

American  *Fencing*

VOLUME 23 NUMBER 1

HOW SWEET IT IS



photo by Denise O'Connor

Uriah Jones, at his victory party after winning the U.S. National Foil crown. When asked how he felt, he just beamed, and our alert photographer snapped his picture.

(See Page 11)

Official Publication of the Amateur Fencers League of America

Official Organ of the Amateur Fencers League of America

Dedicated to the Memory of
JOSE R. DeCAPRILES, 1912-1969.**Management**

W. L. Osborn, Publisher
5 Great Oak Lane
Pleasantville, N.Y. 10570

Ralph M. Goldstein, Editor
397 Concord Rd.
Yonkers, N.Y. 10710

Assoc. Editor: Irwin Bernstein
Asst. Editor: Richard Gradkowski

Feature Writers: Dan Lyons, Jeffrey Tishman

Editorial Staff: Marilyn Masiero.
Historian: Alex Solomon

Photographer: Russell Ellis

Advertising Correspondence: 5 Great Oak Lane, Pleasantville, N. Y. 10570

Printing and Advertising Plates:
Woodburn Printing Co. - Inc., 25 So. 6th St., Terre Haute, Ind. 47808

Policy Board

A. Ruben, Chairman; R. M. Goldstein, W.J. Latzko.
W. L. Osborn, P. Tishman, N. L. Lewis

Subscriptions for non-members of the AFLA is \$3.00 in the U.S. and \$4.00 elsewhere.
Published September, November, January, March, May and July.
Opinions expressed in signed articles reflect the personal views of the writers and not necessarily of American Fencing or the AFLA. No anonymous articles accepted.

Second Class Postage Paid in Terre Haute, Ind. 47808

AFLA Addresses:

President: Alan Miles Ruben, 11505 Lake Shore
Blvd. Bratenahl, Ohio 44108

Secretary: William J. Latzko, 33-62nd St.
West New York, N.J. 07093.

DEADLINES FOR 1971-2 ISSUE

Issue Date	Closing Date for Copy	Mailing Date
NOV. - DEC.	OCT. 6	NOV. 29
JAN. - FEB.	DEC. 9	JAN. 30
MARCH - APRIL	FEB. 9	MARCH 31

CONTRIBUTORS PLEASE NOTE: Items for publication in **AMERICAN FENCING** are cordially solicited. Articles, results of competitions, letters to the editor, photos and cartoons should be sent to **RALPH GOLDSTEIN, 397 CONCORD ROAD, YONKERS, N. Y., 10710**. All manuscripts should be complete, type-written double spaced, on one side of the paper only. Photos should be glossy finish, and accompanied by a complete caption. Unsolicited manuscripts cannot be returned unless submitted with a stamped self addressed envelope. No anonymous articles will be accepted.

EDITORIAL

Judging from the reports of interested observers at the 1971 World Championships in Vienna and the Pan American Games in Cali, our fencing teams appear to have been woefully lacking in preparation - at least insofar as self discipline and training were concerned. Don't let the result at Cali fool you. One cannot overlook the fact that we did not win three of the eight events there - and to have lost the Saber team championship is most difficult to understand. We await the details.

Careful reading of Dan Lyons and Richard Gradkowski's reports on the World Championships however is more than enough to make us take a thorough look at ourselves. We have not had a real training program for international teams since 1959 and 1960.

There is no trick to doing well. It takes hard work and sacrifices of time and other interests to achieve high performance in fencing. And all team members must be imbued with a sense of dedication and team spirit unless of course, we just don't give a dam!

RMG

**1971 VIENNA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP REPORT
U.S. FENCERS TRY HARD BUT WITHOUT SUCCESS****Dr. Beck Reaches Third Round In Epee Individual
Foil and Epee Teams Promoted From First Round****1971 WORLD
CHAMPIONSHIP REPORT**

by Daniel M. Lyons, Chief of Delegation

Organized at the last minute with none of the officials, coaches or fencers named we were unable to get this years team off to the kind of start needed before a meet as important as the World Championships. No instructions were issued to anyone in advance except basically when and where the events were to be held.

The results were as inauspicious as our preparations. Getting right to how we fared:
Foil

All our entries went out in the first round. Dan Cantillon and Ty Simmons had 3-2 records and Pete Gaylor had 2-2 but each went out on indicators. Ernie Schmatolla had a 2-3 record while Russell lost all. Our men were not geared to the speed and intensity of their opponents. It was a real disappointment and no rationalizing would make us feel better.

Saber Individual

Orban, Gall, and Apostol made it to the second round, where they were subdued. Al Morales and Bill Goering couldn't get through the first elimination. This was quite a setback for what was once our best international squad.

Women's Individual

Ruth White fenced very strongly in the first round taking all five of her bouts as Maxine Mitchell split in a pool of seven and made it up. Blythe Devan and Emily Grompone couldn't take a bout while Tanya Adamovich could only gain two of five as each was eliminated immediately. In the second round Ruth could only garner two wins and Maxine only one.

Epee Individual

Bob Beck was the only survivor of the first round and he fenced strongly through the second round so we hoped the third would also be possible for him. This was

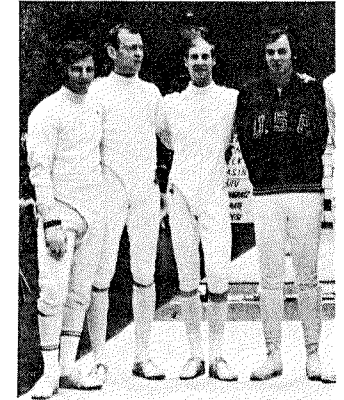


photo by Gray

The U. S. Epee team at Vienna. From right: Bruce Lyons, Dr. Robert Br Melcher, Arnold Messing, and George Gaylor. The boys got up on the correct side of this morning and beat a tough Rom in their first match.

not to be as he dropped all five his third round.

It was hard to believe watch Melcher, Arnold Messing, and Br blanked in the very first round. Gec managed only a single victory a succumbed.

Foil Team

We drew a pool of four teams the Soviet Union, Austria and Slovakia. The battle with the Russia to be very unequal as they devastated 12-4. Our strongest performance was Cantillon who was the only one to well earned and decisive victory was wiped out and Simmons could out a 5-4 win over Romanov and a 5-3 win over Putiatin.

Substituting Gaylor for Russell, on the Austrians. We started out the Austrians lagged and quickly ran

lead. It looked as if we could finish them off, but they started to battle bitterly. Pete Gaylor was the hero of our drive as we reached 7-4 relying heavily on his three straight wins. Then we dropped four straight leaving us at 7-8 and the final bout was the whole ball game for us. Ernie Schmatolla had the burden. Winning the bout by any score would keep us alive since we were ahead on touches. Losing this second match meant the end of the road. Ernie went quickly to the attack using distance as his ally and hitting from well out. He took a 5-1 win and Austria was beaten. We now had a chance to go up if we could get the Czechs.

Again we fought a close series of bouts. This time we were consistently one bout down and we came up again on the short end 7-8. Now everything was up to Dan Cantillon who had the final bout to win. He rose to the occasion taking an aggressively fought 5-3 victory and we won by touches with an 8-8 record. So with two victories we were in the top ten countries and had to fence Italy to gain a place in the final group of eight.

Tyrone Simmons carried us along with three straight 5-4 wins and Bob Russell picked up one and we had the Italians worried with the score at 4 bouts USA and 5 for Italy. But our luck ran out as our opponents seemed to draw that little extra something, and applied heavy pressure. We dropped four in a row and we were eliminated 9-4. But our finish was as good a one as I could recall.

(Ed. Note: Readers are referred to Roland Asselin's article "Success in Team Competition" on page 19 of our previous issue (July/August). Mr. Asselin makes the very point that, in a four man team event, every single touch is of great potential importance. He recommends that the U. S. conform to FIE practice and fence team matches with four man teams.)

Saber Team

Our pool had West Germany, Hungary and Australia. The Germans jumped out to a 6-1 lead and we lost 10-6 being closed out well before all the bouts had been fenced. Paul Apostol and Bill Goering managed two wins while our more seasoned competitors Orban and Morales only took one each. Then with Gall substituting for Orban we were drubbed by the Hungarians 12-4.

Women's Team

We started against Russia and it was no contest. They won 14-2 with Grompone and Devan both beating Ivanova. White and Mitchell lost all. Against the Romanians our girls held their own being down by only 5 bouts to 6. White had two victories as Adamovich, Devan and Grompone had one each. Then the roof fell in and we lost five. The Romanians had an 11-6 triumph.

In the contest with Austria, the last of our opponents, the team was much more relaxed and with Ruth White taking four the team picked up a 9-7 win. Unfortunately both the Austrians and we had already been eliminated so the victory was of small consolation.

Epee Team

After their sharp reversals in the individuals this group really put in the practice time. Except for Beck, who was still fencing on that first day of the individuals, the other four squad members went back immediately to the practice strip spending three hours working out. Then every day hard work with coaches Alaux and Toth continued, even on the free day when most others were out sightseeing.

We had to take on the Romanians before meeting the Swedes in the first round and it turned out fine for us. Everyone was well warmed up and with Melcher winning four we spiritedly gained a 10-6 victory after getting off to a 5-1 lead. Each of our other team members, Masin, Beck and Lyons, won two each so we had nobody really dragging the team down. We got a few breaks here and there which helped, but our men made sharp, quick attacks as well as beautifully timed stops to keep the Romanians off balance.

Our ensuing loss to Sweden by 9-4 was of no real significance as the Rumanians had previously suffered their second loss at the hands of the same Swedish team. It was true that it was by an 8-8 score and decided on touches, but we couldn't have cared less.

Luck was against us then because being the lowest ranked team we were paired with the first seeded Hungarians in the direct elimination round that followed. Masin

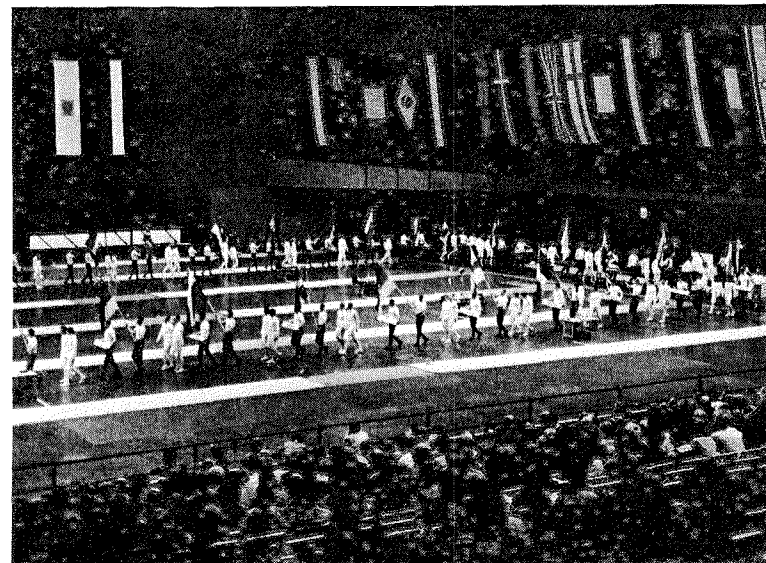


photo by Gra

The start of the Opening Ceremony at the 1971 Fencing Championships in Vienna. featured a male and female fencer from each delegation. After a brief introduction, the s the Wiener Stadthalle were treated to an exhibition of historical fencing, using a wide range from daggers to giant two handed swords.

started us off in the right direction by winning a fine bout against Erdos using good distance and well conceived attacks. Then we dropped four in a row before Masin again got into action and took his second bout completely dominating Fenyvesi. Then behind 3-7, Masin had the job of trying to start a miracle run of victories. This time he lost at 5-4 and our last chance was extinguished as Lyons lost. With Beck and Lyons dropping three each we had to have more than super performances from Melcher and Masin, but that was too much to expect against such strong opposition.

Our Organization

As in Cuba in 1969 we knew how to set up a team operation. The invaluable assistance of Richard Gradkowski who I named as manager made things much simpler for me personally. Dr. Marius Valsamis, equally experienced as team doctor and willing to undertake every task helped immensely. Marilyn Masiero, who became Mrs. Gradkowski during our stay in Vienna, did much

helpful work. We had our bulletin a full schedule of training session: Michel Alaux was available for warming up our team members an a substantial effort. Maestro Toth Air Force Academy volunteered his the team and worked hard. Bob Bec been his student for many years greatly from his presence. We owe Manny Forrest for coming as Armor work was performed calmly, dilig with excellence.

What Was Wrong? Why Our Pool

1. We simply had no way to fencers to act like a team. Mc thinking and acting as individuals
2. We had no way to get ma fort. There was no leverage we co
3. Some fencers just didn't give
4. Some fencers were downright dinat and refused to follow instr
5. Some fencers just simply de how to get themselves into the deet ration absolutely essential to get

mum from their game.

6. Some fencers conducted themselves abominably with their drinking and carousing reflecting discredit on our entire team. Others were so anxious to visit Budapest or go sight-seeing elsewhere that they had no time to give support to our team, much less to practice diligently.

7. Some fencers overrated their abilities and lived on past victories, scattered though they may have been in past international competitions.

8. Some fencers just didn't know what it meant to work.

9. Some fencers thought the U.S. was being beaten by the judging **even in the first round!**

10. Some fencers thought foreigners had to help us qualify to the next round by beating others for them!

I had my orders from the President of the AFLA to impose whatever disciplinary action I thought necessary including withdrawing a team or sending an individual home. When one of the younger fencers asked me why I did not apply more rigid sanctions I pointed out that if I had there would have been only the epee team competing for the U. S. The result would have been to deny the possibility for the non-fencing team members to compete.

Conclusion

It is time to put a stop to the sending of uncommitted, undisciplined fencers to represent us in the World Championship, however experienced they may be. I share with Chaba Elthes, a most distinguished master, the concern he expressed in his article in the November 1970 issue of American Fencing about the future of our team in the 1972 Olympics. I share with Ed Zeisig his conclusion that we would be better off to stop financing, even in part, a team to the World Championships and send selected promising fencers to a broader range of European Meets.

TEAM MANAGER'S REPORT

by Richard Gradkowski

Generally speaking, the job of a team manager consists of doing whatever chores need to be done. Depending upon circumstances, it can be simple or difficult. In Vienna a number of managerial problems arose because of the poor organization of the U. S. team. Let me illustrate this with some examples.

I had arrived in Vienna some days before any one else for the purpose of looking over the situation and setting up any arrangements necessary. In the course of this I met Mr. Hans Toch, the Austrian Fencing Federation's quartermaster. Herr Toch showed me a letter from the AFLA reserving accommodations for 30 persons for 15 days. He also presented me with a bill for 63,000 Schillings (about \$2,600.00) for these accommodations.

It became my job to inform him, as gently as possible, that:

- A. The U.S. team does not travel as a team, but rather as individuals who come and go according to their convenience,
- B. Although I was manager, I wasn't sure exactly how many people were coming (my latest information was as of one week before the start of the fencing turned out somewhat wrong),
- C. I wasn't sure how long each person would stay,
- D. I didn't even know if the team members would want to stay with the U.S. team in the fencing quarters.

The good Herr Toch is still probably shaking his head at this. Nevertheless, with some diplomacy, we managed to work out an agreement between the Austrian Federation, the hotel management, and our delegation.

At the office of the Organizing Committee I presented a radiogram from Dan Lyons, our Chief of Delegation, advising me of some substitutions in our line up. The officials there were a little miffed, but it didn't matter too much anyway as the official printed program for the World Championships simply had blank spaces where the names of the U.S. team members should have been. I was informed that the names had been requested

and that the Austrians would very much have liked to include us, but that the deadline for the printers was May 1st. and, as no names were sent, they simply had to leave blank spaces. I assured them that no offense would be taken, as the members of the U.S. team were selected just about two weeks before the fencing championships were to start. Still, I was exposed to numerous muttering and groaning about the U.S.'s lack of cooperation." How could a nation which put a man on the Moon be so poorly organized", I was asked. What could I say?

This lack of organization characteristically showed up in a number of other areas. Most fencers came improperly equipped for an international tournament (see our armorer's report by Manny Forrest). The team members and the Coaches generally had almost no contact before the competition, thus rendering a proper coaching job almost impossible. As a consequence of this lack of familiarization, team training and team practice schedules were only nominally kept, and many individuals adjusted the sessions to suit themselves. An exception to this was Dr. Robert Beck, who trained religiously, with or without anybody. His results in reaching the third round, after most of our other fencers were eliminated, are evidence of the superiority of his method.

Some members of our team were entitled to AFLA funds and had arrived in Vienna without receiving some. I dispatched a quick cable back to the U.S.A. and promptly received some funds. However, because of a foul up in the delivery of an accompanying cable, I didn't know who was to get what sum. We worked out an average and disbursed the funds on that basis.

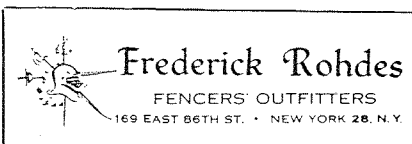
The department of some of the team members left a lot to be desired. I received complaints from Herr Toch, the quartermaster, and from the hotel management, who claimed that complaints had been registered by the Soviet officials, the police guard of the Israeli embassy (which was next door to our hotel grounds) and from residents in the neighborhood about noisy partying late at night by the U.S. team. Herr Toch was justifiably beside himself, threatening to call

the U.S. Consulate and have us out if the incidents repeated. He could only sympathize with him, also seen incidents of public drunken boisterous behavior by U.S. team. It is extremely difficult for a team to explain and gloss over such behavior. One has to presume that the team is fairly mature and capable people. I left the hotel after the Championships to settle a small bill for items "misplaced" by the U.S. delegation.

All in all, there were a lot of things which arose primarily because of poor organization, not the least of which was selecting of our Chief of Delegation about one week before the World Championships. However, in all fairness, I must say that, despite the difficult circumstances, the majority of the team pitched in and worked wholeheartedly and did a good job. Chief, Dan Lyons, our team physician, Valsamis, our coaches, Michel Nicholas Toth, all worked hard as they could for our team's success. Nancy Valsamis also did great work as chaffer and guide. But I would like to thank our armorer, Manny Forrest, for his help. He worked day and night to salvage and repair what he could.

Now, what can we learn from this? First of all, let me say that I am sure that it is easy to criticize, with good reason, but with a constructive observation, I am going to propose that we should be more constructive in our criticism. I hastily add that, being aware of AFLA's financial problems, no matter how many points I will make will cost any additional money). For implementation require mostly paper and pencil.

1. Members of an international delegation should be selected at least 90 days before the event.
2. The cadre (Chief of Delegation, Manager, Armorer, Physician) should be selected at the same time.
3. The Chief of Delegation should be in direct contact with all members of the AFLA Secretariat coming to the AFLA Secretary coming event.



4. The team Coach should arrange, as far as is possible considering geography and time commitments, to get the team together and to train as a group.
5. AFLA financial subsidies should be handled on a team basis, that is the team should get the funds, not individual fencers.
6. Travel and accommodations should be arranged as a group enterprise (charter flights, etc.), using the AFLA funds for this purpose. There could undoubtedly be considerable economies possible in such an arrangement.
7. Team member's equipment should be strictly checked out to conform to international standards, before leaving the U.S.A.
8. The AFLA should emphasize to the members of the team that they do represent the United States (whether they want to or not). It should set standards of dress and deportment and see to it that neither the United States nor the fencing team is embarrassed by anyone's behavior.

Here I come to the end of my report. It was quite an experience. Let's see what happens next time.



photo by Gradkowski

The U.S. Ladies' team at the 1971 World Fencing Championships in Vienna. From left to right, Emily Grompone, Blythe Devan, Maxine Mitchell, Ruth White, and Tanya Adamovich. The girls are standing outside of the shuttle bus which daily carried the fencers to the Wiener Stadthalle, where the fencing and practice sessions took place.

ARMORER'S REPORT

by Manny Forrest, Team Armorer

(Ed. Note: Manny Forrest is a former Vice President of the AFLA and has been a formidable organizer of fencing in Florida and the Southeast section. Through the generous cooperation of Eastern Air Lines, his employer, Manny was able to make the trip to Vienna, and spend long hours repairing and testing the team's equipment.)

Think about it!

Would a tennis player travel to an international tournament with broken rackets?

Would a race car driver travel to an international event with a malfunctioning engine?

Yet, fencers travel to international tournaments with broken blades and malfunctioning weapons.

When a fencer attends competitions here in the United States he represents himself. His performance reflects only on himself. The condition of his equipment is his responsibility, and his alone.

However, those who are responsible for the selection of fencers to represent the U.S. must share in the responsibility of ascertaining that their Fencers' equipment is of the best quality BEFORE DEPARTURE.

Vendors and suppliers of fencing equipment must be made to share some of the responsibility of quality control; especially when supplying equipment to be used in international competition.

At the World Championships in Vienna, approximately one dozen new electrical foil blades failed to pass the flexibility test. They were all too stiff. This wiped out almost all of our supply of spare blades. The fact that they may not have tested for this last time in Ankara is no excuse. We must be ready to pass all official F.I.E. tests.

Several new epee blades brought to the World Championships as spares failed because of internal shorts. This seems to be one test that very few technicians, fencers and suppliers remember to make. A test for shorts should be made both before and after mounting. A shorted epee blade or weapon will not register a hit.

We must show more concern for the condition of equipment we carry to competitions, and not rely upon repairing it there.

Would a tennis player travel to an international tournament with the intention of having his racquet restrung at the site?

Would a race car driver travel to an international event with the intention of getting the valves ground and an engine tune up at the site?

U.S. fencers should not travel to international tournaments with the intention of having broken blades changed and malfunctioning weapons repaired at the site.

Think about it!

1971 - 72 OFFICERS

At the Annual meeting of the AFLA held in Berkeley, California on June 20th, 1971, the officers of the League for the 1971-72 season were elected. They are Alan Miles Ruben, President; Norman Lewis, Executive Vice President; Paul Etter, Jose Sasek, Alfred Snyder, Stephen Sobel, and Anthony Zombolas, Vice Presidents; William Latzko, Secretary; and Peter Tishman, Treasurer.

1971 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS RESULTS

FOIL: 1. Stankovich, USSR; 2. Pol.; 3. Romanov, USSR; 4. Kamu 5. Reichert, W. Ger.; 6. Marton;

EPEE: 1. Kriss, USSR; 2. Granie; Edling, Swe.; 4. Erdos, Hun.; 5. Swe.; 6. Modzelewski, USSR.

SABER: 1. Maffei, Italy; 2. Pawl Sidak, USSR; 4. Irmiciuc, Rom.; Hun.; 6. Bonnissent, France.

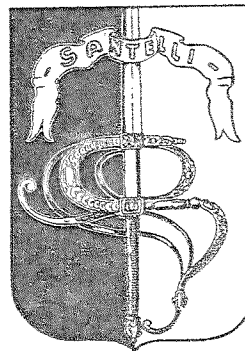
WOMENS: 1. Demaille, France; Hun.; 3. Pascu, Rom.; 4. Tordas Szolnocki, Hun.; 6. (No six Gorokova, USSR, expelled).

FOIL TEAM: 1. France; 2. Poland 4. Japan; 5. Hungary; 6. West Ger

EPEE TEAM: 1. Hungary; 2. Sweden; 4. East Germany; 5. Switzerland.

SABER TEAM: 1. USSR; 2. H Italy; 4. Poland; 5. Romania; 6. many.

WOMENS' TEAM: 1 USSR; 2. P Poland; 4. France; 5. Romania; 6



Maker of Champions

*Championship
Equipment*

WRITE FOR OUR FREE
ILLUSTRATED CATALOG

GEORGE SANTELLI, Inc.
412 SIXTH AVENUE
NEW YORK, N.Y., 10011
(212) AL4 - 4053

FROM THE PRESIDENT

by Alan Miles Ruben

PAN AMERICAN GAMES

As this issue goes to press our team has returned from the Pan American Games in Cali, Colombia. A full report on the competitions will appear in the next issue of AMERICAN FENCING. But, it gives me great pleasure to be able to start off the 1971-1972 fencing season by reporting that our fencers captured 5 out of the 8 gold medals awarded and earned two silver and two bronze medallions as well. Stephen Netburn won the individual epee title and Alex Urban became the individual sabre champion. Ruth White took second in women's foil, James Melcher third place in epee and Uriah Jones third in foil. Our foil, women's foil and epee teams all triumphed while our sabre team had to be content with being runner-up to Cuba's fine squad.

OBJECTIVES FOR THE YEAR

I. Training "presidents of juries".

In many sections of the country the development of fencing is held back by the lack of experienced, qualified directors. During the past year we experimented with a consolidation of the formerly separate committees on rules, director development and director examination under the chairmanship of Csaba Pallyghy. This year I will propose returning to tri-partite division of function and seek funding for some new activities to be undertaken at the National level. One of these activities will be the holding of at least one directors' clinic in each division conducted by a top rated official with expense reimbursement provided. The major stumbling block thus far to the organizing of such clinics has been the inability of some divisions to budget for the cost involved in "importing" a director when no one in the division is available. We shall have to make up for this financial disability. Beyond this, I shall propose that the League undertake to examine candidates for classifications "2" and "3" in connection with these clinics and at other times than during sectional and national championships. There is no substantial reason why examinations must be limited to the time and site of these tourna-

ments when the demands of the competitions severely limit opportunities for director certification activities. Further, it seems clear to me that restricting examinations by requiring artificial waiting periods before an individual achieving a "2" rating can be examined for a "3" classification is unnecessary and the present practice should therefore be abandoned.

II. High schools and junior colleges.

The success of the "Cleveland Plan", described in American Fencing last season, commends that approach to other urban areas. Briefly, the Cleveland Plan involves obtaining the prior approval of appropriate school officials to the institution of fencing activity on a club or extra-curricular basis. The local division provides a demonstration session at a "School day" program. Those who attend the clinic are urged to sign up for a course on teaching basic fencing skills which is offered free of charge by one or more local coaches. Equipment is furnished with the cost being shared by the local division, the National office and the U.S.O.C. Teachers completing the course are awarded certificates. Teachers then organize students into a fencing club with intramural competition the first year and inter-scholastic matches in the second year. Start-up sets of equipment for up to 25 students are provided without charge to the school. I will seek Board authorization to fund a half-dozen similar programs during the current budget year.

Alex Rubins, coach of Cleveland's Cuyahoga Community College fencing team, has just conducted a survey of two-year colleges to identify institutions which have or are interested in having competitive fencing activities. He proposes to organize competition culminating in a national two-year college championship. He has asked for the assistance of the AFLA. A list of interested schools will be supplied to every divisional chairman with the request that appropriate support be forthcoming.

III. Preparing for international success

During the past three years we have achieved unprecedented success in major F.I.E. competitions in every weapon. The basic reason for this upward surge is simply

that our best fencers are at last getting opportunities to obtain significant international experience. This season I propose to send "teams" in each weapon on tour. We have learned that it is wasteful for a fencer to fly to Europe a day or so before a major tournament. Our present emphasis will be in sending fencers to participate in a series of events scheduled over perhaps a 10 day period, or longer. Not only will fencers compete in the individuals but in the team matches as well. Our champion Pan American Epee Team is a leading example of the kind of strong team spirit that we must build in all weapons.

Next August, in the period immediately preceding The Olympic Games, we will be holding three regional training camps for our team members, and talented fencers who have not made the team. The University of Colorado and the University of Notre Dame have offered their facilities and we are currently exploring the possibility of utilizing a major eastern college as the third camp. Not only will three camps minimize travel cost for participants while accommodating a greater number of fencers, but also, regionalization will enable fencers, whose jobs would preclude their participation, to register for the weekends.

IV. Reorganizing the League for greater effectiveness

The League has grown to such size that a reappraisal of the way in which we get things done is very much in order. In point of fact each Vice President represents a Section of the League and it seems therefore anomalous to require the election of these officers by the entire membership when balloting by Sectional membership would appear to be more appropriate. Further, with one exception, these officers have not played an active role. The inability of these officers, to regularly attend Directors' meetings, limits their function. We have to consider whether the regional Vice Presidents should continue in the future as they have in the past.

The Board of Directors of the League is geographically representative and weighted to reflect differences in membership among

(Continued on page 28)

URIAH JONES 1971 NATIONAL FOIL CHAMPION

by Dan Lyons

Hard work will get you there Jones testifies. Here's a man who every day, does two miles of road consistent basis and spends an hour daily on general exercise. All in addition to not less than two trips from his New Haven, Connecticut Salle Santelli for lessons plus numerous petitions.

His rewards have been many. He entered the U.S. Nationals for the earning 10th rank and has been runner-up since. Among his more significant are:

Second Place - U. S. Nationals 1966; 3rd Place - U. S. Nationals 1966; 4th Place - Santelli National Championship Winner of 4 North Atlantic Tripartite Place - Metropolitan Championship Placed 4 Times in Martini-Rossi; 1968 Olympic Team.

Born in New York City in 1937 attended New Rochelle Public School, St. Anthony Institute, Columbia University and the U.S. Marine Corps. For some years he has been an engineer and now is one of the city of New Haven.

George Santelli gave Uriah his introduction to fencing and gets the full credit for the impetus to the successful career he had. The cooperation of his wife, a Licensed Practical Nurse is of course appreciated and our champion recognizes a special point of the sacrifices she has made. With a family of four active boys he occupies his spare time with the his home woodworking shop.

Making the U. S. Olympic Team is the next goal for our number one fencer. He wants to repeat the greatest triumph of his career when he made it in 1968.

BIG TEN APPROVAL

At the fencing coaches conference 22, the Big Ten Intercollegiate Fencing Association issued a memorandum giving approval for participation in all fencer petitions approved by or sanctioned by the Amateur Fencers League of America.

Letters to the Editor

The Editor

American Fencing

Dear Mr. Goldstein:

I wonder if you could include this little note in your next issue.

Last month I was appointed publicity director for the Amateur Fencers League of America. All during the year I'll be sending out releases to all parts of the country. Alan Ruben would like to start a scrap book and I wonder if it would be possible to send me any newspaper clips on fencing that you might see. Also if anyone has any ideas for any stories, please forward them to me. My address is Jay Horwitz, 14 Grant Ave., Clifton, New Jersey, 07011.

Thanks for your help.

Sincerely,

Jay Horwitz

Clifton, New Jersey

The Editor

American Fencing

Dear Sir:

Since joining the AFLA earlier this year, I have become increasingly distressed because everywhere I turn, emphasis is placed on losing.

Around our club, we are trying to instill the notion of this poem in our fencers:

If you think you are beaten, you are.

If you think you dare not, you don't.

If you like to win, but think you can't,

it's almost a cinch you won't.

Life's battles don't always go to the stronger or faster man;

But soon or late the man who wins is the one who thinks he can.

While at the National Championships, I was infuriated, when, during the Sabre Quarter Finals, I heard a director telling a competitor that he was "psyched-out," and, therefore, was not going to win. What business was it of the director to tell a competitor he was not going to win before the end of the bout? Or even more important, why was the director telling a fencer he was going to lose at all?

The same kind of emphasis was placed on

the Pan-Am Games. For months, **American Fencing** published articles saying that we would probably lose — or at least, not do as well as we have done in the past at that competition. If the same space were devoted to articles on strategy, rules (not just reminders of them, but application), and ways of training, and fencers took them seriously (not presuming they know more than the Coaches or other authorities who take the time to write for **American Fencing**), we would not have to worry about our fencing results. Fencers would work at their peak performance and do a lot more winning!

Sincerely,

Nancy Cornish

Santa Monica, California

The Editor

American Fencing

Dear Mr. Goldstein,

Could you send me the names of your national championship winners for this year? Our own, should you be interested are: Foil, Graham Paul; Epee, Graham Paul; Sabre, David Acfield; Women's Foil, Janet Wardell-Yerburgh.

I have recently taken over as editor of the *Sword*, but am anxious that contacts between the various journals of fencing in each country should be improved. Do you receive a copy of the *Sword* at present? I should certainly welcome each edition of your own magazine being sent to me. Equally, if I can help in giving you any information about British fencing, I would be glad to do so.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Cohen

London, England

The Editor

American Fencing

Dear Ralph,

The article by Darrell Williams at the University of Texas entitled "Using the Electrical Fencing Trainer" was an interesting coincidence. We have built and tested a similar device at the Fort Lauderdale Fencers Club.

Our design approach is somewhat different, however. We do not use a light for identification of hits, but rather an audio

generator which transmits an audible tone. The frequency of this tone is automatically varied with time so that double hits with a sufficient time difference between them can be detected.

The results that were obtained were similar to the results described by Mr. Williams. Hits on the bell guard are registered and there is a tendency to avoid hitting it. However, arm touches, I think, are not necessarily avoided or reduced (in epee). Rather, the device gives an indication of a touch which improves accuracy by helping to avoid the difficulties of human sensing errors and the reluctance of competitors to acknowledge touches.

I know that the audio tone device can be marketed at a cost approximately equal to that of an electrical foil (I do not know the price of the Syntec unit advertised in the May-June issue), and I believe that once this type of device becomes accepted that most every fencer will want one. As to the advantages of one method over another (light vs sound), this must be evaluated through usage. Perhaps a combination of the two methods is the best approach.

Also, for those fencers who are electrical

engineers, we have designed and built a foil-epee scoring machine, which is completely electronic, for practice use in a club. We utilize integrated circuit logic, and there are no mechanical adjustments required. There seem to be several advantages to an all-electronic device: there are no metal contacts to corrode; there are no mechanical adjustments, no mechanical constants which are difficult or impossible to adjust, and the device can be tested on the bench for timing, etc. The design is not as easy as it appears; it took us considerably more time than estimated to complete it. I have that all-electronic scoring machine available, and I have spent enough time working with this device to record an all-electronic scorer over an electrical instrument.

Yours truly,

Dr. Weldon Vlasak

Fort Lauderdale, FL

"This sword of mine shall give them where they shall rest for ever"

King Lear, Act 5, Scene 3

CULLED BY LOU

PRACTICE ELECTRICALLY!

Low cost training aid for use with standard electric weapons. Based on the "feedback" principles of modern athletic training.

For free information contact:

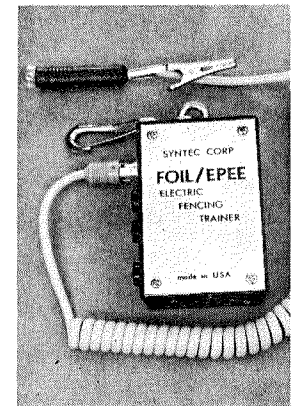
SYNTEC CORPORATION

P. O. Box 3607

1810 Barton Springs Road

Austin, Texas 78764

(512) 478-5918



NATIONAL OR INTERNATIONAL

by Michel Alaux

One should realize that equating the results of our Nationals with the best possible team selection or as a system of merit is too simplistic a concept. It is like saying that graduating number one from high-school will assure the student the number one place in college as well as in life, ignoring the fact that many successful men do not have a high-school or college education. Naturally these extreme cases prove nothing except that success cannot be related to numbers alone, and that other human elements have to be taken into consideration when it comes either to life or to fencing competitions.

There is a need in our sport to define a program on a long range basis, if only to insure the continuity without which no result can be attained on a consistent basis. If our aim on a national level is basically to promote the development of our sport, quantitatively as well as qualitatively, ranging from introducing fencing in every high-school to the development of qualified coaches and the spreading of fencing clubs throughout the country, it is important that we look beyond our boundaries to test our progress and check on the efficiency of our efforts.

Basing our success on statistics alone will show a growing number of AFLA members and a greater attendance at the Nationals. However, it will not attest to our growth in **quality**. One cannot help but witness that our fencers' technique is not following the same upward trend. This is a matter of concern even more for the AFLA than for the coaches if one wants to see a change in the results of our participation in international competitions. The **results** of the Nationals and the **creation of a team** are two separate matters.

The Nationals is a once-a-year event, open to everyone who qualified. The individual as well as the team results are top in the country and self rewarding. However, its level of value is less than that of an international competition in which the top European fencers compete. Granted we do not have the same opportunities as the Euro-

peans. However, should we deny facts? Securing a place on a team is (or should be) the result of a four-year long preparation by a selected group of our best fencers who should be given the most opportunity to develop their potential, for after all, they will eventually represent us against other nations, and their pride in attaining excellence in international results will also become all American fencers' pride. Preparing a team or even an international fencer based only on individual training carried on at a club level is no longer sufficient. There are many reasons for saying this, which would take too long to analyze here. Suffice it to say that a team is no longer composed of four individuals, but is an entity which has been formed through years of practice as a group.

Selecting a team under a strict point system, without any special preparation, is just ignoring that this system is a "one or two shot affair". One need only finish among the first three during the Nationals of an Olympic year to make it. On this occasion some fencer may come up with a "high" performance which he will never be able to duplicate. The team will then be stocked with more dead weight for the Olympics.

When we realize that each Olympic team is allowed one alternate only, we can see the implication of dead weight in the final results. It is a fact that our fencers seem to do better in the Olympics than in the World Championships. However, it is not for the reasons usually advanced.

First, we usually do not send our best representatives to the World Championships (only those who can afford to go usually do so).

Second, only three fencers may enter the individuals in the Olympics instead of 5 as in the World Championships. At first sight it would seem that we should have a better chance to advance out of our perennial "first round", but a quick look at the value of the European fencers, who are generally better than our best, leaves us with less chance because of their greater participation.

If something is gained by our fencers during the Olympics it is essentially "inter-

national experience" and certainly not better technique. To imply or say to a potential fencer who has shown some excellent results in international competition, "Too bad, but you have to make it on merit according to our home rules" (which could not care less about potential or international experience) is to often deny our country its best representation.

Is this concept conducive to a higher development, or rather a self-defeating approach (hidden behind the "positive" result of a computer system)? How is it possible to deny the existence of "potential" fencers or the value of "international experience"?

Suppose that a Ruth White (a definite potential in the eyes of all foreign leaders and coaches at Notre Dame and already somewhat experienced at the international level) became sick or was indisposed during next year's Nationals, being eliminated in the first round or even in the semi-finals. It is most likely that she would not make the Olympic team according to the point system. She is presently considered one of the better Under-20 fencers in the world, from which ranks usually come the future World or Olympic champions.

We certainly do not have too many fencers of that category in the United States. Would it be wiser to send someone else just because she received more points that day? Of course, it is easy to say that she probably would not fail to make the final, or if she did—"too bad."

Emily Johnson said "that there has never been a fencer who got out of the first round in the Olympics, during the day of selection system who would not have qualified under the point system". This statement shows very little knowledge of our past history. I recall that in 1956, the selection of Richard Pew brought some controversy because he had not reached the finals of the Nationals in epee that year. If it had not been for the wise decision of the selection committee, Richard Pew would never have taken the 4th Place in the Olympics, our best individual result that year. A selection committee can make adjustment to any situation arising from a point system; a rigid point system is without appeal.

The present modified selective way by which the way may come up some names as the point system, judicious one.

However, our concern seems upon a system of selection rather than the preparation of a team. Is this

With the point system the National comes our ultimate goal. If we had squad program, the Nationals incidental to the main task, that and preparing a United States team system would spare us the usual in training if not in spirit that allows the Nationals and the automation. It will also ease the pressure upon our fencers, who are faced with a death situation in the National less of their all round record.

If we read George Worth's comment the U.S.O.C.'s warning, we cannot leave behind a potential fencer just of a point system which cannot consider the human factors in our sport. The fact is that some fencers will as long as they stay in their environment, and lose fifty percent ability when competing outside others, it is just the reverse.

We want National champions; them every year. But, if we want international preeminence, we need approach.

QUICKIE QUIZ

Are scorekeepers and timekeepers to use the same table on which the registration apparatus is placed? 305, page 50 of the 1970 Rules Book

The best French Equipment imported in the U. S. and hand at the factory by Raoul Sudre self.

SUDRE FENCING EQUIPMENT CO.

5 WESTWOOD KNOLL - ITHACA, N. Y.



photo by U.S. Army

Members of the United States team who participated in the World Military Championships held in Sweden. From left to right: Gerry Esponda, Howard S. Newman, Joseph B. Freeman, and Jack Beyer. In the second row: Joseph A. DePietro, James R. Cartwright, Fencing Master John Geraci, Richard S. Cross, and Tom Lough. Not present for the photo was Bill Glassgold.

TOURNAMENT SUPPLIES

FOR AFLA DIVISIONS, CLUBS,
SCHOOLS, COLLEGES

#221 - CLOTH TAPE for taping down rubber or copper strips. Top Quality.

2" x 180' ----- per roll 2.60
3" x 180' ----- per roll 3.90

#225 - PAPER MASKING TAPE

2" x 180' ----- per roll 1.25
3" x 180' ----- per roll 1.90

#8717 - FELT-TIP MARKERS. Extra-large size.

per doz. 8.60

#683 - STRAPPING TAPE. Extra-strong fiberglass-reinforced.

3/4" x 180' ----- per roll 1.75

We can supply RUBBER STRIPS in all widths and weights. Write for prices.

Freight-Paid if check with order.

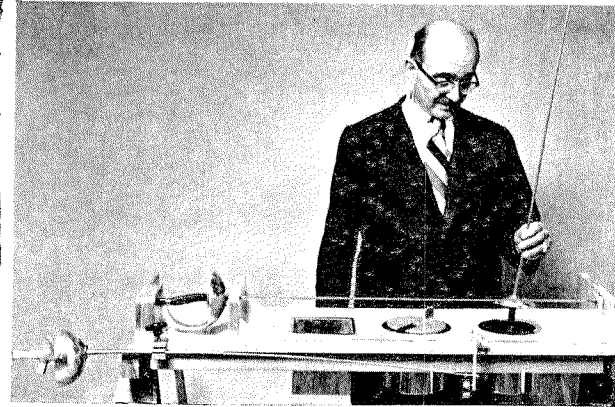
L. FISHMAN & SON
313 W. REDWOOD ST., BALTO, MD. 21201

CISM CHAMPIONSHIPS

The CISM (Conseil Internationale du Sport Militaire) Championships were held in Ljungbyhed, Sweden from June 20 to the 23rd. The 41 nation organization is dedicated to the promotion of good will through sports competition between military athletes of member nations. The competition was team against team in a round robin of teams with nine bout matches deciding the winner. Each man's victories counted for the individual titles, with FIE rules applying.

The best USA results were achieved in Foil, the team finishing sixth of thirteen teams.

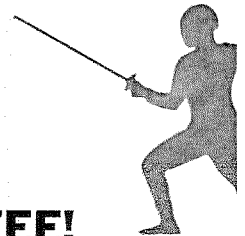
All fencers in the Armed Forces interested in the 1972 CISM fencing team should contact: Coach A. John Geraci, USMA, West Point, New York, 10996.



**WEAPON
CHECK!
AND
BREAK!**

FREE WEAPON CHECK!

All Castello equipment is manufactured to comply with rigid FIE standards, unless otherwise specified. However, because many competitors and coaches prefer to double check equipment prior to important competitions, Castello is offering the free use of its newest weapon checking devices to those who want to check their weapons. Call Mr. James Castello at (212) GR 3-6930 to make the necessary arrangements.



90-DAY BLADE BREAKAGE GUARANTEE!

We guarantee all blades against breakage for 90 days after purchase.

We have "Made in Italy," "Made in France" and "Made in Japan" blades. All are of the best quality. All carry the same guarantee. We can serve any preference.

The greatest in fencing equipment. Championship or practice quality. Spec designed equipment for use. The choicest champions for most half-a-century!

WRITE FOR FREE CATALOG

CASTELLO FENCING EQUIPMENT CO.,
30 E. 10th St., New York, N.Y. 10003
(212) GR 3-6930

America's oldest and largest importers and manufacturers of fencing equipment • Established 1914

POINT VALUES

by William Latzko

Shown below are the points accumulated to date from the 1970 Sectional and National and 1971 Sectional and National Championships. These points were computed on the basis of the results submitted by the Sectional chairmen and the National Bout Committee chairman to the Secretary. If any discrepancies are noted, please inform the Secretary at once. Selection of the 1972 Olympic Team will be based upon the points shown here plus additional points accumulated in the 1972 Sectional and National Championships.

WOMEN'S FOIL		SABRE (Continued)		EPEE (Continued)		FOIL	
King, H.	201	Hamori, E.	157	Borack, C.	93	Simmons, T.	170
White, R.	168	Goering, W.	135	Matheson, W.	70	Jones, U.	168
Angell, T.	152	Keane, A. J.	132	Bozek, S.	66	Krause, W.	158
Grompone, E.	105	Gall, C.	102	Pesthy, P.	62	Borack, Carl	107
Mitchell, M.	91	Apostol, P.	100	Elliott, J.	58	Cantillon, D.	104
Reynolds, M.	90	Dow, R.	70	Masin, G.	55	Checkes, J.	89
Adamovitch, T.	67	Balla, T.	61	Weber, W.	28	Axelrod, A.	65
O'Connor, D.	62	Morales, A.	40	Mannino, V.	25	Lang, M.	63
Devan, B.	31	Lekach, S.	33	McMahon, Kevin	25	Schmatolla, E.	42
Linkmeyer, B.	27	Blum, R.	31	McMahon, Ronald	25	Russell, R.	34
Cloviss, N.	25	Makler, T.	30	Cantillon, D.	23	Davis, Al	31
Reid, J.	25	Szabo, T.	25	St. Clair, A. J.	23	Davis, Martin	30
Latham, N.	23	Fuertes, C.	24	Micahnik, D.	20	Lyons, B.	25
Genton, A.	22	Borack, C.	21	Sasek, J.	19	Hamberzumian, H.	23
Heinecke, M.	22	Edwards, D.	21	Szunyogh, G.	15	Morgareidge, K.	24
Trett, S.	21	Pongo, L.	21	Russell, R.	14	Zombolas, A.	24
Dobloug, L.	20	Brown, R.	19	Wigodski, D.	14	Ballinger, E.	21
Remenyik, C.	20	Alexander, D.	18	Anger, F.	12	Helbrechtsmeier, K.	21
Drago, B.	19	Bitonti, F.	17	Kinter, B.	1	Galyor, Mike	20
Pierce, S.	19	Forrest, M.	16	Makler, Todd	12	Sasek, J.	20
Armstrong, S.	16	Kaplan, Steve	16	Presson, C.	12	Esponda, G.	16
Coll, J.	16	Kirchner, W.	16	Reith, W.	12	Nonna, J.	16
O'Donnell, A.	14	Boucher, W.	12	Whitehead, D.	12	Bank, M.	15
Rabe, E.	14	Farber, W.	12	Bickley, T.	11	Coll, R.	14
Moody, D.	13	Resch, H.	12	Carfagno, E.	11	Kalin, G.	12
Pechinsky, S.	13	Huffman	11	Halme, J.	11	Spooner	12
Carter, C.	12	Nagorney, F.	12	Karlson, N.	11	Terascio	12
Posthumus, S.	12	Campoli, J.	10	Seich, J.	11	Mannino, V.	11
Tamlinson, N.	12	Cloviss, G.	10	Talor, T.	11	Parsons, O.	11
Cammack, J.	11	Garbatini, R.	10	Drum, Lorem	10	Schwarz, P.	11
Davis, B.	11	Halme, J.	10	Jordan, J.	10	Bodner, G.	10
Eskesen, C.	11	Hambarzumian, H.	10	McNulty, G.	10	Goodman, R.	10
Staudt, J.	11	Parsons, O.	10	Meyers, D.	10	Kahmi, M.	10
Richert, K.	10	Graham, T.	9	Miller, C.	10	Martinez, R.	10
Culshaw, P.	9	Nishimura, A.	9	Aherm, T.	9	Neal, R.	10
Dingle, L.	9	Sims, E.	9	Anderson, C.	9	Snyder, A.	10
Honse, C.	9	Sobel, S.	9	Coll, R.	9	Steinman, J.	10
Kouterick, R.	9	Bickley, T.	8	Driscoll	9	Bickley, T.	9
Rogers, K.	9	Gotelsman, D.	8	Hooker, F.	9	Campbell, N.	9
Webb, K.	9	Marion	8	Roth, D.	9	Milazzo, R.	9
Bradford, V.	8	Farid, S.	7	Bailey, R.	8	Wolf, J.	9
Cureton, B.	8	Strawbridge, R.	7	Ballinger, E.	8	Brown, R.	8
Vertin, M.	8	Walsh, R.	7	Berndt, J.	8	Dooley, D.	8
Duke, F.	7	Harkins, R.	6	Lough, T.	8	Farid, S.	8
Jacobs, E.	7	Johnson, S.	6	Mekler, Brooke	8	Nadgorney, F.	8
Goldthwaite, L.	6	Sasek, J.	6	Matsaros	8	Anderson, C.	7
Jernigan, B.	6	Hamer, L.	5	McKinny, J.	8	Elliott, J.	7
Sellers, M.	6	Nash, R.	5	Neal, R.	8	Forrest, M.	7
Sundra, S.	6			Garner, G.	7	Graham, T.	7
Livingston, H.	5			Graham, T.	7	Sims, E.	7
Peterson, Barbara	5	EPEE		Hopkins, D.	7	Shanks, J.	6
		Melcher, J.	138	Mercer, B.	7	Zeisig, E.	6
		Netburn, S.	137	Morgareidge, K.	7	Adderley, C.	5
		Beck, R.	122	DiPietro, J.	5		
SABRE		Christie, K.	110				
Orban, A.	206						



photo by Sar

The Silverton Tourney, held in the San Juan Bar in Silverton, Colorado. Undoubtedly the (9,318 feet) fencing tournament ever held, an occasional saber fencer would fleche out in of snow.

COLORADO DIVISION

by Joe Madrigal

Fencing in Colorful Colorado will never be the same after the First Annual Tourney in Silverton, Colo. Determined fencers challenged one of the worst blizzards and in some cases literally pushed cars over treacherous Red Mountain Pass sliding into this old silver mining town, 9,318 ft. high in the San Juan Mountains. The picturesque Grand Imperial Hotel provided reasonable rates for the headquarters, while John Ross and his crew at the San Juan Bar hosted the event. Under the direction of Art Olson of Durango, Colo. who created the meet, the competitors shooed out the local canines, pushed bar stools and century old memorabilia aside, to form a strip running in length along the ornate 19th century bar.

Jack Beyer emerged victorious, Joe Madrigal took the ladies crown, while Neil Greene ruled as overall meet champion.

DIVISION CHAMPIONSHIPS

Foil: 1. J. Beyer, AF; 2. N. Greene, C. Lewonowski, AFA.

Epee: 1. E. Berthoud; 2. J. Beyer, AF; 3. CU.

Sabre: 1. J. Beyer, AF; 2. G. Shaw, Ur Mize, CFC.

Women: 1. J. Madrigal, CFC; 2. M. Yax E. Schmitz, CFC.

Foil Team: CFC (F. Gaddis, R. Mize, C.

Epee Team: AFA (J. Beyer, C. Chirko, R.

Sabre Team: AFA (J. Beyer, C. Chirko, M. Schmitz).

3 Weapon: 1. J. Beyer 2. R. Mize 3. I. D. Buck.

Foil Unc.: 1. L. Shaffer Das Sch.; 2. R. 3. R. Mize CFC.

Epee Unc.: 1. R. Fuits CU; 2. L. Samp 3. S. Mize CFC.

Sabre Unc.: 1. R. Mize CFC; 2. S. M 3. L. Sampson CFC.

Women Unc.: 1. B. Fry CFC; 2. M. Yax D. Borrillo Das Sch.



Pointed Comment . . .

WE ARE BETTER THAN THEY ARE THEY ARE BETTER THAN WE ARE

by Jack Keane

United States 5, Cuba 3.
We are better, aren't we?

The Gold medal results at Cali can honestly be considered remarkable. Even stupendous, in a sense. But they should give more rise to concern than satisfaction.

For the U.S.A. is in grave danger of becoming an also-ran nation in fencing if current practices of nomination to and preparation of our international teams continue. Case in point: Alex Orban.

Alex was brilliant in Cali. Not only brilliant but brave. He shouldered the whole burden of gaining the title when Keane could offer little help that night. Alex Orban nearly didn't go to Cali. America's four time champion had resigned from the team before departure. Only a last minute letter and telephone campaign from Olympic House to Alex's employers cleared the way. Case in Point: Harriet King.

Miss King risked certain loss of promotion at her work to join the team for the opening date of the training camp. When she arrived she found that she was virtually alone as a competitor. The coaches were there but the other fencers were either arriving later or not coming at all. It was an extremely upsetting experience for her and may have affected her performance in Cali. Case in point: Walter Krause.

He didn't get to go at all, because of job commitments.

Cut to the Cuban training camp in the Hungarian mountains. The decision is made to keep the Cuban team out of the World Championships in nearby Vienna and to point them for the Pan Am games, more than eight weeks away. They come to the Pan-Ams and darn near win it all except for

the brilliant performance of our epeeists.

The point should be made clear. We are going to have to change our ways in the Amateur Fencers League of America, to counter the changes that have been taking place in fencing right here in our own backyard.

Here are a few constructive suggestions:

1. A permanent international squad which shall be our only source of team entry to official international competitions.
2. A system to permit powerful performers to reach this team if any of the current members are not in good form.
3. A national system of coaching and coach development.
4. Machinery to give the competitors a voice in the selection of officials for the team.
5. A set schedule of international events which will be attended by the team as a unit and largely financed by the league.
6. A system of mini-training camps between the pre-tournament camps presently held.
7. A massive public relations campaign through Olympic House to employers and the business community to develop the concept that selection to an Olympic team is an honor not only for the individual but for the firm he represents. This would probably entail some award to the firm, etc.

I am not suggesting that these seven small points, properly detailed, can produce a miracle. I am suggesting that they can produce a better result even in the upcoming Olympics.

Cali should have made it clear to us. Nobody's better than we when it comes to fighting. But we are not better than they when it comes to the program that produces results.

U.S. NATIONALS HELD IN BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA ALEX ORBAN AND HARRIET KING RETAIN TITLES

Uriah Jones Wins Foil Crown; James Melcher Takes Epee; Tony Carter Junior Foil and Epee Champion

A YEAR FOR VETERANS

by Dan Lyons

This was not a championship full of surprising victories by the young unknowns. Under excellent fencing conditions and fine organization by the Northern California Division the events at Berkeley saw two of last years gold medalists repeat, Harriet King and Alex Orban. Uriah Jones, a many time finalist, but never before the top man did it this year in foil, while James Melcher, a winner of many tough epee meets both here and abroad reached his goal of taking the US first place. A review of the results:

FOIL

Rewrite last years story? Well, almost. Just put the name Uriah Jones in for the veteran Axelrod who took it in 1970 and go on from there. Keen concentration, accuracy of point, alertness at detecting the faulty or ill-considered actions of his younger opponents and of supreme importance, conditioning, both physical and mental. All these enabled Jones to relentlessly grind out his victory. Nothing sensational, one touch at a time, one bout at a time, so it went with the champion going through the finals undefeated.

A typical Jones bout took place at the end when he had to win to avoid a fence off with Tyrone Simmons who only had one defeat at that time. He took it 5-2, scoring three touches on one light stop hits as Simmons advanced with a bent arm and no attack plan, one touch by parry riposte with disengagement to the flank and one by an honest to goodness attack of his own. So Simmons took second with two losses and Wally Krause third with three defeats, both deserving to retain their places gained last year.

As always the single touch here and there made all the difference. For example, Sim-

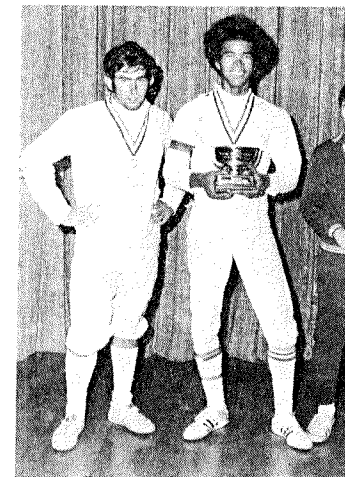


photo by

The U.S. National Junior Foil medalists John Mullarkey, of Salem, Mass. (Silver) Tony Carter of the University of M Kansas City (Champion), and Roy I Halberstadt (Bronze Medal). Tony Carter is holding the new Rene Pinchart Trophy. He is the exceptional feat of winning both the Foil Championship and the Junior Epee Championship, thus gaining a double National Championship.

mons won three bouts at 5-4. A loss one or more could have dropped him places. Jeff Checkes lost three at he could have gained considerable could have squeaked through. Over tremendous steadiness of Jones had the center of everyon's attention. The impatience of most the other finalists broke without thinking left a great to be desired. Some of the younger fighters suffered from cramps which undoubtedly their effectiveness, but this might have been overcome by proper intake of fluids and certainly by better physical conditioning.

Dan Cantillon continuing his progress took fourth over former champion Carl Borack on touches, both having 4-4 records. Carl just hasn't been able to keep his game under full control and reach his full potential. Other finalists included Ernie Schmatolla, Jeff Checkes, Bob Russell and in ninth place, newcomer Pete Gaylor of NYU.

SABER

Jack Keane who had run up a string of five straight wins in an eight man final looked as if he was going to be a sure winner. He was fencing with good style, pulling out the close ones, and generally outthinking his opponents at the critical moments. The rhythm of his actions, not characterized by great speed was just what he needed to steal the tempo when attacking or to drop back for a good parry riposte. Orban had taken two losses in the early bouts including one at 3-5 to Keane, while Bill Goering, a strong Midwestern fencer seemed out of it as he dropped two 5-4 bouts to Keane and Orban. But suddenly Keane seemed to lose his sharp edge and lost a 5-4 bout to young Paul Apostol and then one at 5-3 to veteran Gene Hamori. So we ended with a three way fence-off for first.

The result came quickly, given a second chance, Alex Orban ran over his opponents by identical 5-2 scores to win the gold for his fourth consecutive year. Orban had much greater speed as Keane slowed perceptibly and his attacks fell short of gaining the ground needed to hit. This presented easy opportunities for the simple parry riposte. When attacking Alex was able to close the distance without pressing leaving him almost free to decide where and when to hit. Goering was completely dominated by Orban and never seemed able to threaten. He was either out of time, in the wrong distance or outfought. However, in a close 5-4 bout Goering succeeded in capturing the second place silver, leaving Keane with the Bronze.

By touches Gene Hamori was fourth over one of our young hopefuls Paul Apostol and Csaba Gall who took fifth and sixth respectively. Al Morales, seventh, had his lowest finish in years as he compiled a 2-5 record and failed to win any of three 5-4 bouts.

He just didn't seem to have any real alertness or speed and got hit by simple attacks which he somehow didn't detect. Carl Borack in eighth place was obviously tired following his previous days efforts in the foil individuals in which he had also made the finals.

All in all the saber was severely disappointing. The tempo was much slower than seen for some years. Only Bill Goering and Paul Apostol showed real fire and desire, the former being rewarded with his highest national placement and the latter making cur finals for the first time.

A reminder of the paucity of top saber directors was never more keenly felt than this year. Chaba Pallaghy felt it necessary to direct the entire final round of 28 bouts, even though juries were changed on a number of occasions. Such a burden should not have to be imposed on anyone and we should hope that, as Chairman of the Directors Commission, Chaba will be able to stimulate saber director development to alleviate this problem.

WOMEN'S FOIL

Defending champion Harriet King did it again. Starting off the final against Ruth White, 1970 runnerup, it appeared as if we might be seeing first place decided at once. It was a hard battle going to 3-3. Then ala the Jones method Harriet caught Ruth coming in without making a clear threat. She made a stop hit and had a 4-3 victory.

But the road to first wasn't slated to be reached so easily, as King had to get through three other 4-3 contests while another consistent, hard fighting veteran kept an almost matching pace. Tommy Angell, lunging in great form with perfect time and fencing more effectively than this observer had ever seen dropped only one bout in the early going. Her loss came to an old nemesis, Maxine Mitchell, the perennial finalist. Angell's wins were mainly by wide margins, four of them by 4-1 scores.

King came a-cropper in her next to last bout when she suffered her first defeat of the night. It came at the hands of Margo Reynolds, a young, aggressive, West Coast girl who likes to move. Easily, almost effort-

lessly she took a 4-1 victory, principally by bearing in on Harriet who was playing a very defensive game. Thus, the stage was set for the final bout, Angell vs. King, winner take all. The loser was to be second since Ruth White had already suffered three losses and had to be satisfied with the Bronze.

King rushed to a 3-1 lead, attacking by beat or disengage. Then with only 20 seconds remaining she went to defense. In ten seconds Angell scored twice to tie the bout, both on strong attacks from which King failed to retreat quickly enough. You had to be a strong believer that Harriet could get the final point. But she did by extending her arm, going into a half lunge and then pushing the rest of the way as Angell moved forward under-estimating the threat.

Ruth White again showed that she was in our top group as she raced through all her opponents in her five victories. Her losses to King and Reynolds were by 4-3 and only Angell who beat her at 4-1 seemed to know the secret of getting to her as she succeeded with strong attacks. The great strength of White's game is her ability to move and score either on the attack or on defense. Her unchanging fencing tempo however, gives her opponents the opportunity to predict her actions.

With 4-4 records the next three places went to Emily Grompane, a newcomer to the finals, Margo Reynolds who with a break here or there could have done better and then Maxine Mitchell. Blythe Devan, another young fencer, very inconsistent in her debut as a finalist, took seventh, followed by Tanya Adamovich who had very little success this year in winning by the simple force of her aggressiveness. Ninth was Bonnie Linkmeyer who didn't seem to have her usual energy.

NATIONAL TEAM RESULTS

by Emily Johnson

(Ed. Note The staff of American Fencing like to thank Miss Johnson for her sensible results of the Nationals in correct form)

The competition plan varied from to weapon depending upon the number of teams entered, the demands of the (i.e. sabre requires judges) and the availability of competent directors available. Usually many good directors disappear soon as their team was eliminated worked a hardship on the other team

FOIL

First Round:

Pool No. 1: Hambarzumian (3/1); Gaylor Beaman (2/2); Brown (1/3); Ladyman
Pool No. 2: Margareidge (6/0); Gr Espinosa (4/2); De Vito (3/3); Willie Sasek (2/4); Chiasson (0/6).

Pool No. 3: Davis (5/0); Beatty (3/2); D'Ambola (3/2); Burkett (1/4); Snipper

Pool No. 4: Borack (4/0); Carlson (2/2); Mullenix (1/3); Landahl (0/4).

Pool No. 5: Elliott (5/0); Kestler (4 3/2); Bailey (2/3); Alleyne (1/4); R

Pool No. 6: Campbell (5/0); Nonna (4 2/3); Valladares (2/3); Shafter (1/1/4).

Pool No. 7: Lang (3/1); Gaylor (2 2/2); Dart (2/2); Van Der Bos (1/3).

Pool No. 8: Simmons (5/0); Sailler (4 2/3); Nishimura (2/3); Delaney (2/0/5).

Pool No. 9: Checkes (3/1); Adams (3/1 2/2); Nonomura (2/2); Williams (0/4).

Pool No. 10: Jones (4/1); Masin (4/1 3/2); Taylor (2/3); Fallisen (2/3); Gold

Pool No. 11: Lyons (2/0); Helliwell (1/0/2).

Pool No. 12: Davis (3/1); Messing (3 3/1); Gerstein (1/3); McCormick (0/4)

Pool No. 13: Axelrod (4/1); Schwarz Kan (3/2); Keith (3/2); Brethauer (0/5).

Pool No. 14: Russell (5/0); Dopier Carter (2/3); Varadi (2/3); Hall (2/3);

Pool No. 15: St. Clair (5/0); Gaylor (3/2); Huelshoff (1/4); Truax (0/5).

Pool No. 16: Ballinger (4/0); Alischer (2/2); Ware (1/3); Lewonowski (0/4).

Pool No. 17: Krause (5/0); Perlman (3/2); Valentine (2/3); Hurley (1/0/5).

Pool No. 18: Martinez (2/0); John Forrest (0/2).

Pool No. 19: Schmatolla (4/1); Sham Makler (3/2); Otero (3/2); Lashlee (1 0/5).

**A BREAK THROUGH in Scoring ease . . .
Order the New, Sensational,
Team, Individual, Elimination, Barrage
Score Sheets from:
STANLEY PELLICER
CONSERVATOIRE INC.
6317 Clayton Rd., St. Louis, Mo. 63117**

Pool No. 11: Okawa (4/1); Goldwaithe (4/1); Reynolds R (3/2) B (1/0); Moriates R (3/2); B (0/1); Seiller (1/4); Kluthe (0/5).

Pool No. 12: Drago (5/0); Moody (4/1); Mocourt (3/2); Griffiths (2/3); Gannon (1/4); Wood (0/5).

Pool No. 13: Sainz (5/0); Farkas (4/1); Hoepner (3/2); Call (2/3); Baumgart (1/4); Bradley (0/5).

Pool No. 14: O'Donnell (3/0); Johnson R (1/2); Bleamaster (1/2); Hite (1/2).

Pool No. 15: Posthumus (4/0); Perry (2/2); Jessep (2/2); Litowsky (1/3); Wilson (1/3).

Pool No. 16: Devan (5/0); Lenzini (3/2); Von Honts (3/2); Knauer (2/3); Trett (2/3); Green (0/5).

Pool No. 17: Filerman (3/0); Biegel (2/1); Orly (1/2) Gannon (0/4).

Pool No. 18: Angell (4/0); Tate (2/2); Chesney (2/2); Bradford (2/2); Rosato (0/4).

Pool No. 19: Adamovich (4/0); McKenna (2/2); Heinecke (2/2); Engel (1/3); Cannizzaro (1/3).

Pool No. 20: White (4/0); Grompone (3/1); Chapin (2/2); Allart (1/3); Dobloug (0/4).

Second Round:

Pool No. 1: Adamovich (4/1); Johnson (4/1); Remenyik (3/2); Tomlison (2/3); Hoepner (1/4).

Pool No. 2: Okawa (5/0); Santelli (3/2); Bleamaster (2/3); Jones (2/3); Michaelis (2/3); Farkas (1/5).

Pool No. 3: Posthumus (5/0); Moody (4/1); Jacobs (3/2) Goldwaithe (2/3); Flynn (1/4); Lanzini (0/5).

Pool No. 4: King (5/0); O'Connor (3/2); Orly (3/2); Ichiyasu (2/3); Lucerp (2/3); McCourt (0/5).

Pool No. 5: Reynolds (4/1); Armstrong (4/1); Latham (3/2); Biegel (2/3); Eskesen (1/4); Aaenstad (1/4).

Pool No. 6: White (5/0); Filerman (4/1); Koch (2/3); Tate (2/3); Franklin (1/4); Davis (1/4).

Pool No. 7: Heinecke (4/1); Devan (4/1); O'Donnell (3/2); Carter (2/3); Kryworuchenko (2/3); Olney (0/5).

Pool No. 8: Linkmeyer (4/1); Perry (3/2); Mitchell (3/2); Chesney (3/2); Genton (2/3); Barkdull (0/5).

Pool No. 9: Grompone (5/0); Sainz (3/2); Reid (3/2); Smith (3/2); Jessep (2/3); Gangstead (0/5).

Pool No. 10: Angell (5/0); Brown (3/2); Drago (3/2); McKenna (2/3); Chopin (1/4); Huddleson (1/4).

Quarter Finals:

Pool No. 1: Mitchell (4/0); Devan (3/1); Johnson (2/2); Latham (1/3); Okawa (0/4).

Pool No. 2: White (4/0); Santelli (2/2); Orly (2/2); Moody (1/3); Heinecke (1/3).

Pool No. 3: Angell (4/0); Filerman (3/1); O'Donnell (2/2); Armstrong (1/3); Remenyik (0/5).

Pool No. 4: Adamovich (4/0); O'Connor (3/1); Sainz (2/2); Posthumus (1/3); Koch (0/4).

Pool No. 5: Grompone (4/0); King (3/1); Drago (2/2); Jacobs (1/3); Perry (0/5).

Pool No. 6: Reynolds (4/0); Linkmeyer (3/1); Reid (2/2); Brown (1/3); Bleamaster (0/4).

Semifinals:

Pool No. 1: Mitchell (4/1); Adamovich (3/2); Angell (3/2); Orly (2/3); Drago (2/3); O'Connor (1/4).

Pool No. 2: White (4/1); Grompone (3/2); Linkmeyer (3/2); O'Donnell (2/3); Sainz (2/3); Johnson (1/4).

Pool No. 3: Reynolds (1/4); King (3/2); Devan (2/3); Reid (2/3); Filerman (2/3); Santelli (1/4).

FINALS: 1. King (7/1); 2. Angell (6/2); 3. White (5/3); 4. Grompone (4/4); 5. Reynolds (4/4); 6. Mitchell (4/4); 7. Devan (3/5); 8. Adamovich (2/6); 9. Linkmeyer (1/7).

UNDER-19 WOMEN'S FOIL

First Round

Pool No. 1: Bradford (5/0); Brown (4/1); Macready (3/2); Biegel (3/2); Silvesto (1/4); Vickerman (0/5).

Pool No. 2: Michaelis (4/0); Fichtl (3/1); Bradley (2/2); Sebring (1/3); Hite (0/4).

Pool No. 3: Farkas (4/0); Jacobsen (3/1); Seiller (2/2); Frezza (1/3); Smith (0/5).

FINAL: 1. Brown (6/2); Bradford (5/3); 3. Fichtl (5/2); 4. Jacobsen (5/2); Macready (5/2); 6. Farkas (3/5); 7. Bradley (3/5); 8. Michaelis (3/5); 9. Seiller (1/7).

UNDER-19 FOIL

First Round

Pool No. 1: Dale (3/2); Mullenix (3/2); Mullarkey (3/2); Biebel (3/2); ValladaRES (2/3); Ladyman (1/4).

Pool No. 2: Nonomura (4/0); Jennings (3/1); Gaylor (2/2); Tank (1/3); Whitehead (0/4).

Pool No. 3: Gelnow (4/0); Gaylor, Paul (3/1); Carter (2/2); Otero (1/3); Falkenburg (0/5).

FINAL: 1. Carter (7/1); 2. Mullarkey (6/2); 3. Nonomura (5/3); 4. Gaylor Paul (5/3); 5. Gaylor, Peter (4/4); 6. Jennings (3/5); 7. Dale (2/6); 8. Mullenix (2/6); 9. Gelna (2/6).

UNDER-19 EPEE

First Round

Pool No. 1: Farley H. (4/1); Carter (3/2); Ladyman (3/2); Davis (3/2); Mullarkey (1/4); Dale (1/4).

Pool No. 2: Farley, Mark (4/1); Mashl (4/1); Egan (3/2); Nonomura (2/3); Hunter (2/3); Soter (0/5).

Pool No. 3: Kokab (4/0); Jennings (3/1); Myrden R (1/3); B (2/0); Whitehead R (1/3); B (0/1); Otero R (1/3); B (0/1).

FINAL: 1. Carter (8/0); 2. Kokab (6/2); 3. Jennings (5/3); 4. Farley, Mark (4/4); 5. Farley, H. (4/4); 6. Ladyman (4/4); 7. Mashl (3/5); 8. Myrden (2/6); 9. Egan (0/8).

UNDER-19 SABRE

First Round:

Pool No. 1: Losconczy (5/1); Brand (5/1); Graham (5/1); Otero (5/1); Soter (1/5); Ladyman (1/5); Falkenburg (1/5).

Pool No. 2: Danosi (5/1); Bartos (5/1); Reilly (4/2); Sils (4/2); Hunter (2/4); Nonomura (1/5); Rosenberg (0/6).

Pool No. 3: Westbrook (5/0); Bachner (3/2); Orlando (3/2); Smith (3/2); Dale (1/4); Whitehead (0/5).

Semi-final:

Pool No. 1: Bartos (5/0); Westbrook (3/2); Brand

(2/3); Sils (2/3); Orlando (2/3); Otero (1/4).

Pool No. 2: Losconczy (4/0); Reilly (3/1); Danosi (3/2); Bachner (2/3); Graham (1/4); Smith (1/4).

FINAL: 1. Danosi (7/0); 2. Losconczy (6/1); 3. Reilly (3/4); 4. Westbrook (3/4); 5. Bartos (3/4); 6. Brand (3/4); 7. Bachner (2/5); 8. Sils (1/6).

SABER TEAM

Eleven teams were entered in the Saber event. In the first round of three pools, Fresno Fencing Club, Los Angeles Fencers Club and Pannonia Athletic Club were eliminated. In the second round NYU, Salle du Nord, Sala de Esgrima, and Halbertsadt were eliminated. In the Final, Salle Csiszar beat NYAC, Letterman, and Michigan for the title. NYAC came in second over Letterman, which took the bronze.

FOIL TEAM

Thirteen foil teams competed. Eliminated in the first round were Halberstadt, LAAC, Los Gatos, and Stanford. In the direct elimination AFRA, Mori, Letterman, and Salle de Nord went out. In the semi NYAC defeated NYU and Santelli defeated Csiszar. NYAC then defeated Santelli for first, and NYU took third over Csiszar.

WOMEN'S TEAM

There were seventeen women's teams entered. Out in the first round were H California State Fullerton, Jersey Jose State, and Stanford. In the elimination Sala de Esgrima, Tusco Letterman, Nittany, and Salle de the dust. In the second round, Hun and Santelli Academy were ousted. Fencers Club defeated Marki Santelli for the Gold, and Marki took over Salle Santelli.

EPEE TEAM

Seventeen Epee teams were entered in the first round were California Gatos, Sala de Esgrima, San Ant Stanford. In the first direct elimination of Missouri, Long Beach, Sa LAAC, Letterman, and Halberstadt were ousted. In the second elimination U. S. Pentathlon went out. In NYAC won over Csiszar and Salle who took second and third, respect

UHLMANN

NO 600 FOIL - EPEE SCORING MACHINE

In our opinion this unit is the most functional and dependable scoring machine ever built. It has been Completely redesigned. New features include extra bright lights for maximum visibility. Write us for detailed particulars and let us share our enthusias with you.

If you don't already have a copy you will want us to send you our free 28 page log.



AMERICAN
FENCERS' SUPPLY
2122 FILMORE STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.
415 - 346-8662

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The 1972-73 National Nominating Committee is composed of Dr. Daniel Bukantz, Chairman; Lawrence Anastasi, Mrs. Gerry Baumgart, Jerrold Bennett, Manny Forrest, Miss Emily Johnson, and Anthony Zombolas. According to the operations Manual, the function of the committee is to select candidates for national office and present a slate to the Secretary of the AFLA before February 1, 1972. The committee is so composed that it is expected the members will sound out sentiment in their respective sections and submit names which meet with general approval.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

(Continued from page 11)

divisions. As presently constituted it is largely a paper body. Active participation on a regular basis comes only from the major metropolitan divisions. Attempts to move the site of meetings from New York to other parts of the country have run into quorum problems. A mail vote is costly, cumbersome and time consuming. Assuming the same representational structure ought to be continued, perhaps we shall have to arrange to finance the trips of divisional chairmen to at least the annual meeting of the Board.

Our dues structure has not, despite membership increases, produced adequate reve-

FIRST UNITED STATES MILITARY CHAMPIONSHIPS

by G. Poujardieu

The first United States Military Championships took place in San Antonio, Texas, on May 28 to 30, at the Modern Pentathlon Training Center.

RESULTS

Foil: 1. Esponda, Army; 2. Freeman, Marine Corps; 3. Newman, Navy.

Epee: 1. Taylor, Army; 2. Cartwright, Army; 3. Drum, Air Force.

Saber: 1. Gross, Army; 2. Glassgold, Army; 3. Beyer, Air Force.

COMING EVENTS

U.S. fencers are advised of the following major international tournaments. Its never too early to start getting ready.

XX Olympic Games: Munich, Germany

(August 26th - Sept. 10th, 1972)

World Championships: Gotheburg, Sweden

(June 11th - June 22nd, 1973)

VII Pan American Games: Santiago, Chile

(October 12th - October 26th, 1975)

XXI Olympic Games: Montreal, Canada

(July 17th - August 1st, 1976)

CORNELL MEET

Cornell University Fencing Club will hold an Open meet in all four weapons on Nov. 20 and 21, 1971. For further information contact M. Raoul Sudre at Cornell, Ithaca, New York, 14850.