division	9:30 a.m. Grapeland Hgts.
Gold Coast	DeTuscon Mem.	9:30 a.m. Grapeland Hgts.
	3-weapon	
Harrisburg	Women's Open	1:00 p.m. Lancaster
Western Wash.	Epee	10:00 a.m. Portland
Western Wash.	Sabre	10:00 a.m. Portland
Western Wash.	Women's 3-team	10:00 a.m. Portland

DECEMBER

Division	Event	Time and Place
Central Fla.	Open Indiv. Epee	10:00 a.m. Dunedin YC
Central Fla.	Open Indiv. Sabre	1:00 p.m. Dunedin YC
No. California	Open Sabre	1:00 p.m. P.A.C.
Western Pa.	Unclassified	1:00 p.m. Chatham College
Western Pa.	Men's Foil	1:00 p.m. Chatham College
Western Pa.	Women's Foil	1:00 p.m. Chatham College
Harrisburg	Open Foil	1:00 p.m. York
No. California	Open Foil	1:00 p.m. L.G.H.
Harrisburg	Open Epee	1:00 p.m. York
No. California	Open Epee	1:00 p.m. L.G.H.
Western Wash.	Tacoma Novice Foil	
Western Wash.	Tacoma Novice Epee	
Western Wash.	Tacoma Novice Sabre	
No. California	Open Women's Foil	10:00 a.m. L.G.H.
Western Wash.	Fencing Clinic	10:00 a.m. Portland
Western Wash.	Winter Team	
	H.S. Men	
7 No. California	Pacific Coast champ.	Los Angeles
	all weapons	
Western Wash.	Winter Team	Portland
	H.S. Women	
Gold Coast	Invitation men's	9:30 a.m. Grapeland Hgts.
	and women's foil	
Gold Coast	Class III	9:30 a.m. Grapeland Hgts.

JANUARY, 1968

Division	Event	Time and Place
Western Wash.	Women's open foil	Portland
No. California	Unclass. Foil (M & W)	12:00 noon B.H.S.
No. California	3-weapon individual	1:00 p.m. L.G.H.
Western Pa.	Unclassified	1:00 p.m. Chatham college
	Class 3	
Western Pa.	Men's Foil	1:00 p.m. Chatham college
Western Pa.	Women's Foil	1:00 p.m. Chatham college
Western Wash.	Stag Foil	Portland
No. California	Pillar Mem. Sabre	10:00 a.m. P.A.C.
No. California	Pillar Mem. Men's Foil	3:00 p.m. P.A.C.
Central Florida	Open Team Epee	11:00 a.m. Dunedin YC
Western Wash.	Epee	Portland
Western Wash.	Sabre	Portland
Western Pa.	Unclassified Sabre	7:00 p.m. Franklin Area HS
No. California	Pillar Mem. Epee	10:00 a.m. P.A.C.
No. California	Pillar Mem. Foil W.	3:00 p.m. P.A.C.
Gold Coast	Women's Foil	9:30 a.m. Grapeland Hgts.
Gold Coast	Epee	9:30 a.m. Grapeland Hgts.
Gold Coast	Novice Sabre	9:30 a.m. Grapeland Hgts.
No. California	Class B Sabre team	8:00 p.m. P.A.C.

OBSERVATIONS — 1967 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

by Julius Palffy-Alpar
U. of California, Berkeley

The 1967 World fencing championships emphasize the propulsion of Russian fencing and prove that preparation of competitors for the major international events must keep up with their way of training if other nations are to challenge the present Russian superiority. Of the eight events, six were captured by the Russians and the other two were lost only by narrow margins — to the Rumanian men's foil and the Hungarian Women's foil teams.

In general, the great mobility and speed highlight the need for athletic preparation in footwork. The superior physical condition of the Russians was a major factor in placing four of them in the foil final, three in the sabre final and two in the epee final.

Foil

The distance has increased in foil fencing and generally simple actions are used with tremendous speed. In judging, instead of watching the lights and awarding a stop-hit because of a split-second priority, the hits are given in favor of the conventional right of way if the attack has been continuous. This is not only correct, but it properly penalizes the fencers who have tended to build their game on stop-hits and remises instead of ripostes and counter-ripostes.

The ladies' foil fencing showed more technique and better variations of attack — perhaps due to the slower tempo.

The foil team events were the only ones where the Russian steam-roller was stopped. The galvanic power of successful actions and the invigorating fact of leading in a number of bouts resulted in the Rumanian and Hungarian success and showed how the explosion of spirit could upset the driving power of the Russians. The Rumanians used feints in the high and low line, second intention attacks and low-line stop hits. Although their foot work seemed less balanced than the Russians', their drive surprised and upset the latter. Similarly, it was the Hungarian ladies' spirit that won over superior power.

Sabre

The sabre fencers fenced at closer distance, hurried their actions, and were so tense that

there were too many simultaneous actions. Fencing was very simple and, except for Pawlowski who retains his classical style, they did not try actions involving any risks.

The Russian team was compact, homogeneous and rolled with an even grinding power to victory. Other teams fenced rapsodically, being brilliant in one moment and dreary in another.

Epee

Epee fencing showed a tendency to shorten the distance and hit for the body thus creating a great opportunity for parryripostes; nevertheless there were some brilliant attacks and stop-hits to the wrist and arm. On the whole the epee was more spectacular than before. In the team final the Russian systematic, grinding drive made the French collapse under the stress.

Coaches' Clinic

The U. S. and Canadian coaches participated in a clinic attended by the Russian coach Arkadiev, the Hungarian Dr. Bay, the Polish Dr. Chajkovsky and the French coach Dorde.

Arkadiev commented that the automatic exercise of a movement will not become technique without thought and understanding of it; and that classical fencing style has been replaced by economy of fencing, where the only aim is efficiency. He believes physical conditioning is a basic requirement to becoming a good fencer.

Dr. Bay emphasized that great technical preparation has made it possible for some Hungarian fencers in their fifties to still win world events. He believes fencing is an art and science and that overextended physical preparation will lessen the energy of the fencers in the much needed work at the Salle d'Armes. He considers weight lifting bad conditioning for fencing.

Dr. Chajkovsky believes that beside the general fitness program there must be a specific fencer-fitness program and emphasized the importance of physical, physiological and psychological studies for the betterment of fencing.

M. Dordes concentrated on epee fencing and stated the level epee fencing is higher than ever before; that a previous study indicated 80% of the attacks end on the body.

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18	Illinois	A. E. Simonson O. Epee	10:30 a.m.	
18	Illinois	A. E. Simonson O. Sabre	10:30 a.m.	
18	Metropolitan	Foil T O Met. Ch., Natl Q	11:00 a.m.	FC
22	Metropolitan	Boys Jr. Olympic	11:00 a.m.	FC
22	Metropolitan	Wash. Square Epee T	11:00 a.m.	AC
23	No. California	O. S. T. for Helen Rogers Trophy	8:00 p.m.	P.A.C.
24	Metropolitan	Womens Foil I B	1:00 p.m.	FC
24/25	So. California	UCLA Invitational**		UCLA
25	Central Fla.	O. Calwell Tr. W.T.F. (3)	11:00 a.m.	FPC
25	Metropolitan	Sabre T O Met. Ch., Natl. Q	11:00 a.m.	AC

MARCH

2	Georgia	Foil Championship	1:00 p.m.	Sallede Honor
2	No. California	Unclass. Men Foil Team	12:00 p.m.	B.H.S.
1-2	So. California	Long Beach Boys Champ.		FC
2	Metropolitan	Foil I B	1:00 p.m.	H.S.F.
3	No. California	Halberstadt Foil for W.	12:00 p.m.	HJC
3	So. California	Foil-Nadi Mem. O. Men-Qual		FC
3	Metropolitan	W. Foil T O Met. Ch., Natl Q	11:00 a.m.	LVC
8	So. California	Greco 3 Weapon Open		Portland
9	Western Wash.	Ch. F. Men		L.G.H.
9	No. California	Open Sabre	1:00 p.m.	AC
9	Metropolitan	Boys Jr. Olympic	1:00 p.m.	Kansas City
		Under 19 Foil Women		Kansas City
10	Kansas	Under 19 Foil-Men		Portland
10	Western Wash.	Ch. Womens Foil		L.G.H.
10	No. California	Open M. Foil		LVC
10	So. California	Foil-Open W. - Qual		FC
10	Metropolitan	Girls Jr. Olympic	11:00 a.m.	
14	Illinois	Open Foil-Men	7:00 p.m.	
14	Illinois	Open Foil-Women	7:00 p.m.	Salle de Honor
16	Georgia	Sabre Championship	1:00 p.m.	L.G.H.
16	No. California	Open Epee	1:00 p.m.	L.G.H.
17	No. California	O. Women Foil	10:00 a.m.	LVC
17	So. California	Epee-Open-Qual		
		Boeing T. Tourn. M. F.	9:00 a.m.	
17	Western Wash.	Boeing T. Tourn. W. F.	9:00 a.m.	Kansas City
17	Kansas	Central Plains Invit. Men Foil		Kansas City
17	Kansas	Central Plains Invit. Women Foil		Kansas City
17	Kansas	Epee Open		
17	Central Fla.	O. Barth Tr. Sabre Team (3)	11:00 a.m.	Tampa JCC
17	Metropolitan	Foil I O	11:00 a.m.	FC
21	Illinois	Open Epee	7:00 p.m.	
21	Illinois	Open Sabre	7:00 p.m.	
23	No. California	Unclass. M. Foil	12:00 p.m.	B.H.S.
23	No. California	Unclass. W. Foil	12:00 p.m.	B.H.S.
23	Metropolitan	Epee I O	1:00 p.m.	AC

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