

American FENCING

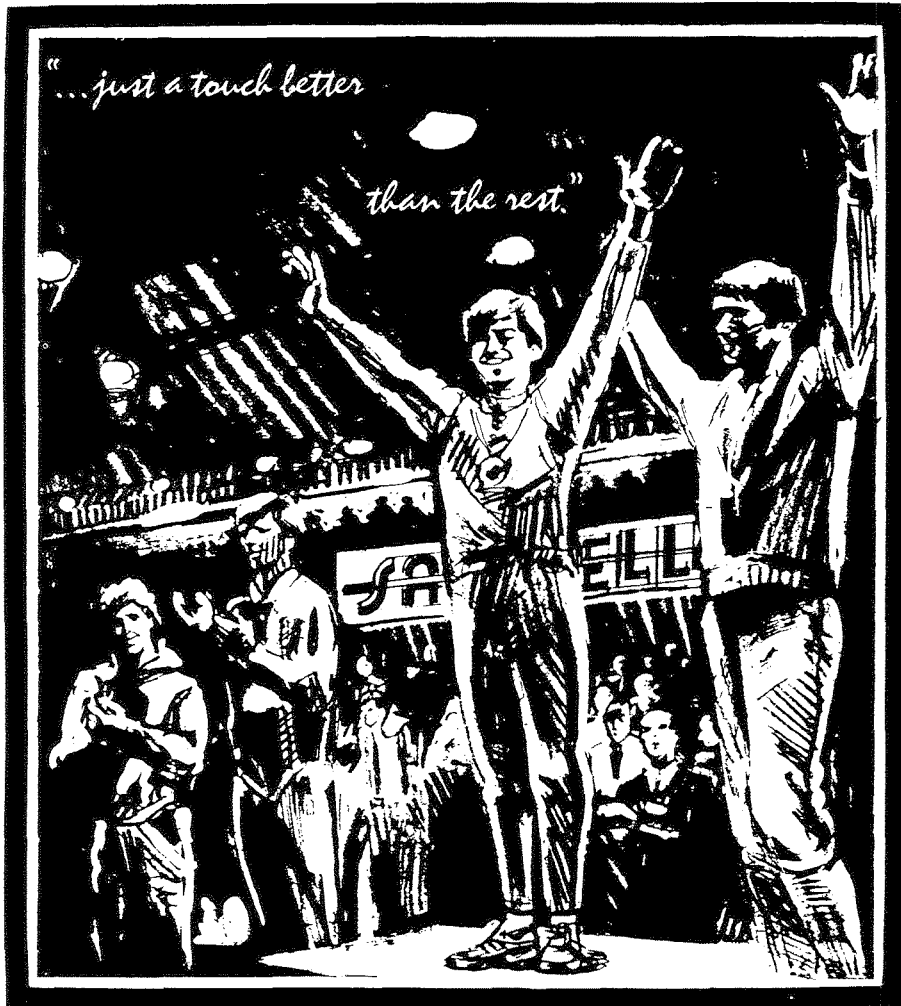
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ON THE COVER:

Moments before a crucial bout: Coach Joe and Jana Angelakis. Photo by Marcia Be

EDITORIAL

The Olympic Fencing Committee once more, in its great wisdom, is not only fiddling with the Olympic and Junior point system, but also with participation in our Senior and Junior National Championships. We are witnessing a gradual erosion in the value of participation in our divisional, sectional, and national championships, an erosion due directly to the point system and the number of automatic qualifiers allowed in our national events. For some years many of our elite fencers have seen no reason to bother to enter their divisional or sectional championships.

We are now in our Olympic season year and this state of affairs, which caters to our elite fencers and leaves the sections and divisions on their own, is perhaps understandable. However, the 1984-85 season marks the beginning of a new quadrennium and we would like to see the OFC give more attention to our "grass roots" and junior development. Money allocations aside, the committee could start by making it mandatory that all "elite" fencers participate in their divisional, sectional, and national championships. Sending our better fencers to Europe and allowing them to qualify for international team selection without competing locally does not inspire our grass roots fencers, who form the backbone

of our organization.

There is a movement afoot to persuade the OFC to bring more internationally ranked foreign fencers into our country to participate in our tournaments. There is no doubt that such competitions do more to help raise the over-all level of our fencing than does the export of our fencers to foreign shores. There are many ways to arrange such programs, which could include coaches and workshops and clinics. Our elite and non-elite fencers could profit from them.

In order to astound and assuage some critics who have been muttering for some time (and probably rightly so), we lead off this issue with indices for two previous volumes. They are long overdue.

This issue also contains the concluding observations, originally published in the official FIE magazine *ESCRIME*, of M. Raoul Clery on the incidence of accidents in modern fencing. We hope that his remarks will have some effect not only on competing fencers but especially on our national and international administrators. This thoughtful article has already provoked several interesting comments which we hope to publish in our next issue.

—MTH

SEASON'S GREETINGS



FROM THE STAFF OF AMERICAN FENCING

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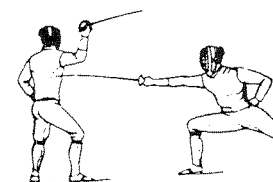
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SEASON'S GREETINGS

FROM THE STAFF
OF
AMERICAN FENCING

A PROPOS D'UN ACCIDE

by Raoul Clery, reprinted with permission from *ESCRIME*, Feb-Mc

Translated by Mary Ann

DIRECTING

There is the habit, in sports, in the case of an incident, or alas! an accident, to blame the officiating. The accident of Smirnov was no exception to this rule. There were even harsh with the directors after the world championships, but certain qualifications used were excessive.

If a case is to be made on the matter, it must be about directing in general, rather than about particular directors. Let me explain. In whatever sport it may be, the rules of the game are set by an international governing body which defines them and explains them in order to make them known to all, and charges the officials to watch over their application. If something is wrong in the application, the international body has the imperative duty to convene the officials and to explain its thoughts on the disputed points, in order to arrive at a unity of doctrine. This is absolutely indispensable to trainers and instructors so that training and instruction may support each other and conform well to the texts.

At present, in the absence of any reaction of the international organization against excesses (corps-a-corps, running, violence, dangerous play, attacks with bent arm, lack of discipline, etc.) which trainers and masters complain of more and more, one has the right to think that the F.I.E. is satisfied with "conventional" fencing as it is practiced, and with the way it is directed. Why then should the officials judge otherwise than they do? However, it is evident that a certain laxness has set in, led by electric scoring. Though the rules have absolutely not changed, and on certain points they have even been stated precisely, one cannot deny that today's fencing differs more and more from yesterday's. It is possible that there may be a sort of tacit agreement among officials to leave the apparatus alone, in order not to seem to be nitpicking. If today an international official had the fantasy of strictly applying the rules, he would probably be rejected by the community (di-

rectors, colleagues) and pointed at as interfering with good directing; and, per stuck with the label they lately have! a candidate for national director examination: "too severe".

In the first analysis (or in the last like), it is up to the F.I.E. to set straight. For the following reason, servance of the rules which should about an improvement in the game, it more attractive, more spectacular comprehensible to the public, can achieved by starting at the highest must set an example. The observ rules can then proceed toward the levels (where learning takes place), through instructors whose teaching follow the rules. It is an illusion or, mistake to hope to reach a solution in other direction. Everyone knows among those who are familiar with problem) that the young fencer champion (often more than he lists master!) in what he does well, but at mistakes. These can run counter to destroy all that has been taught here

**"With such errors
in directing,
how are instructors
supposed to teach?"**

On another plane, that of example, the non-application of governing conventional weapons — only partial application — brings a erable prejudice against correct fencing against those who have been wrong essential reason is that in fencing penalty is preceded by a warning has been subtly modified — rende little ridiculous, but certainly not rigorous. In effect, our sport is the that tolerates errors without punishing them immediately; errors that

fencer at a disadvantage without any reparation. It is even possible physically to assault an opponent, in the course of a violent action which might send him to the hospital without being otherwise penalized than by a SPECIAL warning! In other sports, warning accompanies a penalty and precedes a more severe penalty in case of repetition; in fencing, the warning always precedes the penalty.

One could write a volume on the anomaly and the derision of fencing penalties, for they exist only in the books! The responsible people in the F.I.E. think they are doing their whole duty by adding one article to another, without supervising its application. For a good quarter-century, they have been playing this little game which is causing the spirit and the quality of the conventional weapons to disappear. To take just one example, several years ago they added to the rules precise directives about the correct execution of attacks, in which the extension of the arm must precede the advancement of the foot. However, people

continue to give right of way to an action forward, with the arm pulled back during its entire development, while along the way the opponent attacks "on preparation". We have been able to see this recently in the gala women's tournament at the famous "centenary" of the Federation. With such errors in directing, how are instructors supposed to teach? It is true that they are practically never consulted.

Finally, to finish this chapter, it is perhaps not useless to dwell on one other aspect of directing which D.T.N. Oprendek raises in his report on the 1982 world championships. This is the matter of certain high-level fencers conducting themselves toward international directors likely to be active in the course of the competition with a sort of conciliatory behavior based on flattery, on admiring praise, to dispose them in their favor in case of need. Oprendek has used as reference in this type of seduction operation the former Olympic champion Drimba.

THE GAME

It is evident that in the past quarter of a century the nature of the game, the very character of conventional fencing, has changed. The fencer in general no longer presents entirely the same silhouette; his game no longer has the same clarity or evenness as before. Very recently, during a retrospective on Italian sport, rebroadcast on television, two fencers of thirty years ago were contending in a world championship final. Elegant bearing and position, displacements in measure with the strict minimum required by distance, practically perfect mastery and ease of movement, left arm in the air, rounded not to "look pretty" but for the role it has to play in balance, and respect for the rule which prescribes implicitly that the valid surface of the trunk must be unconcealed. It was hard not to compare this immediately with the picture presented by today's fencer, whose back arm — its action denied and denigrated — hangs down, most often between the legs like the trunk of an elephant, whose armed hand is everywhere and nowhere, and whose leg movements are wide and crazy leaps. Then the announcer gives the names of the antagonists: d'Oriola, Mangiarotti. Evidently it is another time, another fencing, even if combat still remains combat if the "rules of the game" are still exactly the same.

Is this view of things personal, or is it shared by other personalities? To find out, let's let several fencers of different generations express themselves.

— Didier Flament, an active fencer toward the end of his career, declared ⁴ "I think that referees must show themselves more vigilant and exacting toward fencers who

"Referees must show themselves more vigilant & exacting."

tend to profit from their physical qualities, to the detriment of technicians respecting the true spirit (of foil)... This is no longer classic fencing, but sabre for boarding ships!" Thus, Flament regrets the disappearance (or the impossibility of doing)

classic fencing, that is fencing "which will not depart from the established rules" — Christian d'Oriola, Olympic champion thirty years ago, does not formulate precise criticism, but he recognizes "physical engagement is pushed to the limit" more ⁴, especially among high-level fencers." He estimates that one actually violates the rules, though he allows them a little "energetic" and thinks that by "armorizing" the trunk a little more, one might protect themselves from accidents. — J. Leal, in Figaro, recalls the only one, with Flament, who considers that it "is urgent to review the directing, so that fencing does not become still more dangerous."

— Finally, I recall the already-cited Carlo Brusati ⁴, President of the Italian international fencer before the war: "Today's fencing is heavy, with and without standards." It is well also an observation that coincides with his own. But M. Brusati has added an observation to this state of things which is appreciated in varying degrees by fencers: "the masters and the modern fencers no longer require of their opponents the primordial quality of bearing which was demanded with suppleness, contrary to what is done in my day."

I do not share Carlo Brusati's opinion of this point at all. As I have already said, the influence of the top-level fencer's style of young fencers in consideration is probably stronger than the less so by their own masters. This is however not peculiar to fencing: the style is often a fashion. For example, the whole generation of tennis players forced itself to play using top-level players like Borg and Vilas, because they were moment the best. And, in a similar way (retreat of Borg, success of MacEnroe), are present at an evolution in another direction, the effects of which we all witness in the constellation of talent players that France possesses at the moment. But as for fencing, there is no doubt that the existence of an important evolution (that is, the rules of traditional fencing) and the letter (the



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in which they are interpreted on the strip.)

People can, evidently, disagree; that is, furthermore, what people do That won't stop us from continuing to fence. But what kind of fencing? Do we think to attract a vast public by showing it an often incomprehensible clashing of blades? People are too quickly satisfied by this excuse, which is beginning to lack originality: "The uninitiated don't understand anything because it goes too fast." That is not correct. Anyone can follow the play — even very fast — if the exchanges alternate. This is the very essence of foil. But no one can take any interest in it if the exchanges are simultaneous. Scientific deficiency in a spectacle has never unleashed enthusiasm. A beautiful attack, a lightning parry-riposte, a prolonged exchange, are understood by everyone. We are scarcely spoiled in this respect today!

Electric scoring has meant a two-edged sword for fencing. It has brought a certain indisputable progress in the realm of materiality of the touch. It has also, unhappily, allowed foilists to risk unknown actions or, rather, actions impossible to accomplish in real combat (whence the rules and conventions stemmed): attack into the attack, double touches, simultaneous actions, or actions rarely attempted before: remises against direct ripostes, which par-takes of poker.


The electric scoring has allowed the sport of foil to break away from its rules and to put into use actions "not seen" or "not accepted" previously by a human jury.

It is more precisely the excessive use of the counter-attack in all its forms which evolution has influenced. These actions have progressively gained on classic defense. At the same time there has arisen a new state of mind: a sharp watch for the moment to act — before the opponent.


Simultaneously — alas! the mortal accident of Smirnov has shown it — the intensity of training of modern champions, their physical strength, their speed, introduced into actions where the opponents are advancing toward each other, are added; sometimes these clearly exceed the norms

of safety for fabrics and masks. The thrust into a thrust (long ago, they used to call it "the thrust of two widows") is, I believe, the most harmful, unfortunate, and also the most dangerous action in contemporary foil fencing. An unusual action formerly, it is now ancient in the minds of more and more fencers; it quickly reaches the minds of the young as soon as they enter competition... and God knows they start early these days! Can one remedy this, and how? In sabre infighting, the state of affairs is somewhat comparable, but less dangerous because the cuts (the most often employed) slide along the target, whereas frontal thrusts with the point break blades. The sabre has invented a procedure to reduce the number of simultaneous actions which were literally destroying the game. At a given moment, this system obliges one of the fencers "to forbid himself to provoke a simultaneous action." This method has been in use for several years, and it must be agreed that since then the technical quality of the actions has been improving. Perhaps one could get for foil a similar dissuading

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effect on simultaneous actions if, in an analogous case, one simply counted a touch against both fencers, as in epee: first, because the fencer on his mark would have an interest in avoiding these: then, because in case of tie at 5 in a pool, it could be decided as either a "nul" or a "double defeat", which is not advantageous to the two fencers. Finally, these new conditions of attack, which every fencer would confront, might perhaps provoke in the course of training at the salle a more careful study of hand technique: parries, ripostes, counter-time.

CONCLUSION

As is seen, the accident that cost Vladimir Smirnov his life can have useful consequences if it leads us to reconsider all the problems that concern the classic weapon. This would constitute a homage to him.

Without wishing in any way to force the hand of the responsible international people, it would seem that the principal points to examine might be, for example:

— The study, manufacture, and utilization of a newly-conceived material assuring maximum safety to the fencers.³— A simplification of the code of penalties. Suppression of prior warning for faults in combat. Strict application.

— Creation of a body of directors, competent, independent, supported, oriented toward strict respect for the rules, subject to yearly reappointment.

— Attentive research and elimination of dangerous actions, harmful to safety and to the technical and spectacular quality of fencing.

— Periodic consultation between the directing body and a teaching commission, to reach a unity of fencing doctrine.

— Establishment of a code for organization and discipline at fencing meets. Research and elimination of "lost time" which makes competitions long and wearying for all. The "next" bout must go on the strip within as brief a lapse of time as possible. Today, we must call the fencers, sometimes hunt for them, wait for them to get dressed, to get hooked up, and for them to consent to say they are ready. Tennis, for example, records all dead time in order to

prevent abuses.

—Simplification and reduction of the directorate composition of the directorate technical present too important, too slow hesitant. Very inferior to that of tennis which is run by a single man, a referee who settles all disputes on demand in a minimum of time, with an indisputable and undisputed authority.

It is certain that a profound reform of fencing is needed at all levels, in all categories: officials, masters, federations. It is not normal that in the first century of two sports about equal in popularity, one — tennis — should have had the development that we see, and the other — fencing — continues to stagnate. Perhaps we might also make comparisons with equestrian sports. There are reasons. It would be necessary to collect a committee to understand them.

But let's end on an agreeable note. We still have our defenders and friends. In a book dedicated to the memory of the youth (La Mansarde, Edition Loisirs), the great explorer and researcher Paul-Emile Victor, has given two reasons for fencing and to his maitre d'armes: "It is in a big windowless room, with cardboard cartons, boxes, sacks, it's there that my sister and I, one week, took our fencing lessons. It was a thought — with reason — that sport would develop precision and control of reflexes, suppleness and firmness of muscles, and fair play... The maitre d'armes was called Andrej Ivanovitch tovozdvijanski, adjutant with the 1st Infantry (Lons-le-Saunier). He was a brilliant instructor and very good psychologist..."

It is comforting to read that!

Footnotes:

³ Except for the declaration of M. Brusat aware of the deterioration of the quality of the equipment which leaves hope for some reforms.

⁴ Declarations in number 43 of *Esclime* magazine.
⁵ The press, as well as certain statements of officials immediately after the accident think there was an interest in this question which has passed, and 7 months after the accident has yet reached fencers about any action.

NORTH AMERICAN CIRCUIT INFORMATION

ENTRY DEADLINE: ALL ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED TEN (10) DAYS prior to the circuit event. **ABSOLUTELY NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.** An entry form is available from the National office: U.S.F.A., 1750 Boulder St., Colorado Springs, CO 80909 or from the individual named below with the circuit event.

ENTRY FEES: The entry fee for each circuit event is \$20, payable with entry.

EVENT DATA: WINTER 1983-1984

EVENT:#, NAME DATE	ENTRY FEE SITE	PAYABLE TO TIME(1)	SEND ENTRY TO: Entry Form Available From:
#1 Michel Alaux WF Dec. 3rd	\$20 F.I.T., NYC	Met. Div. USFA 7:30 A.M.	George Masin, 77 W. 55 St., Apt. 5J, New York, NY 10019
#1 Michel Alaux MF Dec. 4th	\$20 F.I.T., NYC	Met. Div. USFA 7:30 A.M.	George Masin, 77 W. 55 St., Apt. 5J, New York, NY 10019
#1 S.J. SABRE Classic Dec. 10th	\$20*(+\$5) San Jose St.	Fencing Center 7:30 A.M.	The Fencing Center 40 N. 1st St., San Jose, CA 95113
#1 Csiszar EPEE Dec. 10th	\$20 Univ. Penn.	D. Micahnik 7:30 A.M.	D. Macahnik, Univ. Penn., D.I.A., Weightman Hall, E7, Phila., PA 19104
#2 D'Asaro WF Jan. 20th (Prelims) Jan. 22nd (3rd+D.E.)	\$20 San Jose State Univ.	D'Asaro Open 5:30 P.M. 1:00 P.M.	Gay D'Asaro, 3988 Ezie Street, San Jose, CA 95112
#2 D'Asaro MF Jan. 21st (Prelims) Jan. 22nd(3rd, D.E.)	\$20 San Jose State Univ.	D'Asaro Open 7:30 A.M. 7:30 A.M.	Gay D'Asaro, 3988 Ezie Street, San Jose, CA 95112
#2 Pillar SABRE Jan. 22nd	\$20(+\$5) T.B.A.	Met. Div. USFA 7:30 A.M.	George Masin, 77 W. 55 St., Apt. 5J, New York, NY 10019
#2 Pentathlon EPEE Jan. 28th	\$20 USMPTC	S. Texas USFA 7:30 A.M.	South Texas Div. P.O. Box 12062, San Antonio, TX 78212

1) Time =Close of Registration for Event. No Fencer allowed to fence after registration is closed. Event starts half hour later.

OR CONFIRMATION & ADDITIONAL TOURNAMENT INFORMATION ENCLOSE A SELF-ADDRESSED, STAMPED, LONG(#10) ENVELOPE.

AN ADDITIONAL FEE OF \$5* will be assessed for each sabre event. This additional \$56) fee will be refunded to those fencers who remain one round beyond the round in which the fencer is eliminated.

MEMBERSHIP: ALL FENCERS MUST BE PAID-UPMEMBERS OF THE USFA or other recognized fencing federation. A current membership card must be shown at the time of registration. No fencer will be allowed to fence unless this requirement is met.

W 1983 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

(Editor's note: the following is a compilation of reports sent in by Nancy Valsamis and Peter Conomikes, to whom we express our thanks.)

In Vienna at the World Championships, the competition started on July 21 with men's foil and the finals were held the following evening. The first pairings of the finals were Omnes (Fra) vs. Sypniewski (Pol), Gey (W. Ger) vs. Numa (Ita), Hein (W. Ger) vs. Romankov (USSR), and Behr (W. Ger) vs. Cerioni (Ita). In the end, Romankov won first place in a well fought battle with Gey and Sypniewski prevailed over Cerioni for third place.

Our U.S. foil entrants had the pleasure and the pain of fencing some of the world's top fencers during their first and second round efforts. In the first round, Nonomura had 2 wins, but on his 6-man strip he lost out on touches. Bukantz needed a win in his final bout to qualify, but dropped it for only one win. Burchard was also out early. Only Biebel made it into the second round and there, on a 5-man strip, although he scored well in other bouts, he managed his one win against a fencer who lost all.

Foil team event was fought between East and West Germany. West Germany prevailed by a score of 9-4. Cuba, the team to watch, beat Italy 9-6 to make the finals and then beat Hungary for 3rd place. They were followed by Italy, Poland, USSR, and France.

The championship bout in women's foil placed the favored Vaccaroni (Ita) against her teammate Cicconetti; Vaccaroni won 8-2. Third place went to Luan Jujie of China, which is now emerging with fencers to be reckoned with. Other finalists were Weber (W. Ger), Stefanek (Hon), Zalaffi (Ita), and Dmitrenko (USSR).

We had two women entrants: A. Miller did not make it into the 2nd round, but C. Bilodeau did; however, she did not advance from there.

Italy won the women's foil team. In sabre, Vasil Etropolis (Bulg) defeated Dalla Barba (Ita) for the championship.

Hristo Etropolis (?brother ?cousin) took third over Meglio of Italy. T followed by Bourtsev (USSR), (Fra), Scalzo (Ita), and Bierkowsk

The sabre team score card st USSR, Hungary, Italy and Bulgaria in that order.

We had no sabre fencers in the tion.

First place in epee went to Borrr Ger), followed by Giger (Swi), (Ita), Lenglet (Fra), Alenine Kolczonay (Hon), Boisse (Fra), and (USSR).

In the epee team finals, France l balance and won first place over V many. Italy and Poland were t fourth.

Our five U.S. epeeists found th in the middle of the largest (about at the championships. Moreau and did not make it out of the first rour progressed with good credentials ing of about 62. Schifrin needed a win to make it into the tableau an up with a ranking of 40th. Shelle; the tableau of 32 (cheers!), then l strong Hungarian and another E pean" to finish with a ranking of

In the epee team event, we def Venezuelans after a difficult ma then we were wiped out by the So qualified for the next round. In th round, we were leading the West by 5-2, until they buckled down the rest for a 9-5 victory. The Ital proceeded to clean us to the tune

Our reporter reports "Since thi our first team, nor a complete te weapons, our overall final rankin of 38 nations was not too bad, cons

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1983-1984 U.S.F.A. NATIONAL POINT SYSTEM

A. JUNIOR POINT SYSTEM FOR 1984 WORLD JUNIOR TEAM				B. SENIOR POINT SYSTEM FOR 1984 OLYMPICS		
PL.	1983 Nat'l U-19 Champs.	One Circuit	'84 U-20 Champs.	Circuit (3 of 4)	'84 Nat'l Champs.	F.I.E. "A"
1.	50 pts.	100 pts.	100 pts.	100 pts.	150 pts.	200 pts.
2.	46	92	92	92	138	184
3.	44	88	88	88	132	176
4.	42	84	84	84	126	168
5.	40	80	80	80	120	160
6.	38	76	76	76	114	152
7.	36	72	72	72	108	144
8.	34	68	68	68	102	136
9.	30	60	60	60	90	120
10.	28	56	56	56	84	112
11.	26	52	52	52	78	104
12.	24	48	48	48	72	96
13.	—	40	40	40	60	80
14.	—	38	38	38	57	76
15.	—	36	36	36	54	72
16.	—	34	34	34	51	68
17.	—	30	30	30	45	60
18.	—	28	28	28	42	56
19.	—	26	26	26	39	52
20.	—	24	24	24	36	48
21.	—	22	22	22	33	44
22.	—	20	20	20	30	40
23.	—	18	18	18	27	36
24.	—	16	16	16	24	32
25.	—	—	—	—	—	24
26.	—	—	—	—	—	22
27.	—	—	—	—	—	20
28.	—	—	—	—	—	18
29.	—	—	—	—	—	16
30.	—	—	—	—	—	14
31.	—	—	—	—	—	12
32.	—	—	—	—	—	10

Selection for Jr. Team = top three accumulative point staning.

Selection for Olympic Team = top five sum of points: 3 of 4 circuit events, National Champs. & any F.I.E. "A" result.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS, 1983-94 SEASON

OLYMPIC FENCING COMMITTEE:
Michel Mamlouk, Chmn.; William Goering, V. Chmn.; Nancy Sebastiani, Sec.; Robert Blum, Daniel Bukantz, Mike DeCicco, Ed Donofrio, Nikki Franke, Mac Garret, Chaba Pallaghy, Barry Pariser, Steve Sobel.

U.S. COMMISSION ON FENCING
RULES & OFFICIALS: George Kolombatovitch & Ralph Zimmerman, Co-Chmn.; Joseph Byrnes, Sam Cheris, Gay D'Asaro, Al Davis William Goering, Ralph Goldstein, Stacey Johnson, Jack Keane, John Kalmar, Frank Nagorney, Chaba Pallaghy, Ed Richards, Steve Sobel.

SHINING LAMES' & CLEAN UNIFORMS

by J.J. C

When fellow fencers discover that I'm a professional drycleaner, they usually ask me one of two questions:

(1) How do I keep my lame' from turning green?

(2) How can I get my uniform cleaner?

The green stains in your lame' are only a symptom of the real problem. These stains are caused by the decomposition of the metallic yarns into copper oxide. As more and more metal decomposes, the resistance in your lame' will become increasingly higher until it will eventually fail to register a valid hit.

Fresh perspiration is acidic. When it comes in contact with bacteria and fungi on the skin, fabric or air, it decomposes and gradually becomes alkaline. Fresh perspiration does not cause loss of fabric strength. However, stale perspiration is highly alkaline and is very destructive. The longer the lame' is in contact with perspiration, the greater the damage. Furthermore, perspiration contains salt (chlorides). When the moisture evaporates, the salt crystals deposit on the fabric's surface (where all the metal is located on your lame'). These salt crystals are extremely sharp and act as an abrasive much like sandpaper. This abrasive will further contribute to the deterioration of the lame' since, given enough time, the mechanical action supplied by the fencer's movements will cause these salt crystals to actually cut through the metallic yarns. This will, of course, eventually destroy the electrical integrity of your vest.

The best possible way to prolong the life of your lame' is to wash it as soon as possible after each use. It only takes 10 minutes and is certainly worth the effort when you consider the cost of a new lame'. I've used the following procedure on my lame' for over a year with excellent results:

Fill a plastic dishpan with lukewarm water and use any type of mild liquid detergent (Woolite is good, however, I generally use regular dishwashing detergent). Put about an ounce of household ammonia in and mix well. Gently agitate the lame' in this

solution for two or three minutes: **rinse well.** Don't twist, pull or wring on a wood or plastic hanger to drip

If you follow this procedure, I'm sure you will find it will double or triple the life of your lame'.

How can I get my uniform cleaner?

The second most frequent question I receive concerns stained or dingy uniforms. All of our normal laundering techniques try the procedure outlined below. It works on all fibers and is effective on many types of stains. Speaking of (ab)use of techniques, I noted with interest Ms. letter in the Jan/Feb. '83 issue of *Arms & Fencer*. The active ingredient in RIF Remover is sodium hydrosulfite. This type of reducing bleach. Reducing bleaches are particularly effective on dye stains, however, oxidizing bleaches produce permanent results. Stains treated with reducing bleaches may in time reappear.

Bleaching is a very complex subject beyond the scope of this letter. I would like to point out, however, that most care in fencing uniforms recommend bleaching. I have spoken to a major uniform manufacturer and was informed that this prohibition is intended to prevent chlorine-type bleach. I wholeheartedly agree with their recommendation! Chlorine-type bleaches lose strength and yellows if bleached. This bleach is only on cotton, linen, rayon and polyester. The concentration, temperature and the bleaching bath is rigidly controlled. An average fencer would be well advised to heed the manufacturer's advice and clear of bleaching their uniforms with chlorine bleach.

Hydrogen peroxide is the safest and most recommended concentration it is safe for all fibers (not safe on all colors). Hydrogen peroxide can be purchased at your drug or grocery store in 3% (10 volume) concentration. When bleaching with

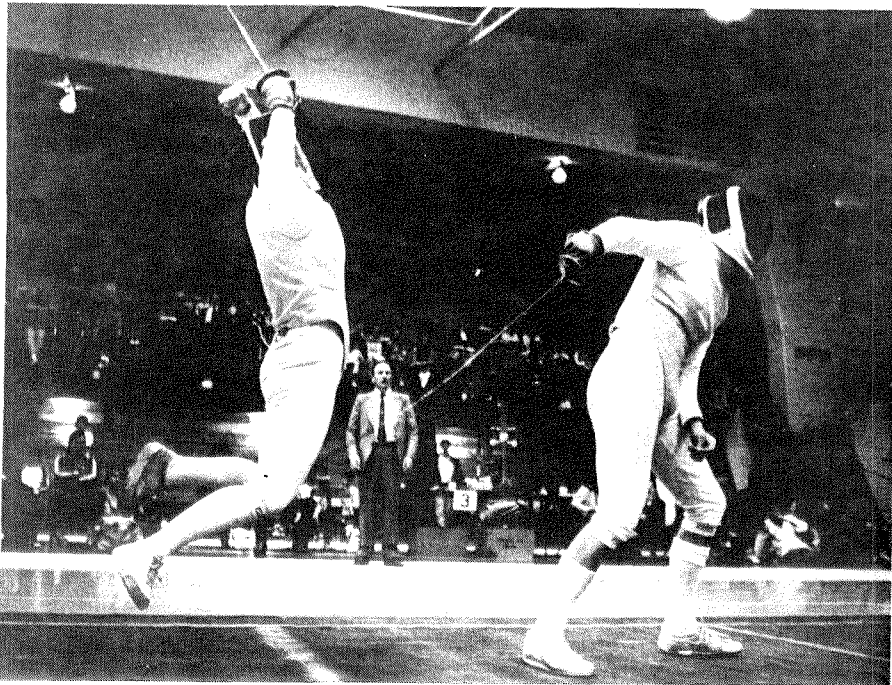
rogen peroxide use a plastic basin large enough so that the uniform will not be crowded. Remove the metal "D" ring from your jacket and any other metal objects that can be readily removed. Zip up zippers and close velcro fittings.

You should use 10 ounces of 3% hydrogen peroxide for each gallon of solution combined with 1 ounce of household ammonia for each gallon of solution. When preparing solution use a one gallon plastic container. Put the peroxide in the container and then fill the jug most of the way with warm water (100 degrees F), then put in the ammonia and shake well. Pour this solution into your plastic basin and repeat the process as necessary until you have sufficient volume so that the fabric is not crowded. Stains should be removed in three hours or less except that set stains may require longer bleaching time. Do **not** leave the uniform in the bleaching bath overnight. Rinse the fabric well after removing it from the bleaching bath.



Coach Csaba Elthes (left) and Olympic Committee member Steve Sobel congratulate 1983 Pan American Sabre champion Peter Westbrook in Caracas, Venezuela. Photo by P. Reilly.

Debbie Waples whoops it up after a final touch against Andrea Metkus in the 1983 U.S. Nationals. Photo courtesy S.F. Examiner.



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ENTRY FORM

1984 USFA JUNIOR OLYMPIC CHAMPIONSHIPS

Name (please print)			Birth day
Address			Telephone#
City	State	Zip	USFA Membership#
Club	Division	Section	

Hometown Newspaper

1. ENTRY Please circle all events you wish to enter. Also mark Qual Rank and Weapons Classification

Qual Rank	Qual Rank	Weapons Classification
U-20 M. Foil _____	U-16 M. Foil _____	M. Foil _____
U-20 W. Foil _____	U-16 W. Foil _____	W. Foil _____
U-20 Epee _____	U-16 Epee _____	Epee _____
U-20 Sabre _____	U-16 Sabre _____	Sabre _____

2. Fees: Total No. Events Circled _____ \$7.50 = \$ _____ + \$10 = \$ _____
 The Registration Fee for every fencer in the JOs is \$10. Please do not send cash. Make check payable to: Oregon Division, USFA.

ENTRY DEADLINE IS JANUARY 22

Send entry fees to Marsie Nuffer, 1420 SW Bertha Blvd. #C9, Portland, OR 97219. Include a self addressed stamped business (long) envelope with entry.

3. Upon entering these events under the auspices of the United States Fencing Association, I agree to abide by the rules of the USFA as currently published. I enter at my own risk and release the USFA, its Oregon Division, and tournament officials from any liability. The undersigned certifies that the individual for which this entry is submitted is duly qualified to enter the 1984 Junior Olympics, and the individual's birthday is as stated above and the individual is a member of the USFA for the 1983-84 season.

Parent or Guardian's Signature

Fencers Signature

Doping Control: Competitors will be subject to doping control according to procedures established by the USOC and USFA Medical Commission. Any competitor taking medication should check ahead of time with Dr. Marius Valsamis (212) 636-8989.

Note to Division Secretaries: Immediately upon completion of the divisional JO qualifying event, submit the following to BOTH Eleanor Turney, 601 Curtis St., Albany, CA 94706 AND to the United States Fencing Association, 1750 E. Boulder St., Colorado Spring, CO 80909: (1) the number of eligible fencers in the qualifying competition, NOT including automatic qualifiers; (2) the names of qualifiers and automatics in order of their placing. (3) Names of alternates in order of their placing (Each division is allowed as many alternates as there are qualifiers.) ALL the above information must be provided for each event before any entries can be accepted from your division. Closing date for this information to both Eleanor Turney and USFA Nation Office is Jan. 15, 1984.

1984 USFA JUNIOR OLYMPIC NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Date: February 18-20, 1984
Place: Benson High School, 546, N.E. 12th, Portland, Oregon
Headquarters: Loyd Center Red Lion Inn, 1000 N.E. Multnomah, Portland, (97232). Rates: \$50 up to 4 per room. Make reservations with tel. 503-281-6111. Tell them you're with fencing.
Air Travel: Special arrangements with United Air Lines and Doug Fox Travel will be the lowest prevailing air fare (UAL will waive rest and an additional \$20 discount. The special telephone number: 800-521-4041. All tickets on this special offer must be made through number.

Schedule	Saturday, Feb. 18	Sunday, Feb. 19	Monday, Feb. 20
	8 A.M. U-20 MF	8 A.M. U-20 MF	8 A.M.
	9:30 A.M. U-16 MS	9:30 A.M. U-16 ME	9:30 A.M.
	11 A.M. U-16 WF	11 A.M. U-20 MS	

Weapons Check: Weapons check will begin Friday at 7 p.m. at the competition close at 10 p.m. and will continue during the competition evening starting at 8 a.m. until 9 p.m.

Meetings: USFCA - Fri. 8:30 p.m. Executive - Sat. noon
 Board of Dir. - Sat. 7 p.m. OFC - Sun. 8:30 a.m.

Eligibility: The Junior Olympic National Championships are open to members of the United States Fencing Association who have qualified through the respective divisions in accordance with the rules of the USFA. The number of qualifiers from each division for both U-16 and U-20 events is based on the number of entries in the qualifying round (not including automatic qualifiers) according to the following formula: qualifying round 1 - 1: two qualifiers; 12 - 20, three qualifiers; 21 - 30, four qualifiers; 31 - 40, five qualifiers. The number of alternates per event per division equals the number of qualifiers.

Age Requirements: All fencers in the qualifying rounds must be under 16 or under 20 years of age depending on the event, as of January 1, 1984. Persons turning 16 or 20 on January 1, 1984 are ineligible.

Automatic: Automatic qualifiers may enter without qualifying from their division provided they still meet the age requirements. Automatic qualifiers for the U-20 events are from the U-19 1983 and U-20 Championships, members of the '83 U.S. U-Team, and all other previous Jr. U-19 and U-20 National Champions. Automatic qualifiers for U-16 events are the U-16 finalists at the '83 JOs if they still meet requirements.

Certification: All fencers in the qualifying rounds must be U.S. citizens or permanent resident members of the USFA. All entries to the JOs will be certified by the USFA Secretary before being accepted.

To Enter: Fill out the entry form on the page 18. Send it along with registration and entry fees to Marsie Nuffer, 1420 S.W. Bertha., #C-9, Portland, OR 97219. Entry fees include registration and \$7.50 per event. Make checks payable to Oregon Division/USFA. Enclose a stamped self-addressed business (long size) envelope for entry confirmation and additional tournament information. DEADLINE FOR ENTRY IS JANUARY 22, 1984. Deadline for withdrawal notification for full refund is Jan. 29. Competitors entering all events for which they have qualified, however, in case of two or more events running concurrently, the fencer bears the burden of choosing one or the other of the fencing bouts in each weapon in rapid order when called.



TECHNICAL TALKS

by Joe Byrnes

A few articles back, I said something about mounting a foil blade (electrical, that is) with the groove for the wire beneath. I also noted in passing a new FIE rule about the way the blade is suppose to relate to the fingers — the thumb, specifically.

Some folks out there apparently thought I was joking, or indulging in unseemly levity on a serious subject — as is, they intimated, my want. Perish the thought.

No indeed; many people do like the wire beneath on the foil. It's a favorite eastern European practice, especially with the Russians. I think there is something to be said for it. However, them days is gone forever, it seems. The FIE apparently wants to be sure that the flat of the thumb will be parallel to the broader surface of the blade. With a non-electric blade, that will be whichever side you choose, clearly. To simplify things, the FIE, by analogy with epee, I suppose, has decided that the top of an electrical blade will be the grooved side, and that side therefore will henceforth be up.

As for epees, there has never been a question, the groove in the blade has always been on top. The new rule spells that out too. For sabre, the new rule wants the flat of the thumb at a right angle to the theoretical cutting edge.

What's all this about? Why, suddenly, would the international fencing governing body feel it necessary to spell out something so childishly obvious, you might ask? One hears rumors, and I gather that one or more smart operators in Europe, in the never-ending search for a competitive edge, tried mounting blades on the bias, shall we say i.e., more or less diagonally. When challenged, they could point out that there wasn't anything in the rules to prohibit it. Now there is.

Almost every such additionally detailed specification in the rules goes back to some

abuse that had become apparent; often the name of the particular sinner could be attached to the new rule. Just off the top of my head I can't think of three such additions to the rules in recent years, and could name the people to go with two of them, for sure.

There is the rule that if you fleche off the end of the strip and just keep going, so that the reel on your end is torn apart, you can-

"Smart operators in Europe tried mounting blades on the bias."

not claim annulment of a touch against you during your prolonged though unsuccessful fleche — the ground for your claim obviously being the defective equipment on your side!

Then there is the prohibition of buckles or similar metal pieces on the hold-downs in foil and epee. Too many fencers, real good sports, used these to create ground-outs at will to secure the fraudulent annulment of touches at strategic points.

And of course there is the don't-cover-up-your-metal-handle rule that came out of the Russian cheating scandal at the Montreal Olympics. All such expansions of our rules seem to have their genesis either in somebody's attempt to bend things his way, or in somebody's stupid or even dangerous stunts.

All this might seem a storm in a teacup, and I'd be inclined to regard it that way too, if I hadn't recently seen a couple of lower level examples of what our noble sport has to cope with. It was only a few months ago, at one of our huge New Jersey high school events, that I was handed a pair

of epees at almost the same moment. Their blades were mounted, respectively, sideways and upside-down, in relation to anybody's thumb on their handles. They looked — and felt — downright dangerous to me. The upside-down one had apparently been so mounted because the wires had been broken just out in front of the guard. Rather than do a proper job of rewiring, the owner, or somebody, had done a shockingly bad job of cobbling a big patch

on. Mounting the blade upside-down at least kept this big, underground, m of sight, I suppose on the ancient pr that what you don't see can't hurt :

As for Mr. Sidways, I haven't a clue what he though he was up to. I suppose there is the possibility that he didn't know there was anything odd about the way

The moral? No matter how often something may be, we do have to see it over again, every so often.

BULLETIN BOARD

NICK TOTH OPEN

The U.S. Air Force Academy hosts the second annual Nick Toth Open on December 10 and 11 in the Cadet Gymnasium. The tournament is one of the largest meets in Colorado. Maestro Toth, former coach of the Air Force Academy who led the Falcons to 14 Western Intercollegiate Championships, will be on hand to present the awards to the winners.

Men's foil and women's foil is on Saturday, Dec. 10; men's epee, women's epee and men's sabre on Sunday, Dec. 11. Re-

gistration fee is \$6 per weapon. Interested fencers contact: Tom Worsdale, USAFA, Colorado Springs, CO 808

USFA COLLEGIATE OPEN

Will be held at the University of Illinois Chicago on January 13-15, 1984. Entry open to any full time undergraduate. Entry fee: \$20 per person. entry line: December 30. For information entry form, contact: Dr. Fred Rhoads, West Briar Place, Chicago, IL 60657 883-1855.

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BOARD HI-LIGHTS

The Board of Directors met for its annual meeting in McLean, Virginia, on September 24th, 1983. During the usual Battle of the Budget, at which time directors query our officers on various line items, a strong interest was expressed by Board members in the planned programs for our Junior fencers. The Board requested the Olympic Fencing Committee to allocate not less than \$30,000 (from an estimated total of OFC budget of \$140,000) to Junior activities and programs. A total USFA operational budget of \$110,000 was adopted.

Dr. Valsamis reported on an interesting paper presented in Vienna to the FIE: "A Study of Levels of Conditioning, Motor Fitness and Skills Specific to Fencing in Elite Fencers in the United States," authored by Drs. A. Kogler, himself, and P. Cheatam. The abstract declares that competitive results of American fencers are below the level of their physical capabilities and the study shows that, compared with their international counterparts, American fencers are as strong or stronger physically. Our weak competitive results "appear" to be due to low levels of fencing training and "defects in technique."

All Juniors are warned that doping control will be in effect for both the U-20 and the U-19 National Championships. Dr. Valsamis should be contacted for details on proscribed drugs.

The time limit for receiving bids for the 1985 National Championships was extended to the February, 1984 Board meeting.

An appeal for funds for "special" Olympic training for our elite fencers has resulted in donations totaling some \$5,000.

The LAOOC put out call for more fencing volunteers (see application, p. 12 in our July/August issue). Housing and transportation is NOT provided, meals and uniforms ARE provided. Needed are volunteers for hosts and hostesses, cleaners, door tenders, scorers and timers.

A "1983 Memorandum of Agreement for the Publication of AMERICAN FENCING" was adopted, along with several resolu-

tions defining the role of editor. The editor agreed with all the provisions. Text is to be printed in the USFA Operations Manual.

We have a new logo! After months (years) of wrangling, it was finally adopted by the only practical method, i.e.: as a last gasp by exhausted members of the Board before final adjournment.

IN MEMORIAM

THOMAS A. WHITE

Thomas White, sabre captain of the Tri-State University Fencing Team, died as a result of an automobile accident, December 24, 1982. Tom was a senior at Tri-State, and preparing for his third year of varsity fencing. Even though Tom's fencing career was comparatively short, he had qualified and competed in two NCAA National Championships, and one USFA Nationals. He was not only a loss to his family, friends and teammates, but to the fencing world.



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REGIONAL NEWS

NEW YORK HAS ITS SIXTH EMPIRE STATE GAMES

—by Paul Anderson

New York State's Sixth Empire State Games got off to its usual happy beginning with the opening ceremonies at Syracuse University's outdoor stadium. After the march-in of over 5,500 competitors, they listened to guest speakers Governor Mario Cuomo and four-time Olympic Gold Medalist in track, Harrison Dillard, and finally the lighting of the flame.

Since the start of the New York Games, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, and Florida have started their versions of what might be called the state-exclusive Olympic Games. New York State's method of operation is to divide the State into six Regions and hold qualifying rounds in 21 different sports in the six Regions. The finalists travel to Syracuse University to compete against the qualifiers from the other Regions.

About 1,800 of the 5,500 competitors are in the Scholastic Division which is limited to athletes under 18 years of age. The State picks up the tab for the entire show — travel, rooms, meals, and throws in a New York, blue-and-gold sweat suit emblazoned with the name Empire State Games.

In fencing there were three qualifiers in each weapon from each Region, and the results were as follows:

Men's Foil

1. Rainford, New York, 5-0
2. Douraghy, Syracuse, 3-2
3. Ramirez, New York, 3-2
4. Tatzel, Huntington, L.I., 1-4
5. Boyer, Yonkers, 1-4
6. Settles, New York, 0-5

Men's Epee

1. Masin, New York, 4-1
2. Newman, New York, 4-1
3. Schaffner, Ithaca, 3-2
4. Messing, New York, 1-4
5. Milligan, Poughkeepsie, 1-4
6. Daly, Centereach, L.I., 1-4

Sabre

1. Gonzalez-R., New York, 5-0
2. Larkin, New York, 4-1
3. Yung, New York, 2-3

4. Pinkus, Pt. Wash., L.I., 2-3
5. Fowlkes, Westbury, L.I., 1-4
6. Mones, Selden, L.I., 1-4

Women's Foil

1. Verhave, Larchmont, 4-1
2. Wullenweber, Elmira, 4-1
3. Marmara, Mararoneck, 2-3
4. Silver, Rochester, 2-3
5. LaMarca, Purchase, 2-3
6. Broer, Massena, 1-4

Scholastic Boys Foil

1. Schaedle, DeWitt, 5-0
2. Middel, Brooklyn, 3-2
3. Scarpino, Garden City, L.I., 3-2
4. Levant, Rochester, 3-2
5. Auer, Ithaca, 1-4
6. Platt, Great Neck, L.I., 0-5

Scholastic Girls Foil

1. Russman, Brentwood, L.I. 5-0
2. Yee, New York, 3-2
3. Sandler, New York, 3-2
4. Weber, Seafood, L.I. 2-3
5. Wiehick, Huntington, St., L.I. 2-3
6. Zenowich, New York, 0-6

George Masin won the Epee Gold this year the same way that he won in 1982 — through a fence-off. He beat Puck Weber by 5-2. Michelle Verhave won women's foil by beating Puck Weber in a fence-off 5-1. Gonzalez-Rivas, who placed second in the 1982 Games, was undefeated in the round this year to take the Gold Medal. Syracuse NewChannels, a cable television station, spent the first two days of competition filming interviews with famous people, as well as the completion of the men's foil and the women's foil, produce two shows lasting about an hour and a half each.


Narrating the men's foil final of Dr. Danny Bukantz, former national champion and member of four Olympic teams. For the women's final round Hillyer Anderson, a former ranking fencer for many years, and Russell Winger, newly rated international direct, collaborated and maintained a very interesting commentary. Both shows have been shown in Syracuse and will be shown on Channel 25 UHF in New York.

MICHIGAN RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL

The Michigan Renaissance Festival, in cooperation with the Michigan Division, sponsored a sabre tournament on August 27 and 28, 1983 at Columbiere College in Clarkston, Michigan.

Fencers attended the Festival in Tudor costume but fenced in regulation clothing. The dirt strip posed little problem as compared to the blazing sun and the 90+ degree heat. The King and Queen of the Festival opened the preliminary pools and the final. Awards of two masks, sabre, glove, and certificates were presented by the King on stage with accompanying trumpet fanfare.

Finalists were: 1) Yuri Rabinovich, 2) Neil Kessler, 3) Joe Znoy, 4) Matt Dosmann, 5) Robb Tripp, 6) Bernie Gorski, 7) Jon Zerkowski, and 8) Joel Stone.



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MARTHA'S VINEYARD

After two days of hectic competition, these six finalists below received the newly-coined designation of "Island Excrimeur." Where? At the first annual Martha's Vineyard (Chilmark Mass.) Open, August 12-13. Left to Right: Michael Goldsmith (Princeton '85), Hal Goldsmith (CCNY '52), Jeffrey Levy (Harvard '86), John Goldsmith (Princeton '85), Paul Levy (Princeton '58), and Brian Lee (Princeton '83).



PERFORMANCE STATISTICS FOR FENCING

by N. JEAN DALTON Fencing Coach, James Madison

Have you ever heard a novice fencer step off the strip after a 5-0 loss and say to the coach, "Is it over? What happened?" ...or perhaps you've seen an experienced team fencer who always takes an early lead and then loses the bout! These are two good examples of the need for keeping an ongoing objective evaluation of a fencer's performance.

Statistics have been used for many years in basketball, football, and baseball as part of the strategy decision process. In fencing, too, they can be a vital source of information for both the coach and fencer. By reviewing evaluations from previous events, the coach may make a more knowledgeable decision in preparing the team for future competition. Stats can identify particular strengths and weaknesses of the opponent, locate potential problems in the team's performance, and provide the information needed for future strategy against specific teams or opponents.

The information a fencer receives from keeping statistics may vary greatly based upon personal skill level and experience. For the beginning fencer, recording stats is an excellent way to understand the complex rules of the sport. Most directors will use specific terminology in identifying right-of-way during a fencing phrase. By watching the match and listening carefully to the director, the novice fencer may begin to understand when a counter attack gains right-of-way and when it does not. The sequence of attack-riposte-counter riposte, or the differences between a riposte and a replacement become more obvious to the novice who must record exactly what has happened in each team-mate's bout.

Obviously, the more advanced fencer can use statistics to see exactly which attacks are most successful since the scoring sequences and hit patterns can be identified. Are the initial attacks usually scored? Does the fencer frequently win when coming from behind in a bout? Is there a consistent loss in a "la belle" situation because the strategy was changed? Statistics make available the

hard data needed to objectively evaluate success of the attack or riposte. help identify tip control problem fencer who is constantly hit on re cause the riposte fails to arrive. Tl aid to the team who continually counter attack or whose success the blade is sometimes question can also be used to evaluate a inconsistencies in interpreting th phrase. All this information is reable to the team who follows th procedure of "keeping stats."

Many coaches have adopted t techniques for keeping informat their team. Each individual coach

"...recording stats is an excellent way to understand the complex rules of the sport."

doubtedly have a personal, unique and some preferred abbreviation procedure suggested here is offered starting point for any coach to adapt or her own team's needs.

Suggested Format for Stats:

The adapted team scoresheet (Figure 1) provides ample space necessary evaluation of a bout. Running total of victories and against make it easy to double check the official scoresheet in case of a Each fencer's name is placed in provided with an indication of handed opponents (L). Touches are recorded in sequence as they occur. For example, in Figure 1, Fencer A scored first two touches, followed by three consecutive hits from the opponent.

V TR												TR V	
1	4	FENCER A						RIP	RIP	RIP	B ATT		
		1-2 ATT	1-2 ATT				RIP			1-2 ATT	REM	FENCER B	
												5	0

Figure 1

Touches are recorded in abbreviated terms to indicate the exact method of scoring. Most abbreviations are quite simple to decipher. The following are suggested examples:

ATT - Attack (1-2 ATT, Beat ATT, Coupe ATT, etc.)

RIP - riposte (also, IND RIP - indirect riposte)

C.RIP - counter riposte

REM - remise (also, REM of RIP - remise of the riposte)

C.ATT - counter attack (stop hit or time hit)

(T) or (P) - touches awarded due to the expiration of time (T) or an endline penalty (P)

BC - some coaches even use a notation to indicate a "bad call" by the director!

Figure 1 demonstrates the use of some of these notations in a bout setting. By study-

ing the example carefully, a coach can see what happened in this bout, and make adjustments in the fencer's future performance against this opponent. Like any other skill, learning to keep accurate and detailed statistics needs to be practiced in order to be perfected. Free fencing during team practice is an ideal time to learn such a process.

The information gained by keeping an objective evaluation of performance can be beneficial to both the fencer and coach. Whether used as a learning process for the novice or as a data base for strategic decisions by the coach, it is well worth the time necessary for the completion of performance statistics.



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NEWS NOTES

COPPER STRIPS are available for sale at low cost. Contact Fred Rhodes, 458 W. Briar Place, Chicago, IL 60657.

HOUSING AT THE OLYMPIC GAMES: Thirty Los Angeles-area YMCA's have announced availability of beds for men and women, ages 18-25, as part of the YMCA Youth Hostel program for the 1984 Olympic Games. The cost is \$15 per night. For reservation forms and additional information write: Fred Y. Hoshiyama, Coordinator, YMCA Youth Hostel, 818 W. 7th St., 10th floor, Los Angeles, CA 90017.

CIRCUIT EVENTS: The D'Asaro Men's and Women's Foil will be a two-day event for each weapon. Women's Foil will begin on Friday evening, Jan 20th at 6 p.m. and continue the next Saturday, Jan. 21st. Finals will be at 8 p.m. at the new San Jose Fencing Center. Men's Foil will begin on Saturday Jan. 21st at 8 a.m. and continue the next day with the finals starting a 3 p.m. at the Fencing Center.

The fourth sabre circuit event has been named the Casaba Elthes Sabre in honor of one of our finest coaches. It will be held at Columbia University on April 28th, 1984. **ELIGIBILITY TO JUNIOR OLYMPIC CHAMPS**

Only U.S. citizens or permanent residents who are current members of the USFA are eligible to compete in the qualifying rounds and the National Junior Championships.

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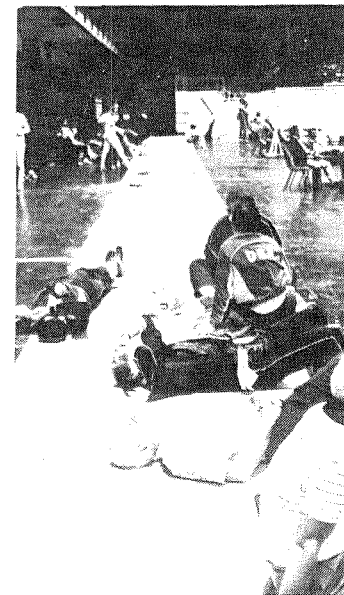
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FROM THE OLYMPIC FENCING COMMITTEE

JUNIOR SELECTION SYSTEM: The U.S. Fencing Federation (USFF) will select members of the team for the 1984 World Under-20 Championships held in Leningrad, USSR, next April. The basis of points accumulated from the following events: 1983 National U-19 Championships, one circuit event in the fall of the season, and the 1984 National Championships. See p.14 for charter allocation. It is no longer mandatory for a junior to participate in the U-20 Championships; selection of three fencers per weapon will be based strictly on points accumulated through the time of the National Championships.

Estimated cost of the trip to Leningrad is \$1200. Partial funding will be provided for the #1 fencer in junior point standings in each weapon at the time of the selection plus any junior fencer who places better in either of the first two circuit events. Other fencers on the team will be responsible for their own funding of the trip. Cadre members will be selected, for which substantial funding has been allocated. *U.S. Foil team in full action at the 1983 World Championships in Vienna, Austria. (below)*



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