

9-16-2003

## MEDIA ADVISORY UNH to Dedicate Dairy Center in Honor of Long Time Professor

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### Recommended Citation

Keeler, Sharon, "MEDIA ADVISORY UNH to Dedicate Dairy Center in Honor of Long Time Professor" (2003). *UNH Today*. 1984.  
<https://scholars.unh.edu/news/1984>

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## **MEDIA ADVISORY: UNH to Dedicate Dairy Center in Honor of Long-Time Professor**

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Sept. 16, 2003

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**WHAT:** The University of New Hampshire will recognize one of its most distinguished professors by dedicating the center he helped to build in his honor. UNH will name its dairy center the Thomas P. Fairchild Dairy Teaching and Research Center.

**WHEN:** Thursday, Sept. 18. Program and reception 5 to 6:30 p.m. Barn tours preceding at 4 p.m.

**WHERE:** The UNH Dairy Barns. From Route 4, exit at state road 155A and turn east toward Durham. Follow 155A through a short stretch of fields. Turn left on Mast Road Extension. Turn right into the Spinney Lane parking lot, adjacent to the UNH Equine Center. A shuttle will transport you to the UNH Dairy Barns.

**BACKGROUND:** Fairchild, a 1959 UNH graduate, has spent his career at UNH as a member of the faculty and the administration. Over the years he has served as Dairy Extension specialist, professor of animal science, chairperson of the Department of Animal and Nutritional Sciences, dean of the College of Life Sciences and Agriculture, and interim UNH president. He was instrumental in leading the fundraising effort to build the \$1.6 million dairy teaching and research center and oversaw the planning of Rudman Hall, a \$30 million teaching and research center for the biological sciences.

After his tenure as interim president ended in 1995, Fairchild returned to the UNH faculty and co-founded the university's nationally recognized CREAM (Cooperative for Real Education in Agricultural Management) Program. As a result, 20 students every year, most with no prior experience, have responsibility for a 26-cow milking herd. UNH honored Fairchild for his career achievements with the 2000 Alumni Affairs Award for Excellence in Public Service. He was also presented the 2001 Distinguished Service Award by the Northeastern Section of American Society of Animal Sciences.

In addition to his responsibilities at the university, Fairchild has served as chair of the Teaching Committee of the New England Regional Dairy Program, and trustee of the 4-H Foundation of New Hampshire. He has been called the "conscience of the state's 4-H network" and "a New Hampshire agricultural icon."

