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The Cutting Edge

The Society of American Fight Directors

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THE CUTTING EDGE

Volume 1, Issue 5

Newsletter for the Society of American Fight Directors

September/October, 1990

F. Y. I.

Colonial Armory

Rod Casteel says check out his new Schloger blade. It's much improved and cheaper than the Musketeer blade. However, it may not fit a hilt meant for a Musketeer.

Rod has also acquired diamond shaped "Town Sword" blades with steel scabbards.

Colonial Armory

106 Lynnbrook
Eugene, OR 97404
(503) 688-0607

Arms and Armor

The Whitte Museum in San Antonio has commissioned Arms and Armor to create replicas of Spanish armor and weapons for the Living History portion of their exhibit on the Conquistadores.

Arms and Armor

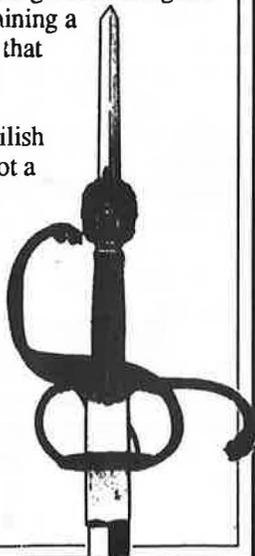
1101 Stinson Blvd. NE
Minneapolis, MN 55413
(612) 331-6473

Did You Know . . . ?

In Richard Lester's film of *The Three Musketeers*, the Duke of Buckingham gives D'artagnan a rapier containing a hidden blade that springs from the pommel.

This devilish device was not a Hollywood invention, but a real sword with a chiselled steel hilt made by Oyhmar Wetter in 1594.

★ ★ ★



SAFD Blows into Windy City for 1990 ATHE Conference

The SAFD was well represented at this year's ATHE (Association for Theatre in Higher Education) conference with President J. Allen Suddeth, Fight Masters Erik Fredericksen and Richard Raether, and Chairman of the Board Jeff Koep in attendance. The conference was held August 8-11 at the Palmer House in Chicago. The theme of this year's conference was *Issues of the 90s* and the SAFD was there to make sure stage combat is one of those issues.

Mr. Suddeth sat on a panel of movement specialists, along with Ed Bouchard of the North American Society of teachers of the Alexander Technique, Lloyd Williamson of Rutgers University and the Actors Movement studio, fellow SAFD member Colleen Kelly of SETC, and Karen Bradley of the Laban Bartenieff Institute.

Mr. Fredericksen and Mr. Suddeth conducted a workshop on the safe use of swords and firearms on stage. Suddeth, Fredericksen, and Raether presented a

panel chaired by Mr. Koep on the SAFD—who we are and what we do.

All these things appeared in the program but, as with most conventions, there was a lot of politicking between panels. The SAFD is anxious to gain more recognition, so the organization has applied to be an ATHE focus group. Focus groups have a say in the yearly meeting, provide programming for the yearly conference, and can apply for funding from ATHE.

Proposals are already in the works for panels at next year's ATHE conference in Seattle. Jeff Koep was busy drumming up support for the SAFD library and working out details for a scholarship to the National Stage Combat Workshop—details to be forthcoming.

It was a very productive four days, and many thanks go to SAFD members Dan Carter and Colleen Kelly for all of their help and assistance in Chicago.

★ ★ ★



