

NAVY FENCERS GAIN 5 COLLEGE CROWNS

Middies Annex 3 Team and 2 Individual Titles in an Unprecedented Sweep

By ARTHUR J. DALEY

Navy blades carved such a tremendous slice out of the Intercollegiate Fencing Association championships yesterday that the forty-sixth annual tournament at the Seventh Regiment Armory had the most nautical tinge in its history. In an unprecedented sweep the midshipmen took five of the seven crowns, a larger share than any team ever had gathered before.

Both the three-weapon championship and the Little Iron Man, emblematic of the team foil honors, had been clearly earmarked for the lads from Annapolis on the basis of their performances of the day before. Navy took them both in stride. But totally unexpected was a triumph in team épée as well.

Still the midshipmen were not done. Vincent de Poix of Hartsdale, N. Y., stabbed his way to the individual foil laurels and Abraham Campo of Manila slashed through to the saber crown in a fence-off with Alan Rorick of Army.

Cadet Manzo Epée Winner

The service touch that this tournament had was not finished with the five navy triumphs. Salvatore Manzo of Army won the individual épée championship until the only thing that escaped the Army-Navy sweep was the team saber event, in which Columbia turned back the cadets in the deciding match, which was also the finale of the two-day show.

The Navy trio of John Howland, Phil Glennon and Jim McPherson did a grand job with the épée to dart past a Princeton team that had been the favorite. Glennon, fencing in the third pool, compiled a record of 9½ victories in his eleven bouts, which was sufficient to decide the championship.

Howland captured 7½, a half point away from tying Manzo, his Army rival, for the individual crown. He had that in his grasp, too, only to stumble when faced with his biggest opportunity.

The cadet and the midshipman double-touched when they clashed and Howland won his other three bouts before he stepped on the strip against Berwin Cole of City College, an épée man with no imposing record.

Cole Stops Howland

According to all the form charts the Navy man should have won and hence annexed the championship. Instead he was beaten in this, his last bout, and the title fled right away, Manzo winning with eight victories and three setbacks.

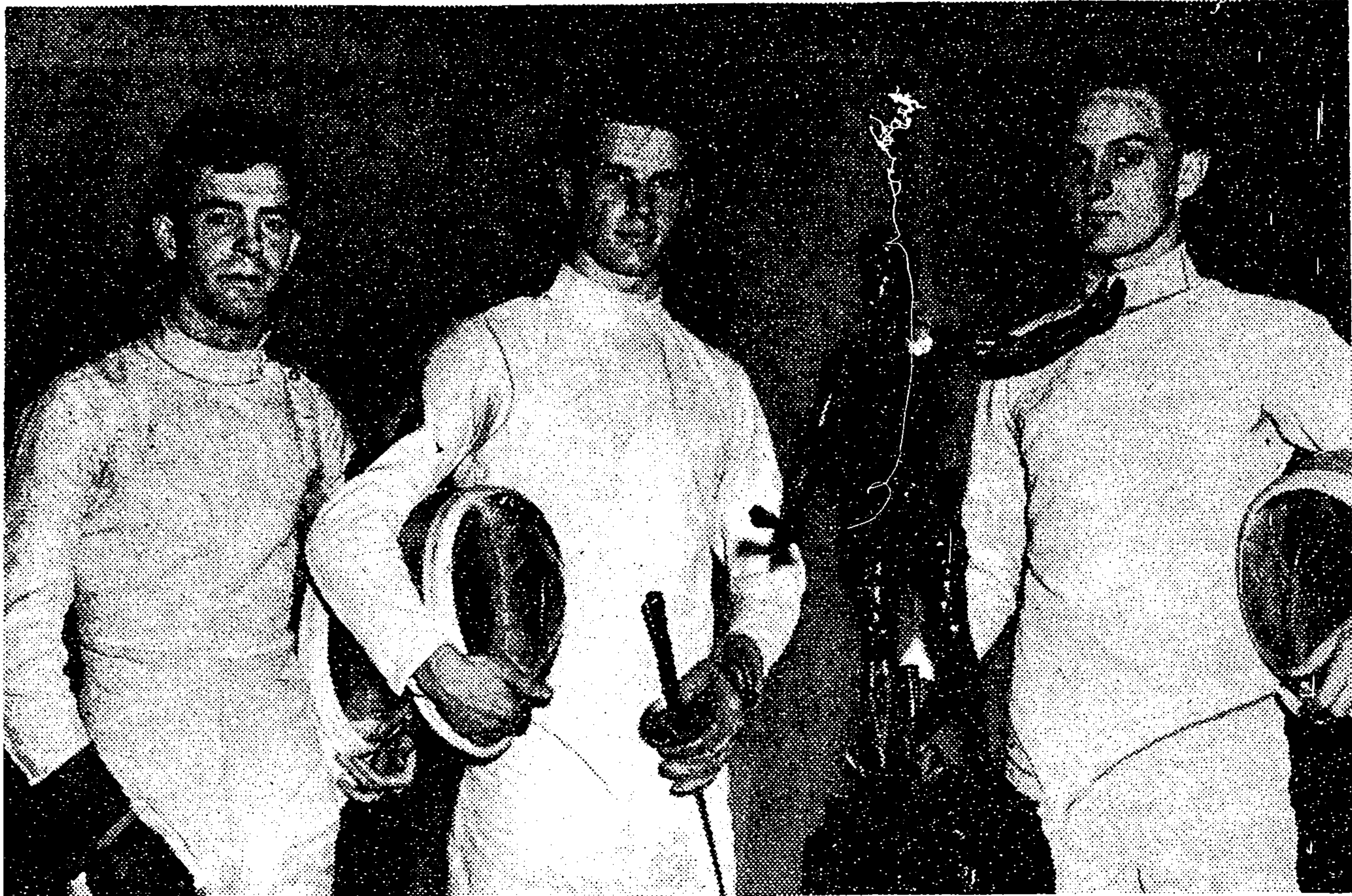
The foil competition had a similar upset, but it came too late to make any difference, de Poix had taken his first nine bouts when he encountered Charles Lowenfeld of Cornell. Then a left-hander whose very left-handedness had given him a big advantage over all foes found the pressure too great and bowed, 5 to 4.

At the moment it looked like a serious lapse. Max Goldstein of City College had dropped only two bouts and still had a mathematical chance of advancing to a fence-off, especially since the midshipman still had the formidable Silvio Giolito of N. Y. U. to meet.

But that opportunity collapsed of its own weight. The Beaver duellist immediately was beaten by Leon Seltzer of Columbia and the Navy man was in.

As the afternoon saber competition moved on apace an intriguing situation arose. At one point four men were even—Campo of Navy, Rorick of Army, Welles of Columbia and Jim Castello of N. Y. U.,

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NAVY FENCERS WITH THE LITTLE IRON MAN TROPHY

John Henry, Vincent de Poix and Daniel Appleton, winners of the foils championship

NAVY FENCERS GAIN THREE TEAM TITLES

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all with records of eight and two, with a bout each still to come.

Castello was toppled first when Herbert Spector of City College whisked him out of the picture, 5 to 2. Then Campo ran into trouble with Nat Batchelder of Harvard. He led, 3 to 0, then was tied at 4—all. But the midshipman from the Philippines staggered past that obstacle. Twice in a row he drove through winning touches only to have the judges miss them. The third time, however, he came through with a counter ripost that could not be missed.

That merely added to the complications. Had he been defeated, then the Rorick-Welles encounter at night would have decided the championship. As it was, it merely meant that the winner of it still would have to tackle the midshipman in a fence-off.

Middles Excel With Foil

The best job of the entire tournament by far was that by the navy foil team of de Poix, Dan Appleton and John Henry. Of their first thirty bouts, de Poix lost only one, Appleton none and Henry two, probably the closest any team has ever come to a clean sweep since the three-pool system was installed half a decade ago.

There was just nothing to the three-weapon competition all day. In past years the column on the scoreboard that handled the all-round standings were watched avidly by the fencing enthusiasts. Yesterday the blank spaces were not even filled in and no one minded it.

Navy went into the second day with far too great a lead in this phase. And when the Navy saber men continued to hold up very well the last lingering traces of doubt were swept away.

The midshipmen, in fact, were doing better than any one had anticipated until late in the afternoon when they were called upon to clash with Army and Columbia in succe-

sion. The Cadets swept to a 3-to-0 triumph and Middles and Lions divided their first two matches.

So the match was decided in Pool C, in which James Dare of Navy met Leo Wise of Columbia. The Annapolis youngster scored the first three touches and Columbia hearts sank into Columbia boots. But suddenly Wise came to life and ripped off five touches in a row to give the Lions a one-point lead over Army as the two teams went into the evening part of the show with the saber team championship hinging on their bout.