

## OLYMPIA FENCERS SWEEP FOIL EVENT AT OPEN EPEE AND DIVISION III FOIL TOURNAMENT

ST. LOUIS, FEBRUARY 8, 2009... Fencers from Olympia Fencing Academy swept the foil event at the Open Epee and Division III Foil Tournament, held in St. Louis at Missouri Baptist University, on February 8. The tournament attracted more than 70 fencers from throughout the St. Louis area, as well as Springfield, Illinois and Kansas City.

Bringing home the gold for Olympia Fencing Academy was Adam Bartling. Ron Daugherty won second place and fellow Olympia fencer, Phillip Janini made it unanimous with a third place performance. Olympia fencer Alex Cohen also had a strong performance with a 5<sup>th</sup> place finish. Other Olympia fencers who participated were John Dunagan, Robert Clemens and Charles Halbeck.

### Olympia Fencers Sweep Foil Event, add one

“Olympia Fencing Academy is establishing a reputation for strong showings and Adam Bartling, the Olympia fencer who won this tournament, is only thirteen years old, the minimum age to fence in an “open” tournament. Results such as this help to further the sport of fencing overall, but especially here in St. Louis”, said Paula Reed, a spokesperson for Olympia Fencing Academy. “We hope to see fencers from many of the same clubs who participated in yesterday’s competition at Olympia’s sabre tournament, scheduled for April 5. Youth fencers begin at 9:00 AM and the adults’ competition begins at 12:30 PM.”

Sanctioned by the United States Fencing Association (USFA), Olympia Fencing Academy is the training facility for several nationally ranked fencers who regularly compete around the country, as well as for dozens of recreational fencers of all ages and skill levels who simply enjoy the strategy, athleticism and camaraderie of the sport. The Academy’s head coach, Hossam Hassan, has 27 years of experience and holds nine certifications and degrees from the French Fencing Federation and International Olympic Committee. Olympia is St. Louis’ first dedicated fencing facility, featuring 6,500 square feet and is located in the heart of the Central Corridor, at 8664 Olive Blvd. Olympia is also home for beginner to advanced fencing classes, birthday parties and other special events that combine fun and fencing for all ages. For more information, call 314-993-9700 or email [info@olympiafencing.com](mailto:info@olympiafencing.com).

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**About the USFA:** The United States Fencing Association is the national governing body for the sport in the U.S. The USFA is a member of the U.S. Olympic Committee and the international fencing federation, the Federation Internationale d’Escrime. The USFA’s mission is to 1) prepare and select athletes for the Olympic Games, Pan American Games, World Championships and World University Games 2) develop programs for international success and 3) organize grassroots development of the sport in this country. For more information, visit [www.usfencing.org](http://www.usfencing.org).