

Intercollegiate Epee Team Title Is Won by Army Fencers

ARMY'S TEAM TAKES COLLEGE EPEE TITLE

Dethrones Yale as Champion as
Intercollegiate Fencing
Tourney Starts.

TRIPLE TIE FOR SECOND

Elis, N. Y. U., Princeton Placed
In That Order, Individual
Matches Deciding.

HEISS STARS FOR CADETS

Looms as Individual Titleholder,
With One Entry From Yale the
Only Rival to Honors.

By ARTHUR J. DALEY.

Army swordsmen dethroned Yale as épée team champion on the dull green strips at the Hotel Astor yesterday as the thirty-eighth title tournament of the Intercollegiate Fencing Association got under way.

Furthermore, an Army man, Cadet Sergeant Gustave Heiss of New Orleans, stands on the threshold of the individual title as well. A Yale entry, little Rockwood Chin, a native-born Chinese, is the only obstacle in the path of the tall Southerner. Heiss, with eight victories and two defeats, can only be overtaken by Chin who has to win three consecutive bouts tonight, including one against the West Pointer. The crown was won a year ago by Edwin L. Hill, the Eli captain.

To capture the team laurels, the Military Academy owes a vote of thanks to Princeton which triumphed over New York University in the final match of the épée competition, thus removing the Violet from the path of the Army. If N. Y. U. had been victorious over the Nassau contingent, as had been expected, then West Point and N. Y. U. would have been tied for the championship and a fence-off necessary.

De Capriles Gets Touch.

The title hinged on that one set of bouts and when Jose de Capriles of N. Y. U. scored a touch on John F. Neary Jr. of Princeton at the start it appeared as though the Violet would sweep through to victory. But Daniel Marvin of Princeton and Neary each vanquished Walter Grautoff and the Violet was behind 2 to 1 with its only hope a tie and the resultant fence-off.

Marvin and de Capriles crossed blades in the deciding encounter. They parried back and forth for a moment and then lunged in simultaneously. There was a quick cry from the judges for a halt and just behind the right shoulder of the New York sophomore was a slight red mark to indicate that he had been hit.

It was a victory for Princeton and the Army adherents swarmed around Heiss and Cadet M. O. Edwards to congratulate them on their success. Despite the fact that N. Y. U. would have tied the West Pointers by turning back Princeton, they could do no better than place third in the team standing.

Army was first, with four victories and one defeat, and then Yale, N. Y. U. and Princeton were deadlocked with three triumphs and two setbacks. But when the victories were resolved into individual matches won in the entire round-robin competition, Yale had 12, N. Y. U. 11 and Princeton 10, and that was the order of their standing.

3-Weapon Series Complicated.

This further complicates the possibilities for the three-weapon championship, since only N. Y. U. and Princeton have qualified with all three blades. At a meeting, it was officially decided that City College and not Yale had qualified for the final of the saber competition as a result of sectional trials at Cambridge a fortnight ago.

According to the way the meet was conducted all ties were fenced off and on this basis the Blue had a three-to-two advantage over the Lavender. However, the intercollegiate rules are now patterned after Olympic precepts and the Olympic scoring eliminated the Elis and gave the C. C. N. Y. team a place in the final.

But before the day's fencing was completed Army set the pace for team honors in foils, the one division of the tournament that was considered wide open. With every team having finished three of its scheduled five matches, West Point was at the head of the field with three triumphs and no defeats.

What was particularly gratifying to the cadets was the fact that they stepped over their three greatest obstacles, Harvard, Yale and Princeton, and have only Navy and N. Y. U. left to face. The Violet lost all three of its matches and the Navy took only one out of three.

Battle Among Big Three.

Glenn Farris, John A. Berry and Charles R. Murray compose the West Point trio. The erstwhile Big Three, Yale, Harvard and Princeton, will have to battle among themselves for the right to overhaul Army and may eliminate one another from titular consideration in the process.

If the West Pointers can get through to a foils victory then the prospects will be bright indeed for the three-weapon trophy as well. Foils and épée triumphs would give the cadets 12 points toward the three-weapon trophy. Princeton appears to be the most formidable opponent so far, but its foils record of two defeats and one triumph leaves the Tigers in a none too promising position.

Potter of Yale, the defending foils champion, is in a fairly comfortable position in the individual test. He has five victories and only one defeat, with five more bouts to come. Dana Allen of Harvard has a record of 6 and 2, and Charles Murray of Army, 5 and 3.

Little progress was made in the saber competition, Columbia, the defending titleholder, winning its lone match.