

Coach's Notes: Oct 25, 2008 Scrimmage at Hampshire College

What a wonderful way to start the 2008-2009 season! This past Saturday, Hampshire College hosted a scrimmage attended by UMass, Hampshire, Smith, Mt Holyoke, and Williams Colleges. The format was individual events, as this was intended to be a warm-up event for next week's Big One, hosted by Smith College. UMass was the dominant team present, both in terms of competitive skill and in sheer numbers of fencers.

Epée results and commentary

1 st Place: Chris Toleson '09
2 nd Place: Stew Dougherty '09
3 rd T Place: Bryan Cohen '12
5 th place: Paola Arango '12
6 th place: Justin Young '11
11 th place: Lauren Murphy '09

fencers that I'm excited to work with this season.

There were 13 total competitors in the mixed épée competition, and UMass dominated the field in terms of numbers and skills. **Stew** had a hard-fought semi-final bout against Dan Cottle of Hampshire, the only non-UMass fencer in the top six. He edged Dan 15-14 in that bout, and then met **Toleson** in the gold medal bout. **Toleson** overcame an early first period deficit to defeat **Stew**. This is a terrific crew of

Foil results and commentary

1 st Place: André Laffitte '10
3 rd T Place: Ian Underwood '09
5 th Place: Chris Ye '12
6 th Place: Carrie Roberts '11
11 th Place: Alex Sprague '10
14 th Place: Rose Zheng '12

may have had the most successful outing of all UMass fencers. Overall, this crew of foilists is poised for great improvement and success this season.

There were 20 total competitors in the mixed foil competition, and **André** was the really big dog in the fight. While he dominated the competition, he felt that he would need to fence technically better at next week's Big One to do well. **Carrie** had many great actions and bouts where the items she's been working on in practice were highlighted successfully. From a coaching/learning point of view, she

Sabre results and commentary

Women's Sabre
1 st Place: Caitlin Coughlan '11

competitive spirit is hard to summarize on paper, but easy to understand even with casual observation on the strip. Unfortunately, her work schedule did not allow her to compete in the mixed sabre event.

Caitlin was the only UMass entry in this field of six fencers in the women's sabre event, and she was a dominant figure in the field. Her

Mixed Sabre
1 st Place: Alex Gluck '09
3 rd T Place: Laura Brassard MS '09
3 rd T Place: LJ Zhang '10
6 th Place: Ted Emelianov '11

have both shown great improvement even just this season, and I really like their competitive spirit.

Though **Caitlin** could not compete in the mixed sabre event, **Laura** was able to compete (her work schedule prevented her participation in the women's event). The total field in the mixed event was 9 fencers. **Alex** was the dominant fencer in the pool, defeating Greg Sherrid of Williams in the final handily. **Ted** and **LJ**