



NB Fencer LeBlanc helps Canadian team to Silver Medal in Argentina

Canada Day 2012 has extra special meaning for Marc-Andre LeBlanc, a native of Shediac, NB who competed with Canadian teammates, Hugues Boisvert-Simard of Quebec City and John Wright of Ottawa in a Senior World Cup in Buenos Aires, Argentina on July 1st. The team gained silver medals and their best placing of the season with a semi-final victory 45-36 over the USA team. In the finals, they faced a powerful Hungarian team and went down to defeat 21-45.

Marc-Andre also achieved a personal best and was top Canadian in the individual World Cup competition where he finished 7th in a field of 55 competitors. In his first round pool, he had four out of five victories which seeded him in 23rd place for the elimination round. In Marc-Andre's words " I fenced the Swiss Brunold through pain and misery in a close match. Brunold led by two points until the last minute when I managed to score two and tied it at 10-10. In overtime, I put him down with a stop hit to win 11-10. My next bout was against Somfai of Hungary. It began tightly and at the end of the first period it was 6-6. Then I made a few key hits and stopped his attacks to win 15-8. Then I drew a Chinese fencer and after a fierce battle in which we exchanged touches, I managed to prevail 14-13 in overtime. Finally I drew Kauter from Switzerland who is currently ranked second in the world and was the eventual winner of this World Cup. He controlled the game well and the gap was never closer than two touches, I lost 11-15."

This result caps off a very successful season for LeBlanc who will be eager to get back to the World Cup circuit in the coming season.

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