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April 9, 2008 2008

DURHAM, N.H. - Former White House chef Walter S. Scheib III, who worked for President Bill Clinton and briefly for President George W. Bush, will be at the University of New Hampshire April 15 and 16, 2008, as part of the Great Chefs on Campus series offered by UNH Hospitality Services.

Scheib, who was hired in 1994 by then-first lady Hillary Clinton, will talk about his White House experiences from the unique vantage point of the kitchen on Tuesday, April 15, at 1 p.m. in the Squamscott Room at Holloway Commons.

On Wednesday, April 16, join the co-author of the cookbook-memoir "The White House Chef: Eleven Years, Two Presidents, One Kitchen," for book signings from 8 to 10 a.m. at Stillings Marketplace and from 11:30 to 1 p.m. at the Elements at Philbrook. Then, enjoy "Dinner at the White House" 4:30 to 9 p.m. in Holloway Commons dining hall.

"We are excited to welcome the culinary talents and experience of the White House chef Walter Scheib to University of New Hampshire Dining's Great Chef's program," says Jon Plodzik, director of dining. Chef Scheib brings an enormous amount of talent, professionalism, presidential experiences and passion to a fun-filled day of culinary tastes. From breakfast to dinner, we hope to create our own version of a White House event right here on campus with a selected menu and his personal stories serving in the highest kitchen in the country."

The California-born Scheib was raised in Bethesda, Maryland, where he attended the University of Maryland, College Park before graduating with highest honors from the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, New York, in August 1979.

While at the Culinary Institute, Scheib worked for the Capitol Hilton in Washington, D.C., where, after graduation, he was promoted to executive chef. In 1986, he left the Hilton for the executive chef position at the Boca Raton Club and Resort.

In 1990, Scheib moved to White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, where he served as the executive chef for the historic, 721-room grand hotel the Greenbriar until being hired by the White House four years later.

For 11 years, he prepared everything from family meals to elaborate state dinners for such distinguished guest as Nelson Mandela, Emperor Akihito, Jacques Chirac, Boris Yeltsin, Vaclav Havel, Princess Diana and Tony Blair.

Past participants in the UNH Great Chefs on Campus series include Mary Ann Esposito, Martin Yan, Sylvia Woods, Ken Hom, Joan Harlow, Kevin Roberts and Andy Husbands.

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