

# NAVY GAINS LEAD IN TITLE FENCING

## Middies 3 Points Ahead of N.Y.U. in N.C.A.A. Meet

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Saturday, March 31 (AP)—Navy surprised the defending champion, New York University, and took the lead after the first day of the two-day National Collegiate fencing championship.

Earlier Friday evening it was believed that the N. Y. U. team, with three defending individual champions back, was on its way to a third straight N. C. A. A. crown.

A late start and a deluge of results tossed the point tabulation far behind, but when all of the results were tabulated the middies held a 49-46 lead over N. Y. U.

Leading the Navy drive for the title were Thane Hawkins, first-day leader in the épée event with an 18-1 record, and Edward Hurst, who topped the saber competition with a 16-1 mark.

Herb Cohen of N. Y. U., who has won fifty dual meets this season, led the foil competition with a 17-1 mark.

Other teams in the top ten of the field of thirty-six are Illinois, with thirty-eight victories to its credit; Pennsylvania thirty-seven; Columbia, thirty-four; Ohio State, thirty-three; Princeton, 32; Air Force, thirty-two; Cornell, 31, and Michigan State, 31.

The championship is a round-robin affair, with all fencers meeting everyone in their particular event. By the time the championship is decided the foil men will have fought about thirty-three duels, épée specialists thirty-two and saber men thirty-one. The number of bouts varies because some school did not enter a full three-man team.