

Jeff Bukantz - In Medal Contention

Contributed by Craig Harkins
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Jeff Bukantz (pictured, left) is the Captain of the US Olympic team and was the FIE observer for referees in Orleans, France.

Serge Timacheff (FencingPhotos.com, FencingRadio) caught up with Jeff and this 24 minute interview brings us up to speed on where the US team sits with Olympic qualification.

The US Women's Sabre team has locked up an Olympic qualification, so now the focus for them is on seeding. Other US teams are close to qualifying but the qualifications and seedings are still in play.

"The key for our fencers in the next 6 weeks is to get our teams qualified and then focus on the seeding. We (the US) should have a good result this time." says Jeff.

{audio}http://www.fencing.net/podcast/FencingRadio_Jeff_Bukantz_Orleans_Feb_08.mp3{/audio}

Among the interview topics:

- Rebecca Ward sees the actions in slow motion
- Sada Jacobson is at the top of her game
- What's happening with Mariel Zagunis?
- Smart, Morehouse strong for Men's Sabre
- Who we need to make a medal run in Men's Sabre
- Which US teams strike fear into the Europeans
- No Tarantino at the Beijing Olympics?
- New guard in men's foil
- Video replay - Good for the US?
- US political scene post-Beijing

Pictured - The top 8 from the individual finals in the Orleans Women's Sabre Grand Prix. Photos courtesy Serge Timacheff, FencingPhotos.com