

C. C. N. Y. TEAM WINS IRON MAN TROPHY

Scores Upset in 41st Annual
Tournament by Triumph
in Foils Competition.

COLUMBIA ALSO PREVAILS

Captures Three-Weapon Title
—N. Y. U. Victor With Saber
and Harvard With Epee.

THREE-WEAPON STANDING.

	Foils.	Saber.	Epee.	Total.
Columbia	3	4	2	9
Navy	4	1	3	8
N. Y. U.	2	5	1	8
Harvard	1	1	5	7
C. C. N. Y.	5	1	0	6
Army	1	3	1	5
Princeton	0	0	4	4
Yale	1	2	1	4
M. I. T.	1	1	0	2
Hamilton	0	0	1	1
Penn.	0	0	0	0
Cornell	0	0	0	0

By ARTHUR J. DALEY.

The youngest member of the Intercollegiate Fencing Association provided the major surprise in a meet of upsets yesterday when City College swordsmen stalked off with the Iron Man Trophy, emblematic of the foils team crown, as the forty-first annual tournament opened on the Hotel Commodore strips.

Sweeping aside the favored Navy foilsmen in the deciding match of the final round robin, the Lavender blade-wielders delivered a double blow to the Midshipmen's hopes. They not only knocked aside the foils aspirations of the Annapolis contingent but completely blasted them out of ownership of the coveted three-weapon crown.

For while C. C. N. Y. and Navy were battling away on one strip, Columbia and N. Y. U. were locked in a bitter struggle on another one. It was only a fight for third place, it is true, but the winner of that position would annex the triple distinction.

Violet Lead Melts Away.

The 4-2 lead of the Violet athletes melted rapidly away. The Lions overhauled them at 4-all. And the final bout of nearly fifteen hours of fencing was to decide the victor in the three-weapon competition.

It not only resolved itself into that, but when Captain Alexander Mehlman of N. Y. U. and Conway (Speedy) Williams of Columbia, 110 pounds of fighting fury, took to the fray, the title hinged not only on the final bout but on the final point.

Breaking past Mehlman's tightly knit defense with a lightning thrust, Williams's blade slid past the Violet leader's foil and struck him on the chest. It was the winning touch, and thus Columbia captured its first three-weapon crown without winning a single team title.

The other two honors went to Harvard in épée and N. Y. U. in saber. With the exception of the Violet in the last-named weapon, the championship roster was swept clean of the 1933 winners. N. Y. U. lost its three-weapon and foils crowns and Navy yielded its épée laurels. Oddly enough, neither City College, Harvard nor Columbia had ever taken top ranking in its division before.

Bad Day for Favorites.

Not only was it a bad day for the champions, but it was an exceedingly gloomy session for the favorites. Navy in foils, Navy and Yale in épée and N. Y. U. and Army in saber had been the way the close followers of the sport had ranked the teams in advance. The three-weapon affair was considered pretty much of a free-for-all.

And what happened? The Midshipmen took second in foils to a brilliant collection of swordsmen that Joseph Vince has developed in his four years at City College. The Annapolis delegation was third in épée and Yale did not even qualify. The Violet, however, saved a complete rout by holding fast to its saber laurels.

Perhaps Columbia was to blame for a lot of it. Coach Jim Murray's Lions qualified easily enough in foils. But in saber they barely squeezed into the final by winning from Navy on touches and just made the last brackets by slipping past Yale, also on touches.

When it reached the final round robin the Blue and White took a second in saber, a third in foils and a fourth in épée. This all amounted to 9 points in the tabulation for the three-weapon trophy.

Ties Navy For Second.

N. Y. U. with a first in saber, a fourth in foils and a single point in épée tied with Navy for second place at 8 markers as the result of a second in foils, a third in épée and one point in saber. City College and Harvard were deadlocked for fourth with 7 each.

Never has the first day of a tournament ended in such seething excitement as it did yesterday. It had the largest crowd ever to witness the preliminary engagements bewildered, so rapidly did the affair reach a two-headed climax.

Two strips were working simultaneously. On one City College was facing Navy in the match that was to decide the foils champion. On the other Columbia and N. Y. U. were clashing in an encounter that was to determine at least part ownership in the three-weapon trophy.

For if Navy won they the Midshipmen would have attained a half-share in this honor with the winner of the Lion-Violet engagement. A defeat meant total elimination from the championship picture.

Few thought that the Midshipmen would meet with that setback. In the first place Navy had a veteran crew. City College had a squad of two sophomores, a junior and a senior, hardly a formidable array.

But Vince knows his fencing and how to teach it. He had brought his combination along slowly so that the athletes were at their peak last night after a season fairly well strewn with reverses. Already the Lavender had conquered its two metropolitan foes and the Navy match meant everything.