



The Ridge High School fencing teams prevailed at the District 4 Championships at North Hunterdon High School. Back row, from left: Eric Liu, Lawrence Han, Eric Wang, Ryan Shadpoor, Casper Mika, Allen Marakov, Clark Kokenge, Liz Yugov, Sohana Damani, Diya Kulkarni, Brock Martynowski, Annie Kleinle, Jillian Yao, Jaclyn Chen, Elizabeth Chan, Coach Glen Pernia and Erica Chang. Middle row, from left: Coach Nesi Calderon, Coach Zack Brown, Ishita Goel, Andrea Tirado and Sameera Mathias. Front row: Madison Clowes.

Ridge fencers wins district title

Red Devils sweep District 4 at North Hunterdon, number of fencers qualify for state competition

BERNARDS TWP. — It was another stellar weekend for the Ridge High School fencing team. Both boys and girls teams captured the overall titles on Saturday, Jan. 25, at the District 4 Championships held at North Hunterdon High School.

Epee, Foil Teams Lead Ridge Girls

On the girls' side, the epee squad of Diya Kulkarni, Jillian Yao and Elizabeth Chan finished in first place. The foil squad of Liz Yugov, Madison Clowes and Erica Chang also secured the first-place finish, and the saber squad of Andrea Tirado, Ishita Goel and Sameera Mathias grabbed a fourth-place spot.

All scores tallied to a total of 73 bout victories on the day. This combination of all three weap-

ons resulted in the girls' team overall gold medal.

Epee, Foil Teams Also Lead Way For Ridge Boys

The boys followed suit with the epee squad of Allen Marakov, Clark Kokenge and Eric Wang claiming the first-place spot. The foil squad of Eric Liu, Lawrence Han and Ryan Shadpoor finished in first as well, and the saber squad of Casper Mika, Brock Martynowski and Thomas Morrissey fought to a fifth-place finish.

With these scores totaled, the boys' team had 62 bout wins and an impressive indicator score (points won vs. lost) of +138. This was 79 points more than the second-place finisher. The team effort of all weapons gave the boys the overall gold.

In the afternoon, some

of the top fencers from the morning tournament faced off in the individual competition. On the line was a chance to qualify to compete for an individual title at Livingston High School on March 1.

The following fencers qualified for states with top-four finishes: Diya Kulkarni, fourth in girls epee, Liz Yugov, first in girls foil, Madison Clowes, fourth in girls foil, Allen Marakov first in boys epee, Clark Kokenge, second in boys epee, Eric Wang, fourth in boys epee, Eric Liu, first in boys foil and Casper Mika, first in boys saber.

With the outstanding effort by the Ridge fencing team, it positioned itself to be the top seed in the state tournament. The opening Round of 16 begins on Tuesday, Feb. 4 (girls), and Thursday, Feb. 6 (boys).