

First International Fencing Camp to be offered at UCSD

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The greatest number of fencing masters ever to gather on the west coast possibly the greatest number ever to gather at one time in the United States or the world - will take part in the first International Fencing Camp at the University of California, San Diego July 13 through 20.

A faculty of 12 to 15 European and American masters, including world class and Olympic fencers and coaches, will conduct the eight-day camp sponsored by UCSD. The camp is open to all fencers - beginners, competitors, teachers and coaches - interested in an intensive program of instruction.

Cost for attending the camp is \$200 for tuition, room and board. For those not wishing room and board, tuition fee is \$100. For coaches and older students wishing University Extension credit of 4 units, an additional Extension fee of \$30 is required.

According to Dr. James White, fencing coach at UCSD and director of the camp, the program will encompass all aspects of fencing while, at the same time, be flexible enough to allow for individual consultation and instruction. Class size will be limited to a ratio of six to eight students per master.

"The camp offers an opportunity to get a start in a traditional sport which could launch the younger fencers into future Olympic competition," White said. "The secret to becoming an Olympic fencer is to get involved at a very young age. If you get someone who isn't a natural fencer at a young enough age you can develop his ability to a very high level," he said.

The fencing camp is not limited to the young. White said those already enrolled range in age from 9 to 65 years and include beginners and advanced fencers as well as a number of fencing coaches. At least three students will attend from Mexico City with others coming from throughout the western United States.

"We are looking for more people from this area," White said. "We see the camp as an opportunity to launch a major fencing program in the La Jolla area."

For beginners, instruction will include basic and simplified individual and group foil, saber and epee lessons emphasizing correct stance and mobility. The students will learn to recognize both offensive and defensive situations and complete offensive and defensive movements. The program will also include calisthenics, individual beginning lessons, conditioning and a philosophy of bouting.

For advanced students instruction will include calisthenics and conditioning, and individual and group lessons as well as sessions on philosophy of bouting. For teachers and coaches the instruction will include methods of teaching calisthenics and conditioning, philosophy of coaching and elementary instruction in all weapons. There will also be instruction in developing the lesson sequence, teaching fencing strategy, psychological preparation for bouting, and discussion of individual coaching problems.

According to White, there will also be time allotted for daily activities such as surfing, skin diving, tide pooling and beach parties. A series of fencing movies will be shown in the evenings.

Anyone wishing further information should contact White at the UCSD Physical Education Department: telephone 453-2000, extension 2275.

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