Fencing road trip gives mixed results

By Ellen L. Spero

NEW YORK — The women's fencing team won two of three matches, and the men won one of two in a tour of New York City this weekend.

Both teams faced Hunter College and New York University, and the women also met Stevens Institute of Technology at NYU.

"We had a relatively easy win over Hunter, and that was without two of our starters on the men's team and one of our starters on the women's team," said MIT coach Eric Sollee, "but we felt the lack of them against NYU."

The men defeated Hunter, 18-9, and lost to NYU, 10-17. The women beat Hunter, 11-5, and NYU, 9-7, but lost to Stevens, 8-8, by indicator points, which are tallied after a tie and based on the number of touches scored.

Mitchel Messer '85 received only one touch in his three bouts in the men's foil 6-3 victory against Hunter. Russell Hob '84 won two bouts, and Rich Shapiro '84, in the men's epee 6-3 victory scored only one touch in his three bouts.

Alas, Williams '84 won three bouts, as did Dan Kozs, who won the men's epee 8-1 victory. Rex Kochanski '85 also contributed two bouts in the winning effort.

The saber team lost in a close 5-4 contest against Hunter. Dan Toye '87 took two bouts, and Charles Kwon '84 and Seth Her K.G each contributed a victory.

The women's team started slowly against Hunter, losing the first three bouts. Ann Zabludoff '84 stopped the losing streak with her 5-1 victory. After that, Sollee attributed her team's success to the fact that Sollee attributed her team's success to the fact that. The women's team easily took control of the meet. Annie Haber '86, Vivian Wang '84, and Zabludoff each won three bouts, and Penny Axford '85 contributed two victories in the effort.

The women continued their success with a close win over NYU. Haber won all four of her bouts, two by shutdown. Wang also captured her four bouts.

The women were not as successful as the women, losing the meet with NYU by a wide margin. One of the bright spots of the meet was Holtz's 5-3 victory over NCA A champion Dimitri Vallamis. "He took the NCA A champion quite handily," Sollee explained.

Holtz is "continuing to show growth and masters of his particular fencing game, which most of the opposition hasn't yet solved," Sollee said.

Holtz won all three of his foil bouts, and Shapiro won one in the 4-5 defeat.

Williams and Kochanski each won two bouts, as quite team also lost by a score of 4-5. The saber team won an even less success against host NYU, losing by a score of 2-7. Kwon earned the only two victories for the team.

The women finished the weekend with a defeat, losing by indicator points to Stevens Tech. Haber and Wang won three bouts each, and Zabludoff and Sollee contributed in the 8-8 match.

On deck

Pistol fires two-year high, air pistol breaks record

By Len Rafuse

The pistol team fired a 3116 out of a possible 3600, MIT's highest score in the past two years, to capture a first-place finish against the US Coast Guard Academy, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, and New York University.

The team started strongly in the Five Pistol event, jumping to a 48-point lead over the second-place Coast Guard Academy. The Engineers were led by team captain Dan Martin '84, who scored a 264 out of 300. Five shooting from Roberto Landrau '85, Will Johnson '85, and Jerry Martin '86 gave the squad a 1010-962 lead.

Dave Martin once again lead the team in Standard Pistol with a 1580 out of 1600. Excellent support from Johnson, Landrau, and Homero Roy '86 led to the team's high score of 3116 and easily topped USCOSA's 2967, Norwich's 2799, and WPI's 2186. The team shooting another high in the Air Pistol competition, blasting out a 1466 out of 1600 and handily defeating the other three schools. Landrau, Jerry Martin, and Roy all contributed in the MIT victory.

The same air pistol shooters, Landrau, Roy, and Martin, set a National Record for Junior Air Pistol in an open match on the weekend of Jan. 29. The trio shot a 1087 to best the previous record, also held by an MIT team, by four points.

Editor's note: Len Rafuse is manager of the pistol team.

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