



## **UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

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### **Whittemore Center Update**

#### **Scope of the Project:**

- As the University invests in upgrades to the ice and HVAC, UNH Athletics is also planning renovations to all team spaces at the Whittemore Center, including locker rooms, sports medicine area, video room, nutrition/study room, visiting locker rooms and other support areas. The project will include a new state-of-the-art strength and conditioning center.

#### **Fiscal Responsibility:**

- This project has been explored from many different angles and will stay largely within the current footprint of the building (except for the weight room).
- Similar projects in New England now are in the \$50-\$70 million range.
- Cost breakdown for this project:
  - \$13 million contribution from the University
  - \$9 million contribution from Private Philanthropy
  - \$8 million proposed contribution from State Funding

The State of New Hampshire's investment in the Whittemore Center Arena will achieve the following:

#### **Leverage Private Investment:**

- Through its capital investment in the Whittemore Center, the State of New Hampshire will leverage private investment in this project.
- These health, safety and training upgrades will directly benefit male and female student-athletes.
- This investment will position UNH facilities to compete with similar upgrades made or planned at all Hockey East rival schools, including Connecticut, UMass-Amherst, Lowell, Maine and Vermont. Such upgrades are common to all nationally successful programs. UNH has not invested in these facilities since the Whittemore Center was built over 25 years ago.

#### **Strengthen Enrollment Pipeline:**

- From Nashua to the North Country, hockey is one of the leading team and youth-based winter activities for boys and girls. For generations, the Whittemore Center and its predecessor, Snively Arena, have drawn hundreds of thousands of New Hampshire families and fans – providing many with their first introduction to the University.

- By competing on the national stage, UNH hockey helps brand UNH nationally as a competitive, top-tier academic and research institution. Athletics is a source of pride and connection, serving as the front porch of the university.
- Competitive success also encourages New Hampshire high school students to excel in order to be recruited by UNH hockey and field hockey programs.

### **Stimulate Economic Success:**

- This investment will allow the Whittemore Center to greatly expand citizen engagement and its capacity to generate UNH (and potentially) USNH finances.
- These renovations will also enhance the ability to host tournaments and camps with upgraded visiting locker rooms. Many of these tournaments and camps feature New Hampshire youth and high school athletes.
- The facility will also accommodate university, seacoast region and state-wide events such as commencements, conferences, trade shows and entertainment events all of which the Whittemore Center once hosted.

### **History:**

#### **Whittemore Center Impact on UNH Hockey:**

- During its 28 year history – from 1995-2023 - the Whittemore Center has helped bring UNH Men's and Women's programs to national prominence. UNH Hockey had a consistent presence in playoff and championship circles through 2012-2013, at which point many Hockey East programs began significant renovation/upgrade projects.
- 84% of men's college hockey teams have made significant facility upgrades since 2012-2013.
- The facility upgrades will aid in recruiting and retaining top talent as well as returning the program to success at the regional and national levels.

#### **In the first 18 years after the Whittemore Center was built (1995-1996 to 2012-2013)**

#### **Women's Hockey:**

- Won the National Championship in 1998\*
- Played in 5 NCAA Tournaments 2006-2010.
- Played in 2 Frozen Fours 2006 & 2008.
- Won 6 Hockey East Regular Season Championships 2004-2009
- Played in 6 Hockey East Tournament Championship games, winning 4 in 2006-2009

\* In 1999 Women's hockey became an NCAA sanctioned sport. The Women's Hockey East League started in 2002.

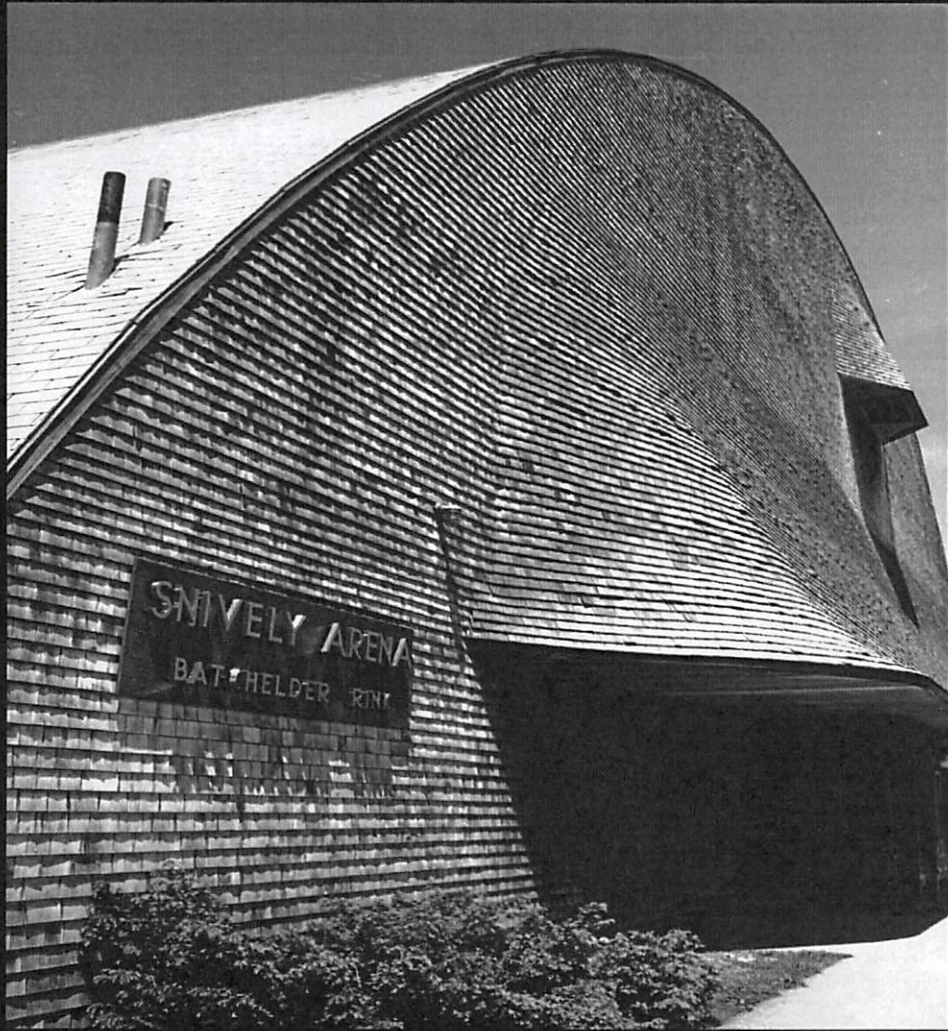
#### **Men's Hockey:**

- Played in 16 NCAA Tournaments. (10 in a row at one point - second only to Michigan during that time)
- Played in 4 Frozen Fours in a 6 year span 1998, 1999, 2002 & 2003
- Played in 2 National Championships 1999 & 2003
- Won 7 Hockey East Regular Season Championships, 1997, 1999, 2002, 2003, 2007, 2008 & 2010.
- Played in 7 Hockey East Tournament Championships; winning 2 in 2002 & 2003

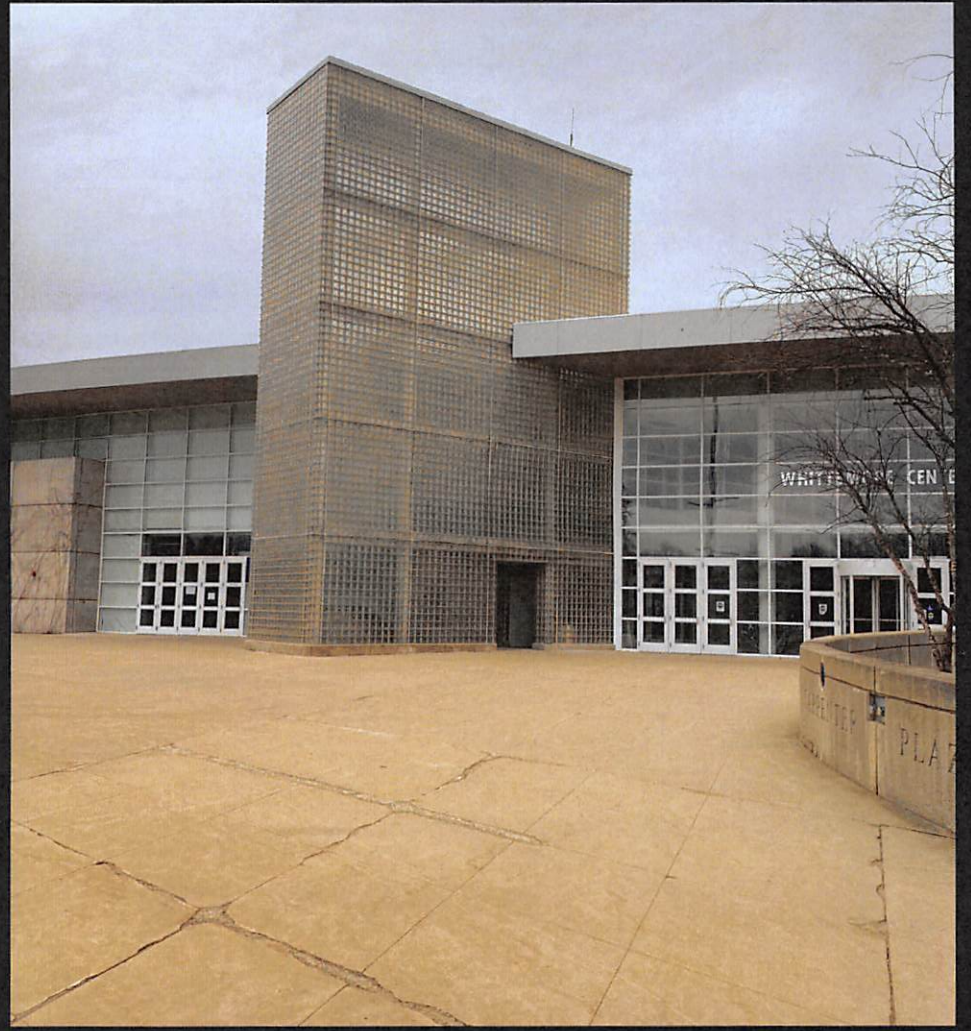
**Both Programs:**

- In addition to many team accomplishments, during this time both programs produced numerous individual award winners. Many of these student-athletes have played professionally and represented their countries in Olympic and International competition.
- While many of these former student athletes grew up all over the United States and Canada, it has been common for them to settle and work in New Hampshire.

**SNIVELY ARENA 1965-1994 29 YEARS**



**WHITTEMORE CENTER 1995-2022 28 YEARS**



# HB 2 - ONE-TIME INVESTMENTS

## Whittemore Center - \$8 million

- This project, started in 2022, is the first facility upgrade since its opening in 1995.
  - Lack of investment has hampered recruiting and program success at regional and national levels.
- \$30MM renovation will include ice surface and equipment, HVAC systems, and student-athlete facilities; addressing deferred maintenance needs and upgrading facility to meet current standards.
- Private-public partnership.
- Improving one of the state's largest sports and entertainment venues will:
  - Bring more visitors and revenue to the state.
  - Attract and retain outstanding student-athletes.
  - Support admissions and build pride in UNH and the state of New Hampshire.

2

*MEN'S HOCKEY*

84%

SINCE 2012...

51 SCHOOLS HAVE MADE OR ARE  
PLANNING A SIGNIFICANT RENOVATION TO  
THEIR ARENA.

SINCE 2010...

RENOVATIONS IN NEW ENGLAND  
BC, BENTLEY, DARTMOUTH, HARVARD,  
LOWELL, MERRIMACK, NORTHEASTERN,  
PROVIDENCE, SACRED HEART, QUINNIPIAC,  
UCONN, UMASS, UVM AND YALE

*WOMEN'S HOCKEY*

9

SINCE 2012...

9 OF THE 10 HOCKEY EAST SCHOOLS HAVE  
MADE OR ARE PLANNING A SIGNIFICANT  
RENOVATION TO THEIR ARENA.



**HOCKEY  
EAST**

**UConn**



**Providence**



**UMass**



**Lowell 5**



**PLAYER WARM UP AREA**



**WEIGHT ROOM**

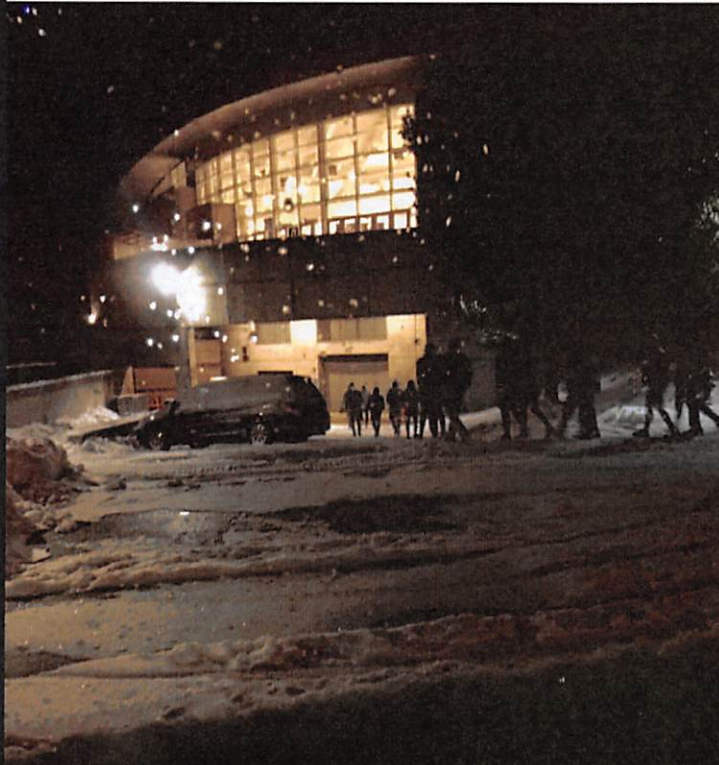


## IN SEASON WALK TO FIELD HOUSE WEIGHT ROOM



February 18, 2019  
5:53 PM

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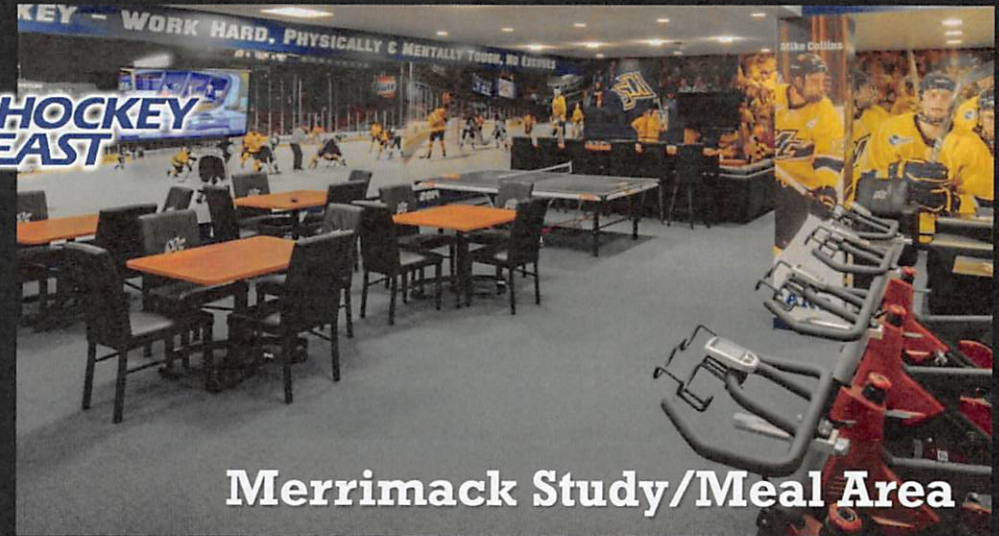


“Champions never complain, they are too busy getting better.”

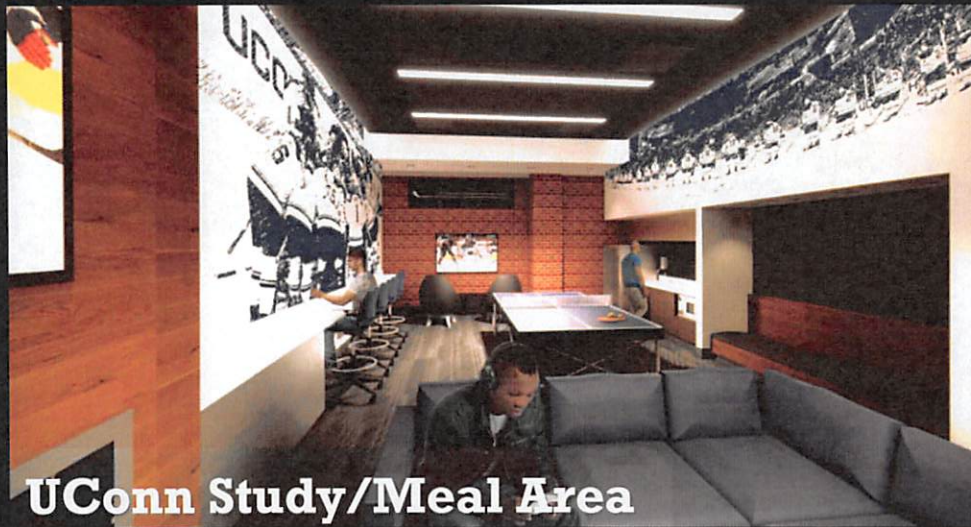
John Wooden



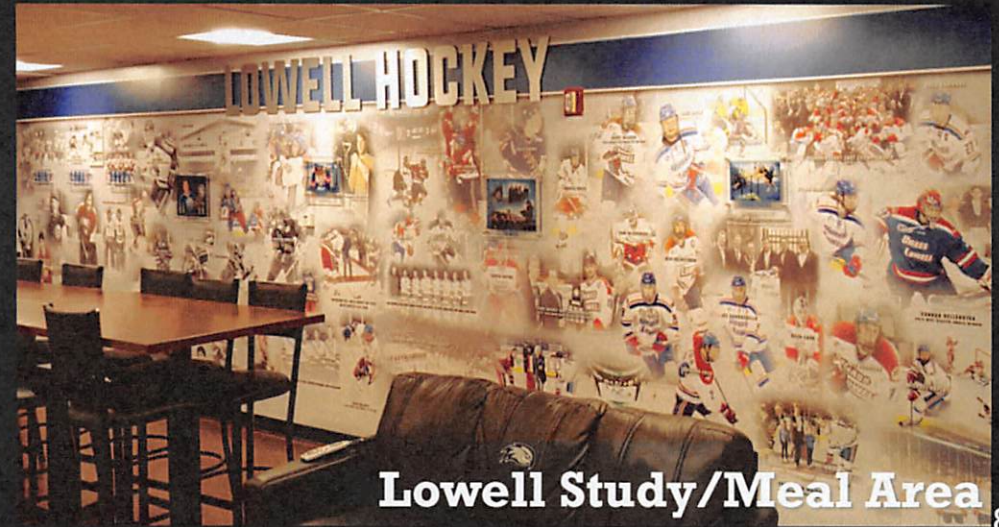
**UMass Study/Meal Area**



**Merrimack Study/Meal Area**



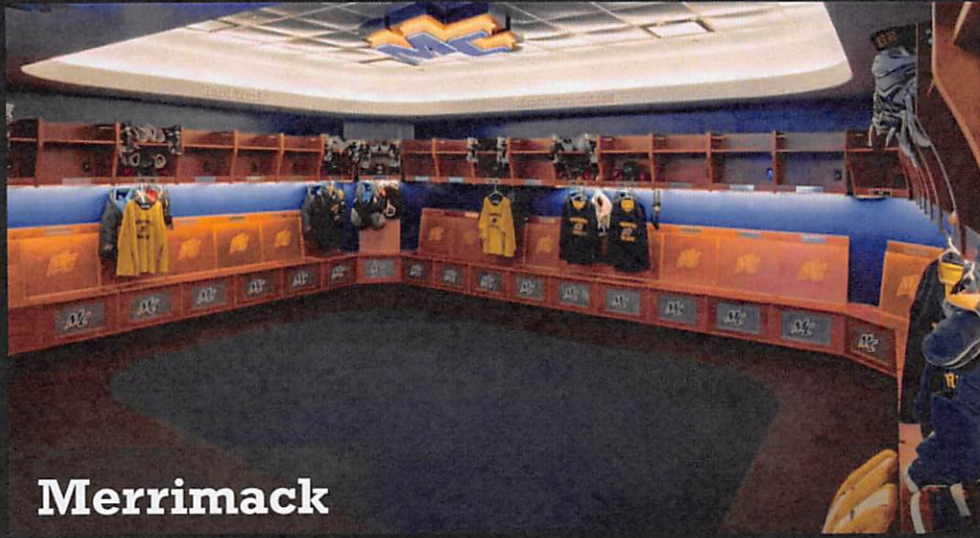
**UConn Study/Meal Area**



**Lowell Study/Meal Area**

# UNH MEAL AND LOUNGE AREA IN LOCKER ROOM





**ORIGINAL WOMEN'S LOCKERS FROM 1995**



**MEN'S LOCKERS 2009 FROM PRIVATE FUNDING**

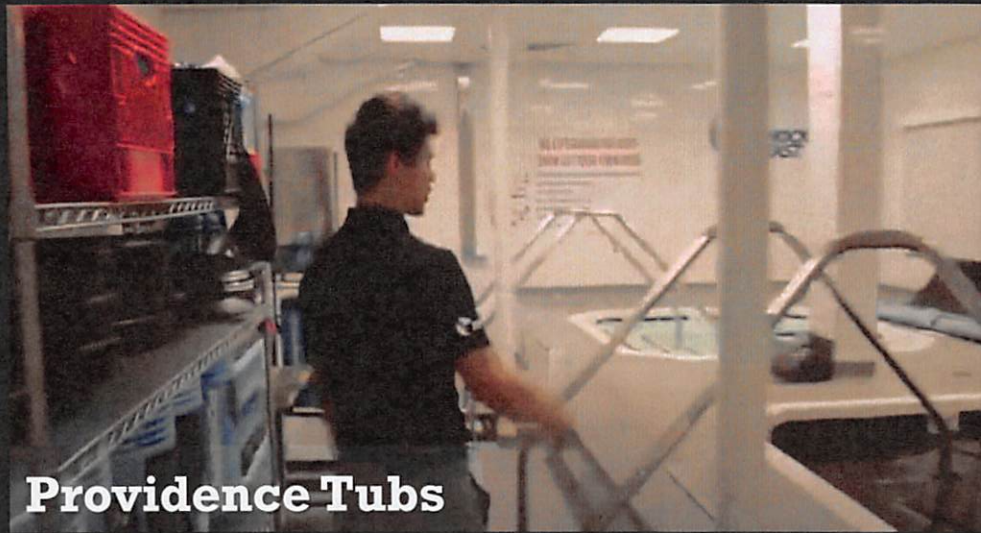




UMass Training Rm



UConn Training Rm



Providence Tubs

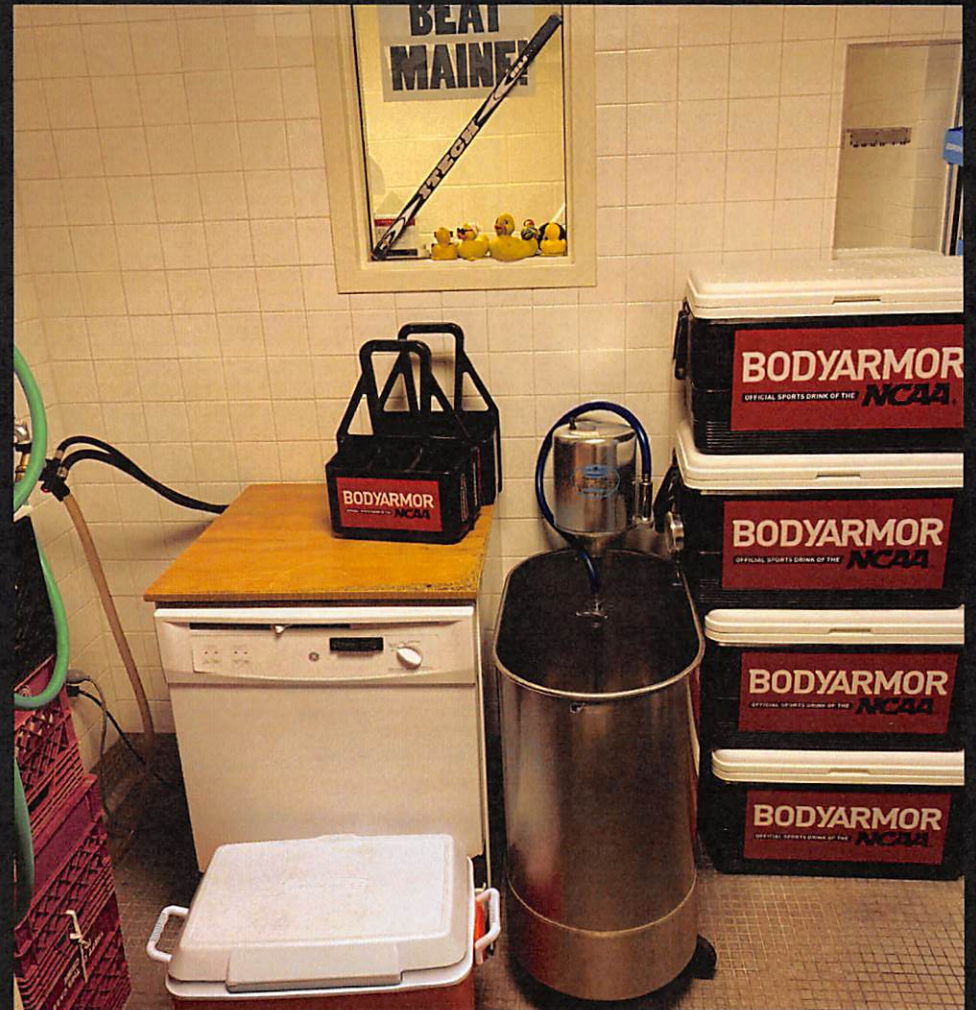


Lowell Tubs

**UNH SHARED ATHLETIC TRAINING ROOM**

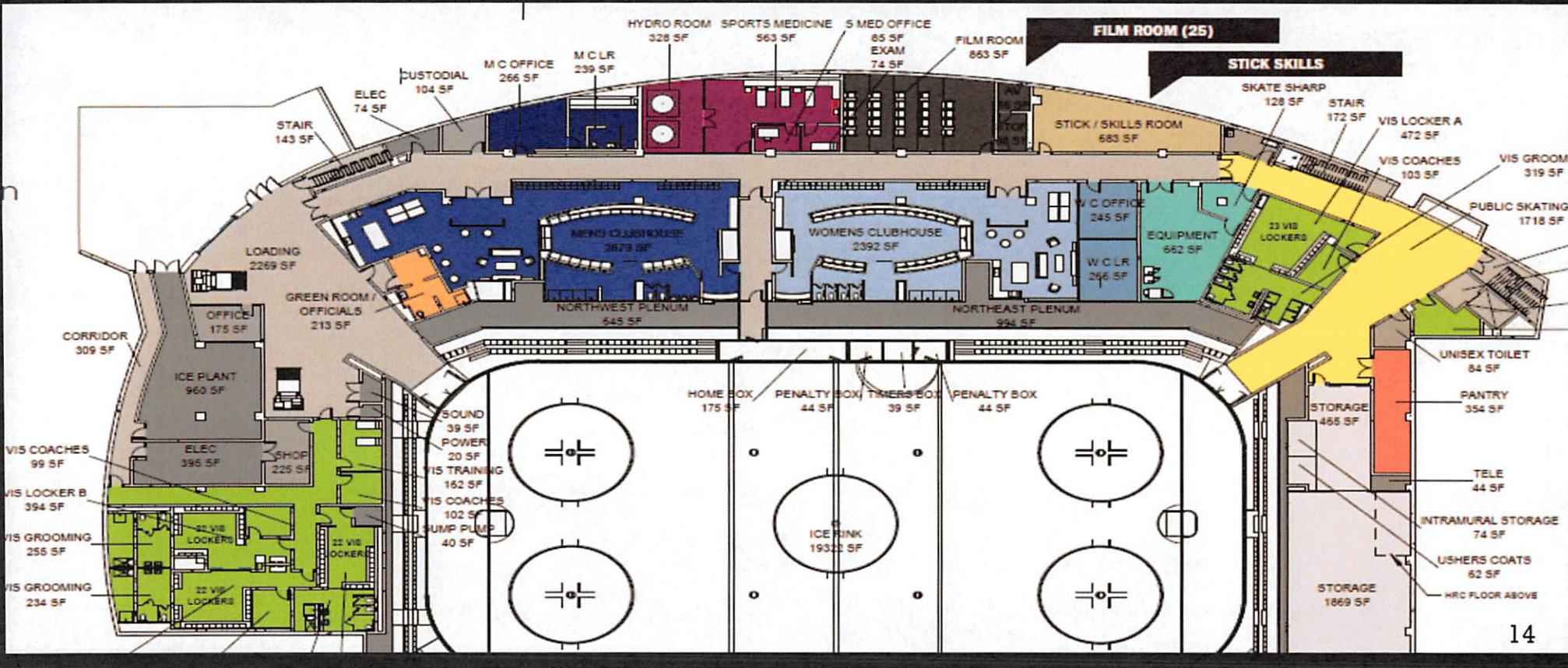
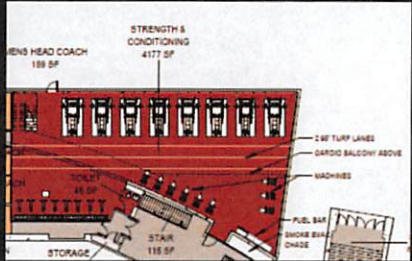


**UNH COLD TUB**





# PROPOSED RECONFIGURED SPACE WITHIN THE WHITTEMORE CENTER





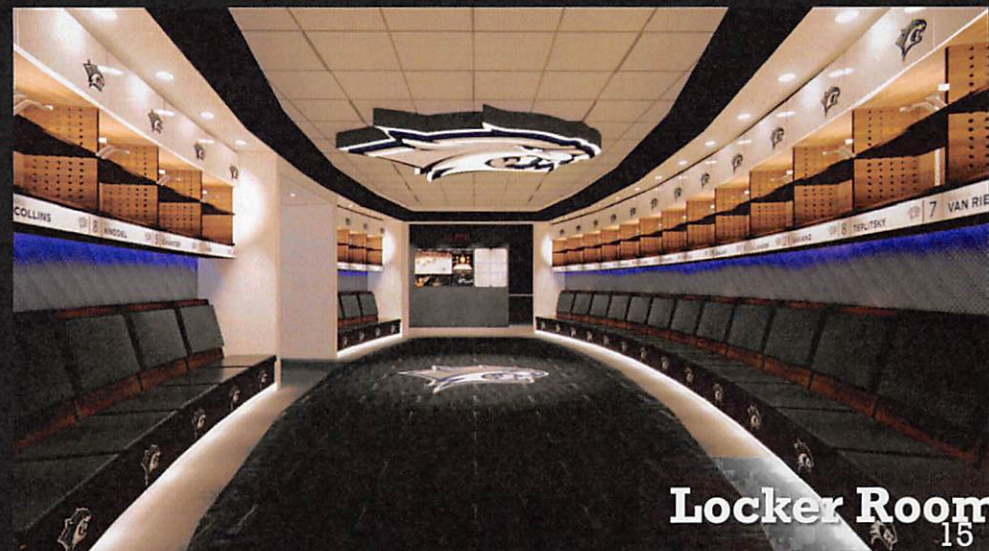
**Weight Room**



**Meal and Study Area**



**Training Room**



**Locker Room**





# HB 2 - One-Time Investments



## **Blockchain Quality Assurance Center - \$1.5 million**

- Recommendation of the Commission on Cryptocurrencies and Digital Assets
- Utilizes existing expertise at the UNH Interoperability Lab (IOL) to:
  - rapidly expand testing and quality assurance services to meet industry demand.
  - establish NH as an attractive destination for Blockchain entrepreneurs and businesses.
- Funding would support staff salaries and benefits for three years, after which the Center would be fully funded by industry, the same model used by the IOL today.