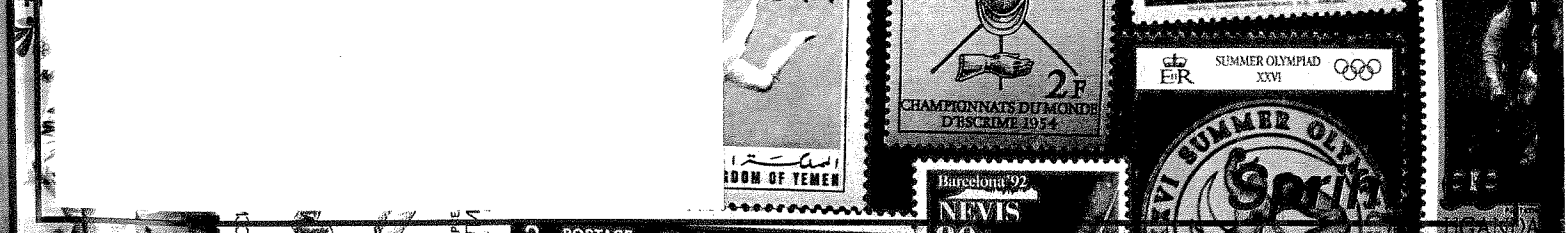
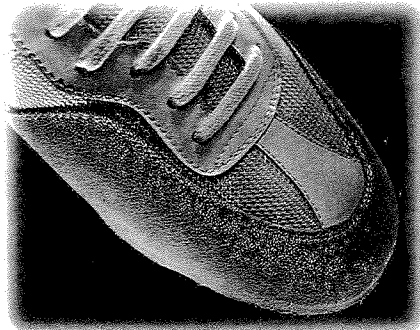


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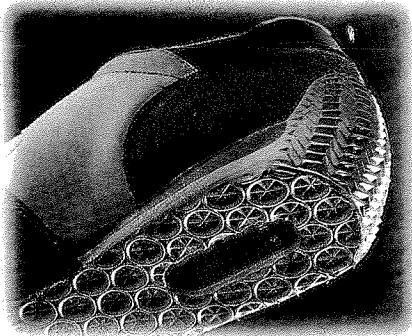
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**Official Publication of the
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**Dedicated to the memory of
Jose R. DeCapriles, 1912 - 1969
Miguel A. DeCapriles, 1906 - 1981**

Editor: Candi MacConaugh
 email: EdAmFenc@usswim.org

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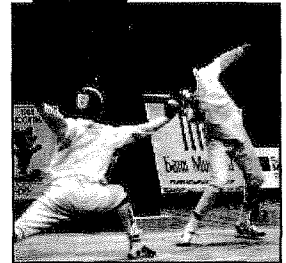
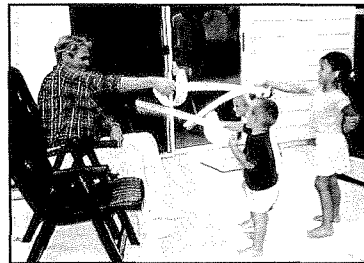
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DEADLINES: AMERICAN FENCING magazine will publish quarterly in January, April, July and October. Send materials two months prior to the month of issue.

American Fencing

Spring '99/Volume 49, Number 1



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 Each Fall a group of young boys and girls travels to England to gain experience against the best.

18 Fencing's Golden Age by Buzz Hurst
 An honest look back for those yearning for a return to the good old days.

22 The Fencing Collector by George Masin
 Postage stamps, pins and post cards offer the fencer a colorful look at our history.

ON THE COVER: A collage of some of George Masin's more unusual stamps. Note the Donald Duck and Goofy rendering on the Spanish stamp to the left of the logo.

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Success Brings New Challenges

Volunteers are needed to develop a communications package and a competition schedule worthy of our rapidly growing association.

BY DONALD W. ALPERSTEIN, PRESIDENT USFA

For several years USFA policy has been shaped by a statement of five specific goals. One of these is "to make the USFA an effective and efficient organization." Key to meeting that objective are two issues of immediate concern to the entire membership: Successful communication of important and interesting information and sound financial planning and practices. Today we face important decisions in each of these areas.

By the end of this season the USFA will approach 15,000 members, almost double our size of only a few years ago. During that time our communications media have changed considerably. The web site (www.USFA.org), which didn't even exist until 1995, received 446,385 visits and 245,514 requests

for information last January alone. Just six years ago AMERICAN FENCING was done on a typewriter. And the USFA Newsletter? Well, how many of you remember mimeograph machines?

As our membership was doubling, it was also changing, growing younger and more diverse, ethnically, geographically, economically and in every other way. Our media have also diversified and grown more sophisticated. But perhaps not quickly enough to keep up with our needs.

Today we communicate with ourselves and with the wider public via the web site, this magazine, the Newsletter, the Athlete Programs Handbook, the Rules Book and the USFA Media Guide. Each of these is put together by a different individual or group. We spend a great deal of effort and money on publications, but we really don't know if we are getting full bang for the buck or whether we are



getting the message to those who need and want it.

Help the USFA Improve Its Communication and Promotion Efforts

The USFA is forming a Study Group to analyze our needs and opportunities and to recommend changes to make our media more effective. If that effort is to succeed, we need input from members who understand communications and publications of all kinds. If in fact "the medium is the message," we need a coherent and articulated notion about what message we want to convey and how to do it. The Study Group will drive force in that process.

I am therefore seeking volunteers with broad backgrounds and experience in print and electronic communications to help shape our publications policies by serving on the Study Group. I urge interested members to contact me by email at dalp@aol.com or by phone at (303) 715-3948. Our media make us a community. Contributing to their betterment will truly benefit fencing.

“
It's time we take a hard look at some proposed solutions and begin a discussion among the members about these suggestions and invite other ideas for consideration.

”

On the other front — financial policy — we must confront the issue of tournament services. In the previous issue of American Fencing I discussed the burgeoning number of North America Cup entries and how growing participation was trying our ability to contract venues and staff tournaments. It's time we take a hard look at some proposed solutions and begin a discussion among the members about these suggestions and invite other ideas for consideration.

At the outset, we must recognize the importance of the North America cup Events to the financial health of the USFA. Changes in USOC funding require us to rely increasingly on internal sources — and domestic tournaments in particular — to generate revenue. Similarly, we must acknowledge the importance of national tournaments to the members, for whom competitive opportunities are so important.

Your Opinions Matter in the Review of Our Competition Formats!

Tournaments can be both enjoyable and economical only when the number of competitors can be accurately predicted. Planning for all aspects of these events begins with forecasts of entry numbers. The quotas for referees, technicians, and bout committee workers, the size of the venue, the number of strips shipped to the site and the guaranteed hotel occupancy rate all reflect predictions about field



David Sapery, USAF Webmaster and Information Guru, reports some astounding website statistics from the month of January alone: on the 20th, there were 26,067 hits (in this case a "hit" is any connection to the website) which included 15,263 requests for material. The average requester retrieves more than seven pages of information

expect and need from the NACs, competitively and financially.

One suggestion is to limit registration, but adopting that approach forecloses competitive opportunities for our members. If we cap entries we must confront the issue of how to do so equitably. Surely other possibilities exist. Which route we choose is really up to the members, and the decision is yours if you choose to be heard. I urge you to speak up!

I have therefore asked the Tournament Committee, International Committee, Fencing Officials Commission, Clubs Division and Sections Committee, Coaches Committee and Executive Director for recommendations on the restructuring of NAC and group tournaments. I invite our fencers, parents, coaches and clubs to join in the discussion and to let your opinions and desires be known. If we are to be an increasingly effective and efficient organization, as our mission statement dictates we must, improvement of our national tournament system is essential.

USFA Development Grant Program Application Extended

The USFA Development Grant Program was created to assist programs dedicated to developing young fencers from economically deprived backgrounds and to broaden the base of American fencing by combatting financial barriers that prevent potential athletes from participating in the sport. The response to last year's pilot program far exceeded expectations. At its annual meeting in September, the Board of Directors more than doubled the resources devoted to the program in 1999, increasing its appropriation to \$10,000. Of this

size. Underestimating participation results in cramped venues, exhausted personnel and expensive last minute airfares, as well as competition delays, cranky fencers and late night finals. Overestimating turnout means unused expensive resources. Lack of confidence in these forecasts complicates our goal of planning for future seasons and frustrates our ability to operate competitions smoothly and on a businesslike basis.

Recent experience demonstrates the difficulty of successfully planning open competitions. For the most part, estimates of turnout have been low, resulting in a diminished experience for the fencers and extraordinary expenses. We must reevaluate what we

amount, \$4,000 will be distributed as cash grants and \$6,000 will be awarded in the form of membership and competition entry fee waivers.

The original deadline for the submission of proposals has been extended to May 1, 1999, and applications for USFA Development Grants are now being accepted from programs and organizations which meet the criteria outlined below.

Development Grant Eligibility and Application Rules:

Grants will be awarded only to organizations such as fencing clubs, park and recreation departments, foundations, civic organizations, educational institutions and others that demonstrate not-for-profit status as part of their application package. Awards will not be given to individuals.

Proposals must include a description of the applicant organization, a list of its specific programs and goals as they apply to youthful fencers from economically distressed backgrounds and an explanation of the intended use of the grant. Applications must differentiate between requests for cash and in-kind awards, but may combine proposals for both forms of assistance.

Awards will be granted only to organizations that have specific goals and programs designed to introduce fencing to disadvantaged young people or to instruct and train youthful fencers from economically distressed backgrounds.


Grant proposals must be submitted to the President of the USFA, 1 Olympic Plaza, Colorado Springs, CO 80909 by midnight on May 1, 1999.

Late applications will not be reviewed or considered.

The final decision on Development Grant awards will be made by the USFA Board of Directors. Awards will be announced at Summer National Championships.

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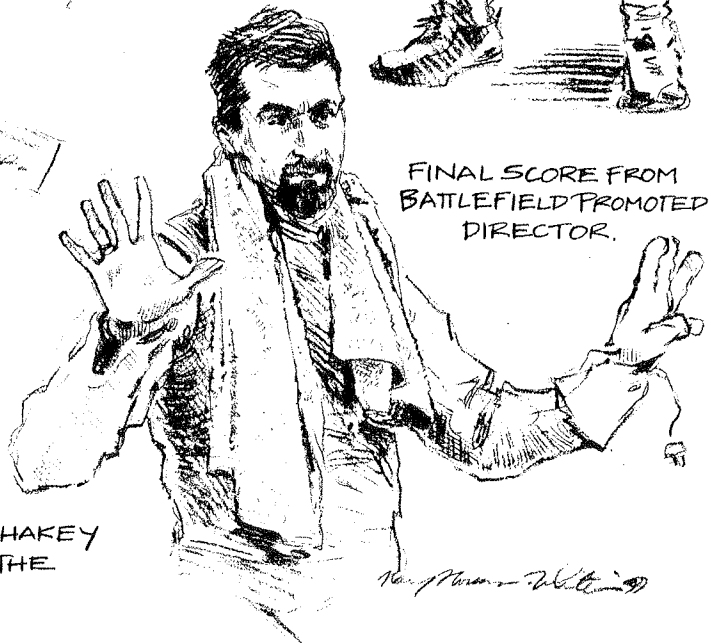
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Allan Kwartler Remise

Like others who had the good fortune to know Allan Kwartler, I was saddened to learn of his death. He was not only a gifted fencer, but a gentleman. I met him only once, in March of 1958, when I was en route to Europe, and stopped in New York for a few days before boarding the *Maasdam*. Prior to leaving Los Angeles, Maestro Aldo Nadi had asked me to give Maestro Giorgio Santelli his best wishes. After I had spoken with Maestro Santelli and observed some of his lessons, Allan Kwartler approached me, introduced himself, and invited me to fence. As a visitor I was touched by his polite and generous gesture, particularly from such a strong and competitive fencer.

Given Allan Kwartler's background, especially as a student of Maestro Santelli, it was not surprising that he was capable of fencing both with the foil and sabre at the international level; nor was it surprising that he retained his national sabre ranking even after members of the Hungarian Olympic sabre team entered the United States following the 1956 Hungarian Revolution. Giorgio Santelli was, after all, trained by his father, Italo Santelli, who was a graduate of the Military Fencing Masters School in Rome, and the prize pupil of Maestro Carlo Pessina, regarded by many as the greatest sabre fencer of the late nineteenth century. It was this tradition that Giorgio Santelli passed on to Allan Kwartler. With foil as the foundation weapon, as Maestro Aldo Nadi often pointed out, the transfer to sabre is relatively simple. And while not every fencer could accomplish this, Allan Kwartler did, and for that reason was regarded in the 1950s as a phenomenon by his contemporaries.

WILLIAM M. GAUGLER
SUNNYVALE, CALIFORNIA

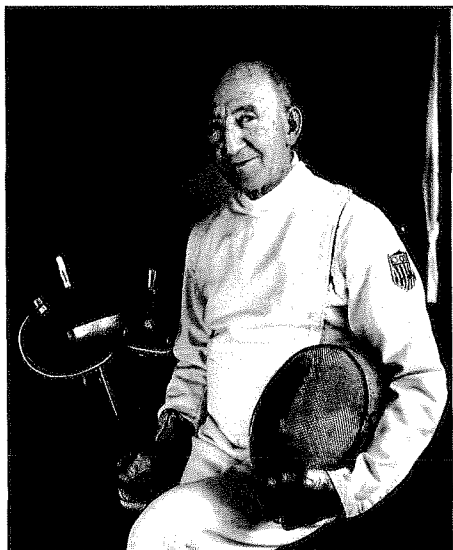
Apologies for an Unintended Oversight

After reading the article on the World Youth Games Moscow 1998 I was very happy for Miss Ament. But to clear up a small fact that seems to have been overlooked, there were other fencers that went. Instead of leading us through her every touch the other fencers' names and accomplishments could have at least been listed.

How would you feel, if you were one of the other athletes who also brought home medals and read this article? You would think your accomplishment must have been less. It is sad that the only important weapon always seems to be women's foil.

Let is give equal time to all weapons.

CONNIE WHITMER



ALLAN KWARTLER

As is the custom of AMERICAN FENCING, we published, without addition or deletion, the Manager's Report from the World Youth Games. Our USA team performed extraordinarily at that event, leading the USA delegation in medals. We apologize if any fencer felt slighted by our inadvertent omission.

A belated (but no less sincere) congratulations to the Boys' Epee team that won the Silver medal losing to the Ukraine in the gold medal match. Congratulations to team members Josh DesRoches, Steven Gerberman, Derek Snyder, and Benjamin Solomon!

And congratulations to Darrin Whitmer, bronze medallist in the Boys' Sabre and to Melanie Takagi, bronze medallist in Girls' Foil!

And lastly, congratulations go to the Boys' Sabre team and the Girls' Foil teams which each won Bronze Medals! Congratulations to team members Andrea Ament, Katie Cavan, Meredith Chin, Melanie Takagi, Steven Gerberman, Colin Parker, Jason Rogers, and Darrin Whitmer! Complete results for the USA fencers follow:

BOYS' EPEE	GIRLS' EPEE
15. Benjamin Solomon	5. Andrea Ament
26. Josh DesRoches	34. Eleanor Leighton
33. Derek Snyder	39. Meredith Chin
BOYS' FOIL	GIRLS' FOIL
11. Steven Gerberman	3. Melanie Takagi
24. Derek Menaldino	13. Andrea Ament
25. Christopher DesRoches	16. Katie Cavan
BOYS' SABRE	TEAMS
3. Darrin Whitmer	Boys' Epee 2nd
9. T Colin Parker	Boys' Sabre 3rd
23. Jason Rogers	Girls' Foil 3rd
	Boys' Foil 5th
	Girls' Epee 6th

Our Favorite Summer Perennial

The summer of 1999 will mark the 25th consecutive year of outdoor fencing sponsored by The Tanner City Fencing Club under the aegis of Joe Pechinsky. There are no fees. Lessons, equipment, refreshments are all provided without charge. There is a complete assortment of Jackets, Weapons, Masks, available for borrow. All ages from 8 to 80. can be accommodated. It is an inspiring sight, to see at one time three Olympians giving lessons to youngsters.

The sessions are held every Wednesday evening during July and August from 7:00 to 10:00 P.M. at the home of Aaron Bell, 52 Picwick Rd., Marblehead, Mass 01945 Tel.(781-631-0180. Spouses, children, friends, and parents are all welcome, whether they fence or not. There is a large heated pool and most everyone swims in the evening. Through the years, due to the reach of AMERICAN FENCING Magazine, we have had visitors from almost every state and many foreign countries, including China, Japan, Saudi Arabia, South Africa and Australia. If you are planning to come to New England — or are just passing through — come help us celebrate our Twenty Fifth Year.

AARON J. BELL
MARBLEHEAD, MA

Focus on Fencing One Touch at a Time

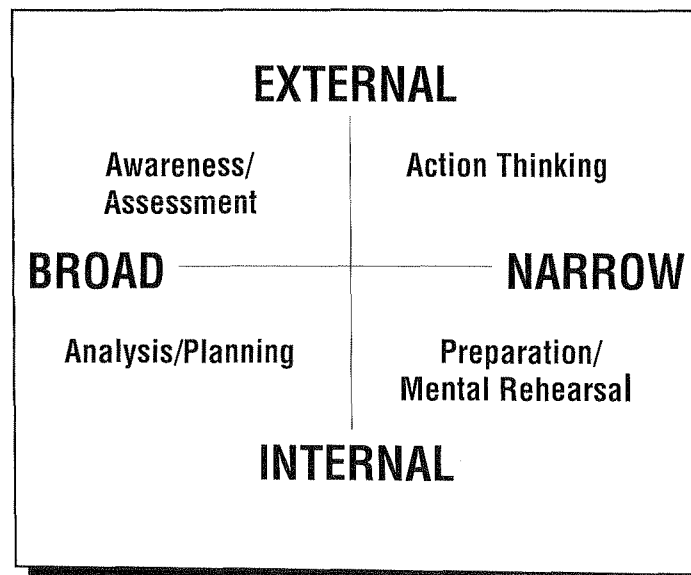
SANDRA FOSTER, PH.D., AND JOHN HEIL, PH.D.

Fencing demands the fastest head, hands and feet of any sport. With your mind and body moving at warp speed, your ability to concentrate is critical. This concentration begins with fencing one touch at a time, striving to put your total concentration on each moment. Achieving this concentration on NOW is a great challenge because fencing is full of distractions—the last touch, the Director's decisions, faulty equipment, nagging injuries, and fretting over your next bout.

Concentration is one of the five cardinal skills of mental training described in an earlier edition of this magazine (Gordin & Heil, Winter, 1996). Sport psychologist Robert Nideffer defines concentration as the ability to focus on just the right cues in a given situation, and the capacity to shift from one type of focus to another during sport (or any performance situation). Nideffer specifies four types of concentration:

- ◆ Broad External (Total Awareness/Assessment) - exemplified when an athlete takes in all of the surrounding activity and zeroes in on the key situational cues from all that is going around him or her;
- ◆ Broad Internal (Analysis) - demonstrated when an athlete analyzes many pieces of information, technical, tactical, psychological, etc.;
- ◆ Narrow Focus Internal (Preparation) - when an athlete puts his or her attention on just one mental stimulus or task, as preparation for an anticipated action;
- ◆ Narrow Focus External (Action Thinking) - when an athlete focuses fully on actions as they unfold, in competition and in practice.

The grid below illustrates these four types of concentration and the kind of response made by the athlete when engaged in each type.



Another perspective on concentration is that of sport psychologist Bruce Ogilvie, Ph.D. He delineated three aspects of focusing: ability, presence, and duration.

The Ability to Focus—meaning the capacity to direct attention to a particular stimulus; ability may range from “unfocused” to “intense focus.”

Presence of Focus—whether the athlete is concentrating on the task at hand in the present moment (high focus) versus being caught up in thoughts about the past or the future (low focus).

Duration of Focus—the capacity to sustain concentration over an extended period (high duration) versus having a short attention span (low duration). Ogilvie also notes how distraction undermines the capacity to focus. He distinguishes between external (for example, sights and sounds in the environment) and internal (for example, thoughts that interfere with focusing on the task at hand).

Focus for Fencing

Fencing demands an intense, present focus for action and the ability to make rapid shifts from one type of concentration to another between touches. Fencers must shift back and forth from a broad internal type of concentration (or analysis) when thinking about tactics, to a narrow external action focus on the opponent in order to fence well.

In a break during a 15 touch bout, the fencer and coach need to assess (broad external) a wide range of information (for example, the score, opponent's actions, referee's style) and analyze (broad internal) key information in order to determine strategy for the remainder of the bout. Once certain specific actions are decided, the fencer may prepare for the start of the bout by mentally rehearsing (narrow internal) these actions, but when the bout begins it is essential to focus on the opponent (narrow external).

In a tournament, the added challenge is to maintain the ability to command an intense present focus throughout the day as you progress from pool bouts into the direct elimination rounds. You must make an adjustment in the rhythm of physical response as you switch from 5 to 15 touch bouts to accommodate the need for longer, more sustained focus with longer rest periods between bouts.

You can better meet this challenge by practicing the way you want to compete, that is, by committing yourself to stay in the present moment during training and to refocus on NOW when you become distracted. This begins with adopting the perspective of “one touch at a time.” The only touch that really matters is the one that you are fencing. Getting stuck on the last touch or jumping ahead to the next one takes the fencer out of the moment and out of the action. It is helpful to think of focusing as a skill that can be developed with practice, just as you improve your technical skills in your lessons and during bouts with teammates. We encourage you to try special mental training strategies during your practice on the strip so your mental skills will be sharp when you arrive at the competition site.

It is useful to think of focusing (broadening or narrowing) as controlling your attention and anchoring it in the present moment and to certain cues right now. Refocusing is distraction management, that is, reducing your distractibility to both internal and external cues, making it easier to pay attention to the task at hand by bringing you back to the right type of focus for the situation.

Build Focus Skills

Suggestions for building your focusing skills follow. For more detailed information on refocusing, see *AMERICAN FENCING*, Spring,

1996, "Mental Training to Deal with Distraction."

A method of focusing that has been used for centuries in the martial arts is centering. It relies on a combination of breathing, body sense (kinesthetic awareness), and key words. To begin, stand with your feet shoulder width apart and close your eyes. Try to sense where your "center" is – somewhere deep in your belly. Technically, you may think of this as your center of gravity or a point of physical balance. The martial arts practitioners look at this as a center of

increases-like a mental muscle that gets stronger with practice. By using the same combination in competition, you can transfer the skills learned through repeated practice in training to competition.

Focus in Competition

Building concentration skills begins with an understanding of basic principles: fencing one touch at a time, and practicing the way you want to compete. Stepping up your concentration skills requires a commitment to train with intensity and to practice mental training techniques for focusing (like, centering) and for refocusing (distraction management) on a regular basis. Finally, each fencer needs a personal strategy for maximizing concentration in competition. The two examples that follow illustrate personal competition plans for focusing more efficiently and managing distraction.

In the first example, let's imagine a post grad sabre man, Leon, who is bright, extroverted, employed full time, and enjoys the camaraderie at competition. His coach is well respected and intense. Leon has a strong will to win but can unravel when he's down by a point at either 4-5 or 14-15. He draws energy from the spectators and loves to hear his teammates cheer for him. However, as a tournament wears on into the later part of the day, he typically finds himself mentally fatigued. His focus wanes, making him particularly vulnerable to losses after being ahead early in the bout. What can he do?

Leon needs to devise a plan for sustaining his focusing in the late afternoon generally, and to have specific plans he can execute when the score is close. He and his coach need to generate helpful key words or phrases to snap his attention back in to the present moment, to pull himself away from worrying about the final score. "Right now, Leon," might be a good key phrase for him.

He could also benefit from a physical cue to bring his awareness to the present, such as noting the feel of his weapon between touches. For Leon, fencing one touch at a time is critical when the score is close. "This touch," is another key phrase that may his attention back to NOW. Similarly, he must remind himself between bouts that fencing can only really occur one touch at a time; if he does this, the results will take care of themselves.

When Leon feels fatigued, he can remind himself why he loves fencing and then get energized by this thought. He may find it helpful to rest in between DE bouts by chatting with his friends and not talking about fencing unless his coach has some instructions for him. As he gets ready to fence, he might energize himself by jogging in place to raise his heart rate, yelling "Let's Go!" as he approaches the strip in the later bouts, and vocalizing as he fences to help keep himself charged up.

In the second example, a collegiate female foil fencer is a self-described "studious introvert" and an international hopeful, whom we will call Nitza. She finds herself distracted by spectators and the noise at competitions. She also gets into negative comparisons with her competitors and finds herself replaying a past loss and worrying it will be repeated. What could be helpful for her?

CHECKLIST FOR MENTAL PREPAREDNESS

I am involved in fencing for myself,
because I want to fence.

I use every practice as if it were important
to my being ready to compete.

I have a goal for every lesson and practice.

I am committed to training mentally to be
focused, one touch at a time, during my practices.

I use key words or phrases to intensify my focus
when I prepare to start fencing, and
to refocus when I become distracted.

I have a plan for coping with the particular ways in
which I get distracted so I can focus on fencing
one touch at a time.

energy or "chi." Whatever the perspective, sport skills are executed with more speed and precision when actions are done from a physical basis of balance and energy. You can feel your center better through controlled breathing. Take a long, deep breath, and feel that point at the bottom of the space that fills with each breath-this is your center. As you do this, breath after breath, you will feel your focus intensify and your energy level come into better balance.

You may also find it helpful to think of a key word or phrase that captures the idea of being centered, like "present moment," "right here, right now," or simply, "Now." You can try this method under any of a wide variety of circumstances-and in general, the more you practice, the better you become.

Of course, you will want to develop an approach that is specifically suited to your fencing. For example, as you stand to begin your focusing exercise, tune in to the feel of your legs as in the on-guard position. You can also tie in the feel of the weapon in your fingers. This set of cues connects the feel of centering to the experience of fencing. When this becomes a well-rehearsed pattern in conjunction with your breathing, it helps you to rapidly prepare mentally and physically for fencing. In fencing, a verbal cue is already built in-"ready." When you say "ready," BE READY. By using breathing, body sense, and key words repeatedly in practice, your ability to focus

Continued on following page

James S. Strauch

1921 - 1998

Nitza needs a strategy for tuning out external distractions at competitions, by perhaps imagining herself in a kind of bubble that her coach's instructions can penetrate but no other sounds or spectators' movements can permeate. She lets her teammates know to cheer her on from a distance, and gets into her bubble on the way to the competition site. She wants to feel their support but not tune into it while on the strip. When she arrives at the site, she keeps pretty much to herself, talking perhaps with one teammate and of course, with her coach. She practices shifting her attention from her bubble in which she tunes into her competitor, moment by moment. She is also prepared to quickly shift her focus to her coach should he need to advise her of something.

To manage the distraction of comparing herself to her competitors, Nitza will make plans ahead in an objective way, to think about her competitor's typical move. However, she keeps in mind that she should be ready, and in the moment, for anything to happen, not relying too much on the competitor maneuvering exactly as Nitza had planned. Another strategy Nitza might use to objectify her competitor is to view the opponent as faceless and without a particular identity, and concentrate on the opponent's moves rather than being preoccupied by her reputation or personality.

Concentration, as a valued mental skill, means that you focus on the right cues at the right time. Using the ideas we have presented here, you can develop your capacity to focus, one touch at a time. Staying in the moment, with your mind intensely concentrating, profoundly enhances your competition performance.

Nideffer, R.M. (1985). *Athletes' guide to mental training*. Champaign, IL.: Human Kinetics Publishers, Inc.

Ogilvie, B. *User's guide to the Competitive Styles Profile*. ProMind Institute, 28 Victory Lane, Los Gatos, CA 95030.

Sandra Foster, a performance enhancement psychologist and executive coach based in San Francisco and member of the US Olympic Committee Sport Psychology Registry, serves as Associate Consulting Professor at Stanford University where she works with the men's and women's fencing teams. Contact her at 220 Montgomery Street, Suite 315, San Francisco, CA 94104, by fax at 415-433-2674, or by email at samrolf@aol.com

John Heil is the Chair of the USFA Sport Service, Safety and Technology Committee. He can be contacted at the Lewis-Gale Clinic, Performance Institute, 4910 Valley View Blvd., Roanoke, VA 24012. Telephone is 540-265-1605, fax is 540-366-7353; e.mail is jheil@rev.net

As part of the USFA's High Performance Sport Psychology Program, John Heil, Ph.D., offers test profiling to USFA members. The goal is to provide fencers with an opportunity to assess their mental skills for competition and training. The process begins with a phone interview followed by a written profile evaluated by Dr. Heil. A follow-up call gives the fencer an opportunity to discuss personal strengths as well as various aspects of the mental game. A written report provides an analysis of the profile and recommendations to improve one's mental training. The service is available to all USFA members for a \$50 contribution which will be earmarked for the funding of the Sport Science and Technology Program. For more information, contact the USFA office or Dr. Heil at the address noted above.

James S. Strauch, of Tenafly, N.J., former national epee champion and U.S. Olympian, died on November 30. He was 77.

Strauch began his fencing at George Washington High School in New York City. He continued at CCNY, from which he graduated in 1943, where his coach was James Montague. He then represented the New York Fencers Club exclusively (except for two years with Salle Montague) into the 1950's, where his coach was Rene Pinchart. Strauch was a member of the Fencers Club's national championship foil team in 1953 and its national championship epee team in 1951 and 1954. Jim Strauch won the AFLA national epee championship



JAMES S. STRAUCH

in 1947 by defeating the defending champion, Albert Wolff. He earned his Olympic berth on the 1952 team at Helsinki that included five CCNY alumni on its roster. It was there that the U.S. defeated the U.S.S.R. in the epee team preliminaries.

A lefthander, Strauch is remembered by the epeeists of mid-century for a devastatingly effective prime parry / coupe riposte in the era when ink epee coexisted with the advent of electric apparatus. One anecdote offers a particularly telling lesson about the disparity between the appearances of ink and the reality of electricity. Early in 1947, Strauch was the "A" fencer on his squad in the Washington Square epee team event, which was still conducted with red ink. He made his signature stroke repeatedly, but lost several touches because the director was convinced such a defense was ineffectual and made a point of saying so. Three weeks

later, using the same stroke but with the enhancement of electric scoring, Strauch won the national championship.

Strauch continued to fence occasionally into the 1970's. As late as 1972, he took part in a New Jersey Division Olympic fundraising team competition in Morristown. That same year he was inducted into the CCNY Sports Hall of Fame.

Strauch was a certified public accountant with his own practice and was deeply committed to civic and charitable causes in his hometown. During WWII, he was a first lieutenant in the U.S. Army.

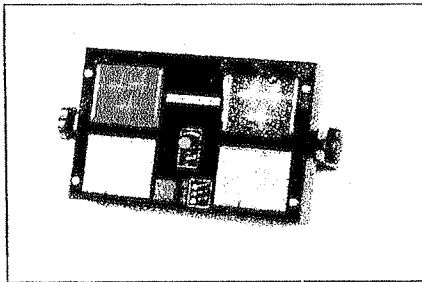
He's survived by his wife, Margaret; his son, Jonathan; his daughters, Lisa and Helen; and six grandchildren.

JEFFREY TISHMAN

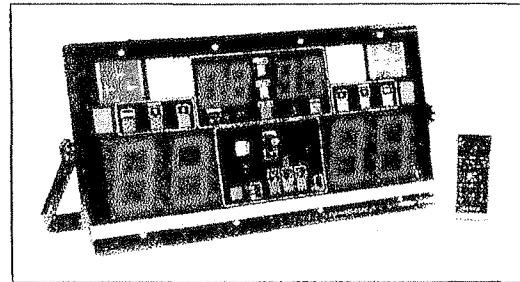
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Take a Stab at Promotion

A little good old promotion can increase the size of your salle.

BY DAN COLLINS, APR, ABC

Bad jokes about baling wire or selling stolen watches aside, fencing would seem a pretty easy sport to promote.

The flashing lights, metal jackets, people in Darth Vaderish masks whacking each other with steel sticks, it's what the press calls "a good visual" — all very MTV-American Gladiators-Errol Flynnish fun.

So why is it so hard to get attention, and with it, new members? Well, there's the obvious - fencing isn't aerobics, you can't just show up and do it. It can be expensive and time-consuming, it takes real discipline (not like a pickup softball game), and has that nasty "elitist" stigma that goes back to the Pharaohs.

Still, these obstacles can be overcome. As a fencer for 12 years, and a communications professional for 14, I know it just takes a little planning...and a lot of enthusiasm.

Your first step must be to determine what your goals are ... do you want to boost membership? If so, among adults? kids? What is your target audience? Do you want to raise money? If so, how much? And for what purpose? To buy new equipment? To put in a new floor? To relocate? To expand? For renovations? Raise awareness about a new program? A children's class? A new instructor seeking students? Start a satellite program? When do you want to achieve these goals - in three months, six months, a year ... TODAY? How much money do you have to invest in promotion? And who is going to take the lead in creating and implementing your public relations plan?

You need to address these questions before you can consider promotional tactics. If your budget is "bupkis," spending money for a Yellow Pages ad, creating a website, a dedicated 1-800 number, printing a rolodex card with your club's phone and address, or launching a direct mail campaign may not be possible. I highly recommend setting aside some amount of money, say \$500 a year, for promotion. At my club, Chesapeake Fencing in Baltimore, club members will sell pizza kits several times a year to raise funds.

Happily, there are many things you can do with the local media that cost next to nothing. You have to keep your eye open for such opportunities. For example, Chesapeake Fencing held a day-long electrical foil and dry sabre demonstration at General Cinemas for the premiere of "The Mask of Zorro." The mall management provided stanchions, tables and chairs, while the theatre gave club members free movie passes.

Timing is everything. We chose "Zorro" for our demonstration over the Leonardo DiCaprio flop, "The Man in the Iron Mask," which hit the screens several months earlier. The Zorro movie was more swordplay oriented, so people were more apt to think "fencing" instead of "it's that guy from Titanic!" The timing of the film's debut helped, too. It was released in July when kids were out of school for the summer. WMAR-TV2 (ABC) covered the event, WJZ-TV13

(CBS) did a live segment on their top rated morning show, and numerous fliers were distributed.

But as I said, timing is everything. Baltimore experienced 7 homicides in less than two days that weekend, so we did not receive as much press as we would have liked. As a former journalist, I know how true the old saying, "out of sight, out of mind" really is. Reporters are inundated with mailings, faxes, and email. The only way to stand out is to be consistently "in their face." That means sending out releases about your tournaments, fliers about your classes, names and numbers of spokespeople within your salle so if the press decides it needs an expert to talk about fencing, they'll call you and not somebody else!

Simply put, "start smilin' and dialin'"! Get out the phone book and call your local TV stations (ask for the assignment or planning desk) and let them know about your upcoming tournament. Perhaps one of the stations

does a regular fitness program; would they be interested in profiling fencing? In the media biz, they say three "never fails" are kids, old people, and animals.

Plan to hold a youth event? Let your local newspaper know about

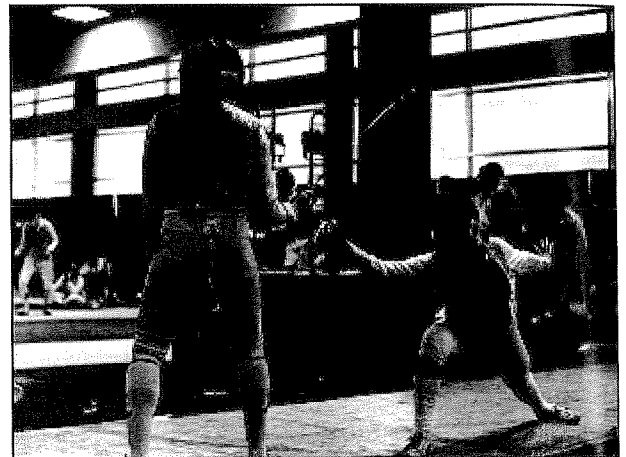


Photo by Lisa Slater

it. Have someone take photos (preferably black and white) and send them in with a caption (include the names of everyone in the photo) if the paper can't send a photographer. One greatly under utilized media outlet is radio. Most stations tape regular public service programs. Fencing can provide a different and unusual topic for discussion. For a more mainstream angle to "hook" their interest, consider health, always a favorite among the press. There are more books than ever purporting fencing's unique health-enhancing qualities: Foil Around And Stay Fit: Exercise Secrets of a Fencer by Camille Lownds; Get a Gold Medal Butt by Gary Guerriero, Mary Leonard and Bon Holland, to name a couple. And whomever is doing the press interviews, remember to say the club's name ("We're the Chesapeake Fencing Club, right on Homeland Avenue in Baltimore...") give out the right phone number ("Call anytime, we have voicemail - 410-532-7445") and be quick to reply to any and all inquiries you receive.

The best publicity campaign in the world is useless if you don't follow-up with everyone who calls, writes, or stops by the club for information. Above all, have fun! Your enthusiasm for the sport - whether you're talking to a reporter, a potential new club member, or someone who might like to volunteer - is infectious. If you truly care about it, others will too.

A former journalist and Media Relations Manager for Mercy Medical Center in Baltimore, Dan Collins coordinates public relations for the Chesapeake Fencing Club.

One for All and All for One!

The link between generations is more evident in fencing than in most other sports.

BY ROBERT BLOCK

You'll find few millennium premonishments here, and not much hard information either, just some thoughts on the significance of generations to the well being of our sport... I competed in a local tournament a couple of weekends ago that brought together fencing people who ranged in age from under twelve to a few months shy of eighty. Not all of them fenced, of course, but the competition included a good cross-sampling of young kids, teenagers, young adults and middleagers (or, as we would prefer to call ourselves, "veterans").

The competition was a four-weapon mixed team tournament organized and operated for the past nine years by two white-haired gentlemen, Frank Adler and Larry Platt, who are 78 and 79 years-old respectively. It is a competitive tournament, though, probably because of the format, not taken quite as seriously as more standard divisional events. A team must have two foilists of opposite sexes as well as an epeeist and sabreur of either sex. There are no age restrictions, so teams can be mixed both generationally as well as by gender. The event attracts some very interesting teams and always stokes the fires of team camaraderie.

I noticed that there was something else other than the format that was different about this tournament: everything started at once so fencers in all weapons were brought together in a united team effort at the same time. How many competitions have you been to where

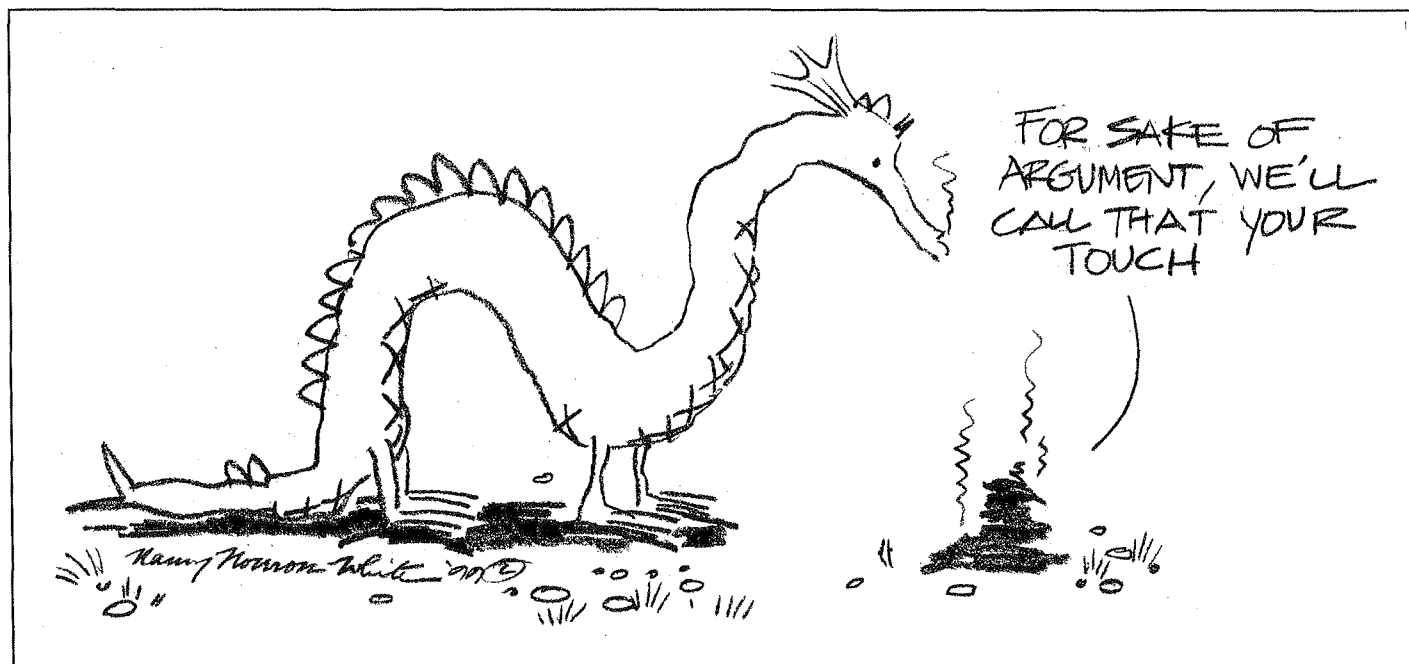
one weapon began in the early morning, the next at mid-morning and the last in the early afternoon? The four-weapon team format avoided the type of fencing segregation where you usually only see and associate with people who fence your weapon. "One for all and all for one!" as some famous literary fencers exclaimed many generations ago

It was also a bonding experience in which teammates got to know one another, some undoubtedly for the first time. After the last of the trophies were handed out, young and old pitched in with a cooperative effort to tear down and clean up. The 11 teams that had taken to the fencing pistes six hours earlier finally banked their competitive fires for another season. It seems incredible how fast those vivid images of combat on the piste can become mere embers in the mind, fragmentary remembrances of things past in one's fencing life... Excuse me for an occasional sentimental lapse, I must be getting a bit long in the tooth.

I think the link between generations is more evident in fencing than in most other sports. This is evident in the relationship between coach and student, the passing of knowledge on directly face to face, blade to blade, and the long historical tradition that we have inherited with the sport. Fencing roots go back hundreds of years and many things that we do today, perhaps without even thinking much about them, help to preserve the traditions: the format of a lesson given by a coach to a student; exchanging salutes and handshakes on the fencing piste; using age old phrases such as "Eh La!" that we've picked up from our predecessors; and, at least classically, the wearing of our colors, black for the master or coach and white for the fencer.

Thus, we seem to preserve many of our longer generational connections almost unconsciously as we practice our sport. But what about more immediate connections, links to other fencers that once were important and now have all but disappeared over the years? I've found that trying to reconnect with these people can be a rewarding quest, and I think the payoff can be for the betterment of the sport as well as the renewal of old friendships.

I've been fortunate in the last few years to locate some old friends of mine that I fenced with in clubs 30 or more years ago. Last year



I had a very enjoyable reunion with a group of my old fencing friends in Southern California, who reminded me that we had been the group that founded the San Diego Fencers Club about four decades ago. In Germany during the 1960s, like any number of fencing GIs stationed in Europe, I found a foreign chapter of the fencing fraternity in the Eintracht Frankfurt Club, which took me in as an adopted son and added me to its epee team. In 1996, I had a fine reunion with those folks in Frankfurt, tempered only by the fact that Eintracht Frankfurt no longer has a fencing team since, like has happened in so many other areas, the sport is now concentrated at one urban fencing center. I have great memories of these reunions, but I'll be the first to admit that they were mostly nostalgic and focused on the good old days of yesteryear.

"How can this sort of nostalgia work for the betterment of fencing today?," you ask. The answer, I think, may be found by examining the condition of fencing programs in our schools. I don't have any statistics to back me up, but looking around the country it seems obvious to me that high school and college fencing activity has declined considerably since I was a student (Which was during the late-middle ages when we were just converting from two-handed broad sword to fencing rapier, if you must know).

If I'm right about this, it seems sadly ironic that a decline in school fencing should be the case at a time when USFA membership is at an all time high. I know that a USFA committee is working to reinvigorate college fencing, which must be an uphill battle on a very slippery slope. Like most Olympic sports in our educational system, fencing has been severely impacted by athletic department budget cutting and the "big time sports" mentality that focuses more and more on the revenue producing sports at the expense of all the others.

Take a good look around at schools that once had healthy varsity fencing teams. You'll find many of them gone or in the process of disappearing with very few replacements stepping forward to fill the depleted ranks. In their place, if you're lucky, you'll find a group of fencers that competes on a club or intramural level. These college clubs are often under-funded, forced to rely on aging equipment and practice in inadequate facilities. The really fortunate clubs have a parttime coach who may draw a small stipend from the intermural or student activities budget, but too many college fencing clubs are self-coached and have been left to exist on the capriciousness of student interest. These clubs exist (therefore, they are!), yet they face a constant struggle for funding and can never assume too much about their own immediate futures.

Unhappy about the current state of fencing at your old school? Why not do something about it by using nostalgia and school allegiance to help your old high school and college fencing pro-

grams? What I'm suggesting is that you give some thought to creating a fencing alumni association. No matter what the competitive history of the school might be, whether it was ever one of the top fencing programs or not, it seems to me that the best way to foster a sense of tradition and continuity is by bringing together the students and alumni for a common cause.

This coming together can be achieved in a number of ways: A student-alumni reception, a banquet that features an alumni award presented to an outstanding student fencer, or an annual student-alumni fencing competition where the old guard meets the new wave, and these are just a few obvious examples.

A viable alumni association can also be a vehicle for fund-raising activities that could be the lifeblood for some fencing programs. And the very existence of an organized alumni association means that a program has an extra level of protection; an umbrella group

if you will, that can often wield surprising influence with administration decision-makers. If your collegiate fencing team was facing the budget-cutting axe and possible elimination, wouldn't you feel a lot better if you had an alumni association as an ally fighting the battle in your behalf?

And the alumni reward? For starters, how about the sense of contribution and payback that you're making to your sport and school? There's also the opportunity that an alumni association offers for reunions, reestablishing old friendships and

reminiscing with people who might even enjoy listening to your hoary stories of flashing blades in that antediluvian, pre-velcro era.

After talking to my friend Howard Goodman, president of the New York University fencing alumni association, I discovered that the school has a very active fencing alumni group that has come up with some creative means for assisting the varsity program. These include newsletters, receptions, tournaments, fund-raising and even the possibility of estate planning that could directly benefit fencing. I've heard that Princeton and Columbia also have established alumni groups, but I don't have any information about them.

As far as my own situation goes, I currently live a good thousand miles away from my collegiate fencing alma mater, which has always been my excuse for not actively working to form an alumni group. I've contacted people in the fencing program, which has long since changed from varsity to club, and they as well as I would like to organize the fencing alumni. In this era of email, faxing and interchangeable long distance carriers, geographic distance shouldn't be an excuse. But who is going to do it?... Okay, veteran musketeers, it has to be us! That's right, as the millennium approaches we are the ones who have to get those alums organized by using cyberspace for our initiative even if it means changing the venerable anthem to www.oneforallforallforallone.org.

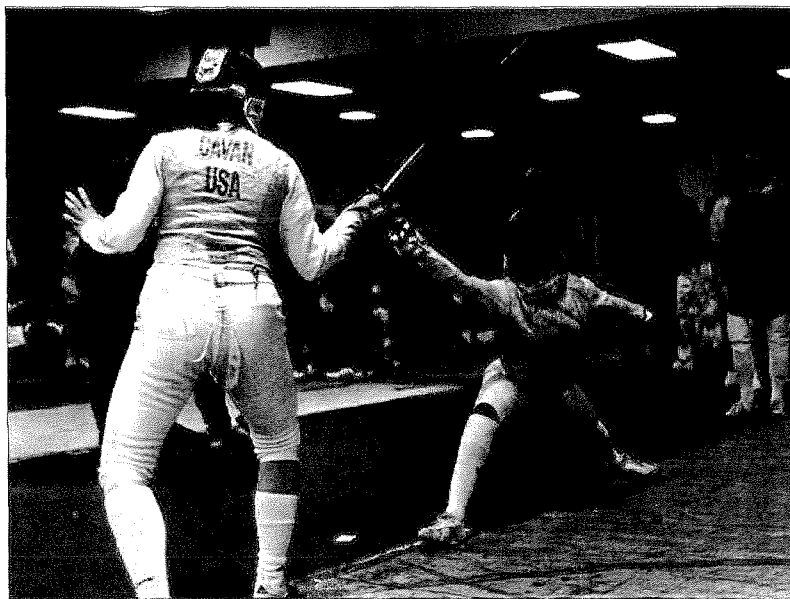


Photo by Lisa Slater

The Chest Cut: Lesson 4 in the Hungarian Sabre Program

BY LASZLO SZEPSI

LESSON 4 — 20 TO 40 MINUTES

GOAL: SIMPLE AND DOUBLE FEINTS FROM LONG DISTANCE.

1. Short distance: 2 head cuts and two side cuts (3-4 times).
2. Identical with 1/1/B and C.
3. Head cut with lunge.
4. Head cut with advance lunge. (5-6 times, if necessary with facilitating exercises)
5. Short distance: 2 head cuts short pause - relaxation remaining in the cutting position - the master steps back with quante. The student from the head cut position side cuts with lunge (4-5 times).
6. Lunge distance: to the master's blade, which is held horizontally, with bent arm (similarly to a side feint position). The student executes 2-3 beats and head feints. He remains in this position, relaxes and when the master takes a quinte executes and side cut with a lunge (the beat on the blade is executed from tierce by turning the edge in head cut position, without arm extension).
7. Head feint side cut with lunge. The student must remain in the head feint position until the master goes into quinte.
8. Head feint side cut with lunge, fluently repeated 6-8 times.
9. Lunge distance: the student executes beats on the master's blade as described in 6th exercise, then with an advance executes a head cut (here he remains and relaxes). The master steps back with a point. The student responds with a side cut with lunge. As soon as the first part of the exercise is correct, the master gives less and less time after the head cut to continue executes the side cut.
10. Long distance: the student with an advance shows a head feint to the master's Quinte, executes a side cut with lunge (6-8 times).
11. Long distance: head feint side cut with advance lunge 6-8 times. Several times also with closed eyes > (To control the possible errors during the action, the student should look one-two times at his hand holding the weapon. Both during the advance (showing the feint) and during the lunge (side cut). By this we can speed up the awareness of coordination.
12. Short distance, the master in Quinte position: the student several times executes hand and side cut.
13. The previous exercise with lunge, 4-6 times.
14. Long distance. The master is in "stretched" Quinte: the student with an advance executes and hand cut (there he stops and relaxes) then he executes a side cut with lunge (3-4 times).
15. The previous exercise, but after the hand cut the student executes a head cut with lunge (4-6 times).
16. Long distance - the master is in quarte, the student from tierce position, executes a side feint head cut with advance lunge (6-8 times). If the start is incorrect, we have to get back and repeat the 13th, 14th and 15th facilitative exercises. If the head cut (the last movement) is delayed, it is advisable to stop the student in the advance feint position and only after relaxation, should be permitted to finish the action (to the master's tierce).
17. Side feint head cut with advance lunge with closed eyes (2-3 times).
18. Short distance. The master in quinte: the student from tierce position executes a chest cut.



Photo by Lisa Slater

PREPARATORY AND FACILITATING EXERCISES OF THE CHEST CUT.

- A. The master is in quinte. The student from short distance executes a few chest cuts. However, the master's quinte position is lower than the point of the student's blade in tierce position. That assures that the student will not start with arm extension, but with the point and edge of the blade.
- B. Short distance. The master wants to take with quarte slowly the student's blade in tierce, and as he doesn't find it, he continues his movement fluently into quinte position. The student deceives the master's quart bind with a counter tierce, then (fluently) continuously (without stopping) executes a chest cut by traversing (4-5 times). The chest cut by traversing is a problem not only for beginners, but also for advanced fencers. However, with a moving point it is rather easy to execute both the previous and the next exercise helps to learn it.
- C. The previous exercise but the master is in quinte position and the student executes alone the counter tierce transfer chest cut (4-5 times).
- D. Exercises (B) and (C) with lunge.
- E. From tierce chest cut by traversing from short distance and with lunge.

- F. Chest cut with advance lunge (facilitating exercise 1-2).
19. From short distance chest cut (without traversing) after the cut and loosening the master moves from quinte into quarte, the student responds with a head cut, after a short pause the master steps back with quinte the student executes a side cut with lunge (3-4 times).
 20. Lunge distance: the student shows a chest feint- head feint. The master from tierce responds by moving to quarte after a short pause the master moves into quinte position and the student responds with side cut with lunge.
 21. Chest feint-head feint-side cut with lunge (4-5 times).
 22. The previous exercise, but with advance lunge (the chest feint-head feint must be finished with the advance) (4-5 times) at the beginning the student should be stopped at the advance.
 23. Chest-head feint side cut with lunge. Due to previous exercise this will be easy. After 2-3 lunges, with advance lunge.
 24. Same as the previous exercise, but the student should hold the head feint for a short while. This can be easily done, by slowing down the lunge by the help of emphasizing the extension of the front leg with the toe raising up. (The rhythm is: fast, slow, fast). The exercise is executed with lunge and advance lunge.
 25. Lunge distance - the master is in a stretched quinte position: the student from tierce executes a hand cut the master goes into tierce, the student makes a head feint side cut with lunge (in the hand cut and head feint positions the student should stop for a while and loosen at the beginning trials).
 26. Side feint-head feint-side cut with lunge (4-5 times).
 27. The previous exercise, but with advance lunge. If the start is incorrect, the student should start with hand cut. If the head

feint is incorrect, the student should stop at the advance side feint-head feint position. After, the student should also execute the attack with closed eyes and also some where the student looks at his hand during the whole action. The student should execute the exercise also at the rhythm described in the 24th action.

28. Lunge distance the master engages the student's blade in tierce: the master from tierce engagement moves into second position (then to quinte) the student (without delay) executes a head feint-side cut.
29. The previous exercise with advance lunge
30. Lunge distance: in tierce engagement keeping the distance. The master after one advance steps back moving his blade into second position. The student responds with head feint-side cut with advance lunge. After the touch the master immediately regains the contact on the student's blade and with advance force the student to take (regain) the original lunge distance. When being successful, the master repeats the exercise (at the beginning, or when the student is tired the master may stop for a few seconds at the first and second distance changes. (see 11-14).

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AMERICAN FENCING is grateful to Aladar Kogler, Ph.D., for translating Szepesi's work and prepparing it for publication.

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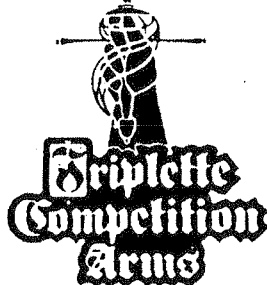


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USFA Youth Tour Takes London by Storm!

Sixteen young US fencers kicked off their international competitive careers on a Thanksgiving trip to England.

BY KATE HANNA

The annual USFA Youth Tour to London introduced young foilists, epeeists and sabreurs from all over the country to a small portion of what international competitors must overcome: jet lag, unfamiliar accents and languages, different food, complicated travel, heavy bags.

The trip began at Washington D.C. Dulles International Airport, where the group assembled, arriving on connecting flights from Texas, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Colorado, California, Oregon, Georgia and Minnesota. Some faces were familiar from tournaments and camps, but others were brand new. The striking red-white-and-blue team sweats, generously made available by adidas, helped everyone recognize each other and quickly identified us as a group.

Head Coach Andrea Lagan rounded everyone up and answered last minute questions, and off we went! After a long and excited night in the air (a first international flight for some on the tour), we arrived at London Heathrow. Collecting our bags, we prepared for another experience: the Tube. We spent the ride into London answering the first of many questions from curious Londoners about the contents of the fencing bags we wrestled onto the railcar.

We settled into our home for the week, a local YHA hostel where we would meet tourists from all over the world. Then the group split up, the sabre fencers to go to an Under-13 sabre tournament in Bath, the rest of the group to explore London.

In Bath, our young sabre fencers found a large field of competitors with a wide diversity of skills. The early rounds of competi-

tion went quickly. We had a surprise for the English fencers: three Americans in the top twelve. Bill Thanhouser, from Oregon, finished fifth; Ian Quirk, California, came in seventh; and Matthew Kolasa, New Jersey, placed twelfth. Thomas Kolasa also fenced, and did a great job against much older fencers (there is no equivalent of our Y-10 age category in England). These results put our fencers onto the composite point list for the Leon Paul five-tournament season, which concluded with the Bath tournament. After fencing just one of the five tournaments possible, Bill and Ian were placed at 19th and 22nd, respectively.

Meanwhile, our foil and epee fencers spent a day touring the Tower of London and the British Museum. They also found the time to go and watch part of the Men's Foil World Cup being fenced at London's Crystal Palace. Cheered on by the excited group, Jed Dupries beat an English fencer on his home turf to place third, and then posed for pictures with the group. Maybe someday it will be one of the tour's young fencers posing with a World Cup medal and a new generation of American fencers.

Five days of training and sightseeing passed in a whirlwind. The whole group traveled to two different schools, where we fenced with a variety of students and coaches, and members of the British Youth National Team. Our coaches also learned from these day trips, and took copious notes on new drills and warm-ups to try out at home.

The group also took time to visit the Leon Paul factory. We toured their production facility, learning about how masks, blades

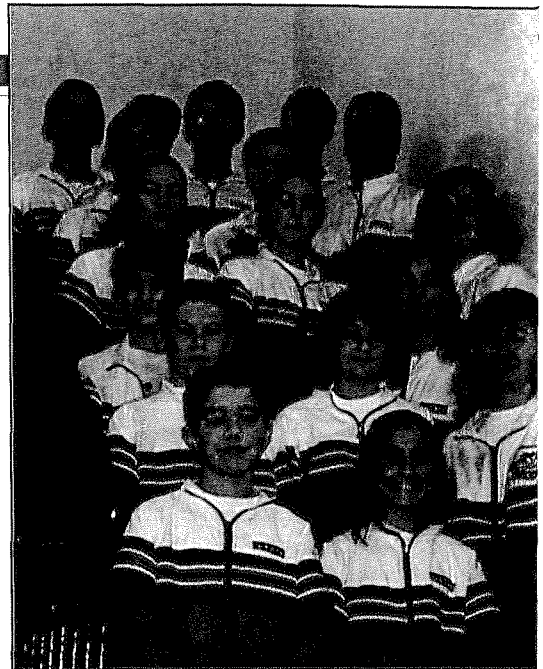


Photo by Kate Hanna



USFA YOUTH TOUR PARTICIPANTS: Jasmine McGlade, Grace McGlade, Aly Rush, Theron Haan, Blake Habermann, Scott Baldwin, Neal Baldwin, Byrony Beard-Canfield, Ben Nichols, Callon Nichols, Ian Quirk, Bill Thanhouser, Thomas Kolasa, Matthew Kolasa, Ian Jeffery, Bruce Vail, **STAFF:** Kate Hanna, James Odom, Andrea Lagan.



and jackets are made. We also bought lots and LOTS of equipment. Then it was off to fence again, in small groups at clubs around London. We did take some time out from fencing during the week. The entire group was impressed by Hamley's, the largest toy store in the world, although we didn't spend quite as much time or money there as we did at Leon Paul (these fencers have their priorities right!). We also visited the London Dungeon — not quite as historic a tour stop as the British Museum, but it was fun.

The Thursday of the trip was Thanksgiving, and we celebrated the holiday with a complete Thanksgiving dinner of turkey, stuffing, potatoes, gravy and cranberry sauce. We even had turkey decorations on the tables! The restaurant staff really got into the holiday spirit, and wished us all a happy Thanksgiving as they served dessert. Then, instead of watching (American) football on TV, we again visited London's fencing clubs for some bouts to work off all that turkey.

By Friday, everyone was too "knackered" to fence, so we traded weapons for cameras and went to do some more sightseeing. For once we were out without assistant coach James Odom having to do a bag check for excess equipment weight (we walked too

much for anyone to carry extra equipment)! Our walking tour around London included chasing pigeons

and climbing lions in Trafalgar Square, questioning the journalists outside 10 Downing Street where they were waiting for word on the negotiations with Pinochet's lawyers, and cruising by Buckingham Palace. We ended the day at Harrod's — possibly the world's most upscale department store. Fortunately, we only had a short time to look around before they closed! Smelling of cologne testers, we went to our favorite restaurant — Rotisserie Jules — for dinner (ask Andrea if she could eat another chicken!), then home to bed before a weekend of tournaments.

Saturday was the Leon Paul Superchoice. We were invited to fence in the second half of this exclusive invitation-only tournament. We participated in the team event. The format was a little unusual for some of us. The fencers were randomly assigned to three-weapon teams. The ten or so teams then fenced a double elimination tournament based on a random seeding, fencing matches of 12 points. The top two finishing teams included U.S. fencers: Scott Baldwin, from Indiana, on the gold medal team, and Jas-

mine McGlade, Colorado, on the silver medal team. It was a preview of the tour's performance on Sunday.

At the bright and early hour of 6 a.m. on Sunday, we all rolled out of bed and into our sweats for a team picture. Since we were up way before the sun, it was possibly the quietest team picture on record. We all lined up on the stairs in one of the dormitories, just outside rooms where a multitude of international tourists were sleeping peacefully. The picture will always remind the women in the group of the week we spent in that dorm ... and the two or three trips per day we took up and down four flights of those stairs with our bags. It was good conditioning.

The foil/epee fencers then tip-toed off to the train station, and on to Bedford, for an open epee tournament. The sabre fencers, having had their competition the weekend before, caught a couple more hours of sleep before starting their own tour of the Tower of London and the British Museum.

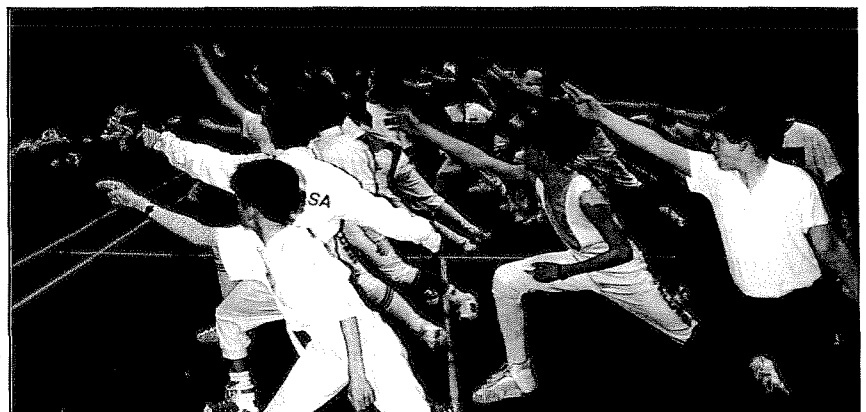
The epee tournament gave British fencing another reason to respect U.S. youth fencing. Our fencers showed skill and intelligence in their bouts with older and more experienced fencers. And it paid off! Jasmine McGlade placed third, missing the gold-medal bout by one touch. Of the boys, Bruce Vail, from Georgia, place the highest, in sight of the final in ninth place.

We ended the trip with one last team dinner and a flurry of packing. We left with a lot for our young fencers to think about on the long flight home. We learned about a different culture, overcame the tiredness and confusion of travel, fenced in unfamiliar circumstances and with different formats and directing, took care of ourselves and of each other. We came home with souvenirs, new friends and memories that will contribute to our fencing and to our whole lives.

Each year, Andrea Lagan, chair of the Youth Committee, takes a group of young fencers to England for a week of competition and training. Applications are being accepted now for the November 1999 trip. For more information, contact Andrea at amlagan@aol.com or through the USFA National Office.



Photo by Kate Hanna





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Reflections on Fencing's Golden Age

Let's not be overwhelmed by waves of nostalgia
which smudge the very real inconveniences.

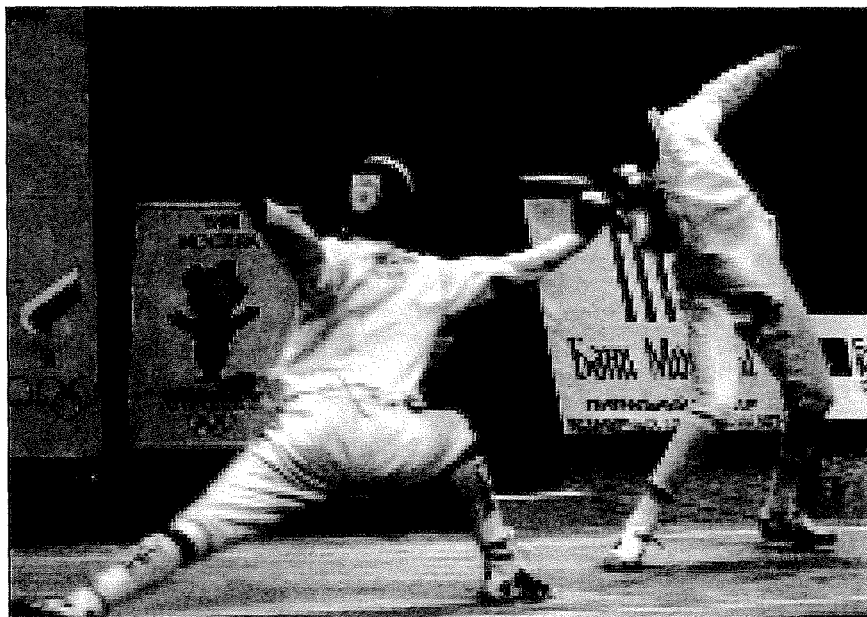
BY BUZZ HURST

Am I wrong, or is the USFA lately being battered by a tsunami of nostalgia? More and more I hear or read comments about how fencing in this country was better back in some earlier era: purer, more urbane, more classical, perhaps even Homeric. I then reflected that, with the

involved in it, and, from my viewpoint, almost all of those changes have been good. For that reason, I thought I'd present a few of my own memories of what fencing used to be like and let the reader take it from there.

When I started fencing in 1958, in what was then the Amateur Fencers League of America, electric foil had only been in wide use for three years, and most prominent foilists in this country had established their reputations with standard (what some are now wont to call "classical") foil. Moreover, many foilists still fenced a clearly delineated French or Italian school, while sabreurs could usually be identified by their use of either the Italian or Hungarian method. Many of the great names of American fencing such as DeCapriles, Santelli, Castello, Mitchell, Nadi, Romary, Faulkner, Alaux, Vince, etc. were still active, Piller and Elthes had only recently come to our country, and one could find more than a few fencers whose memories went back almost to the turn of the century.

But where to begin a romp down memory lane? Well, tournaments are always good for a couple of blue yodels, so let's start there. We used to have only one national fencing tournament in the United States, the National Championship, and, because few others were willing or able to do it, it was almost always held in New York City. Over the years several prestigious, locally sponsored events such as the Csizar Epee in Philadelphia, Alaux Foil in New York, and Helene Mayer Foil in San Francisco were established, and these all eventually evolved into the North American Cup Circuit. Even so, whatever the event and wherever it was held, the hosts had to provide the directors, judges, and bout committee. There rarely was enough money in the national treasury to fly anybody in, and besides, there wasn't any real



exponential growth of the Association in the past few years, upwards of half of our current members had not even been introduced to our sport ten years ago and have no reason not to accept as tribal memory the existence of a former Atlantean Age of Fencing. While there are certainly many out there whose experience in American fencing spans much more time, my own 40 years of swinging a sword provide me with, I think, some historical perspective. Fencing in this country has undergone great changes since I've been

system to rate referees or to train tournament managers, so even if you could pay somebody's expenses, the decision on whom to choose would be subjective and certain to start an argument. No matter who got picked, fencers from other cities or states, sometimes even fencers from the suburbs of the host city, held it as a postulate that they would get bashed by the local officials. On the other hand, the hosts were generally shown so little appreciation for their efforts that I was always amazed that they kept everything running without an occasional random killing. Electrical Scoring units were anything anybody could scrounge up, and for several years manufacturers and the FIE were still working the bugs out of their foil system designs (epee, which has been electrified since the '30s, was in better shape). To add a final touch to the overall ambience, there at first existed no penalties for reporting to a bout with faulty equipment, so said bout might consume great chunks of time while somebody's gear was repaired on the strip (since there also was no rule requiring him to have more than one sword or one body cord, either).

On the other hand, if it was sabre or a local foil tournament that was still nonelectric, the four side judges would generally be anybody you could get. Many of these folks couldn't see a 747 if it taxied over them, so "classical" fencers would often experience a sense of frustration and react in a decidedly unclassical manner. Many lay observers (loved ones, for example) would go to their first fencing tournament expecting to see the elegant and refined sport of their dreams and come away visibly shaken after hearing exchanges between fencers and officials that would unnerve a bosun's parrot. Almost always at the sectional level, and even sometimes at Nationals, the finalists would hope that some good fencers would have been eliminated in earlier rounds so they could have somebody experienced to referee and/or judge. However, it was always a crapshoot, because any event with a reasonably large entry could be expected to go well into the night, and many eliminated fencers would pack it in and leave long before the Finals. All of the foregoing could be said about Junior events, except that there weren't any Junior events.

Oh, and to add the final patina to this

living sculpture, there was no national seeding system unless you had finished in the top 10 nationally the previous year. Almost all initial pool placement had to be based on a fencer's classification or on whether somebody on the bout committee knew you. It was not unknown for a fencer to claim a rating that he had never actually earned, since we had no effective way to check it out back then, or for a bout committee person's evaluation of a fencer's skills to be a little skewed, and this could make for some very

“

Members sometimes complain about delays in getting some kind of response from the National Office, but imagine what it might have been like when there was no National Office. Our USFA headquarters used to consist of the Secretary's garage and the President's basement.

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colorful, and decidedly unbalanced, early round pools.

But getting back to equipment, there used to be virtually no established standards for equipment safety. Given what we have now, it is frankly a tribute to the integrity of the makers of fencing gear in those days that there were so few serious accidents. Underarm protectors were not required until sometime in the '60s, and before then my own college team had three incidents where an epee fencer was impaled under the armpit by a broken blade which penetrated a lung (in case you're wondering, and I know you are, there wasn't much blood, but they all said that the repairs hurt far worse than the injury). There were no specifications for fencing uniforms other than they be made from "robust" material, and gloves, masks

and bibs could be whatever a manufacturer felt like making. Lest one think that these were hazards confined to electric fencing, I myself had a standard foil go through a reasonably new glove and up the back of my hand taking small pieces of me with it, and a sabre point push the face of my mask all the way against an eye (the mesh fortunately did not break, so I still have binocular vision). Reasonable persons are, of course, at liberty to disagree, but I feel much better knowing fencers are now wearing gear that has been tested for its capacity to protect the wearer from ending a bout en brochette.

Members sometimes complain about delays in getting some kind of response from the National Office, but imagine what it might have been like when there was no National Office. Our USFA headquarters used to consist of the Secretary's garage and the President's basement. How our past officers kept things running as well as they did has always been a wonder to me, but I think even they would agree that they simply could not have handled the paperwork generated by the size membership we have today. Of course, since there were no personal computers or fax machines back then, they weren't inundated with email and faxes the way the Office is now, but they also didn't have PCs to keep track of all the data generated by 14,000 people. Besides that, there were no Olympic Committee development funds to distribute and account for, nor many expense claims to process. After all,

fencers pretty much had to pay their own way if they went to any international competition other than the Olympics, and the AFLA certainly couldn't afford anything like national/international training programs or trips. Accounting is much less of a burden when you have no money.

And regarding the selection of U.S. teams and cadres, there was no objective point system, and it used to be done by a small, sometimes shadowy group of "wise men" who would decide in closed session which fencers "had the best chance" against the Europeans. In the days before WWII, the selectors had been known to announce a process for selection to the Olympic team and, when that process did not produce the result they expected, ignore it and make the

picks on their own. Until 1978 there was no Amateur Sports Act and therefore virtually no appeal unless an athlete could afford to go to court, and the courts of that time did not favor such actions. To give those past administrators their due, however, the whole Olympic movement in this country pretty much operated that way, and, until the Soviet Bloc fencers burst on the scene, the AFLA powers-that-be used to pick some pretty effective teams to represent us. Unfortunately, if you were one of the fencers just passed over, despite having a better record than a selectee, I think it would be safe to assume that you would not view the establishment with equanimity, and most didn't.

Finally, I suppose I can't very well end a wallow in the trough of recollection without some nod to the oft-encountered claims that fencing in this country was more aesthetically pleasing and classically structured "in the old days". To such a statement I respectfully add "and the cow jumped over the moon". In actual fact, there used to be far more people about our great land who had "taught themselves to fence" and did not hesitate to share their new knowledge by teaching others. This phenomenon produced some truly startling (and often unsafe) stylists who stalked our night for many years,

and were not really ushered offstage until the USFA Coaches College swung into high gear.

Even so, I don't think that any of the great fencers of yore ever refused to accept a tournament victory because they felt it had been tainted by a lapse into bad form. I have seen occasions - and wrote about George Calnan's act in the '32 Olympics - where a fencer conceded a point, even the deciding one, because he felt that the judging had placed his opponent at an unfair disadvantage. Nevertheless, every good competitor I've had the opportunity to fence, or watch, or heard described by older veterans, displayed the same demeanor on the strip: that of a lion stalking a limping wildebeest. Lions have not been observed to spit out a piece of gnu because they thought their pounce might have looked a bit ragged, and none of the champions I ever knew or heard of would lose any sleep over winning a bout with a bent-arm lunge. My own view is that good fencers can perform a lesson now as classically as their ancestors once did, but, just as none of our illustrious predecessors ever advocated dying with perfect form as preferable to winning a duel with an impure disengage, champions in earlier years, as now, did what it took (within the rules) to win. It is

possible that there have been local fencing clubs scattered about the country where form was considered superior to function, but all the established salles that I have been in had a tad more of the Roman Coliseum about them than the dance academy. (Now, before all you young fencers run to show this article to your fencing coaches, please calm down. You still have to learn to do it right, and the good ones constantly work on their form, so get back in front of that mirror!). Practice and exhibitions are one thing, but, as my old Uncle Murray used to say, "When it's for all the marbles, it ain't no ballet". And I don't remember that it ever was.

Sooo ... while others may long for a previous era in our sport, I'm not one of them. I know that I'm not alone, because it is clear that numbers of people over the years expended blood, sweat, toil and tears to change things (O.K., I maybe exaggerating about the blood). In any case, we certainly didn't reach our present conditions by some form of random gene mutation in our body politic. Have we now achieved a fencers' nirvana? Of course not! There are a number of things I'd like to see change, and I suspect that somebody else's list will be different from mine, but I'll still take here and now over any previous era in the history of American fencing.



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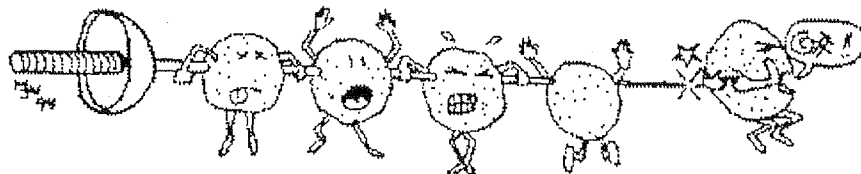
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Express your love of the sport off the strip by collecting fencing memorabilia.

The Fencing Collector

BY GEORGE MASIN

The long and honored history of fencing provides an opportunity to collect a wide variety of memorabilia related to the sport. By collecting fencing memorabilia, you not only express your interest in the sport, but also provide an opportunity to learn more about the sport and share that knowledge with others. This sharing differentiates a true collector from a hoarder who does not share with others.



Some of the fencing-related items available to collectors are: postage stamps, post cards, lapel pins, coins, toys, fencing equipment, books, magazine articles, pictures, posters, labels, and items such as tickets or programs from Olympics, world championships, or national championships. In this article I'll

discuss postage stamps. If there's enough interest, I'll write or solicit additional articles on other collectibles. Terminology useful for a collector is in bold *italics*.

Over 500 fencing-related stamps have been issued by various postal authorities. The first postage stamp depicting fencing was issued by Hungary in 1925 as part of a series of stamps to raise money for Hungarian athletic associations. The stamps were sold with a 100% mark-up, with the extra money going to the athletic associations. On the back (glued) side of the stamp is a printed explanation (in Hungarian) of the reason for the surcharge. This stamp is the brown stamp in the middle of the picture. Such stamps, sold for more than face value to raise money for some cause, are known to stamp collectors as semipostals.

The next stamp to show fencing was issued by the Netherlands in 1928 to commemorate the Olympic Games being held by them that year. This stamp is the purple one diagonally below the Hungarian stamp. Bulgaria then issued a blue fencing stamp in 1931 to promote the Balkan Games, a regional sporting event. This stamp was reissued in 1933, this time printed in rose. The original blue stamp is shown next to the Hungarian and Netherlands stamp.

Since then most fencing stamps have been issued to

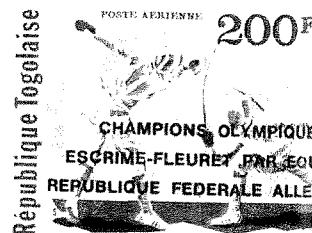
commemorate Olympic Games, to celebrate a country's winning of medals at the Olympic Games, or to promote the hosting of a World Championships by that country. One unusual stamp is the blue stamp issued by the Philippines toward the top of the picture. This stamp was issued in 1962 to commemorate Jose Rizal, a martyr in Philippines' fight for independence. Rizal was a fencer and a chess player and so the Philippines issued two stamps, one showing him playing chess and the other fencing. There have been other stamps commemorating famous people who were also fencers (for example, Winston Churchill, Gen. George Patton, Reinhard Heydrich) but those stamps did not show them as fencers.

Generally, stamps are sold in one of four conditions:

Used stamps are stamps which were used to send a letter somewhere and where then soaked off the envelop. These stamps usually have some cancellation ink still on them and no gum on the back. They are the cheapest to buy. If you buy a used stamp, try to get one whose cancellation doesn't distract too much from the fencing image.

Cancelled to Order (CTO) stamps are stamps sold with cancellation marks on them. Some countries sold CTO stamps to stamp dealers at a reduced rate so that they could be sold more cheaply to stamp collectors. Since they were cancelled, they couldn't be used to mail anything. They can be differentiated from used stamps since they usually still have gum on the back. CTO stamps are usually the same price as used stamps or slightly more expensive.

Lightly Hinged (LH) stamps are stamps which do not have any cancellation marks on them. At one time stamp collectors used to mount stamps in albums using little pieces of glued paper called hinges. It was soon realized that the gum on the back of the stamp was damaged by this process. As a result, these stamps became less desirable (i.e., cheaper) even though they look perfectly fine on the printed side.



Mint Never Hinged (MNH) stamps are stamps which were never used or mounted using a hinge. They have no cancellation ink on the front and the gum on the back is undisturbed. MNH stamps are usually the most expensive.

Stamps can be bought at stamps shows, from local dealers, from other dealers either via mail or the internet, or through internet auction services such as



ebay. Also, I usually bring my spare stock to the Junior Olympics and Summer Nationals to sell.

When buying from stamp dealers, it is important to note that most do not sell individual stamps. Rather they sell stamps as sets of related stamps issued by a country on the same day. If you're lucky the set will contain only one stamp (the fencing one) or two (such as the Rizal commemorative). But sometimes a set will contain many stamps not related to fencing. In such cases, you have to buy the complete set. I've never known a dealer who has had a complete set but was willing to break it up to sell just one stamp. Sometimes a dealer will not have a complete set (especially for used stamps) and this short set may contain the fencing stamp and cost less than a complete set.

Most fencing sets cost in the \$1 to \$5 range. You might be able to pick up some used single fencing stamps for as little as 10

you're lucky enough to get it as a short set.

When buying stamps from a dealer, it's easiest when doing business with a topical dealer. These are dealers who organize their stock according to the topic depicted on the stamp. While some very large dealers may have some stamps under the topic of "Fencing," it's best to ask to look through the topics of "Olympics" and "Sports," especially to get fencing stamps that are parts of sets.

that will make it easier for foreign dealers to find the stamp in their catalogs.

The paper on the border of a sheet of stamps that you usually tear off and throw away before using the stamp is known as selvage. Sometimes additional text or pictures are printed on this selvage. If only a few stamps are printed on a sheet and there's a lot of selvage with printing, this is known as a souvenir sheet. Sometimes the fencing-related information is printed only on the selvage of the souvenir sheet and not on any of the stamps of the souvenir sheet.

The little holes that make it easy to tear off a stamp are known as perforations. Sometimes countries sell stamps without perforations. These stamps are known as imperforates (or imperf). A stamp may be available only perforated, only imperforated, or both. If both are available, the imperf usually costs more.

Sometimes stamps are reissued with additional text printed over the original stamp. These overprints may be done to change the face value of the stamp or to commemorate some event. For example, some Olympic stamps were printed and available before the actual Olympic Games and then reissued as overprints with the name of the winner of the event shown on the stamp.

For the really advanced collector, other varieties of these regular stamps may be available. These include such things as color proofs (the stamp printed in a different color), black proofs (the stamp printed in black rather than in color), deluxe sheets (the stamp printed by itself, imperforated, in the middle of a sheet of heavy paper), and specimens (the stamp overprinted with the word "specimen" or local language equivalent). Some error varieties of fencing stamps are also known to exist. For example, with colors missing or printed unaligned, with overprints inverted, or with perforations missing or shifted.

I've made up a list of over 500 stamps related to fencing with their issue date and various catalog numbers. Anyone wishing a copy of this check list should send a stamped (\$.55), self-addressed envelop to me at: George Masin, 77 W 55 Street #5J, New York, NY 10019-4920.

George Masin, inveterate medal winner in epee (he last won a World Cup bronze in 1998) brings a sampling of his collection (pins, stamps, postcards) to many NACs.

Most stamp dealers organize their stock according to the numbers assigned to stamps by various stamp catalogs. In the United States and Canada, stamp dealers use the Scott catalog. Scott assigns a number to all regularly issued stamps, a number prefixed with a "B" to all semipostal stamps, and a number prefixed with a "C" to all airmail stamps. So, for example, the fencing stamp issued by Bulgaria in 1931 is "Bulgaria 240," the Hungarian semipostal stamp issued in 1925 is "Hungary B84," and the only fencing stamp issued by the United States is the airmail stamp "United States C109." Since stamps are sold as sets, though, it's easiest if you know the Scott numbers for the set. To get the Bulgarian stamp, ask the dealer for set "Bulgaria 237-43."

German collectors use a set of catalogs named Michel, French collectors use Yvert catalogs, and British collectors use Stanley



cents. The most expensive fencing set is the Bulgarian reissue set of 1933 which catalogs for just under \$200, though the fencing stamp in that set catalogs for just \$4.75 if

Gibbons catalogs. Their catalog numbers are completely different from the Scott numbers. If you plan on buying stamps overseas, try to find the issue date of the stamps, since

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Supplements can reduce a fencer's fatigue during competition if they are used properly.

BY DONALD C. DEFABIO, DC, DACBSP, FACO

Current research in nutrition indicates that there is more to maintaining proper hydration and improved performance than the popular sports drinks. For example, back in 1983 when training for Barcelona a member of the foil team preferred Coke when competing, as did an age group champion for the 1995 Ironman Triathlon World Championships - afterward, how can you go wrong with caffeine and sugar! Well, apart from the fact that high levels of caffeine in the urine will set off a red flag upon drug testing (as the above referenced fencer found out) there are better and more efficient methods of maintaining both your energy and sugar levels.

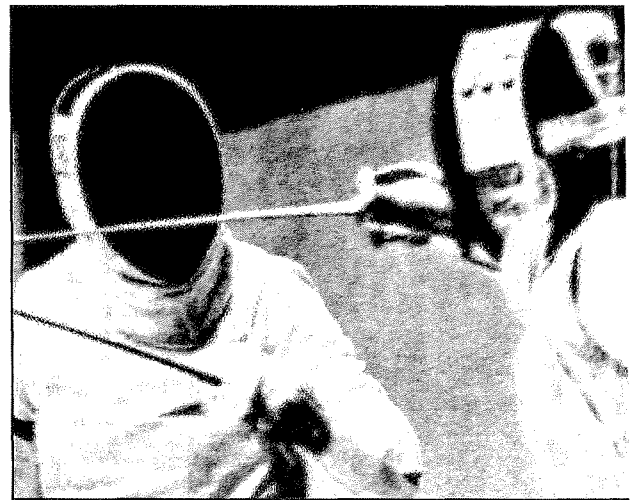
First and foremost is water. Pure spring water or filtered water is best. Muscles are 70-75% water and by maintaining that percentage throughout competition performance will be enhanced. The least technical approach to evaluating your hydration level is visual inspection of your urine. Darker than normal indicates that you need more water. Also, consider the frequency of urination, it should be consistent with non-competition days. If you're not going, you need water. Plan to drink before you get thirsty rather than waiting until you feel you need water because by that point dehydration has already begun.

Second, maintain a steady blood sugar level. This is difficult in all sports, and especially in a fencing tournament where rounds are spread out through the day. Having your blood sugar drop just as the finals are called

will lead to fatigue and cramping. Simple sugars found in candy, and most sports drinks (i.e., glucose, maltose, sucrose, corn syrup) and even honey need to be taken judiciously. These simple sugars will initially give you a surge of energy, but they will also cause a rapid drop in your blood sugar level after one or two hours so avoid those candybars, sodas and pace yourself on the sports drinks. Alternating water and sports drinks works well as does diluting the drinks by one-half. Chromium is a mineral which can be taken to help maintain blood sugar levels. As for caffeine, it has the same effect of giving you the initial rush of energy, yet it also creates the crash in your blood sugar levels within a short time after ingestion. The time to consider the shot of coke or slurp of honey would be at the end of the day, prior to the last bout or two where a drop in your blood sugar will be after you've finished fencing. Examples of more complex sugars which do not lead to a rapid decline in blood sugar are fructose and maltodextrin so check the label of your favorite sports drink. Apples and oranges are two excellent sources of these more favorable sugars.

For performance enhancement, fencers can benefit from the research done with bodybuilders. Specifically, three supplements have great promise when applied to competitive fencing. The first is creatine, the second is glutamine and the third is taurine.

Creatine is important for fencers because it fuels the energy pathway used while fencing, the creatine-phosphokinase system. This energy pathway is for short, high intensity activities (under one minute) is depleted quickly and has the ability to replenish itself within 30 seconds. Creatine is also essential for the formation of ATP (adenosinetriphosphate) which is the energy source for cellular metabolism. Creatine is found in protein rich foods such as tuna, salmon and cod and can also be taken as a nutritional supplement called creatine monohydrate. It is safe, cost effective, and essential to fuel the energy pathways for fencing. It is best absorbed in the presence of sugar and helps to bring water into the muscles. Once again, since muscles are 70-75% water keeping water in them will only increase performance. For fencers, creatine is best taken during competition and while training aggressively. For competition, several grams the day before followed by supplementing your diet throughout the day while competing is adequate. The "loading-up" on creatine as promoted by body builders is not



necessary for fencing due to the different goals of the respective sports. To date, there are no confirmed dangers of taking creatine, especially at doses lower than suggested for body builders. For training, it is best taken after a workout.

Glutamine is an amino acid that has also gotten positive exposure in body building circles. Glutamine has been shown to increase the replenishment of glycogen (sugar) into the muscles, strengthen the immune system, helps to maintain muscle mass and is essential for proper brain functioning. For some of us older fencers, getting our brain to communicate to the rest of our body is espe-

cially helpful! As an energy source for the brain, glutamine improves mental alertness, and clarity of thinking. All this means that for fencers the use of glutamine both precompetition, and during a long competition is beneficial to assist in the storage of sugar in the muscles, to replace sugars lost while fencing and to help keep mental clarity as the day progresses. Glutamine is found in proteins or as a nutritional supplement.

Taurine is another amino acid that shows promise for fencing. Taurine is the most abundant amino acid found in the body and is found in high concentrations in the brain. It acts similar to glutamine in being helpful in the replenishment of sugars (glycogen) back into the muscle cells after exercise, assists in nerve transmissions and helps to stabilize the flow of potassium, sodium, calcium, and magnesium in and out of the cells. Taurine is manufactured by the body from available nutrients and may also be taken as a nutritional supplement.

During competition and training it is also necessary to maintain adequate levels of minerals and electrolytes. Sodium, chloride, calcium, and potassium are frequently found in sports drinks because of their established value during and after exercise. Supplementing with the minerals calcium and magnesium can be beneficial in preventing muscle cramps. These minerals can be found in high quality sports drinks, so again check those labels because syrup alone will not replace them.

Finally, consider adding antioxidants to your supplement regime. Antioxidants assist in the body's ability to bring oxygen into the tissues, fight the accumulation of free radicals, and assist in increasing blood flow at the capillary level. For these reasons they can be helpful in the healing phase from muscle and tendon injuries. Common antioxidants include vitamins C and E as well as grape seed extract.

Fencing can benefit from the information boom in nutrition and training. The nutritional supplements creatine, glutamine, taurine, electrolytes, minerals and antioxidants show a lot of promise for performance enhancement in fencing. They can be used in conjunction with pure spring water, sports drinks and a healthy diet to reduce fatigue and weakness in training and competition. A later article in this series will focus on eating properly to improve your fencing. As with any supplement program discuss it with your coach, physician, nutritionist or healthcare provider before beginning.

FOC Committed to Referee Development Program

The new FOC administration promises to demystify ratings and educate new applicants.

BY JON MOSS

Ever been to a competition and heard or said any of the following quips?
 "We're refereeing for ourselves, again!"
 "This ref doesn't know the rules!"
 "That's not how they call it in New Hampshire [insert your own locale here]."
 "Where did he learn to make calls like that?"
 "That's not how they call it in Europe"
 "Anybody can referee epee"

We all have heard or opined the above at one time or another. The whole notion of rules and referees brings out too many negative feelings about our sport. These are some of the manifestations of our current referee dilemma. How do we alleviate these maladies? We need to create a structured Referee Development Program. Well, the Fencing Officials Commission (FOC) is about to do just that!

We have identified some of the problems as the following:

1. There are not enough qualified referees at all levels.
2. There are vast inconsistencies in the ways rules are interpreted by our referees.
3. There is not enough opportunity to learn referee skills.
4. There is not enough opportunity to take the referee tests.

The goal of the Referee Development Program is to address these issues head on. Our sport historically has found its referees. Former fencers who just can't get enough are encouraged to referee. Coaches have to play dual roles. Warm bodies are drafted into action. We have not systematically grown our referees. As a result the number of active referees at any level is insufficient. Referees typically have learned their trade through competitive experience, literal interpretation of the Rules Book, coaches' input and divine intervention. Many divisions have no examiners to give the test. Referee clinics generally cover random topics, or become a

"stump the band" situation. A system is needed to ease our pain.

How will the FOC planning to accomplish that goal? We will approach this with a three pronged attack. First, we will formalize a Referee Course. Though not widely publicized, this class has been tried with great success over the last five seasons. Many of the referees you see at the NACs have benefited from this class. Second, we will train teachers to teach the course. If each division had two or three people interested in being trained to teach the course, we could expand our referee base dramatically. Finally, to maintain referee consistency we will organize a Rules Interpretation meeting that will be updated yearly and be required for all referees at all levels:

As part of this program expect to see a clearer understanding of what each referee rating means, how to achieve each of these ratings and what level of fencing you will be encouraged to referee at with a given rating.

This is a brief outline of an extensive Referee Development Program that the FOC will begin implementing with the 1999 Summer Nationals. Expect to see an application form for Referee Instructor in the USFA Newsletter prior to the Summer Nationals. In the next issue of the AMERICAN FENCING, I will provide a detailed look at the program. If you have any questions concerning the program, address them to me at the following address:

USFA Referee Development
 c/o Jon Moss
 48 Tuttle Road
 Lee, NH 03824-6423

Moss is uniquely qualified to develop the referee program for the FOC. Not only is he a highly rated three-weapon fencing referee, he's gaining renown as an official for USA Swimming ... yet another swordfish!

1999 JO CHAMPIONSHIPS

CADET MEN'S EPEE

1. Solomon, Benjamin J (NORTH OHIO)
2. French, Timothy L (SO. TEXAS)
- 3T Kharchenko, Dennis (NEW JERSEY)
- 3T Miller, David W (ILLINOIS)
5. Banks, Michael (COLORADO)
6. Snyder, Derek P (SO. CALIF.)
7. Redwine, Jake B (SO. TEXAS)
8. Woolley, Melvin L (COLORADO)
9. Kugajevsky, Adam S (CAPITOL)
10. Baldwin, Neal P (INDIANA)
11. Alpern, Noah (BORDER TEX)
12. Carbone, Vincent A (SO. CALIF.)
13. Bralow, Robert (PHILADELPH)
14. Cintron, Alexis A (METRO NYC)
15. Anderson, James B (BORDER TEX)
16. Dreyfus, Michael D (LONG ISLND)
17. Miranda, Michael (NEW JERSEY)
18. Durante, Eric T (CENTRAL CA)
19. Clay-Greene, Algernon E (SO. CALIF.)
20. McElhenny, Trevor F (GEORGIA)
21. Cavan, James E (METRO NYC)
22. Rando, R. Gian-Ca (NORTH TEX)
23. Sanders, Michael A (SO. TEXAS)
24. LuSane, David E (NEW JERSEY)
25. Guevara, Joshua (NORTH TEX)
26. Grantham, Mark A (SO. TEXAS)
27. Ludwick, Kasdon P (COLORADO)
28. O'Connell, Patrick T (OREGON)
29. Huff, David O (COLORADO)
30. Nemcosky, Christophe (CAPITOL)
31. Sternberg, John N (ST. LOUIS)
32. Myers, John T (N.CAROLINA)
33. Karasin, Mark (NEW JERSEY)
34. Brown, James C (GEORGIA)
35. DesRoches, Joshua A (GEORGIA)
36. Gable, Vincent T (SO. TEXAS)
37. Bazilevich, Andrew (NEW JERSEY)
38. Brown, Zachary (WISCONSIN)
39. Erown, Joseph E (CAPITOL)
40. Fettig, Adam M (COLORADO)
41. Wirz, Severin I (NEW JERSEY)
42. Spence, James T (N.CAROLINA)
43. Harris, Jacob M (ILLINOIS)
44. Bratton, Benjamin E (METRO NYC)
45. Baehr, Michael F (HUDS-BERKS)
46. Rohrbach, James H (CAPITOL)
47. Wanless, Eric N (OREGON)
48. Gummesson, Chris M (SO. CALIF.)
49. King, Robert F (CAPITOL)
50. Waddoups, Andrew N (NORTH TEX)
- 51T Hoffmann, Thomas J (WISCONSIN)
- 51T Johnson, Nick G. M (NORTH CA)
- 51T Santi, Jared E (LONG ISLND)
54. Chen, Dan (ILLINOIS)
55. Cox, Matthew T (PHILADELPH)
56. Rose, Julian M (CONNECTCUT)
57. Gross, Brian J (NORTH OHIO)
58. Beski, Johnny J (COLORADO)
59. Kassimir, Spencer V (LONG ISLND)
60. Jung, Ken (CENTRAL CA)
61. Bethel, Dylan A (NORTH CA)
62. Wangner, Ryan P (LONG ISLND)
63. Jones, Christophe (CENTRAL CA)
64. Mangham, Tanner S (AK-LA-MISS)
65. Buckner II, Lloyd H (CAPITOL)
66. Meidell, Philip R (ARIZONA)
67. Echave, Christophe (CAPITOL)
68. Jacob, Ashwin T (NEW JERSEY)
69. Galanter, Craig R (BORDER TEX)
70. Jones, William S (ST. LOUIS)
71. Galvin, Matthew (HUDS-BERKS)
72. Lee, Martin J (CENTRAL CA)

73. Quan, Michael S (SO. CALIF.)
74. Marlin, Evan S (SO. TEXAS)
75. Netwal, Andrew D (MINNESOTA)
76. Bouloubasis, Matthew (WESTERN PA)
77. Muri, Ethan M (CENTRAL PA)
78. Huskey, Adam S (S.CAROLINA)
79. Korb, Sam N (NEW JERSEY)
80. Clark, Royal L (NORTHEAST)
81. Alexander, Michael W (SO. CALIF.)
82. Donaker, Gregory J (CENTRAL CA)
83. Zgaljic, Davor (NEW JERSEY)
84. Terreault, Matthew J (NEW JERSEY)

109. Pendergrass, Mark J (TENNESSEE)
110. Bishe, Bryan R (NEW JERSEY)
111. Leach, John C (AK-LA-MISS)
112. Blankenship, Jonathan (TENNESSEE)
113. Shybut, Christophe (SW OHIO)
114. Dagenhart, Scott V (N.CAROLINA)
- 115T Bailey, Nick-W (TENNESSEE)
- 115T Ridder, Joshua K (GOLD COAST)

CADET MEN'S FOIL

1. Sinkin, Gabriel M (WESTERN NY)
2. Menaldino, Derek S (PHILADELPH)

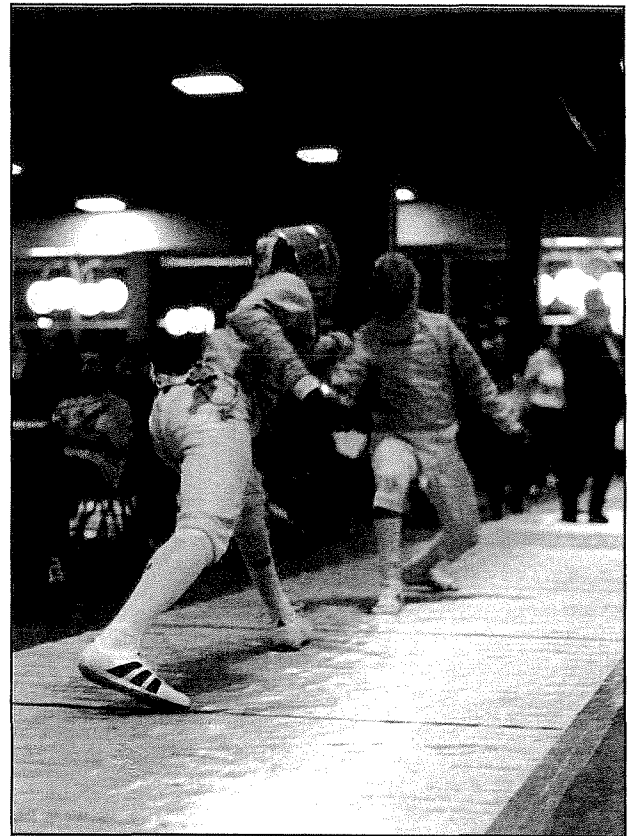


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85. Verigan, William R (NEW JERSEY)
86. Williams, Eric A (TENNESSEE)
87. Basek, Alex V (HUDS-BERKS)
- 88T Loomis, Thaddeus M (UTAH/S.IDA)
- 88T Paden, Joseph D (TENNESSEE)
90. Spicer, Richard J (GULFCST TX)
91. Stockdale, Jason T (PHILADELPH)
92. Symons, Zachary A (CENTRAL PA)
93. Pepe, Stephen (NEW JERSEY)
94. Moneymaker, Colin T (KENTUCKY)
- 95T Smith, Christophe (SO. CALIF.)
- 95T Walker, Patrick B (AK-LA-MISS)
97. Riso, Mark (GOLD COAST)
98. Jimenez, Ricardo E (BORDER TEX)
99. Ditzel, Joseph N (NEW JERSEY)
100. Romney, Jason J (NEW MEXICO)
101. Monaghan, John P (NEW JERSEY)
102. Eisner, Jake W (METRO NYC)
103. Lindblom, Ian P (WEST-ROCK)
104. Vail, Bruce D (GEORGIA)
105. Swain, Conner A. (ALASKA)
106. Carbone, Matthew (MARYLAND)
107. Meents, Ian P (GEORGIA)
108. Hirtle, David E (NEWENGLAND)
- 3T Dunn, Ryan M (KANSAS)
- 3T Snyder, Derek P (SO. CALIF.)
5. Bras, Alejandro (NEWENGLAND)
6. Wittie, Mike R (LONG ISLND)
7. Gerberman, Steven B (ILLINOIS)
8. Stokes, William Ju (METRO NYC)
9. DesRoches, Christophe (GEORGIA)
10. Miller, Chris J (KANSAS)
11. Nowak, Matthew G (WEST-ROCK)
12. Banks, Michael (COLORADO)
13. Vial, Ivan N (WEST-ROCK)
14. Carter, Jonathan H (WEST-ROCK)
15. King, Robert F (CAPITOL)
16. Durante, Eric T (CENTRAL CA)
17. Mosca, Nicholas D (OKLAHOMA)
18. Thornton-Close, Tarquin (METRO NYC)
19. Vogeler, Paul J (COLUMBUSOH)
20. Donaker, Gregory J (CENTRAL CA)
21. Pencavel, Chris J (CENTRAL CA)
22. Stauble, Andrew (KENTUCKY)
23. Decker, Alexander (CENTRAL CA)
24. Brown, Joseph E (CAPITOL)
25. Waddoups, Andrew N (NORTH TEX)
26. Sherman, Scott K (ILLINOIS)

RESULTS * 99 JUNIOR OLYMPIC CHAMPIONSHIPS

27. French, Timothy L. (SO. TEXAS)
28. Tsao, Larry O. (NORTH CA)
29. Dickson, Christophe (WEST-ROCK)
30. Ramirez, Benjamin P. (SO. TEXAS)
31. Lee, Martin J. (CENTRAL CA)
32. FENCER EXCLUDED
33. Vail, Bruce D. (GEORGIA)
34. McConkey, Eric N. (KANSAS)
35. Sinkin, Jeremy C. (WESTERN NY)
36. Chen, Dan. (ILLINOIS)
37. Schlaepfer, Ian F. (MT. VALLEY)
38. Clark, Jacob A. (WISCONSIN)
39. Clay-Greene, Algernon E. (SO. CALIF.)
40. Scruby, Jess R. (NORTH TEX)
41. Galligan, Michael J. (GULFCST TX)
42. Matthews, Eli C. (OKLAHOMA)
43. Woodhouse III, Enoch O. (NEWENGLAND)
44. Kirk-Gordon, Dimitri (N. CAROLINA)
45. Sanders, Michael A. (SO. TEXAS)
46. Sohn, Brian (CONNECTCUT)
47. Barrow, Tom A. (OKLAHOMA)
48. Alpern, Noah (BORDER TEX)
49. Wijenayake, Patrick J. (SO. CALIF.)
50. Lence, Bryan R. (UTAH/S. IDA)
- 51T Cousins, Adrian K. (MT. VALLEY)
- 51T Tatasciore, David (PHILADELPH)
53. Rostoker, Benji. (S. JERSEY)
54. Snyder, Julian K. (SO. CALIF.)
55. Jorge, Jeffrey S. (NEWENGLAND)
56. Jimenez, Ricardo E. (BORDER TEX)
- 57T Kleinman, Gabriel R. (ARIZONA)
- 57T Platt, Jesse M. (NEWENGLAND)
59. Kahan, Jeremy S. (CONNECTCUT)
60. Chen, Calvin. (WESTERN WA)
61. Hennig, Tommy A. (VIRGINIA)
62. Santí, Jared E. (LONG ISLAND)
63. Jeon, Sangick I. (CENTRAL CA)
64. Mitchell, John-Paul. (TENNESSEE)
65. Kohn, Benjamin H. (NEBR.-S. DAK)
66. Johnson, Graham B. (METRO NYC)
67. Ludwick, Kasdon P. (COLORADO)
68. Bische, Bryan R. (NEW JERSEY)
69. Ledbetter, Michael S. (TENNESSEE)
70. Lasic, Luka. (NEW JERSEY)
71. Prude, David R. (GEORGIA)
72. Kuno, Malcolm A. (WESTERN WA)
73. Collins, Gregory J. (WESTERN PA)
74. Todaro, Nicholas S. (AK-LA-MISS)
75. Royer, Jeffrey S. (SW OHIO)
76. Sherrill, Philip W. (NEW JERSEY)
77. Vandenberg-Rodes, Alexander (NORTHEAST)
- 78T Macfarlane, William F. (MARYLAND)
- 78T Myers, John T. (N. CAROLINA)
80. Greco, Daniel L. (METRO NYC)
81. Walker, Patrick B. (AK-LA-MISS)
82. Gallegos, Maxx A. (NEW MEXICO)
83. Teng, Kris Y. (CENTRAL CA)
84. Mannino, Raphael T. (NEW JERSEY)
85. Ivy, Adam J. (NORTHEAST)
86. Carbone, Matthew (MARYLAND)
87. Galanter, Craig R. (BORDER TEX)
88. Murphy, Carl. (NEW MEXICO)
89. Ciccicone, Michael J. (CONNECTCUT)
90. Halvorsen, Jonathan. (HUDS-BERKS)

91. Bracich, Jason M. (INDIANA)
92. Witmer, Bryan D. (NEW JERSEY)
93. Wijenayake, Michael. (SO. CALIF.)
94. Best, Michael W. (HARRISBURG)
95. Kopelman, Andrew W. (WEST-ROCK)
96. Smith, Christophe. (SO. CALIF.)
97. Wanless, Eric N. (OREGON)
98. Anderson, James B. (BORDER TEX)
99. Park, Daniel S. (OKLAHOMA)
100. Wilson, Peter C. (NORTHEAST)
101. Mooney, Jeffery A. (NEWENGLAND)

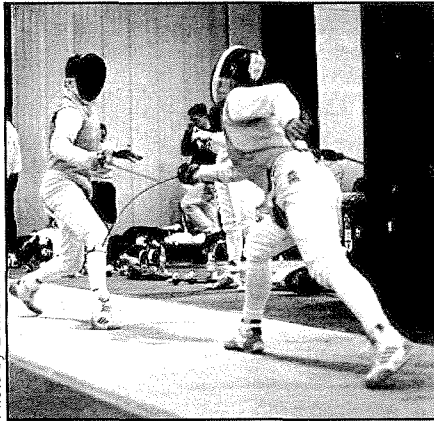


Photo by Lisa Slater

102. Reiter, Michael. (NEW JERSEY)
103. Koogler, Matthew J. (SW OHIO)
- 104T Kitto, Clifford W. (NEW JERSEY)
- 104T Swain, Conner A. (ALASKA)
- 104T Talbott, Walter A. (SAN DIEGO)
107. Kaskan, Peter E. (SO. TEXAS)
- 108T Clemons, Luke A. (MINNESOTA)
- 108T Frost, Jonathan G. (SO. TEXAS)
110. Manis, Larry. (METRO NYC)
111. Norskog, Andrew. (NEW MEXICO)
112. O'Connell, Patrick T. (OREGON)
113. Gummesson, Chris M. (SO. CALIF.)
114. Gulley, Benjamin L. (N. CAROLINA)
115. Pendergrass, Mark J. (TENNESSEE)
116. Bernstein, Justin S. (GEORGIA)
117. Leach, John C. (AK-LA-MISS)
118. Surma, James R. (NORTH CA)
119. Persinger, Robert J. (TENNESSEE)
120. Bouloubasis, Matthew. (WESTERN PA)
- 121T Lawrie, William. (NEW JERSEY)
- 121T Riso, Mark. (GOLD COAST)
- 123T Mangham, Tanner S. (AK-LA-MISS)
- 123T Pechstedt, Daniel D. (SO. CALIF.)
125. Grantham, Mark A. (SO. TEXAS)
126. Sirlin, Craig A. (LONG ISLAND)
127. Virkus, Cameron E. (S. CAROLINA)
128. Cheung, Oswald W.H. (METRO NYC)
129. Caven, Alexander. (WESTERN NY)
130. Rosen, Zack. (WESTERN PA)
131. Fettig, Adam M. (COLORADO)
132. Egan, John J. (NEW JERSEY)
133. Cranfill, Drew A. (N. CAROLINA)
134. Paden, Joseph D. (TENNESSEE)
135. Kassimir, Spencer V. (LONG ISLAND)
136. Cardillo, Kristian I. (NEWENGLAND)
137. Naebers, Michael C. (MICHIGAN)
138. Kitada, Nathan D. (CENTRAL CA)
139. Jefferson, Charles E. (CONNECTCUT)
140. Humphreys, J.R., Ricar. (WESTERN WA)
141. Johnson, Daniel P. (NEW JERSEY)
142. Spence, James T. (N. CAROLINA)
143. Talbott, George C. (SAN DIEGO)

144. Speckenbach, Matthew. (LONG ISLAND)
145. Howard, W. Reid. (VIRGINIA)
146. Schibilia, Jesse A. (NEW JERSEY)
147. Marshall, Zachary L. (ILLINOIS)
148. McDaniel, John-Todd. (AK-LA-MISS)
149. Faggard, Clay. (ALABAMA)
150. Harrell, Charles A. (NEW JERSEY)
151. Samulski, Joe. (COLUMBUSOH)
152. Brennand, Christophe. (NEW MEXICO)
153. Sumrall, Vincent S. (GULFCST TX)
154. Cheek, John D. (NEW MEXICO)
155. Ridder, Joshua K. (GOLD COAST)

35. FENCER EXCLUDED
36. Newman, David A. (S. JERSEY)
37. Izzolino, Joseph. (NEW JERSEY)
38. Merrick, Thomas M. (KENTUCKY)
39. Dolata, Phillip P. (HUDS-BERKS)
40. Genzer, Danny H. (S. JERSEY)
41. Spurlock, Ian L. (NEW JERSEY)
42. Wolf, Matthew C. (LONG ISLAND)
43. Younger, Josh D. (NEW JERSEY)
44. Garney, Benjamin J. (OREGON)
45. Cooper, Charles B. (KANSAS)
46. Hensen, Andrew C. (NEW JERSEY)
47. McDowell, Edward B. (NEW JERSEY)
48. Pagel, Derek E. (MT. VALLEY)
- 49T Stearns, Matthew J. (MINNESOTA)
- 49T Zadeh, David A. (HUDS-BERKS)
- 51T Baehr, Michael F. (HUDS-BERKS)
- 51T Gonzalez, George J. (NEW JERSEY)
53. Kvoles, Tyler K. (GATEWAY FL)
54. Smith, Christophe. (S. JERSEY)
55. Gross, Jeffrey C. (LONG ISLAND)
56. Vashro, Layne J. (MINNESOTA)
57. Diacou, Ari M. (METRO NYC)
58. Duffy, Patrick S. (NORTH OHIO)
59. Kitada, Nathan D. (CENTRAL CA)
60. Ledbetter, Michael S. (TENNESSEE)
61. Lung, Jonathan Y. (WEST-ROCK)
62. Barnes, Matthew. (VIRGINIA)
- 63T Duncan-Hay, Tyler H. (KENTUCKY)
- 63T Silverberg, Alexander. (ILLINOIS)
65. Finder, Christophe. (SO. TEXAS)
66. Scelfo, Tony W. (CONNECTCUT)
67. Davis, Alex. (PHILADELPH)
68. Beard-Canfield, Ethan. (NORTHEAST)

CADET MEN'S SABER

1. Parker, G. Colin. (GEORGIA)
2. Clement, Luther C. (KANSAS)
- 3T Igoe, Byron A. (METRO NYC)
- 3T Rogers, Jason N. (SO. CALIF.)
5. Thomson, Vernon R. (MT. VALLEY)
6. Magee, Andrew P. (KENTUCKY)
7. Whitmer, Darrin S. (MICHIGAN)
8. Ghattas, Patrick E. (OREGON)
9. Berman, Thomas D. (SO. CALIF.)
10. FENCER EXCLUDED
11. Frank, Richard A. (SO. CALIF.)
12. Boorstin, Adam S. (SO. CALIF.)
13. Momtselidze, Mike. (KANSAS)
14. Etropolis, Mihail V. (METRO NYC)
15. Greene, Joseph T. (GEORGIA)
16. DeMatteis, Jared W. (NEW JERSEY)



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17. Hagamen, Timothy H. (METRO NYC)
18. Douville, David A. (GEORGIA)
19. Krul, Alexander. (SO. CALIF.)
20. Williams, James L. (MT. VALLEY)
21. Jakus, David J. (METRO NYC)
22. Zagunis, Marten R. (OREGON)
23. Bartron, Samuel P. (HUDS-BERKS)
24. Aldama-Chase, Camilo. (SO. CALIF.)
25. Andrus, Curtis A. (MT. VALLEY)
26. Courtney, Matthew A. (MT. VALLEY)
27. Kirberger, Eric A. (NEW JERSEY)
28. Crompton, Adam C. (NEW JERSEY)
29. Smith, Dwayne A. (METRO NYC)
30. Isaacs, Joshua A. (KANSAS)
31. Buchi, Steven E. (PHILADELPH)
32. Paul, Jason. (SO. CALIF.)
33. Forehand, Robert A. (MT. VALLEY)
34. Pavlovich, Michael M. (HUDS-BERKS)

69. Reback, Max A. (NEW JERSEY)
70. Parkins, Zachary R. (GULFCST TX)
71. Hwang, Han W. (N. CAROLINA)
72. Lerner, David. (KANSAS)
73. Sudia, David M. (NORTH CA)
74. Walker, Patrick B. (AK-LA-MISS)
75. Leach, John C. (AK-LA-MISS)
76. Sutherland Jr., Richard. (LOUISIANA)
77. Uphoff, Eric C. (GULFCST TX)
78. Diacou, Nicholas S. (METRO NYC)
79. Brewster, Matthew A. (NEW JERSEY)
80. Bernstein, Justin S. (GEORGIA)
- 81T Campbell, Adam T. (LOUISIANA)
- 81T Loomis, Thaddeus M. (UTAH/S. IDA)
83. Sherden, Nathaniel. (NEWENGLAND)
84. Yang, Davis. (NORTH CA)

CADET WOMEN'S EPEE

1. Walton, Kerry E (NORTHEAST)
2. Chin, Meredith M (NEWENGLAND)
- 3T McGlade, Jasmine A (COLORADO)
- 3T Park, Gaelyn M (KENTUCKY)
5. Leighton, Eleanor T (INDIANA)
6. Harris, Caitlin E (SO. TEXAS)
7. Rurarz-Huygens, Livia D (CAPITOL)
8. Hohensee, Kira L (NORTHEAST)
9. Jacobson, Raelyn P (CENTRAL CA)
10. Kercosmar, Anne B (NORTH OHIO)
11. LeDonne, Annemarie (NEW JERSEY)
12. Forsythe, Sara M (NEW JERSEY)
13. Kehoe, Rebecca L (LONG ISLND)
14. Mendel, Lucy R (N.CAROLINA)
15. Inman, Irena W (NORTHEAST)

35. Gearhart, Sherice N (SO. TEXAS)
36. Korb, Erica M (PHILADELPH)
37. McGarry, Erin Laine (SO. TEXAS)
38. Ambort, Chelsea A (CENTRAL CA)
39. Winkelstern, Simran (WESTERN NY)
40. Schafer, Kimberly E (NEW JERSEY)
41. Mangones, Andrea (LONG ISLND)
42. Park, Sarah S (OKLAHOMA)
43. Bohrer, Victoria A (ILLINOIS)
44. Evensen, Keira L (NORTHEAST)
45. Friede, Keren (NEW JERSEY)
- 46T Kolakowski, Kathleen (LONG ISLND)
- 46T Remaly, Jessica L (NEW JERSEY)
48. Collet, Lauren J (HUDS-BERKS)
- 49T Alexander, Claire S (MINNESOTA)
- 49T Brendler, Kaela J (SO. TEXAS)
51. Szarwark, Catherine (TENNESSEE)

70. Wortham, Meghan E (SO. CALIF.)
71. Neu, Andrea E (GATEWAY FL)
72. Remaly, Megan A (NEW JERSEY)
73. Jennings, Jessica P (CENTRAL CA)
74. Williams, Ashley D (TENNESSEE)
75. Duszynski, Jennifer L (WISCONSIN)
76. Helmich, Adria N (NEW MEXICO)
77. Cockburn, Jennifer R (AK-LA-MISS)
78. Pruzan, Amy P (WESTERN WA)

60. Richardson, Meredith (TENNESSEE)
61. Brzeski, Valerie A (WISCONSIN)
62. Everett, Meghan E (NEW JERSEY)
63. Clouatre, Erin M (OKLAHOMA)
64. Jiang, Crystal (NEW JERSEY)
65. Pike, Julia R (GULFCST TX)
66. Murphy, Katherine (NEW MEXICO)
67. Mendel, Lucy R (N.CAROLINA)
68. Shepard, Kait D (TENNESSEE)
69. Mendelsohn, Alisa R (LONG ISLND)
70. Bennett, Katie Y (ILLINOIS)
71. Collins, Starla D (N.CAROLINA)

CADET WOMEN'S FOIL

1. Cavan, Kathryn M (METRO NYC)
2. Luitjen, Cassidy C (SO. TEXAS)
- 3T Thompson, Hannah (WESTERN NY)
- 3T Thompson, Metta K (WESTERN NY)
5. Cross, Emily R (METRO NYC)
6. Selkirk, Zane C (METRO NYC)
7. Leahy, Jacqueline (COLORADO)
8. Toland, Jennifer R (MT. VALLEY)
9. Joseph, Jennifer (ORANGE CST)
10. Florendo, Jessica S (METRO NYC)
11. Lewis-Turner, Jessica (PHILADELPH)
12. Menaldino, Janeane (PHILADELPH)
13. Stinetorf, Chloe L (NORTH CA)
14. Hergenhan, Jean (LONG ISLND)
15. Gillispie, Margo (ILLINOIS)
16. Humblet, Emmanuelle (NEWENGLAND)
17. Vega, Keeley (MT. VALLEY)
18. Lindsay, Lavinia C (PHILADELPH)
19. Breden, Senta E (CAPITOL)
20. Nelson, Amanda L (NEBR-S.DAK)
21. Korb, Erica M (PHILADELPH)
22. Gearhart, Sherice N (SO. TEXAS)
23. Leighton, Eleanor T (INDIANA)
24. Eurdolian, Alexandra (NEWENGLAND)
25. Hiss, Sophie C (OKLAHOMA)
26. McGlade, Jasmine A (COLORADO)
27. Symonds, Samantha (GULFCST TX)
28. Rosenberg, Monica K (VIRGINIA)
- 29T Hultgren, Megan E (ST. LOUIS)
- 29T Mangones, Andrea (LONG ISLND)
31. Malinovskaya, Taisa (METRO NYC)
32. Orlandi, Camilla J (NEW JERSEY)
33. DeFabio, Erica C (NEW JERSEY)
34. Ferland, Leanda B (NEWENGLAND)
35. Jew-Lim, Sara E (CENTRAL CA)
36. Schemmer, Katharine (NEWENGLAND)
37. Hochster, Alexandra (METRO NYC)
38. Allen, Sara E (SAN DIEGO)
39. Kohn, Elizabeth (NEBR-S.DAK)
40. Krasner, Rebecca E (NORTHEAST)
41. Rush, Allison (COLORADO)
42. Myers, Kari A (S. JERSEY)
43. Moffett, Sara S (CAPITOL)
44. Pruzan, Amy P (WESTERN WA)
45. Ramirez, Mercedes (ILLINOIS)
46. Dewey, Aislinn A (NEWENGLAND)
47. Walsh, Colleen J (INDIANA)
48. Vazquez, Natalie N (NEW JERSEY)
49. Helmer, Victoria A (NEW JERSEY)
50. Puzzkarczuk, Ivona K (NEW JERSEY)
51. Smith, Rachel S (WESTERN PA)
52. Ahmad, Sameen I (NEW JERSEY)
53. DeFabio, Monica N (NEW JERSEY)
54. Ekmann, Kate M (WESTERN PA)
55. Varcadipane, Jessica (NEW JERSEY)
56. Ambort, Chelsea A (CENTRAL CA)
- 57T Mendel, Gemma L (N.CAROLINA)
- 57T Sandage, Katie R (VIRGINIA)
59. Louis, Elizabeth (NEW MEXICO)

CADET WOMEN'S SABER

1. Pack, Catherine (NEW JERSEY)
2. Gelman, Julia (METRO NYC)
- 3T Jacobson, Sada M (GEORGIA)
- 3T Macarow, Amy K (MT. VALLEY)
5. Crane, Christina (GEORGIA)
6. Meyers, Stephanie (ILLINOIS)
7. Yi, Si (Eunice) (ILLINOIS)
8. James, Rosemary K (MT. VALLEY)
9. Gaillard, Amelia F (GEORGIA)
- 10T Rake, Madeline O (KANSAS)
- 10T Wade, Kristina A (PHILADELPH)
12. Filkins, Jessie M (ILLINOIS)
13. Nelson, Amanda L (NEBR-S.DAK)
14. Kasprovicz, Aneta (NEW JERSEY)
15. Peck, Marisa J (SO. CALIF.)
16. Frambach, Mary P (WISCONSIN)
17. Collet, Lauren J (HUDS-BERKS)
18. Wieronski, Katarzyna (NEW JERSEY)
19. Siebert, Syvanna B (KANSAS)
20. Karako, Christina (WESTERN PA)
21. Miller, Yael K (SO. CALIF.)
22. Westfield, Tara A (PHILADELPH)
23. Myers, Kari A (S. JERSEY)
24. Lackner, Diane E (KANSAS)
25. Lukash, Sarah B (LONG ISLND)
26. Clark, Lindsey R (NEW JERSEY)
27. Bohr, Jessica A (MINNESOTA)
28. Rogal, Kelly L (CENTRAL CA)
29. Block, Caroline M (CONNECTCUT)
30. Giddon, Sloane J (LONG ISLND)
31. Marshall, Callie (ILLINOIS)
32. Mayer, Maggie L (WISCONSIN)
33. Fryszczyn, Catherine (NEW JERSEY)
34. Baehr, Kristin A (HUDS-BERKS)
35. Stroud, Julia D (KANSAS)
36. Steyer, Meredith J (NEWENGLAND)
37. Adcock, Rachel P (AK-LA-MISS)
38. Dunn, Lauren (MT. VALLEY)
39. Lewellen, Jessica B (WESTERN WA)
40. Cockburn, Jennifer R (AK-LA-MISS)
41. Miller, Kelliah A (PHILADELPH)
42. Loomis, Adelia J (UTAH/S.IDA)
43. Campbell, Elizabeth (N.CAROLINA)

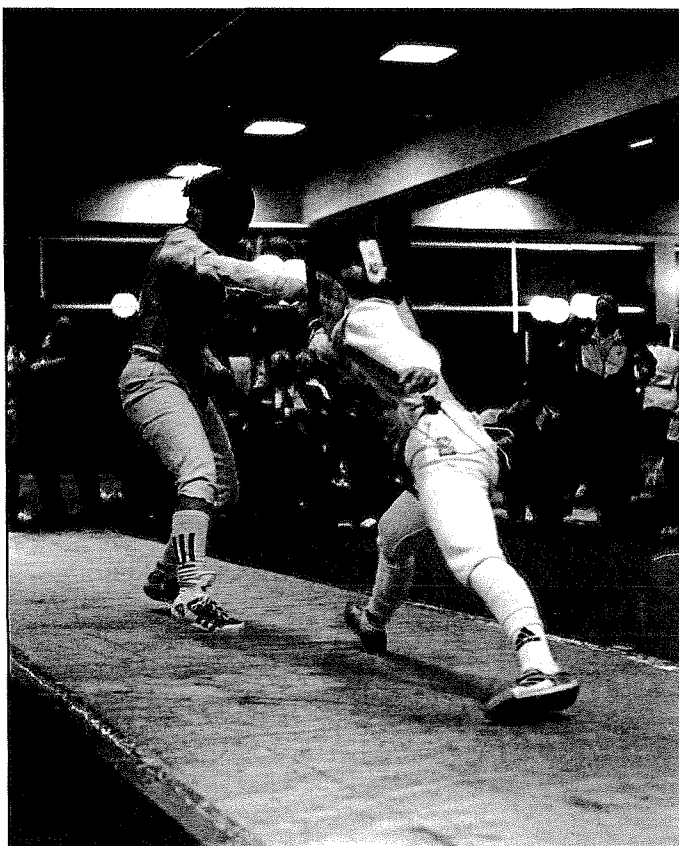


Photo by Lisa Slater

16. Mendel, Gemma L (N.CAROLINA)
17. Murphy-Price, Marion (COLORADO)
18. Gillispie, Margo (ILLINOIS)
- 19T Goto, Jean M (METRO NYC)
- 19T Schirtz, Alli M (WESTERN NY)
21. Viviani, Kristina V (METRO NYC)
22. Koelle, Jennifer E (ILLINOIS)
- 23T Kreidman, Elizabeth (LONG ISLND)
- 23T Valestin, Wednesday (NEW JERSEY)
25. Lewis-Turner, Jessica (PHILADELPH)
26. Richardson, Meredith (TENNESSEE)
27. Sargent, Stephanie (NEW JERSEY)
28. Hachtmann, Kristen L (NEW JERSEY)
29. Megowan, Christine (SO. CALIF.)
30. Phair, Meghan D (LONG ISLND)
31. Baron, Sarah W (CONNECTCUT)
32. Ahmad, Sameen I (NEW JERSEY)
33. Karako, Christina (WESTERN PA)
34. Punaro, Amy A (NORTH TEX)

52. Hendry, Tiffany N (ST. LOUIS)
53. Glaser, Stephanie (LONG ISLND)
54. Lierman, Nikki L (WISCONSIN)
55. Shepard, Kait D (TENNESSEE)
56. Ehrlich, Laura E (NORTH CA)
57. Loomis, Adelia J (UTAH/S.IDA)
58. Firoz, Solmaz (NEW JERSEY)
59. Shea, Caitlyn A (NEWENGLAND)
- 60T Browne, Jeanne L (NEW JERSEY)
- 60T Plekhanov, Marguerite (NEW JERSEY)
62. Ferrer, Ivana R (N.CAROLINA)
63. James, Stephanie (NEW JERSEY)
64. Holzman, Sarah C (HUDS-BERKS)
65. De La Llave, Laura (NEW JERSEY)
66. Willeck, Hanne J (ALASKA)
67. Smith, Rachel S (WESTERN PA)
68. Yancy, Alice J (AK-LA-MISS)
69. Vila, Sharon Y (GOLD COAST)

JUNIOR MEN'S EPEE

1. Thompson, Soren (SAN DIEGO)
2. Casas, Arnold B (INDIANA)
- 3T Solomon, Benjamin J (NORTH OHIO)
- 3T Viviani, Jansson J (METRO NYC)
5. Clarke, Scott (COLORADO)
6. Greenhouse, Rashaan (METRO NYC)
7. Laiving, Brandon (NORTH TEX)
8. Banks, Michael (COLORADO)
9. Carlson, Jesse (SAN BERNAR)
10. Benson, James W (NORTHEAST)
11. Jones, Alan F (ST. LOUIS)
12. Singh, Ranjeet G (METRO NYC)

RESULTS * 99 JUNIOR OLYMPIC CHAMPIONSHIPS

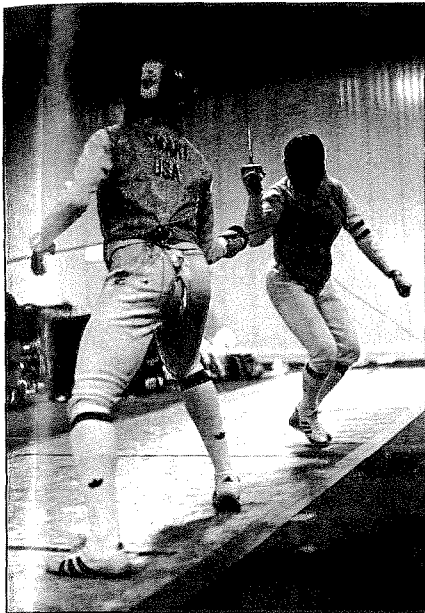
13. Wolf, Brian A (WESTERN NY)
14. Jung, Ken (CENTRAL CA)
15. Cavan, James E (METRO NYC)
16. Fitzgerald, Matthew C (NEW JERSEY)
17. Garcia, Javier (NEW JERSEY)
18. Redwine, Jake B (SO. TEXAS)
19. St. Francis, John M (NORTH CA)
20. Slifka, Gabriel A (NEW JERSEY)

58. Ludwick, Kasdon P (COLORADO)
59. Huff, David O (COLORADO)
60. Walker, Patrick B (AK-LA-MISS)
61. Hohensee, Michael A (NORTHEAST)
62. Rose, Julian M (CONNECTICUT)
63. Chiu, Christophe (INDIANA)
64. Jimenez, Ricardo E (BORDER TEX)
65. Meidell, Philip R (ARIZONA)
66. Rando, R. Gian-Ca (NORTH TEX)
67. Jones, William S (ST. LOUIS)
68. Guevara, Joshua (NORTH TEX)
69. Erbele, Isaac D (SAN BERNAR)
70. Bethel, Dylan A (NORTH CA)
- 71T Goepfert, Barry T. (LONG ISLND)
- 71T Thordarson, Paul J (NEWENGLAND)
73. Capdet III, Juan (METRO NYC)
74. Hoffmann, Thomas J (WISCONSIN)
75. Slep, Mitchell W (NEW JERSEY)
76. Lindblom, Derek (WEST-ROCK)
77. Caputo Jr., Steven A (NEW JERSEY)
78. Lee, Martin J (CENTRAL CA)
79. Penley, Daniel J (ILLINOIS)
80. Kammerman, Casey J (SW OHIO)
81. Myers, John T (N. CAROLINA)
82. Cox, Matthew T (PHILADELPH)
83. Westphal, Cameron E (KANSAS)
84. Wilson, Joseph L (NEW JERSEY)
85. Dreyfus, Michael D (LONG ISLND)
86. Gonzalez III, Trey (AK-LA-MISS)
87. Cintron, Alexis A (METRO NYC)
88. Lane IV, George (NEW JERSEY)
89. Merriam, Dylan A (NORTHEAST)
90. Beski, Johnny J (COLORADO)
91. Merritt, Davis A (NEWENGLAND)
92. Smith, Edward (MT. VALLEY)
93. McConnaughy, Matthew (SO. CALIF.)

128. Riso, Mark (GOLD COAST)
- 129T Carroll, Nathan A (NEW JERSEY)
- 129T Forsyth, Paul A (TENNESSEE)
131. Best, Michael W (HARRISBURG)
132. Oakley, John-Rolf (WESTERN WA)
133. Carey, North J (NEW MEXICO)
134. Erwin, William J. (INDIANA)
135. Blankenship, Jonathan (TENNESSEE)
136. Saye, Matt (AK-LA-MISS)
- 137T Hively, David P (WESTERN PA)
- 137T Lewis, Brandon C (AK-LA-MISS)
139. De la Rosa, Carlos A (WESTERN PA)
- 140T Bagnard, Ryan P (SW OHIO)
- 140T Loomis, Nathaniel (UTAH/S.IDA)
- 140T Ray, Jason K (AK-LA-MISS)
- 143T Arth, Matthew (GULFCST TX)
- 143T Marlin, Evan S (SO. TEXAS)
- 143T Moneymaker, Colin T (KENTUCKY)
146. Hertling, Chris M (TENNESSEE)
147. Limpert, Daniel D (NORTH OHIO)
148. Loomis, Thaddeus M (UTAH/S.IDA)
149. Eisner, Jake W (METRO NYC)
150. Toups, Matt A (LOUISIANA)

JUNIOR MEN'S FOIL

1. Fisher, Joseph E (INDIANA)
2. Tiomkin, Jonathan C (LONG ISLND)
- 3T Nazarov, Aleksandr (NEW JERSEY)
- 3T Rosen, Peter C (METRO NYC)
- 5T Cohen, David A (GULFCST TX)
- 5T Gerberman, Steven B (ILLINOIS)
7. Clarke, Scott (COLORADO)
8. Breden, Roland G (CAPITOL)
9. Carter, Jonathan H (WEST-ROCK)
10. Merritt, Davis A (NEWENGLAND)
11. Kanavel, Charlie (CENTRAL CA)
12. Jew-Lim, Jonathan (CENTRAL CA)
13. Cohen, Yale E (GULFCST TX)
14. Stokes, Robert Nic (METRO NYC)
15. Sinkin, Gabriel M (WESTERN NY)
16. Stodola, Eric K (PHILADELPH)
17. Vial, Ivan N (WEST-ROCK)
18. Wittie, Mike R (LONG ISLND)
- 19T Mulholland, Mark B (NORTH CA)
- 19T Nivelles, Alex B (WEST-ROCK)
21. Nowak, Matthew G (WEST-ROCK)
22. Breen, Jeffrey A (PHILADELPH)
23. Eriksen, Kevin S (NORTHEAST)
24. Bhutta, Omar J (CENTRAL PA)
25. Stokes, William Ju (METRO NYC)
26. Csonka, Paul J (OREGON)
27. Menaldino, Derek S (PHILADELPH)
28. Catino, Matthew J (CONNECTICUT)
29. Schlaepfer, Ian F (MT. VALLEY)
30. Millis, Thomas A (ST. LOUIS)
31. Peyton, Jeffrey B (WISCONSIN)
32. Dubrovich, Gary (NEW JERSEY)
33. DesRoches, Christophe (GEORGIA)
34. Decker, Alexander (CENTRAL CA)
35. Snyder, Derek P (SO. CALIF.)
36. Mosca, Nicholas D (OKLAHOMA)
37. Tsao, Larry O (NORTH CA)
38. Thornton-Close, Tarquin (METRO NYC)
39. Beau, Jeremy (CENTRAL FL)
40. McFadden, Corey L (NEW JERSEY)
41. Gaseor, David J (ST. LOUIS)
42. Clark, Noble B (NORTHEAST)
43. Smith, Nathaniel J (ST. LOUIS)
44. Jones, Christophe (WESTERN WA)
45. King, Robert F (CAPITOL)
46. Lee, Won Chul (METRO NYC)
47. Walton, Forest E (NORTHEAST)
- 48T Aminoff, Jonathan C (NORTH CA)
- 48T Woodhouse III, Enoch (NEWENGLAND)
50. Kreidman, Michael J (LONG ISLND)
51. Radu, Andrew (LONG ISLND)
52. Hiri, Kean D (NORTH TEX)
53. Carrino, David A (ILLINOIS)
54. Guevara, Alvaro Raf (METRO NYC)
55. Sinkin, Jeremy C (WESTERN NY)
56. McConnaughy, Matthew (SO. CALIF.)
57. Sonara, Husien I (METRO NYC)
58. Farrell, Alexander (SO. TEXAS)
59. Grantham, Mark A (SO. TEXAS)
60. Capdet III, Juan (METRO NYC)
- 61T Easterling, Torian J (NEW JERSEY)
- 61T French, Timothy L (SO. TEXAS)
63. Hnath, Brian (COLORADO)
64. Catania, Frank (NEW JERSEY)
65. Creeley, Thomas M (NORTHEAST)
66. Dwyer, Brendan C (NORTH CA)
67. Bellanca, Wesley J (SO. CALIF.)
68. Peterson, Tory R (MICHIGAN)
69. Fitzgerald, Jeff J (NEW JERSEY)
70. Mautone, Steven M (NEW JERSEY)



21. Nemcosky, Christophe (CAPITOL)
22. Baby, Brendan (CENTRAL PA)
23. Kanavel, Charlie (CENTRAL CA)
24. Grantham, Mark A (SO. TEXAS)
25. Eriksen, Scott J (NORTHEAST)
26. Alpern, Noah (BORDER TEX)
27. Johnson, Nick G. M (NORTH CA)
28. Snyder, Derek P (SO. CALIF.)
29. Wirz, Severin I (NEW JERSEY)
30. DesRoches, Joshua A (GEORGIA)
31. Bansal, Avin (NEW JERSEY)
32. Peciak, Jan (COLORADO)
33. Lake, Adam B (WISCONSIN)
34. Mok, Michael (ILLINOIS)
35. Beaver, William S (WEST-ROCK)
36. Huang, Sean C (NORTH TEX)
37. Jones, Christophe (WESTERN WA)
38. LeDonne, John P (NEW JERSEY)
39. Kilgore, Justin B (NEW JERSEY)
40. Fitzgerald, Jeff J (NEW JERSEY)
41. Miller, David W (ILLINOIS)
42. Katsoff, James D (NEW JERSEY)
43. Dirksen, Nathaniel (WESTERN WA)
44. Richardson, Chris D (CENTRAL CA)
45. Brafow, Robert (PHILADELPH)
46. Howard, Zakee (NEWENGLAND)
47. Gaseor, David J (ST. LOUIS)
48. Carbone, Vincent A (SO. CALIF.)
49. Mansfield, Anthony J (VIRGINIA)
50. Anderson, James B (BORDER TEX)
51. Wangner, Ryan P (LONG ISLND)
52. Brown, James C (GEORGIA)
53. Dubrovich, Gary (NEW JERSEY)
54. Moyston, David K (NEW JERSEY)
55. Woolley, Melvin L (COLORADO)
56. Karasin, Mark (NEW JERSEY)
57. Wanless, Eric N (OREGON)

94. Clark, Royal L (NORTHEAST)
95. Claggett, Casey A (CENTRAL CA)
96. Hnath, Brian (COLORADO)
97. Vickery, Daniel S (HARRISBURG)
98. Silva, Steven M (ORANGE CST)
99. Peterson, Jordan (LONG ISLND)
100. Epstein, Eric J (PHILADELPH)
101. Sanders, Michael A (SO. TEXAS)
102. Solomon, Sean (TENNESSEE)
103. Garmon, Brian A (N. CAROLINA)
104. Gross, Brian J (NORTH OHIO)
105. Muri, Ethan M (CENTRAL PA)
106. Clippard, William R. (N. CAROLINA)
107. O'Connell, Patrick T (OREGON)
108. Leach, George C (AK-LA-MISS)
109. Swain, Conner A. (ALASKA)
110. Carlino, Gregory J (COLUMBUSOH)
111. Quan, Michael S (SO. CALIF.)
112. Echave, Christophe (CAPITOL)
113. Beaird, Robert P (AK-LA-MISS)
114. Menzie, William D (HARRISBURG)
- 115T Symons, Zachary A (CENTRAL PA)
- 115T Waddoups, Andrew N (NORTH TEX)
117. Baldwin, Neal P (INDIANA)
118. Perkola, Michael A (PLAINS TEX)
119. Romney, Jason J (NEW MEXICO)
- 120T Galvin, Matthew (HUDS-BERKS)
- 120T Williams, Eric A (TENNESSEE)
122. Schnabel, Greg A (LONG ISLND)
123. Libert, Brian M (LONG ISLND)
124. Prentice, Ryan J (LOUISIANA)
125. Brown, Zachary (WISCONSIN)
126. Garner, Will M (KENTUCKY)
127. Kassimir, Spencer V (LONG ISLND)

Above, Michael Massik USFA Executive Director, hooks up Leslie Marx. Below, Carla Mae Richards, USFA Director of Tournament Services

RESULTS * 99 JUNIOR OLYMPIC CHAMPIONSHIPS

71. Block, W. Reid (WEST-ROCK)
72. Waddoups, Andrew N (NORTH TEX)
73. Clark, Jacob A (WISCONSIN)
74. Ramirez, Benjamin P (SO. TEXAS)
75. Sohn, Brian (CONNECTICUT)
76. Pasinkoff, Michael (LONG ISLAND)
77. Wilson, Peter C (NORTHEAST)
78. McMurray, Matthew S (N.CAROLINA)
79. Olver, Otrá L (CENTRAL CA)
80. Bhutta, Daniel E (WESTERN PA)
81. Schmidt, Ben H (NEWENGLAND)
82. Sanders, Michael A (SO. TEXAS)
83. Gonzalez III, Trey (AK-LA-MISS)
84. Zuilkowski, Steven J (LONG ISLAND)
85. Brown, Joseph E (CAPITOL)
- 86T Brzeski, Jon B (WISCONSIN)
- 86T Durante, Eric T (CENTRAL CA)
- 86T Stanbro, Patrick W (NEW MEXICO)
89. Leach, George C (AK-LA-MISS)
90. Tobia, Joseph S (NEW JERSEY)
91. Carey, North J (NEW MEXICO)
92. Pretrey, Cal C (TENNESSEE)
93. Shea, Gregory M (NEWENGLAND)
94. Vandenberg-Rodes, Alexander (NORTHEAST)
95. Harwood, Martin T (GEORGIA)
96. Rostoker, Benji (S. JERSEY)
97. Ludwick, Kasdon P (COLORADO)
98. Sherman, Scott K (ILLINOIS)
99. Gates, Matthew W (NEW JERSEY)
100. Lee, Martin J (CENTRAL CA)
101. Wall, Robert (SW OHIO)
102. Ferland, Ben S (NEWENGLAND)
103. Sztuk, Matthew C (NEW JERSEY)
104. Sabino, Nicholas A (NEWENGLAND)
105. Haynes, Chad M (N.CAROLINA)
106. Tappan Jr., Charles M (TENNESSEE)
107. Cousens, Adrian K (MT. VALLEY)
108. Carlino, Gregory J (COLUMBUSOH)
109. Dewey, John (WESTERN PA)
110. Saccani, Andrea (CENTRAL CA)
111. Riso, Mark (GOLD COAST)
112. McAnehy, Bren M (ILLINOIS)
113. Lence, Bryan R (UTAH/S.IDA)
114. Everett Jr., R. Lee (VIRGINIA)
- 115T Braese, Niklas (SW OHIO)
- 115T Eftman, Beau A (SAN DIEGO)
- 117T Goldsmith, Jacob E (NEW JERSEY)
- 117T Mitchell, John-Paul (TENNESSEE)
119. Bland III, Richard L (NEW JERSEY)
120. Catapano, Aniello (LONG ISLAND)
121. Santi, Jared E (LONG ISLAND)
- 122T Ivy, Adam J (NORTHEAST)
- 122T Jimenez, Ricardo E (BORDER TEX)
124. Macfarlane, William F (MARYLAND)
125. Alpern, Noah (BORDER TEX)
126. Vogeler, Paul J (COLUMBUSOH)
- 127T Banks, Michael (COLORADO)
- 127T Bianca, Erik J (COLUMBUSOH)
129. Hare, Andrew E (MICHIGAN)
130. Graves, Alan P (TENNESSEE)
131. LeDonne, John P (NEW JERSEY)
132. Lewis, Brandon C (AK-LA-MISS)
133. Oakley, John-Rolf (WESTERN WA)
134. Dawson, Todd M (TENNESSEE)
- 135T Erbele, Isaac D (SAN BERNAR)
- 135T Kleinman, Gabriel R (ARIZONA)
137. Wanless, Eric N (OREGON)
138. Walker, Adam B (NEW JERSEY)
- 139T Ocampo, Chester A (NEW JERSEY)
- 139T Swain, Conner A. (ALASKA)
- 141T Halvorsen, Jonathan (HUDS-BERKS)
- 141T Wijenayake, Michael (SO. CALIF.)
143. Goldsmith, David S (GATEWAY FL)
144. Cardillo, Kristian I (NEWENGLAND)

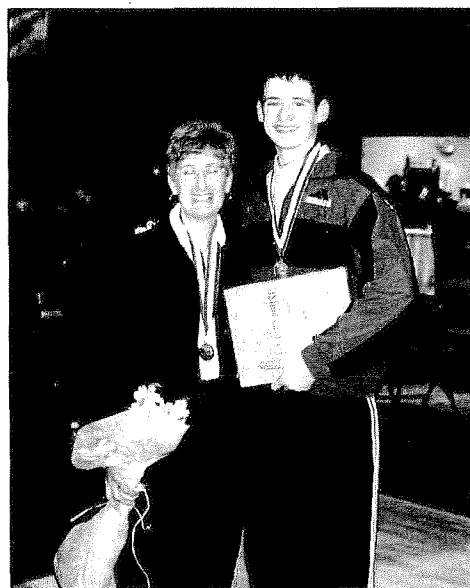
145. Snyder, Julian K (SO. CALIF.)
- 146T Caven, Alexander (WESTERN NY)
- 146T Lane IV, George (NEW JERSEY)
148. Nord, Joseph S (PHILADELPH)
149. Stroud, Andrew N (CENTRAL FL)
- 150T Hochstetler, David J (GULFCST TX)
- 150T Surma, James R (NORTH CA)
152. Form, Stephen R (NEWENGLAND)
153. Lake, Adam B (WISCONSIN)
154. Taylor, James B (VIRGINIA)
155. Bianca, Gregory T (COLUMBUSOH)
- 156T Hooker, Robert P. (INDIANA)
- 156T Kammerman, Casey J (SW OHIO)
- 158T Axford, Seth J (N.CAROLINA)
- 158T Carbone, Matthew (MARYLAND)
160. Lawrie, William (NEW JERSEY)
- 161T Bouloubasis, Matthew (WESTERN PA)
- 161T Myers, John T (N.CAROLINA)
163. Fortier, Christophe (VIRGINIA)
164. Park, Daniel S (OKLAHOMA)
165. Hertling, Chris M (TENNESSEE)
- 166T Chesney, Gregg L (PHILADELPH)
- 166T Talbott, Walter A (SAN DIEGO)
- 166T Tatasciore, David (PHILADELPH)
- 169T Brown, Donald S (GULFCST TX)
- 169T Carbone, Vincent A (SO. CALIF.)
- 169T Wheatley, Patrick V (TENNESSEE)
172. Forsyth, Paul A (TENNESSEE)
173. Todaro, Nicholas S (AK-LA-MISS)
- 174T Colvin, Brandon J (NORTH TEX)
- 174T Hively, David P (WESTERN PA)
176. Roberts, Joshua B (AK-LA-MISS)
177. Johnson, Adam, M.F. (SO. CALIF.)
178. Menzie, William D (HARRISBURG)
179. Clemons, Luke A (MINNESOTA)

JUNIOR MEN'S SABER

1. Rogers, Jason N (SO. CALIF.)
2. Momtselidze, Mike (KANSAS)
- 3T Crompton, Andre (NEW JERSEY)
- 3T Lee, Ivan J (METRO NYC)
5. Whitmer, Darrin S (MICHIGAN)
6. Stuewe, Aaron C (CENTRAL PA)
7. Parker, G. Colin (GEORGIA)
8. Fabricant, Matthew (NEW JERSEY)
9. Mahen, Andrew (NEW JERSEY)
10. Yilla, Ahmed K (METRO NYC)
11. DeMatteis, Jared W (NEW JERSEY)
12. Morgenstern, Michael (MARYLAND)
13. Zampieri, Joseph A (NEW JERSEY)
14. Brosterman, Michael (NEW JERSEY)
15. Clement, Luther C (KANSAS)
16. Ghattas, Patrick E (OREGON)
17. Magee, Andrew P (KENTUCKY)
18. Krul, Alexander (SO. CALIF.)
19. LaValle, David M (METRO NYC)
- 20T Awolusi, Ayodeji M (METRO NYC)
- 20T Hergenhan, Thomas A (LONG ISLAND)
22. Sudo, Mitsuhiro (CONNECTICUT)
23. Greene, Joseph T (GEORGIA)
24. Jakus, David J (METRO NYC)
25. Kasserman, Wyatt (NEW JERSEY)
26. Barrett, J. Christi (NEW JERSEY)
27. Courtney, Matthew A (MT. VALLEY)
28. Sohn, Andrew (CONNECTICUT)
29. Chou, Edward (NEW JERSEY)
30. Hansen, Justin (LONG ISLAND)
31. Thomson, Vernon R (MT. VALLEY)
32. Boorstin, Adam S (SO. CALIF.)
33. Frank, Richard A (SO. CALIF.)
34. Loftin, Guy B (KANSAS)
35. Hendei, Sam (WEST-ROCK)

36. Mathias, Marc (INDIANA)
37. Hagamen, Timothy H (METRO NYC)
38. Zagunis, Marten R (OREGON)
39. Leighton, James B (INDIANA)
40. Douville, David A (GEORGIA)
41. Dewey, John (WESTERN PA)
42. Perry III, Clint S (MT. VALLEY)
43. Silver, Scott E (NEW JERSEY)
44. Etropolis, Mihail V (METRO NYC)
45. Crompton, Adam C (NEW JERSEY)
46. Mazor, Dan (NEW JERSEY)
47. Smith, Dwayne A (METRO NYC)

83. Gonzalez III, Trey (AK-LA-MISS)
84. Finder, Christophe (SO. TEXAS)
85. Sternberg III, Robert V (ST. LOUIS)
86. Gasthalter, Adam B (WEST-ROCK)
- 87T Kirberger, Eric A (NEW JERSEY)
- 87T Szathmary, Kevin (S.CAROLINA)
89. Davis, Alex (PHILADELPH)
90. Merrick, Thomas M (KENTUCKY)
91. Cliffe, Ian S (WISCONSIN)
92. Carey, Jonathan U (NEWENGLAND)
93. Roberts, Joshua B (AK-LA-MISS)
94. Tedder, James A (AK-LA-MISS)



Gabe Sinkin, Junior Olympic Cadet Foil Champion, with his coach, Nat Goodhartz, who received a matching gold medal.

48. Igoe, Byron A (METRO NYC)
49. Siebert, Kitzeln B (KANSAS)
50. Andrus, Curtis A (MT. VALLEY)
51. Wolff, Jason M (SO. CALIF.)
52. Steele, James D (N.CAROLINA)
53. Bartron, Samuel P (HUDS-BERKS)
54. Jacobson, Noah C (MINNESOTA)
55. Buchi, Steven E (PHILADELPH)
56. Pack, Ronald (NEW JERSEY)
57. Izzolino, Joseph (NEW JERSEY)
58. Klein, Andrew J (NEW JERSEY)
59. Williams, James L (MT. VALLEY)
60. Carr, Robert L. (INDIANA)
61. Isaacs, Joshua A (KANSAS)
62. Beyer, David A (N.CAROLINA)
63. Wolf, Matthew C. (LONG ISLAND)
64. Pretrey, Cal C (TENNESSEE)
65. Senasu, Theodore T (INDIANA)
66. Berman, Thomas D (SO. CALIF.)
67. Duncan-Hay, Tyler H (KENTUCKY)
68. Forehand, Robert A (MT. VALLEY)
69. Odes, Quentin I (ILLINOIS)
70. Vashro, Layne J (MINNESOTA)
71. Palatsky, Brent J (NEW JERSEY)
72. Newman, David A (S. JERSEY)
73. Cohen, Benjamin D (LONG ISLAND)
74. Costa, Timothy S (WISCONSIN)
75. Lerner, David (KANSAS)
76. Cooper, Charles B (KANSAS)
77. Bailey-Yavonditte, Daniel (HUDS-BERKS)
78. Hunt, Corey M (COLORADO)
79. Genzer, Danny H (S. JERSEY)
80. Bishop, Eric P (NORTH OHIO)
81. Lathrop, Frederic W (COLORADO)
82. Dubois, Scott D (NORTHEAST)

- 95T Lieu, James J (ILLINOIS)
- 95T Sudia, David M (NORTH CA)
97. Gross, Jeffrey C (LONG ISLAND)
98. Kvals, Tyler K (GATEWAY FL)
99. Dolata, Philip P (HUDS-BERKS)
100. Yang, Davis (NORTH CA)
101. Jakelsky, John (COLUMBUSOH)
- 102T Freeman, Smith A. M (NEW JERSEY)
- 102T Tappan Jr., Charles M (TENNESSEE)
104. Sutherland Jr., Richard (LOUISIANA)
- 105T DeBrosse, Mark A (SW OHIO)
- 105T Holloway, Robert D (VIRGINIA)
- 105T Parkins, Zachary R (GULFCST TX)
- 108T Ray, Jason K (AK-LA-MISS)
- 108T Scelfo, Tony W (CONNECTICUT)
110. Shick, Ryan m. (SW OHIO)
111. Loomis, Nathaniel (UTAH/S.IDA)
112. Glaze, Kipp J. (GEORGIA)
113. Garney, Benjamin J (OREGON)

JUNIOR WOMEN'S FOIL

1. Thompson, Hannah (WESTERN NY)
2. Ament, Andrea E (NORTH OHIO)
- 3T Cross, Emily R (METRO NYC)
- 3T Selkirk, Zane C (METRO NYC)
- 5T Cavan, Kathryn M (METRO NYC)
- 5T Florendo, Jessica S (METRO NYC)
- 5T Leahy, Jacqueline (COLORADO)
8. Dorf, Kristen M (MINNESOTA)
9. Thompson, Metta K (WESTERN NY)
10. Thottam, Elizabeth (SO. CALIF.)
11. Rostal, Mindy K (MINNESOTA)
12. Luitjen, Cassidy C (SO. TEXAS)

RESULTS * 99 JUNIOR OLYMPIC CHAMPIONSHIPS

13. Hergenhan, Jean (LONG ISLAND)
14. Borresen, Karen (WESTERN NY)
15. Breden, Senta E (CAPITOL)
16. Fielding-Segal, Stephanie (METRO NYC)
17. Vega, Keeley (MT. VALLEY)
18. Stinetorf, Chloë L (NORTH CA)
19. Boutsikaris, Liza A (NEW JERSEY)
20. Hicks, Colleen (CENTRAL PA)
21. Foellmer, Nele J (CONNECTICUT)
22. McGlade, Jasmine A (COLORADO)
23. Humblet, Emmanuelle (NEWENGLAND)
24. Katz, Emily L (NEW JERSEY)
25. DiPalò, Melissa A (LONG ISLAND)
26. Beecher, Jaime (LONG ISLAND)
27. Schemmer, Katharine (NEWENGLAND)
28. O'Neill, Austin H (WEST-ROCK)
29. De Ieso, Gina (NEW JERSEY)
30. Lee, Tammy A (SO. CALIF.)
31. Lindsay, Lavinia C (PHILADELPH)
32. Zagunis, Mariel L (OREGON)
33. Blount, Ellen M (PHILADELPH)
34. Mannino, Anna M (NEW JERSEY)
35. Toland, Jennifer R (MT. VALLEY)
36. Leslie, Lisa M (NEW JERSEY)
37. Staudinger, Lauren F (WEST-ROCK)
38. Ferland, Leanda B (NEWENGLAND)
39. Schulz, Ellen S (CONNECTICUT)
- 40T Hiss, Sophie C (OKLAHOMA)
- 40T Kerckmar, Anne B (NORTH OHIO)
42. Beard-Canfield, Marley (NORTHEAST)
43. Shaahid, Sakinah N (WESTERN PA)
44. Ott, Rachelle L (GULFCST TX)
45. Izzolino, Stefanie (NEW JERSEY)
46. Allen, Dianne K (NEWENGLAND)
47. Spivey, Rachel E (AK-LA-MISS)
48. Eurdollan, Alexandra (NEWENGLAND)
49. Chandra, Shelley (LONG ISLAND)
50. Leighton, Eleanor T (INDIANA)
51. Osborn, Elice A (MICHIGAN)
52. Menaldino, Janeane (PHILADELPH)
53. Black, Erin M (NEW JERSEY)
54. Symonds, Samantha (GULFCST TX)
55. Jacobson, Judith D (N. CAROLINA)
56. Humphrey, Meghan (CONNECTICUT)
57. Cheng, Nancy (S. JERSEY)
- 58T Joseph, Jennifer (ORANGE CST)
- 58T Kebrdle, Margaret A (INDIANA)
60. Hochster, Alexandra (METRO NYC)
61. Gillispie, Margo (ILLINOIS)
62. Call, Meagan B (OREGON)
63. Sadding, Tara E (VIRGINIA)
64. Yee, Laura A (LONG ISLAND)
65. Mendelsohn, Eva B (LONG ISLAND)
66. Hultgren, Megan E (ST. LOUIS)
67. Anderson, Tauri E (NORTHEAST)
68. Wertlieb, Stacey L (NEW JERSEY)
69. Cockburn, Ashley J (AK-LA-MISS)
- 70T Everett, Meghan E (NEW JERSEY)
- 70T Miranda, Tara E (N. CAROLINA)
72. Brzeski, Valerie A (WISCONSIN)
73. Rosenberg, Monica K (VIRGINIA)
74. Korb, Erica M (PHILADELPH)
75. Kearns, Cesia G (WISCONSIN)
76. Ferris, Cathleen A (ST. LOUIS)
77. Jordan, Margaret R (NEW JERSEY)
78. London, Nyasha F (N. CAROLINA)
79. Sun, Hong Joo (METRO NYC)
80. Mervosh, Elizabeth (WESTERN PA)
81. Vigh, Katinka A (LOUISIANA)
82. Wang, Cindy J (NEW JERSEY)
83. Bozovic, Ana (METRO NYC)

84. Etcheson, Sheila (CENTRAL CA)
- 85T Covault, Rachel L (WISCONSIN)
- 85T Verigan, Christina (NEW JERSEY)
87. Pilnick, Lauren A (LONG ISLAND)
88. Karousos, Vicki (VIRGINIA)
89. Mangones, Andrea (LONG ISLAND)
90. Garrett, Misty E (SO. TEXAS)
91. Krasner, Rebecca E (NORTHEAST)
92. Holbert, Rachel E (LOUISIANA)
93. McWaters, Megan R (AK-LA-MISS)
94. Walsh, Colleen J (INDIANA)
95. Bess, Anna G (GEORGIA)
96. Athanas, Elizabeth (HUDS-BERKS)
97. Ramirez, Mercedes (ILLINOIS)
98. Lin, Jennifer (NEW JERSEY)
99. Holland, Toya M (COLUMBUSOH)
100. Krygier, Danielle V (CONNECTICUT)
101. Paul, Veronica R (INLAND EMP)
102. Willeck, Hanne J (ALASKA)
103. Le, Ngoc M (GULFCST TX)
104. Auerbach, Alexa F (NEW MEXICO)
105. Maro, Meghan A (NEWENGLAND)
106. Allen, Sara E (SAN DIEGO)
107. Smith, Rachel S (WESTERN PA)
108. De Carlo, Danielle (SO. CALIF.)
109. Woolf, Angie (MINNESOTA)
110. Robinson, Meg (NEW JERSEY)
111. Louis, Elizabeth (NEW MEXICO)
112. Martin, Karay (SW OHIO)
113. Cantrell, Sara E (TENNESSEE)
114. Hohensee, Erin K (NORTHEAST)
115. Zenger, Kathryn E (S. CAROLINA)
- 116T Cloutre, Erin M (OKLAHOMA)
- 116T Murphy, Katherine (NEW MEXICO)
- 116T Park, Jeanette E (WISCONSIN)
119. Ault, Leia C (TENNESSEE)
- 120T Bertucci, Sabrina G (WEST-ROCK)
- 120T Wang, Christina (CENTRAL CA)
122. Greenbaum, Lauren M (WEST-ROCK)

JUNIOR WOMEN'S EPEE

1. Lawrence, Maya A (NEW JERSEY)
2. Walton, Kerry E (NORTHEAST)
- 3T Ament, Andrea E (NORTH OHIO)
- 3T Carnick, Anna N (WESTERN NY)
5. Chin, Meredith M (NEWENGLAND)
6. Campbell, Lindsay K (NORTH OHIO)
7. Shaahid, Sakinah N (WESTERN PA)
8. Greenebaum, Jennifer (NEW JERSEY)
9. Kehoe, Rebecca L (LONG ISLAND)
10. Rang, Roopa (NEW JERSEY)
11. Klein, Sophie V (LONG ISLAND)
12. Harris, Caitlin E (SO. TEXAS)
13. Szarwark, Catherine (TENNESSEE)
14. Lewis-Turner, Jessica (PHILADELPH)
15. Sjogren, Hanna C (ILLINOIS)
16. Jones, Amanda C (ILLINOIS)
17. Kerckmar, Anne B (NORTH OHIO)
18. Kehoe, Veronica L (LONG ISLAND)
19. Bergman, Brynna N (SO. TEXAS)
20. Korb, Erica M (PHILADELPH)
21. Decker, Katharine (CENTRAL CA)
22. Jacobson, Raelyn P (CENTRAL CA)
23. Boutsikaris, Liza A (NEW JERSEY)
24. McGlade, Jasmine A (COLORADO)
25. McGarry, Erin Laine (SO. TEXAS)
26. Forsythe, Sara M (NEW JERSEY)
27. Megowan, Christine (SO. CALIF.)
28. Korfanty, Alexandra (OREGON)
29. Leighton, Eleanor T (INDIANA)
30. LeDonne, Annemarie (NEW JERSEY)
31. Sanchez, Eva R (COLORADO)
32. Blumenuaer, Patricia (LONG ISLAND)

33. Athanas, Elizabeth (HUDS-BERKS)
34. McGalliard, Amanda (PHILADELPH)
35. Pieper, Anna M (MINNESOTA)
36. Gearhart, Sherice N (SO. TEXAS)
37. Karousos, Vicki (VIRGINIA)
38. Doherty, Kathleen (ILLINOIS)
39. Dunlop, Mary J (NEW JERSEY)
40. Call, Meagan B (OREGON)
41. Remaly, Jessica L (NEW JERSEY)
42. Lisagor, Jessica A (CENTRAL CA)
43. Webb, Catie A (NEW JERSEY)
44. Goto, Jean M (METRO NYC)
45. Inman, Irena W (NORTHEAST)
46. Cockburn, Ashley J (AK-LA-MISS)
47. Jones, Sophie K (CENTRAL CA)
48. Cully, Siobhan M (NEW JERSEY)
49. Mendel, Gemma L (N. CAROLINA)
50. Golia, Jennifer S (METRO NYC)
51. Sargent, Stephanie (NEW JERSEY)
52. Park, Sarah S (OKLAHOMA)
53. Marano, Marlo J (SO. TEXAS)
54. Caputo, Elizabeth (NEW JERSEY)
55. Hohensee, Kira L (NORTHEAST)
56. Rurarz-Huygens, Livia D (CAPITOL)
57. French, Lesley K (SO. TEXAS)
58. Orsi, Sabina E (NEW JERSEY)
59. Miller, Chelsea E (HUDS-BERKS)
60. Revak, Kelly R (SAN DIEGO)
61. Rice, Jaime A (COLUMBUSOH)
62. Holland, Toya M (COLUMBUSOH)
63. Nguyen, Mindy (NEW JERSEY)
64. Karako, Christina (WESTERN PA)
65. Schafer, Kristina L (N. CAROLINA)
66. Lennox, Regina A (NEWENGLAND)
67. Punaro, Amy A (NORTH TEX)
68. Park, Gaelyn M (KENTUCKY)
69. Mendel, Lucy R (N. CAROLINA)
70. Neu, Andrea E (GATEWAY FL)
71. Haberkern, Kundry E (NEW JERSEY)
72. McWaters, Megan R (AK-LA-MISS)
73. Mangones, Andrea (LONG ISLAND)
74. Holbert, Rachel E (LOUISIANA)
75. Kreidman, Elizabeth (LONG ISLAND)
76. Schwartz, Allison J (VIRGINIA)
77. Viviani, Kristina V (METRO NYC)
78. Jennings, Jessica P (CENTRAL CA)
79. Smith, Rachel S (WESTERN PA)
80. Slep, Erica P (NEW JERSEY)
81. Russack, Dana A. (NEW JERSEY)
82. Wangner, Lauren M (LONG ISLAND)
83. Browne, Elisa A (NEW JERSEY)
84. Dwyer, Cristin A (NEWENGLAND)
85. Friede, Keren (NEW JERSEY)
86. Ferrer, Ivana R (N. CAROLINA)
87. Winkelstern, Simran (WESTERN NY)
88. O'Donnell, Anne E (AK-LA-MISS)
89. Starling, Katherine (N. CAROLINA)
90. Boorman, Mollie J (NEW MEXICO)
- 91T Gravelle, Gwyneth G (NORTH TEX)
- 91T Loomis, Adelia J (UTAH/S. IDA)
- 91T Watts, Katherine (OKLAHOMA)
94. Schafer, Kimberly E (NEW JERSEY)
95. Williams, Ashley D (TENNESSEE)
96. White, Chrissie H (NEW JERSEY)
97. Ehrlich, Laura E (NORTH CA)
- 98T Bradford, Lillian P (CAPITOL)
- 98T Ellis, Yvonne C (MT. VALLEY)
100. Vila, Sharon Y (GOLD COAST)
101. Solorzano Lowell, Kathryn (CAPITOL)
- 102T Brumley, Kathleen M (LOUISIANA)
- 102T Muir, Lauren F (SAN DIEGO)
- 104T Kaier, Tracy L (COLORADO)
- 104T Wortham, Meghan E (SO. CALIF.)
106. Horvitz, Shelby A (ARIZONA)

107. Willeck, Hanne J (ALASKA)

JUNIOR WOMEN'S SABER

1. Pack, Catherine (NEW JERSEY)
2. Treiber, Kim H (N. CAROLINA)
- 3T Gaillard, Amelia F (GEORGIA)
- 3T Hooper, Caitlin M (KANSAS)
5. Purcell, Caroline M (METRO NYC)
6. Gelman, Julia (METRO NYC)
7. Harlow, Jacqueline (MARYLAND)
8. Rupert, Eva L (NEWENGLAND)
9. Zagunis, Mariel L (OREGON)
10. Rostal, Mindy K (MINNESOTA)
11. Jacobson, Sada M (GEORGIA)
12. Ferris, Cathleen A (ST. LOUIS)
13. Shaahid, Sakinah N (WESTERN PA)
14. Kates, Megan E (KANSAS)
15. Crane, Christina (GEORGIA)
16. Milo, Destanie (INDIANA)
17. Mazur, Natalia A (NEW JERSEY)
18. James, Rosemary K (MT. VALLEY)
19. Yi, Si (Eunice) (ILLINOIS)
20. Walsh, Sarah B (MARYLAND)
21. Jones, Sophie K (CENTRAL CA)
22. Orsi, Sabina E (NEW JERSEY)
23. Meyers, Stephanie (ILLINOIS)
24. Marshall, Callie (ILLINOIS)
25. Mervosh, Elizabeth (WESTERN PA)
26. Liu, Helen (NEW JERSEY)
27. Henry, Amanda G (NEWENGLAND)
28. Wells, Carly E (ILLINOIS)
29. Siebert, Syvenna B (KANSAS)
30. Jordan, Margaret R (NEW JERSEY)
31. Cockburn, Ashley J (AK-LA-MISS)
32. Kasprovicz, Aneta (NEW JERSEY)
33. Slaterbeck, Lauren G (KANSAS)
34. Rake, Madeline O (KANSAS)
35. Caputo, Elizabeth (NEW JERSEY)
36. Macarow, Amy K (MT. VALLEY)
37. Call, Meagan B (OREGON)
38. Lackner, Diane E (KANSAS)
39. Peck, Marisa J (SO. CALIF.)
40. Paul, Veronica R (INLAND EMP)
41. Frambach, Mary P (WISCONSIN)
42. Humphrey, Meghan (CONNECTICUT)
43. Treiber, Kyle H (N. CAROLINA)
- 44T Ault, Leia C (TENNESSEE)
- 44T Steyer, Meredith J (NEWENGLAND)
46. Rogal, Kelly L (CENTRAL CA)
47. Kucia, Margaret M (COLORADO)
48. Collet, Lauren J (HUDS-BERKS)
49. Block, Caroline M (CONNECTICUT)
50. Maro, Meghan A (NEWENGLAND)
51. Schwartz, Allison J (VIRGINIA)
52. Wieronksi, Katarzyna (NEW JERSEY)
53. Solorzano Lowell, Kathryn (CAPITOL)
54. Lacy, Heather K (N. CAROLINA)
55. Wade, Kristina A (PHILADELPH)
56. Mayer, Maggie L (WISCONSIN)
57. Stroud, Julia D (KANSAS)
58. Dunn, Lauren (MT. VALLEY)
59. Miller, Yael K (SO. CALIF.)
60. Clark, Lindsey R (NEW JERSEY)
61. Bohr, Jessica A (MINNESOTA)
62. Bruner, Rebecca G (AK-LA-MISS)
63. McWaters, Megan R (AK-LA-MISS)
64. Peakes, Jessica M (KANSAS)
65. Loomis, Adelia J (UTAH/S. IDA)
66. Westfield, Tara A (PHILADELPH)
67. Lewellen, Jessica B (WESTERN WA)
68. Arn, Krissa E (COLORADO)

Fencing: a Metaphor of Our Time

BY SANDY ELLIS, C.F.P.E.

After more years than I care to remember, I have become enmeshed in thinking of fencing again. Yes, it is only 'thinking' and not active participation in the sport. I received a few back issues of AMERICAN FENCING from a dear friend and they started me 'thinking'. So what did I do, I started writing about fencing right where I left off fifty years ago.

Motto: Them as can, fences; them as can't, writes.

I had attended a minor competition some years ago and was appalled at what I saw and could not understand. How could this have happened to the classic art I remembered? Was it possible that in the intervening years the 'discipline' my friends and I tried to disseminate (unsuccessfully) had not only totally disappeared, but so had the prevailing European methods we opposed?

Our little band of devotees beat our hearts out against the unyielding wall of the ruling institutions of the first half of this century; the closed circle of the Fencers' Club, the barricaded doors of the NYAC, the disdain of the AFLA and its self-perpetuating ruling clique, the charming dismissal by Giorgio Santelli and the outright hauteur and discrimination of the self-selected Directors of competitions.

We were talented, devoted and headstrong. We were also misled, misguided, rebellious, rude, opinionated, questioning of authority and inconsiderate. Our only saving grace was that we won often enough to warrant the wrath of the entrenched majority. Our group had winners of major events who had less than 3 years of fencing background! Unheard of! We competed against fencers who had spent more years in training and competing than we had been alive—and we won. We were the harbingers of the "American" school; which was meant to be scientific, aggressive, logical, efficient and effective. The road to hell is paved...

So why is contemporary fencing totally oblivious of this blip in the development of USA fencing? Why is an old codger 'appalled' at the sight of a modern competition? Why are rumors circulating of the omission of fencing from the Olympic games?

Pretty simple, after reflection; this is not 1941 (thankfully). In the intervening 50-odd years our culture has changed and fencing, that very personal art of self-defense has changed, as it always has, into a reflection of the times.

For the benefit of those who consider WWII something that one reads about in history texts, here are some of the more obvious changes:

Our society watches the world by pressing a button on a remote control, moves faster in greater comfort than even the foretellers of the future dreamed, scratches out packaged leisure time with its fingernails, has no heroes but pays its star athletes 12,000% more than it pays its President, has relegated sex to equality with a handshake, puts its culture on a minuscule chip of silicon that has made libraries obsolete, disdains language, denigrates the concept of home and puts men on the moon, has bent the atom to its will, is locked in combat with disease and aging, is lifting the yoke of isolation from the backwaters of the planet, and has lowered the penalty for killing itself and the life in its atmosphere, oceans and land.

So, why should fencing be immune? Should we expect elegance, grace, strategy and introspection when these are fading from our world? Fencing adapted to armor, gunpowder, concealable firearms and codes of expediency rather than honor. Why should it be expected, by this

atavist, to have remained static? Why should it be interesting to watch or attract TV audiences?

In previously submitted, and unpublished articles, I satirized the still practiced techniques in use instead of a scientific 'method' of moving and parrying. How foolish! The run, stab-and-jab style of modern competitive fencing is a modern adaptation to the need to "turn on the light first" and is a throwback to fencing's roots.

We have all seen old photos of fencing uniforms with little red hearts sewn on the chest of the tunics. Why were they there?

Fencing developed from mortal combat—it is part of the lore of the sport, it is the reason children, at a very young age, pick up sticks and 'go' at one another.

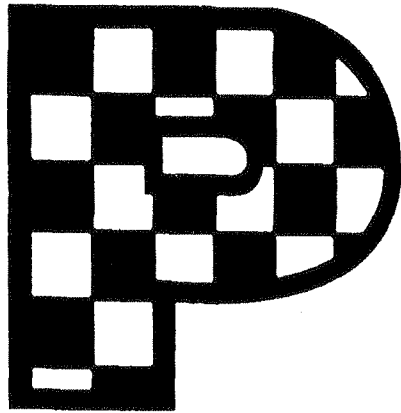
Hollywood portrays death by swordplay as a noble combat in which the loser dies immediately upon receiving a final thrust. Not so. In actuality, unless he was very lucky, the loser died slowly from loss of blood. Unless he had received a perfectly placed thrust to a vital organ, e.g., the heart, he was wounded and, most of the time the gallant loser kept on fencing and kept on receiving more wounds. For a real grudge match, the victor would deliberately keep inflicting painful, non-lethal wounds. It was a slow, painful death. This was particularly true of the delicate little jeweled 'court swords' of the French aristocracy just before the Revolution. The double touch has verifiable roots; verifiable, boring and complicated. No wonder that, for our time, fencing has a small audience. To be a knowledgeable spectator, it is necessary to be trained nearly as well as the participants.

Recently, the only movie of our times that depicted salle fencing, "By the Sword" was shown. Its depiction of life in and around a successful salle was, in the main, fairly accurate give or take some hokum. But, come the climactic bout the conventions were discarded and the antagonists reverted to open space, staircases, balconies and objects other than sharpened weapons. Interestingly, the movie had no protagonist - neither of the principal characters elicited audience empathy. Why did the director throw in the open field and the staircase? Obviously, to make it interesting for the expected audience. Strip fencing with its elaborate protocol and judging is, simply stated, boring, boring, boring. And now, with the ascendancy of 'stab and jab', blinking lights and arcane directors' pronouncements, it is even more so!

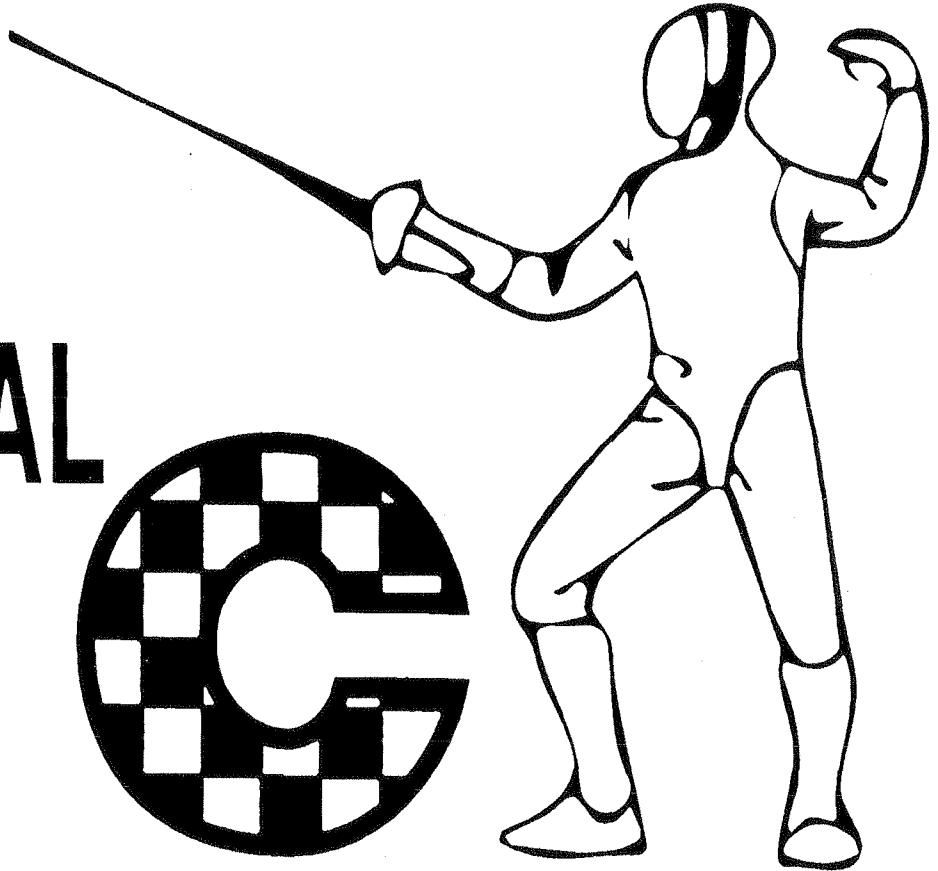
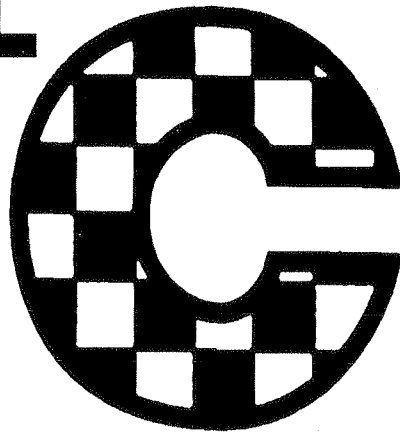
No wonder Samaranch and Co. wants to eliminate it from the Olympics. Can you blame them when they have exciting replacement sports such as curling, snowboarding and the ancient, classic games of tennis, volleyball and ping-pong? Isn't classical Greek literature is rife with descriptions of those sports. Are we to expect that, based on the precedent of hockey professionals, we will have an Olympic football contest to rival the Super Bowl? How about an Olympic Masters Golf Match?

So what can be done to 'punch up' the image of fencing? By recognizing its roots. If it is true that wireless touch systems are under development, then why not go back to the real nature of fencing? No strip, double touches count as they did when life was at stake, a 'target' that represents a lethal 'hit' and ends the bout, obstacles such as platforms with the fencers able to climb or jump while fencing. (Burning candles, flowing draperies, tasseled cords hanging from high ceilings and swinging chandeliers could be reserved for very special events.)

With such a radical change in the rules, a bout could be over with one touch to the vital target, five or ten (fifteen is ridiculous) simultaneous touches yields a tie. With modern electronics, a lag of 10 or 25 milliseconds (0.010 or 0.025 of a second) could shut off the opponent's capability to do a quick scoring jab after being hit. Bouts could become exciting and suspenseful, premiums would be on accuracy, speed and skill rather than on opportunistic 'stab and jab' and, most importantly, audiences would be able to appreciate what they were watching instead of asking, "What happened?". Different and strange, yes. But it could revitalize and save our sport and, perhaps, bring it into our time. However, change and reason are anathema to the fencing gods.



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