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UNH Media Relations

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DURHAM, N.H. -- Athletics coaches from the University of New Hampshire, Oyster River High School and the Oyster River Youth Association will come together Wednesday, April 19, 2006, from 7-9 p.m. in the Oyster River High School Auditorium for a panel discussion on youth sports. The forum is free and open to the public.

Sports build fitness, healthy habits, teamwork and leadership in youth, but when can youth sports participation go too far? How should young athletes and their families balance sports with school work and other activities? How can parents – and coaches – know when to encourage and when to stop pushing?

The panel of experts tackling these questions includes Robin Balducci, UNH field hockey coach; Paul Kerrigan, Oyster River Youth Association coach; Sean McDonnell, UNH football coach; Lynda Nelson, Quest Martial Arts and Oyster River High School girls' soccer coach; and Dick Umile, UNH men's hockey coach. Panelists will take questions from the audience.

Moderated by Brent Bell, assistant professor of outdoor education at UNH, the forum is sponsored by Durham: It's Where U Live, a partnership between the Durham community and UNH that strives to increase respect and understanding among students and the greater surrounding community.