

'Celebrate the champions' event July 26 to benefit undergraduate scholarships

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Marking the start of the Del Mar racing season, the Del Mar Saddle Club will be the setting July 26 for a gala dinner party to benefit undergraduate scholarships at the University of California, San Diego.

Although the first day of racing is July 23, the Saturday "Celebrate the Champions" benefit will officially kick off social activities surrounding the 1997 season.

The event includes a cocktail reception, silent and live auctions, dinner and dancing.

Dick Enberg will serve as master of ceremonies, and Jack Van Berg will conduct the auction. Special tributes will go to retired trainer Gary Jones and Eclipse winner Cigar. Also to be honored from the 1996 Del Mar meet will be Alex Solis, Bill Shoemaker Award for Jockey of the Meet; Mike Mitchell, Farrell Jones Award for Trainer of the Meet, and Gerald and Alain Wertheimer (La Presle Farm), Ken Schiffer Award for Owners of the Meet.

Serving as general co-chairs are Marvia and Clair Burgener of Rancho Santa Fe, Barbara and Joseph Harper of Del Mar and Robin and Gerald Parsky of Rancho Santa Fe. Dinner chairs are Valerie and Harry Cooper of La Jolla, with Valerie and Lennie Recabaren of Rancho Santa Fe assisting as co-chairs.

Proceeds will support undergraduate scholarships for academically outstanding UCSD students with financial need. For information call 534-0263.

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