

N.Y.U. Squad Leads After Two Events In College Fencing

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NEW HAVEN, March 11—Three undergraduates from New York University brandishing foils established a new standard for excellence at the annual championships of the Intercollegiate Fencing Association here today.

Al Davis, Howie Harmetz and Michael Gaylor swept through 30 matches in the foil competition tonight on the basketball court of Yale's Payne Whitney Gymnasium, losing only once.

Davis, a 27-year-old sophomore, and Gaylor, another sophomore, each won all 10 of their matches while Harmetz, a junior, took nine of 10. The 29 points they accumulated projected N. Y. U. into the team lead after two of the three events in this 69th annual competition involving 11 Eastern colleges.

With the saber event coming up tomorrow to conclude the team competition, N. Y. U. had 46 points, seven more than the defending champion, Columbia, and Princeton. It was reported that never before in this competition had a team entry recorded 29 points in a single weapons' competition as did the N. Y. U. trio.

Earlier in the day Navy won the opening competition, the épée, with 21 points to Princeton's 19 while N. Y. U. placed sixth with 17. Then came the Violet surge in a tournament that lasted 12 hours because of frequent breakdowns in the electrical equipment that records the weapons' touches on the wired body protectors of the athletes. And these are very much athletes engaged in a sport stressing skill and cool.

The three N. Y. U. fencers qualified for the six-man individual championship in the foil that will be held tomorrow along with individual finals in épée and saber. These finals have no bearing on the team scoring, which concludes with the saber round robin.

Others qualifying for the foil finale were Russell Goodman of Pennsylvania, Steve Weinstein of Columbia and Charles Wertheimer of Princeton.

The top point scorers in the earlier épée competition were Howard Corr of Navy and Javier Johnson of Princeton, each of whom won nine of 10 bouts; Ronald McMahan of Pennsylvania; Richard Holzman of Columbia, Paul Pesthy of Rutgers and Don Sceja of Cornell.

Although N.Y.U.'s 7-point margin was a big one, Columbia and Princeton remain as challengers for the team trophy that the Lions have won in two of the last three seasons.

The six fencing strips were laid down over the basketball court and the competition went from 9 A.M. to 9 P.M., attracting only a modicum of interest in terms of spectators.

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