

N. Y. U. FENCERS KEEP 3-WEAPON HONORS

Also Take Saber Crown, but
Lose to Yale in Foils—
Navy Wins With Epee

By ARTHUR J. DALEY

Saving much from what had promised to be a lean harvest, New York University swordsmen performed the unprecedented feat of winning the prized three-weapon trophy for the fourth year in a row yesterday as the forty-fifth annual championships of the Intercollegiate Fencing Association came to a brilliant close on the strips of the Hotel Astor.

Accorded not more than an opportunity of finishing up with the leaders, the Violet slashed its way to a stunning triumph, its fifth in the last six seasons, and in transit also annexed the saber crown for the major share of the tournament honors.

These astonishing N. Y. U. fencers almost supplied another dazzling upset when they pressed Yale to the bitter end for the foils title. The Violet tied the Elis with two bouts to go before capitulating in the end as the famous Iron Man Trophy went to Yale. Navy took the épée laurels.

Bukantz a Winner

In the individual classifications the three championships were spread around. Danny Bukantz of City College became the first Beaver individual winner in the long history of the association as he annexed the foils crown. Cadet Lieutenant Don Thackeray of Army won the saber title on a fence-off with Jack Gorlin of N. Y. U., while the épée laurels were acquired by Midshipman Harry Foley of Navy.

Here are the statistics on the leaders in the seven competitions:

Three-Weapon—N. Y. U., 73½;
Yale, 69½; Navy, 66; Army, 65.

Epée Team—Navy, 25; N. Y. U.,

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NAVY'S VICTORIOUS EPEE TEAM WITH ITS TROPHY

Harry Foley, individual champion; Phil Glennon, Bob Shaw and Henry Surface

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23½; Princeton, 22; Yale, 20½; Army, 19.

Foils Team—Yale, 26; N. Y. U., 24; Army, 23; Navy, 22.

Saber Team—N. Y. U., 26; Yale, 23; Army, 23; City College, 22.

Epée Individual—Foley, 9 won and 2 lost; Paul Moss, N. Y. U., 8 and 3; Stanley Sarnoff, Princeton, 8 and 3; J. W. Croach, Harvard, 8 and 3.

Foils Individual—Bukantz, 10 and 1; Maurice Grasson, Yale, 9 and 2; Milton Soroka, N. Y. U., 9 and 2.

Saber Individual—Thackeray, 9 and 2; Gorlin, 9 and 2; Phil Viscidi, Yale, 8 and 3.

It was an extraordinary job that the pupils of Julio Martinez Castello did. Not even the most optimistic supporters of the Violet had hoped for anything like it. All year long the Violet épée team had been weak.

But the wielders of the old dueling sword did a noble job, finished second to Navy and thus formed both the backbone and the motivating drive to the rest of the team. The Violet was first in saber and second in both épée and foils, a magnificent job for a team that had not a single standout in its ranks, but had the balance and poise that good coaching alone can supply.

Soroka Upset by Zaugg

As far as successfully defending championships N. Y. U. alone was able to survive in the retention of its all-around title. Although it yielded both foils and épée crowns, it managed to wrest away the 'saber diadem from Yale. The Elis also were shorn of two individual titles. Viscidi bowed out to Cadet Thackeray in saber and Grasson was displaced by Bukantz, the most improved foilsman in college ranks, in foils.

Even in that last named situation ubiquitous N. Y. U. had a hand. At the end of the afternoon session Bukantz had assured himself of a tie for the title. When Soroka of

Teams
Foils—Yale University.
Epée—U. S. Naval Academy.
Saber—New York University.
*Three-Weapon—New York University.

Individuals
Foils—Daniel Bukantz, City College
Epée—Harry Foley Jr., U. S. Naval Academy.
Saber—Donald W. Thackeray, U. S. Military Academy.
*Retained title.

N. Y. U. was upset by Jack Zaugg of Princeton in his last matinee effort he lost his final chance to enter the championship picture. But the N. Y. U. left-hander still had to meet the Yale left-hander in the evening. Soroka could not win himself but he could eliminate Grasson from advancing to a deadlock.

In very neighborly fashion he did just that—an N. Y. U. man beating a Yale man to permit a City College youngster to win a championship. This was a beautifully fenced bout something unusual since two left-handers usually put on a very ragged show.

But Soroka, striking neatly with a direct attack for most of his points, built up a 4-3 lead. Then on a stop thrust the Violet lad beat the son of the Eli fencing master to the punch, driving home a clean blow instead of parrying for the winning touch. That removed Grasson from his championship.

At the moment it even caused more excitement since it enabled N. Y. U. to draw even with Yale for the Iron Man Trophy. But neither Silvio Giolito nor Archie Ignatow was equal to the task of halting Viscidi and Paul Perlowin in the other two bouts as the Elis went on to victory.

Foley on Brink of Tie

In saber, Gorlin and Thackeray found themselves involved in a fence-off when the tall cadet, runner-up a year ago, won his final bout from A. C. Campo of Navy. The Violet captain stepped out to a 2-0 advantage, was overhauled at 3—all, and then fell victim to two fast stop-cuts that gave the cadet the title.

The Navy épée victory, team and

rather dramatic circumstances. The Midshipmen came down to their final bout trailing N. Y. U., 23½ to 22. At that same moment Foley was on the brink of a four-way tie for the individual crown.

So the Annapolis contingent crossed blades with Cornell. The Big Red trio was not going anywhere in particular, but it so frequently happens in this tournament that some overlooked underdog suddenly comes to life with a vengeance. Middle supporters devoutly hoped that Cornell would not seize upon this occasion to do anything like that.

Foley stepped on the strip against Harold Parker. Touches went to 2—all, and it was with bated breath that Navy and N. Y. U. adherents watched the flash of the blades in the deciding touch. There was a clatter of steel against steel and then the left-handed Midshipman lunged for his championship.

That stroke left Navy half a point behind, and it was up to Bob Shaw to settle things in his match with Charles Pratt. And he did just that. The subsequent victory of Phil Glennon over John McLellan was merely in the nature of an anticlimax, as it left the final standings 25 to 23½ in Navy's favor.