## **MEDIA ADVISORY:**

## **Saturday Night Bonfire Cancelled Because of Expected Winds**

## **UNH Celebrates Men's Hockey Homecoming Monday, April 8**

By <u>Kim Billings</u> UNH News Bureau

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DURHAM, N.H., Officials at the UNH/Durham Fire Department have advised the University of New Hampshire not to host a scheduled bonfire Saturday night, due to a weather forecast that includes high winds. "Because of safety issues, Saturday night's bonfire is cancelled" says Leila Moore, UNH vice president of student affairs.

The university community is gearing up for the men's ice hockey team's return to Durham, and a welcome home celebration is being planned for Monday by the Office of Public Programs and Events, in cooperation with UNH Athletics.

Doors open at the Whittemore Center at 6 p.m. Monday, April 8, and hockey fans from around the state are invited to attend. Concession stands will be open.

"This is an opportunity for all hockey fans, - big and small, from all over the state -- to welcome back our student athletes and celebrate their incredible season," explains Susan Entz, director of public programs and events.

The Hockey East champions want a chance to thank their loyal fans for a season of outstanding support, says Marty Scarano, athletics director.

At 7 p.m., the program begins, which includes the UNH

Marching Band playing the fight song and athletes will enter the Towse Rink under a gigantic arch of blue and white balloons. There will be remarks from UNH President Joan Leitzel; Scarano; Coach Dick Umile; and Ken Kruger, student president.

Hockey players Darren Haydar, Patrick Foley and Garret Stafford also are expected to say a few words.

The event will end with video highlights of the Wildcats' awesome season.

Back to UNH News Bureau