

# Stollar Work With Epee and Foils Gives N. Y. U. Lead in Three-Weapon Fight

## N. Y. U. SWORDSMEN CAPTURE 43 BOUTS

Near Championships With  
Epee and Foils as College  
Tournament Starts

## YALE SABER STARS EXCITE

Take 17 of 21 Tests to Claim  
Advantage of Violets in  
3-Weapon Battle

By ARTHUR J. DALEY

Flashing blades of New York University swordsmen carved their way to the threshold of three championships of the Intercollegiate Fencing Association yesterday in the forty-fourth annual tournament started at the Hotel Commodore. The Violet duelists, in the process of winning forty-three bouts with three weapons, performed the practically unprecedented feat of taking thirty-two of their thirty-six foil and epee contests.

Dropping two matches with old-time dueling sword and tying two more, N. Y. U. scored 15 points out of a possible 18 and was racing ahead of the field for the epee title that was won by Yale a year ago.

In foils the New Yorkers' dominance was even greater. Here the defenders of the oldest intercollegiate trophy in existence, the J. P. Morgan Iron Man, they won seventy of eighteen engagements and thus left every one else considerably outdistanced.

### Elis Form Lone Obstacle

But before the N. Y. U. supporters could become too elated at this flying start, Yale came whirling along in the evening saber engagements, practically clinched that team crown with seventeen victories in twenty-one bouts and made a serious threat to what had seemed the certain clinching for the Violet of the three-weapon laurels.

Only the Elis can bar the way past that threshold. As the halfway mark was reached in the tournament, Yale had climbed from far in the ruck—32 points for N. Y. U. to 22½ for the Elis at the end of the matinee session—to 43 to 39½, a startling and unexpected change.

As things stand now only Yale can prevent the N. Y. U. three-weapon sweep. Every one else has been outdistanced, but in spite of the Blue proximity to the Violet on the scoreboard the New York adherents still were firm in their belief that its team needs only the slightest of pushes to get across the door-step.

In a way this is a handicap race. N. Y. U. has two blades in which to score heavily today—epee and foils—and Yale only the saber.

### Yale's Task Difficult

As far as completed matches are concerned, New York has taken 43 of 51 and the New Havenites 39½ of 54, a slight advantage for the Violet there. But the Yale cheering and rooting section refuses to give up. It still thinks it has an opportunity to win. At the moment the cards appear stacked against it unless Eli foilsmen and epeemen perform in extraordinary style today.

The yeoman worker for the Blue was Phil Viscidi, who fenced with epee in the morning, foils in the afternoon and then capped it all off with saber work at night. What makes his showing utterly amazing was that he appeared to get better and better as he went along. He wound up winning seven straight saber matches and hardly can miss the individual saber crown.

As far as the saber team title is concerned, Yale also appears to have a stranglehold on that. The pupils of the ebullient Bobby Grasson have only nine bouts to go with this weapon and still have a six-point lead on both Army and N. Y. U., the runners-up. Viscidi, Gerald Steinberg and Robert Ebel can practically coast along today and still make it.

The hero of the New York drive was neither of its Group A fencers, who also have other objectives in the winning of individual crowns, but rather a lad who is in the lower alphabetical brackets, Norman Lewis, 21-year-old senior, whose individual aspirations have been subordinated to the major business of bringing more team honors to the "grim, gray Palisades."

### Lewis Is Hero in Drive

Lewis has not a chance at either foils or epee crowns for himself. For this tournament, at least, the team is first, and yet he swept through twelve bouts—six with each weapon—without a semblance of defeat. His twelve points, therefore, form the backbone of the Violet drive to the top.

But this slender, black-haired youth had considerable support. No one can deny that. In epee, Ted Gold won five of six bouts, Lewis six in a row and Charles Robbins took three, lost one and double-touched two.

In foils, Lewis was given almost perfect support. Hugo Castello captured five of six, and Gold, doubling up, took six straight. The catch here, however, was that Castello, twice a winner of the individual foils laurels, found himself a bit behind Maurice Grasson of Yale, who had a five and none record.

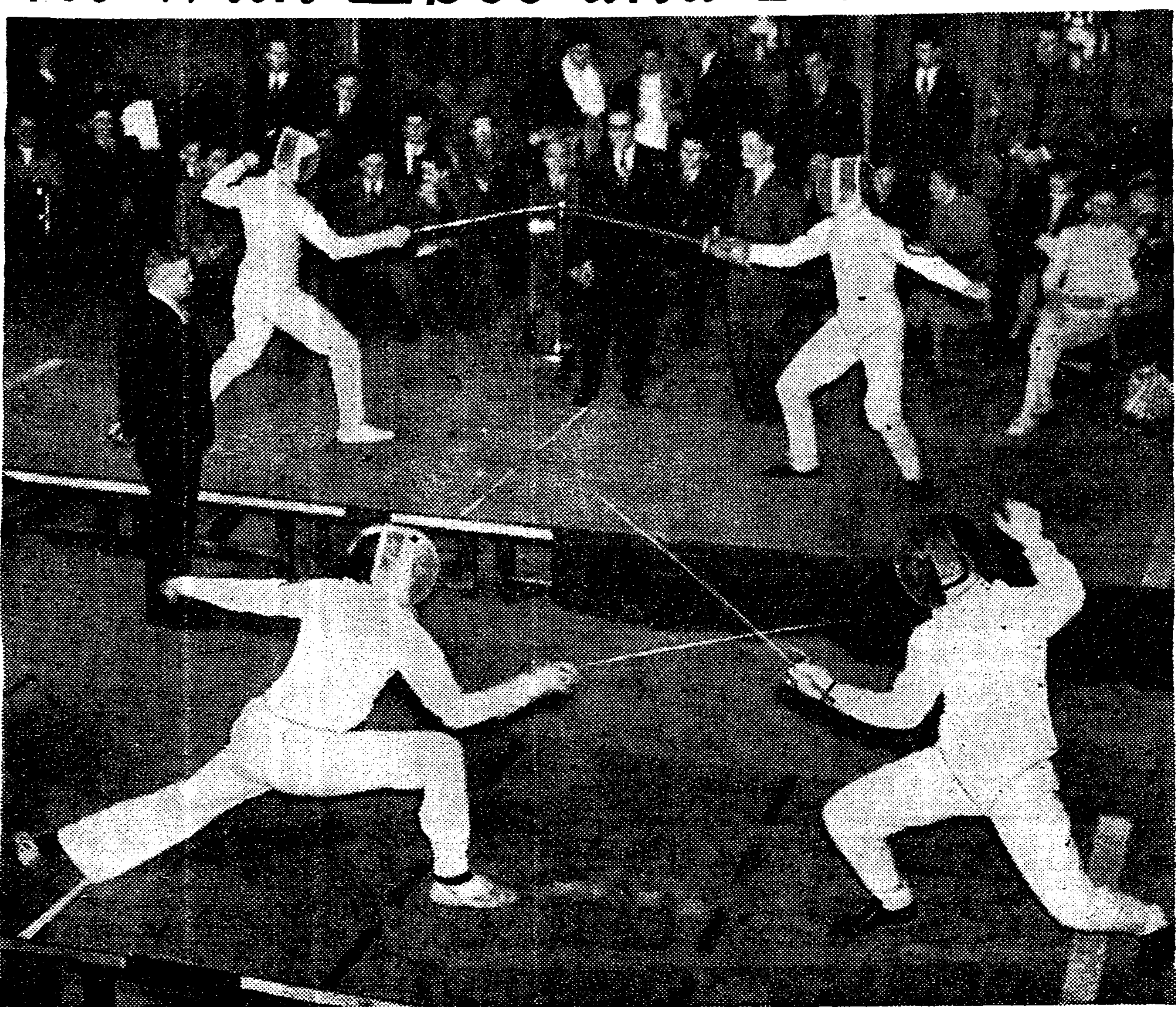
That Castello, fencing son of a fencing father, Julio Martinez Castello, the N. Y. U. coach, was not off by himself was due to a bit of carelessness that might very well cost him his title.

### Errs in His First Bout

It all happened in his very first bout of the foils section of the tournament—only one of 495—but one that might bring along dire consequences in its train.

When N. Y. U. met Columbia Castello was pitted against Leo Kellerman. The Violet ace raced ahead to a 3-1 lead and then performed the fatal trick of becoming careless. Before he was quite aware of what had transpired the Lion foilsmen had beaten him, 5-4.

Before today's show is over that one defeat may spell the difference between victory and a lost title. That was especially evident when Grasson, the son of Bobby Grasson, the Yale coach, vanquished Kellerman with superlative ease, 6-1.



## COLLEGE FENCERS CROSS FOILS IN TITLE COMPETITION

On strip in the foreground, at the Hotel Commodore, are contestants from Columbia and M. I. T., while in the background are representatives of C. C. N. Y. and Navy.