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SA ATHLETE COMPETES AT WORLD FENCING CHAMPIONSHIPS

APRIL 21, 2015 | WELCOME HOME

Submitted By Velizar Iliev

Farrah Lee-Elabd, age 16, competed with Team USA at the 2015 Cadet and Junior World Fencing Championships held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. More than a thousand competitors from over one hundred countries gathered and took part in individual and team events in epee, foil and sabre from April 1st – 9th, 2015.

This is the most important annual competition for the best young

fencers from around the globe, and many Olympians have competed in these championships early in their careers. Spots on the national teams are merit based and awarded to top 3 fencers in each division from every nation. Athletes compete in two age categories – Cadets up to 17 years old, and Juniors up to 20 years old.

On April 1st, Lee-Elabd finished 10th overall in Cadet Women's Epee division. She finished pools in a strong position with 5 wins against Germany, Hong Kong, Honduras, Czech Republic and Hungary and 1 loss against Canada earning her a bye. She won her table of 64 bout against Day De Wijn (Netherlands) then defeated Danielle Lawson (Great Britain) in the table of 32. In the table of 16 she lost 15-14 to a fellow USA teammate, Barbara Van Benthuysen.

The San Antonio native's most recent accomplishments include a Bronze Medal in Junior Women's Epee division at the North American Cup in Salt Lake City, UT, and an 8th place finish at the Junior World Cup in Burgos, Spain this past January and February, respectively. She is one of only three Americans and the youngest one in their division to earn a top 8 finish at a Junior World Cup this season.

Lee-Elabd is an 11th grader at Saint Mary's Hall, and she hopes to be recruited to a NCAA Division I fencing college later this year. The sport of fencing has brought her unique opportunities to travel and friendships from all over the US and beyond.

Farrah trains at the Olympian Fencing Club (<http://www.olympianfencing.com/>) in San Antonio, Texas with some of the best fencers in the nation. She is coached by Velizar Iliev, a US Olympian and three-time World Champion.