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DURHAM, N.H. -- The new athletic director for the University of New Hampshire is V. Martin Scarano, President Joan Leitzel announced today. Currently director of athletics at Colorado College, Scarano is expected to begin at UNH by July 15.

"Marty Scarano will continue high standards in UNH athletics programs," Leitzel said. "He expects athletic and academic achievement to go hand-in-hand. His background and experience in other fine universities have prepared him to be successful at UNH.

"All of us at UNH welcome him and his family to the university community, and we look forward to many years of success on the playing field, on the ice rink and beyond."

"I have a longstanding knowledge and admiration for UNH that spans many years," Scarano said. "On numerous occasions, I've accompanied Colgate and Colorado College facing UNH's hockey, football and basketball teams. Believe me, I know UNH runs a first-class and distinctive athletic program. I have always been impressed with how well its student athletes have conducted themselves."

"Marty Scarano brings to UNH an extensive background of experience," says Thomas Fairchild, professor of animal and nutritional sciences and chair of
the search committee. "He has experience in management, fundraising, marketing and promotion. He cultivates alumni and oversees a state-of-the-art facility similar to the Whittemore Center. He will be an excellent fit with the campus."

Scarano has been director of athletics at Colorado College since 1996, where he oversaw an athletics program comprised of 18 NCAA intercollegiate teams of which 16 are Division III and two are Division I. It boasts a 92 percent graduation rate of its student athletes, including 100 percent of its Division I athletes (men's hockey and women's soccer).

Last fall, UNH athletes were ranked best in the classroom among America East competitors, winning the Academic Cup with an average GPA of 3.02. The award is given to the institution whose student athletes post the highest grade point average. UNH athletes consistently rank high in the nation for their academic accomplishments.

From 1983 to 1996, Scarano worked at Colgate University, as assistant director of athletics, associate director of athletics, director of physical education and senior associate athletic director.

He earned a B.A. in pre-law from The Pennsylvania State University in 1978, has credits completed toward an MBA at Penn State, and earned an M.A. in early American history from Colgate University in 1995. He is married to Cydney Jean Scarano, and they have three children: Lynden, 10; Kyle, 7; and Corey.

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