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August 25, 1991

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If the pattern of past years holds up, nearly 4,000 persons will happily jam two blocks of La Jolla's Wall Street late this afternoon to mark the ninth annual "Off the Wall Street Dance and Block Party" benefiting the UCSD School of Medicine and Medical Center.

Founded in 1982 by the late Jack Farris, M.D., and La Jollans Nancy Hester and Mac Canty, the event has served to forge a link between the community and the School of Medicine, and to raise funds for medical projects. Last year \$500,000 was donated to the Medical Center for a new trauma operating room; in other years proceeds from the end-of-summer event have gone to support the Alzheimer's Day Care Center, a medical student loan program, and to the Life Flight, Infant Special Care, Burn and Trauma centers at UCSD Medical Center.

Chairing this year's party is Bette Biddulph Smith, who also headed arrangements in 1986, 1987 and 1990. Hester and Canty co- chaired in 1983 and 1984; Ann Poovey in 1985 and Deidre Dooling in 1988 and 1989.

Wall Streeters will have an opportunity this year to kick up their heels to three bands--Dr. Feelgood and The Interns of Love will make a repeat house call, Arlene and The Saddle Club will provide country and western favorites, and Haute Chile will feature songs by Angel O'Brien, April Doyle and Mark Jones.

A number of local celebrities will take the plunge in the always-popular Dunking Booth. Included on the roster are San Diego Chargers defensive lineman Burt Grossman; Manny Silva of La Valencia Hotel and the Whaling Bar, tennis pro Jack Kruger, weight trainer Eric Hill, La Jolla High School coaches Rick and Vickie Eveleth, Bob Schrimph of All Hallows Church youth group, and "unknown celebrity" Bill Hippe.

Games range from the Putting Green to Pop It; food from cinnamon rolls to Chicago hot dogs, refreshments from wine to fruit smoothies.

Assisting Smith with arrangements were Jean Johnson, co- chair, Sandy Atkinson, Joe Basquez, Rosina Beaver, Blake Biddulph, Melanie Cohrs, Sean Caddell, Randy Cutting, Deirdre Booling, Patrick Dooling, Melissa Elliott, Jody Fletcher, Martha Ehringer, Lisa Gilmore, Sally Grewe, Kiki Henry, Bill Hippe, Gena Hixson, Dottie Howe, David Ish, Pat JaCoby, Arleen Konor, Jim Laing, Ann Lewis, Rayleen Liebhardt, Carole Mayo, Pam Mueller, Rudy Rehm, Judy Sadler, Ken Smith, Susan Stone and Maryl Weightman.

In tribute to Dr. Farris, associate dean for community affairs at the UCSD School of Medicine from 1983 to his death in 1990, the committee's "Off the Wall" t-shirts contained the letters "J.F." in the baby toe of the foot stenciled on the front of the shirt.

Decorations this year featured an underwater theme.

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