

Bear Den Plans In Effect

New equipment, dates and plans
by Nathan Burrows

Student Senate decided on March 14 2007 to improve the Bear Den in the basement of the Student Union. This decision was made after a very lengthy process that started back in November with the Student Union Board of Governors (SUBOG).

SUBOG had been receiving a number of complaints about the quality and

the University. They also gave the Fact Finding committee (FFC) six weeks to conduct a survey to determine what improvements students wanted in the Bear Den.

The FFC developed, received approval for, administered, and compiled the results of this survey in only four of the six weeks given and presented their results at the Student Senate meeting on March 7.

The FFC presented information on the entire Student Union and information on almost every aspect of the im-

Bear Den were raised and the need for its improvement with increased usage, which is currently being investigated by the Operations Department.

The renovation of the Bear Den is set to reach over 90% completion before April.

First the Bear Den will be close from March 19 to March 23 so that carpeting can be removed and new flooring (designed specifically for fitness facilities) can be installed, along with a mirror for aerobic exercises.

On March 26 all the new equipment is set to arrive and be installed. All current equipment in the Bear Den is slated to remain except for the Nordic Track.

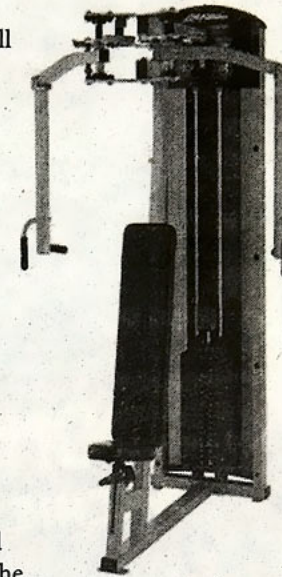
The new Life Fitness Cardio and Strength equipment includes a heavy punching bag, a speed punching bag, two 91Xi Cross Trainers (i.e. elliptical machines), a 95Li Summit trainer, a 93Ci Upright Bike, a 93Ri Recumbent Bike, a lat pull/low row machine, an abdominal/back extension machine, a leg press/calf raise

machine, a leg curl/leg extension machine, a multi-press machine, a pec fly/rear delt machine, a biceps/triceps machine, and a hip abduction/adduction machine.

The new equipment can be viewed on the Life Fitness website, at <http://us.commercial.lifefitness.com>.

This summer, two or three TVs will be mounted on the walls (much like those currently in the Student Union) with cable TV, and maybe VCR/DVD players.

This project will cost Student Senate over \$30,000, of which Student Senate has already paid \$10,000. Student Senate will determine if the remaining cost will be paid over four or five years at their next meeting.



The Bear Den as we once knew it.
photo by Hannah Dorow

availability of workout equipment in the Bear Den, and set out to develop a proposal for a new remodeled Bear Den.

They met with experts from 2nd Wind, developers of the Life Fitness series and suppliers for many Bally Total Fitness Centers.

SUBOG also met with faculty of the Kinesiology department and many CSP coaches to receive feedback on the various pieces of equipment they were considering for this plan.

In February SUBOG presented their proposal to Student Senate. Their plan would cost over \$30,000 to be paid over the next 4 years.

After two meetings full of heavy debate, Student Senate decided to commit \$5,000 of capital budget to the project, which was matched by

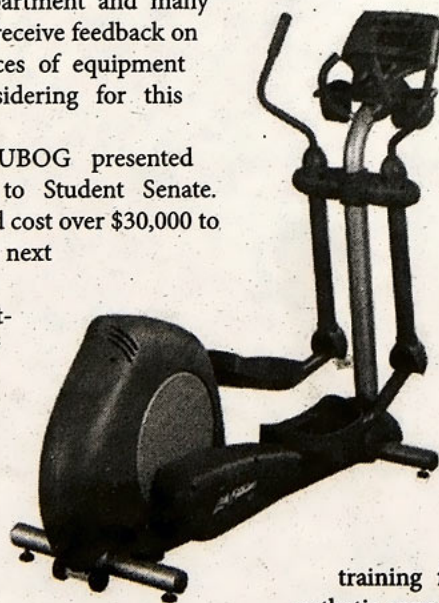
provement project for the Bear Den. They also provided four development plans of varying costs and improvements from the bare minimum, to the most expensive plan with the most improvements, which was the entire original proposal including the addition of

a second elliptical machine and cable TV.

By the end of the Student Senate meeting on March 14, the Senators had decided to move forward with the plan that provided the most improvement for the Bear Den providing great improvements to both cardio and weight

training facilities, as well as aesthetic appeal.

Questions about ventilation for the



Islamic Relations' New Representative

by Nathan Leckband

After being inactive for over a year, the Star Tribune reports that CAIR (Council for American Islamic Relations) has renewed its Twin Cities chapter. This group reorganized in the Twin Cities as a response to after a series of events involving Muslim taxi drivers who refused to transport passengers carrying alcohol and Muslim store clerks refusing to scan pork products.

The new chairperson of CAIR is Lori Saroya, who made Concordia news when she e-mailed various student leaders and Concordia administrators in December voicing her opposition to the screening of the film "Obsession." CAIR has come under fire from various organizations and politicians for some of their practices. Among those who have voiced opposition to CAIR is California Democratic Senator Barbra Boxer, who recently revoked an award to a CAIR member because she said that CAIR, "gives aid to interna-

tional terrorists groups."

In April, 2005, Ghassan Elashi, a founding member of the CAIR chapter in Texas and two of his brothers were found guilty of supporting terrorism by sending money to Hamas. CAIR has also met opposition in the Twin Cities area by Somali groups, saying that CAIR speaks almost exclusively for Middle Eastern groups rather than all Muslims. The CAIR chapter in the Twin Cities say, however, that they hope to push more broad agenda of civil rights for all.