Overlooked by the Skyscrapers

The Creighton University Ballpark Complex

by: Kristopher Tourek

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In Partial Fulfillment of Requirements
For the Degree of Master of Architecture
Major: Architecture

Under the Supervision of Professor William Borner
Lincoln, NE
May, 2008

PROPOSAL


ABSTRACT
TM

Project Description

At the Collegiate level, a stadium represents more than just a sporting event. The stadium has grown to become a symbol of university pride and often reflects its accomplishments. The proposed project involves combining sports and entertainment in order to create a Baseball Stadium that will serve as home to the Creighton University Baseball team. The first intention is to generate a building that exhibits the connection between the experiences of a game with the architecture of a stadium. The secondary objectives are 1)Establish the stadium to be a source of civic pride in Omaha, 2)Design the stadium to be an element in the recruiting of future athletes, and 3)Add to Creighton's athletic tradition.

A stadium is the venue where the event takes place. The fans that occupy the stadium are the connection between the experience of a game and the architecture of the stadium. If the facility is not fan-friendly, the thrill of the event does not exist. Creighton University's new baseball stadium will engage the school's urban context through an expansive, open field environment. The design will maximize visual connections between the stadium, field and surrounding city. Additionally, the design will embrace surrounding campus architecture and express the history of the nationally recognized Bluejay baseball program. The project scope encompasses a classic, fan-friendly facility with design expressions relating to surrounding 19th century brick commercial buildings and expansive views of the field from all seats and an elevated concourse.

Many universities across the country rely on their football stadium to be the iconic element of the city or campus. Meanwhile, the baseball stadium has generally taken a backseat to its football counterpart. Creighton is unique in that it does not field a football team. Instead, Creighton relies heavily on the success the baseball, softball, basketball, and soccer teams have attained for its source of civic pride. The basketball and soccer teams have recently moved into new arenas, the Qwest Center and Morrison Soccer Complex, respectively. However, the baseball team still occupies the outdated CU Sports Complex. A new baseball stadium will not only complement the new resurgence of growth on the Missouri Riverfront, it will also provide a facility for many different uses outside of the private institution. Creighton currently hosts many youth, club, and high school activities dealing with all sports. The goal is to create a stadium that does not compete with the latest venue additions, but to complement them and establish a stronghold on athletics in Omaha.

Athletics at Creighton University are highly regarded in Omaha. The Men's Basketball team is the most popular of all of Creighton's athletic programs, having gone to the NCAA basketball tournament seven of the last nine years. The Men's Soccer team has been consistently ranked in the top 10-20 in the country and has been to the Final Four of Soccer several times in the last decade. For their dominance over the past decade, the basketball and soccer teams have been nationally recognized and rewarded with new arenas to become symbols of their accomplishments. Creighton's baseball team has one NCAA College World Series appearance (1991), which is played yearly in Omaha's Johnny Rosenblatt Stadium. Due to its close proximity to Rosenblatt, Creighton serves as the annual host institution for this event. The baseball program uses this honor to reach out to aspiring young ballplayers across the country by holding mini-camps and seminars at the current baseball complex on campus. Thousands of young players ranging in ages from seven to seventeen attend these camps and gain valuable first hand experience at what Creighton offers its athletes. While facilities are an immense factor in the arms race of athletic recruiting, Creighton still considers its athletes accomplishments as its main source of recruiting power. Therefore, a stadium is

needed that reflects these accomplishments and enhances Creighton's reputation among the nation's elite.

A stadium must also maintain and enhance the athletic tradition of the university. In order to enhance the athletic tradition, one must look at past and present success while preparing for the future achievements of the program. Creighton has a very strong tradition and has had some of the most respected coaches in the country. The team has had several All-Americans and many players that have or are currently playing professional baseball. The design of this fan-friendly park will be modern in amenities and fan comfort, yet still embrace the time-honored tradition of baseball. Architectural elements taken from the context of the area will enhance the detail and lend a historic feeling. Fans will be able to reflect on past accomplishments while enjoying the present and future success of the program.

Site Description

Creighton University sits on a 108 acre campus located near the heart of the downtown business district of Omaha, Nebraska. Interstate 480 provides the main east/west access route for campus, while U.S. Highway 75 (commonly called the North Freeway) intersects campus along the north/south axis. Secondary access routes through campus would include Cuming Street and North 24th Street.

The current CU Sports Complex sits at the corner of North 21st and Burt Street and is the home to both baseball and softball teams, as well as the Kitty Gaughan Pavilion Athletic Training Facility. The proposed complex will be conscientiously placed at the eastern edge of the Creighton University campus as a part of the long range athletic/recreational facility development per the new Campus Master Plan. There is a great interest to have an iconic welcoming structure located at the southeast corner of campus which interfaces with the Omaha Central Business District. The location will be adjacent to the new soccer complex at North 17th and Webster Street. The stadium entry is located near the corner of 19th and Burt Street, parallel to the California Street student pedestrian mall which is the main east/west artery through campus.

There is a great interest in being able to feature the downtown skyline from the stadium as well as to have the Qwest Center and Morrison Soccer Complex featured from the stadium grandstand. Since Creighton University plays men's basketball at the Qwest and men's and women's soccer at the Morrison Soccer Complex, they play an integral part of campus activity and should be featured as well.

The current sports complex will be replaced with green space, enhancing the area and providing students with a place to relax and study. The existing parking lot to the west of the sports complex would also be replaced with green space. Also, supplementary parking areas will need to be established around the new stadium to account for the increase in stadium capacity and the loss of existing parking near the old sports complex. Additionally, zones for pre-game and post-game festivities will need to be placed in order to enhance the experience of the game for the fans.

PROPOSAL

Site Images

Creighton UNIVERSITY

Administration Building – **27**
Ahmanson School of Law – **44**
Becker Hall – **20**
Beirne Research Tower – **16**
Bio-Information Center – **3**
Boys Town National Research Hospital – **6**
Campion House – **49**
Cardiac Center – **1**
Center for Health Policy and Ethics – **9**
Creighton Medical Research Center, Criss I – **15**
Creighton University Medical Center – **4**
Davis Square – **52**
Dr. C.C. and Mabel L. Criss Health Sciences Building – **10**
Dr. Harry H. & Maude Boyne School of Dental Science – **2**
Edward D. Murphy Building – **55**
Eugene C. Eppley College of Business Administration – **13**
Fr. Francis Deglman, S.J. Hall – **26**
Fr. Henry Linn, S.J. Building – **47**
Fr. Joseph Labaj, S.J. Building – **48**
Fr. Richard D. McGloin, S.J. Hall – **42**
Frank T. Jelinek, S.J. Building – **56**
Gallagher Hall – **19**
Heider Hall – **45**
Hitchcock Communication Arts Building – **18**
Hixson-Lied Science Building – **12**
Humanities Center – **17**
Ignatius House – **31**
Judge Elizabeth D. Pittman Building – **53**
Kellom Heights Shopping Center – **36**
Kenefick Hall – **46**
Kiewit Hall – **21**
Kiewit Physical Fitness Center – **23**
Kitty Gaughan Pavilion – **41**
Lied Education Center for the Arts – **43**
Living Learning Center (under construction) – **51**
Markoe Hall – **33**
Mary Rodgers Brandeis Hall – **25**
Michael G. Morrison, S.J. Stadium – **57**
Military Science (Army ROTC) – **8**
Observatory – **35**
Old Gymnasium – Joseph J. Vinardi Athletic Center – **34**
Opus Hall – **50**
Reinert Alumni Memorial Library – **29**
Rigge Science Building – **14**
Saint John's Church – **28**
Soccer Practice Field – **37**
Sports Complex – **40**
Susan Tracy Stuppy Greenhouse – **32**
V.J. and Angela Skutt Student Center – **22**
W. Clarke Swanson Hall – **24**
Walter R. Jahn Building – **39**
Wareham Building – **38**

Parking Garage – **PG**

Admissions – **24**
Alumni Relations – **27**
Development – **27**
Human Resources – **38**

Image courtesy of Creighton University

Site Images

Methodology

The Creighton Stadium project will investigate the current conditions of facilities, study existing programs, and scrutinize existing spaces. This project will require a thorough understanding of sporting venues and the specific needs of a baseball program. These requirements may involve researching the needs of individuals ranging from the players, the coaches, and ultimately the fans.

Research into the history of stadiums and sporting facilities will provide precedents and solutions to various facility problems that might occur. These precedent examples might even provide solutions to the project or generate new ideas. Issues that need to be focused on will be the history of the CU Sports Complex, structural and mechanical elements, architectural standards for stadium seating, and knowledge of the surrounding area.

Knowledge of structural and mechanical elements will be required in order to acquire an understanding of the existing conditions of the facility as opposed to new methods available today. This will essentially provide a basis for creating a new stadium that is up to date and will last into the future.

Seating layouts will also be established. Analyzing the existing seating layout along with other precedents will lead to an understanding of what can be done to achieve the best possible scenario for the fans.

Details of the surrounding area will need to be analyzed. Traffic circulation and transportation systems along with pedestrian access will be investigated. Access to and from the stadium will need to be evaluated in order to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for the fans. Parking areas, pedestrian loading and unloading zones, and tailgating areas will be located based on information learned from traffic circulation, transportation systems, and pedestrian access studies.

Coordination between the Creighton University Campus Master Plan, the City of Omaha Master Plan for the downtown area, and current projects in the area will need to be researched in order to gain a thorough analysis of the area. This information will include but is not limited to 1)Projects built during the resurgence of growth along the Missouri Riverfront, 2)Present and future projects slated for the downtown business district of the City of Omaha, and 3)Any future developments on improving the areas around campus.

PROPOSAL

NAAB Performance Criteria

I intend to adhere to the following criteria in order to gain a comprehensive understanding of all the requirements set forth by the NAAB. *ITALICIZED* criterions are extensions from Arch 613 to 614, and will overlap both semesters of project development. Criterion in BLUE will be included in addition to the minimum requirements.

ARCH 613 (Minimum)

1. Speaking and Writing Skills.

Throughout this course I will need to demonstrate the ability to communicate effectively with a variety of people, whether it is with my mentor, jurors, or officials at Creighton University. Verbally communicating with these groups will help to gain understanding towards creating ideas while solving problems that may arise.

2. Critical Thinking Skills.

I will need to critically evaluate each and every aspect of my design in order to identify and evaluate various issues that may arise or might have been overlooked.

3. Graphic Skills.

I will need to make use of several graphical methods for the duration of the course including sketches, three dimensional computer models, CAD drawings, and presentation boards.

4. Research Skills.

As with any architectural project, research will play an integral role in the development of my project. Libraries, interviews with Creighton officials and professional architects, internet articles, journals, and personal visits to the site will be vital in obtaining all the information necessary to complete the project.

5. Formal Ordering Systems.

This element will be used mostly in the presentation of process, conceptual and schematic design. Diagrams will need to be organized in order to show the evolution of design throughout the semester.

6. Fundamental Design Skills.

I will need to address the specific needs of the spectators that attend the events of the stadium. Public and private spaces need to be organized logically in order to attain the highest efficiency within the complex.

11. Use of Precedents.

The works of HOK Sports Architecture, DLR Group, as well as other sports architecture firms in the area will be studied. Selected works in the area include Haymarket Park in Lincoln, Disch-Falk Field in Austin, Texas, and Baylor Ballpark in Waco, Texas, among others.

12. Human Behavior.

An extensive knowledge of human behavior and how people interact at a ballpark is essential.

13. Human Diversity.

Social interaction at a stadium can be facilitated by a successful organizational scheme. The architecture of the stadium will provide the basic layout for facilitating this interaction, accommodating the diverse values and spatial patterns of the community as a whole.

16. Program Preparation.

A comprehensive program will need to be developed outlining the client needs, appropriate precedents, spatial organizations, site analysis, and a review of the specific codes of Omaha.

17. Site Conditions.

This project is going to be site specific. The campus of Creighton University needs to be researched to understand the layout and the surrounding area land use.

ARCH 614 (Minimum)

1. Speaking and Writing Skills.

Throughout this course I will need to demonstrate the ability to communicate effectively with a variety of people, whether it is with my mentor, jurors, or officials at Creighton University. Verbally communicating with these groups will help to gain understanding towards creating ideas while solving problems that may arise.

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PROPOSAL

6. Fundamental Design Skills.

I will need to address the specific needs of the spectators that attend the events of the stadium. Public and private spaces need to be organized logically in order to attain the highest efficiency within the complex.

14. Accessibility.

Since this stadium will seat around 6,000 people, accessibility to and from the event need to be addressed in order to make access convenient for everyone.

15. Sustainable Design.

Natural ventilation, solar energy use, rainwater collection, waste management and recycling practices will all be addressed to create a healthy complex and community.

17. Site Conditions.

This project is going to be site specific. The campus of Creighton University needs to be researched to understand the layout and the surrounding area land use.

18. Structural Systems.

With a complex of this size, knowledge of structural behavior and gravity forces will have to be taken to a higher degree. Structural expertise is available to me through the engineering division at HDR Incorporated located in Omaha, NE. After successfully completing a summer internship with this division, I am confident in the abilities of the engineers in helping me solve complex ideas.

20. Life Safety.

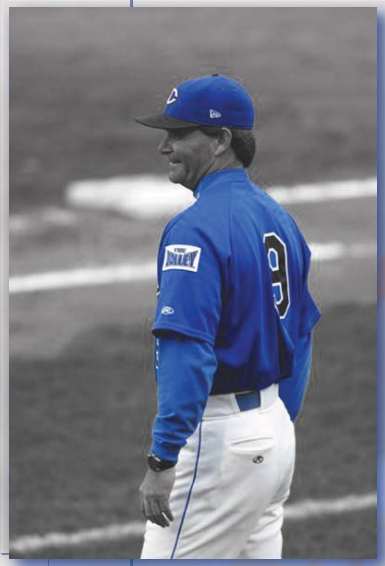
Since thousands of people will attend events at this complex, egress methods need to be evaluated in order to ensure a timely evacuation while keeping safety the main priority.

23. Building System Integration.

There are many systems that will need to be integrated into a complex of this scale. Water, electricity, waste management, emergency systems, and transportation access are all systems that must be incorporated.

28. Comprehensive Design.

While certain aspects of my design will be carried out further than others, the project will not be completed in its entirety. The program will encompass all aspects of the project and will be the basis for all design decisions made throughout the duration of the project.



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Definition:

prec - e - dent (prĕs'ĭ-dənt)

noun

1. An act or instance that may be used as an example in dealing with subsequent similar instances.
2. Convention or custom arising from long practice.

Baseball is unique among American sports in several ways. This uniqueness is a large part of its longstanding appeal and strong association with the American psyche. Philosophers have described baseball as a national religion. Many Americans believe that baseball is the ultimate combination of skill, timing, athleticism, and strategy.

The allure of baseball is in its subtleties: situational defense, pitch location, pitch sequence, base running, batting strategies, statistics, history, player personalities, and ballparks. It's been noted that the game itself has no time limit, and its playing surface, rather than rigidly rectangular and standardized, extends theoretically to eternity from a single point (home plate) to beyond its own fences. For the avid fan, the game - even during its slowest points - is never boring because of these nuances. Therefore, a full appreciation of baseball naturally requires some knowledge of the rules; its also requires deep observation of those endearing qualities that give baseball its unique style.

Unlike the majority of sports, baseball playing fields can vary significantly, within certain guidelines, in size and shape of the field. Because of this flexibility, there are numerous variations in park configuration, from different lengths to the fences to uneven playing surfaces to massive or minimal amounts of foul territory. The differing styles create a unique sense of ambiance in each location, something that many fans find alluring (and even a source of civic pride). All of these factors, as well as local variations in altitude, climate and game scheduling, can affect the nature of the games played at those ballparks. Certain ballparks eventually get labelled as either a "pitcher's park" or a "hitter's park," depending on which side benefits more from the unique factors present.

When researching campus ballparks across the country as they relate to my thesis project, there was an intention to limit the precedent study to ballparks that belong to Jesuit universities similar to Creighton University. There are currently 28 Jesuit Colleges and Universities in the United States who are mainly committed to academic excellence but strive for athletic equivalence with major universities across the country.

The following pages depict selected university ballparks that are of significant importance in displaying how a ballpark integrates with the university it belongs to.

RESEARCH

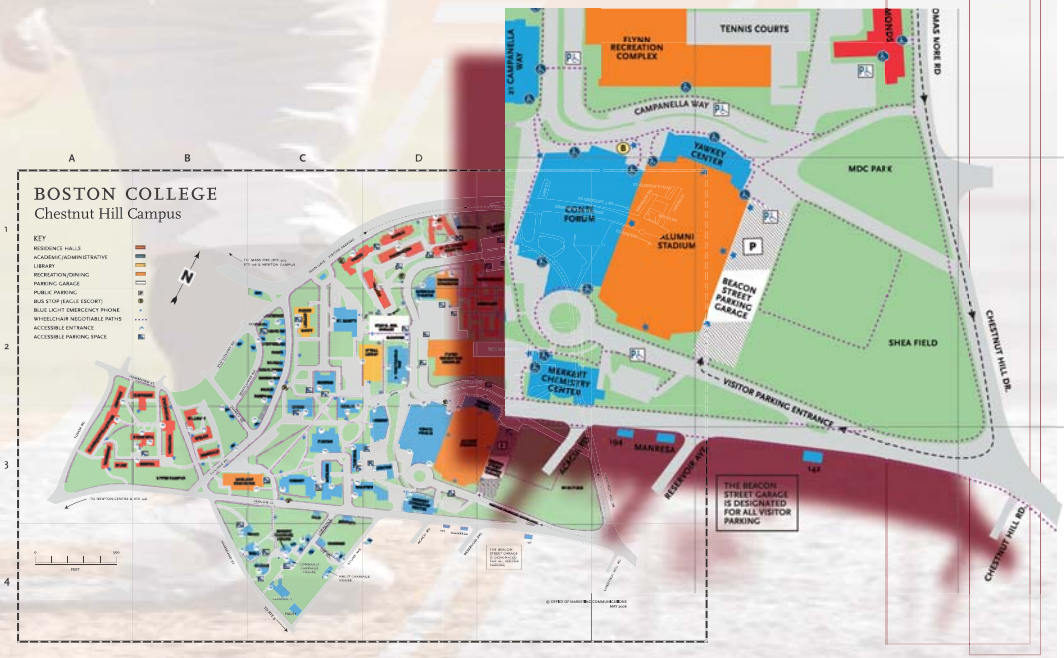
Shea Field at Boston College

Nestled on a corner of the Boston College campus with a sweeping view of the Boston skyline, the Eddie Pellagrini Diamond at Shea Field is the home of the baseball team. Shea Field is named after Commander John Shea U.S.N., who played football at Boston College from 1916-17. Shea passed away on September 15, 1942 when the naval carrier "Wasp" was torpedoed during the Guadal Canal campaign.

The diamond was formally dedicated in a ceremony preceding the Boston College - Connecticut game on May 3, 1997. Pellagrini was Boston College's baseball coach for 31 years, during which time he accumulated 359 victories and coached three Boston College World Series teams.

Under the care of the athletics building and grounds crew, the field is tended to on a daily basis. Covered and protected during the winter months, the field maintains its excellent playing surface for the start of the season.

In the spring, with the Chestnut Hill Reservoir bordering the field along St. Thomas More Drive, the Eagles play their home games at Shea Field. With the students coming out to catch a doubleheader or split an afternoon between baseball and softball games, BC enjoys a strong fan base. Local residents often fill the stands and line the garage ramp to catch the baseball team take the field against some of the nation's best competition.



RESEARCH

GEORGETOWN

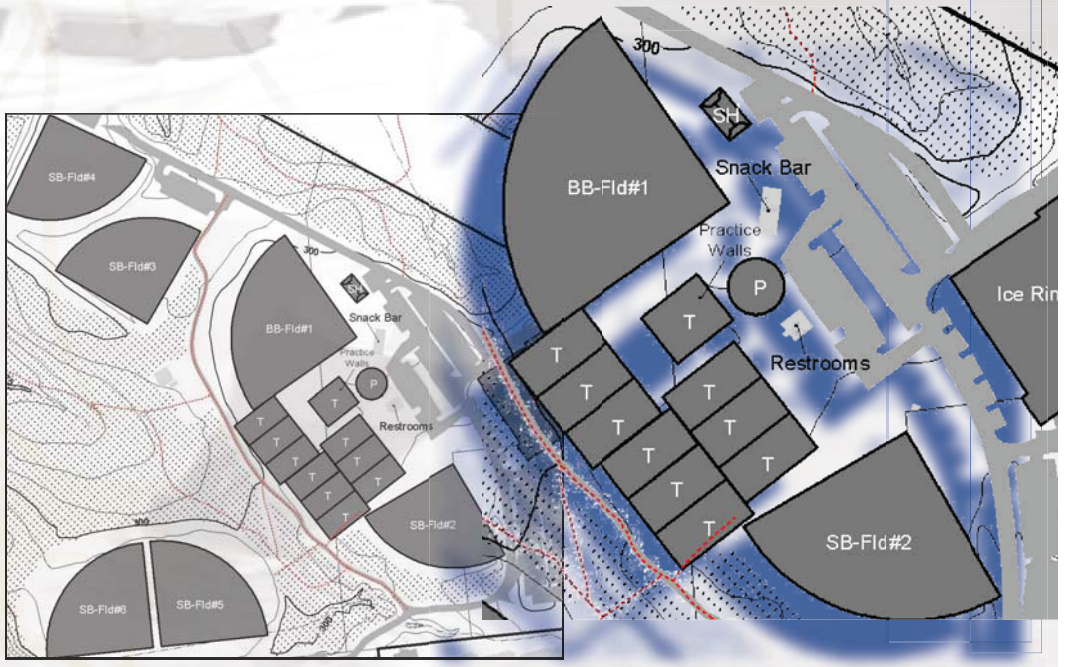
BASEBALL

Shirley Povich Field at Georgetown

Shirley Povich Field has been the home of the Georgetown baseball team since 2000. It is located at Cabin John Park in Rockville, Maryland, with a seating capacity of 1,500. Shirley Povich Field is named for the renowned Washington DC sports columnist and reporter. Shirley attended Georgetown prior to beginning a 75-year career with the Washington Post where he covered nearly all of the major sporting events of the 20th century.

Ever since Georgetown began its own version of Boston's infamous "Big Dig" construction project, the initial association with the "home away from home" cliche may have changed. The Hoya baseball team has lost its field at the center of the Georgetown campus and has been forced to play its home games 25 minutes away at Shirley Povich Field in Cabin John Regional Park in Bethesda, Md. The Hoyas baseball team defines what it means to compete at "a home away from home."

The team pride combined with the beauty of Shirley Povich Field has led to a much more professional atmosphere surrounding the Hoyas. The park is both a satisfying place to compete and a comfortable stadium at which to watch a game. The grass is clean-cut. The dimensions, 330 feet down the lines and 370 to straightaway center, accommodate both power and non-power hitters. The stands are seats rather than metal bleachers like at the former Georgetown Baseball Stadium. Yet, even with the increase in comfort and mood of the new park, the Hoyas have not drawn large Georgetown crowds due to the distance to the field from campus. Most of the 50 to 250 people that attend Georgetown's games are families from the Bethesda area, teams waiting their turn to play or passersby just watching some good baseball.

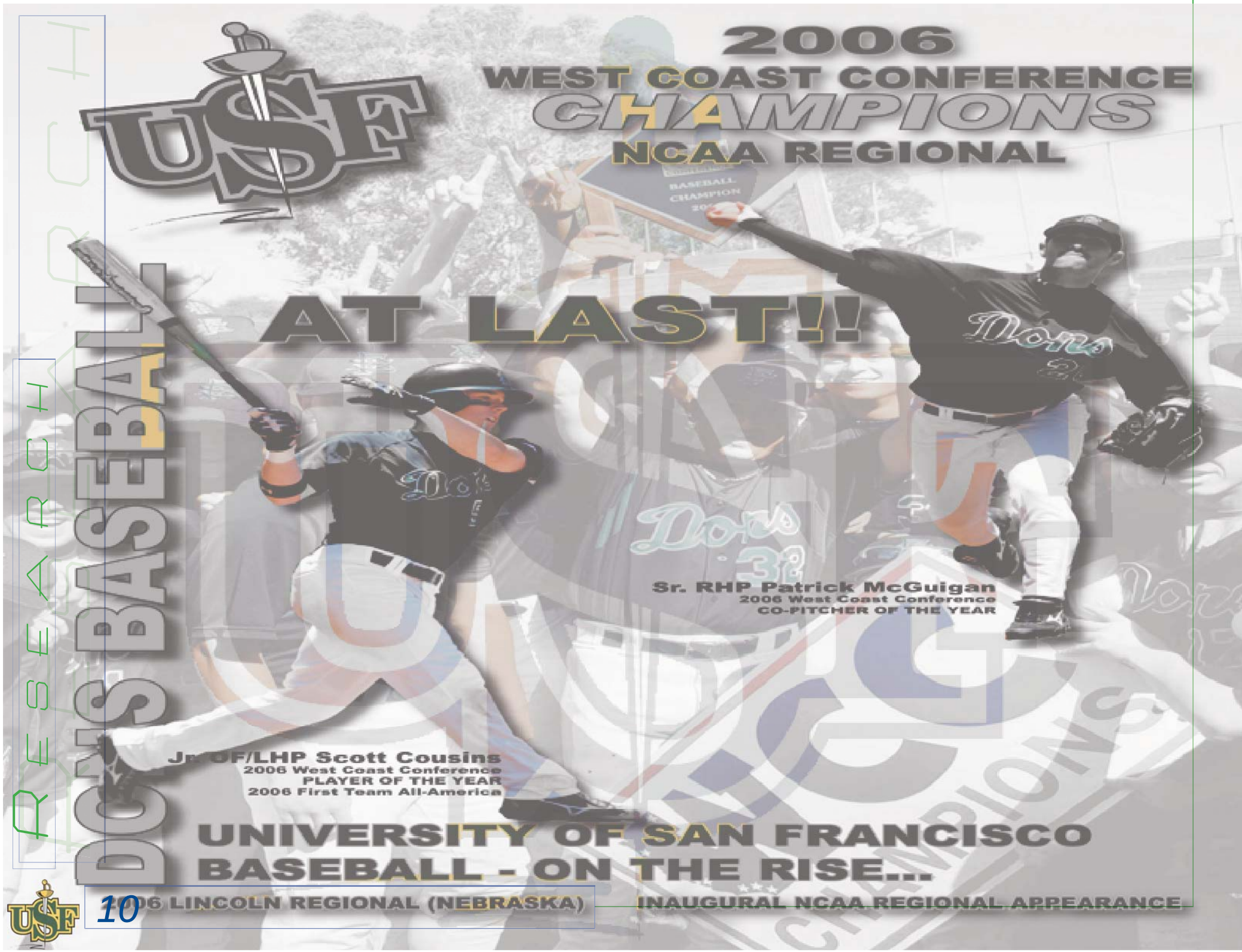



Atlantic 10 Conference
2007 Xavier baseball
THE POWER OF X
GOXAVIER.COM

Hayden Field at Xavier

Hayden Field, named after J. Page Hayden (1898-1979), is the home of the Xavier baseball team. The Musketeers have played at the same on-campus site sing the 1920's, when then St. Xavier University purchased the Avondale Athletic Club in Evanston. Present day Hayden Field was dedicated in 1982 when money donated in Hayden's name was used to fund the renovation of XU's baseball field.

The field has remained nearly the same size before the addition of O'Connor Sports Center in 1935 to modern day. Hayden Field features a natural grass surface and its current dimensions are 310' to left, 380' to center and 310' to right. Xavier has a 360-265-3 (.576) record overall at Hayden Field including a 69-43 (.616) mark in Atlantic 10 Conference play since joining the league in 1996.


2006
WEST COAST CONFERENCE
CHAMPIONS
NCAA REGIONAL
AT LAST!!
DONS BASEBALL
Sr. RHP Patrick McGuigan
2006 West Coast Conference
CO-FITCHER OF THE YEAR
Jr. OF/LHP Scott Cousins
2006 West Coast Conference
PLAYER OF THE YEAR
2006 First Team All-America
UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO
BASEBALL - ON THE RISE...
2006 LINCOLN REGIONAL (NEBRASKA)
INAUGURAL NCAA REGIONAL APPEARANCE

Benedetti Diamond at San Francisco

Benedetti Diamond, the home of USF Baseball, continues to undergo renovations to improve the quality of the facilities for players and spectators. In 2003, the improvements that have been made during Phase One include the following: removal of trees along the left field fence, expanded and extended area behind current home plate area, installed a new backstop fence, constructed and moved in a new center field fence, constructed a new wall in left field. Safety netting was added to the right and left field fences to protect cars and windows in the neighborhood. Other changes to the facility prior to the start of the 2004 campaign included a remodeled visiting team dugout.

These changes to the outfield fences altered the dimensions of Benedetti Diamond. Prior to 2004, left field played at 320, center was 430 and right field was 315 with the left field power alley at 385 and the right field power alley at 380. The new fence construction makes for symmetrical measurements of left field 335, center field 415 with a 10-foot fence, while right field will move to 320.

Benedetti Diamond received a significant upgrade prior to the 2000 season with the construction of the Dick Doust Dugout, which includes a press box with a VIP suite.

Benedetti Diamond has a long and storied connection with many USF Athletic programs. Dons football, including the storied 1951 "Unbeaten, Untied and Uninvited" squad practiced at Benedetti (then named Ulrich Field) and USF's legendary men's soccer team practiced and played many home matches at the site until 1982 and then again from 1987-88 when the Koret Center was under construction.

Santa Clara University

Stephen Schott Stadium
April 30, 2005 Opening Day

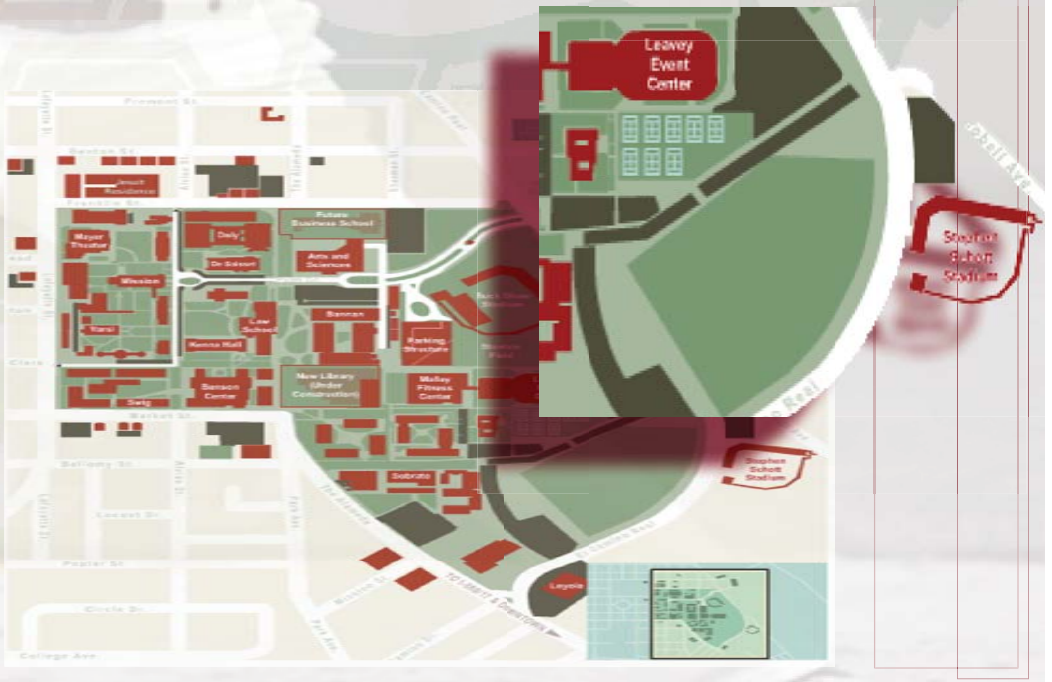
RESEARCH

Schott Stadium at Santa Clara

A new era for Santa Clara University baseball began on April 30, 2005 with the sold-out opening of Stephen Schott Baseball Stadium. The $8.6 million project was kicked off in January, 2004 with a $4 million pledge from former SCU baseball player and former owner of the Oakland Athletics, Stephen Schott.

The 1,500-seat stadium will house the entire Santa Clara baseball program, including its training, practice and equipment facilities. Also equipped with a 600 square-foot press box and VIP suite, Schott Stadium will be one of the premier college baseball stadiums on the West Coast.

Designed with player development in mind, Schott Stadium will provide the Santa Clara baseball staff and players with every possible tool for success.

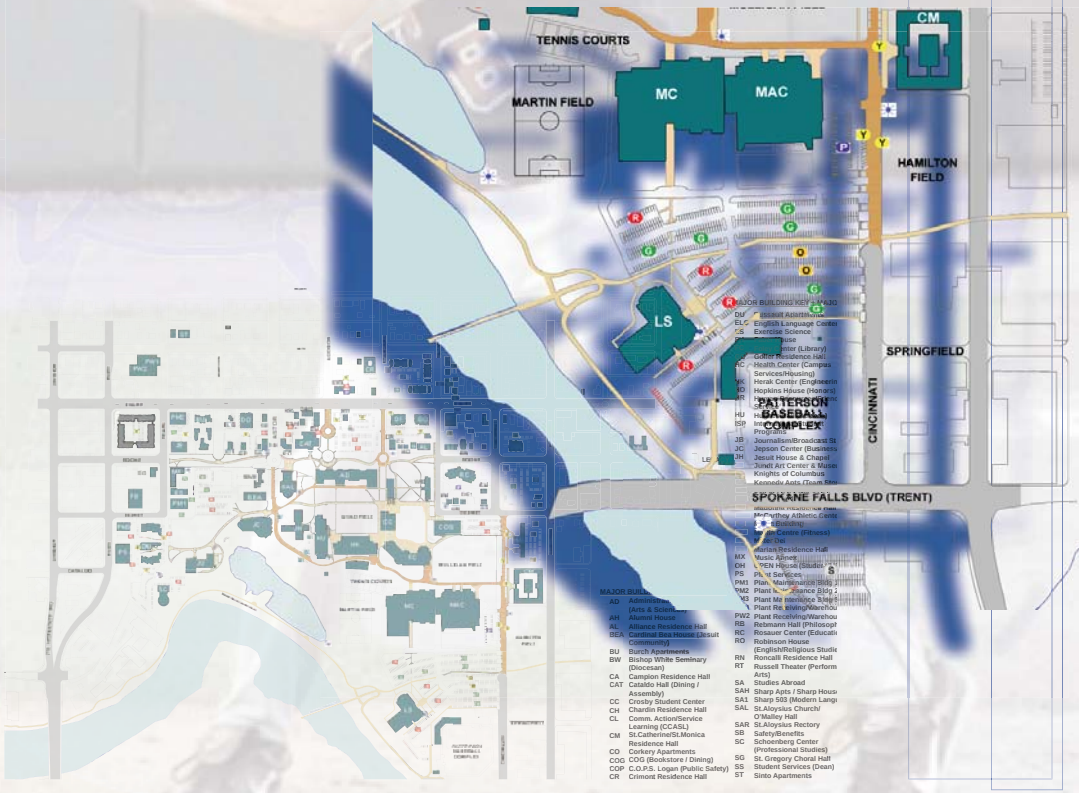



GO
ZAGS!

Patterson Baseball Complex at Gonzaga

Gonzaga's Patterson Baseball Complex and Washington Trust Field will open its doors in the spring of 2007 and will be a state-of-the-art facility with an old-time baseball feel. The funding for the stadium was provided by donations from Gonzaga baseball supporters, including a generous gift from Michael Patterson.

The new stadium will include 1,300 theater-style seats and will incorporate classic brick detailing. Major League player amenities will include a state-of-the-art infield, professional candle lighting system, and authentic home and visitor dugouts with underground passages to the full-service clubhouses. Construction on the new facility commenced in the spring of 2006 and is expected to be ready and fully operational for the Bulldogs' first home game of the 2007 campaign in March.



RESEARCH

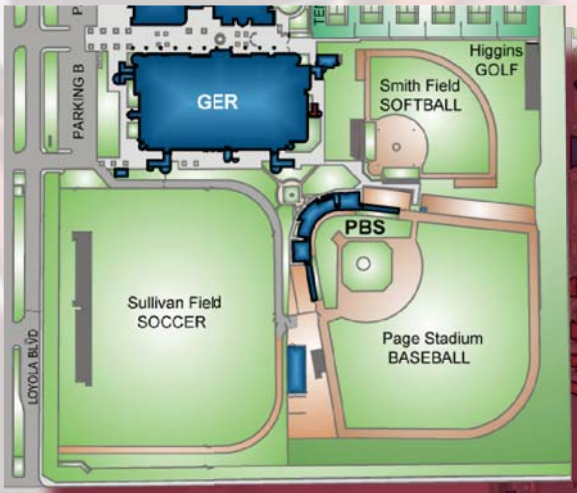
Page Stadium at Loyola Marymount

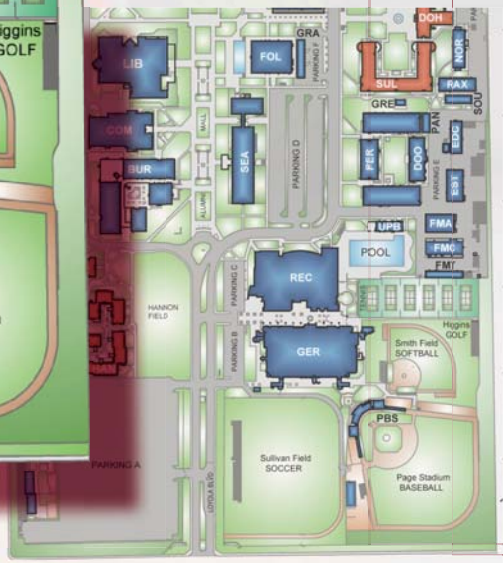
Now in its 24th season as the home of Lion baseball, George C. Page Stadium has established itself as a tough place for opponents. With the Mikos Blue Monster and the addition of Pride Park, Page Stadium continues to stake its claim as one of college baseball's most unique ballparks.

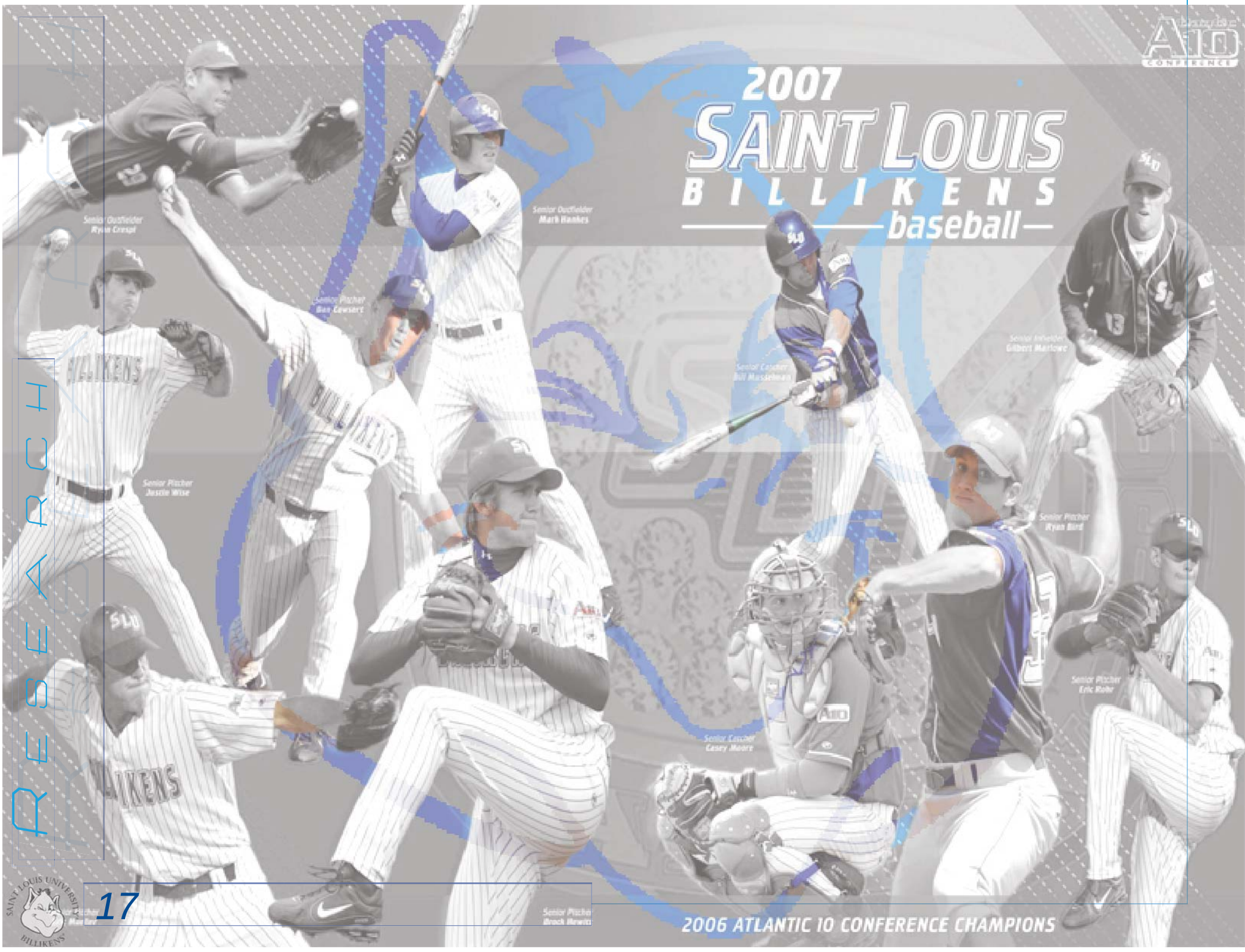
Thanks to a gift from Paul Mikos, a wall containing a manual scoreboard was installed in left field, complete with out of town score reminiscent of some of Major League Baseball's classic ballparks. The Mikos Blue Monster is a replica to Boston's Fenway Park's Green Monster. The Mikos Blue Monster stands 130-feet wide and 37 feet-tall. Within the wall is one of only a handful of manual scoreboards in all of baseball.

The stadium, built at the site of LMU's old baseball field, boasts grandstand seating for more than 600 people and features a VIP section with 200 theater-type seats. The remaining 400 seats are aluminum with backrests and are located along the first base and third base lines. Field accommodations include spacious field-level dugouts and bullpens, a double batting tunnel, windscreen around the perimeter of the field, and grandstand. A picnic area, located down the first base line, was added prior to the 1996 season. The backstop has been modified to enhance spectator viewing of the action on the field. The press box, fully equipped to meet the needs of all media, is located behind the VIP seating. A convenient concession stand is located near the north entrance of the stadium.

Page Stadium has been the site of filming for numerous commercials as well as feature films. It served as the site for the baseball scenes in the hit movie "My Blue Heaven" starring Steve Martin. It is also home to many camps, clinics, Little League and prep all-star games.






2007
SAINT LOUIS
BILLIKENS
baseball
Senior Outfielder
Ryan Crespi
Senior Outfielder
Mark Hawkes
Senior Pitcher
Ben Gewert
Senior Pitcher
Jessie Wise
Senior Catcher
Bill Masselmeier
Senior Infielder
Gilbert Martinez
Senior Pitcher
Ryan Bird
Senior Pitcher
Eric Rohr
Senior Catcher
Casey Moore
Senior Pitcher
Brock Hewitt
2006 ATLANTIC 10 CONFERENCE CHAMPIONS

Billiken Sports Center at St. Louis

St. Louis is entering its 16th season at the Billiken Sports Center on the University Campus. The facility opened in 1990 and originally was used for soccer, field hockey and intramurals. In the summer of 1991, a baseball diamond was added to make The Billiken Sports Center more versatile.

Until the summer of 1999, The BSC boasted the second largest artificial surface in the world. Now, after extensive renovation, both the soccer and baseball fields are a natural surface. Part of the renovation included adding a warning track in the outfield of the baseball diamond. All fields in the facility have lighting for night contests.

Dimensions for the baseball field are 330 feet down the lines, 370 feet in the alleys and 403 feet to center. Seating for baseball is 500, with space for additional seating. The field is truly the finest facility Billiken baseball has ever called home.

A chain-link fence was built during the fall of 1994, and each sideline now features a true bullpen and batting cage. A new outfield fence was put up two years ago.

Located on the St. Louis University campus, the facility is minutes from downtown St. Louis.

RESEARCH

Fitton Field at Holy Cross

Holy Cross has one of the most storied programs in the history of any New England collegiate baseball team. In its 118 years, the Holy Cross baseball program has produced more than 1,600 wins, 121 Major League players and 81 Holy Cross Hall of Famers. In 2006, the Holy Cross baseball program added another milestone to its resume when the school celebrated the 100th anniversary of Fitton Field.

Holy Cross student-athletes began playing competitive baseball in 1876, but it was not until mid April in 1905 that the Crusaders played their first game at Fitton Field. Prior to that, the Purple and White played their home contests at both Driving Park and the Worcester Oval.

Considered one of the finest grass fields in the northeast, Fitton has played host to some of the most memorable contests in New England college baseball history. Over the years, thousands have flocked to Fitton Field to watch the Crusaders match-up with other top teams around the region.

In its 100 year history, Fitton Field has seen the likes of many notable players, but none more recognized than professional Hall of Famers Lou Gehrig, Babe Ruth, and Ted Williams.

This year, Holy Cross will play in its 121st season of collegiate baseball, and while the complex has been renovated after 100 years of wear and tear, it is still the field that Fitton built. It is still the field that some of the best players in the history of the game played on. It is still the home of the Crusaders.


CREIGHTON
Jays
2007 BASEBALL

CU Sports Complex at Creighton

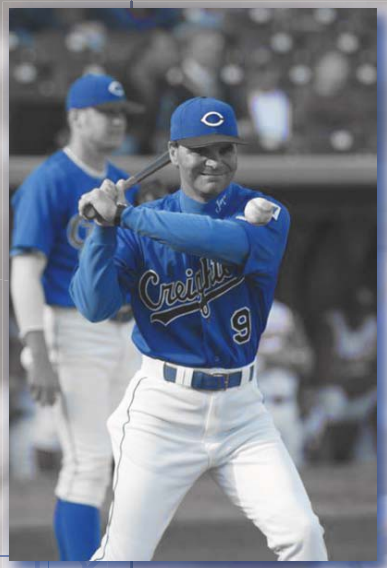
The Creighton Sports Complex, which includes the Kitty Gaughan Pavilion, is home to Bluejay baseball and softball. The facility opened in 1988 and was renovated in 2000, while the Kitty Gaughan Pavilion was completed and dedicated in 2001.

On the baseball side, the Bluejays play on a new Field Turf infield which was installed in the fall of 2006, while the outfield is SafePlay turf. The surfaces have proved to be some of the best to play on in the nation, as the baseball team annually ranks among the top defensive teams in the country. The left and right field lines are 300 feet, gaps are 390 feet and center field is 400 feet.

The Kitty Gaughan Pavilion provides several amenities not just for the baseball and softball programs, but for the entire athletic department. The Pavilion contains offices, locker rooms, and indoor batting cages for both programs. It also contains a training room, an umpire locker room, a kitchenette, concession area, public restrooms, furnished lounge area with televisions and an indoor viewing area for season ticket holders.


RESEARCH

PROGRAM



Introduction

At the Collegiate level, a stadium represents more than just a sporting event. The stadium has grown to become a symbol of university pride and often reflects its accomplishments. The proposed project involves combining sports and entertainment in order to create a Baseball/Softball Stadium that will serve as home to the Creighton University Baseball and Softball teams. The first intention is to generate a building that exhibits the connection between the experiences of a game with the architecture of a stadium. The secondary objectives are 1)Establish the stadium to be a source of civic pride in Omaha, 2)Design the stadium to be an element in the recruiting of future athletes, and 3)Add to Creighton's athletic tradition.

A stadium is the venue where the event takes place. The fans that occupy the stadium are the connection between the experience of a game and the architecture of the stadium. If the facility is not fan-friendly, the thrill of the event does not exist. Creighton University's new stadium will engage the school's urban context through an expansive, open field environment. The design will maximize visual connections between the stadium, field and surrounding city. Additionally, the design will embrace surrounding campus architecture and express the history of the nationally recognized Bluejay baseball and softball programs. The project scope encompasses a classic, fan-friendly facility with design expressions relating to surrounding 19th century brick commercial buildings and expansive views of the field from all seats and an elevated concourse.

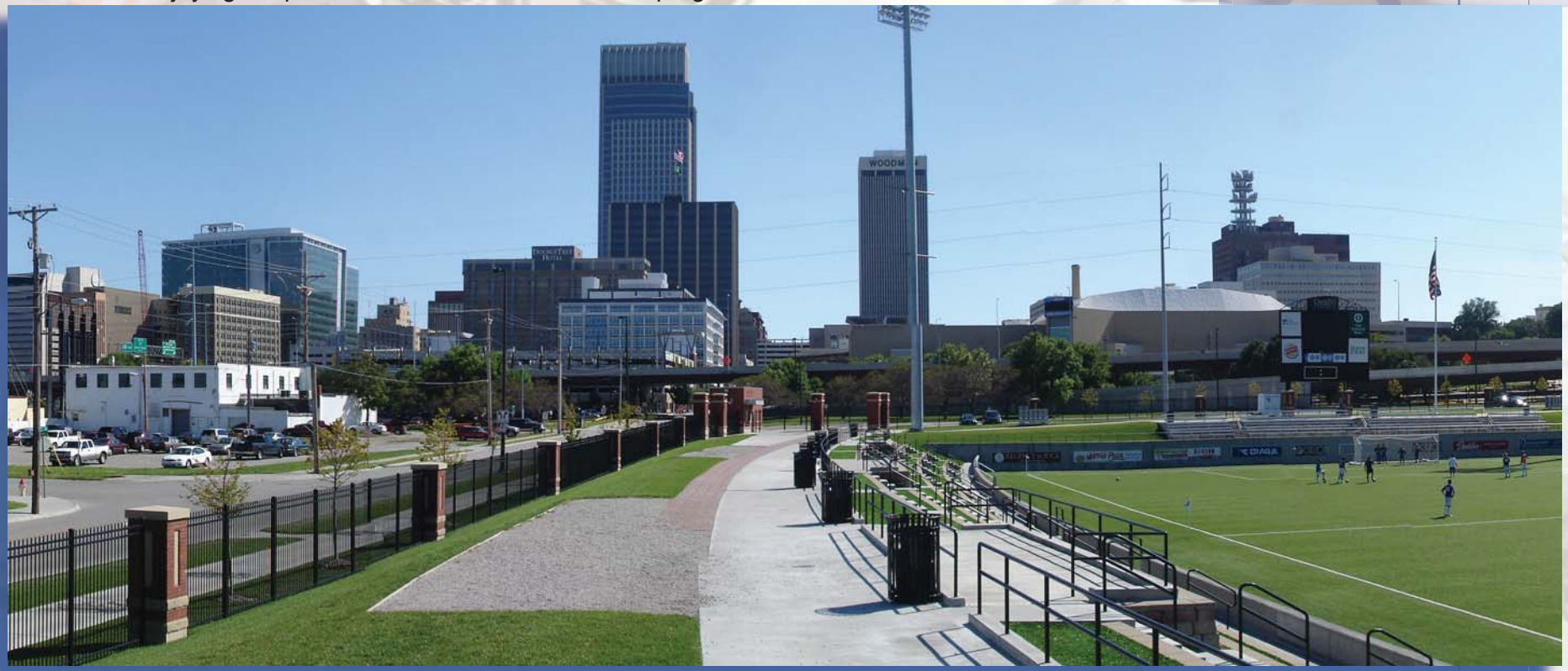
Many universities across the country rely on their football stadium to be the iconic element of the city or campus. Meanwhile, the baseball stadium has generally taken a backseat to its football counterpart. Creighton is unique in that it does not field a football team. Instead, Creighton relies heavily on the success the baseball, softball, basketball, and soccer teams have attained for its source of civic pride. The basketball and soccer teams have recently moved into new arenas, the Qwest Center and Morrison Soccer Complex, respectively. However, these ball teams still occupy the outdated CU Sports Complex. A new stadium will not only complement the new resurgence of growth on the Missouri Riverfront, it will also provide a facility for many different uses outside of the private institution. Creighton currently hosts many youth, club, and high school activities dealing with all sports. The goal is to create a stadium that does not compete with the latest venue additions, but to complement them and establish a stronghold on athletics in Omaha.

Executive Summary

Athletics at Creighton University are highly regarded in Omaha. The Men's Basketball team is the most popular of all of Creighton's athletic programs, having gone to the NCAA basketball tournament seven of the last nine years. The Men's Soccer team has been consistently ranked in the top 10-20 in the country and has been to the Final Four of Soccer several times in the last decade. For their dominance over the past decade, the basketball and soccer teams have been nationally recognized and rewarded with new arenas to become symbols of their accomplishments. Creighton's baseball team has one NCAA College World Series appearance (1991), which is played yearly in Omaha's Johnny Rosenblatt Stadium. Due to its close proximity to Rosenblatt, Creighton serves as the annual host institution for this event. The baseball program uses this honor to reach out to aspiring young ballplayers across the country by holding mini-camps

and seminars at the current baseball complex on campus. Thousands of young players ranging in ages from seven to seventeen attend these camps and gain valuable first hand experience at what Creighton offers its athletes. While facilities are an immense factor in the arms race of athletic recruiting, Creighton still considers its athletes accomplishments as its main source of recruiting power. Therefore, a stadium is needed that reflects these accomplishments and enhances Creighton's reputation among the nation's elite.

A stadium must also maintain and enhance the athletic tradition of the university. In order to enhance the athletic tradition, one must look at past and present success while preparing for the future achievements of the program. Creighton has a very strong tradition and has had some of the most respected coaches in the country. The team has had several All-Americans and many players that have or are currently playing professional ball. The design of this fan-friendly park will be modern in amenities and fan comfort, yet still embrace the time-honored tradition of baseball and softball. Architectural elements taken from the context of the area will enhance the detail and lend a historic feeling. Fans will be able to reflect on past accomplishments while enjoying the present and future success of the program.



Early Redevelopment

During the 1960's, several buildings in the city's former meat and produce market were saved from demolition. These buildings, over time, were renovated into lofts, restaurants, pubs, and unique stores. This mixed-use area is now called the Old Market, and is currently one of the City's, and State's, top tourist attractions.

During the 1970's, the city took the initiative and developed the Gene Leahy Mall, from 10th Street to 15th Street. The concept for the mall was to develop an open space linking the core of downtown with the Missouri River. This was the first initiative to get Omaha residents 'back to the river.' The project was an immediate success and spurred several public and private development projects, including construction of the W. Dale Clark Main Library, the Peter Kiewit Conference Center and State Office Building, the Central Park Plaza office towers, and an office tower and computer center that are currently occupied by Qwest.

Early Riverfront Development

During the 1980's and 1990's, corporate giant ConAgra Foods, Inc. threatened to pull its headquarters operations out of Omaha. As an incentive to keep ConAgra Foods, the State passed a series of tax incentives for businesses and the City and the private sector offered a downtown redevelopment site for a new headquarters. This site was strategically located between the Gene Leahy Mall's eastern terminus and the Missouri River, but contained several historic buildings located in the Jobbers' Canyon National Register District. Ultimately, Jobbers' Canyon was demolished, and ConAgra Foods built a new headquarters campus adjacent to the downtown Omaha riverfront. Omaha lost several buildings that may have been prime redevelopment candidates, but, for the first time in decades, gained access to the riverfront in the downtown area. Several additional development projects ensued, including multiple loft conversions in the Old Market, the renovation of a Union Pacific warehouse into the Harriman Dispatch Center, and several new hotels along 10th Street.

Northeast Redevelopment Plan

During the late 1990's, additional growth was directed into the downtown core. The City of Omaha established the 33-block Downtown Northeast Redevelopment Plan, which covers an area generally from I-480 south to Douglas Street and from the Missouri River to approximately 17th Street. The plan was developed in order to assist two major downtown redevelopment projects. The First National Bank of Omaha project consisted of a new technology center, a city-owned parking structure, and an office tower. The $200 million Tower at First National Center, completed in 2003, is 633 feet in height and is the tallest building between Chicago and Denver.

The Omaha World Herald's Freedom Center was a $135 million project that consisted of a printing press facility, a paper roll storage building, new office space, and a parking structure for the region's largest daily newspaper. Other projects that have occurred within or adjacent to the redevelopment area include construction of the Roman Hruska Federal Courthouse, a $60 million renovation of the Zorinsky Federal Building, for-sale and for-rent residential projects, and streetscape improvements along Capitol Avenue. In addition, Union Pacific recently completed construction of its new $260 million 19-story corporate headquarters and 1,280 stall parking garage, and work

has also been completed on the $90-million Holland Performing Arts Center that fronts onto the Gene Leahy Mall, displayed in the picture below.

Current Riverfront Development

Omaha has maintained the momentum begun in the 1970's to get back to the Missouri River. Former U.S. Senator Bob Kerrey secured funding for his "Back to the River" initiative, which includes greenways, trails, and open spaces along both the Nebraska and Iowa sides of the river. The centerpiece of Kerrey's initiative is a $23 million pedestrian bridge, currently under construction north of the I-480 Bridge. This bridge is intended to be a visual landmark for Omaha, similar to the arch in St. Louis.

The trails along both sides of the river will also connect many new and proposed developments. Rick's Boatyard Cafe, a large destination restaurant with both indoor and outdoor seating, is located at Lewis and Clark Landing, the site of the former Asarco lead refinery. This site was cleared and capped, and

is now preserved as permanent open space along the river. The National Park Service constructed its Regional Headquarters between the landing and the future pedestrian bridge. Immediately to the north of the pedestrian bridge is the home of Riverfront Place. Riverfront Place consists of two 13-story condominium towers, twenty-seven low-rise town homes, and commercial uses. Phase I, which consisted of the first condominium tower, was completed during the summer of 2006. Phase II, the second tower, broke ground right before Phase I was completed in the spring of 2006.

North of Riverfront Place is the site of Gallup's new $81 million Riverfront Campus. This project is the home of Gallup corporate offices, Gallup University, and a child development facility. This project is significant because it brings several thousand executives to Omaha each year from around the country (and the world) for leadership development training. The campus is bordered on the north by Miller's Landing, a passive park with docking facilities for the River City Star, which provides riverboat excursions up and down the Missouri River.

RESEARCH

Qwest Center

The most eye-catching project along the riverfront is the Qwest Center Omaha, a new arena and convention center. This $291 million project is located along 10th Street, on the site of the former Union Pacific shops and rail yards. This project, with its ultra-modern architecture, is intended to spur additional economic development activity within the immediate area. A new 450-room convention center hotel, Hilton Omaha, has been constructed immediately to the west of the Qwest Center, and is connected to it via an enclosed skywalk.

Development North of Creighton

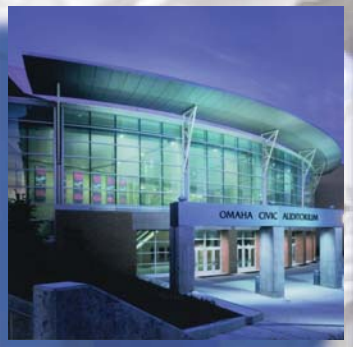
To the north of Creighton, a substantial amount of redevelopment activity has occurred in North Omaha. The City and non-profit organizations are actively involved in rehabilitating existing homes and building new homes in the neighborhoods immediately to the north of Creighton, predominantly along Cuming Street.

RESEARCH

Downtown Imagery

Holland Performing Arts Center

Civic Auditorium



First National Bank Tower

Union Pacific Headquarters Building

Qwest Center

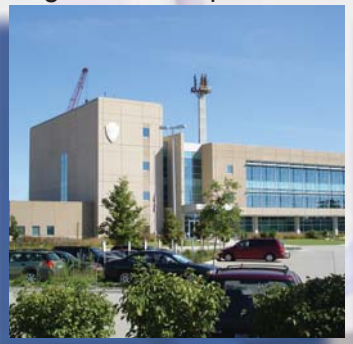
World Herald Freedom Center

Rick's Boatyard Cafe

Labor Sculpture

Gallup University

National Park Service Regional Headquarters



Riverfront Place Condominiums

Woodmen Tower

Hilton Omaha

Gene Leahy Mall

Site Analysis

Creighton University sits on a 108 acre campus located near the heart of the downtown business district of Omaha, Nebraska. Interstate 480 provides the main east/west access route for campus, while U.S. Highway 75 (commonly called the North Freeway) intersects campus along the north/south axis. Secondary access routes through campus would include Cuming Street and North 24th Street.

The current CU Sports Complex sits at the corner of North 21st and Burt Street and is the home to both baseball and softball teams, as well as the Kitty Gaughan Pavilion Athletic Training Facility. The proposed complex will be conscientiously placed at the eastern edge of the Creighton University campus as a part of the long range athletic/recreational facility development per the new Campus Master Plan. There is a great interest to have an iconic welcoming structure located at the southeast corner of campus which interfaces with the Omaha Central Business District. The location will be adjacent to the new soccer complex at North 17th and Webster Street. The stadium entry is located near the corner of 17th and Burt Street, parallel to the California Street student pedestrian mall which is the main east/west artery through campus.

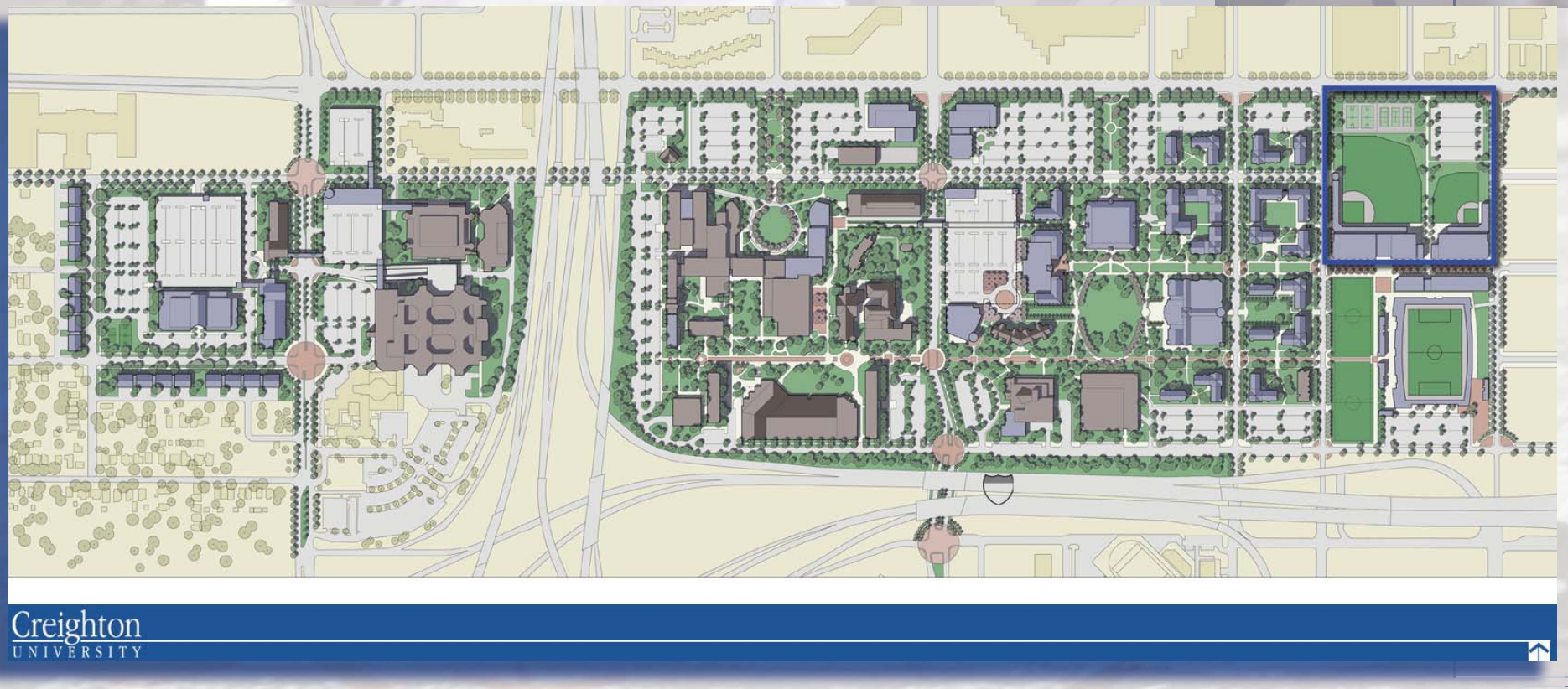
There is a great interest in being able to feature the downtown skyline from the stadium as well as to have the Qwest Center and Morrison Soccer Complex featured from the stadium grandstand. Since Creighton University plays men's basketball at the Qwest and men's and women's soccer at the Morrison Soccer Complex, they play an integral part of campus activity and should be featured as well.

The current sports complex will be replaced with green space, enhancing the area and providing students with a place to relax and study. The existing parking lot to the west of the sports complex would also be replaced with green space. Also, supplementary parking areas will need to be established around the new stadium to account for the increase in stadium capacity and the loss of existing parking near the old sports complex. Additionally, zones for pre-game and post-game festivities will need to be placed in order to enhance the experience of the game for the fans.

Creighton Campus Master Plan

Creighton's Campus Master Plan, created in 2001 by Studio InSite in Denver, Colorado, calls for the baseball and softball fields to be oriented towards North Omaha. The existing ballfield locations were replaced with greenspace to provide opportunities for both formal and informal activities. The design intent is to provide a large, park-like setting that serves a range of uses, from informal recreation to large outdoor ceremonies.

Two buildings were placed in between the new ball fields and the Morrison Soccer Stadium. At the beginning of the project neither of these buildings had a specific use in mind, the planning firm just placed them in their location on the map for future purposes. As the project progressed, a new Arena broke ground at the corner of 19th and Webster Street that will house the Women's Volleyball and Basketball teams and their respective athletic offices.



Site Imagery

Views take from Northwest Quadrant (19th and Cuming Street corner) of site showing existing buildings.

Top Left: Grace Tabernacle Church
Top Right: Modern Equipment Storage Building
Bottom Left: Modern Equipment Company
Bottom Right: Modern Equipment Company

Site Imagery

Views take from Southeast Quadrant (17th and Cuming Street corner) of site showing existing buildings and parking lots.

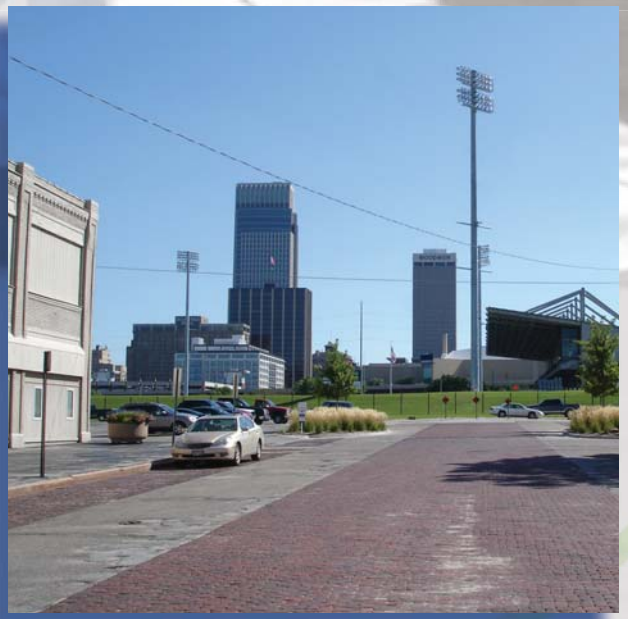
Top Left: Automatic Printing Company
Top Right: Max I. Walker Parking Storage Lot
Bottom Left: Modern Equipment Company Storage Lot
Bottom Right: Storage Building

Site Imagery

Views take from Southwest Quadrant (19th and Webster Street corner) of site showing existing buildings and parking lots.

Top Left: Precision Tool
Top Right: Facility Bldg.
Bottom Left: Mystery Manor
Bottom Right: Temp. Faculty Parking Lot

Site Imagery



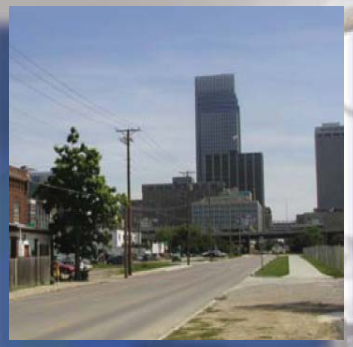
Views take from Southeast Quadrant (17th and Webster Street corner) of site showing existing buildings and parking lots.

Top Left: Frank Jelinek Facilities Management Building
Top Right: Facility Bldg.
Bottom Left: Temp. Facility Employee Parking Lot
Bottom Right: Existing 18th Street Looking to Downtown

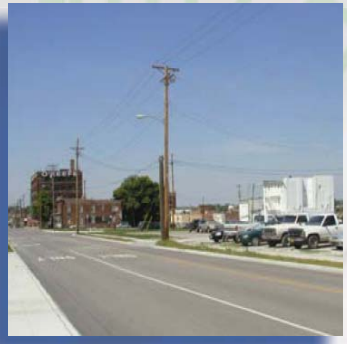
RESEARCH

Existing Corridors

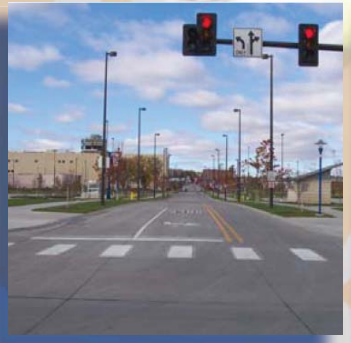
17th Street Looking South

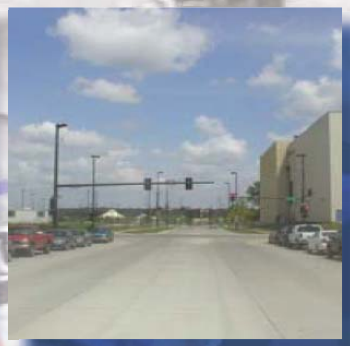

17th Street Looking North




Webster Street Looking West

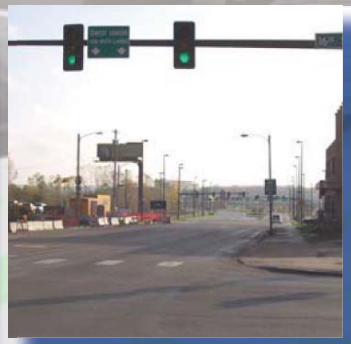


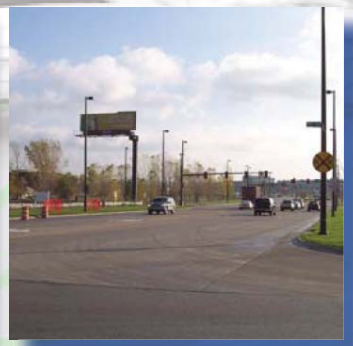

Existing Corridors



Webster Street Looking East

Cuming Street Looking West





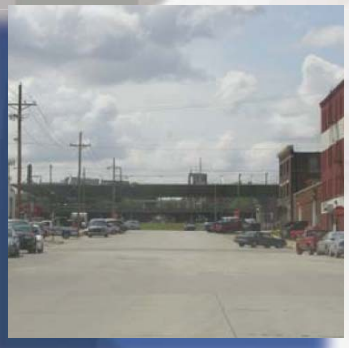
Cuming Street Looking East

Existing Corridors

Burt Street Looking East

Burt Street Looking West

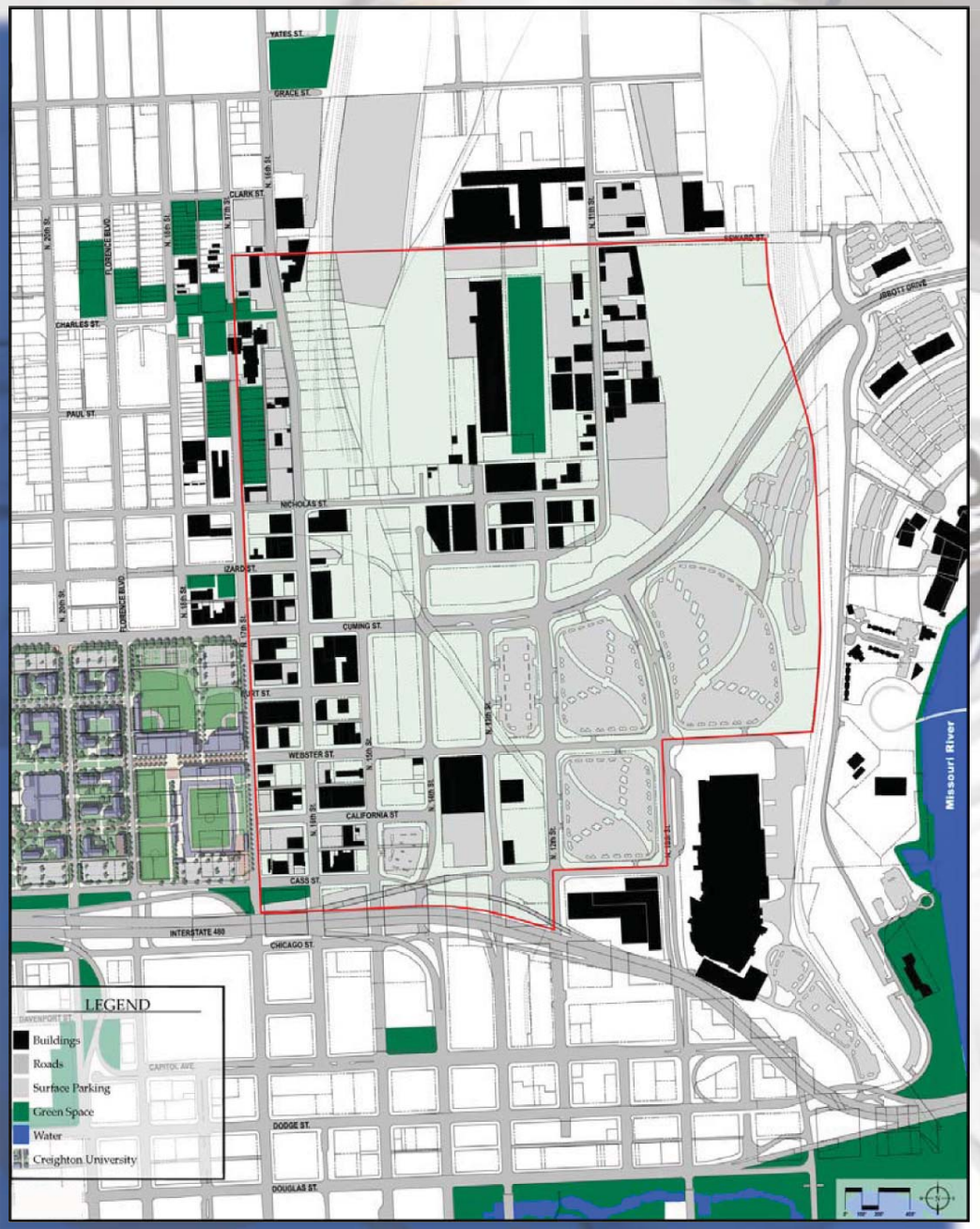
California Street Looking West



California Street Looking East


Creighton
15

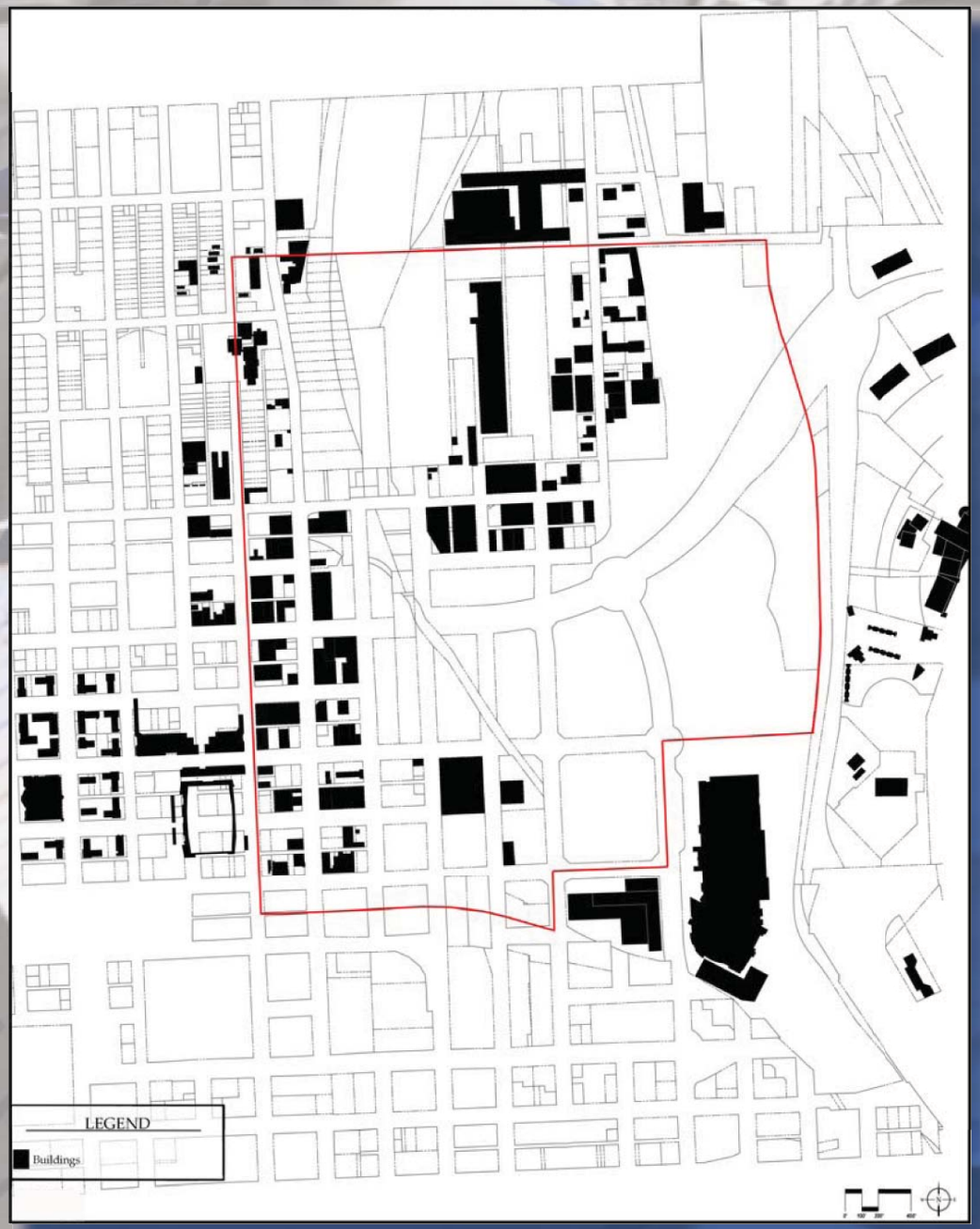
North Downtown Base Map



This map documents the existing conditions within the study area, including streets, parking lots, vacant land, existing buildings, and the proposed Creighton University Master Plan. This area base map is the basis for all ensuing research work for this project.

Building Figure Ground Map

This map examines the urban fabric of the Study Area (existing buildings and other built structures). As can be seen, there are two pockets of existing fabric, one along the 16th street corridor and another adjacent to and north of the Hot Shops (13th and Nicholas). New structures, such as the Qwest Center Omaha, Hilton Omaha, and Gallup can be seen just outside the Creighton University boundaries. The lack of significant existing fabric within the area creates a tremendous opportunity to recreate the urban feel of the downtown area, located immediately to the south. New structures can be designed to emphasize a mixed-use, pedestrian oriented nature for the district and help connect it to adjacent areas.

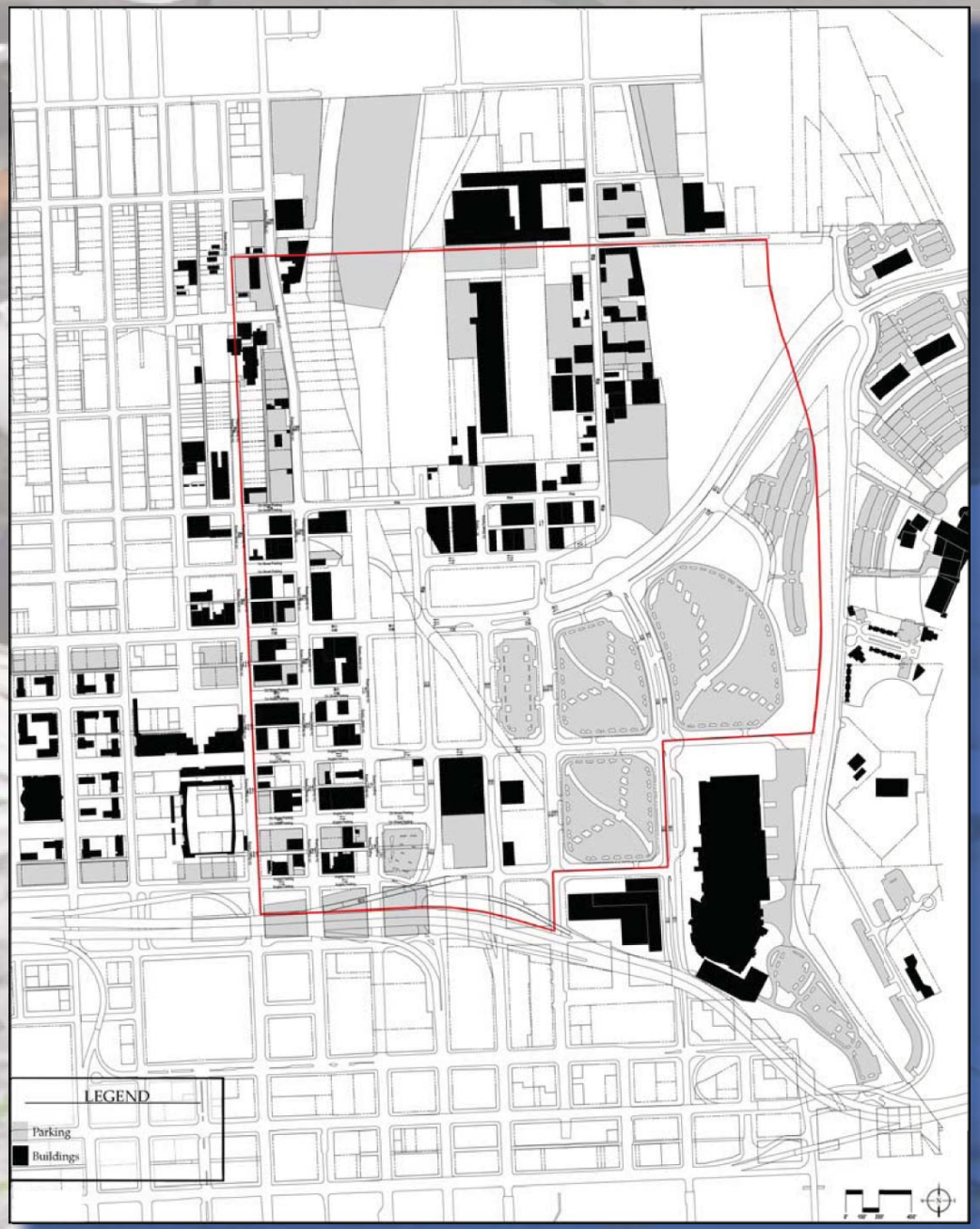


Road System Ground Map

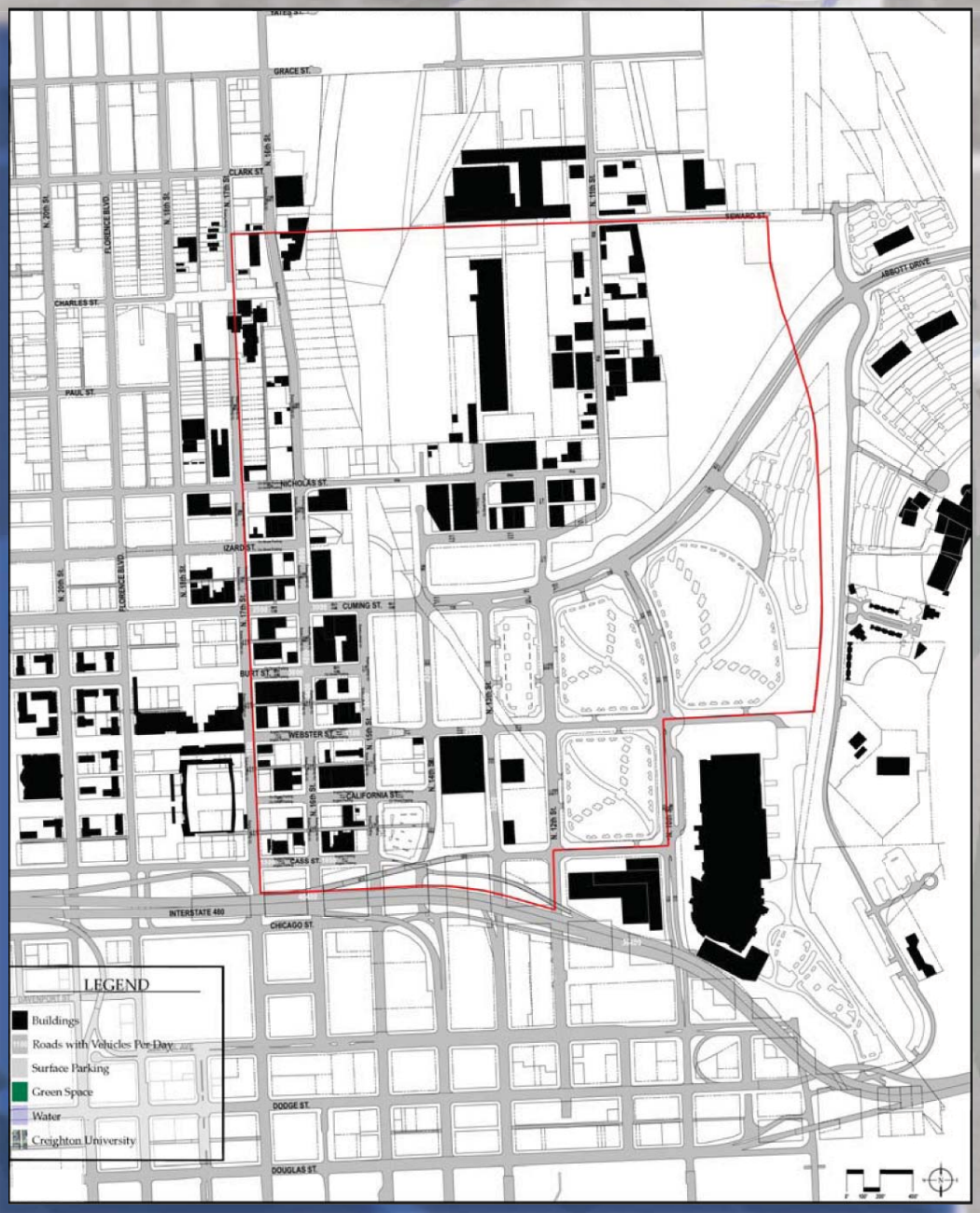
The existing roadway network is fairly intact. The area is served by a network of streets laid in a grid pattern. This network ties directly into the downtown area on the south. To the north, the grid diminishes in the industrial area north of Nicholas Street. South of Cuming Street, the grid has been modified into mega-blocks (to accommodate large parking lots) adjacent to the Qwest Center Omaha. With the exception of these mega-blocks, the street grid facilitates pedestrian movement and makes for a relatively human-scaled district.

Parking Map

Large portions of the area are given over to the storage of vehicles. This is especially true on towards the east edge of the area, adjacent to the Qwest Center Omaha, and on the south side of the campus, adjacent to the downtown area and I-480. Many streets on the west side of the area allow on-street parking, while streets on the east are devoted to moving traffic. Addressing the present and future demand for parking will be critical to the success of this area.

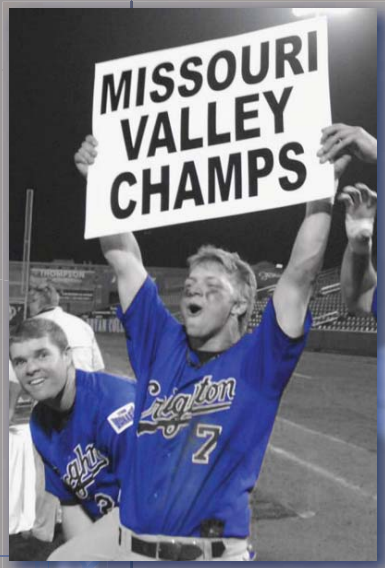


Transportation Analysis



The Transportation Analysis examined traffic flow and volume within the area. Because of the recent nature of street reconstruction within this area, changes are not always reflected in the data.

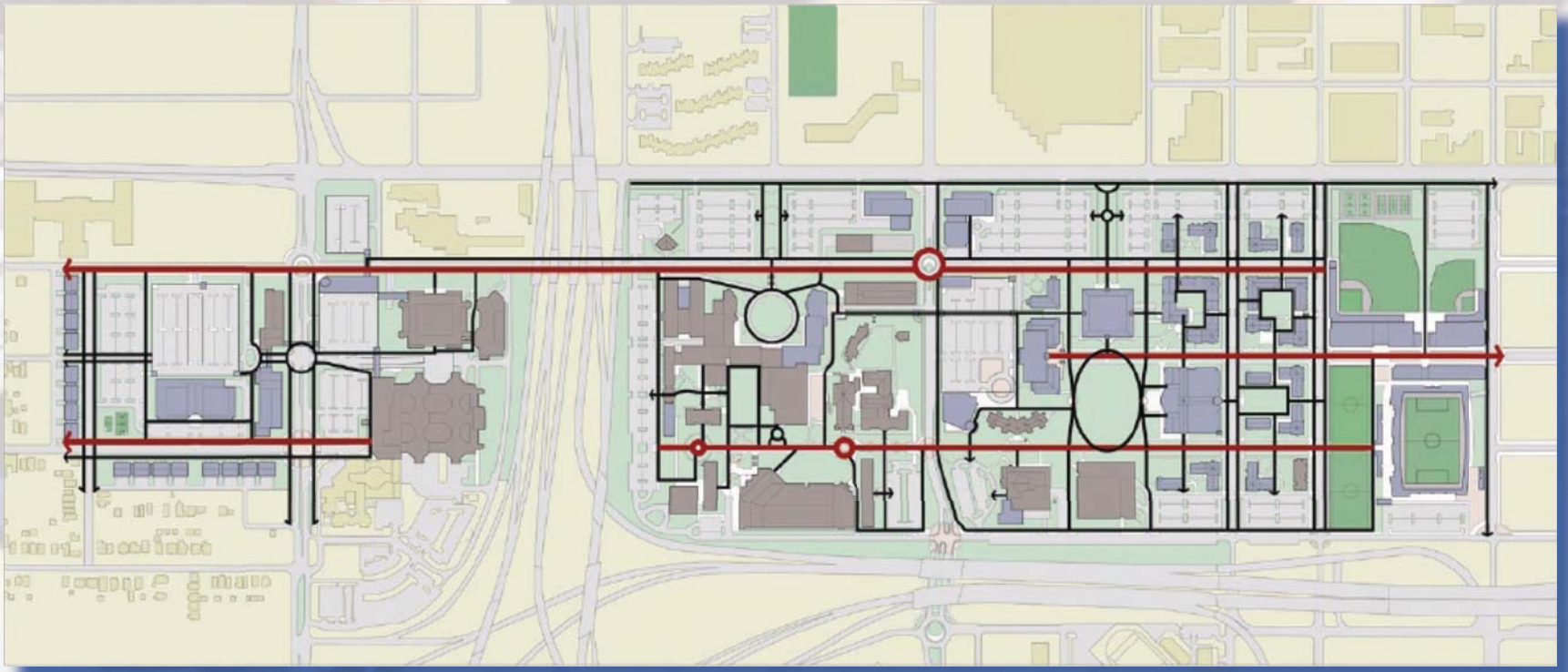
The 2002 traffic flow map details average daily traffic in vehicles per day for major streets within the study area. The traffic counts were taken prior to completion of the area's new roadway network (Cuming Street/Abbott Drive, 10th Street, etc.). As a result, existing traffic counts are dated and do not reflect existing traffic volumes and patterns. Arrows on the respective streets reflect the present direction of traffic flow.



Campus Circulation

An efficient, well-defined network of pedestrian pathways is important to the experience of a University campus. The Master Plan introduces a pathway hierarchy of primary, secondary and tertiary walkways based upon existing and planned campus development and anticipated volumes of traffic. The design of pathways is to consider this hierarchy in order to provide a circulation system that is easily understood and enhances the image of the University.

Pedestrian walkways are the primary means of circulation throughout the campus and are to be developed to a high level of clarity and safety. The design criteria for the campus pathway system are developed to support both an efficient system of pedestrian movement as well as a well-designed infrastructure that sets a standard for campus development. Shown on the map in red below are the three major East-West pedestrian corridors through campus (From top to bottom: Burt Street Corridor, Webster Street Corridor, and California Street Corridor), while the black lines represent the roadways through campus.



Pedestrian Pathway Criteria

- A clear hierarchy of pedestrian pathways is to be developed. The hierarchy is to include design criteria that establish consistency across the campus. The pedestrian pathway hierarchy includes primary, secondary and tertiary walkways as outlined in the Master Plan.

- Safe and accessible pedestrian routes are to be provided to link all buildings, open space, parking facilities and recreational facilities across the campus.

- At intersections with campus streets, pedestrian walkways are to be marked by a change in the material of the roadway and, where appropriate, raised crosswalks.

- All pedestrian pathways are to be appropriately lit for safety.

- Brick and unit pavers used in pedestrian pathways are to be sand set over a concrete base slab.

Primary Pedestrian Pathways

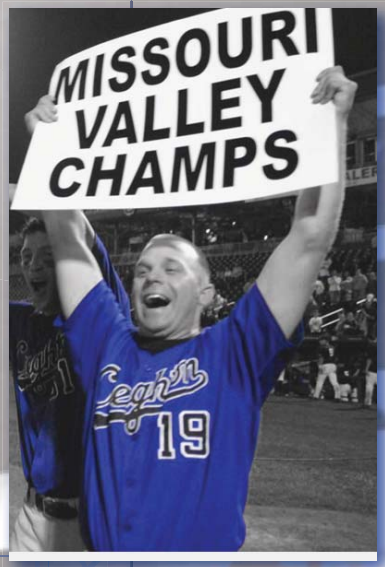
Primary pedestrian pathways connect points on campus east to west, linking the entire campus along corridors that serve all major facilities. These pathways also serve as the basic structure for the campus urban design framework. The importance of these pedestrian corridors is to be accentuated through the use of wide promenades, special paving, and site elements that provide focal points for the pedestrian experience. The following criteria will be considered in the design of primary pedestrian pathways near the stadium:

- Primary pedestrian pathways designed to accommodate anticipated volumes of foot traffic as well as service and emergency vehicles. As such, primary pathways are to be a minimum of 10 feet in width.

- Primary pathways are to be designed to accommodate the loads and required jurisdictional widths of emergency vehicles and equipment.

- The use of special materials is encouraged in the design of primary pedestrian pathways. Appropriate materials include brick pavers, colored concrete, natural stone and finished concrete.

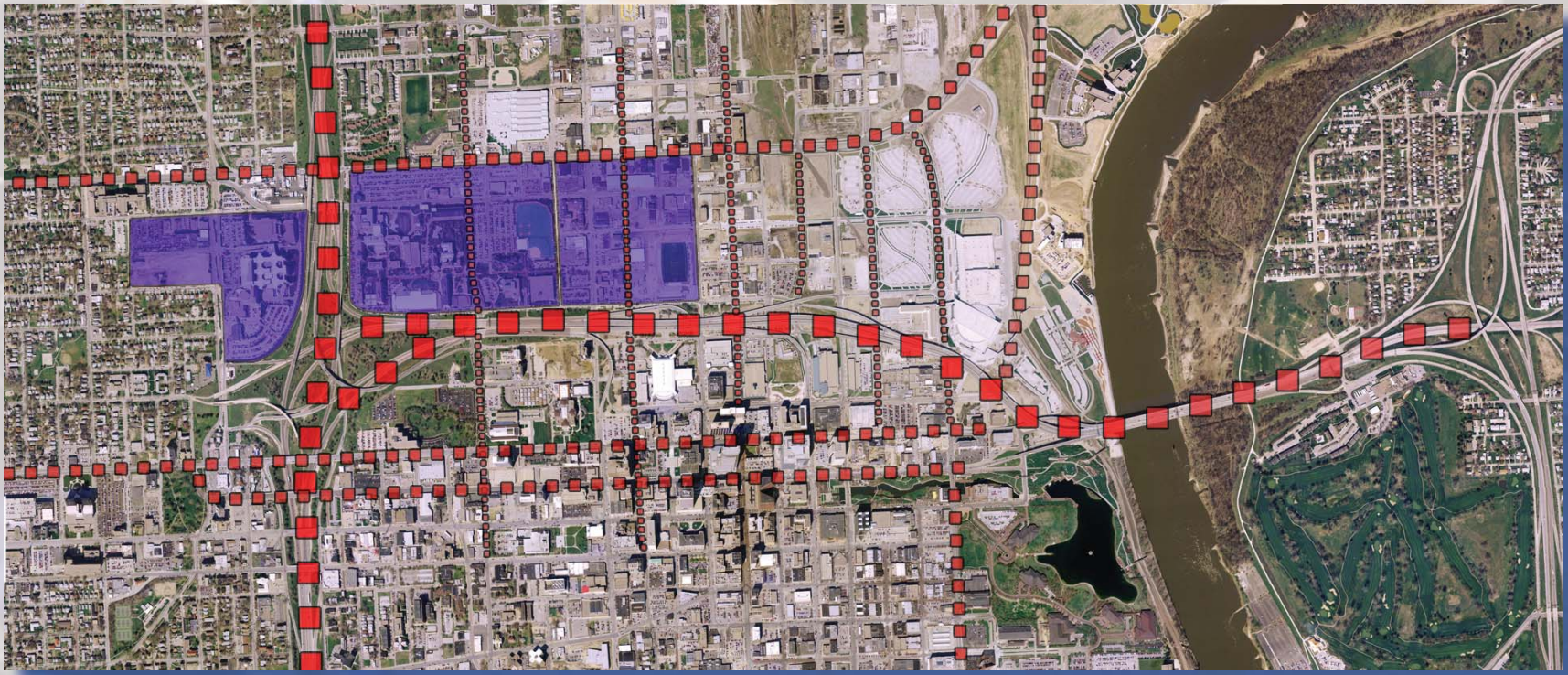
- Intersections with secondary pathways and campus streets are considered nodes in the pedestrian pathway network. These nodes are appropriate locations for the introduction of art, water features, site and seat walls, etc. At minimum, a change in materials is to be incorporated into the design of the nodes.



Vehicle Circulation

Creighton University sits on a 108 acre campus located near the heart of the downtown business district of Omaha, Nebraska. Interstate 480 provides the main east/west access route for campus, while U.S. Highway 75 (commonly called the North Freeway) intersects campus along the north/south axis. Secondary access routes through campus would include Cuming Street and North 24th Street. Highlighted below is the location of Creighton University in relation to the Missouri River and Downtown Omaha. Access to and from Creighton is highlighted by the paths in red. The large routes consist of the Interstate system, Interstate 480 and the North Freeway. The smaller routes highlight the major East-West streets through the area, Cuming Street to the North and Dodge Street to the South cutting through Downtown. The smallest routes consist of the secondary streets that cut through campus.

Cuming Street was converted to two-way traffic flow from 27th (U.S. 75) to 10th Street as part of the street changes accompanying the arena/convention center. Burt Street remains a high volume roadway detracting from the safe movement of pedestrians between the main Creighton campus and the Medical Center. To accommodate this stadium project, Burt Street will be closed off from 17th Street to 19th Street.



Neighborhood Context

Downtown Omaha Population Demographics

	1990 Census		2000 Census		2006 Estimate		2011 Projection		Percent Change 1990 to 2000	Percent Change 2006 to 2011
Total Population	4,180		5,358		5,397		5,450		28.2%	1.0%
Population Density (Pop/ Sq Mi)	2,175.5		2,788.9		2,809.2		2,836.8		28.2%	1.0%
Total Households	2,294		2,287		2,254		2,242		-0.3%	-0.5%
Population by Gender:										
Male	2,597	62.1%	3,304	61.7%	3,346	62.0%	3,393	62.3%	27.2%	1.4%
Female	1,582	37.9%	2,054	38.3%	2,051	38.0%	2,057	37.7%	29.8%	0.3%

Downtown Population by Race/Ethnicity

	1990 Census		2000 Census		2006 Estimate		2011 Projection		Percent Change 1990 to 2000	Percent Change 2006 to 2011
White	3,006	71.9%	3,313	61.8%	3,535	65.5%	3,872	71.1%	10.2%	9.5%
Black	979	23.4%	1,298	24.2%	970	18.0%	691	12.7%	32.5%	-28.8%
American Indian or Alaska Native	63	1.5%	83	1.6%	39	0.7%	18	0.3%	31.1%	-53.1%
Asian or Pacific Islander	74	1.8%	241	4.5%	240	4.4%	218	4.0%	224.5%	-9.2%
Some Other Race	56	1.4%	241	4.5%	346	6.4%	373	6.9%	328.1%	8.0%
Two or More Races			182	3.4%	268	5.0%	278	5.1%		3.7%

Downtown Population by Age

	1990 Census		2000 Census		2006 Estimate		2011 Projection		Percent Change 1990 to 2000	Percent Change 2006 to 2011
0 to 4	116	2.8%	185	3.5%	235	4.4%	244	4.5%	59.7%	3.7%
5 to 14	110	2.6%	215	4.0%	299	5.5%	329	6.0%	96.2%	9.9%
15 to 19	208	5.0%	370	6.9%	362	6.7%	362	6.6%	78.2%	0.0%
20 to 24	811	19.4%	1,085	20.3%	975	18.1%	925	17.0%	33.9%	-5.1%
25 to 34	1,028	24.6%	1,255	23.4%	1,143	21.2%	1,081	19.8%	22.1%	-5.5%
35 to 44	581	13.9%	910	17.0%	816	15.1%	794	14.6%	56.6%	-2.8%
45 to 54	324	7.8%	657	12.3%	716	13.3%	721	13.2%	102.8%	0.7%
55 to 64	305	7.3%	366	6.8%	489	9.1%	584	10.7%	19.8%	19.6%
65 to 74	297	7.1%	181	3.4%	199	3.7%	244	4.5%	-38.9%	22.7%
75 to 84	243	5.8%	94	1.8%	109	2.0%	111	2.0%	-61.5%	2.1%
85+	150	3.6%	40	0.7%	54	1.0%	56	1.0%	-73.5%	2.9%
Median Age:										
Total Population	32.5		30.6		31.5		32.5		-5.9%	3.1%

Neighborhood Context

Downtown Households by Income

	1990 Census		2000 Census		2006 Estimate		2011 Projection		Percent Change 1990 to 2000	Percent Change 2006 to 2011
$0 - $15,000	1,371	59.8%	896	39.2%	827	36.7%	785	35.0%	-34.6%	-5.1%
$15,000 - $24,999	471	20.5%	475	20.8%	416	18.5%	388	17.3%	0.7%	-6.7%
$25,000 - $34,999	191	8.3%	353	15.4%	343	15.2%	343	15.3%	84.8%	0.1%
$35,000 - $49,999	124	5.4%	290	12.7%	315	14.0%	315	14.0%	134.3%	-0.1%
$50,000 - $74,999	67	2.9%	163	7.1%	205	9.1%	236	10.5%	396.9%	15.1%
$75,000 - $99,999	35	1.5%	34	1.5%	55	2.5%	70	3.1%	-2.6%	26.2%
$100,000 - $149,999	20	0.9%	52	2.3%	63	2.8%	66	2.9%	158.1%	3.9%
$150,000 +	11	0.5%	24	1.1%	28	1.3%	39	1.8%	109.4%	38.3%
Average Hhld Income	$17,626		$26,180		$28,797		$30,796		48.5%	6.9%
Median Hhld Income	$11,488		$20,371		$22,342		$23,751		77.3%	6.3%
Per Capita Income	$11,071		$11,174		$22,459		$24,315		0.9%	8.3%

Downtown Housing Units

	1990 Census		2000 Census		2006 Estimate		2011 Projection		Percent Change 1990 to 2000	Percent Change 2006 to 2011
Total Housing Units	2,916		2,739		2,774		2,816		-6.1%	1.5%
Owner Occupied	107	3.7%	121	4.4%	190	6.8%	248	8.8%	13.1%	30.9%
Renter Occupied	2,187	75.0%	2,166	79.1%	2,064	74.4%	1,994	70.8%	-1.0%	-3.4%
Vacant	622	21.3%	452	16.5%	520	18.8%	574	20.4%	-27.4%	10.3%

Downtown Vehicles Available

	1990 Census		2000 Census		2006 Estimate		2011 Projection		Percent Change 1990 to 2000	Percent Change 2006 to 2011
Average Vehicles Per Hhld	0.70		0.70		1.30		1.50		-5.1%	16.3%
0 Vehicles Available	1,017	40.4%	734	32.1%	415	18.4%	341	15.2%	-27.9%	-17.8%
1 Vehicle Available	943	37.5%	1,280	56.0%	1,045	46.4%	897	40.0%	35.7%	-14.2%
2+ Vehicles Available	557	22.1%	273	11.9%	793	35.2%	1,004	44.8%	-51.0%	26.6%

Downtown Marital Status

	1990 Census		2000 Census		2006 Estimate		2011 Projection		Percent Change 1990 to 2000	Percent Change 2006 to 2011
Age 15+ Population	3,947		4,958		4,862		4,877		25.6%	0.3%
Married, Spouse Present	625	15.8%	591	11.9%	582	12.0%	582	11.9%	-5.4%	0.1%
Married, Spouse Absent	179	4.5%	1,054	21.3%	1,037	21.3%	1,043	21.4%	489.5%	0.6%
Divorced	686	17.4%	769	15.5%	754	15.5%	756	15.5%	12.1%	0.2%
Widowed	383	9.7%	158	3.2%	155	3.2%	154	3.2%	-58.7%	-0.1%

RESEARCH

Omaha MSA Context

Geography Selection

8-County Omaha Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA): Cass, Douglas, Sarpy, Saunders, Washington counties in Nebraska; Harrison, Mills, Pottawattamie counties in Iowa

Population

The 2006 population in the Omaha MSA is 819,246. The 2000 Census revealed a population of 767,041, and in 1990 it was 685,798 representing an increase of 11.8%. It is estimated that the population will be 860,671 in 2011, representing an increase of 5.1% from 2006. The current population is 49.4% male and 50.6% female. In 2006, the median age of the population was 35.1, compared to the US median age which was 36.5. The population density is 185.9 people per square mile.

Omaha MSA Context

Households

There are currently 316,884 households in the Omaha MSA. The Census revealed household counts of 294,502 in 2000, up from 257,286 in 1990, representing an increase of 14.5%. It is estimated that the number of households will be 35,527 in 2011, representing a 5.9% increase from 2006. For 2006, the average household size is 2.59 persons.

In 2006 the median number of years in residence is 3.3. The average household size was 2.5 people and the average family size was 3.2 people. The average number of vehicles per household was 2.0.

Income

In 2006, the median household income in the Omaha MSA was $51,752, compared to the US median of $48,271. The Census revealed median household incomes of $44,671 in 2000 and $29,967 in 1990 representing an increase of 49.1%. It is estimated that the median household income will increase by 9.6% by 2011 and reach $56,714. In 2006, the per capita income was $25,060, compared to the US per capita, which was $24,529. The 2006 average household income was $62,886, compared to the US average which was $63,629.

Race & Ethnicity

In 2006, the racial makeup of the Omaha MSA was as follows:85.8% White;6.2% Black;0.3% Native American;1.7% Asian/Pacific Islander; and 3.4% Other. Compare these to the US racial makeup which is: 75.9% White, 12.1% Black, 0.7% Native American, 4.5% Asian/Pacific Islander and 4.5% Other.

People of Hispanic ethnicity are counted independently of race. People of Hispanic origin make up 7.3% of the Omaha MSA's 2006 population. Compare this to the US makeup of 14.9%. Changes in the population within each race and ethnicity category from the 1990 Census to the 2000 Census are as follows: 15.7% American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut Population; 73.9% Asian, Pacific Islander;15.6% Black;139.8% Hispanic Ethnicity; 191.6% Other; White6.9%.

Housing

The median housing value in the Omaha MSA was $57,910 in 1990, compared to the US median of $78,382 for the same year. The 2000 Census median housing value was $99,830, which is a 72.4% increase from 1990. In 1990, there were 168,209 owner occupied housing units vs. 196,893 in 2000. Also in 1990, there were 89,056 renter occupied housing units vs. 97,609 in 2000. The average rent in 1990 was $333 vs. $497 in 2000.

Employment

In 2006, there were 450,299 people over the age of 16 in the labor force in Omaha. Of these, 93.9% were employed, 4.4% were unemployed, 28.3% were not in the labor force and 1.2% were in the armed forces. In 1990, the unemployment rate was 4.0% and in 2000 it was 3.7%. In 2006, there were 473,738 employees in the Omaha MSA (daytime population) and there were 33,339 establishments. In 1990, 61.8% of employees were employed in white-collar occupations and 38.2% were employed in blue-collar occupations. In 2000, white collar workers made up 64.4% of the population, and those employed in blue collar occupations made up 35.6%. In 1990, the average time traveled to work was 12 minutes and in 2000 it was 19 minutes.

Omaha MSA Context

Omaha MSA Population Demographics

	1990 Census		2000 Census		2006 Estimate		2011 Projection		Percent Change 1990 to 2000	Percent Change 2006 t 2011
Total Population	685,798		767,041		819,246		860,671		11.8%	5.1%
Population Density (Pop/Sq Mi)	155.7		174.1		186.0		195.4		11.8%	5.1%
Total Households	257,286		294,502		316,884		335,527		14.5%	5.9%
Population by Gender:										
Male	333,555	48.6%	376,725	49.1%	404,431	49.4%	426,397	49.5%	12.9%	5.4%
Female	352,243	51.4%	390,316	50.9%	414,815	50.6%	434,274	50.5%	10.8%	4.7%

Omaha MSA Population by Race/Ethnicity

	1990 Census		2000 Census		2006 Estimate		2011 Projection		Percent Change 1990 to 2000	Percent Change 2006 t 2011
White	617,696	90.1%	660,322	86.1%	702,731	85.8%	733,831	85.3%	6.9%	4.4%
Black	51,507	7.5%	59,522	7.8%	50,519	6.2%	43,906	5.1%	15.6%	-13.1%
Am. Indian or Alaska Native	3,361	0.5%	3,889	0.5%	2,518	0.3%	1,942	0.2%	15.7%	-22.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	6,527	1.0%	11,353	1.5%	13,611	1.7%	15,736	1.8%	73.9%	15.6%
Some Other Race	6,669	1.0%	19,447	2.5%	28,220	3.4%	37,089	4.3%	191.6%	31.4%
Two or More Races			12,508	1.6%	21,625	2.6%	28,079	3.3%		29.8%
Hispanic Ethnicity	16,778	2.5%	40,232	5.3%	59,639	7.3%	74,872	8.7%	139.8%	25.5%
Not Hispanic or Latino	669,007	97.6%	726,809	94.8%	759,607	92.7%	785,799	91.3%	8.6%	3.4%

Omaha MSA Context

Omaha MSA Population by Age

	1990 Census		2000 Census		2006 Estimate		2011 Projection		Percent Change 1990 to 2000	Percent Change 2006 to 2011
0 to 4	55,034	8.0%	56,232	7.3%	61,750	7.5%	64,009	7.4%	2.2%	3.7%
5 to 14	106,898	15.6%	117,198	15.3%	115,030	14.0%	120,184	14.0%	9.6%	4.5%
15 to 19	48,067	7.0%	57,103	7.4%	57,780	7.1%	58,143	6.8%	18.8%	0.6%
20 to 24	48,735	7.1%	52,193	6.8%	59,139	7.2%	58,373	6.8%	7.1%	-1.3%
25 to 34	123,609	18.0%	111,575	14.5%	115,117	14.1%	118,035	13.7%	-9.7%	2.5%
35 to 44	105,300	15.4%	125,298	16.3%	118,692	14.5%	114,411	13.3%	19.0%	-3.6%
45 to 54	66,862	9.8%	102,470	13.4%	117,959	14.4%	122,919	14.3%	53.3%	4.2%
55 to 64	55,310	8.1%	61,012	8.0%	82,811	10.1%	101,191	11.8%	10.3%	22.2%
65 to 74	43,012	6.3%	44,882	5.9%	47,351	5.8%	57,968	6.7%	4.3%	22.4%
75 to 84	24,301	3.5%	28,730	3.7%	30,837	3.8%	32,250	3.7%	18.2%	4.6%
85+	8,577	1.3%	10,348	1.4%	12,780	1.6%	13,188	1.5%	20.6%	3.2%
Median Age:										
Total Population	31.8		34.1		35.1		36.0		7.2%	2.7%

Households by Income

	1990 Census		2000 Census		2006 Estimate		2011 Projection		Percent Change 1990 to 2000	Percent Change 2006 to 2011
$0 - $15,000	55,941	21.7%	35,504	12.1%	32,086	10.1%	30,926	9.2%	-36.5%	-3.6%
$15,000 - $24,999	49,830	19.4%	37,049	12.6%	33,077	10.4%	31,371	9.4%	-25.7%	-5.2%
$25,000 - $34,999	45,820	17.8%	39,990	13.6%	37,569	11.9%	38,370	11.4%	-12.7%	2.1%
$35,000 - $49,999	50,983	19.8%	51,820	17.6%	49,974	15.8%	47,187	14.1%	1.6%	-5.6%
$50,000 - $74,999	37,153	14.4%	65,063	22.1%	69,747	22.0%	69,826	20.8%	215.7%	0.1%
$75,000 - $99,999	9,797	3.8%	32,941	11.2%	41,958	13.2%	48,612	14.5%	236.2%	15.9%
$100,000 - $149,999	4,906	1.9%	21,547	7.3%	35,322	11.1%	45,176	13.5%	339.2%	27.9%
$150,000 +	2,826	1.1%	10,588	3.6%	17,151	5.4%	24,059	7.2%	274.7%	40.3%
Average Hhld Income	$36,177		$56,353		$62,886		$68,241		55.8%	8.5%
Median Hhld Income	$29,967		$44,671		$51,752		$56,714		49.1%	9.6%
Per Capita Income	$13,684		$21,637		$25,060		$27,389		58.1%	9.3%

RESEARCH

Omaha MSA Context

Omaha MSA Housing Units

	1990 Census		2000 Census		2006 Estimate		2011 Projection		Percent Change 1990 to 2000	Percent Change 2006 to 2011
Total Housing Units	275,262		311,540		344,968		372,316		13.2%	7.9%
Owner Occupied	168,209	61.1%	196,893	63.2%	217,206	63.0%	234,149	62.9%	17.1%	7.8%
Renter Occupied	89,056	32.4%	97,609	31.3%	99,678	28.9%	101,378	27.2%	9.6%	1.7%
Vacant	17,981	6.5%	17,038	5.5%	28,084	8.1%	36,789	9.9%	-5.2%	31.0%

Omaha MSA Vehicles Available

	1990 Census		2000 Census		2006 Estimate		2011 Projection		Percent Change 1990 to 2000	Percent Change 2006 to 2011
Average Vehicles Per Hhld	1.80		1.70		2.00		2.20		-4.4%	12.2%
0 Vehicles Available	21,908	7.9%	21,262	7.2%	17,309	5.5%	15,125	4.5%	-2.9%	-12.6%
1 Vehicle Available	81,366	29.2%	95,919	32.6%	90,302	28.5%	85,690	25.5%	17.9%	-5.1%
2+ Vehicles Available	175,175	62.9%	177,321	60.2%	209,273	66.0%	234,712	70.0%	1.2%	12.2%

Omaha MSA Marital Status

	1990 Census		2000 Census		2006 Estimate		2011 Projection		Percent Change 1990 to 2000	Percent Change 2006 to 2011
Age 15+ Population	523,773		593,611		642,466		676,478		13.3%	5.3%
Married, Spouse Present	297,985	56.9%	314,345	53.0%	345,723	53.8%	367,426	54.3%	5.5%	6.3%
Married, Spouse Absent	7,480	1.4%	22,404	3.8%	23,414	3.6%	24,174	3.6%	199.5%	3.2%
Divorced	46,933	9.0%	61,542	10.4%	65,173	10.1%	67,769	10.0%	31.1%	4.0%
Widowed	35,205	6.7%	34,718	5.9%	36,500	5.7%	37,802	5.6%	-1.4%	3.6%
Never Married	136,216	26.0%	160,602	27.1%	171,563	26.7%	179,260	26.5%	17.9%	4.5%

Markets

Omaha's strategic location in the heartland of the United States is an important factor which enables firms to easily reach national and regional markets.

- Strategic central location in the "heartland" of the United States.

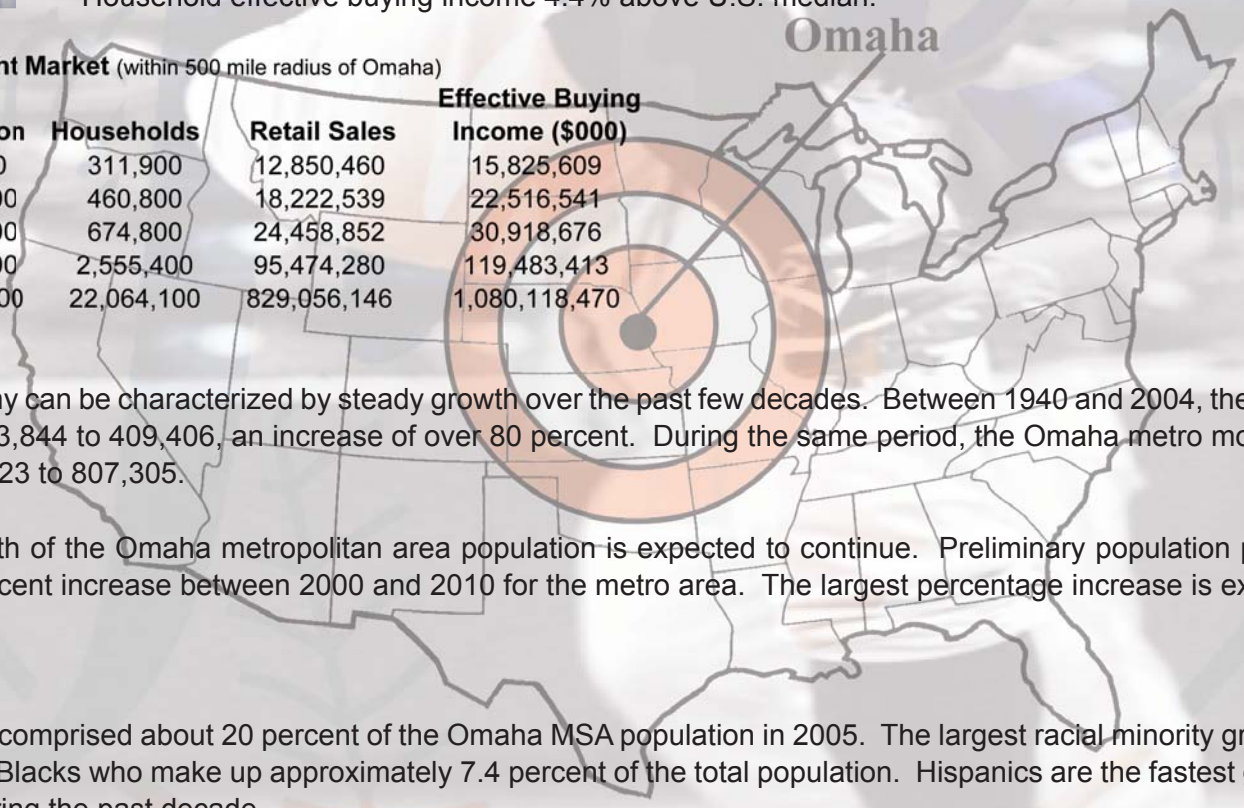
- Over five decades of continuous population growth.

- Vibrant metropolitan area of 807,305 residents.

- More than 1.1 million people within a 50 mile radius.

- Overnight market of over 57 million people with an effective buying income exceeding one trillion dollars.

- Household effective buying income 4.4% above U.S. median.



Overnight Market (within 500 mile radius of Omaha)

	Population	Households	Retail Sales	Effective Buying Income ($000)
Omaha Metro	807,300	311,900	12,850,460	15,825,609
50 Miles	1,179,000	460,800	18,222,539	22,516,541
100 Miles	1,728,700	674,800	24,458,852	30,918,676
200 Miles	6,513,200	2,555,400	95,474,280	119,483,413
500 Miles	57,131,400	22,064,100	829,056,146	1,080,118,470

Population Growth

Omaha's economy can be characterized by steady growth over the past few decades. Between 1940 and 2004, the city of Omaha's population grew from 223,844 to 409,406, an increase of over 80 percent. During the same period, the Omaha metro more than doubled in size, rising from 353,723 to 807,305.

The steady growth of the Omaha metropolitan area population is expected to continue. Preliminary population projections point to an estimated 26.3 percent increase between 2000 and 2010 for the metro area. The largest percentage increase is expected in Sarpy County.

Population Diversity

Ethnic minorities comprised about 20 percent of the Omaha MSA population in 2005. The largest racial minority group in the Omaha MSA continues to be Blacks who make up approximately 7.4 percent of the total population. Hispanics are the fastest growing minority group which doubled during the past decade.

Age Distribution

A young growing labor force is vital in order to ensure a steady supply of workers for area employers. It is also important in terms of future growth for the local consumer market. Over 36 percent of Omaha's population is 24 years-old or younger with a median age of 34.8 years compared to the U.S. median age of 36.3 years. In the metro area, Harrison, Saunders, and Mills Counties have the highest percentage of people aged 50 years and older. Harrison County has a higher concentration of those under 18 years old.

Income Distribution

The buying power of Omaha area households is also above the national norm. The median household effective buying income (EBI), which is analogous to disposable personal income, was $41,056 at the beginning of 2005, compared to the national median of $39,324. Omaha also has a greater percentage of higher income households. In the metropolitan area, 38.7 percent of households have an EBI of $50,000 and over. This is the largest segment of Omaha households. On the national level, 36.7 percent of households have this level of disposable income. The relative prosperity of the Omaha market can also be seen in the fact that only 17.7 percent of households have an annual EBI of under $20,000.

Retail Sales

Between 2000 and 2005, total retail sales in the metro area grew by 20 percent. The retail subsectors showing the fastest growth were General Merchandise (150.4%), Gas Service Stations (100.4%) and Drug Stores (46.8%). Sectors showing slower growth included Food Stores (2.1%) and Automotive dealers (-2.8%).

Net Taxable Sales

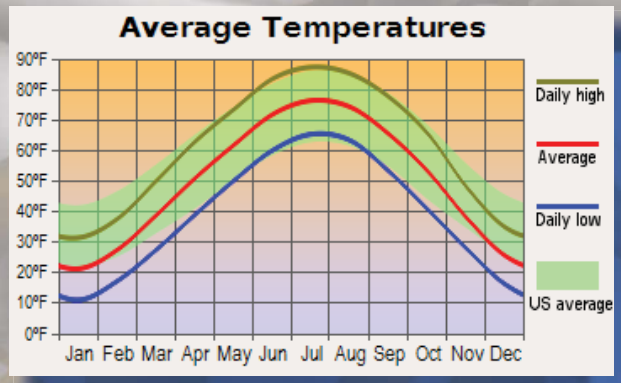
Net taxable sales includes sales receipts of all goods subject to the Nebraska state sales tax, except motor vehicles, which are treated separately. Included in the net taxable sales figure are basically all retail sales, except food items sold in grocery stores and prescription drugs, which are not subject to sales tax in Nebraska.

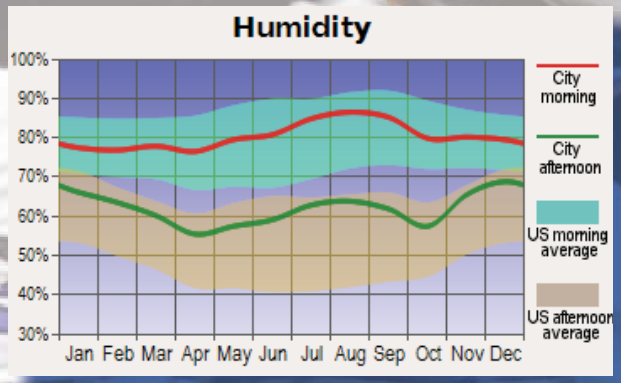
Since 1990, net taxable sales in the five Nebraska counties of the metro area have shown steady increases. Sales more than doubled from $4.13 billion in 1990 to $8.7 billion in 2005.

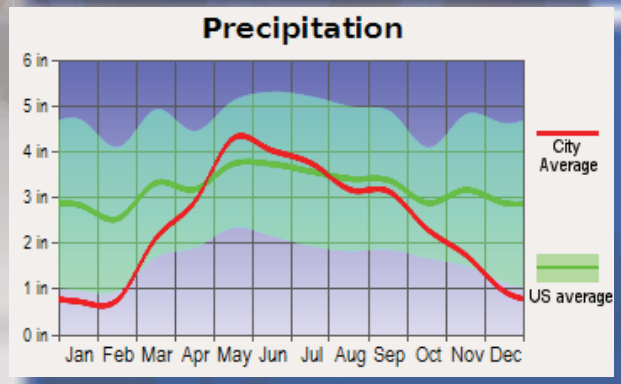
Net taxable sales of motor vehicles, which includes sales of both new and used autos and trucks, are counted in a separate category. The sales tax on motor vehicles is collected in the county in which the vehicle is subsequently registered, which may or may not be the same county in which it was sold. Between 1990 and 2005, motor vehicle sales more than doubled reaching $1 billion.

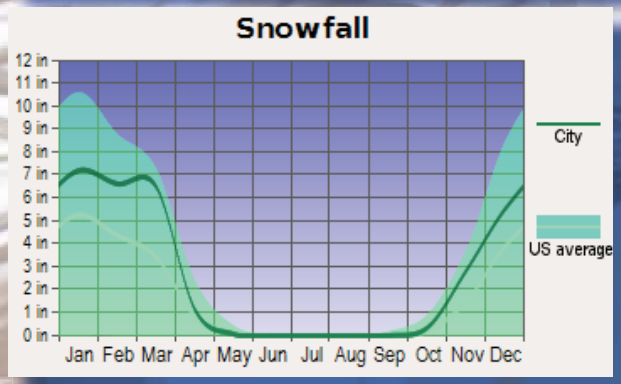
Climate

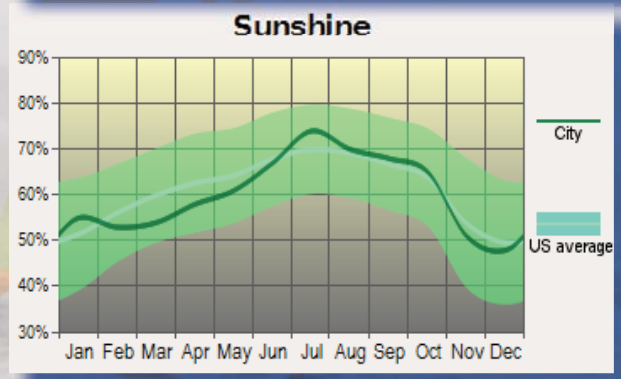
Though located at approximately the same latitude as Rome, Omaha, by virtue its location near the center of the North America far from large bodies of water or mountain ranges, has a humid continental climate, with hot summers and cold winters. Average July maximum and minimum temperatures are 88°F and 66°F respectively, with moderate humidity and relatively frequent thunderstorms; the January counterparts are 31°F and 11°F. Average yearly precipitation is 30 in, falling mostly in the warmer months.

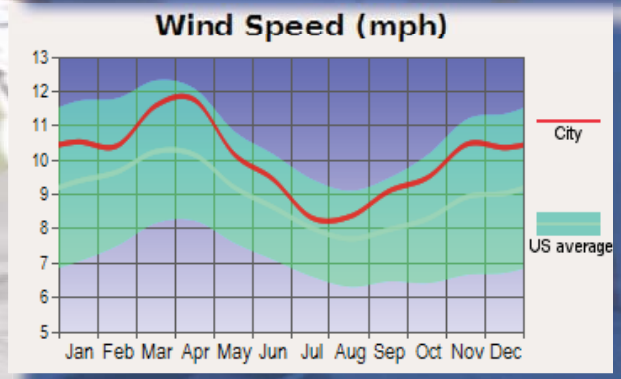













reign
24


WOODMEN
WOODMEN

The Client

Founded in 1878, Creighton University is a private co-educational university in the United States, founded by the Society of Jesus and one of 28 member institutions of the Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities.

The Creighton of today is nationally recognized as the leading comprehensive university in the Midwest. Creighton is synonymous with student centered education and the setting for significant undergraduate student research. As one of 28 universities in America designed in the Jesuit tradition of academic excellence and service to others, Creighton believes in humanistic education through service, reflection and learning.

Creighton is committed to having the best campus around. The 130-acre campus is located within walking distance of downtown Omaha and many recreational, cultural and entertainment opportunities. Since 2000, Creighton has invested more than $190 million in on-campus improvements and constructed four new buildings, including Michael G. Morrison, S.J., Stadium, which distinguishes Omaha as the exclu-

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sive host of the region's only athletic facility designed exclusively for soccer. The stadium hosts high school, club and international soccer events and a variety of Omaha community events. The Hixson-Lied Science Building and the renovated Rigge Science Building and Criss Health Sciences Building are the centerpiece of Creighton's undergraduate and health professions leading approach to teaching and research. Opening in the fall of 2008, The Josie and Mike Harper Center, a 214,000 square foot building, will serve as a one-stop environment for many of the student services.

At the center of the campus is the historic and recently restored St. John's Church, the California Street Mall, the Lied Education Center for the Arts, a modern student center and physical fitness facility.

Creighton was recognized in 2006 as a "best-neighbor" urban university. Creighton was the only university in Nebraska and its surrounding states identified as an academic institution making a positive contribution to the local city by dramatically strengthening the quality of life and economy, as well as renewing and revitalizing its surrounding community.

The User

Omaha is a rich cultural city with a dynamic business community. Ranked by Forbes magazine as one of the Top 10 Best Places for Business and Careers, Omaha balances Midwest values with big-city life in the heart of America. It showcases numerous nationally recognized and world-renowned attractions.

A center for information technology, telecommunications, transportation and food processing, Omaha is the center of a metropolitan area of about 734,270, with more than one million people within a 50-mile radius. Omaha is located near the geographic center of the United States, on the west bank of the Missouri River that forms the Nebraska-Iowa border. The metro Omaha area has seen steady growth over the past five decades and is now the 42nd largest city and 61st largest metro area in the nation.

Omaha boasts an outstanding public education system. Nebraska ranks among the top states nationally for ACT and SAT scores. For 129 years, Omaha has been home to Creighton University, which is known as the best comprehensive Jesuit institution in the nation, consistently at the top of U.S. News & World Report annual rankings.

Omaha serves as headquarters for four Forbes 500 companies: Berkshire Hathaway, ConAgra Foods, Union Pacific Corp., and Mutual of Omaha Companies. More than 20 insurance companies, two dozen direct response/telemarketing centers and a number of other national and international firms also have headquarters in Omaha. The headquarters of STRATCOM, a vital military nerve center located at Offutt Air Force Base, is located in Omaha.

Omaha's unemployment rate has remained well under the national average during the past decade. Still, Omaha has accommodated new growth. During the 1990s, the Omaha metro area added more than 84,000 jobs, an increase of more than 25 percent.

Omaha is a cultural center of the Great Plains, with more than 20 live theaters (three that produce original works), a professional opera company, a regional professional symphony orchestra, a professional children's theater, a children's museum and a youth orchestra. Joslyn Art Museum and the Durham Western Heritage Museum are the two largest of many area art and historical offerings.

The Omaha Henry Doorly Zoo has an international reputation for its breeding programs, and its outstanding "no bars" facility boasts the world's largest indoor rain forest, cat complex and aviary. Its newest additions are a salt water aquarium, the most technically advanced in the country, an IMAX theater, the largest indoor desert in the world and a gorilla complex.

Outstanding sporting events in the area include the annual NCAA College World Series held at Johnny Rosenblatt Stadium, for which Creighton serves as host, and is home to the Omaha Royals minor-league baseball team (the AAA affiliate of the Kansas City Royals. A tribute to Omaha's meatpacking past, the Omaha Beef indoor football team plays at the Omaha Civic Auditorium. The Creighton University Bluejays compete in a number of NCAA Division I sports. In addition to baseball they play soccer at Morrison Stadium and basketball at the Qwest Center. Ice hockey is a popular spectator sport in Omaha. The two Omaha-area teams are the Omaha Lancers, a USHL team that plays in the neighboring city of Council Bluffs at the Mid-America Center and the University of Nebraska at Omaha Mavericks, an NCAA Division I team that plays at the Qwest Center.

Omaha has a thriving running community and many miles of paved running and biking trails throughout the city and surrounding communities. Chief among these is the Keystone Trail. The Omaha Marathon, which also includes a Half Marathon and 10K race, takes place annually in September.

Omaha is the birthplace of numerous important historical and modern sports figures, including Baseball Hall of Famer Bob Gibson; 1989 American League Rookie of the Year Gregg Olson; NFL Running back Ahman Green; Heisman Trophy winners Johnny Rodgers, and Eric Crouch; Pro Football Hall of Famer Gale Sayers; and champion tennis player Andy Roddick.

With all the city has to offer, Omaha enjoys a cost of living ranging up to 13 percent below the national average.

Mission Statement

The intention is to generate a building that exhibits the connection between the experiences of a game with the architecture of a stadium. The secondary objectives are 1)Establish the stadium to be a source of civic pride in Omaha, 2)Design the stadium to be an element in the recruiting of future athletes, and 3)Add to Creighton's athletic tradition.

Goals and Space Requirements

Field Layout

1.04 - THE PLAYING FIELD

The field shall be laid out according to the instructions below, supplemented by Diagrams No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3 on adjoining pages. The infield shall be a 90-foot square. The outfield shall be the area between two foul lines formed by extending two sides of the square, as in Diagram 1. The distance from home base to the nearest fence, stand or other obstruction on fair territory shall be 250 feet or more. A distance of 320 feet or more along the foul lines, and 400 feet or more to center field is preferable. The infield shall be graded so that the base lines and home plate are level. The pitcher's plate shall be 10 inches above the level of home plate. The degree of slope from a point 6 inches in front of the pitcher's plate to a point 6 feet toward home plate shall be 1 inch to 1 foot, and such degree of slope shall be uniform. The infield and outfield, including the boundary lines, are fair territory and all other area is foul territory. It is desirable that the line from home base through the pitchers plate to second base shall run East-Northeast. It is recommended that the distance from home base to the backstop, and from the base lines to the nearest fence, stand or other obstruction on foul territory shall be 60 feet or more. See Diagram 1. When location of home base is determined, with a steel tape measure 127 feet, 338 inches in desired direction to establish second base. From home base, measure 90 feet toward first base; from second base, measure 90 feet toward first base; the intersection of these lines establishes first base. From home base, measure 90 feet toward third base; from second base, measure 90 feet toward third base; the intersection of these lines establishes third base. The distance between first base and third base is 127 feet, 338 inches. All measurements from home base shall be taken from the point where the first and third base lines intersect. The catcher's box, the batters' boxes, the coaches' boxes, the three-foot first base lines and the next batter's boxes shall be laid out as shown in Diagrams 1 and 2. The foul lines and all other playing lines indicated in the diagrams by solid black lines shall be marked with wet, unslaked lime, chalk or other white material. The grass lines and dimensions shown on the diagrams are those used in many fields, but they are not mandatory and each club shall determine the size and shape of the grassed and bare areas of its playing field. NOTE (a) Any Playing Field constructed by a professional club after June 1, 1958, shall provide a minimum distance of 325 feet from home base to the nearest fence, stand or other obstruction on the right and left field foul lines, and a minimum distance of 400 feet to the center field fence. (b) No existing playing field shall be remodeled after June 1, 1958, in such manner as to reduce the distance from home base to the foul poles and to the center field fence below the minimum specified in paragraph (a) above.

1.05 - HOME PLATE

Home base shall be marked by a five-sided slab of whitened rubber. It shall be a 17-inch square with two of the corners removed so that one edge is 17 inches long, two adjacent sides are 81/2 inches and the remaining two sides are 12 inches and set at an angle to make

a point. It shall be set in the ground with the point at the intersection of the lines extending from home base to first base and to third base; with the 17-inch edge facing the pitcher's plate, and the two 12-inch edges coinciding with the first and third base lines. The top edges of home base shall be beveled and the base shall be fixed in the ground level with the ground surface. (See drawing D in Diagram 2.)

1.06 - BASES

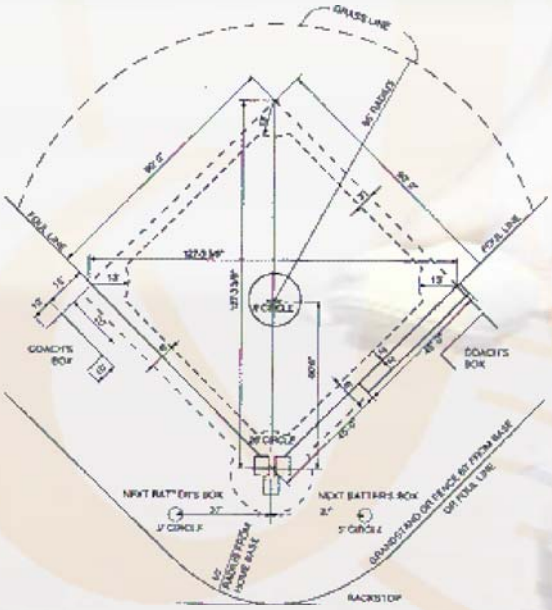
First, second and third bases shall be marked by white canvas bags, securely attached to the ground as indicated in Diagram 2. The first and third base bags shall be entirely within the infield. The second base bag shall be centered on second base. The bags shall be 15 inches square, not less than three nor more than five inches thick, and filled with soft material.

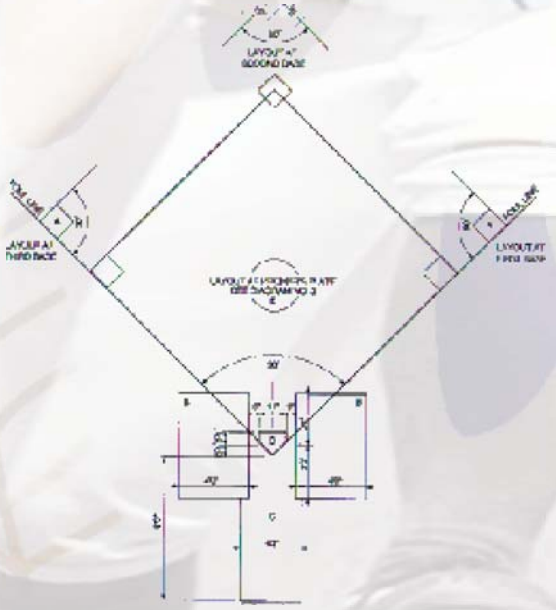
1.07 - PITCHING RUBBER

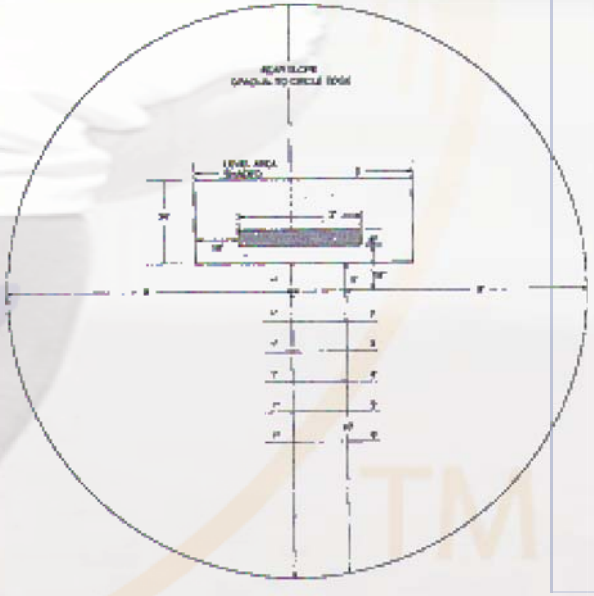
The pitcher's plate shall be a rectangular slab of whitened rubber, 24 inches by 6 inches. It shall be set in the ground as shown in Diagrams 1 and 2, so that the distance between the pitcher's plate and home base (the rear point of home plate) shall be 60 feet, 6 inches.

1.08 - DUGOUTS

The home club shall furnish players' benches, one each for the home and visiting teams. Such benches shall not be less than 25 feet from the base lines. They shall be roofed and shall be enclosed at the back and ends.







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Program Specifics

	Units	S.F.	Total S.F.
Spectator Seating - Baseball			
Armchair Seating	2,000	6.5	13,000
Club Seating	450	8	3,600
Suite Seating	240	9.5	2,280
Berm Seating	3,000	6	18,000
	5,690		**36,880**
Spectator Seating - Softball			
Armchair Seating	600	6.5	3.900
Club Seating	350	8	2.800
Suite Seating	100	9.5	950
Berm Seating	800	6	4.800
	1,950		**12,450**
Spectator Seating - Tennis			
Armchair Seating	600	6.5	3,900
Berm Seating	1000	6	6,000
	1,600		**9,900**
Club Lounge			
Dining/Bar Area Seating	100	15	1,500
Mens Toilets	1	75	75
Womens Toilets	1	75	75
			1,650
Ballpark Suites			
Suites	7	335	2,345
Party Suites	2	800	1,600
Private Boxes	2	335	500
			4,445

	Units	S.F.	Total S.F.
Public Restrooms			
Mens	2	200	400
Womens	2	200	400
Family	1	250	250
			1,050
Kids Area			
Playground	1	1,500	1,500
			1,500
Fan Accommodations			
Fan Information	2	120	240
Customer Relations	1	120	120
			360
First Aid			
Primary First Aid	1	800	800
			800
Concessions			
Public Concession	2	150	300
Club Concession	1	100	100
			400
Eating Areas			
Restaurant	1	2,000	2,000
Picnic Area	1	1,500	1,500
			3,500

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	Units	S.F.	Total S.F.
Food Service			
Catering Kitchens	2	1,500	3,000
Pantries	2	200	400
			3,400
Novelty Sales			
Team Store	1	1,000	1,000
			1,000
Press Box Facilities			
Writing Press Area	1	500	500
Press Workroom	1	250	250
			750
Broadcasting Facilities			
TV Broadcast	2	150	300
Radio Broadcast	2	100	200
Equipment Room	2	200	400
			900
Maintenance			
Stadium Maintenance	1	500	500
Storage	1	150	150
Janitor Closets	2	50	100
Recycling Room	1	200	200
Trash Collection	1	500	500
			1,450

	Units	S.F.	Total S.F.
Security			
Security Office	1	150	150
			150
Personnel			
Reception	1	100	100
Personnel Office	1	150	150
			250
Tickets			
Ticket Windows	2	100	100
Storage	1	250	250
Gen. Office Area	1	150	150
Workroom	1	150	150
			650
Stadium Offices			
Athletic Director Office	1	150	150
Asst. Athl. Director Office	1	150	150
Public Relations Office	1	120	120
Conference Room	1	250	250
Waiting Area	1	150	150
Computer Room	1	200	200
			1,020
Tunnels			
Dugout Tunnels	2	300	600
			600

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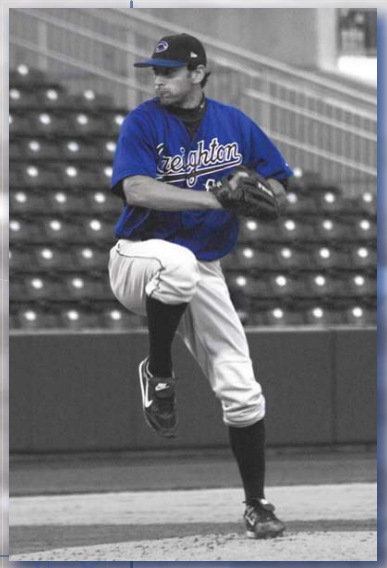
	Units	S.F.	Total S.F.
Home Clubhouse - Baseball			
Player Locker Room	1	1,200	1,200
Coaches Locker Room	1	400	400
Training Room	1	500	500
Training Staff Office	1	120	120
Storage	1	200	200
Equipment Room	1	500	500
Laundry Room	1	400	400
			3,320
Visitor Clubhouse - Baseball			
Player Locker Room	1	1,000	1,000
Coaches Locker Room	1	400	400
Training Room	1	250	250
Equipment Room	1	500	500
			2,350
Home Clubhouse - Softball			
Player Locker Room	1	1,200	1,200
Coaches Locker Room	1	400	400
Training Room	1	500	500
Training Staff Office	1	120	120
Equipment Room	1	500	500
			2,720
Visitor Clubhouse - Softball			
Player Locker Room	1	1,000	1,000
Coaches Locker Room	1	400	400
Training Room	1	250	250
Equipment Room	1	500	500
			2,150

	Units	S.F.	Total S.F.
Umpire Locker			
Umpires Locker Room	1	250	250
			250
Playing Field			
Ball Fields			
Dugouts	4	800	3,200
Dugout Storage	4	150	600
Pitcher Bullpens	4	2,000	8,000
Batting Cages	2	2,000	4,000
Scoreboards	2	100	200
			16,000
Circulation			
Public Concourse	9,000	3.5	31,500
Suite Concourse	500	15	7,500
			39,000
Building Net Total:			**148,895**
+ Net-To-Gross Multiplier (10%)			**14,890**
Building Gross Total:			**163,785**



1st Semester Schedule

Week 1	Aug. 27	Aug. 28	Aug. 29	Aug. 30	Aug. 31
Program Research					
Week 2	Sep. 3	Sep. 4	Sep. 5	Sep. 6	Sep. 7
Program Research	Labor Day				**Creighton Meeting @ 3:00**
Week 3	Sep. 10	Sep. 11	Sep.12	Sep. 13	Sep. 14
Program Draft Due		**Creighton Site Visit**			
Week 4	Sep. 17	Sep. 18	Sep. 19	Sep. 20	Sep. 21
Precedent Study					
Week 5	Sep. 24	Sep. 25	Sep. 26	Sep. 27	Sep. 28
Site Analysis					
Week 6	Oct. 1	Oct. 2	Oct. 3	Oct. 4	Oct. 5
Site Analysis					
Week 7	Oct. 8	Oct. 9	**Oct. 10**	Oct. 11	Oct. 12
Conceptial Design			**Creighton and DLR Meeting @ 2:30**		
Week 8	Oct. 15	Oct. 16	**Oct. 17**	Oct. 18	Oct. 19
Program Reseach Review			**Meeting @ 4:30 w/ Faculty Panel**		
Week 9	Oct. 22	Oct. 23	Oct. 24	Oct. 25	Oct. 26
Schematic Design	Holiday	Holiday			
Week 10	Oct. 29	Oct. 30	Oct. 31	Nov. 1	Nov. 2
Schematic Design					
Week 11	Nov. 5	Nov. 6	Nov. 7	Nov. 8	Nov. 9
Schematic Design					
Week 12	Nov. 12	Nov. 13	Nov. 14	Nov. 15	Nov. 16
Interim Reviews			**Meeting @ 5:00 w/ Faculty Panel**		
Week 13	Nov. 19	Nov. 20	Nov. 21	Nov. 22	Nov. 23
Thanksgiving Week			Holiday	Holiday	Holiday
Week 14	Nov. 26	Nov. 27	Nov. 28	Nov. 29	Nov. 30
Evolution of Schematic Design				**Creighton and DLR Meeting @ 3:00**	
Week 15	Dec. 3	Dec. 4	Dec. 5	Dec. 6	Dec. 7
Evolution of Schematic Design					
Week 16	Dec. 10	Dec. 11	Dec. 12	Dec. 13	Dec. 14
Dead Week			**Presentation Boards**		
Week 17	Dec. 17	Dec. 18	Dec. 19	Dec. 20	Dec. 21
Finals Week	Fac. Review	Fac. Review	1st Stage Notice	Student Present	2nd Stage Notice

2nd Semester Schedule

Week 1	Jan. 14	Jan. 15	Jan. 16	Jan. 17	Jan. 18
Design Development					
Week 2	Jan. 21	Jan. 22	Jan. 23	Jan. 24	Jan. 25
Design Development	MLK Holiday				
Week 3	Jan. 28	Jan. 29	Jan. 30	Jan. 31	Feb. 1
Design Development					
Week 4	Feb. 4	Feb. 5	Feb. 6	Feb. 7	Feb. 8
Interim Review					
Week 5	Feb. 11	Feb. 12	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 15
Interim Review			**Meeting @ 4:30 w/ Faculty Panel**		
Week 6	Feb. 18	Feb. 19	Feb. 20	Feb. 21	Feb. 22
Final Production					
Week 7	Feb. 25	Feb. 26	Feb. 27	Feb. 28	Feb. 29
Final Production			**Creighton and DLR Meeting @ 2:00**		
Week 8	Mar. 3	Mar. 4	Mar. 5	Mar. 6	Mar. 7
Final Production					
Week 9	Mar. 10	Mar. 11	Mar. 12	Mar. 13	Mar. 14
Final Production					
Week 10	Mar. 17	Mar. 18	Mar. 19	Mar. 20	Mar. 21
Spring Break	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday
Week 11	Mar. 24	Mar. 25	Mar. 26	Mar. 27	Mar. 28
Presentation Boards					
Week 12	Mar. 31	Apr. 1	Apr. 2	**Apr. 3**	**Apr. 4**
Public Review Week				Faculty Panel Final Reviews	
Week 13	Apr. 7	Apr. 8	Apr. 9	Apr. 10	Apr. 11
Thesis Book					
Week 14	Apr. 14	Apr. 15	Apr. 16	Apr. 17	Apr. 18
Thesis Book					
Week 15	Apr. 21	Apr. 22	Apr. 23	**Apr. 24**	Apr. 25
				Project Books Due	
Week 16	Apr. 28	Apr. 29	Apr. 30	1-May	2-May
Finals Prep Week					
Week 17	5-May	6-May	7-May	8-May	9-May
Medal Week	Faculty Judging	Medal Jury	Resubmt Review	Resubmit Review	Grad Exhibit

Intent/Design Narrative

At the Collegiate level, a stadium represents more than just a sporting event. The stadium has grown to become a symbol of university pride and often reflects its accomplishments. The proposed project involves combining sports and entertainment in order to create a Baseball/Softball Stadium that will serve as home to the Creighton University Baseball and Softball teams.

Many universities across the country rely on their football stadium to be the iconic element of the city or campus. Meanwhile, the baseball stadium has generally taken a backseat to its football counterpart. Creighton is unique in that it does not field a football team. Instead, Creighton relies heavily on the success the baseball, softball, basketball, and soccer teams have attained for its source of civic pride. The basketball and soccer teams have recently moved into new arenas, the Qwest Center and Morrison Soccer Complex, respectively. However, these ball teams still occupy the outdated CU Sports Complex. A new stadium will not only complement the new resurgence of growth on the Missouri Riverfront, it will also provide a facility for many different uses outside of the private institution. Creighton currently hosts many youth, club, and high school activities dealing with all sports. The goal is to create a stadium that does not compete with the latest venue additions, but to complement them and establish a stronghold on athletics in Omaha.

Project Definition

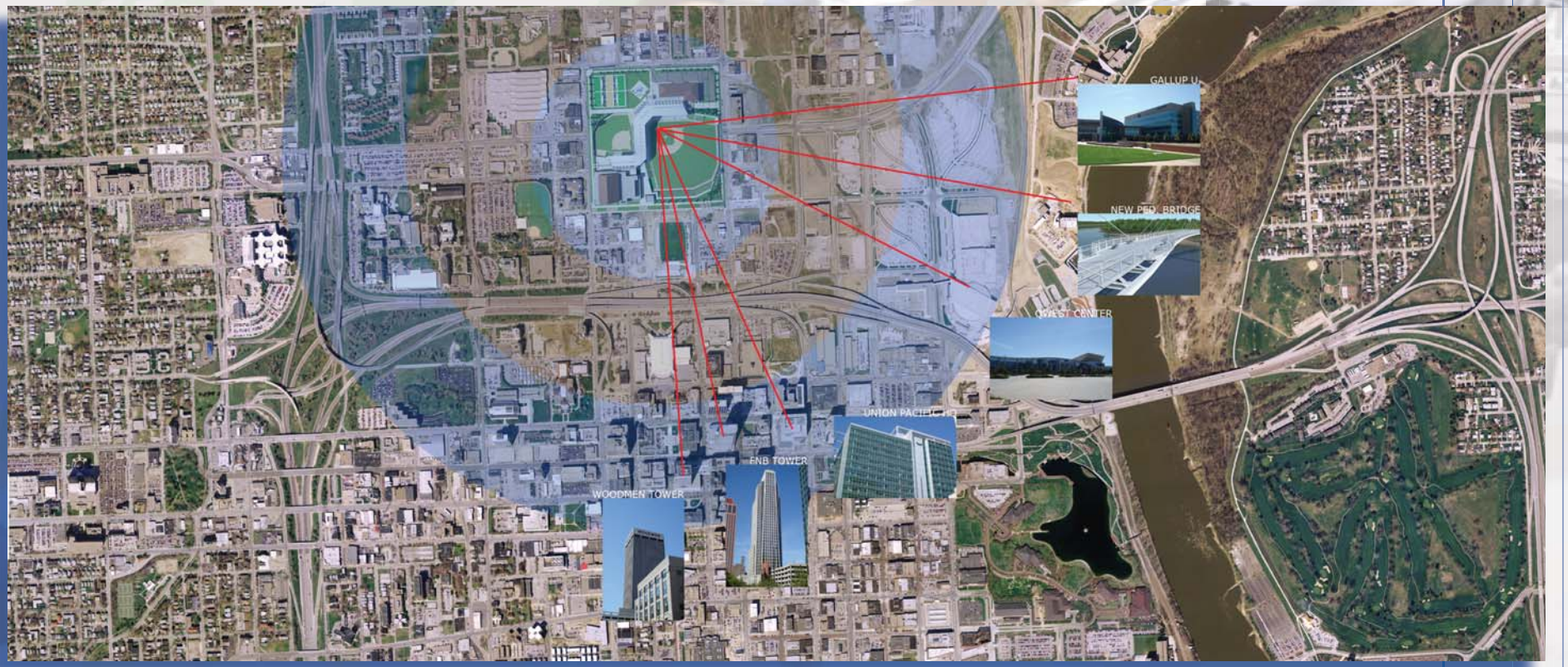
A stadium is the venue where the event takes place. The fans that occupy the stadium are the connection between the experience of a game and the architecture of the stadium. If the facility is not fan-friendly, the thrill of the event does not exist. Creighton University's new stadium will engage the school's urban context through an expansive, open field environment. The design will maximize visual connections between the stadium, field and surrounding city. Additionally, the design will embrace surrounding campus architecture and express the history of the nationally recognized Bluejay baseball and softball programs. The project scope encompasses a classic, fan-friendly facility with design expressions relating to surrounding 19th century brick commercial buildings and expansive views of the field from all seats and an elevated concourse.

Objectives

The first intention is to generate a building that exhibits the connection between the experiences of a game with the architecture of a stadium. The secondary objectives are 1)Establish the stadium to be a source of civic pride in Omaha, 2)Design the stadium to be an element in the recruiting of future athletes, and 3)Add to Creighton's athletic tradition.

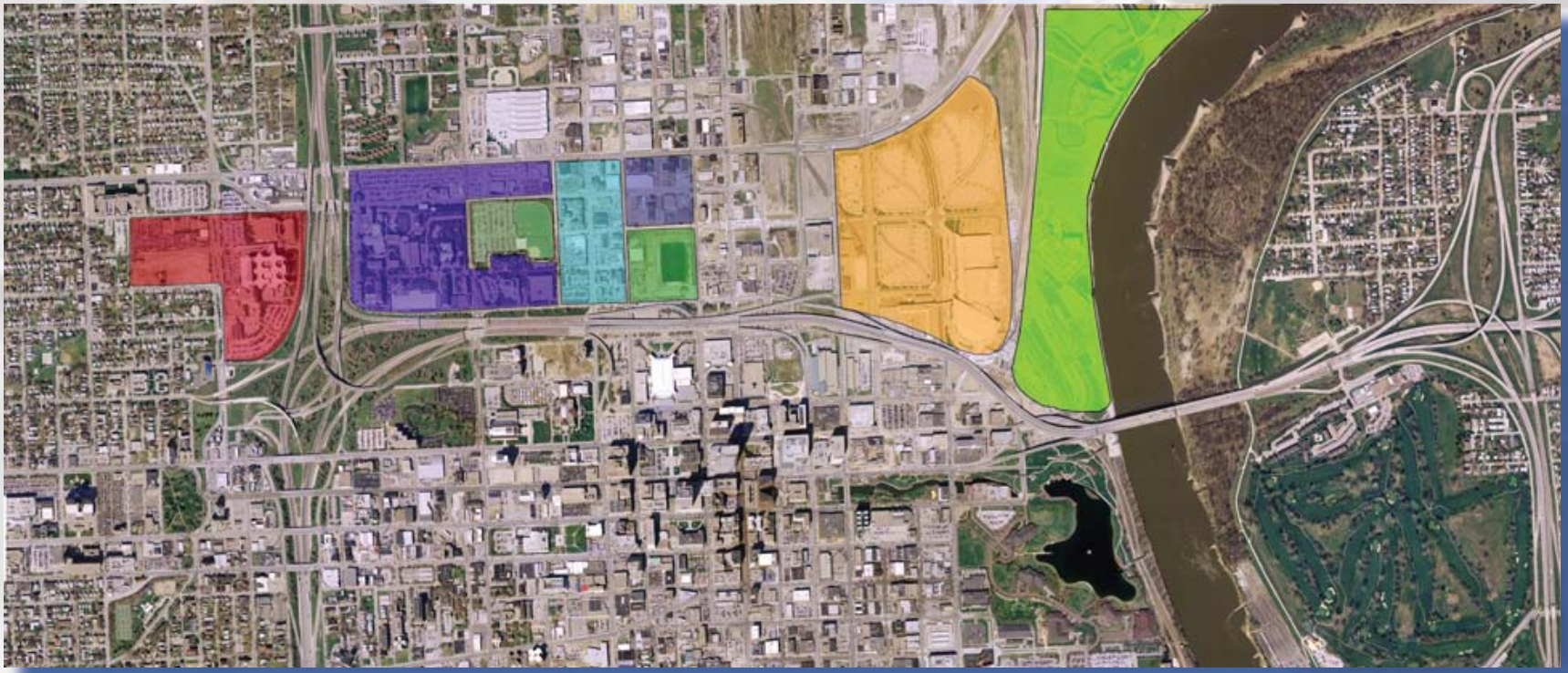
Project Definition

By orientating the baseball stadium to the Southeast, contradicting the Northeast orientation recommended by the Master Plan, the stadium outfield opens up to downtown Omaha, providing a picturesque backdrop for games at all times of day. Several prominent buildings will be visible from the stands during games, including the First National Band Tower, the Qwest Center, the Woodmen Tower, and others. Careful placement of scoreboards, video screens, and fan seating was taken into account to prevent anything from blocking the views to those buildings. In the diagram below, the blue rings represent a walking radius from the ballfield. The inner blue ring represents a 5-10 minute walk, while the outer ring represents a 15-20 minute walk.



Current Campus Layout

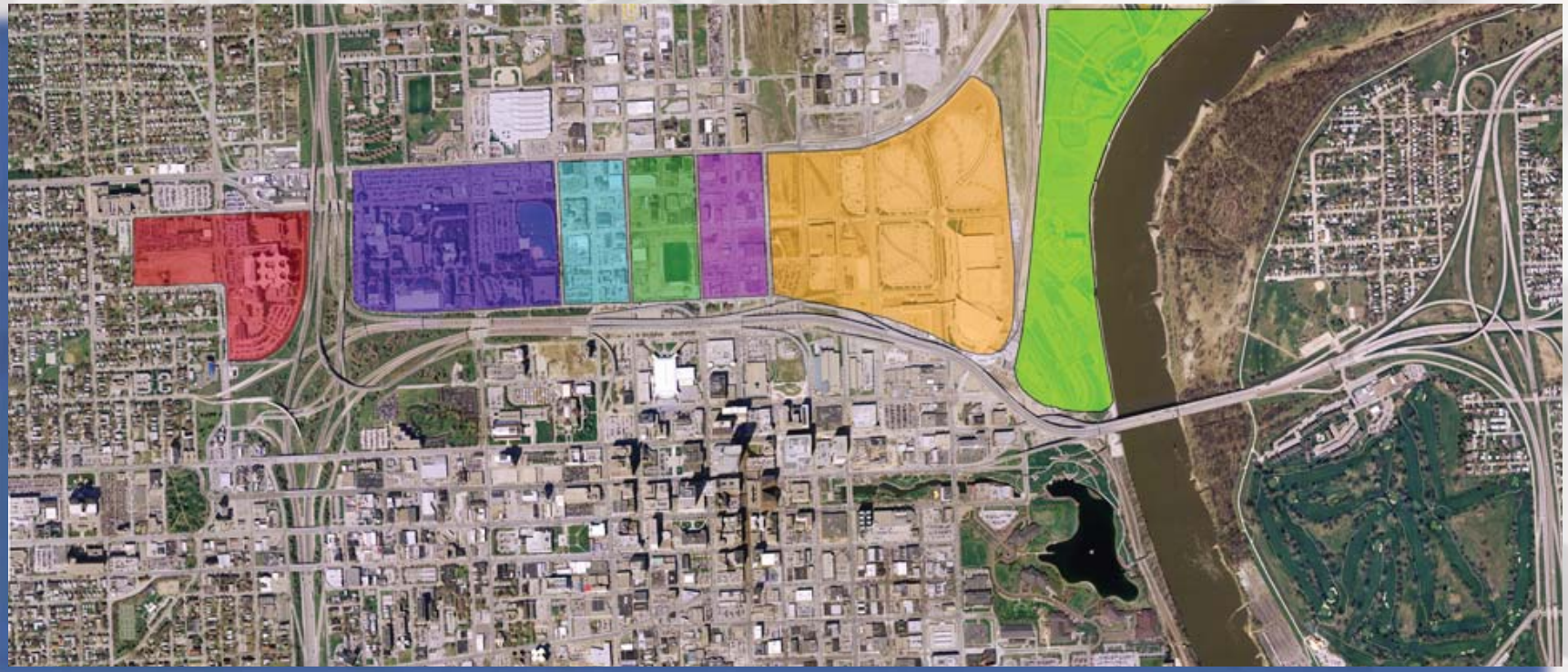
Currently, the campus at Creighton University is divided up into various groups and spread out over a 108-acre campus. I've given each group its own campus name. On the map below, the RED area is comprised of the Medical Campus, the PURPLE becomes the Academic Campus, the TEAL becomes the Living Campus, and the GREEN represents the Sports Campus. The ORANGE area is called the Entertainment Campus, and becomes a vital part of Creighton's plans for sports, concerts, and other entertainment purposes. The LIGHT GREEN is also vital since it represents the Riverfront Movement Campus. This area contains many forms of living units that are already starting to attract students and faculty to Creighton University.

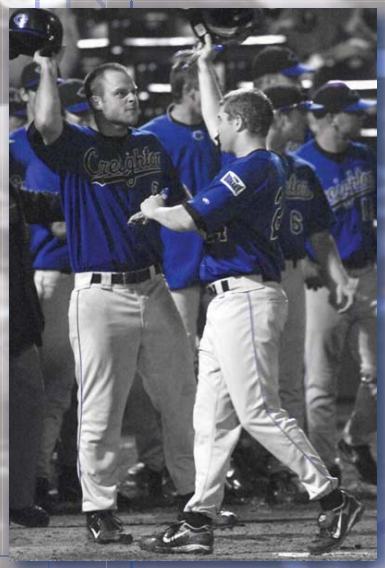


Proposed Campus Layout

My original intention was to shift Creighton's baseball facility to the site directly North of the New Soccer Stadium. After speaking with the Assistant Athletic Director at Creighton, he wanted me to take a look at incorporating the softball program into the site as well as to bring the tennis team back onto campus. Using this information, I spent a couple weeks laying out the softball and baseball fields and manipulating the site so that both fields, along with the tennis courts and new volleyball arena would fit into the 4-block area.

The intention with this campus layout was to give each zone its own space on the Creighton campus. By bringing the baseball and softball stadium directly to the North of Morrison Soccer Stadium, a united sports campus is created. To the East of the new sports 'campus' will be a Mixed-Use zone, where several existing buildings could be remodeled to allow for retail shops on the ground floor and loft living units on the upper floors. The Entertainment zone, where new areas for tailgating and pregame activities take place, will expand West to the edge of the Mixed-Use zone. The intention behind this move is to allow fans to use the Qwest Center parking lots and new tailgating areas on game days, and then pass through the Mixed-Use zone on their way to and from games, thus bringing in more revenue to the area.





Site Panorama

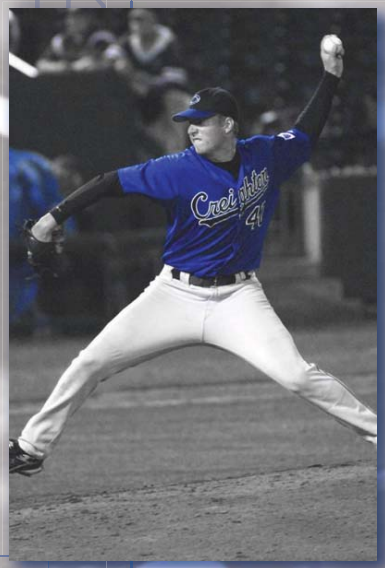
The first panorama below was taken from the concourse of the Morrison Soccer Stadium directly North of the site. The spectator enters the stadium and is greeted with a spectacular view to the new Riverfront development to the East. Situated at the Eastern edge of campus, the Morrison Soccer Stadium is home to the Mens and Womens soccer teams and attracts some of the nation's most highly sought-after athletes.

The second panorama below was taken from the Northeast edge of the Soccer Stadium, at the edge of the proposed ballfield complex. This is the view that many spectators attending Bluejay baseball games will enjoy. The growing downtown skyline rises above the interstate and provides a pleasant backdrop for afternoon as well as evening games.

Alternate Site Panoramas

The first panorama below was taken from the corner of 15th and Webster Street. Currently the lot is used for construction crew parking, and was chosen by DLR Group as the site of the new Omaha Royals/College World Series/Creighton Bluejay baseball stadium proposed to the city of Omaha as a means to keep the CWS here. The advantages of using this site are 1) there are currently no buildings on the site, so there would be no need for seizing property or building demolition. Access to the site is fairly easy, and the views to the downtown skyline are available.

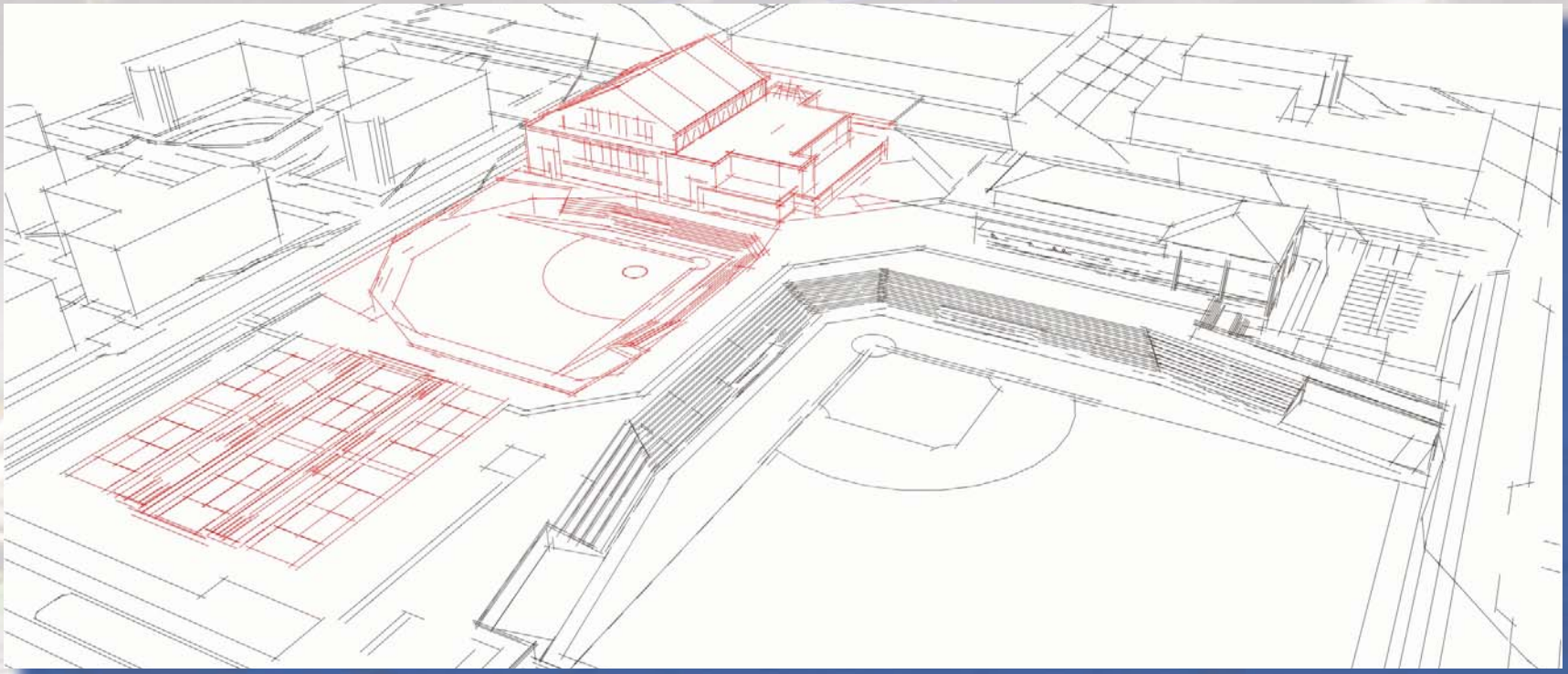
The second site below is located directly North of the Qwest Center where the current 'D' parking lot is situated. Parking is a premium in the area, so removing a parking lot will create certain problems in the future as the area grows. Both of these sites are separated from the main campus, which is probably the biggest disadvantage they face in attracting students to ballgames.



Scheme 1

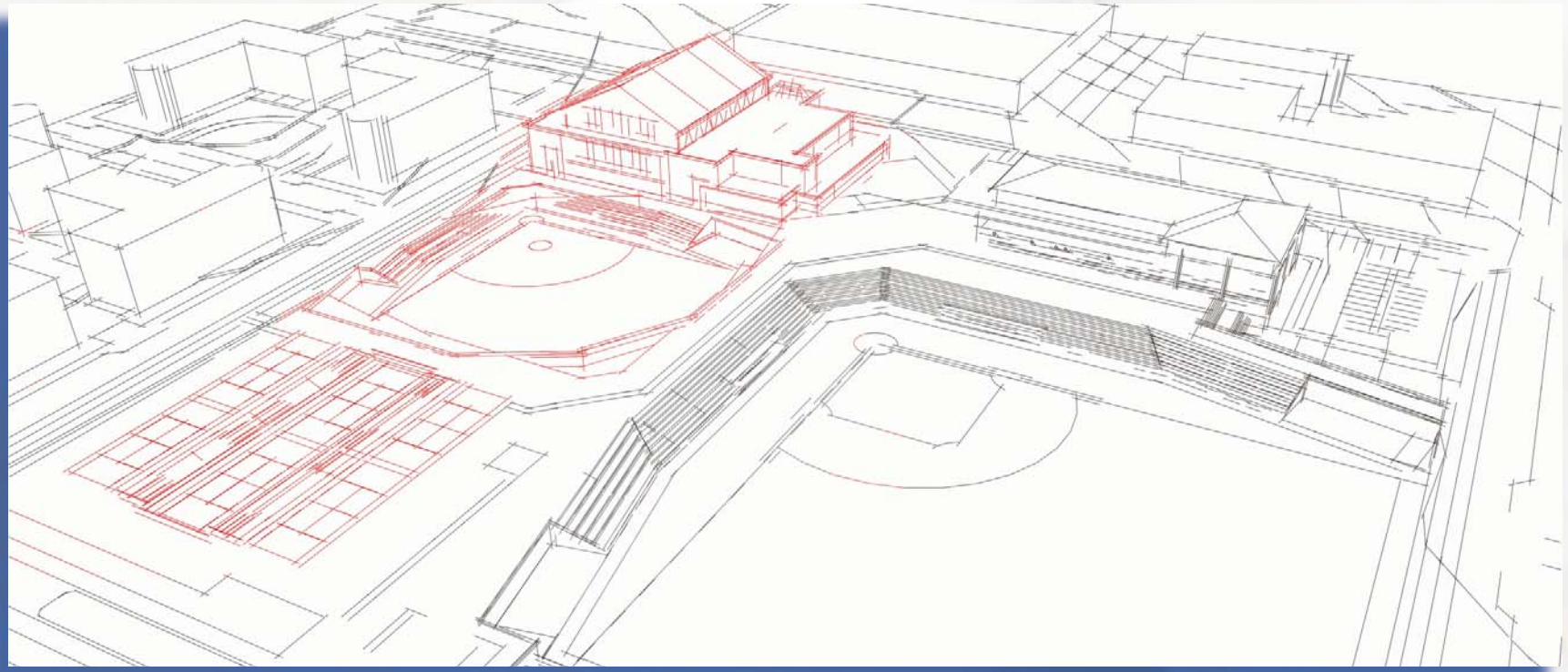
During the semester, I found out that Creighton was planning on building a new Women's Volleyball/ Basketball Arena on my site. Instead of ignoring this new development, I decided to use the Arena as part of my project. Going against the Creighton Master Plan, I decided to move the arena to act as a buffer along Cuming Street. This move, along with my addition of a new Athletic Department building also along Cuming Street, would allow the Webster Street Corridor to become more pedestrian friendly. With the baseball field fixed in a Southeast orientation, I decided to orient the softball field to the Southwest. This move would allow both fields to use a single concourse and share the facilities.

Problems with scheme:
1) Athletic Director informed me that they had already broken ground for the new arena.
2) Orientation facing Southwest. During late afternoon and into evening games, the sun would be in the batters eyes.
3) Canopy would not protect fans very much during windy/rainy games.



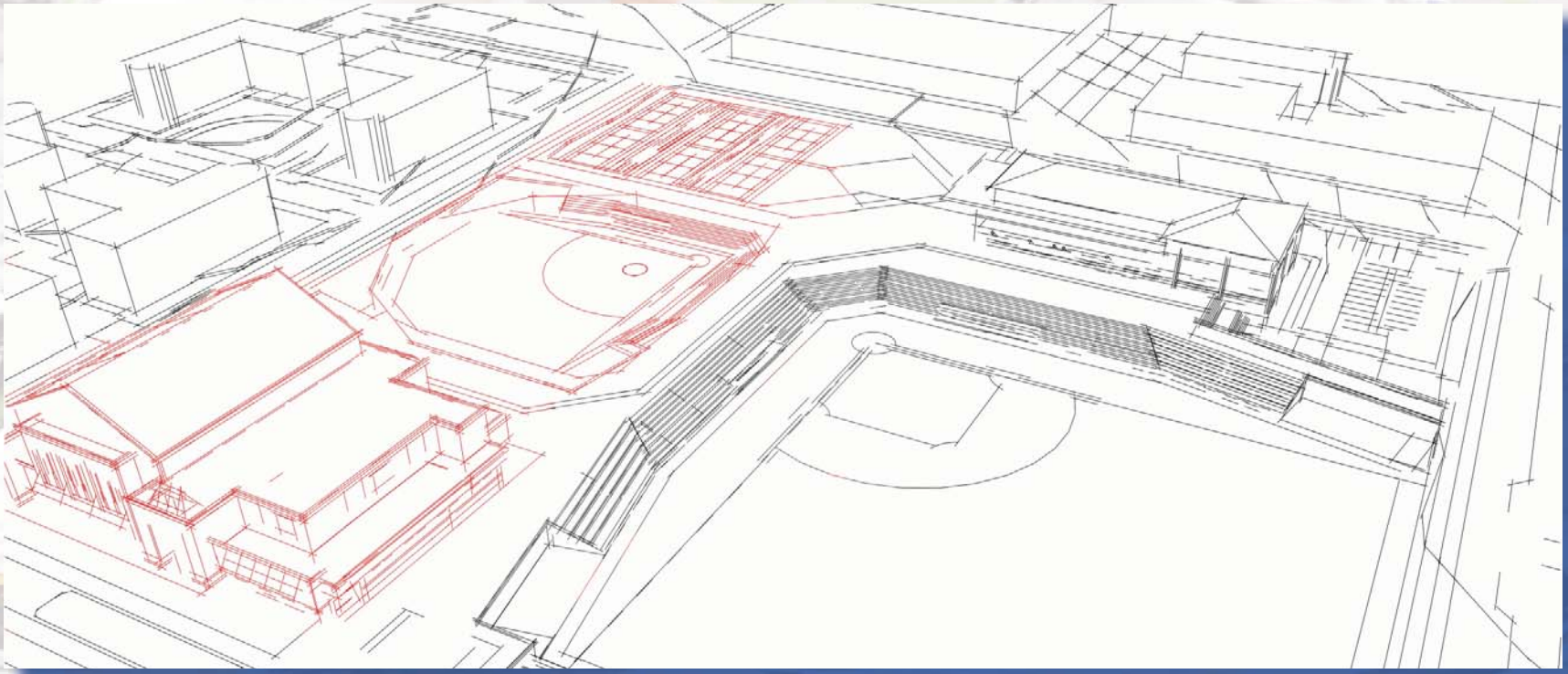
Scheme 2

Since this is an academic exercise, I decided to pursue keeping the new Arena on the Cuming Street side of the site. I re-oriented the softball field to face the same direction as the baseball field, Southeast. Even though this orientation would allow the use of a single concourse, now there would be a need for dual press boxes. Seating however, would be the biggest issue of this scheme. The fixed seats along the first base side of the field would impede on the Florence Blvd setback set forth in the Creighton Design Guidelines.



Scheme 3

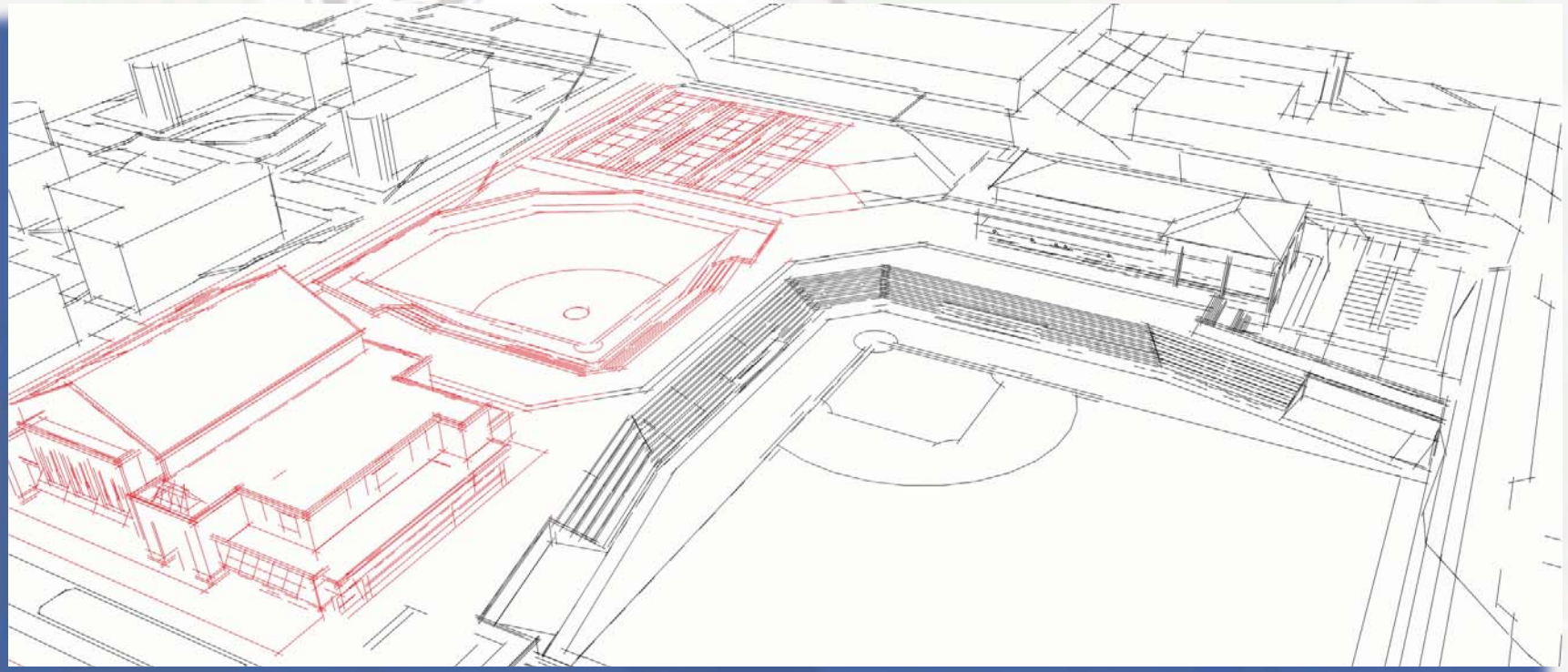
After taking the advice of the Athletic Director, I decided to move the Arena back to its intended location along the Webster Street Corridor. The softball field is still oriented to the Southwest, hoping that the Arena would be a potential screen from the weather elements. After a few sun studies, it was determined that too much evening sun would affect the batters.



Scheme 4

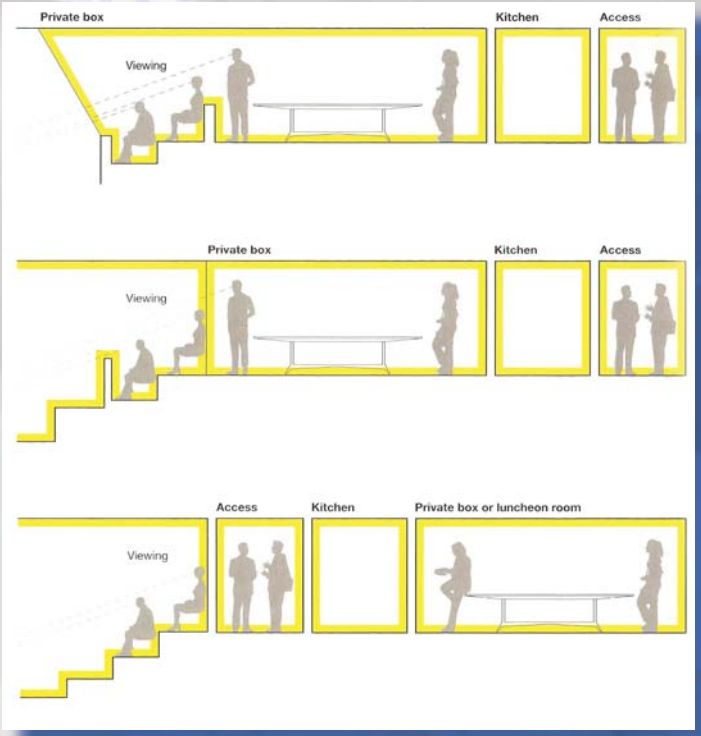
Scheme 4 seems to be the most economic scheme which shows no problems. The softball field is oriented to the Northwest, looking into North Omaha, particularly the areas Creighton is trying to clean up along Cuming Street.

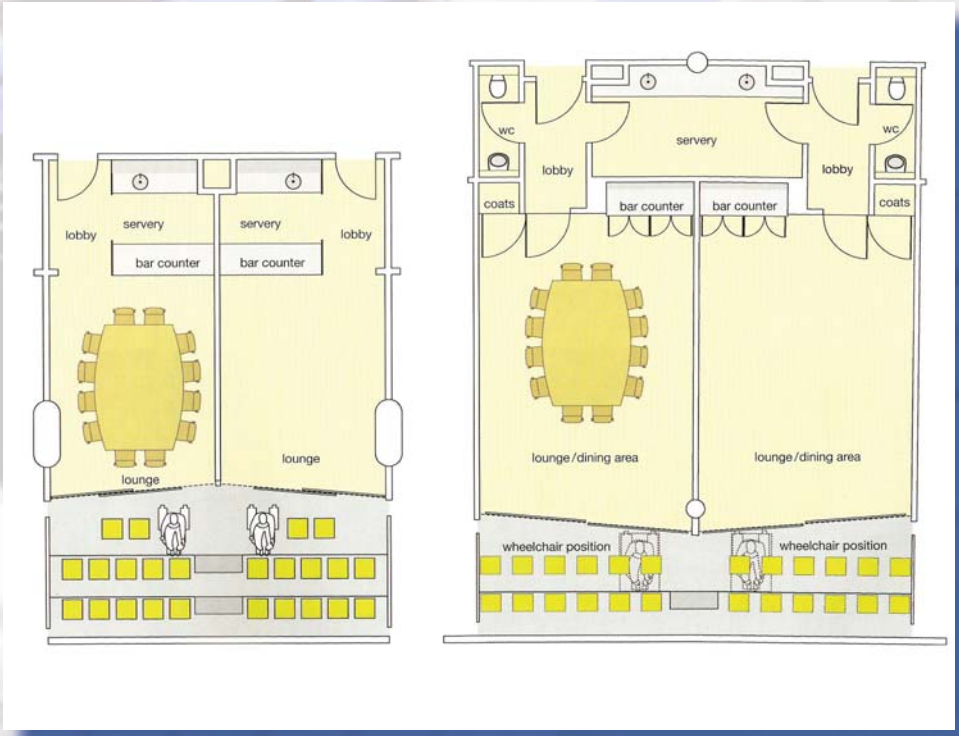
With this scheme, there is still a need for dual press boxes and concourses. However, the transition from softball to baseball has become more distinguished and elegant. The brick and steel beam construction along the donor path mimics many of the old buildings located in downtown Omaha. The Athletic Department at Creighton has already expressed interest in this scheme and suggest that I pursue it to its completion.



Suites

Three possible arrangements for private viewing: Type A behind glass; Type B in the wall of the stadium, with the private box immediately behind; and Type C in the well of the stadium with an access corridor immediately behind. Each option has its advantages and disadvantages. Climatic and security aspects had to be taken into account when choosing which type to be used. For this project, Type B was the most logical choice since Type A would separate the fan from the atmosphere of the ground and Type C restricts the fan from viewing the grounds from the private box. Shown below are examples of what the floor plan will look like for Type B design.

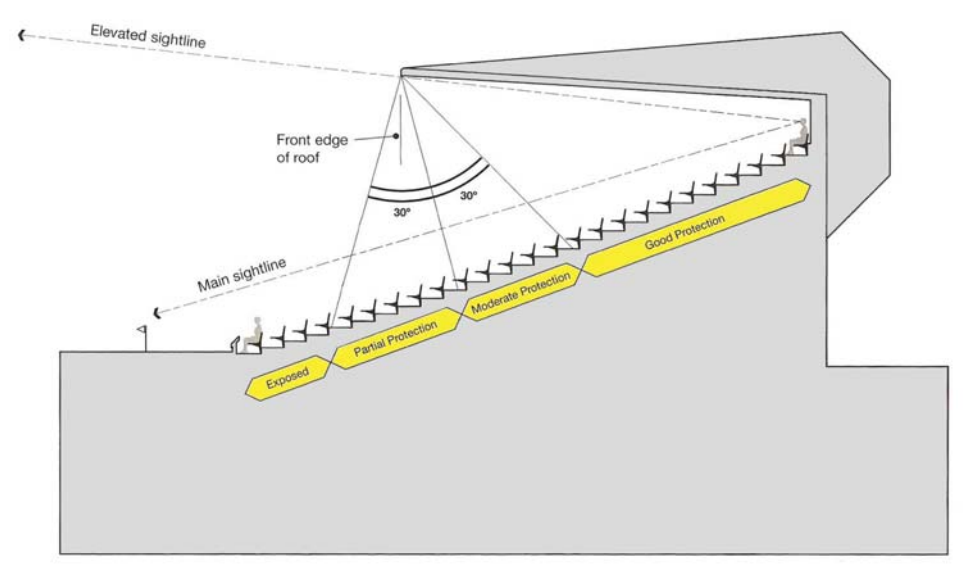


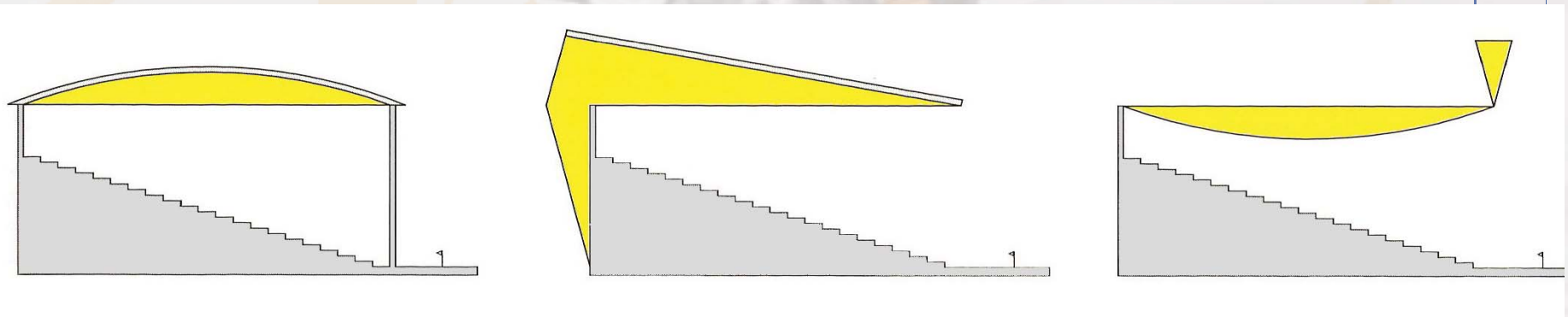


Roof Types

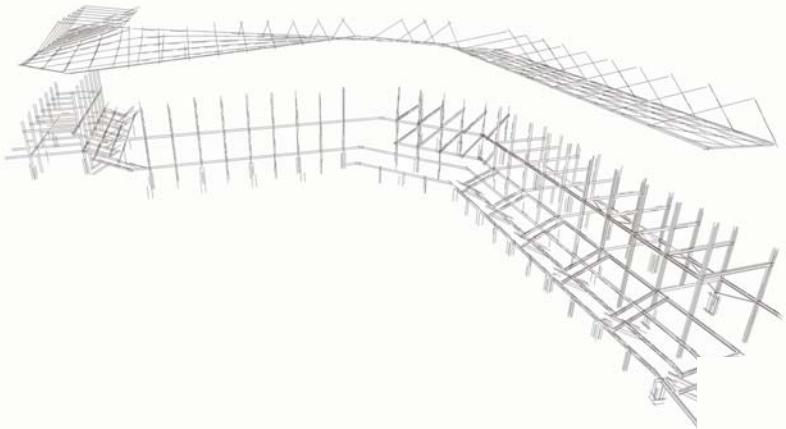
Three common forms of roof for stadium design:
1)Roof Spanning between columns at the front and rear of the stand.
2)Roof cantilevered from the rear of the stand.
3)Roof spanning between the rear of the stand and a long-span beam at the front.

For this project I chose to use a hybrid form of tension cantilever structure for the roof. I want to use a futuristic material that is lightweight and somewhat reflective so that the stadium mirrors the game in a sense.



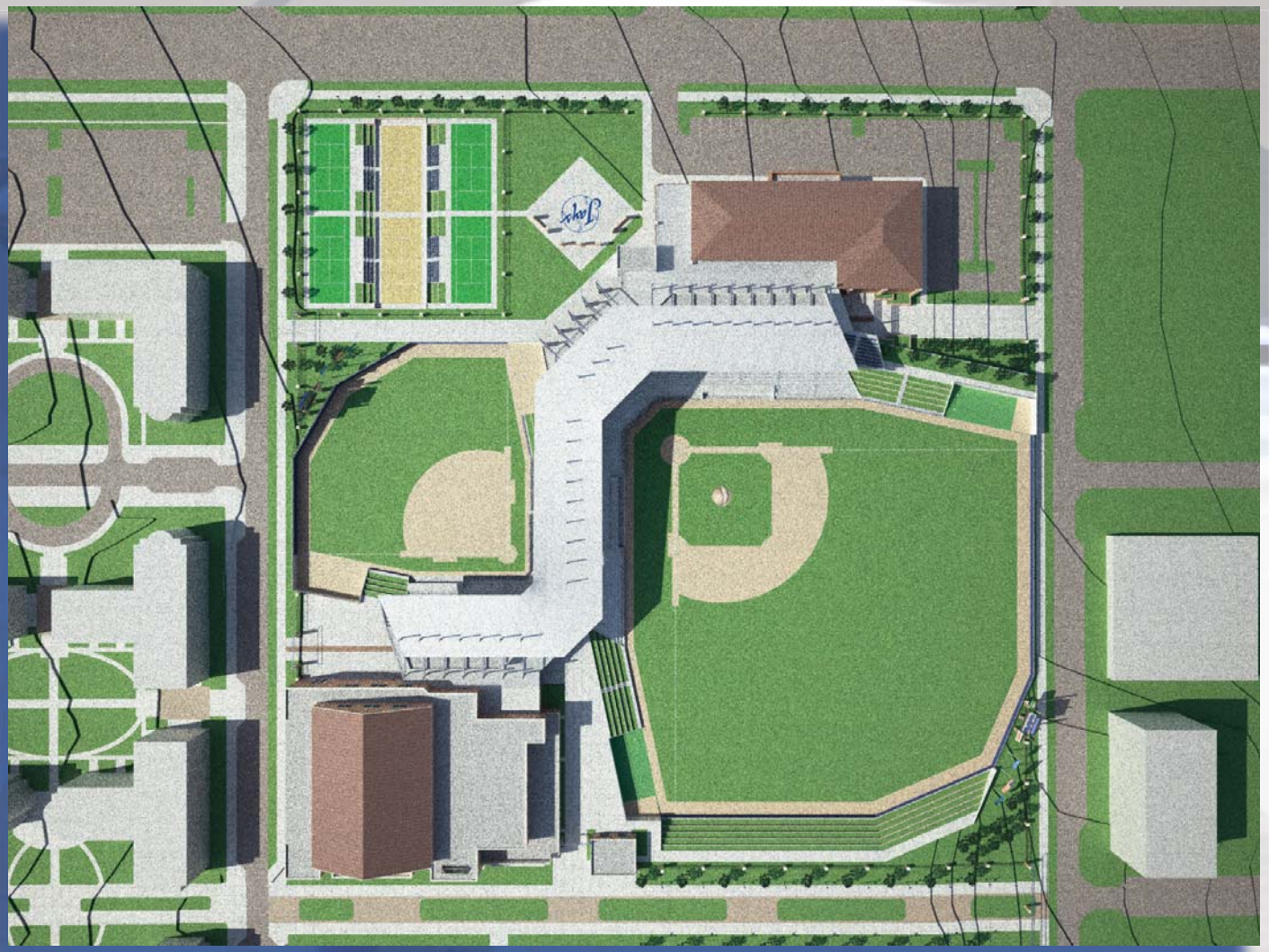


Structure Concepts



Conceptual

Initial Site Plan



View From 2nd Base

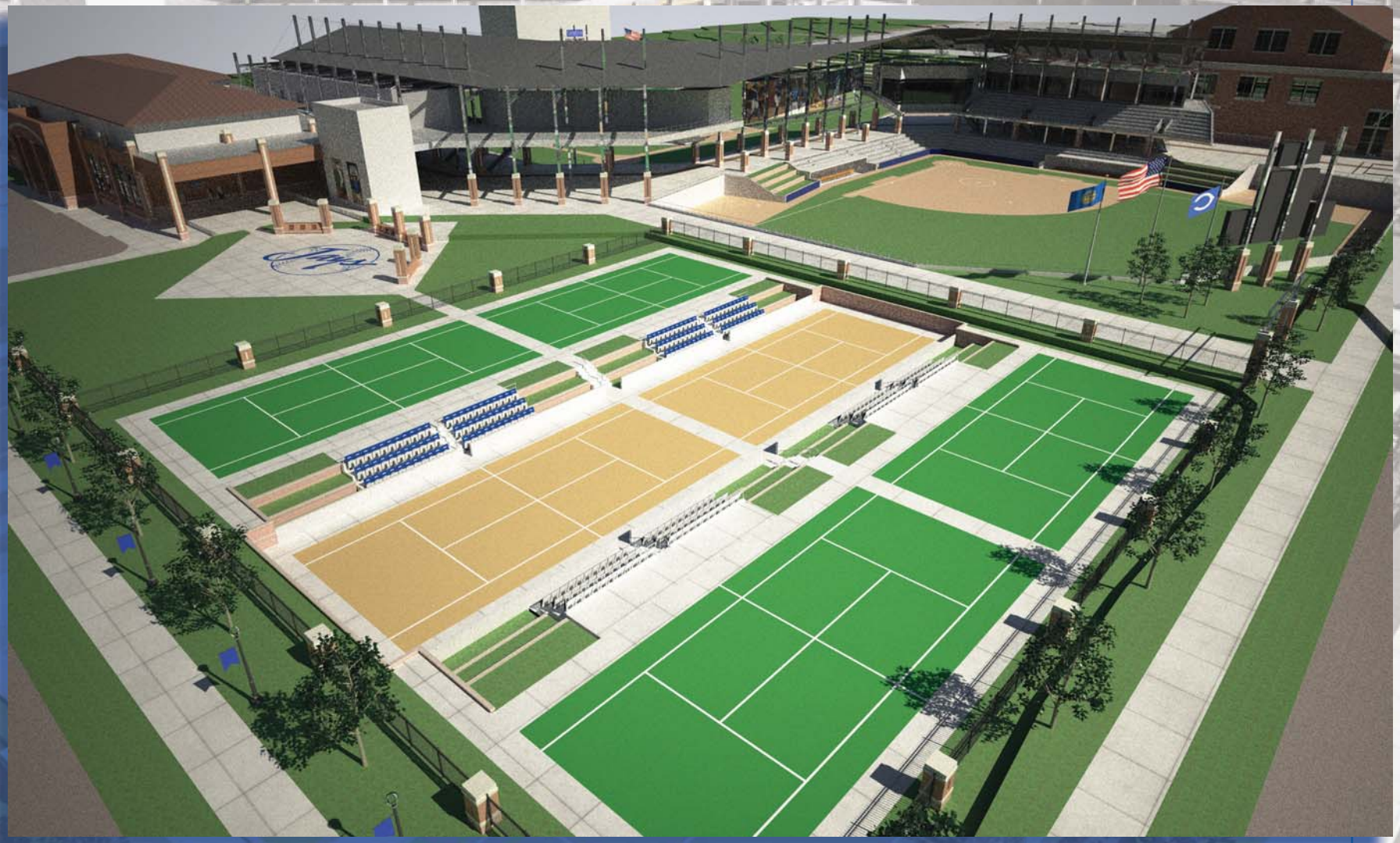
SCHEMATIC

Awards Plaza

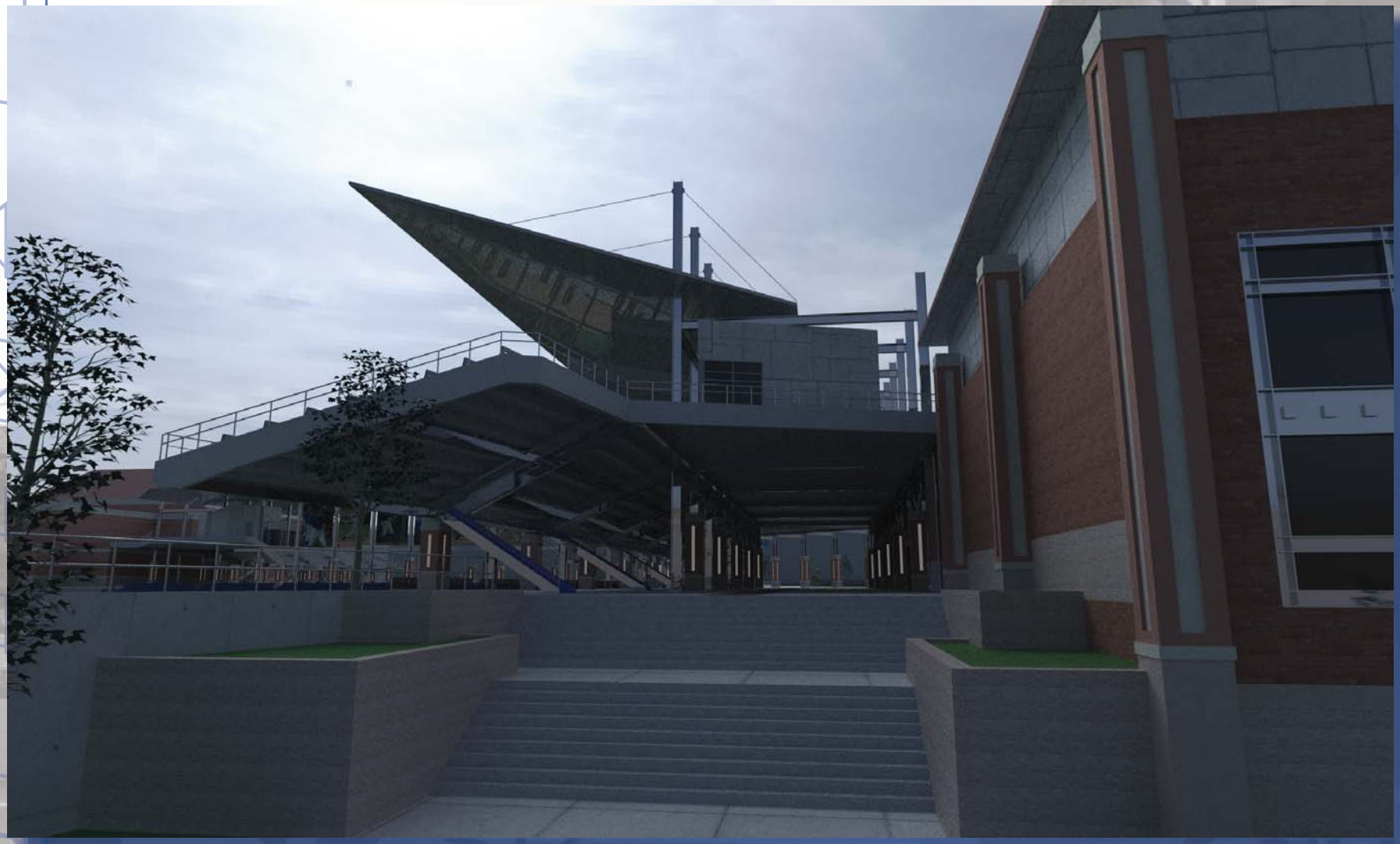
Baseball Birds Eye View

SCHEMATIC STUDY

Softball Birds Eye View



East Entrance



View To Concourse

View From Left Field Bullpen

View From Baseball Upper Deck

View From Softball Outfield

SCHEMATIC

1st Semester Review Display Boards


27

1st Semester Criticism

The presentation provides a clear understanding of the design process. The large perspectives are very helpful in understanding the layout of the project. However, it lacks a specific floor plan for how the functions are laid out along the concourse. Perhaps this is due to lack of understanding of what these functions are and how they work.

The project seems a straightforward approach of analysis but offers little in the way of intention or driving or reconsidering the stadium. This project is the pursuit of a standard baseball stadium. It is a decent solution for a practical problem but does not push the limits of any theoretical exploration.

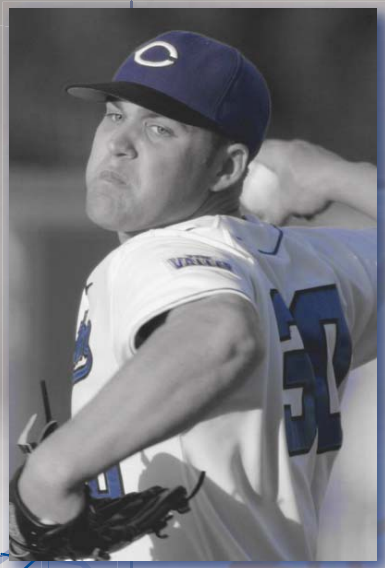
What are your notions of how a building can be fan friendly or become a symbol of pride for the university? How does it or can it enhance the experience of the game at the collegiate level? What is the desired connection to the University? How can the stadium become a source of University pride? What are the existing symbols of University pride at Creighton? The presentation focuses on a strong visual relationship between the stadium and downtown Omaha while neglecting any desired visual connection to the campus. What does the building need to do in order to aid athletic recruitment? Have you investigated any published research on these issues?

What will the project contribute to the theoretical understanding of collegiate baseball stadiums? Be explicit about the conclusions you reach to your design intentions.

PASS
PASS


FINAL DESIGN

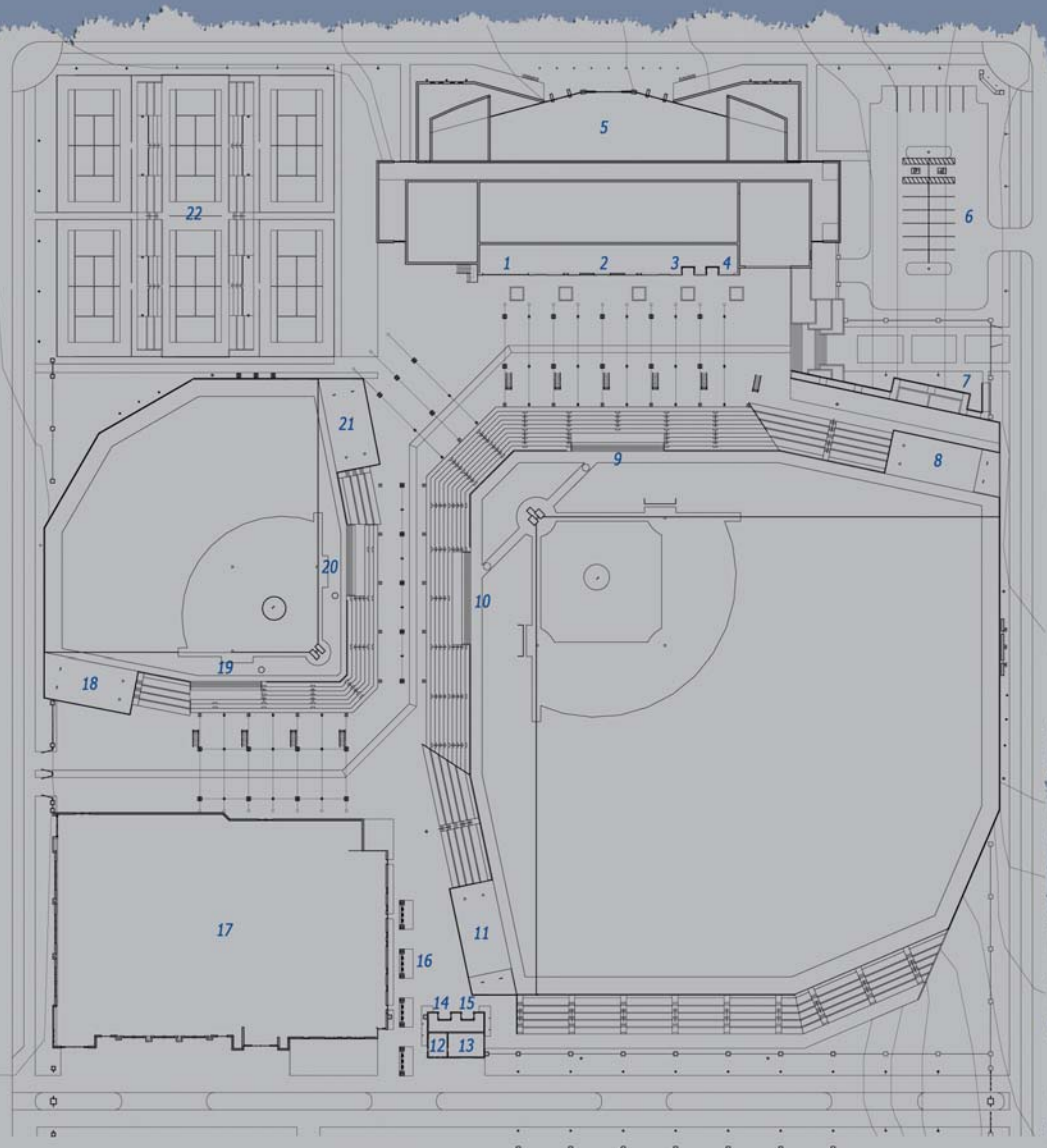
The following pages contain presentation boards that were presented at the final thesis review at 10:30am on April 4th, 2008. This board shows the rendered site plan in relation to the Morrison Soccer Stadium and downtown Omaha.

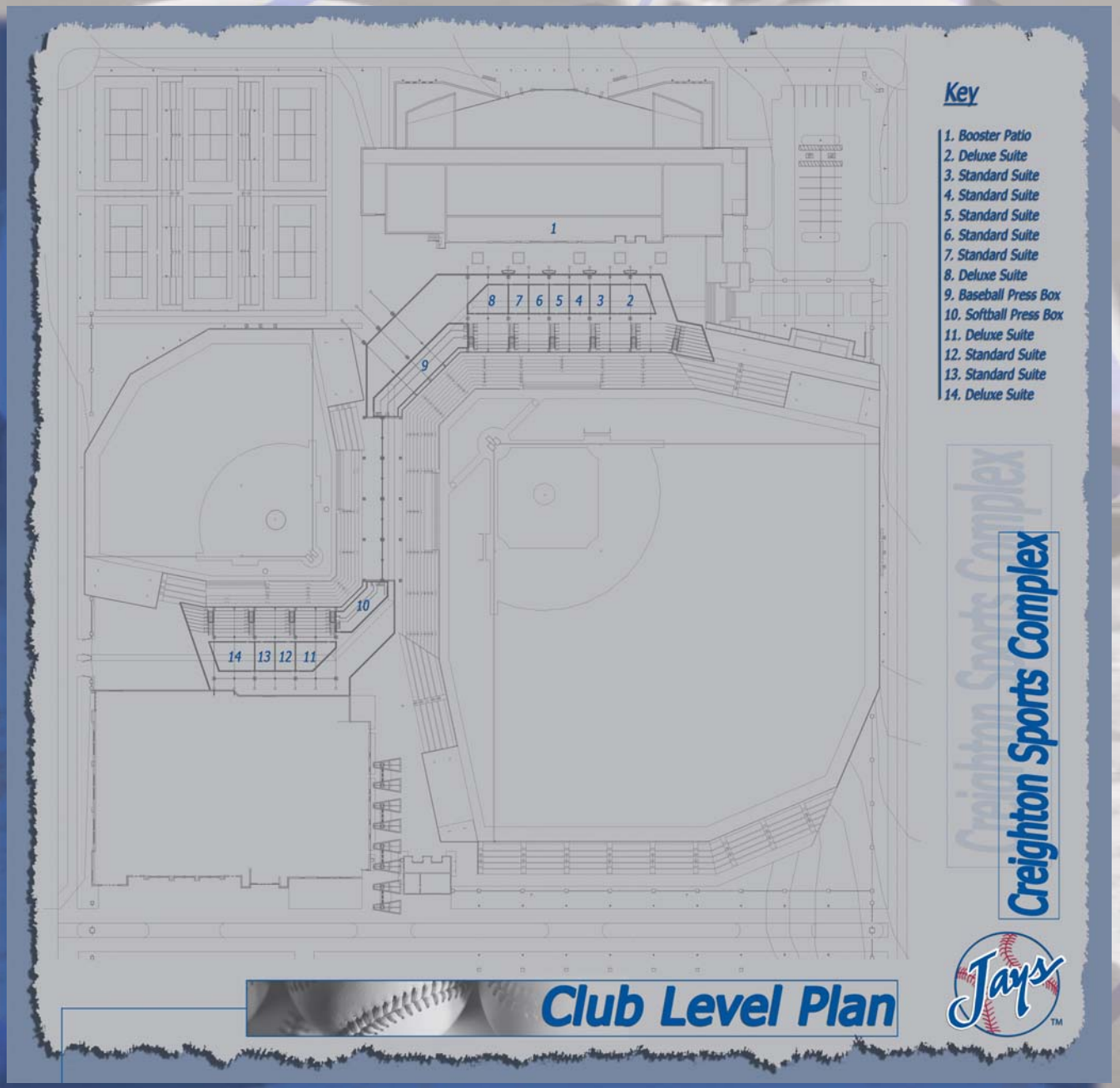


FINAL DESIGN

Key

1. Gift Shop
2. Concessions
3. Womens Restroom
4. Mens Restroom
5. Athletic Offices
6. Athl. Dept. Parking
7. Handicap Ramp
8. Home Bullpen
9. Home Dugout
10. Away Dugout
11. Away Bullpen
12. Ticket Office
13. Concessions
14. Womens Restoom
15. Mens Restroom
16. Awards Plaza
17. New Arena
18. Home Bullpen
19. Home Dugout
20. Away Dugout
21. Away Bullpen
22. Tennis Courts

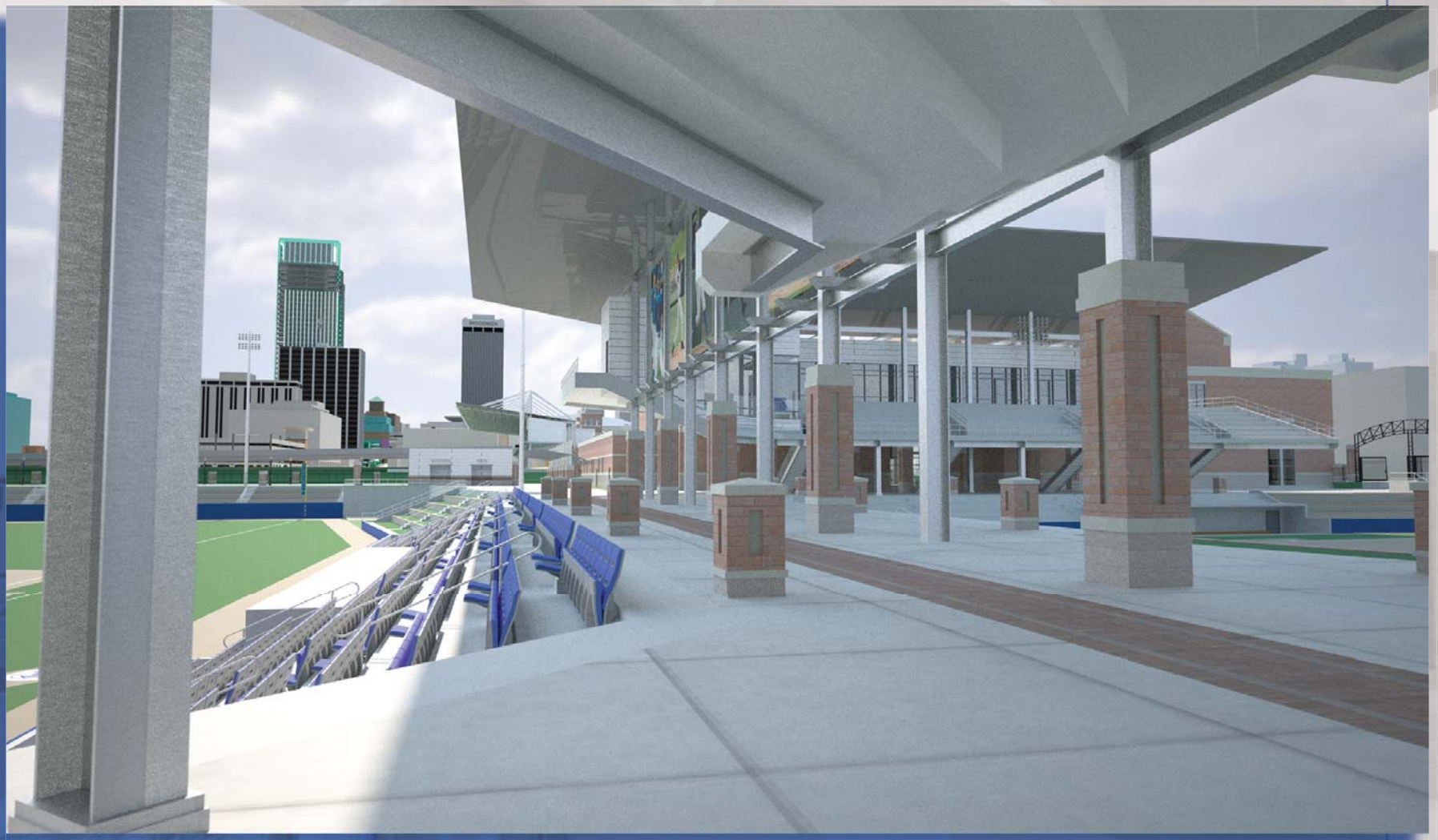



Key
1. Booster Patio
2. Deluxe Suite
3. Standard Suite
4. Standard Suite
5. Standard Suite
6. Standard Suite
7. Standard Suite
8. Deluxe Suite
9. Baseball Press Box
10. Softball Press Box
11. Deluxe Suite
12. Standard Suite
13. Standard Suite
14. Deluxe Suite
1
8 7 6 5 4 3 2
9
10
14 13 12 11
Creighton Sports Complex
Club Level Plan
Jays

Section Looking West

FINAL DESIGN

Section Looking South



View from Concourse

Stadium Facts

910 Hardback Seats
Berm Seating for 500+
2 Deluxe Private Suites
2 Standard Private Suites
Connection to New Arena

View from Concourse

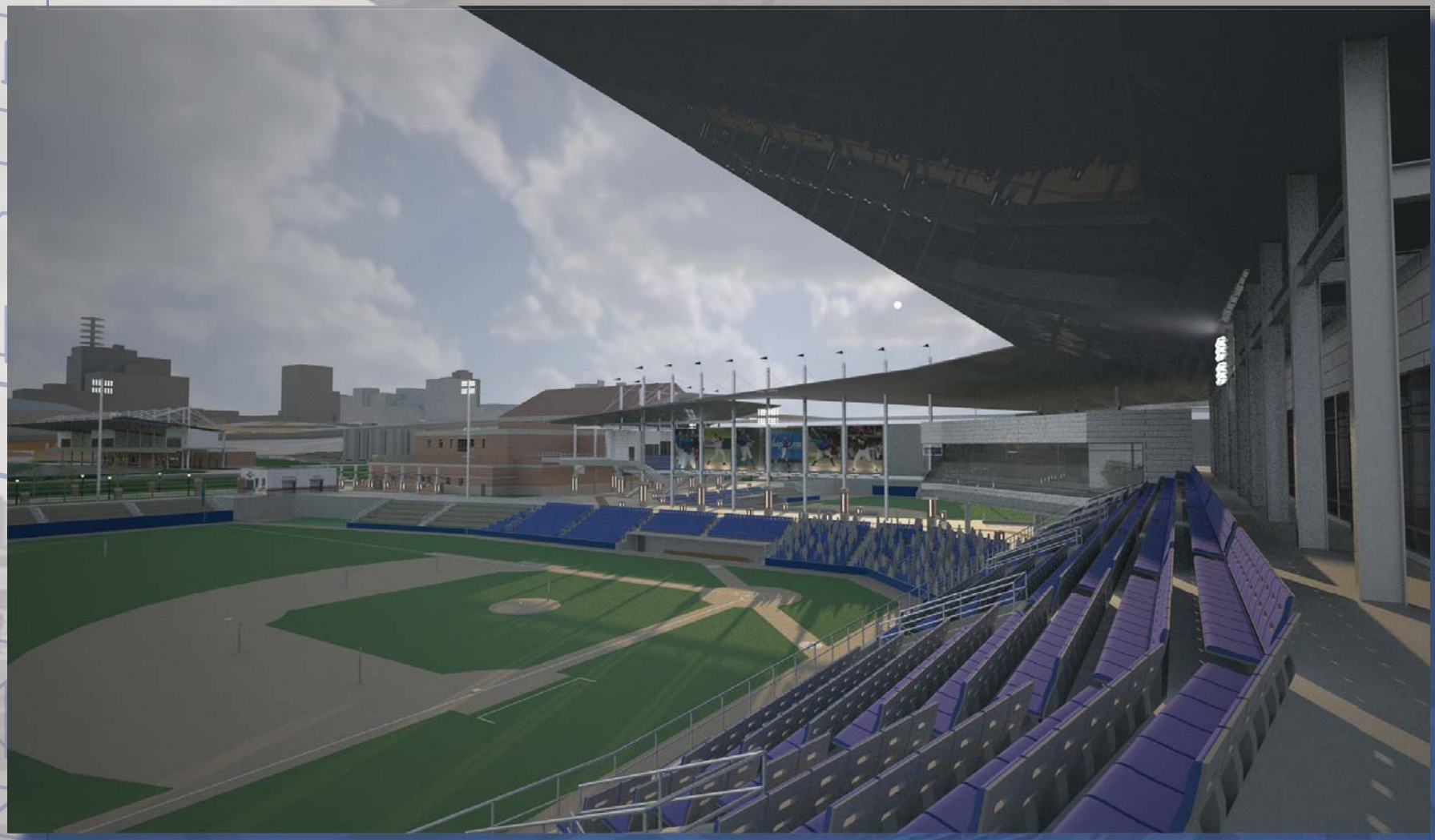
Stadium Facts

LF: 322’
LCF: 380’
CF: 405’
RCF: 380’
RF: 332’

Stadium Facts

Athletic Gift Shop
2 Concessions Stands
Mens/Womens Restrooms
Player Recognition Panels

Concourse Perspective



View to New Arena

Stadium Facts

2,438 Hardback Seats
Berm Seating for 3,500+
2 Deluxe Private Suites
5 Standard Private Suites
Athletics Gift Shop

Stadium Facts

2,438 Hardback Seats
Berm Seating for 3,500+
2 Deluxe Private Suites
5 Standard Private Suites
Athletics Gift Shop

View From Baseball Press Box

Stadium Facts

2,438 Hardback Seats
Berm Seating for 3,500+
2 Deluxe Private Suites
5 Standard Private Suites
Athletics Gift Shop

Softball Upper Deck

Stadium Facts

910 Hardback Seats
Berm Seating for 500+
2 Deluxe Private Suites
2 Standard Private Suites
Connection to New Arena

East Entrance/Exit

Stadium Facts

Athletic Offices
Men's Locker Room
Recruiting Offices
Booster Club Lounge

Stadium Facts

Honorees:

All-Americans

All-Conference

Tournament Teams

Coaches

Player Awards Plaza

Corner of 17th and Cuming St.

Stadium Facts

Athletic Offices
Men's Locker Room
Recruiting Offices
Booster Club Lounge

Athletic Bldg. North Entrance

Stadium Facts

Honorees:
All-Americans
All-Conference
Tournament Teams
Coaches

View From Right Field Berms

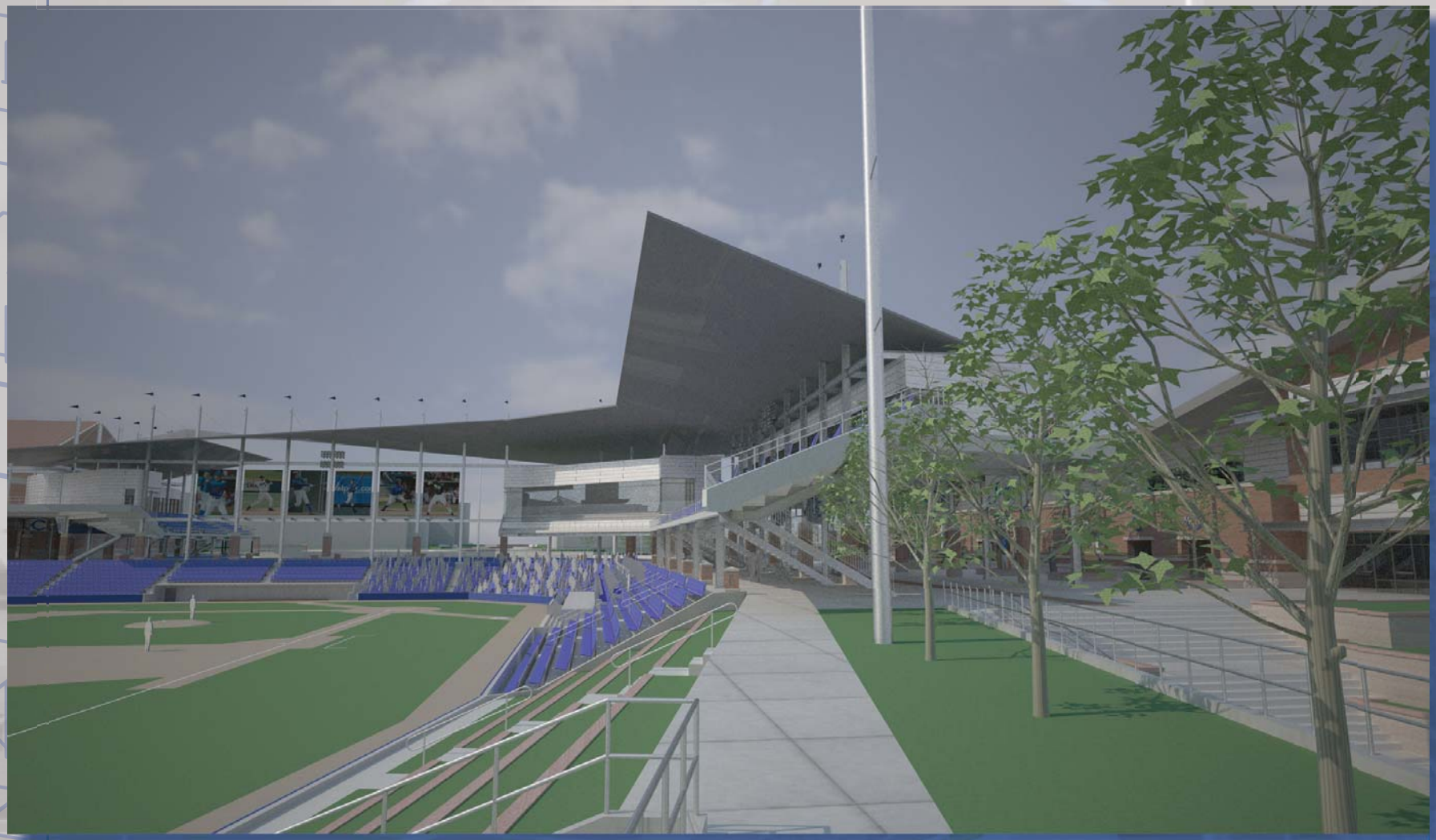
Stadium Facts

LF: 322’
LCF: 380’
CF: 405’
RCF: 380’
RF: 332’

Baseball Birds Eye

Stadium Facts

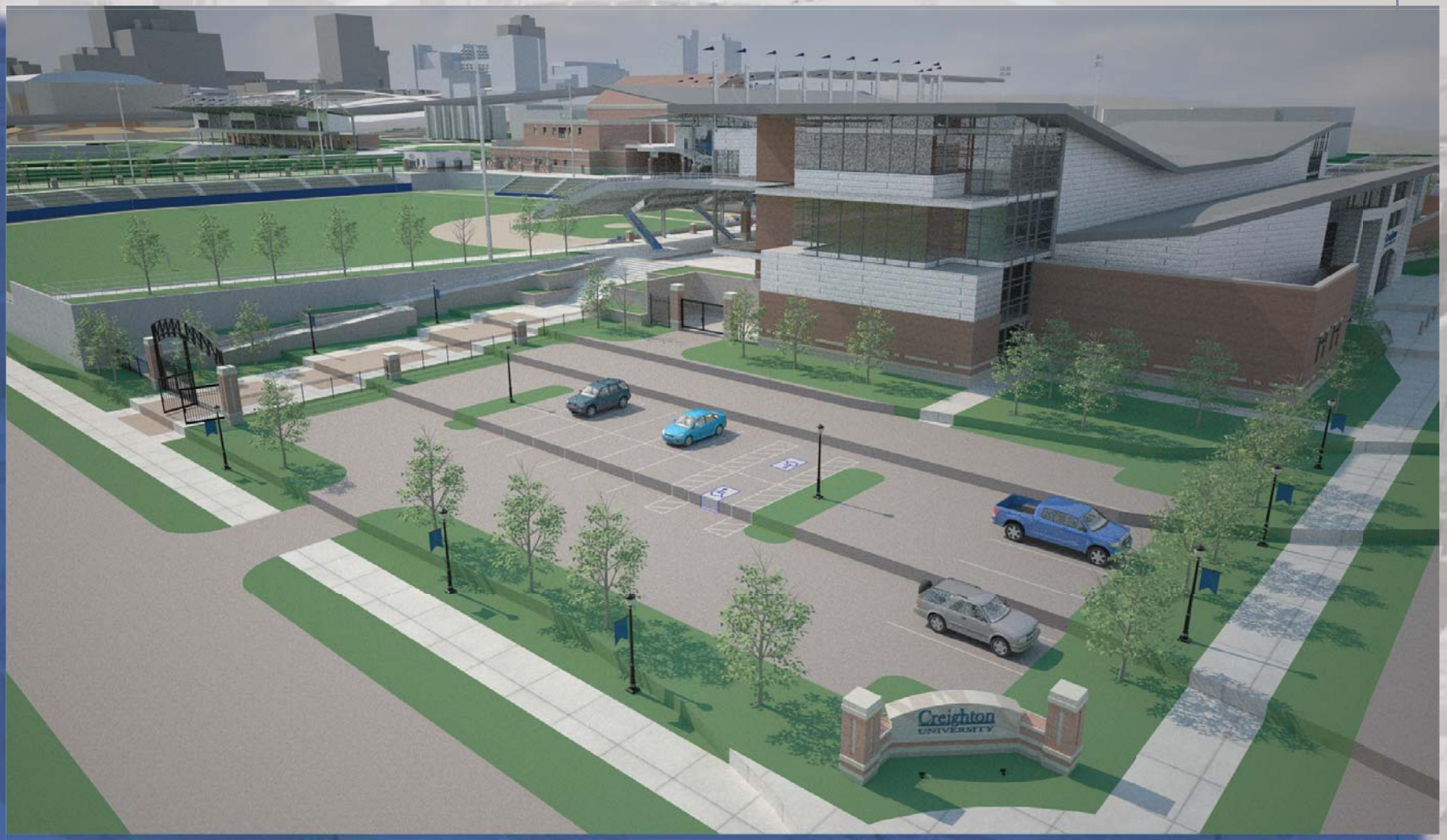
LF: 322’
LCF: 380’
CF: 405’
RCF: 380’
RF: 332’



Left Field Perspective

Stadium Facts

2,438 Hardback Seats
Berm Seating for 3,500+
2 Deluxe Private Suites
5 Standard Private Suites
Athletics Gift Shop



Stadium Facts

Athletic Offices
Men's Locker Room
Recruiting Offices
Booster Club Lounge

Athletic Dept. Birds Eye

Tennis Court Perspective

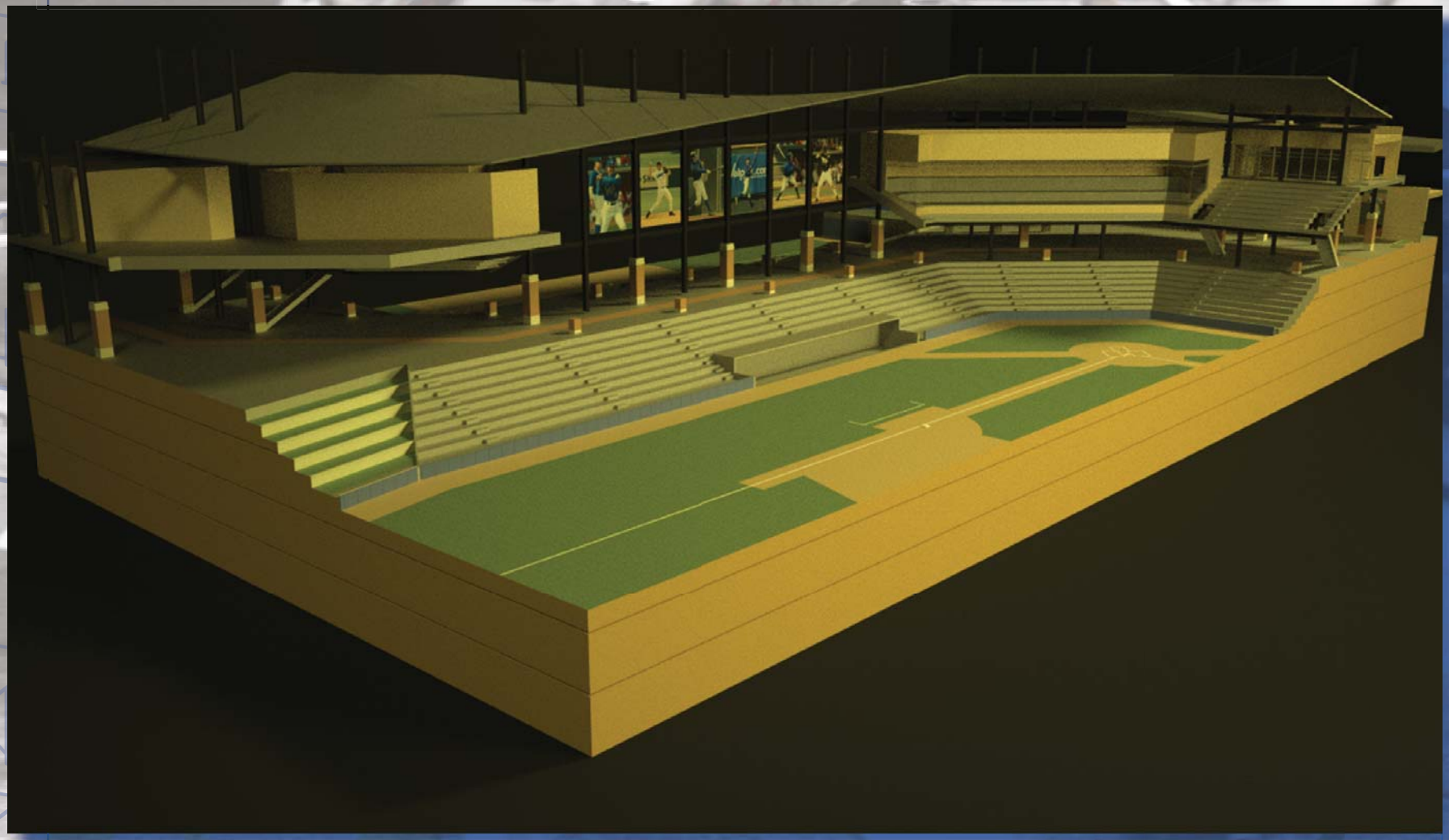
Stadium Facts

4 Casual Use Courts
2 Center Stage Courts
Berm Seating: 200
Chair Seating: 264
Light for Night Matches

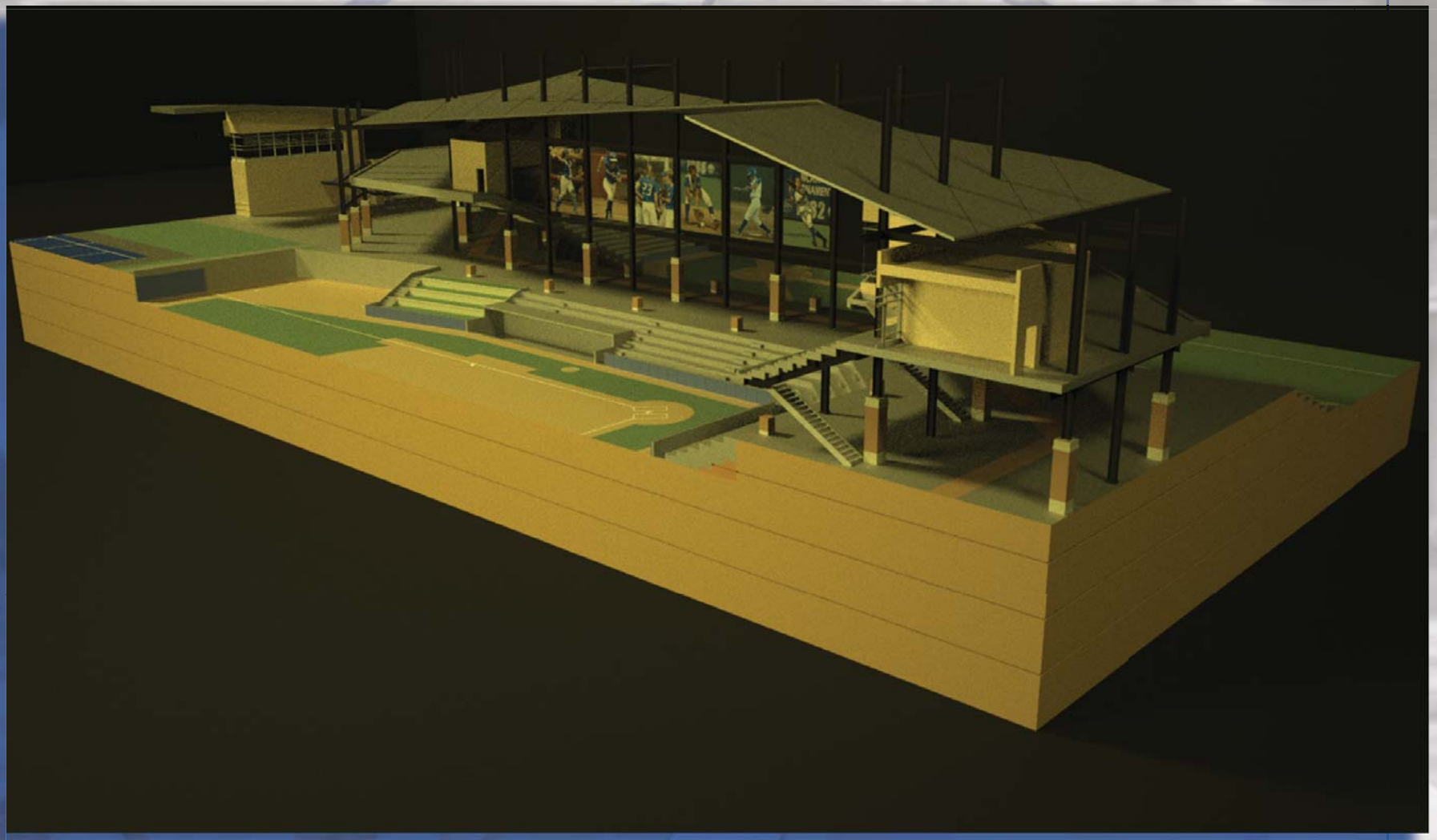
Softball/Tennis Birds Eye

Stadium Facts

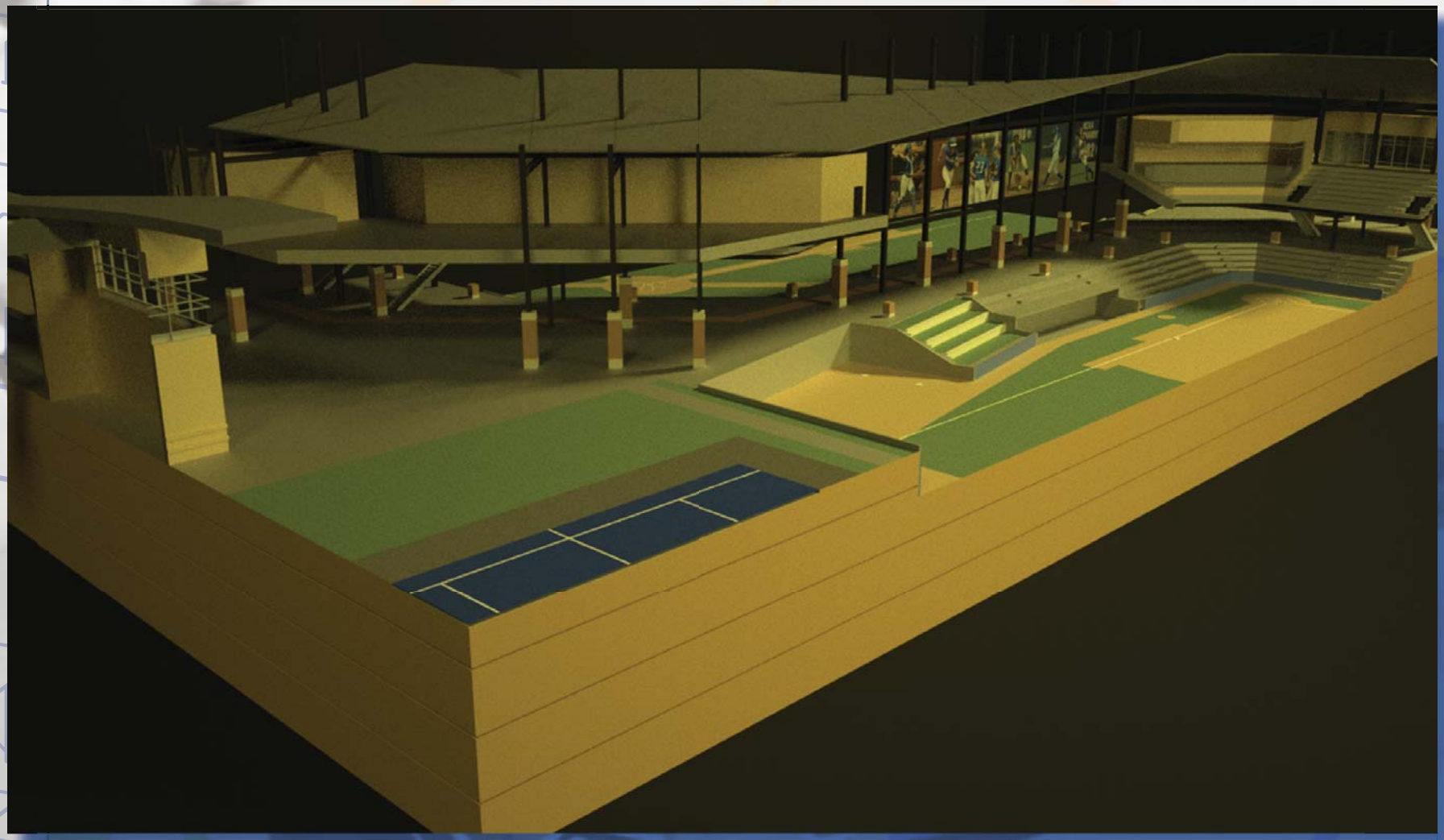
LF: 188’
LCF: 205‘
CF: 210’
RCF: 205‘
RF: 188’



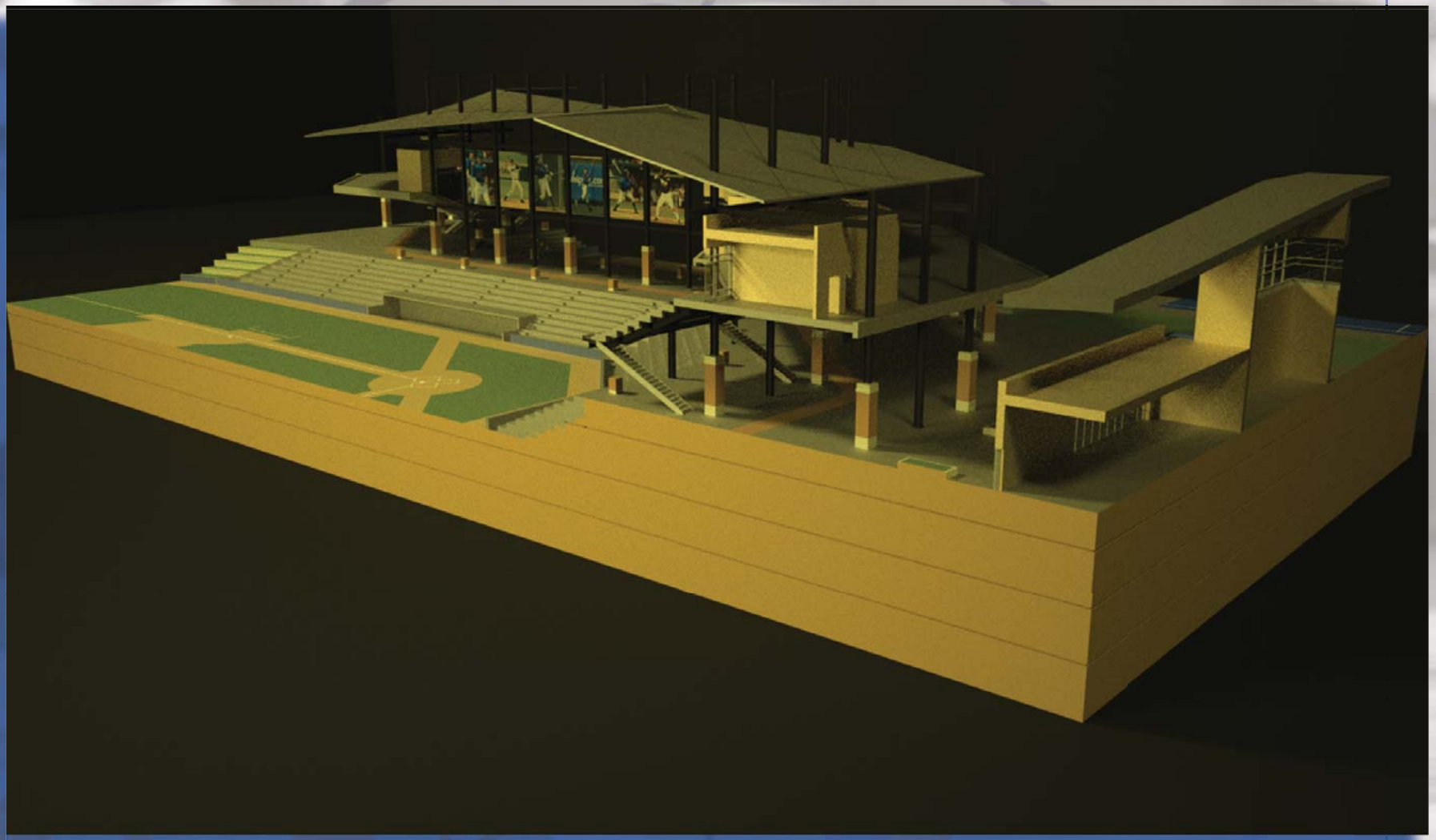
Section Model



Section Model

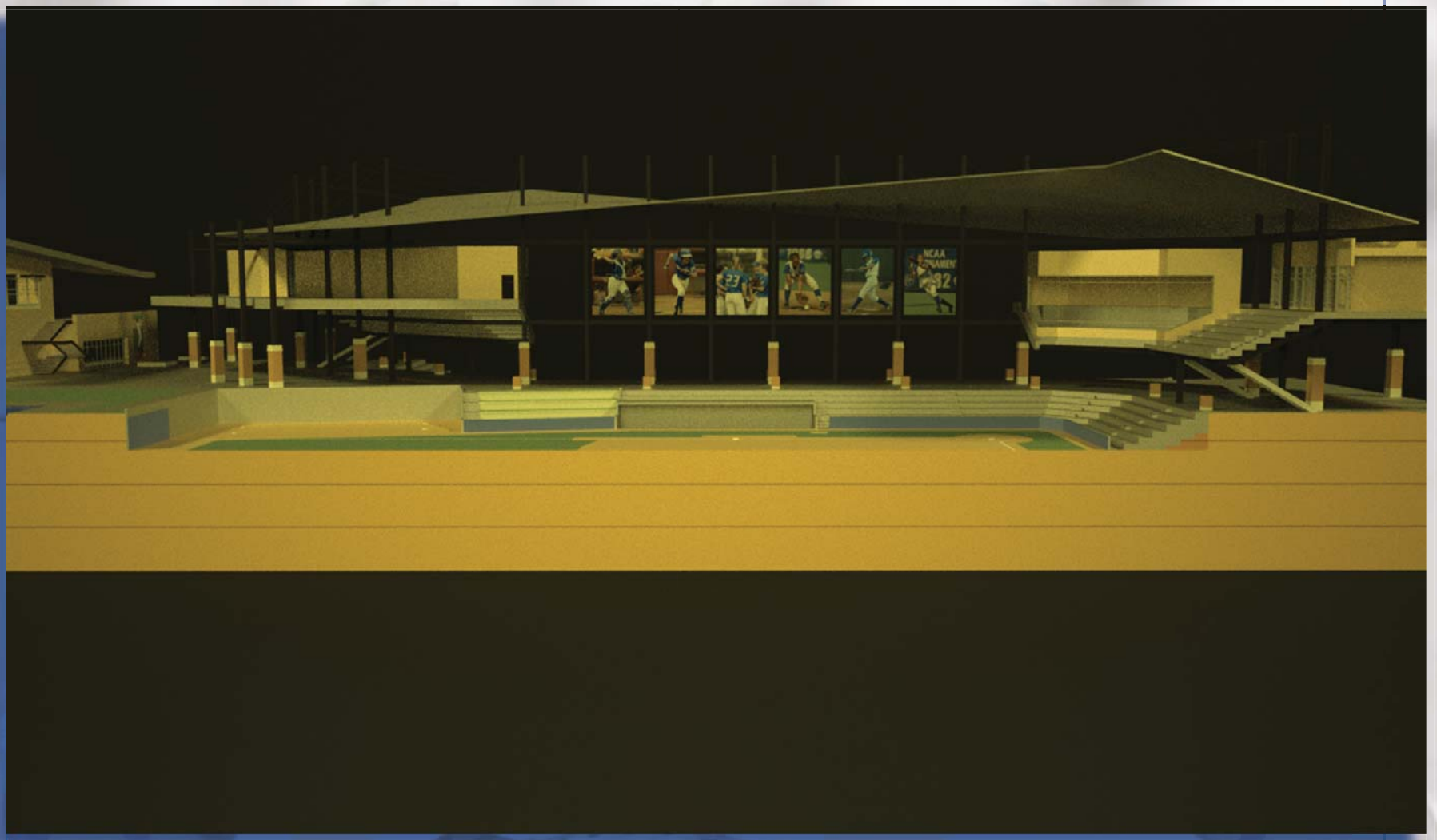


Section Model



Section Model

Section Model



Section Model


TPX

Year End Thoughts

My final presentation took place on Friday April 4th, 2008 at 10:30am. My review panel consisted of my mentor, Bill Borner, along with Ted Ertl, Nate Krug, and Sharon Kuska of the Architecture faculty. Guest critics in my review were E.B. Min, one of the partners of the architectural firm Min | Day, and Stan Meradith, lead architect in the DLR Group sports department. E.B. Min was extremely interested in the morphing form of the canopy that warps around the baseball and softball fields. She determined that this the main idea of my project and suggested that if I had more time on this project, I should have probably researched and designed that form even more.

One of the main complements I received was from Mr. Meradith, who appreciated the fact that I took on the responsibility of a project with a client in mind (Creighton University). I was extremely pleased with the way this project shaped up throughout the year. The review panel appreciated that fact that I held regular conversations and meetings with the people at Creighton University. One of the critics commented on the fact that its extremely tough for a thesis student to take on a project with a client in mind and come away with a successful product, and the critic said that I did a magnificent job of impressing my ideas upon the people at Creighton, while still listening to ideas they had as well.

Coming into this project last spring, I wanted to create a stadium that would be able to attract the top athletic recruits in the country to Creighton. Playing baseball all my life and attending a few camps at the University, I was able to get a first hand look at the facilities Creighton has to offer its recruits. Creighton was probably one of the last schools I considered playing baseball for coming out of high school, simply because I felt their complex wasn't as attractive as others in the region. So my goal ultimately became trying to design a stadium that I would have wanted to play ball on, while still keeping in mind how the game would be perceived from a fans perspective. Throughout the first semester, I presented several ideas to the folks at Creighton that might have been extreme considering the architectural look Creighton University prides itself on.

I think the most successful part of the project was the interaction between myself and the Athletic and Facilities Departments at the University. They appreciated the fact that I gave them a project that counteracted their Master Plan to show what they could have had. By orienting the stadium to the Southeast and sinking it into the landscape, magnificent views of the downtown skyline were created as well as an opportunity for students passing by the field to watch a game from the sidewalks thus peaking interest within the students. The people at Creighton liked the fact that I did not create a barrier between the baseball and softball fields, allowing people to view whichever game they wish, or even both if they are played on the same day at different times. Another aspect of the project they liked was the fact that I created an awards plaza for the athletes at Creighton. I think one of the best ways to recruit athletes to a university is to display their faces and background to the public, that way they are not just another name on the back of a jersey.

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Yee, Roger, Sports $ Recreational Facilities, New York; Visual Reference Publications, 2006

Internet Works:

http://www.creighton.edu
http://www.gocreighton.com
http://www.baseballfielddesign.com/
http://omahabydesign.org/
http://www.ci.omaha.ne.us/

Omaha Sources:

Creighton University
DLR Group Inc.
North Downtown Study - HDR Inc.
Douglas County, Omaha GIS Department
Omaha Area Chamber of Commerce

I guess its fitting that I write this section of my book a day and a half late to turn into the printers and at 4 in the morning on next to no sleep the past few nights...

To my professors and Critics...the guidance, knowledge, and 'tough love' you have shown me the past 6 years have given me the confidence to actually think I can actually do this Architecture thing for a living. For my mentor Bill Borner for helping me through this project and letting me go about it my way. For Stan Meradith at DLR Group, Steve Brace in the Athletic Dept at Creighton, and Lennis Pederson and everyone in the Creighton Facilities Dept for taking time out of your days to meet with me and listen to my ideas and offer all the help you could, I really appreciate it!

To my classmates...for putting up with the techno, 80's, and Michael Bolton parties at 3 in the morning, and for making the past 4 years of studio bearable. You guys have all helped me when I've had questions, flattered me by stealing some of my best ideas, and provided interesting company at parties and the bars. I'll probably miss the time with you guys outside Arch Hall more than the time we've spent in it...

To my 'Lincoln Family'...Doug Thomsen, Andy Arkwright, Alli von Rein, Rosey Masek, Jeremy Block (Sanchez), Andrew Junk, Steph Peterson, and Jessica Mitchell...you guys have always been there to hang out and put architecture in the back of my mind. The Sunday night dinners, cozy pit movie nights, and the nights spent just drinking in the living room watching tv have been awesome!

To my family...I'm going to go ahead and assume my parents are more happy that I am finally done with school after 8 long years than I am. I would like to thank them for supporting me emotionally, spiritually, but most importantly, financially! I would also like to thank my younger sister Kelsey, and my younger brothers Konner and Kowenn for growing up trying to follow my example and branching out in your own ways. I especially want to thank Konner, who is currently in Iraq with the Marines, for being a stronger person than I could ever hope to be. We miss you so get back here fast and safe!

I think its time to finally go get some sleep...


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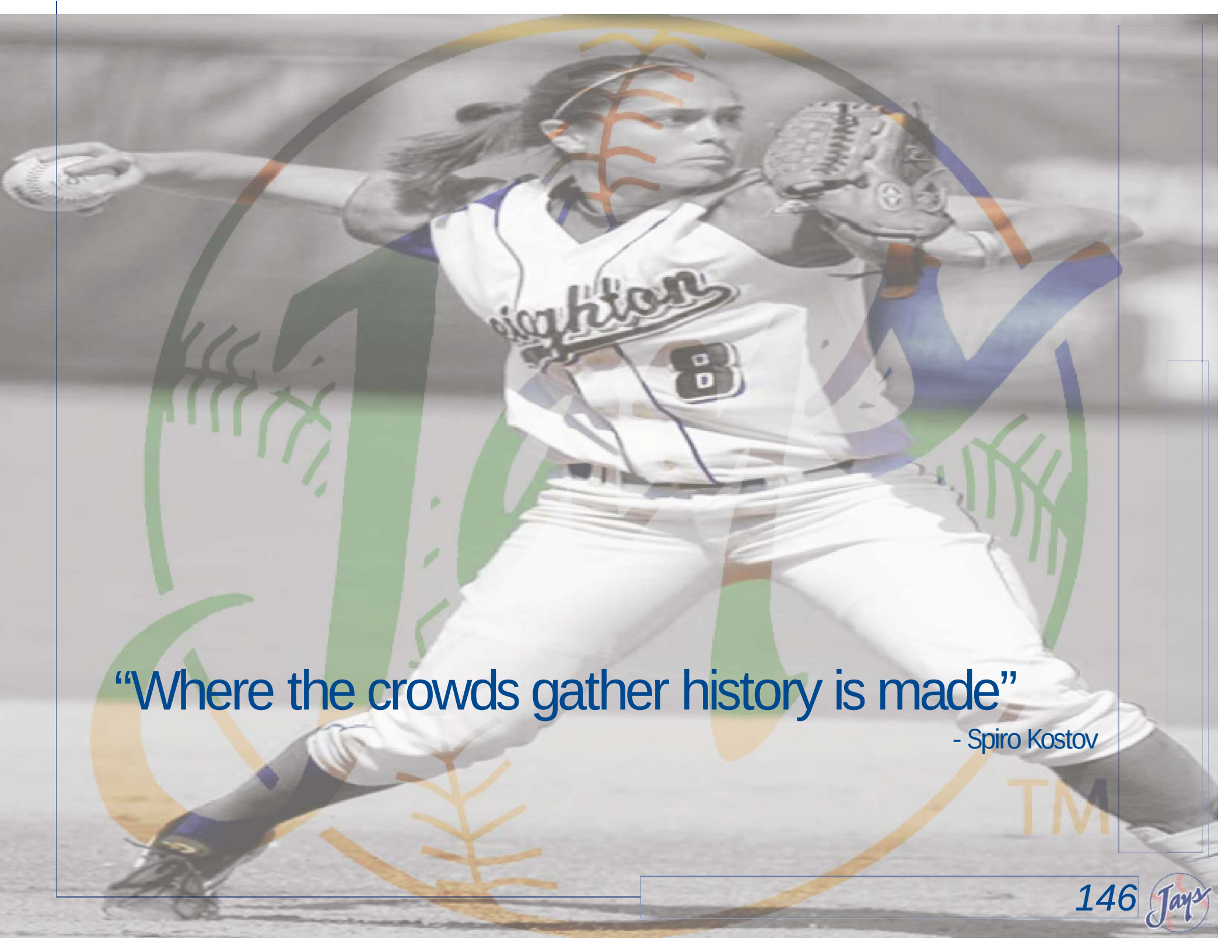

"Where the crowds gather history is made"

- Spiro Kostov