

## Coach's Notes: 2008 Temple Open 11/15-16/2008

The Temple Open at Temple University in Philadelphia, PA. is an individual open tournament similar to the Big One in New England in that all participants must be college fencers.

Representing UMass were **Caitlin Coughlan '12**, **Alex Gluck '09**, **André Laffitte '10**, **Chris Toleson '09**, **Stew Dougherty '09**, and **Justin Young '11**.

The format was pools with 80% promoted to another round of pools. All fencers who had made the 80% cut out of the first pool were put into the DE. Those who did not make the initial cut fenced in the consolation round pool, but did not fence DE bouts. The links to the full results are available here: <http://owlsports.cstv.com/sports/w-fenc/recaps/111608aaa.html> .

Because so few of the intercollegiate bouts are 15-touch DE bouts, we do not practice them at UMass. This is the last time UMass fencers will compete in a tournament with 15-touch bouts this season.

Our next competition: the Northeast Fencing Conference meet @UNH on November 22, 2008.

### Foil results and commentary

<b>Men (95 entries)</b>	André had a strong showing in the pools, but faltered in the longer DE bouts. This tournament was great for André in that he started to see and understand what he needs to develop in his game to reach the next step, and he understands that he can attain that next level soon.
37 <sup>th</sup> André Laffitte '10	

### Epée results and commentary

<b>Men (106 entries)</b>	With a goal "to ruin people's day," Toleson overcame broken weapons and a growing cold to make it to the second round of 32. Technically strong, Toleson had minor tactical glitches that proved to be all his opponent needed to defeat him. Stew's day was up and down: strong in the first pool, struggled in the second pool; breezed through the first DE, and then was defeated by Sam Larsen from Penn State University. Justin had a rough start, and found himself in the consolation pool, where he was undefeated, but didn't finish well because one fencer in his pool withdrew, reducing the number of victories he could win. These fencers' results make it clear that their coach (that's me) needs to emphasize more tactics in practice.
27 <sup>th</sup> Chris Toleson '09	
47 <sup>th</sup> Stew Dougherty '09	
104 <sup>th</sup> Justin Young '11	

### Sabre Results and commentary

<b>Women (98 entries)</b>	<b>Men (88 entries)</b>	Caitlin found herself opposite 2008 Olympic bronze medalist, Becca Ward (Duke '12) in her first pool. Ward was able to be lax against most in the pool, but was obviously <i>not</i> being lax when fencing Caitlin. After she coasted to a 15-0 victory in her first DE bout, Caitlin was defeated by Christie Griffith of Temple (who eventually made it to the top 8). Unfortunately, I had to leave the venue before I saw Alex fence his DE bouts, but I did get to see his pool bouts, where he was doing pretty well. With excellent tactics and good overall speed, Alex held his own against most of the fencers from the varsity programs, such as UNC and NYU.
19 <sup>th</sup> Caitlin Coughlan '11	11 <sup>th</sup> Alex Gluck '09	