Rutgers Captures Epee Crown And Navy Triumphs With Foil

By ALLISON DANZIG

Special to The New York Times

ANNAPOLIS, Md., March 13—Rutgers and Navy wrested team honors from Columbia with the épée and foil today in the opening session of the 67th annual championships of the Intercollegiate Fencing Association.

Rutgers scored its first big success on the fencing strip in the field house of the United States Naval Academy.

Led by Paul Pesthy, a 26-year-old Hungarian refugee whose father, Charles Pesthy, is the coach, the Scarlet won the épée team championship with 27 points and qualified three of the six finalists for tomorrow's individual competition.

Columbia, the defending champion, unbeaten in dual meets and victor over Rutgers during the season, finished second with 22 points.

The Navy fencers also won 22 bouts in the round-robin series among 12 colleges but lost to Columbia for second place on touches scored against them, 55 to 22.

Penn Beats Rutgers

Pennsylvania placed behind Navy in fourth place with 20 points. It was the only team to defeat Rutgers.

Then followed Cornell (19), City College of New York (17), New York University (16), Yale (13), Penn State (10). Harvard (10), and Massachusetts Institute of Technology (6).

Raymond Frey, an all-American in 1963, led Navy to the foil team championship, which carries with it the Little Iron Man Trophy. The Middies defeated Columbia, the defending titleholder, 2 to 1, to gain a point lead. Their triumph was made certain when, in the next to last round, the Lions suffered a stunning 3-0 setback against Princeton.

To compound Columbia's frustration, in the final round it was beaten, 2 to 1, by New York University and yielded second place to the Violets by a point, 25 to 24.

Navy, defeating all 11 opponents, scored 29 points, the same number Columbia did a

year ago in ending N.Y.U.'s six year hold on the Little Iron Man. Donald Ellis and Norman Fluhrer were the other members of the champion team and each won 10 bouts, to nine for Frey.

The middies took the lead in the race for the three-weapon team trophy. They have a total of 51 points for the épée andfoil.

The saber team competition, along with the individual championships in all three weapons, will be held tomorrow.

Columbia is second in the over-all competition with 46, N.Y.U. third with 41 and Rutgers fourth with 40.

Victor in Fence-off

Navy, Columbia and N.Y.U. each qualified two men for the individual foil championship. Frey and Ellis of Navy, Marvin Garovoy and Gerald Cetrulo of N.Y.U. and Stephen Weinstein and Gerald Fensterstock of the Lions are the finalists. Fensterstock defeated Norman Fluhrer of Navy, 5—4, in a fence-off for the place as the representative of Pool 3.

Pesthy, George Bolge and David Claridge were the members of the champion Rutgers team. Fencing with them tomorrow for the individual epee honors will be Ian Fries of Columbia, Steve Netburn of Penn, and Art Peterson of Cornell.

Pesthy, Fries and Netburn qualified in Pool 1. Netburn won in a fence-off with William Benson of Navy and Bertrand Coooper of Yale. Peterson and Bolge qualified in Pool 2 and Claridge in Pool 3.

Claridge won 10 of his 11 bouts. Pesthy, Fries and Peterson won nine and Netburn and Bolge eight. Robert Smith of Cornell also won nine, but he fenced in pool 3, in which only one man qualified.

A year ago, Rutgers finished last in the intercollegiates. The addition of Pesthy and the coaching furnished by his father, famous as a swordsman in Hungary before he fled here five years ago, account for the vast change in the Scarlet's fortunes.