

NAVY, C. C. N. Y. TIE FOR FENCING LEAD

Pace the Three-Weapon Title
Competition at 43 Points—
N. Y. U. Team Is Next

By LINCOLN A. WERDEN

Navy's bid to retain the three-weapon crown in the fifty-first intercollegiate fencing championships was threatened by City College as the initial day's program ended last night at the Sixty-ninth Regiment Armory.

At the conclusion of the major portion of the epee, saber and foil bouts, the midshipmen, who captured three of the four titles when the tourney was last staged in 1943, found themselves deadlocked at 43 points with the Lavender forces.

The next best showing in the three-weapon compilation was credited to the N. Y. U. team that dominated the foil competition in the previous championship. The Violets scored 38½, while Army and Cornell followed with 35 and 31, respectively. Harvard and Yale both had 25.

Comes Back Strongly

Navy, now under the tutelage of Joseph Fiems, former Belgian Army instructor, came back strongly in the saber bouts after a somewhat disappointing showing with the foil. The midshipmen, aided by two perfect performances contributed by their captain, Jim Day, and Bill Barton, accounted for 19 of 21 points in the saber division.

With each winning bout scoring one point, Day and Barton turned back seven opponents each and the other member of the trio, Ed Stacy, added five more.

Coupled with the saber work, Navy's entries had shown to advantage with the épée or dueling sword as the long program got under way at 1 P. M. With this weapon the midshipmen tallied 14 points, leading their Army rivals who tied with City College at 12, while Cornell was next with 10.

Bill Doby almost turned in a perfect score in the epee competition but the midshipman's bout with Dick Shannon of Yale ended in a tie, to give him a total of 5½.

Cohen a 7-0 Winner

City College showed all-around strength and Abe Cohen was the third saber contestant, besides the two Navy men, to tally a 7-0 triumph while his team-mates added seven more points to give the Lavender team their 14 with this weapon.

Although C.C.N.Y. has never won the three-weapon honors, their well-balanced squad proved especially strong with the foil, accumulating 17 points while Army and N.Y.U. collected 15 during the afternoon.

Al Axelrod, who did well in the Olympic tryouts, went through unbeaten for City in the foil bouts, a performance that only Capt. Bob Kaplan of N.Y.U. was able to duplicate.

The individual championships will be decided today, when two men from each pool will go into the final round robin after the remaining bouts are completed this afternoon.