

Thesis Proposal

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QUALITY for EQUALITY

QUALITY FOR EQUALITY

A Design Thesis Submitted to the
Department of Architecture
North Dakota State University

By

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In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree
of
Master of Architecture

North Dakota State University Libraries Addendum

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May 2022

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FIGURE 1

THESIS ABSTRACT

Growing up playing softball it was always a goal to reach a big stage for example the state tournament where even outside of games there were a lot of experiences to be excited about. For young softball players one of the biggest stages, you could aspire to get to would be the NCAA Women's College World Series in Oklahoma. It has recently come to light that the experiences and opportunities that the women who get to play in this prestigious tournament are much less extravagant than that of the men that play in the Men's College World Series. The facilities that the women were using were lacking, to say the least, and with a new design these women would be able to enjoy their experience more as well as accommodate for more fans to be in attendance. It would give a greater number of people a large stage to aspire to reach. The focus of the design is to create a place that gives everyone the same feeling when entering whether you are a fan or a player. The complex would be an iconic place like the Field of Dreams or Yankee Stadium. This is a place that everyone can enjoy going to or being a part of for years to come.



FIGURE 2

THESIS NARRATIVE

The NCAA is known across the country for the widely popular tournaments they host for sports. One of the most well-known tournaments is the men's and women's basketball. There was an issue that came to light this past year when the women playing were given inadequate facilities compared to the men. This created a movement for other college female athletes and coaches to start speaking out and announcing the inequality specifically the women softball players.

The NCAA college world series is a tournament for baseball and softball to showcase their hard work and determination. The softball tournament has been gaining in popularity over the years and tickets sell out every year. Young girls get to watch their favorite players, mentors, and dream about being there one day. Fans sit and cheer on their daughters, sisters, nieces, and teams. This field brings so much excitement and achievement to all but lacks in a very important area.

During this past year the fans have learned that the accomplished athletes did not have private restrooms, showers, or basic changing facilities. These women who play on one of the biggest stages did not have the general necessities that they deserved. This project will fill in those voids and give the women equality through architecture.

The project will redevelop 4 softball fields with one being the main field for the tournament. To increase the fan experience the grandstand will be bigger and the concourse will include gift shops, food, restrooms, and more. The complex will have a large patio seating area for a unique viewing experience as well as suites that sit higher. With the athletes being the main focus many of the new structures would be for all the teams coming to the area. Those spaces include an indoor training facility, large locker rooms, offices, meeting rooms, and umpire rooms. The dugouts will be new and improved along with the bullpen for the pitchers to warm up. These spaces improve the players self-esteem, team relationships, and abilities on the field. Ballparks are a home away from home for families and athletes. Many hours can be spent at these places whether it is sitting in the grandstands cheering, taking a nap on the grass between games, or waiting in line for food with eye black smudged on your face. Coming from personal experience these moments make lasting friends and memories. The design will be an iconic home for those who visit.

PROJECT TYPOLOGY

The typology for this project is a large softball complex with an emphasis on creating equality for the NCAA Women's College World Series. The project will be a redevelopment of the current facilities on the site and creating an improved area for all. The renovation will include a new concourse that will provide facilities to four new fields. There will be grandstands surrounding each field with the possibility of removable seating for various events. To increase the enjoyment for fans the large concourse will include concessions, restrooms, and a unique patio area for watching the games. The athletes will be able to use state of the art training facilities, locker rooms, meeting rooms, offices, and dugouts. There are many spaces that will create a fun and inviting space for all. The feeling of excitement, adrenaline, heartbreak, and accomplishment will be felt by all throughout the large complex.

The other typologies will include a hotel, restaurants, retail, offices and green spaces. These will be incorporated around the fields to bring people to the area year round. This will be a space for athletes, fans, and local citizens to interact and create a unique viewing and interactive experience.



FIGURE 3

PROJECT ELEMENTS

SOFTBALL COMPLEX

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------------|----|---------------------|
| 1 | Fields/Playing Surface | 11 | Umpire Room |
| 2 | Bullpen | 12 | Offices |
| 3 | Outdoor Cages | 13 | Private Restrooms |
| 4 | Dugouts | 14 | Concessions |
| 5 | Grandstands | 15 | Tickets/Information |
| 6 | Home Locker Room | 16 | Security |
| 7 | Away Locker Room | 17 | Public Restrooms |
| 8 | Meeting Rooms | 18 | Storage |
| 9 | Indoor Training Facility | 19 | Circulation |
| 10 | Equipment Rooms | 20 | Parking |

MIXED USE EXPANSION

- 1 Hotel
- 2 Restaurants
- 3 Retail
- 4 Outdoor Spaces
- 5 Entertainment
- 6 Offices

ACTIVITIES

1

The Women's College World Series 9 day tournament. This will be a main activity for the athletes and fans from across the country.

2

Interaction between the athletes and fans. This could be done through meet and greets, photo opportunities, and autograph sessions. These are a great way for young girls to live out their dreams.

3

Training will be done by the athletes but is a major part of the design. A large training facility will be added to the design program so the women get a space to practice their skills.

4

Fans will be able to explore the site as well as visit the unique mixed use area. They can enjoy local food and stay close enough where they can walk to the games.

CLIENT

The client would be the current operators (USA Softball) and owners of the land (Government of Oklahoma City). USA Softball will continue to run the facilities year round.

The primary uses will be to host the NCAA Women's College World Series every year. The event lasts 9 days and brings thousands of people to the area. The main users will be the collegiate women athletes making their dreams come true with the enthusiastic fans surrounding them. With the mixed use expansion many athletes, fans, coaches, and surrounding community will be able to enjoy the various amenities year round.

USERS

ATHLETES

The main user for the redevelopment are the athletes. The main event would be the womens college world series but would be open to all tournaments and age groups. This field is an iconic place for the softball players to showcase their hard work, dedication, and personalities. This complex will be state off the art and be a home away from home for all.

FANS

The fans are a very important part to all athletics. They provide an amazing atmosphere that help the athletes in a positive way. Fans travel across the country to watch their favorite players and teams. These facilities will cater to the fan/athlete interaction so the fans feel like they are apart of the action. The mixed use side of the project is an area for those traveling to lay their heads in the hotel or enjoy a unique dining experience.

COACHES

Coaches are a main pillar in a teams foundation. They provide guidance, empathy, toughness, and training for their players on and off the field. Coaches have to make a plan for trainings,practices, and day to day tasks. During the off seasons they are in charge of recruiting others from across the country. These coaches need a space to handle their tasks so meeting rooms and offices will be included.

LOCAL CITIZENS

With new developments the local citizens should be a main focus. Many questions should be asked like how will it effect the economic growth? The proposed redevelopment and mixed use area would drive up the economy by bringing in businesses to the area and increase the foot traffic for surrounding entertainment. This area will be used year round and improve the area.

SITE

USA Softball Hall of Fame Complex
2801 NE 50th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 7311

The proposed site is the current USA Softball Hall of Fame Complex located in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. This is where the NCAA Women's College World Series is currently hosted, and I am proposing a redevelopment of the property. The complex has four fields with one being the focus with fixed seating and a main concourse. There is a large parking area for those visiting and wanting to watch the action. The site is next to a horse track and stables wrapping the North and West sides of the fields. There is space to the East that has the possibility for a mixed-use expansion.



LEGEND

1. PARKING LOT
2. HALL OF FAME MUSEUM
3. MAIN CONCOURSE
4. FIELD 1
5. FIELD 2
6. PLAYER ENTRANCE
7. FIELD 3
8. FIELD 4

FIGURE 29



LEGEND









-  GOLF COURSES
-  FIRE MUSEUM
-  ZOO
-  CAMPING
-  CASINO/HORSE PARK
-  RESIDENTIAL
-  SOFTBALL SITE
-  OPPORTUNITY AREA

FIGURE 30

The current site is surrounded by tourist hot spots. Some of those include the city Zoo, golf courses, a very large casino/horse park, and fire museum. With having so many destinations there is a lack of restaurants and places for people to stay. With a mixed use addition near the softball complex it will draw more people to the area including the local citizens. Rather than having these places be a stop on the agenda it will be an area to enjoy for days. Adding hotel rooms, restaurants, entertainment areas, and offices will increase the economic growth in the area.

PROJECT EMPHASIS

The focus of the project is to create facilities that bring the same value and accomplishment to the female athletes, in the NCAA college world series tournaments, as the male athletes. With controversy coming out about NCAA female athletes not receiving the same treatment through architectural elements such as showers, training rooms, and restrooms the design would create solutions to those issues. Architecture can impact the way you think, feel, and respond to an environment and the focus would be on the emotional response when being within the complex.

Softball continues to grow and gain popularity throughout the country. Creating an environment that brings the same excitement, nerves, sadness, happiness, learning moments, and accomplishments for athletes and fans is what drives the design.

GOALS

PHYSICAL

- 1 Create a sustainable sports complex that positively impacts the surrounding environment.
- 2 Bring history of the sport into the design.

SOCIAL

- 1 Showcase how architecture creates relationships and creates a sense of community
- 2 Enhance the fan and athlete relationship

PERSONAL

- 1 Get the proper amount of rest every night
- 2 Exercise to reduce stress
- 3 Take time for myself and have mental breaks

PLAN FOR PROCEEDING

Unifying Idea

A very important aspect is finding and continuing with one unifying idea. There may be times where there are so many ideas that come to mind but the unifying idea needs to remain. As the research continues the question will become more clear and concise. The overall idea is to create an environment that brings fans, athletes, and local citizens together to create a sense of community and equality.

Project Typology

The project typology will be a mixture of a couple typologies. The first being sports stadiums or complex. That will be the main focus of the project but it will not stop there. Other typologies include hotel, restaurants, retail, offices, and green spaces. These will all come together to create a sense of community

History

History of softball and women in sports will be important to understand as well as the women's college world series. In order to design for the future we must first understand the past and how things have evolved.

Site Analysis

To conduct a site analysis google earth will be used initially to understand the area and surrounding environment. Through the use of other websites the soil information, water tables, and contours will also be used when designing. If possible I will be an in person site visit and walk around the area.

Design Methodology

1

Case studies will be a large portion of the research. The case studies will include sport stadiums with an emphasis on softball complexes. There will also be an emphasis on mixed use entertainment districts and how to create a unique viewing experience. The fan and athlete interaction is a focus as well as bring people to the area year round. These case studies will help create an understanding of what works and what doesn't in a design.

2

Historical Context will be another focus when researching. Some of the documents will include title nine and how that has evolved, history of women in sports, and inequality in sports.

Using these two research methods will help create the vision of "what does equality look like in sports."

Documentation of Design

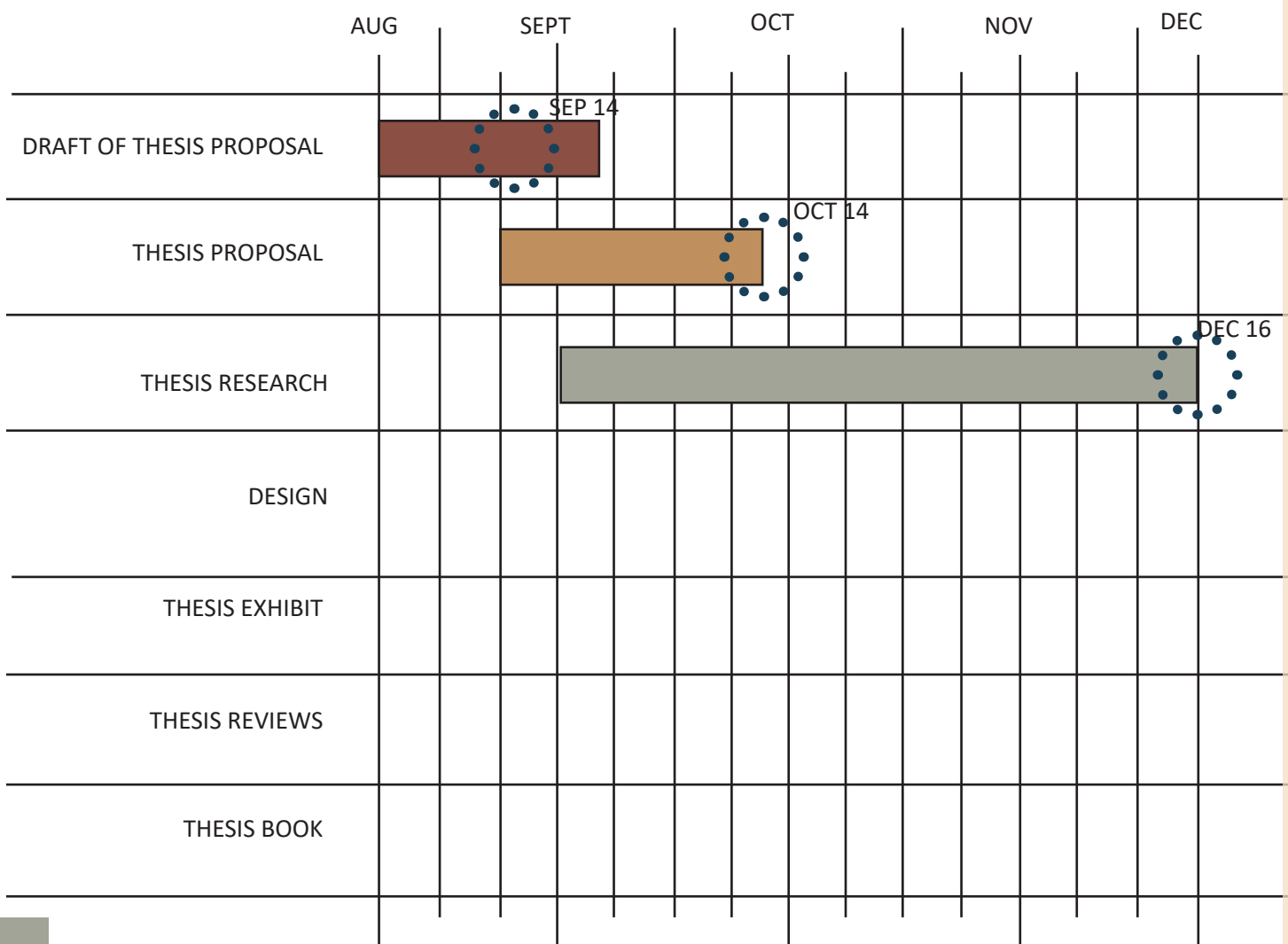
1

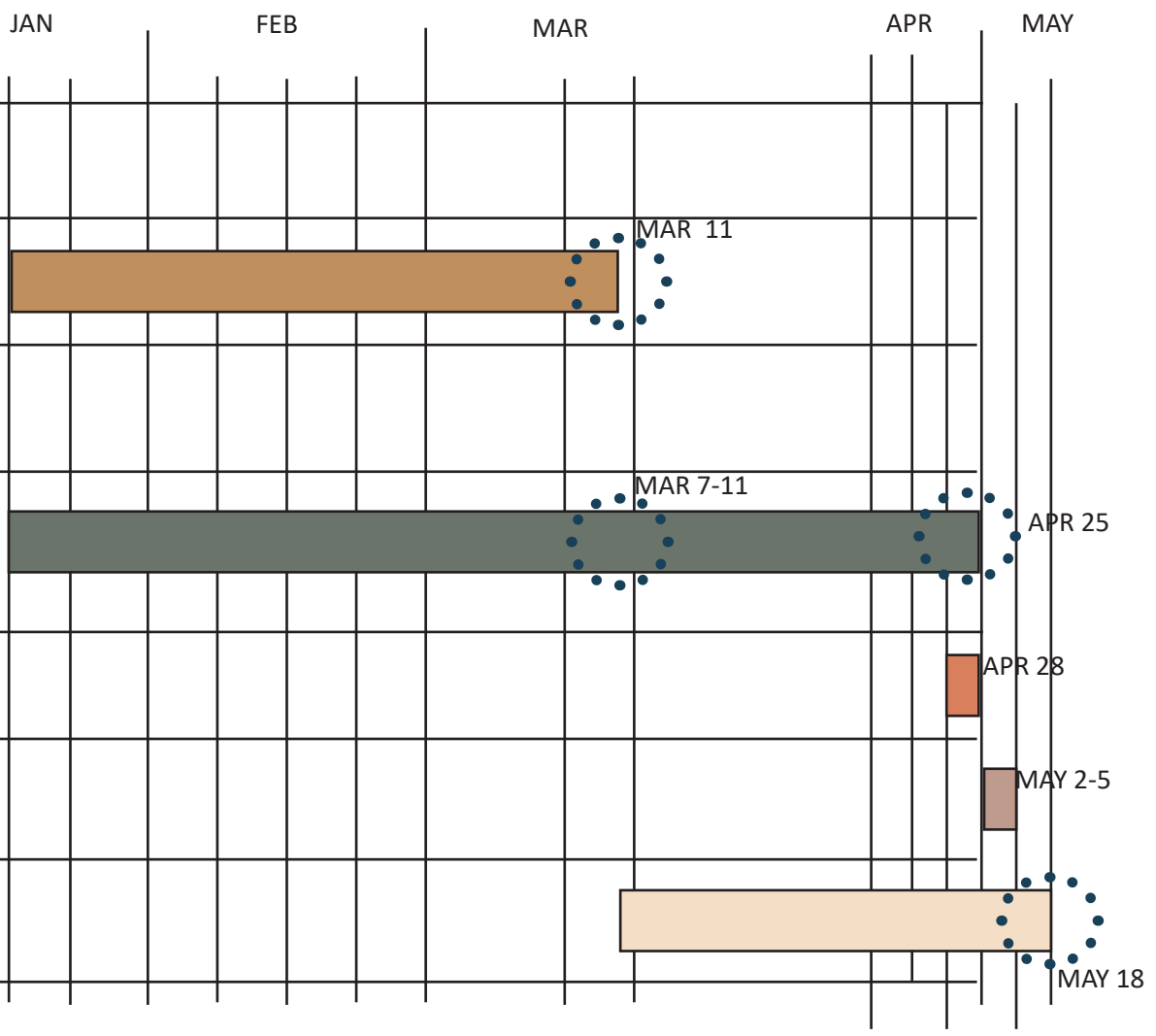
The design process will focus on 2 dimensional representations first. This will be important to figure out spacial mapping, circulation, and maintaining the goals of the project.

2

Then the project will move into the 3 dimensional phase. I plan on using Revit and Sketchup during this phase. Rendering software will also be used to bring the project to life.

SCHEDULE





RESULTS

The following literature reviews critiques and summarizes three journal articles that were important in conducting the research. The question is “**How do we Design QUALITY for EQUALITY?**” The three journal articles were helpful in understanding the history of softball and why there is inequality between men’s and women’s sports. Even though we are living in a modern society there is still a problem with providing women with the same facilities, media attention, and pay. The following summaries will shine a light on the history, the why we have the problem, and some solutions to reach equality.

The History of Softball: How Did It All Get Started?

-Alex Rees

Why is Gender Inequality in sports still a thing?

-Anna Walker

Same Work but Different Pay: Gender Inequality in the Professional Sports Industry.

-Alyssa R. Burt

The History of Softball: How Did It All Get Started?

-Alex Rees

In order to understand softball we must first learn the history of how the sport was created. The project is based around the sport of softball and how we can create equality between men's baseball and women's softball specifically within the NCAA. Softball has had a long standing history in the United States but many are surprised by how the sport was started.

Softball was not created as a derivative of baseball but was created in Chicago, Illinois in 1887. Many people were gathered around waiting for the results of the famous Harvard vs. Yale Football game. While the fans were waiting word finally came through that Yale had won. A Yale fan threw an old boxing glove at a Harvard fan who ended up hitting the glove with a broomstick.

George Hancock watched the interaction and suggested that they make a game. He used string to tie the boxing gloves together into a ball and used chalk to draw a "home plate", pitchers mound, and bases. This was the beginning of what would be later known as softball.

The game began to grow and word started to spread of the indoor-outdoor game. In the 19th century the Minneapolis fire department heard of the game and started to play it to keep in shape for the job. They tweaked the game a little bit by increasing the size of field, using a medicine as the ball. Many fire departments adapted the game and it continued to grow.

As the sport gained popularity so did the multiple names for the game. The name for the game switched to kittenball and multiple other variations. In 1926, Walter Hankanson, a YMCA official, named the game softball. By 1930 the name was official and so was the sport. The next step in making things truly official was to create an official association for the sport. Many people struggled to make an organization until the year 1933.

In 1933 two men created a massive softball tournament at the world's fair in Chicago. The tournament was a success and included 55 teams that were divided into 3 groups. Those groups included fast pitch, slow pitch, and women's softball. After the tournament the Amateur Softball Association (ASA) was formed which is still in operation today. There was a name change in 2016 to USA Softball but the organizations values are still in effect.

The foundation of softball was formed when the ASA was formed. This gave softball a foundation to grow and promote the game. Over the years the sport began growing exponentially. In 1996, softball was recognized as an Olympic sport for the first time. This was huge for the sport because it was worldwide media coverage. To this day there are over 140 countries that play the game of softball and over 9 million girls play the sport in the United States.

The sport has been played since 1887 and to say that over 9 million girls play softball is truly amazing. The sport only continues to grow and adapt. There are thousands of teams, tournaments, and fields across the country. I remember growing up and looking forward to game days and long tournaments. Those are the days that you create memories, friendships, and learn from defeat. This sport teaches you more about life and how to overcome all sorts of adversity. So why is it not recognized more? Why is there still a lack of similar quality of facilities compared to men's sports?

These are the questions that I will try to answer through the use of architecture. Understanding the history is very important. We must first understand history in order to not repeat past problems and forge a new future.

Creating a space that provides equality will be a unique challenge but one that needs to happen. Since the history is very important, I want to include that in the design because this opportunity wouldn't be possible if it weren't for the creation of the sport.

Why is Gender Inequality in sports still a thing?

-Anna Walker

“Treating women not the same but of equal value.”

Over the years light has been shed on the topic of inequality between men’s and women’s sports at all levels. Many professional female athletes have come forward and have made a stand against the large wage gap between professional sports. There was also a large controversy among the NCAA tournaments including the march madness tournament and the college world series. The question at hand is why is inequality still a problem? This article tries to highlight the problems and attempts to answer the why.

The article focused on facts and how media coverage can play a large role in how we view sports. For example, the Men’s Final Four teams during the NCAA men’s basketball tournament received front page coverage in the papers but the women got put deep in the sports section with no photo. Another large difference in basketball is the difference in pay between the professional athletes. The average WNBA player makes \$72,000 but the average NBA player receives around \$5 million. This a significant gap related to gender.

What are the causes?

When you think of women in sports who do you think of? Can you rattle off a ton of stats? How many women come to mind? Now compare those questions to those of men in sports. The average sports fan will be more likely to remember male athletes and their stats because the media is geared towards men’s sports. Many will argue that men’s and women’s sports can never be treated equally because men’s sports are more intense and popular. Others will also argue that there are various women’s networks such as WNBA and espnW but these are still designated by gender and the coverage is dropping.

“If I were a man, I’d have been considered the greatest a long time ago.”

-Serena Williams

Women want more than a section on ESPN or provisions in Title IX. Many female athletes want meaningful sustainable equality and to be treated of equal value.

A great example of an amazing women’s team and following is the Utah’s gymnastics meets. The 15,000 seat facility sells out at each meet but the men’s basketball team cannot sell out the same facility. The gymnastics meets have very little media coverage, but the fan base has been this way for years and it is the third most viewed event on the Pac-12 network.

In a clear example by the Utah gymnasts’ women can build a large fan base. Women’s sports can bring in revenue if given the opportunity. Though it will take years because men’s sports are interwoven in American culture, it can still be done and the female athletes want the same opportunities.

Same Work but Different Pay: Gender Inequality in the Professional Sports Industry.

-Alyssa R. Burt

The essay describes media representation and pay that women receive in the professional sports industry. Women face a lot of adversity in the workforce, especially in a male dominant one, but it focuses on the pay inequality perceived by female college athletes. The article includes two interviews with college softball players and their views on the inequality of pay among females in the sports industry. The perception among these athletes is that there is a lack of media representation for female athletes which results in a difference in pay. Even though female athletes prove their abilities they typically get overlooked because there is a heavy focus on male athletics. The lack of media attention hinders the attention received in public which in return affects their incomes and future athletes' incomes.

Female college students pointed out that there is a lack of attention in women's sports. The first professional women's sports league was formed in 1978. There has been extreme growth since then but there is still a difference in the amount of recognition women get compared to men. Even though women have proven themselves and what they can go on a court, field, track there is still a major gap not only in pay but to feel like an equal.

Addressing the lack of media attention starts from the historical standpoint of women in sports being deemed "unladylike" in our culture. At that point female athletes were under-represented in the media and steered girls away from sports at a young age. Women did not want to be looked down on for enjoying a sport or have a negative connotation to their name. However, when Title IX took action the number of girls and women in sports dramatically grew. This provided them with equal opportunity in sports.

Even after Title IX was developed there was still a lack of females in the athletic industry. The industry has been and continues to be run by white males and lacks females at higher levels. These are the people that control how and when groups get promoted. An example in the article states that women are featured on only 4.9% of 719 Sports Illustrated Covers ranging from 2000-2011. On these covers, most women are sexually objectified in ways and misrepresent the talent they have in their sport. The way women are shown in the media these days plays a large role in how the public judges them. Rather than objectifying women lets show them in their uniforms and showing their accomplishments. Not only that sports media has made female competition less intriguing to the public. Those affect tickets sold, revenue, and accomplishments.

The salary discrimination is something that needs to be addressed. Economists have studied pay inequality in the professional sports industry. The economists studied tennis due to men and women sharing the same employer, so it is easier to see discrimination. Even though women's tennis is popular worldwide they still have lower tournament earnings. How does this make young female athletes feel, knowing if they get to that level, they will not receive the same pay?

During the interviews with the two college softball players they discussed their views on the subjects discussed previously. Both athletes admitted that they found themselves watching women's sports when there were big tournaments or events because they are not easy to find regularly. One athlete said

"I find that when female athletes are seen in the media, they typically aren't the main focus, and the female athletes who get the privilege to be showcased are the ones seen as the most successful and marketable."

Both agreed that pay should reflect athletes' successes not by their gender. Another interviewee said

"They try to justify the lower pay of women by arguing they don't bring in enough revenue, but they can't bring in any revenue if they are not televised,"

In conclusion they both believe that female athletes need to receive more media attention and be given the opportunity to showcase their abilities. That will then increase popularity and revenue which in return should increase pay as well.



FIGURE 4

CASE STUDIES

The case studies will encompass some of the greatest college softball team's facilities and fields. Those include the Oregon Ducks field and LSU Tiger's stadium. There was an additional case study that was created for youth. The project was included to showcase simple and effective solutions for basic needs like dugouts and announcer's box.



FIGURE 5

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

JANE SANDERS STADIUM

TYPOLOGY: SOFTBALL STADIUM AT COLLEGIATE LEVEL

LOCATION: EUGENE, OREGON

SIZE: 191,000 SQUARE FEET

YEAR: 2016

ARCHITECT: SRG PARTNERSHIP

SUMMARY:

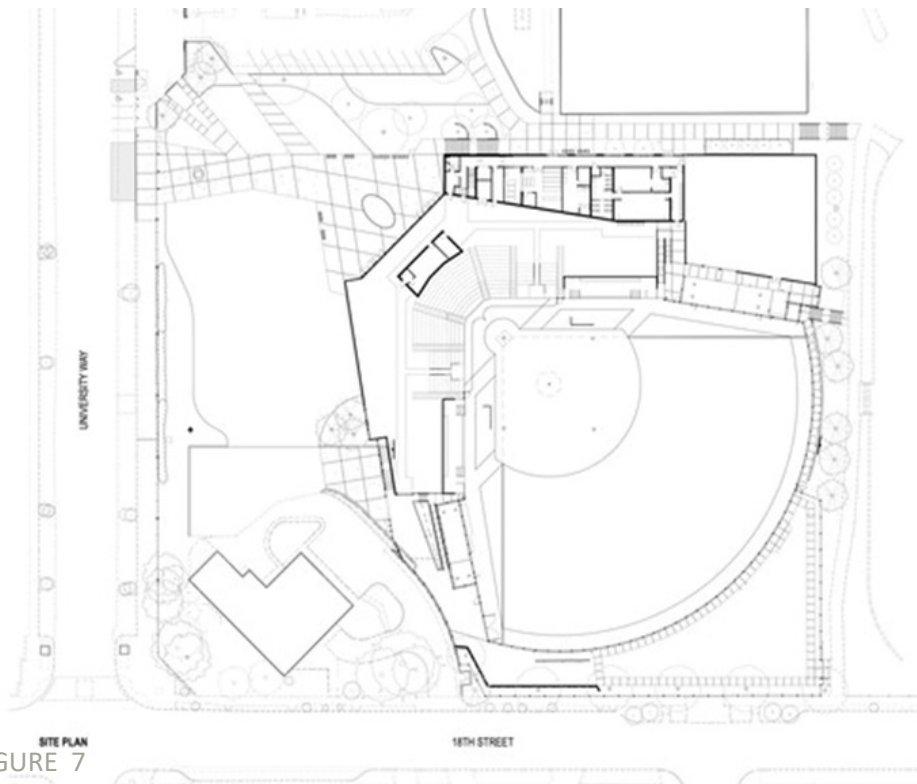
JANE SANDERS STADIUM IS A STATE-OF-THE-ART SOFTBALL FIELD FOR THE OREGON DUCKS SOFTBALL TEAM. THE DESIGN INCLUDES 1,500 FIXED SEATS AND A LARGE CANOPY WHICH HAS BECOME ICONIC. ONE OF THE LARGEST DESIGN PRIORITIES WAS THE STUDENT -ATHLETE AND FAN EXPERIENCE. THE TEAM THRIVES ON THE FAN INTERACTION AND ENERGY LEVELS THAT BOTH PARTIES SHARE. THE ARCHITECTS TOOK INTO CONSIDERATION THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITY, HISTORY, AND CAMPUS. THEY CREATED A CONNECTION FOR ALL AND ACHIEVED LEED GOLD CERTIFICATION.



FIGURE 6



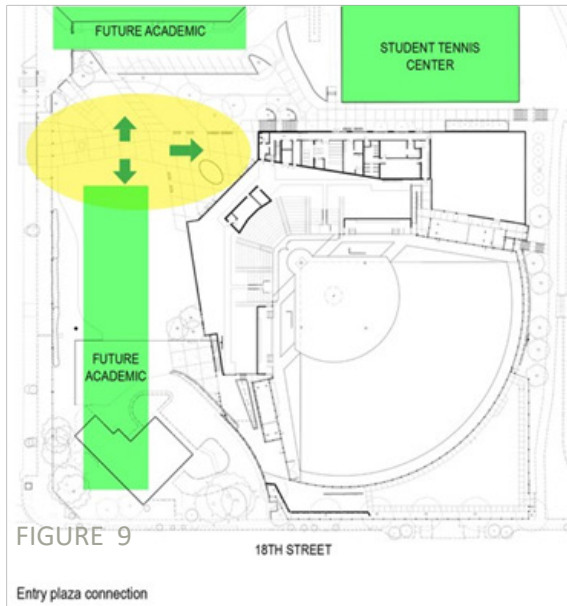
The stadium includes an indoor practice field which includes batting cages and pitching lane. The locker rooms are for the players and opposing team's comfort. Some of the other areas include equipment room, training room, and coach's offices.



SITE PLAN
FIGURE 7



FIGURE 8



Community Design

The designers enhanced the existing conditions and incorporated new and improved pedestrian connections. There is a large plaza at the entry that creates a connection between the campus and University Street. They maintained the history of the previous field using the historic Howe Gates. Those who pass through the plaza will pass through the history.



Building Performance

LEED Gold certification was accomplished as well as the Oregon Model for Sustainable Development. The stadium achieved an energy reduction of 35% and a water usage reduction by 37% with the use of low-flow fixtures and irrigation. The outfield is made of turf which is known for low irrigation and maintenance requirements. A prefab system was chosen for the seating bowl which have a high recycled content, easy maintenance, and can be recycled again.



FIGURE 11

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY
TIGER PARK

TYPOLOGY: SOFTBALL STADIUM
LOCATION: BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA
SIZE: 35,000 SQUARE FEET
YEAR: 2009
ARCHITECT: TRAHAN ARCHITECTS

SUMMARY

Trahan Architects designed one of the most liked stadiums in all collegiate level softball. They incorporated arched pillars that frame the built environment as well as the land. With 1,200 fixed seating, grass berm, concourse, team clubhouse, and retail space all create an amazing home for the LSU Tiger softball team and fans.



FIGURE 12

One of the most unique features are the grand arches leading into the stadium. This is the view from the parking lot that is downhill from the field.



FIGURE 13

The fixed seating behind home plate can host 1,200 fans. They are protected from the elements with a large canopy and net that extends down the first and third base line. The seats extend down to the field to give fans a greater connection to the field.



FIGURE 14

SHARON FIELDS

TYOLOGY: SMALL SCALE YOUTH FIELDS

LOCATION: CLIFTON FORGE, VIRGINIA

SIZE: 2000 SQUARE FEET

YEAR: 2016

ARCHITECT: DESIGN/BUILDLAB

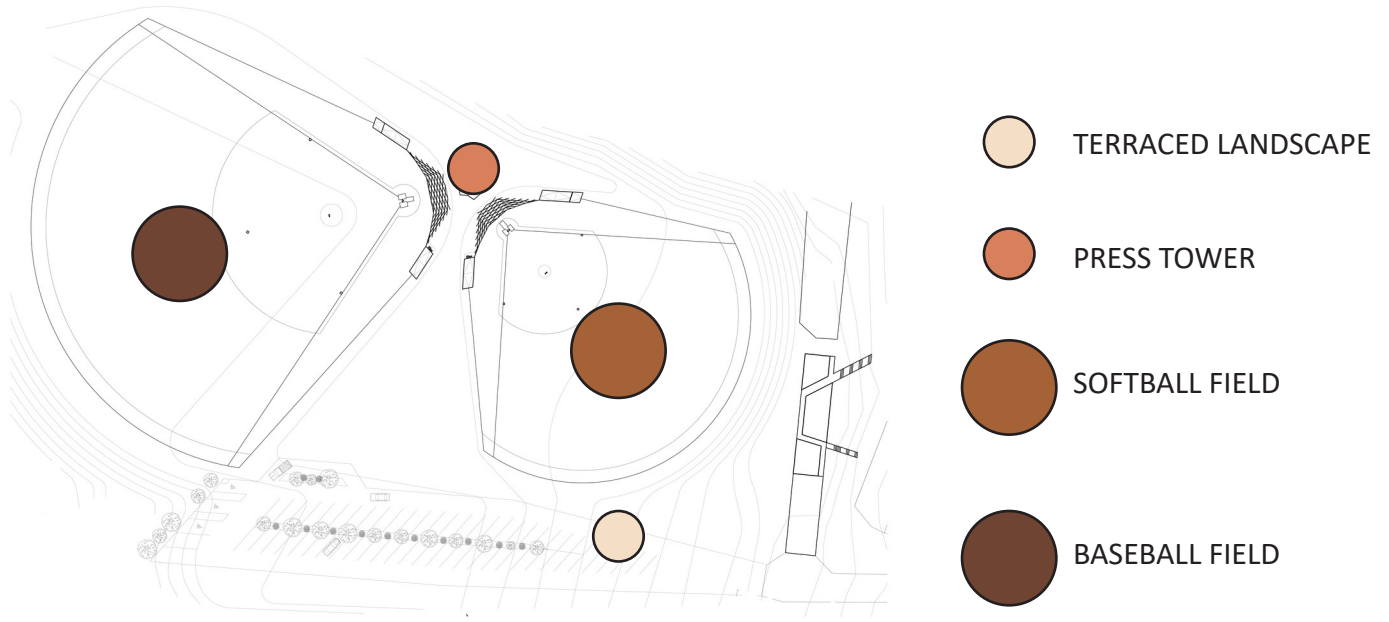


FIGURE 15



FIGURE 16

Summary:

Sharon Fields are a small-scale project with a large impact. The scope of the project includes one baseball field, one softball field, dugouts, seating mounds, and press box tower. The fields were the main focus in the design and the surrounding terraced landscape define the site which create informal viewing areas for a unique viewing experience.



FIGURE 17



FIGURE 18

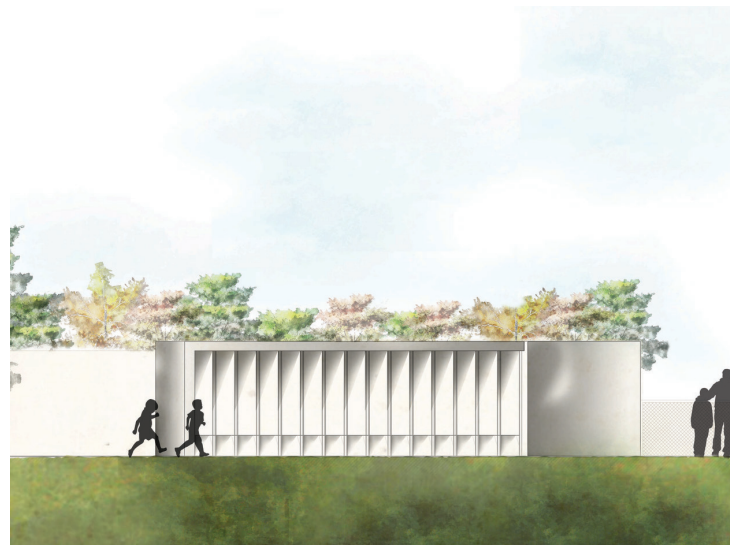


FIGURE 19

Press boxes are important to bring excitement to the games. The design incorporates one single tower to increase efficiency, but two separate boxes facing their prospective fields. The white oak is used throughout the tower as well as perforated steel stairs to allow natural light down into the concession area. The designers used simple materials concrete, steel screens, and wood to create an environment for all to enjoy.

The designers used simple but effective solutions when designing all the elements. The dugouts are important because they provide players protection from the weather and action on the field. They used White oak throughout the space and created sliced and folded backs. The slits on the back filter light into the space and provide air flow to those sitting inside.



FIGURE 20



FIGURE 21

Roland-Garros

Stadium Modernization

TYPOLGY: Stadiums

LOCATION: Paris France

SIZE: 20170 square meter

YEAR: 2019

ARCHITECT: Chaix & Morel et Associés

SUMMARY:

Roland-Garros is an international tennis tournament. This tournament brings national media attention as well as 400,000 visitors. The goal of the project was to remodel the existing stadium as well as create a large public village for everyone to enjoy. The remodel will provide a setting to mix players, spectators, professionals, enthusiasts, and amateurs. The environment will maintain the friendly competition and celebration that the tournament is known for.



FIGURE 22

The 'Village' opens towards courts 7 and 9 through the use of large windows. These windows provide visual and auditory interaction with the tennis matches taking place from the village terraced areas. Due to the change in level between the stands of the courts and the village levels it creates VIP privacy for players.



FIGURE 23

The entire site is certified BREEAM. BREEAM is a sustainability assessment method for master-planning, infrastructure, and buildings. This method reflects the value in higher performing assets across the built environment from new construction, to in-use and refurbishment.



FIGURE 24

Legendary elements were used throughout the design to uphold the contemporary architecture and image of the tournament. Some of the main elements include timber, planted terraces that resemble hanging gardens, white canopies, and sleek signage.

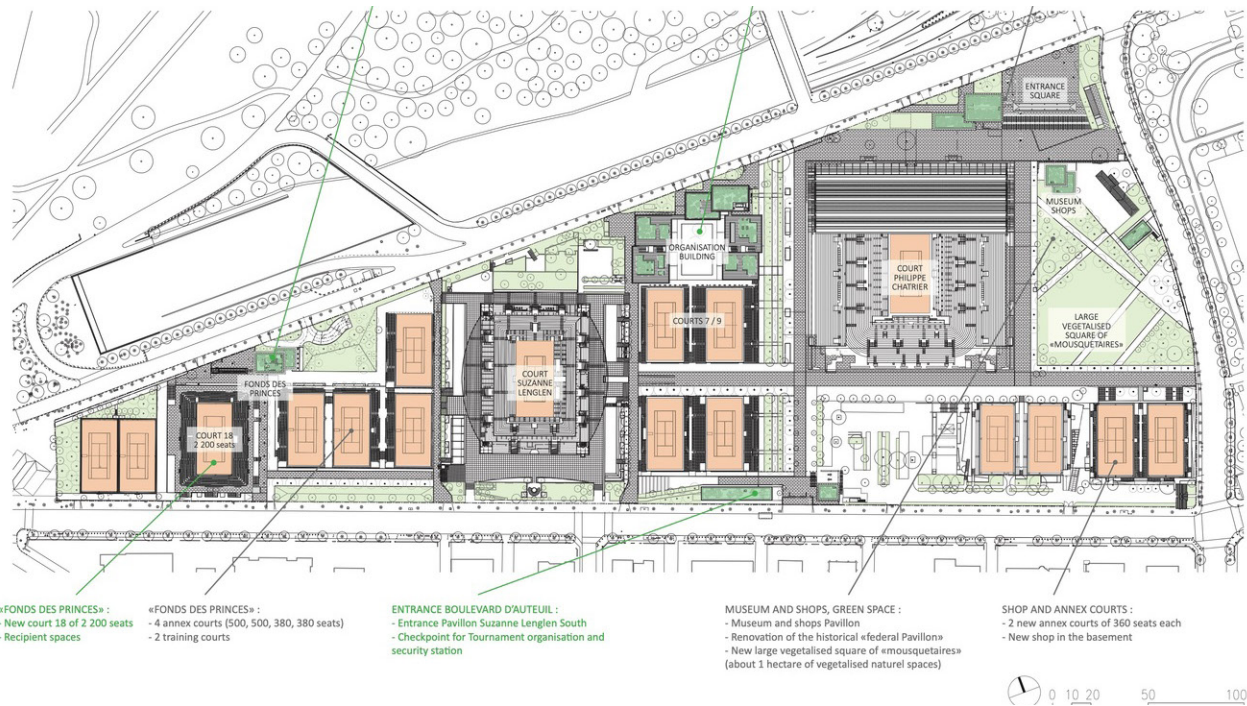


FIGURE 25



FIGURE 26



FIGURE 27



FIGURE 27

The Village which is open to the public is the new administration building and is the key element of the Stadium. The space lies between the two main courts and is created using 6 volumes that are offset and at different heights. There are three main components that make up the village area which include lounges/built in terraces, central space that opens up towards the court, and the village square. The square is planted with three large pine trees. This is a beautiful space for the public to enjoy the outdoors and the famous tennis tournament.

This is the spectator point of view. This tournament is very large and internationally known. I wanted to include a case study that focuses on a different sport and how they cater to the fans and surrounding community. I think the village square is a unique space that welcomes the local community as well as though coming from across the world. The space provides a different way to view a match by creating the terraced view. This is a great redesign that is simple but effective.



FIGURE 28

CASE STUDY

SUMMARY

The emphasis of the project is a redevelopment of the women's college world series softball facilities. With softball being such a popular sport but with little media attention and lack of equality I wanted there to be a light on this controversial topic. After picking a topic that has personal meaning to me and something that needs to be addressed then the question was what do I do next?

The next step was to investigate similar typologies. The first one was the Oregon Ducks College softball facility. This is one of the top ranked facilities in the NCAA college softball league. The ducks are known for their unique uniforms, fan interaction, and a state-of-the-art facility. What makes it stand out is the large canopy structure and the sustainable strategies throughout the design. The canopy has become iconic and a grand entry piece. The designer included key themes – stealth, feathers, and a Sanders family legacy tie to the wood industry and home plate. The shape resembles ducks in flight and is a strong representation of the team. Another important aspect were the sustainability strategies that were incorporated. They used prismatic skylights in the indoor training facility which saves on energy and emulated outdoor conditions. The facility was designed to achieve LEED Gold certification, which is a major accomplishment in sports facilities. The building also meets the Oregon Model for Sustainable Development, with an overall energy reduction of 35% over Oregon Energy Code. The water usage was reduced by 37% with low flow fixtures and irrigation savings. The seating bowl was built from a prefab system that has a high recycled content which are easily maintained and can be recycled in the future. The ducks stadium was a main focus because of all the energy savings, sustainability, and how they brought iconic elements into the design.

The rest of the case studies included the LSU Tiger Park Stadium which has a long-standing tradition with softball. The new stadium has unique viewing experiences with chair backs, bench backs, party deck, 30 seat suites above first base line, and a 960 seat Tiger Terrace. The variety of seating is a great way to provide an experience that all will enjoy. They also installed a full high-definition media board. The board has the capabilities to do a live production with cameras and replays. This is such an amazing thing to include because it provides another sensory experience and will bring more media attention to the game.

I also looked into a smaller facility that young athletes use. Even though it is a small scale project they used simple materials to create a large impact. The last case study was a tennis facility. This one was interesting because of the various viewing areas and large courtyard for everyone. They really focused on a balance of inclusion and privacy. I think it was a great way to bring the community together and great an area to enjoy even when there are no events going on.

Overall, the case studies were helpful in their own ways. I will be incorporating some of the strategies that were displayed in these facilities. The sustainable strategies, key themes, simple materials, technology, and bringing everyone together. Those will be a focus during the design process and I can look back on these facilities to help provide inspiration.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

The idea behind this project has stemmed from a personal place and is dedicated to my dad and the bond we have created from this sport. I started playing T-ball when I was 6 years old and fell in love with the competitive side of the game. As I got older, I switched to the fast-paced fastpitch team, and the competition increased. I started playing on more travel teams to expand my knowledge of the game and see more competition. My weeks consisted of playing 3 double header games a week and a tournament in the large surrounding cities on weekends. During the off season my time was consumed with lessons to improve my skills in all aspects of the game. I have experienced playing at various levels, fields, and cities. I know what provides a unique experience not only for athletes but the fans as well. These areas create a sense of community and gives people long lasting friendships. Softball is a huge part of my life and I owe a lot of my love for the game to my father. He has provided me with every opportunity I could possibly want, and we created a bond that I am forever grateful for.

That is why my project will be a redevelopment of the Women's College World Series facilities which is located in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. I am using the site that the current fields are located. I want to keep this location because the Women's College World Series has been held there since 1980. The space is extremely iconic and is known as a big accomplishment if an athlete makes it there. There is room for growth to the East of the site to incorporate hotel rooms because it is in the adventure district, which is known for its tourism.

This district is known to have the biggest tourist attractions within a 2-mile radius. The project will increase the amount of people at the venue and increase how many people stay in the area overnight. In return that will drive the tourism up in the whole district due to lack of hotels or places to stay nearby. The area is a great place for all ages and this project will promote a fun and competitive environment.

The project will require funding and those can come from various sources. The first one would be to explore fundraising within the organizations. That would not cover the total costs, but it would be a great way to get started. The other funds could be in the form of grants from the government or private funding. The location would improve tourism in the area which would be a huge selling point for the city.

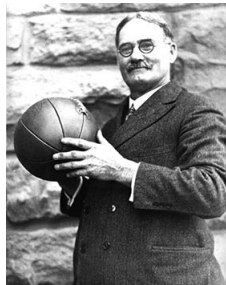


FIGURE 29

HISTORICAL CONTEXT



softball was invented by George Hancock and his friends while watching the Harvard vs. Yale football game.



Walter Hakanson (YMCA) comes up with the name "softball", which becomes official



The first international softball tournament, The Women's Softball World Championship

The game becomes known as "kitten ball" and moves outdoors.

The Amateur Softball Association (ASA) is officially recognized. Rules were formalized and game was nationalized

1887

1895

1926

1934

1965



Softball becomes an Olympic Sport



Softball is no longer an Olympic Sport



Softball rejoins the Olympic Games

First College World Series was played

First professional fastpitch league was formed in the USA

Inequality in Women's sports is highlighted in media.

1982

1996

2004

2012

2021

SITE ANALYSIS

Located off NE 50th St. sits the USA Hall of Fame stadium in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. This is the chosen site for the redevelopment of the softball facilities and mixed-use area. This area is the home of the Women's College World Series which brings thousands of fans, athletes, and coaches from around the country every year. This place is iconic and has an amazing history of promoting the game of softball.

The facility is a part of the adventure district. This district is home to the top tourists' attractions in the city. A large casino and horse race park is directly to the West that brings many people to the area. On the south side of the site are more family friendly options with the large zoo and the firefighter's museum. A large problem in the area is there are no hotels or places to stay, no walk-ability, and lack of maintenance.

Driving to the facility is lacking in that special awe moment. Since the place is so iconic the entry should give you butterflies, excitement, happiness, and a sense of accomplishment. The dull colors and dead trees are slightly short of amazing. As an athlete that has worked so hard to make it to this facility, to try to become the best team in the country, the space should reflect this accomplishment. Right now, the first thing you see are the dead trees, large blacktop parking lot, and a small sign that says USA Hall of Fame Field. The area should draw people's attention especially for those who do not know about the field or sport. This is a way to promote the game of softball and showcase female athletes.

There is a lack of maintenance along the borders of the site. There are numerous dead trees and a lack of lush green grass. The colors on the facility and surrounding buildings are neutral colors but blend in with the lack of color of the surrounding vegetation.

The site has amazing potential to create an exciting environment and increase the attraction to softball but also to the surrounding sites. With the close proximity to attractions, it is a perfect spot for tournaments like the Women's College World Series because of the down time between games for fans. This field will be transformed into the iconic feeling it deserves while showcasing what Oklahoma City has to offer.



Lacks in aesthetics and doesn't promote these female athletes like they deserve.

FIGURE 30

CITY DEMOGRAPHICS




POPULATION

2021	669,347
2020	662,202
2019	655,057

GENDER POPULATION

FEMALE	327,192	50.83%
MALE	316,500	49.17%

OKLAHOMA MEDIAN AGE

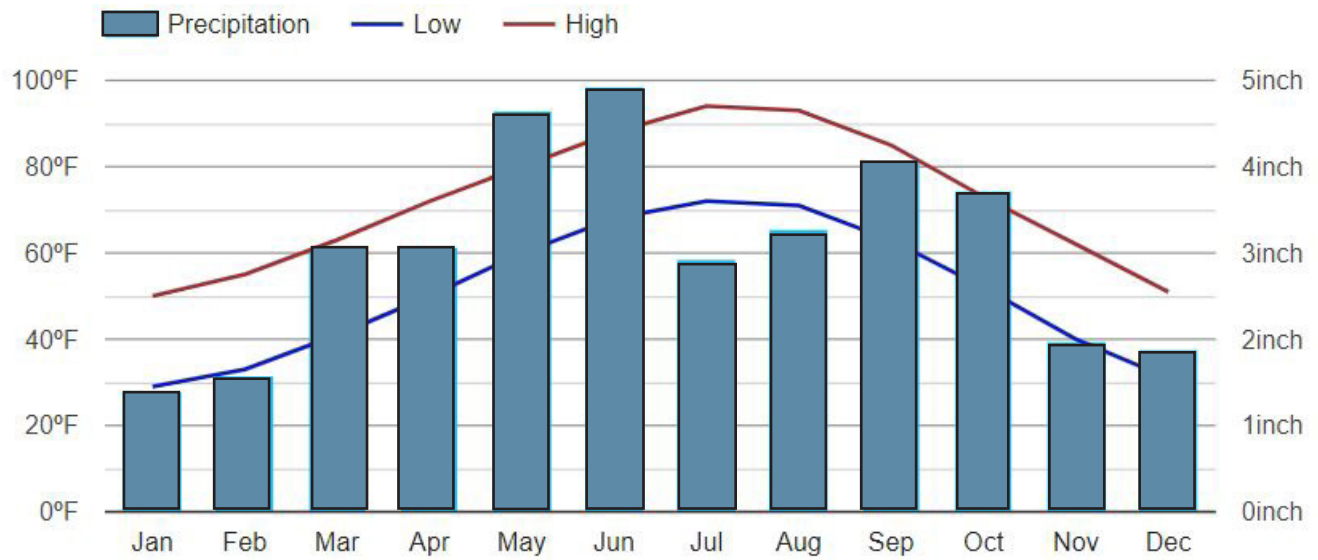
TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE
34.1	33.3	35.1
		

ETHNICITY POPULATION	
WHITE.....	67.88%
AFRICAN AMERICAN.....	14.28%
HISPANIC.....	8.9%
TWO OR MORE RACES.....	6.34%
ASIAN.....	4.51%
NATIVE AMERICAN.....	2.94%
PACIFIC ISLANDER.....	0.12%

EDUCATION ATTAINED		
LESS THAN 9TH GRADE	25,127	6.00%
9TH TO 12TH GRADE	32,000	7.64%
HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE	106,554	25.44%
SOME COLLEGE	95,951	22.91%
ASSOCIATES DEGREE	30,776	7.35%
BACHELORS DEGREE	82,523	19.70%
GRADUATE DEGREE	45,960	10.97%

HOUSEHOLD TYPES		
TYPE	OWNER	RENTER
MARRIED	78.1%	21.9%
ALL	58.9%	41.1%
MALE	53.1%	45.9%
NON FAMILY	43.9%	56.1%
FEMALE	41.7%	58.3%

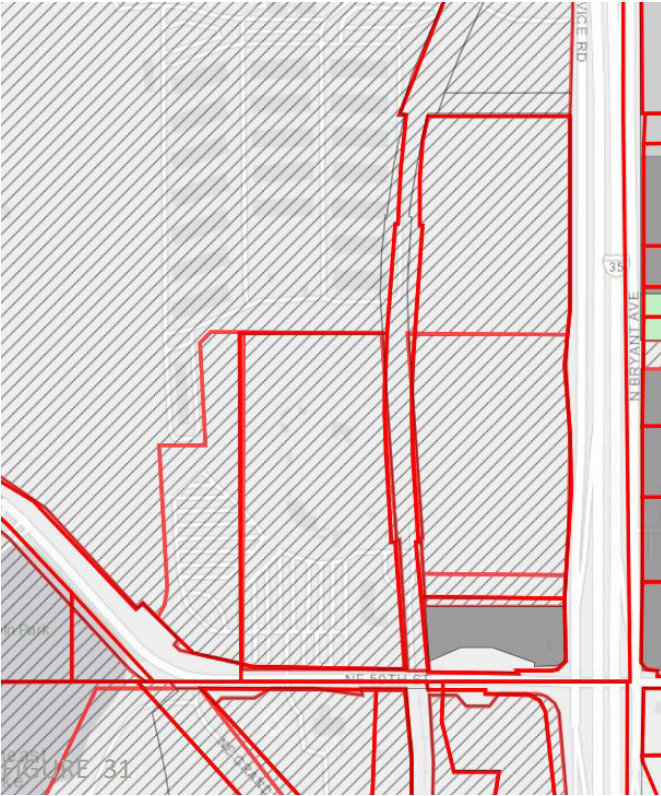
Climate



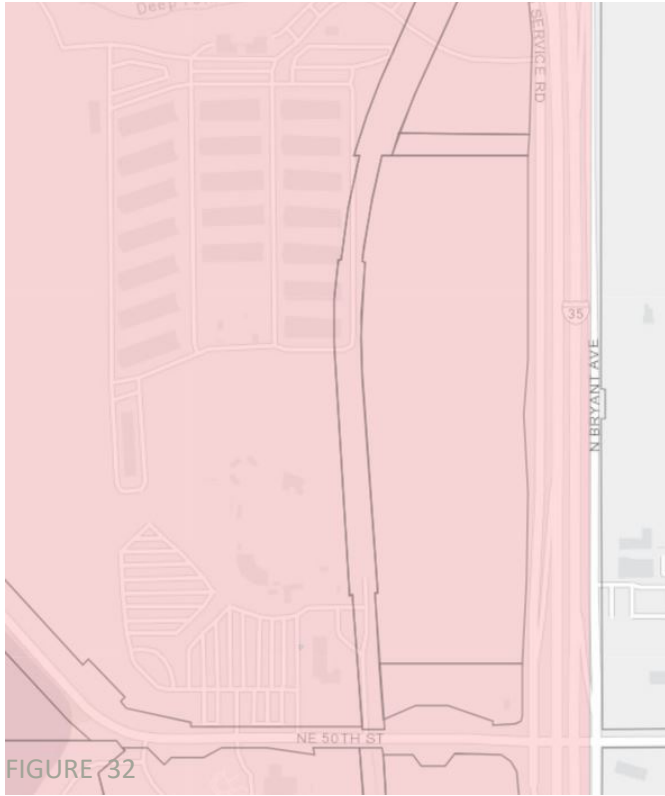
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
AVG HIGH	50	55	63	72	80	88	94	93	85	73	62	51
AVG LOW	29	33	41	50	60	68	72	71	63	52	40	31
AVG PRECIP (INCH)	1.39	1.58	3.06	3.07	4.65	4.93	2.93	3.28	4.06	3.71	1.98	1.88
AVG. SNOWFALL (INCH)	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2

The Climate in Oklahoma City is ideal to play softball year round and enjoy the outdoors. During the summer months of June through September the temperatures are hot compared to Fargo, ND conditions. The average lows through the year are decent and games can still be played. The area is a great tourist destination due to the mild weather and a great location for a large softball complex development.

Zoning



BASE ZONING DISTRICT

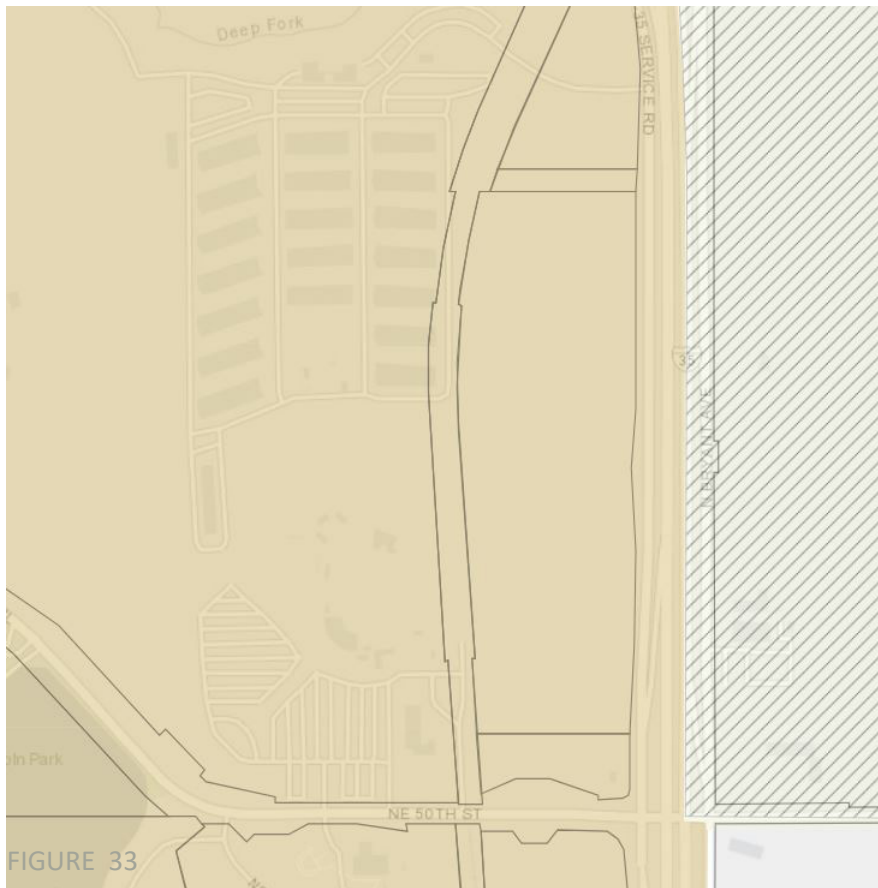


OVERLAY DISTRICT

The base zoning district, according to the City of Oklahoma GIS, is considered the PUD Zone. The PUD Zone means planned unit development.

The overlay district is considered HNO which stands for Healthy Neighborhood Overlay District.

Land Use Typology



The Land Use Typology for the site is classified as UMI. Those letters stand for Urban Medium Intensity. According to the plan OKC website UM applies to fully urbanized areas of the city, most were built prior to the 1960s.

These types of developments are expected to be larger and have a greater mixture of uses and intensity than those that are part of Urban Low Intensity district. Development within UM areas should support efficient transit usage and provide pedestrian and bicycle access to all the various services. Those include retail, parks, service areas, and other destinations.

Some of the priorities for the UM areas include infill development on vacant lots, rehabilitation or underutilized property, and development that supports revitalization of distressed neighborhoods.

The project will priorities these things heavily when thinking about the design strategies. The revitalization are the area will create a more inviting look for those living and visiting that area.

Site - Water

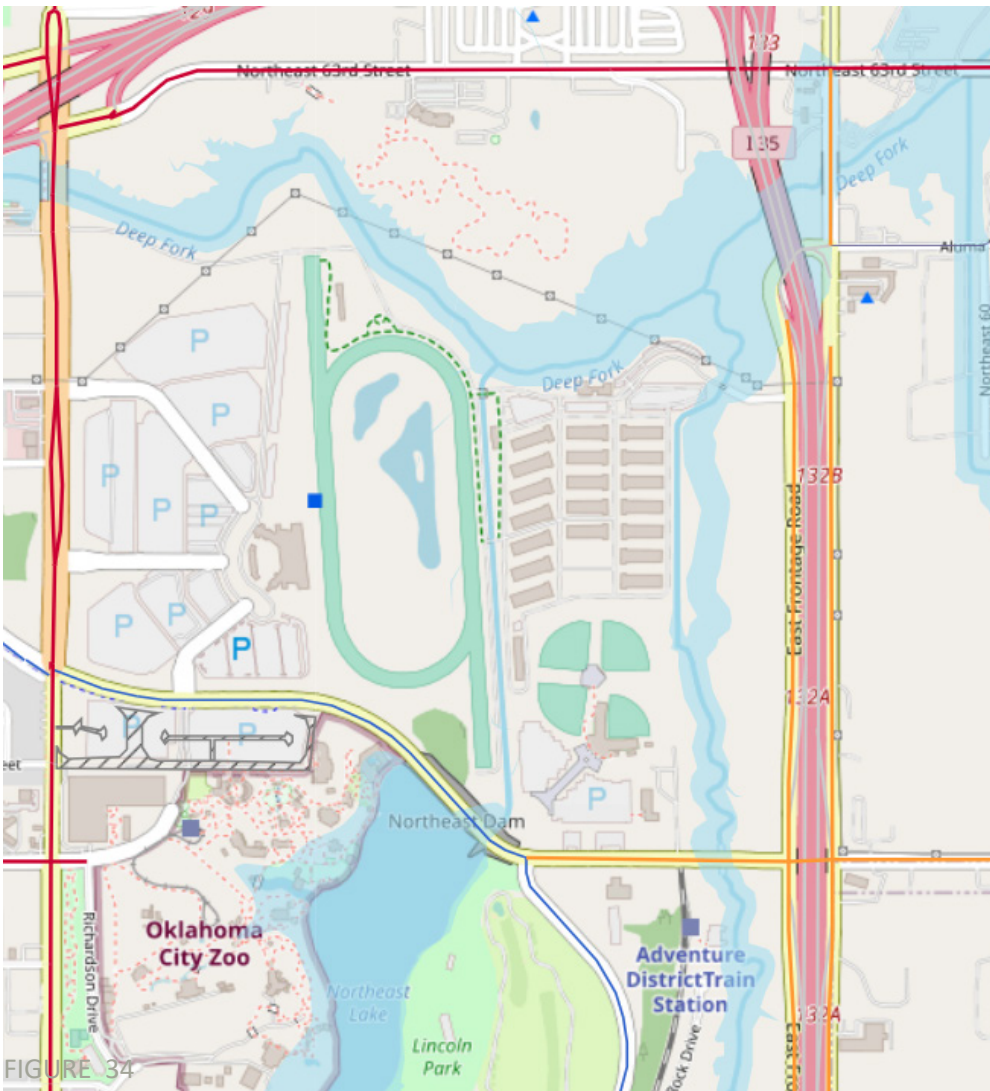


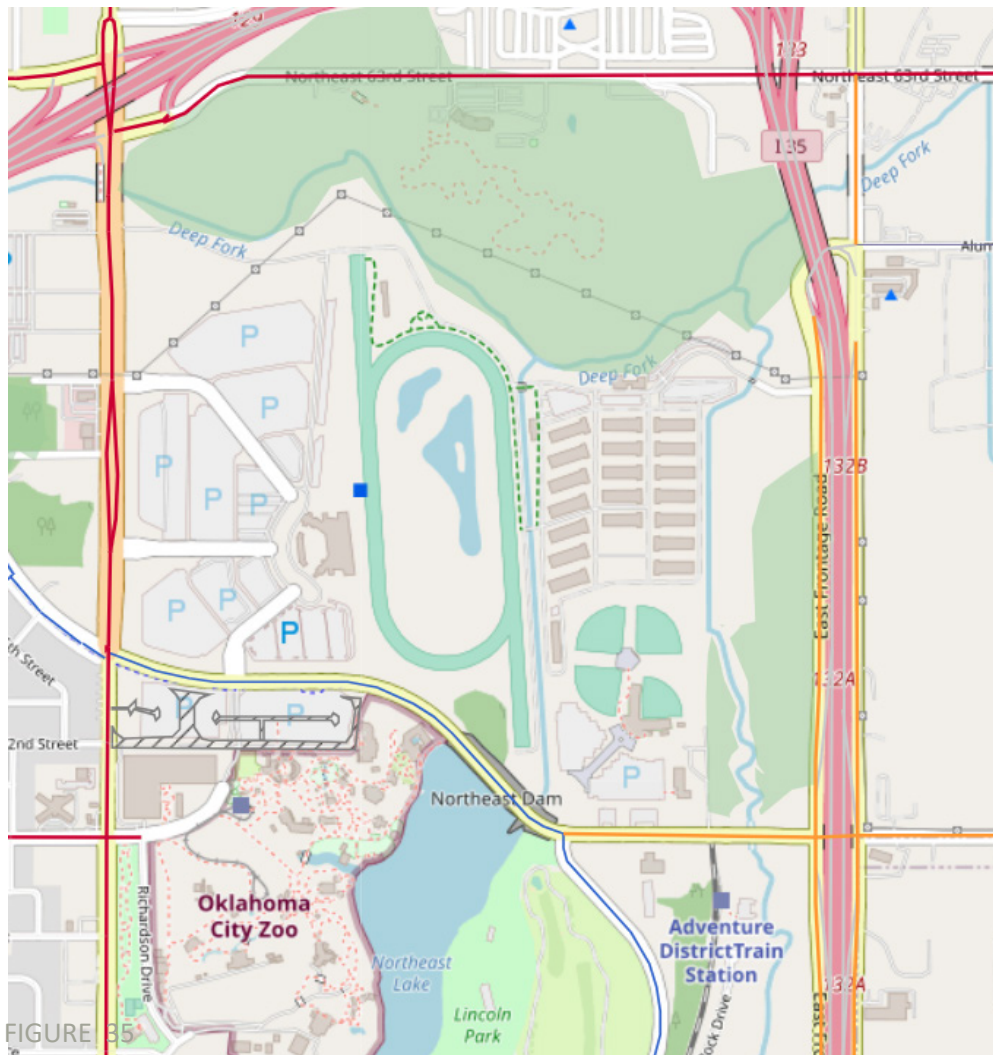
FIGURE 34

The site sits on a hill and has a drainage ditch cutting between the fields and the horse park to the West. On the east side of the site there is the Deep Fork River. The figure above shows the area that the river reaches if there is flooding in the area. The river is hard to see due to trees but it will be a great area to develop since there is water on the site.

62

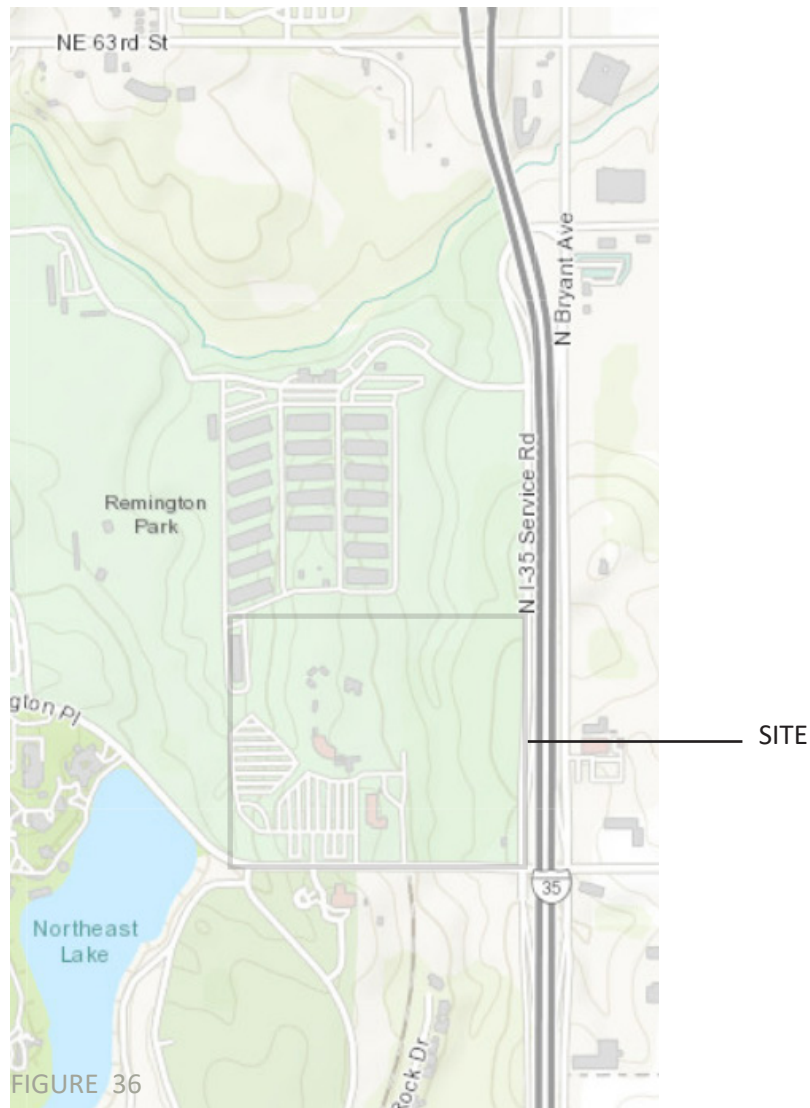
People are drawn to water and it provides healing qualities. The small tributary that runs through the East side of the site will play a role in the sustainable strategies. The green areas can be watered using the water on the site as well as collecting rain.

Site - Vegetation



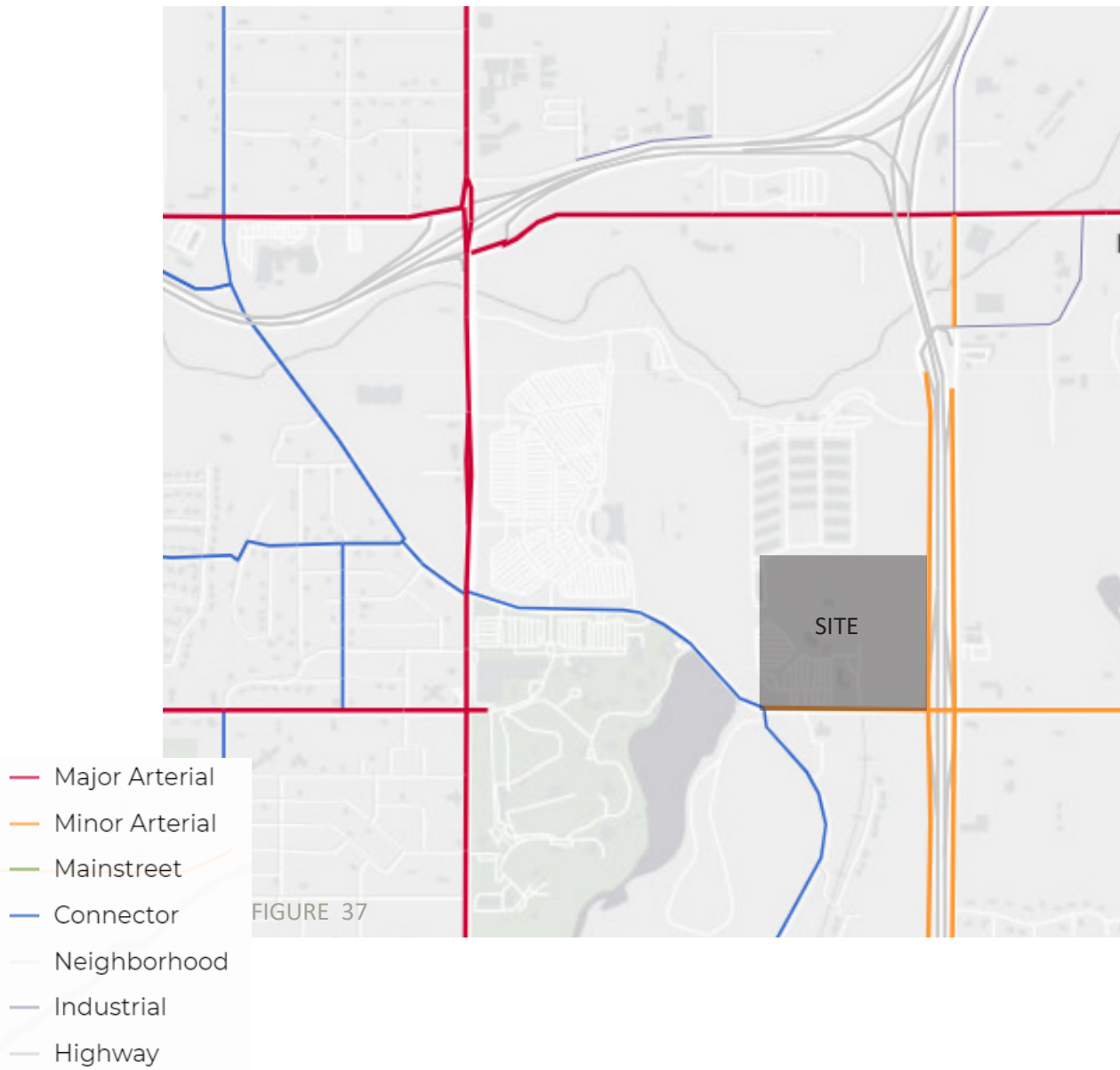
The site is wide open to the West and it overlooks the horse park and casino area. On the south side there are a few small trees at the entrance of the parking lot but not many. They do not restrict the views to the entry of the complex which is nice because it helps visitors know exactly where they are going. Most of the vegetation lies on the East side of the complex. From looking at aerial photos and from google Earth the vegetations looks like it is dead or struggling to survive. The forest area needs to be cleaned up and some new plants need to be planted. The design will use sustainable strategies and incorporate new vegetation areas.

Site - topography



This area of Oklahoma City has some change in elevation. The softball fields currently sit on a high spot in the Earth. The landscape slopes down to a large drainage ditch to the West and slopes down into the vegetation on the East. There is an increase in elevation to the South and that is where the firefighter museum entrance sits. The slope is gradual and will provide unique views especially to the Remington Horse Park and Northeast Lake.

Site - Circulation



On the East side of the site is a main Highway that is considered a minor arterial. There is an exit off the highway that leads into the adventure district which is a large tourist destination. The site is surrounded by Major Arterial on the North and West sides. There is a small connection from the major and minor arterial. The circulation is heavy around the area due to the attractions in the area as well as the surrounding neighborhoods. The area will be ideal for a mixed use development with some configuration to parking and roads in and out of the site. These will have to be improved for the increase in traffic for events and entertainment space.

DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

All of these policies are directly from the Plan OKC government website. These are some guidelines for developing in areas of the city and will be used during the design phase of the project.

SITE DESIGN

- AVOID DEVELOPING WITHIN 100 YEAR FLOODPLAINS OR FLOODWAYS.
- Maintain historical lot and block sizes where possible and appropriate.
- Utilize Best Management Practices (BMP) for storm water
- Structured parking may be appropriate to achieve desired intensity levels
- Incorporate commercial uses at street level to maintain an active, pedestrian friendly streetscape.
- Design buildings to include facades, storefront windows, and attractive signage and lighting to create pedestrian-scale visual interest

LOCATION

- Locate large-scale commercial and office development on arterial streets.
- Mixture of density, lot size and building scale is appropriate as long as land use compatibility is achieved.

AUTOMOBILE CONNECTIVITY

- Maintain and enhance the connectivity of the street network.
- For projects that propose new public or private streets, maintain, create, and enhance an overall network that is highly connected, and avoid dead end streets and cul-de-sacs.
- Protect existing traditional street grid and reconnect it where possible
- Keep alleys open and functional
- Limit curb cuts on arterial streets and where possible, concentrate access for retail development at shared entrance points.
- Development fronting arterials should take access from intersecting streets where possible
- Primary entrance points should be aligned with access points immediately across the street.

PEDESTRIAN CONNECTIVITY

- Provide sidewalk connections to nearby uses.
- Discourage widening of neighborhood streets and increasing curb radii

VIEWS

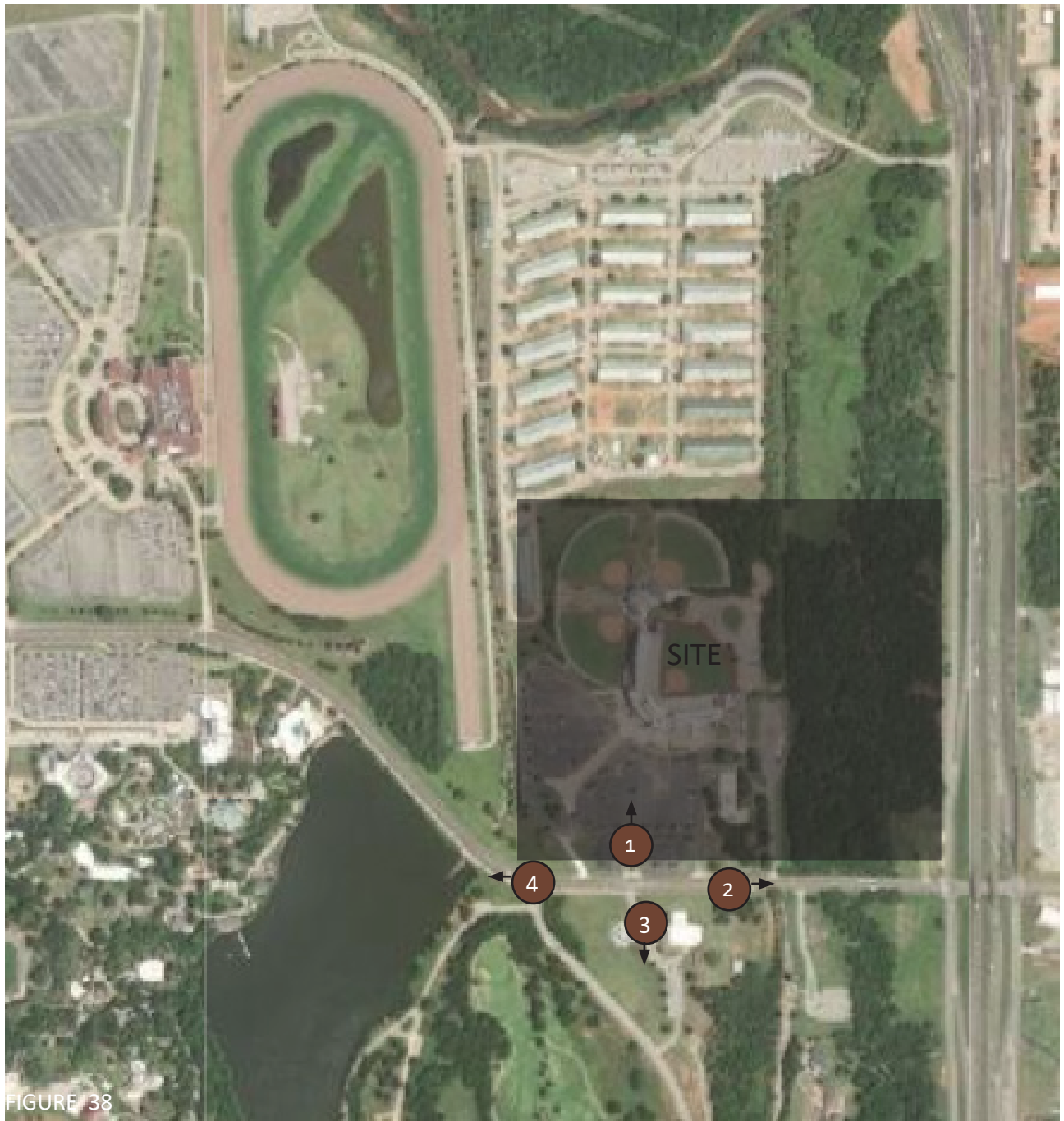


FIGURE 38

1. LOOKING NORTH TOWARDS THE ENTRY INTO THE PARKING LOT
2. LOOKING EAST DOWN THE ROAD
3. LOOKING SOUTH TOWARDS THE FIREFIGHTER MUSEUM
4. LOOKING WEST TOWARDS THE LAKE AND ZOO AREA.

1



FIGURE 39

2

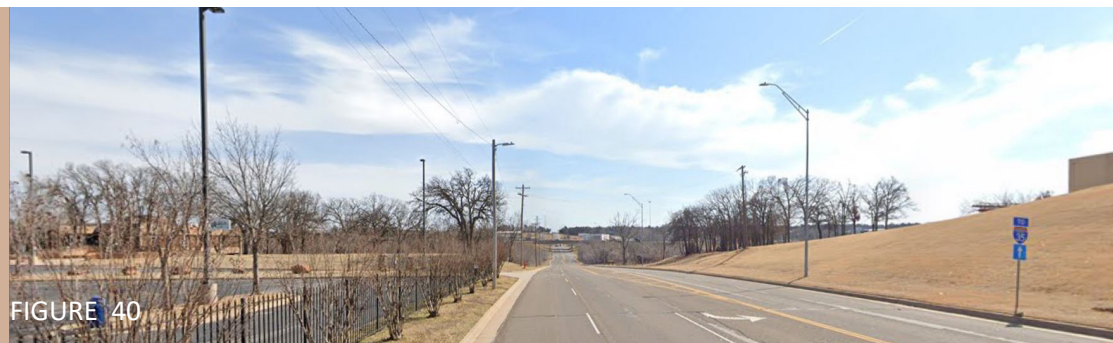


FIGURE 40

3



FIGURE 41

4



FIGURE 42

VIEWS



FIGURE 43

1. LOOKING TOWARDS THE SITE WITH A VIEW OF THE DRAINAGE DITCH AND SLOPE ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE SITE.
2. VIEW OF THE ENTRY TO THE ADVENTURE DISTRICT. THIS IS OFF OF THE HIGHWAY EXIT RAMP . THIS IS AN AREA THAT NEEDS UPDATING AND TO BE MORE INVITING FOR THOSE VISITING THE AREA.
3. ENTRY TO THE CASINO AND HORSE RACE TRACK. THIS IS A BIG ATTRACTION IN THE AREA AND A LARGE VENUE.



FIGURE 44



FIGURE 45



FIGURE 46

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

Space Allocation

For each space the area will be measured using square feet. If the volume of a space is needed that will be measured in cubic feet. This will be used to determine the efficiency of the space and how many users can occupy the space at once.

These will be used using digital modeling. Certain measurements will be set due to following codes and standard guidelines. For example, the field size will have to be a standard measurement in order to follow the ASA softball association rulebook.

After a list of spaces is determined those will be put into a space matrix to determine the adjacencies between said spaces. This matrix will be used in comparison to other similar facilities. Some of the most popular softball stadiums will be used in the comparison because they have a facility that spectators enjoy spending time.

Energy Consumption

Energy consumption will be able to measure the total amount of energy consumed in a designated period of time. This will help determine when the peak time of the day is for the highest amount of energy used. These amounts can be broken down into which exact spaces use the most amount of energy.

Using energy modeling software there will be measurements taken to analyze the building design. There will be multiple tests taken throughout the design process to determine the greatest energy savings or how to improve certain spaces.

Environmental performance

The project will focus on measuring the environmental performance by measuring the quality and quantity of light, acoustics, temperatures, aesthetics, and efficiency of design. These areas are important for the fan experience as well as how athletes interact with the spaces. To promote a unique and popular facility these areas will have to be prioritized to create a comfortable environment.

Many of these measurements will come from digital modeling and will be compared to case studies and products. There are many products that have gone through testing and those can be used to determine what will work in a space to provide the greatest quality of spaces.

After the comparison of case studies, numbers, and product types a conclusion will be made to determine the best solution for each space.

Behavioral Performance

Evaluation of usage patterns will be the focus. Apart of those include times, dates, and number of users. The softball facility will be a fairly easy space to study due to scheduled game times, number of teams, and occupancy number.

Measurements will be found with the use of schedules and previous attendance records. These will be a great tool to predict future patterns and growth. These will help determine where the design will want to be improved in order to prepare for the future growth.

Psychological Impact

The psychological impact will be a unique area to study and implement into the design. This area will be geared towards to the users and how they interact with the space they are in. Some of the areas that will be impacted are emotions and sensory experiences. The game itself is full of excitement, sadness, yelling, cheering, laughing, and multiple sounds from within the game.

Measuring these can be hard but analyzing user surveys of various facilities will be a great study. I also have personal experience of being a player, coach, and fan at all levels that I will implement into the space.

Fan and player interaction is an important part of the design. Sensory experiences can make or break an event so using personal experiences will be important for the psychological impact.

Environment Impact

The environmental impact will be used to determine what areas of the building will have an effect on the surrounding environment. In order to create a revitalization project with minimal impact on the environment there will be safe construction practices in place as well as following the developmental policies for the city. These are in place to help preserve and protect areas and surrounding environment.

Code Compliance

The building codes for Oklahoma will be used during the whole duration of the project. Along with the building codes the ADA accessibility codes will be a necessity. The design will be accessible to all who visit.

These can be found online via state code information. This will be a very important part of the design and will be checked during the whole process to make sure the design is code compliant.

SPACE ALLOCATION

Program Space	Square Footage for one space	Percent
Field/Playing Surface (4)	35,000	72
Bullpen (8)	1,600	6.7
Outdoor Cages(2)	800	0.08
Dugouts (8)	450	1.88
Grandstands	5,000	2.6
Locker Rooms (2)	400	0.42
Meeting Rooms (2)	300	0.31
Indoor Training Facility	12,500	6.5
Equipment Rooms (2)	300	0.31
Umpire Room	200	0.10
Offices (4-5)	120	0.31
Private Restrooms	300	0.16
Concessions	400	0.20
Ticket/Information	50	0.03
Security	50	0.03
Public Restrooms	450	0.23
Storage	400	0.20
Circulation	12,000	6.3
Parking		
	Total	
	191,950	

SPACE MATRIX

The space matrix shows how spaces will be laid out by adjacency levels.

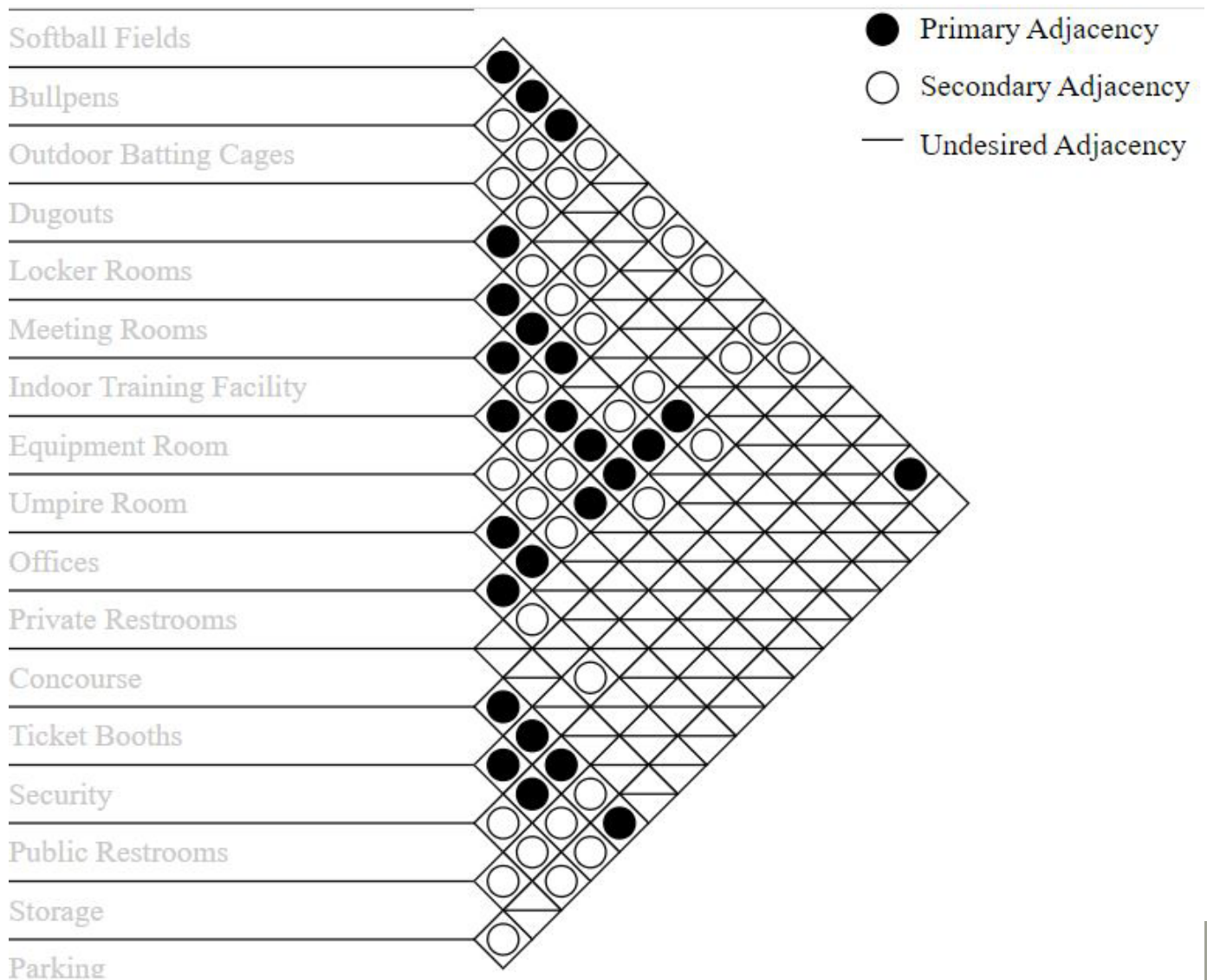


FIGURE 47

APPENDIX

Interview

Interview with Matt Larsen (NDSU Athletic Director) conducted on September 30th, 2021. The interview was in his office on campus and it was a short conversation about the Women's College World Series. He has worked on the chair for the WCWS and has worked in athletics for many years.

Kerr: "In your opinion should the WCWS be moved to a different location or stay in the same location?"

Larsen: "I think the location needs to stay. There is a long standing tradition in Oklahoma City and it creates an iconic moment for fans and athletes."

Kerr: "What makes the space iconic?"

Larsen: "Softball is special in general because players really interact with fans compared to baseball. I think keeping areas where fans and players can meet and create a bond is very special. "

Kerr: "What are some areas that need to be improved?"

Larsen: "Updating batting cages and locker rooms would be a great addition for the girls. The amount of seating could increase due to always selling out during the tournament. Having places to stay close by would be a great addition for the community but the parking would need to change. The entry gets backed up during the tournament so reconfiguring the traffic flow would be important."

THESIS

APPENDIX

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DESIGN SOLUTIONS



The following pages will showcase how the research and areas of opportunity created a new and improved sports entertainment district. The design solutions will be discussed how these areas will advocate for female athletes, promote the sport of softball, and bring the community together.



RESULTS FROM RESEARCH

Over the course of the year many hours of research and problem solving was done. The first step was understanding the history of softball and how far the sport has progressed. Women took over the sport of baseball when all the men went to war. That eventually grew into an all women's league and where we see the sport to this day. Even though women in sports, specifically softball, have made strides they are still lacking in equality.

Diving deeper into the differences among men's and women's sports in the NCAA some of the stories were truly discouraging. For example march madness basketball tournament the men received state of the art weight room and training equipment. The women were given a few sets of dumbbells in a make shift room. There are many examples of the inequality in various sports but the most astounding is the college world series.

The statistics show that the women out rank the men in streaming views but don't have the facilities to bring more fans to showcase the game. The following stats show the differences between the men and women's tournaments.

Men's College World Series

12 Days – 3 rest days

Golf Day, massages, parade and large banquet dinner

\$131 million dollar facility

Women's College World Series

7 Days – 1 rest day

Small meal with appetizers

No showers

Men's College World Series

Average viewers: 755,000

Most viewed game: 1.7 million viewers

Number of games with 1+ million viewers: 6

Number of games with 1.5+ million viewers: 1

Women's College World Series

Average viewers: 1.2 million

Most viewed game: 2.1 million viewers

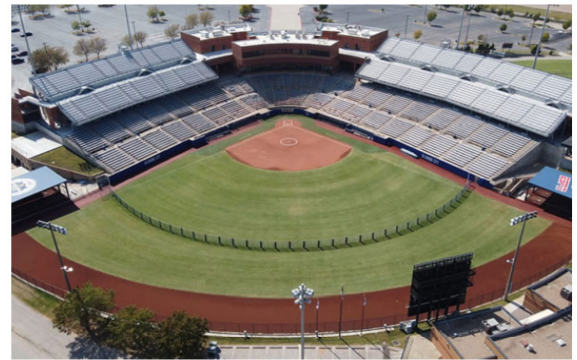
Number of games with 1+ million viewers: 10

Number of games with 1.5+ million viewers: 6

Men's College World Series



Women's College World Series



6

The field didn't provide bathrooms for players until 2011. Some of these women were seen walking into port a potty on national television. Even though they increased the amount of seating there still isn't nearly enough to accommodate the growing popularity.

The site and field lack in many areas. Some of which include parking, basic necessities for players, greenery, media decks, and grand entry experience. These were the areas that turned into the opportunities for improvement. That led into the design process of redeveloping the site into a sports entertainment district.

PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

The site is 86.2 acres and is full of dead vegetation. There are low spots and high spots on the site. The current fields are on the high points with the best views.





LEGEND

1. PARKING LOT
2. HALL OF FAME MUSEUM
3. MAIN CONCOURSE
4. FIELD 1
5. FIELD 2
6. PLAYER ENTRANCE
7. FIELD 3
8. FIELD 4

The current fields lack in seating, parking, and basic necessities such as bullpens and batting cages. The new sports fields and training facility will remain on the high ground of the site but will be shifted slightly.

Most of the spectator parking will be in a parking garage and team parking will have a separate surface parking space. This will create less congestion when entering and exiting the area.

The main field will remain in the same orientation but will be larger and contain large media decks to promote the sport. The field will be connected to the training facility by an underground tunnel for players, and a sky-walk for media and announcers.

There will be 4 secondary fields with surface parking surrounding the edge of the site. These will contain bullpens for each team that can be used as batting cages as well.

AREAS OF OPPORTUNITY

1

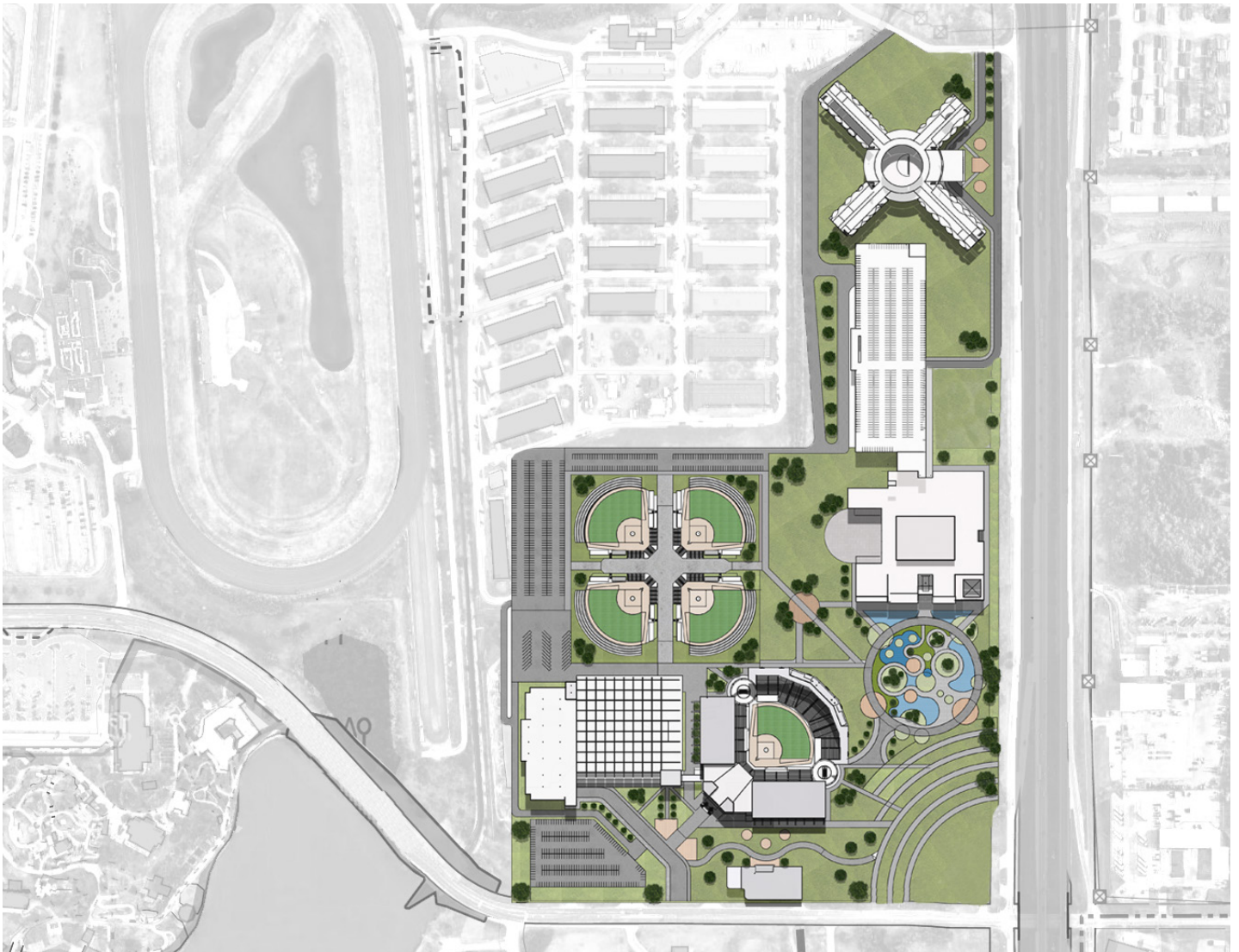
New and improved facilities for the athletes. The current facilities feel dull and lacks an inviting feel.

2

Improve parking. With a lack of parking and proper circulation the area suffered.

3

Give a reason for people to stay in the area. That can be through more types of entertainment, jobs, or hotel.



The project was broken into 3 phases. This is a way to break such a large project down and for a client to build and expand in stages. The phases include:

1. Sports:

- Main field
- Training Facility
- Secondary fields
- Hall of fame
- Parking for fields

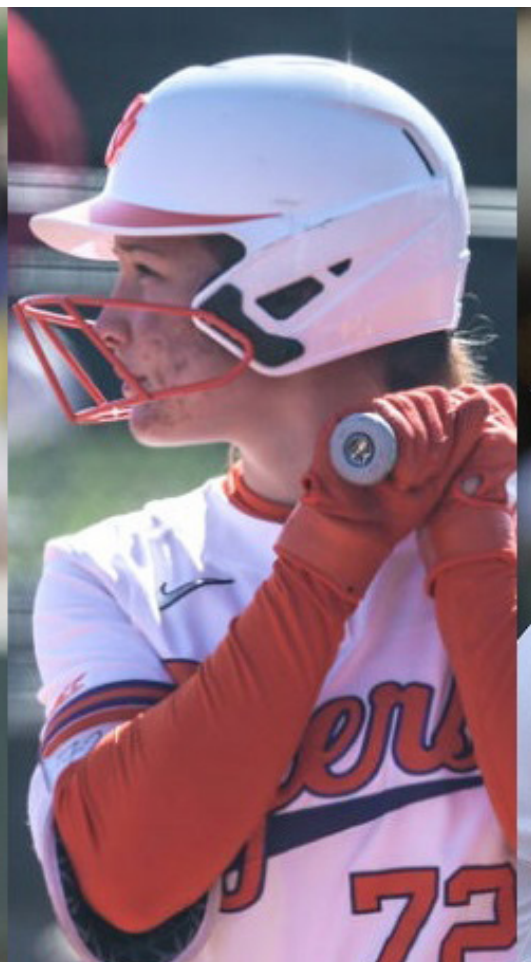
2. Entertainment

- Live!
- Outdoor Concert Space
- Plaza

3. Community

- Hotel
- Parking

DESIGN SOLUTIONS



The following pages describe the final solutions to the areas that needed improvement and rethinking. Starting with the main field and working through the three phases of the project.

The solutions were well thought out from the placement on the site to the small details. The new facilities will grow the sport of softball and be able to bring more fans, athletes, teams, and media to the area to work, play, and stay.



PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

GOALS FOR THE PROJECT

1

ADVOCATE

Provide the basic necessities, and more, to give the FEMALE athletes a space they deserve.

2

PROMOTE

Bring attention to the game of softball through more media coverage and state of the art facilities

3

COMMUNITY

Creating a space that teams, officials, media, and fans will want to visit



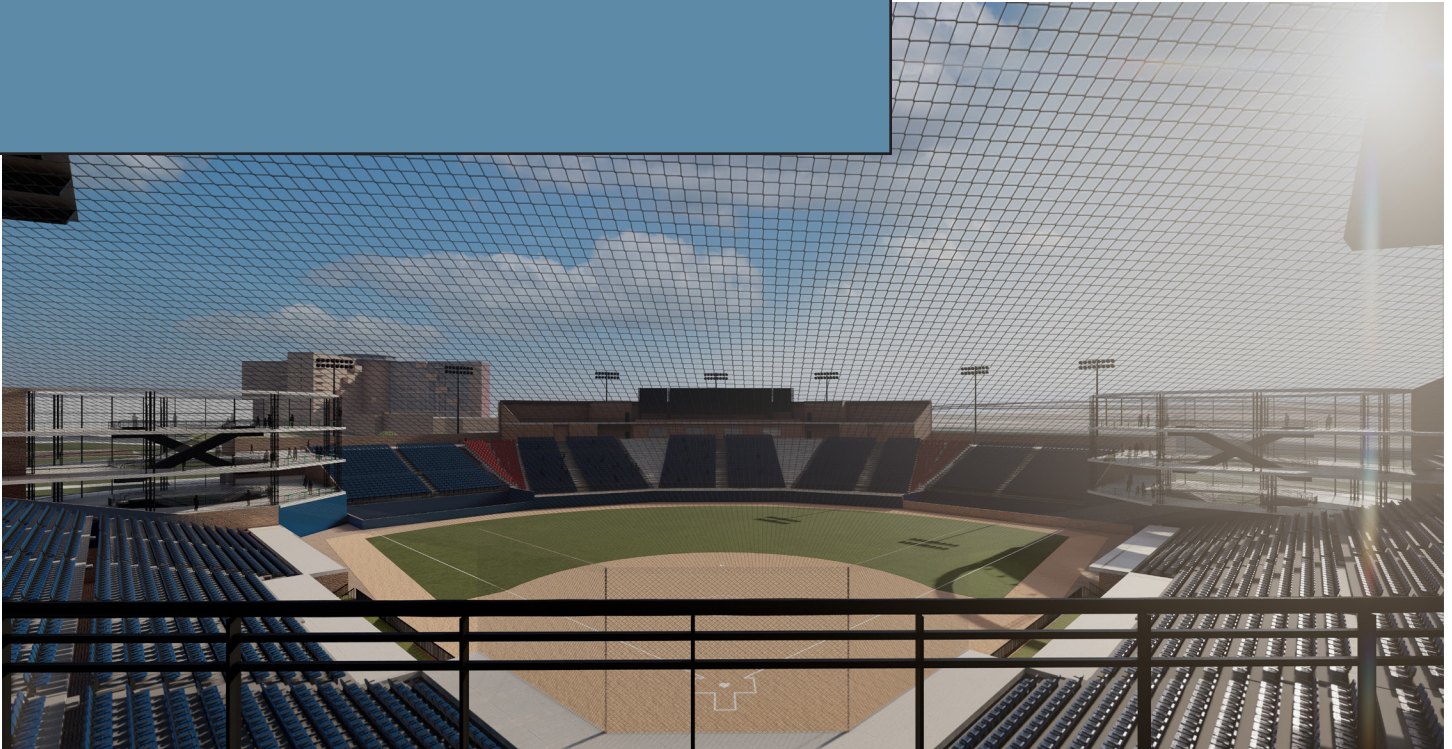
The main field is the heart of the project. This is a place where everyone will have the same feeling when entering the space. All different types of emotions ranging from excitement, sadness, fear, happiness, and accomplishment. Sports teach people many life lessons and this facility will encourage all to embrace the sport and all that it teaches.

The field consists of a main concourse that is full of retail, concessions, and public restrooms. This space will lead to the lower deck seating area as well as wrap around to the outfield seating. There are a total of 20,000 permanent seats as well as 10 box suites with private viewing areas.

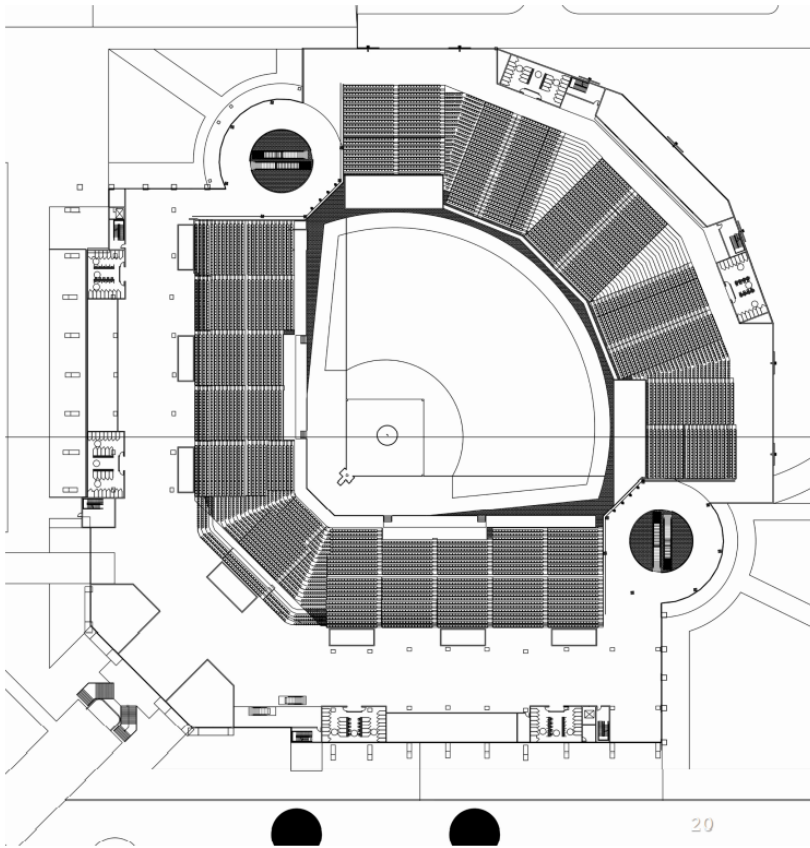
The upper deck seating has a smaller concourse area and contains the entrance to the large announcers room. This is the space where pitching coaches, media persons, and officials can do their jobs away from the public. They will work closely with the camera people who will be posted up on the media decks, next to the jumbotron, in the outfield edge.

The players will enter through an underground tunnel and can go straight to the dugouts and bullpens to prepare for the game. The dugouts are large and sunken into the ground to create a better interaction with fans. The field is state of the art turf to eliminate maintenance every game.

MAIN FIELD

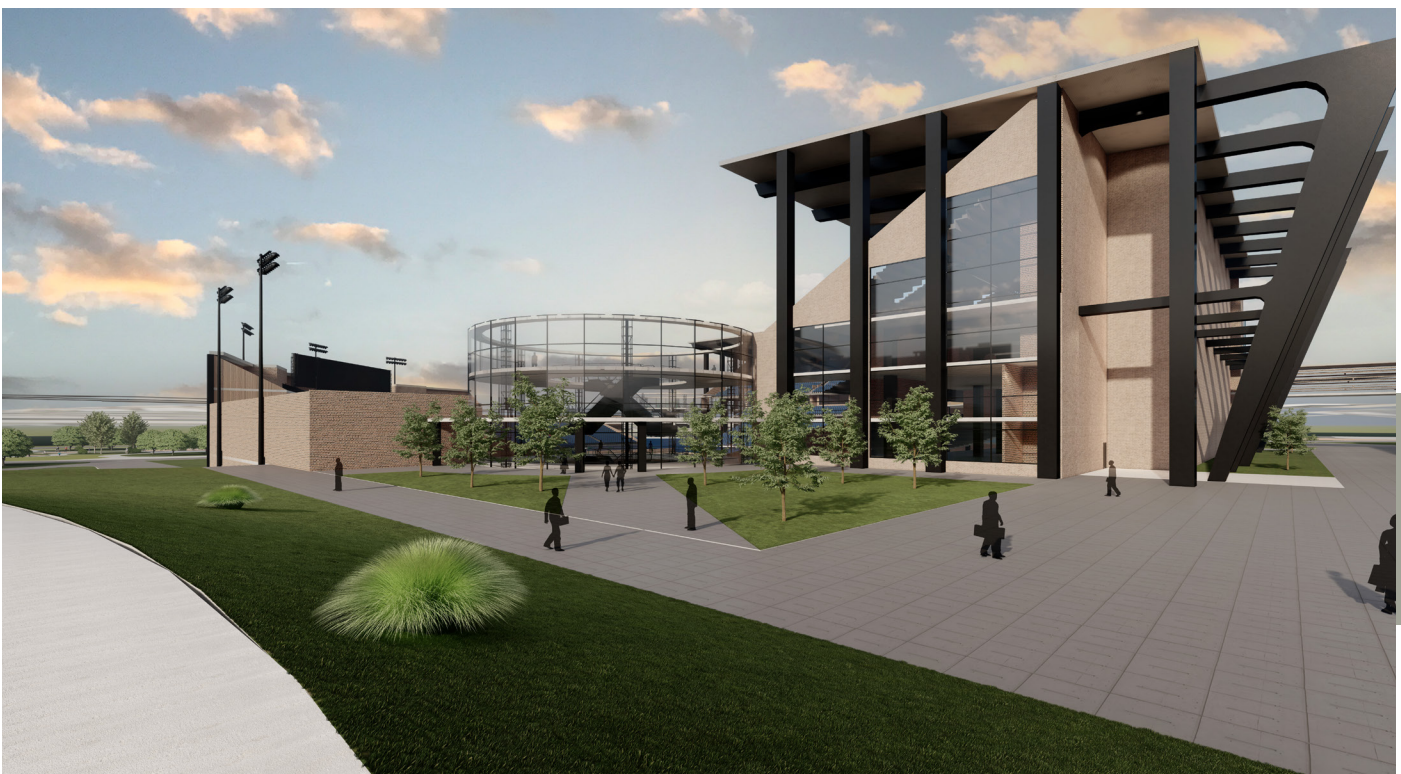


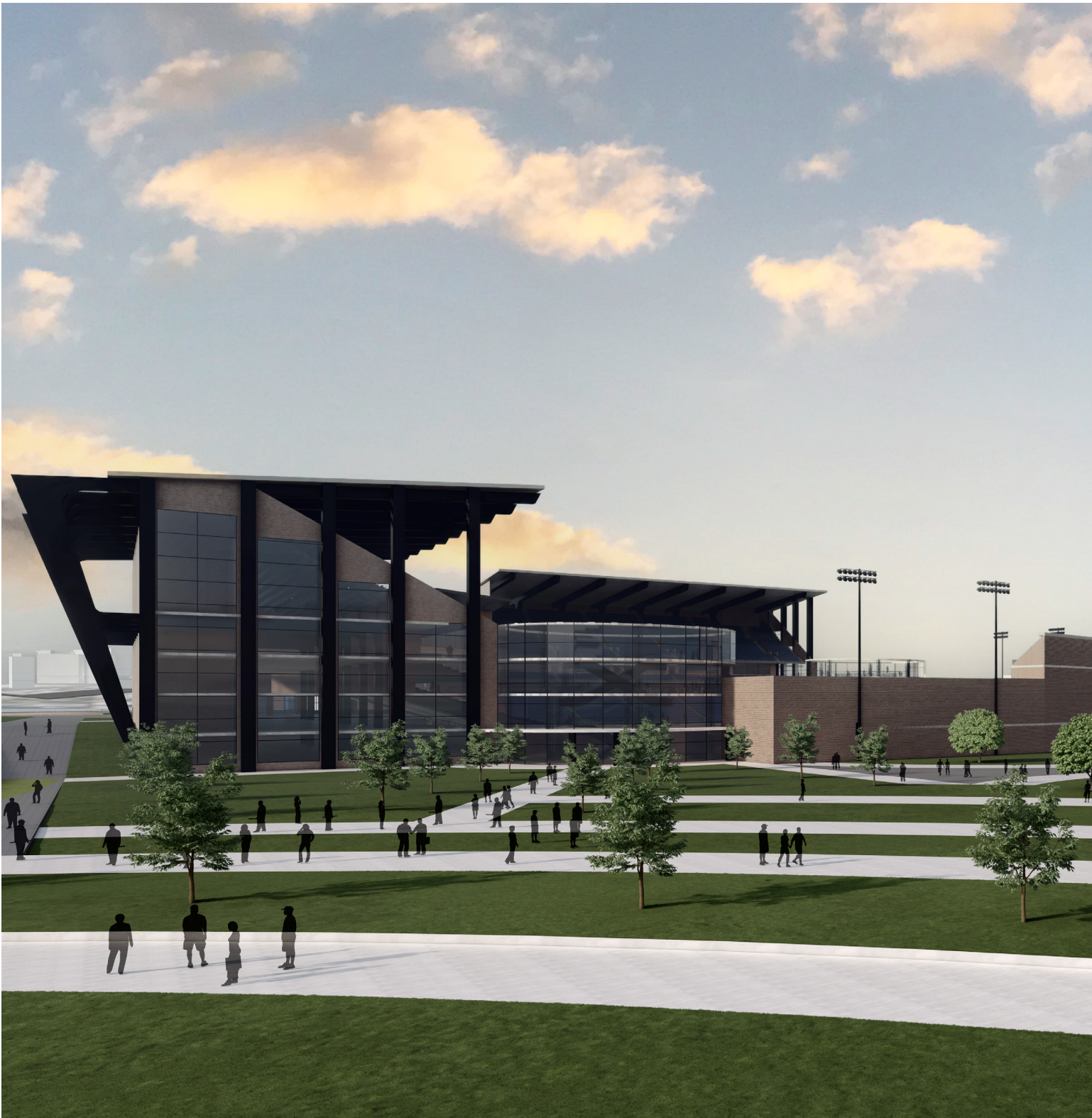
The above views show two different perspectives of the field from a fans point of view. There are multiple viewing areas throughout the facility to give different points of view. The two circular areas on the corners are for circulation and a beer garden viewing deck. This is a space to walk around and enjoy the game in a relaxed setting.



- Large concourse with circulation and concessions
- Approximately 20,000 permanent seats
- 10 Large suites
- Media decks with a jumbotron
- 2 circulation cylinders with viewing decks
- Turf field with a tunnel to the training facility
- Large dugouts and bullpens

MAIN FIELD FLOOR PLAN

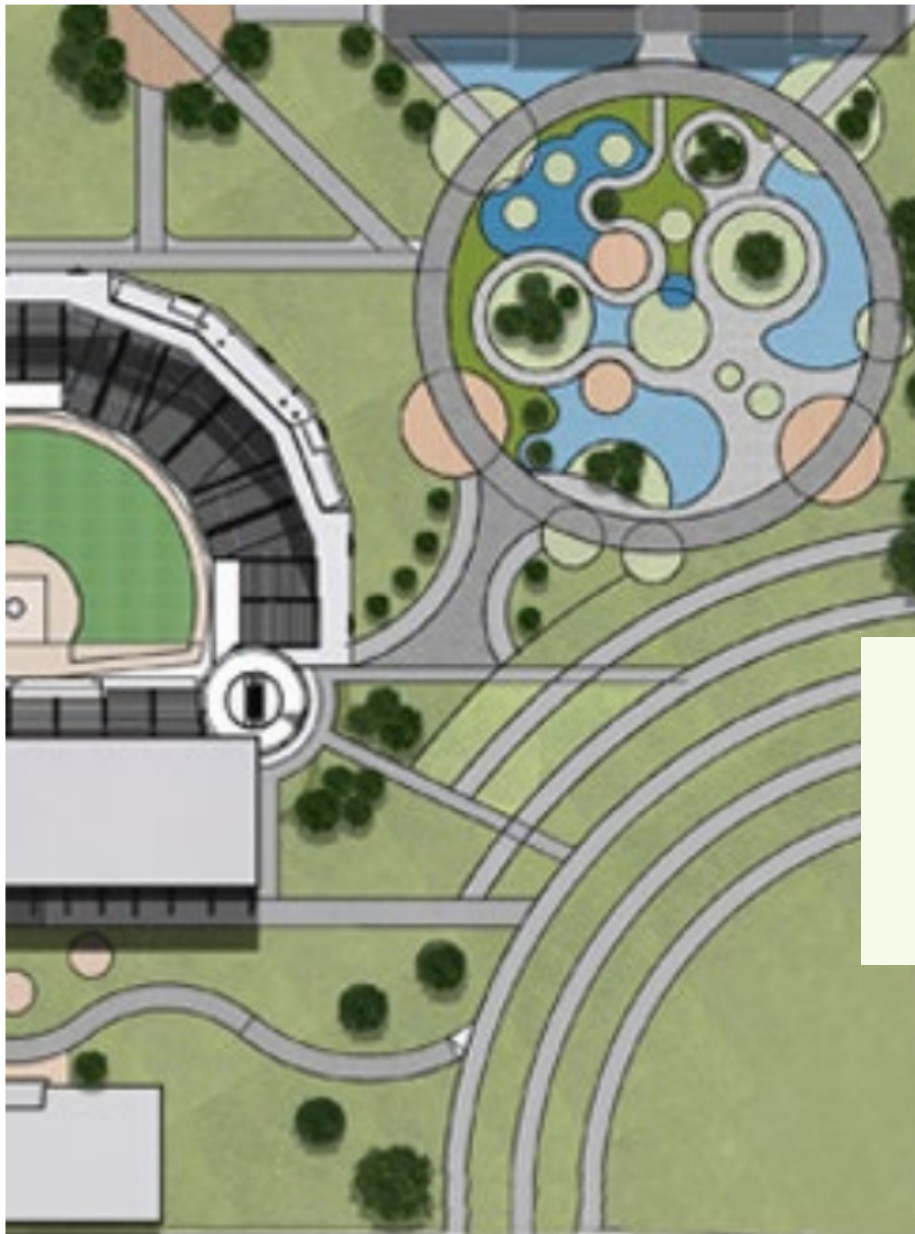




View of the site from the main entry point into the adventure district. This will be the first thing a visitor sees when exiting the highway to come to the site. There is new vegetation throughout the area and large walking pathways connecting all the spaces together.



PLAZA



Outdoor space connecting multiple venues.

New vegetation

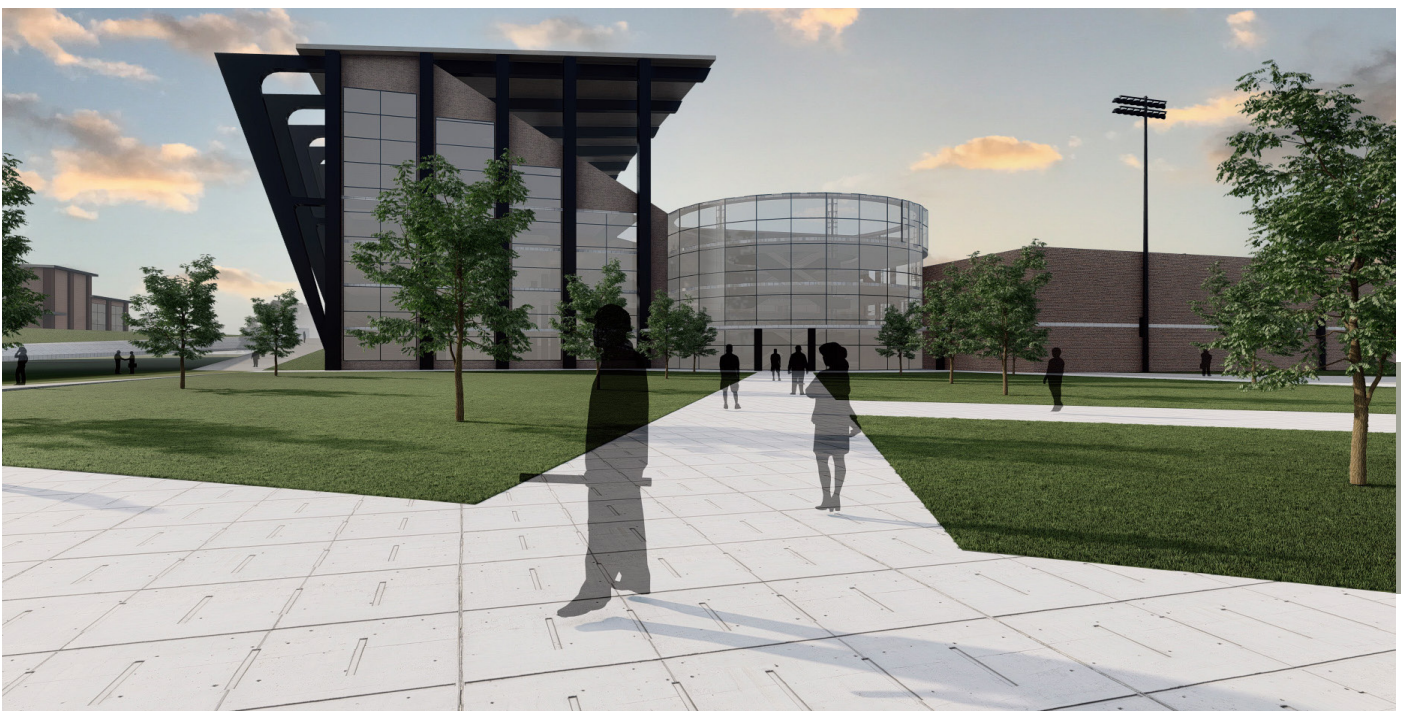
Multiple materials with different textures



PLAZA VIEW

The plaza is a very large green space to create a space for those visiting or playing in the area to gather. The area is a place to form a sense of community and memories.

The plaza contains different types of vegetation, water features, multiple pathways, and various materials. The unique shapes and configurations allow for a sensory experience and encourage interactions between all ages.



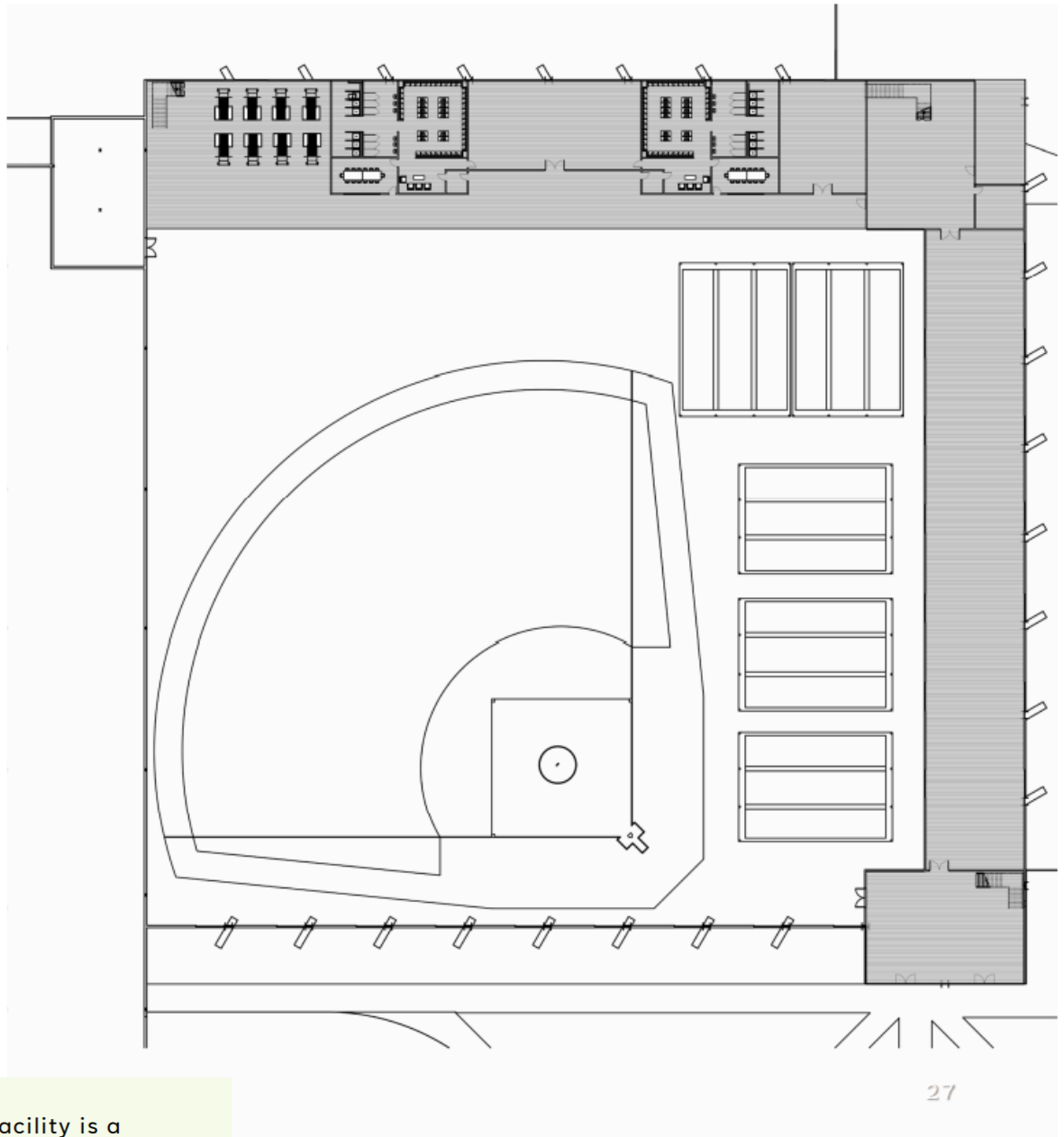
TRAINING FACILITY

The training facility is an integral part of phase one of the project. This is a space that will house a full size indoor turf field and 16 batting cages capable of using for pitching as well. Along with a lifting area and two locker and shower rooms this will be used for multiple events. The main one being the Women's College World Series but the public can use it, multiple teams, scrimmages, and camps for younger girls. The facilities will be used year round and has space for workers and NCAA board members.

The second floor lofted area is dedicated to cardio workout space, team meeting rooms, conference rooms, and large offices. These will be used by coaches, board members, officials, and media workers. There is a restroom and viewing area overlooking the field for the public and parents to watch.



The above view is looking at the main entrance to the training facility. There is a lot of glass used throughout the building to eliminate artificial light and be more energy efficient. Large louvers provide shading on the south wall to minimize glare and heat.



FIRST FLOOR

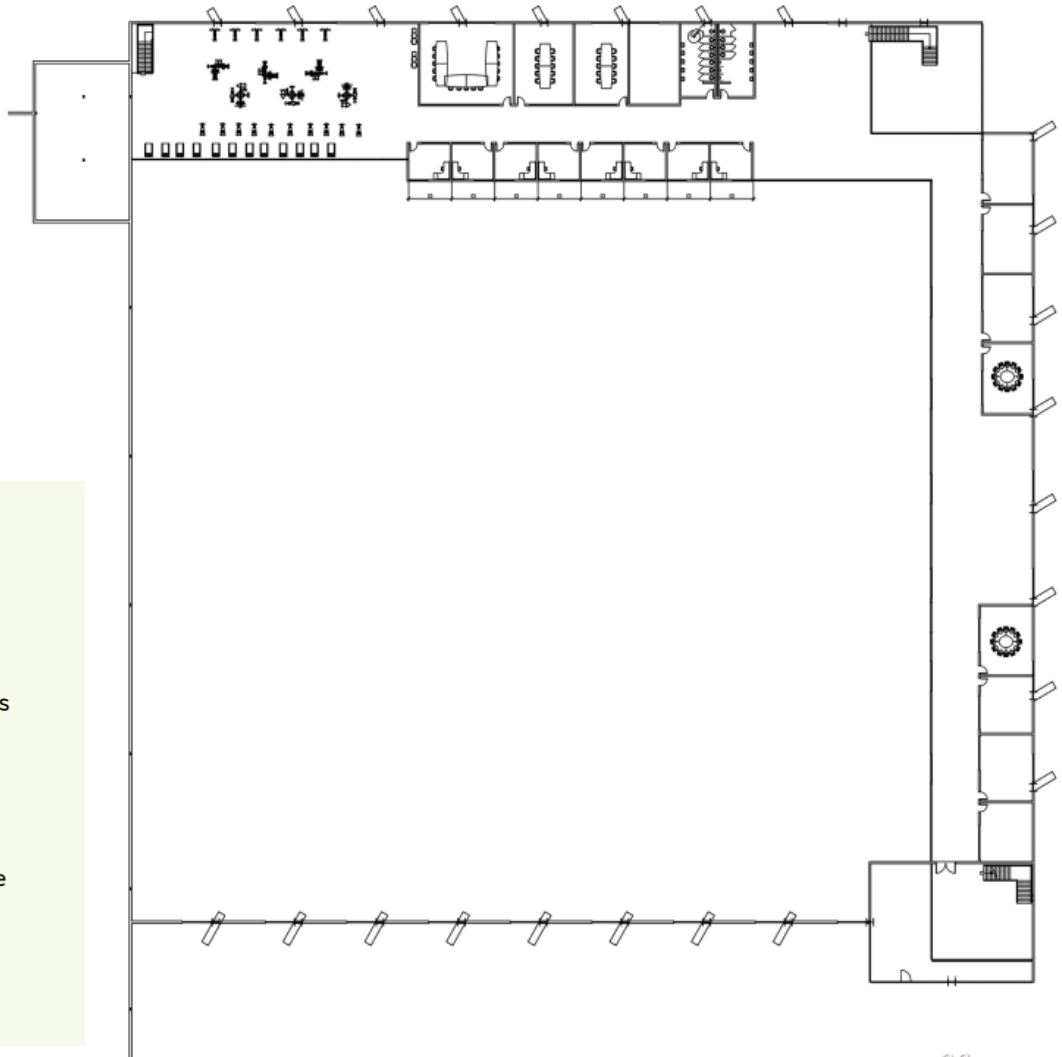
The training facility is a large indoor space capable of hosting multiple teams for tournaments, games, scrimmages, and camps.

The space is open to the public.

Indoor turf field and 16 batting cages.

Two large locker rooms with attached lounge space and meeting rooms

A lifting area and storage space.



Loft area overlooking field.

Cardio and machine workout space

Multiple meeting rooms and offices.

Dedicated to teams, media, and workers.

Skywalk system connects directly to the media booth at the main field



LIVE!



● Sports Viewing Area
● Concert Area

● Restaurants
● Bars
● Shops

● Services



The Live! district is a large entertainment area for all ages. The outside is lined with restaurants, bars, and retail. The middle is a viewing area with multiple television screens and seating. This space is open to the upper levels and a large skylight provides natural light into the space.

Adjacent to the viewing area is an outdoor concert area. The use of sliding doors can create an indoor outdoor feeling and bring a different form of entertainment to the area.



HOTEL

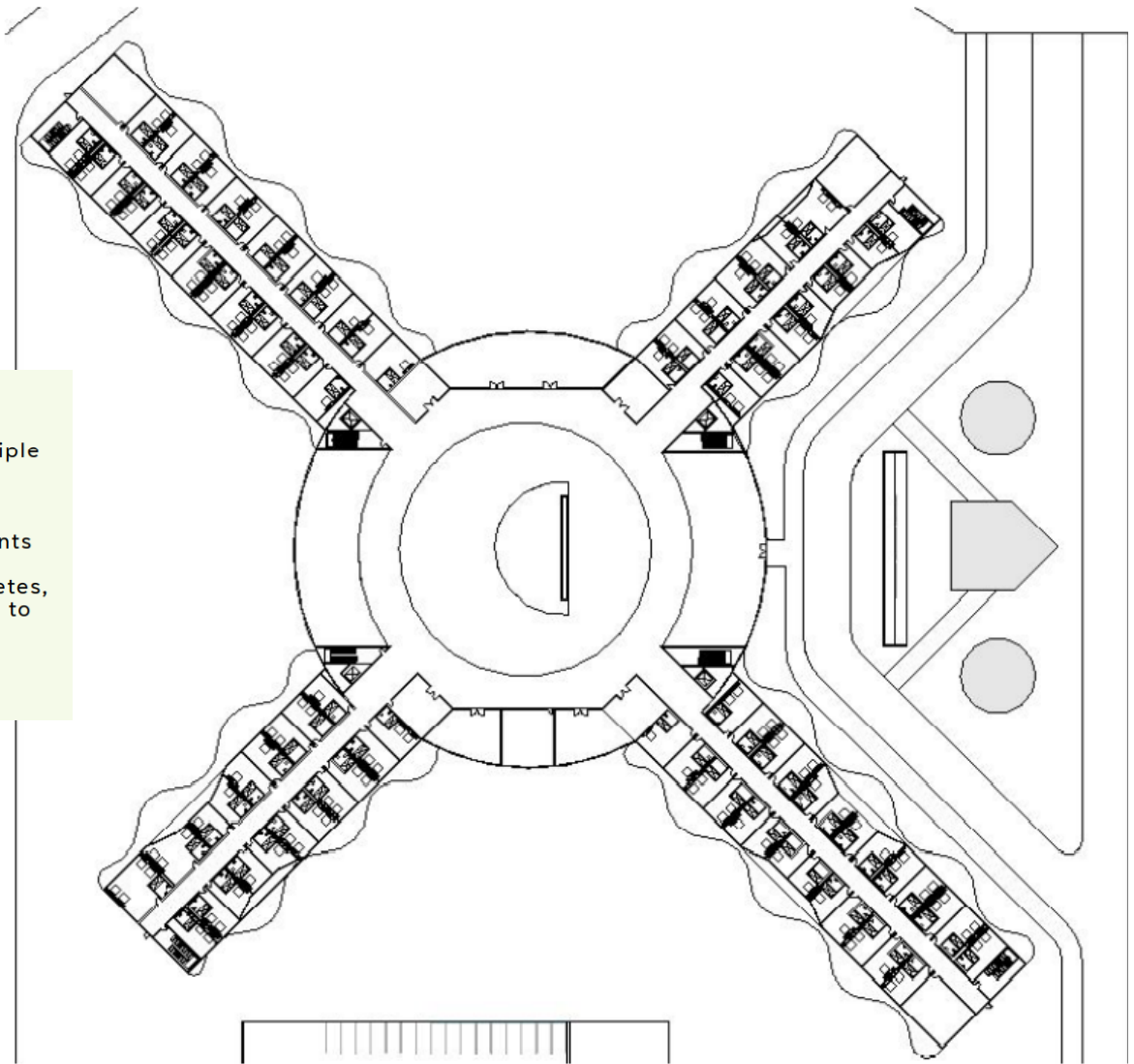


The World Series Hotel is the only place to stay within the adventure district. There are numerous tourist destinations within a 2 mile radius and this 1,000 room hotel will be able to host multiple events in the district.

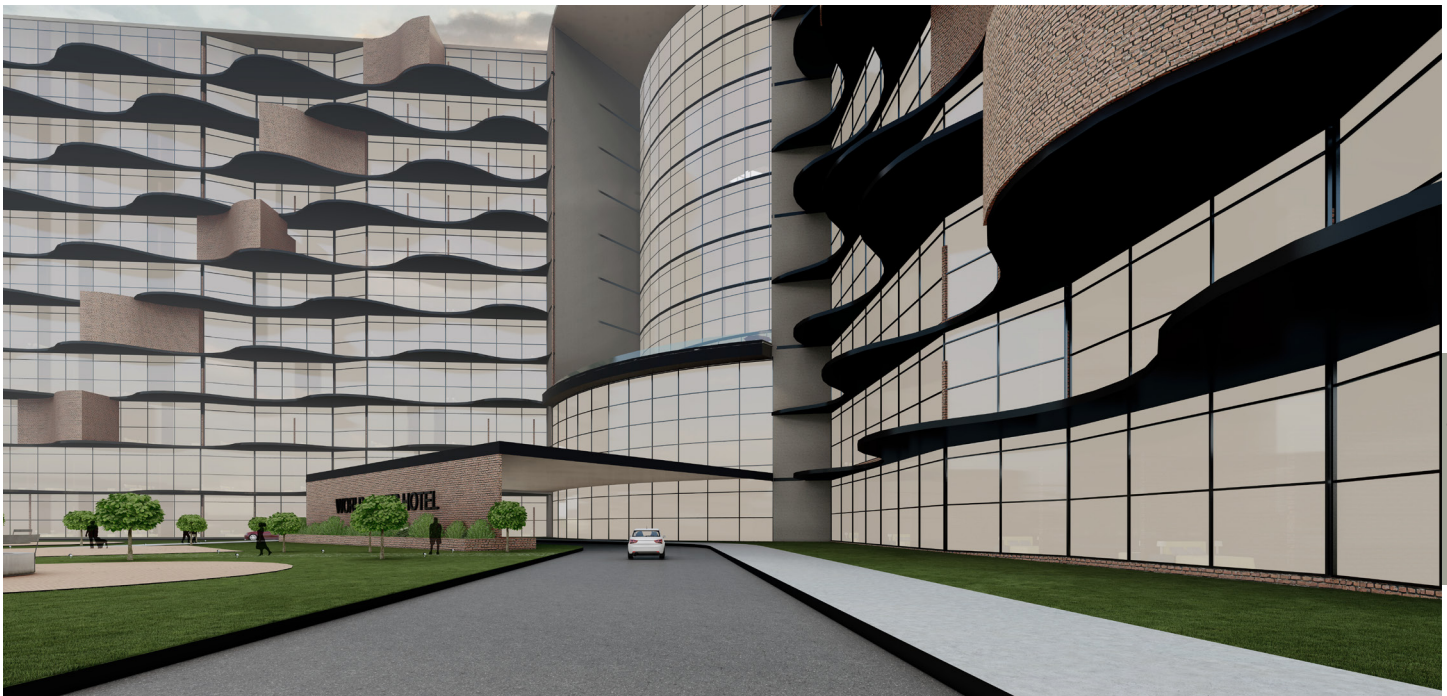
There are varying room sizes ranging from single bed to family style suites that can sleep 8. The lobby is open all the way up to the roof. This provides an open air feeling and brings sunlight throughout the building. The unique form draws an eye to the space and helps create views of the city.

This hotel will be a place for fans, athletes, coaches, and visitors to stay and unwind after a long day at the fields.

1,000 room hotel
Open lobby with multiple amenities
Banquet and meeting rooms for various events
A place for fans, athletes, coaches, and visitors to stay.



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DIGITAL PRESENTATION

The digital presentation was created through the use of PowerPoint. The slides are included on the following pages and represent the areas that were talked about during the verbal presentation. The presentation portion of the project was conducted on May 5th to a small group of classmates, zoom attendees, and jurors.

QUALITY FOR EQUALITY

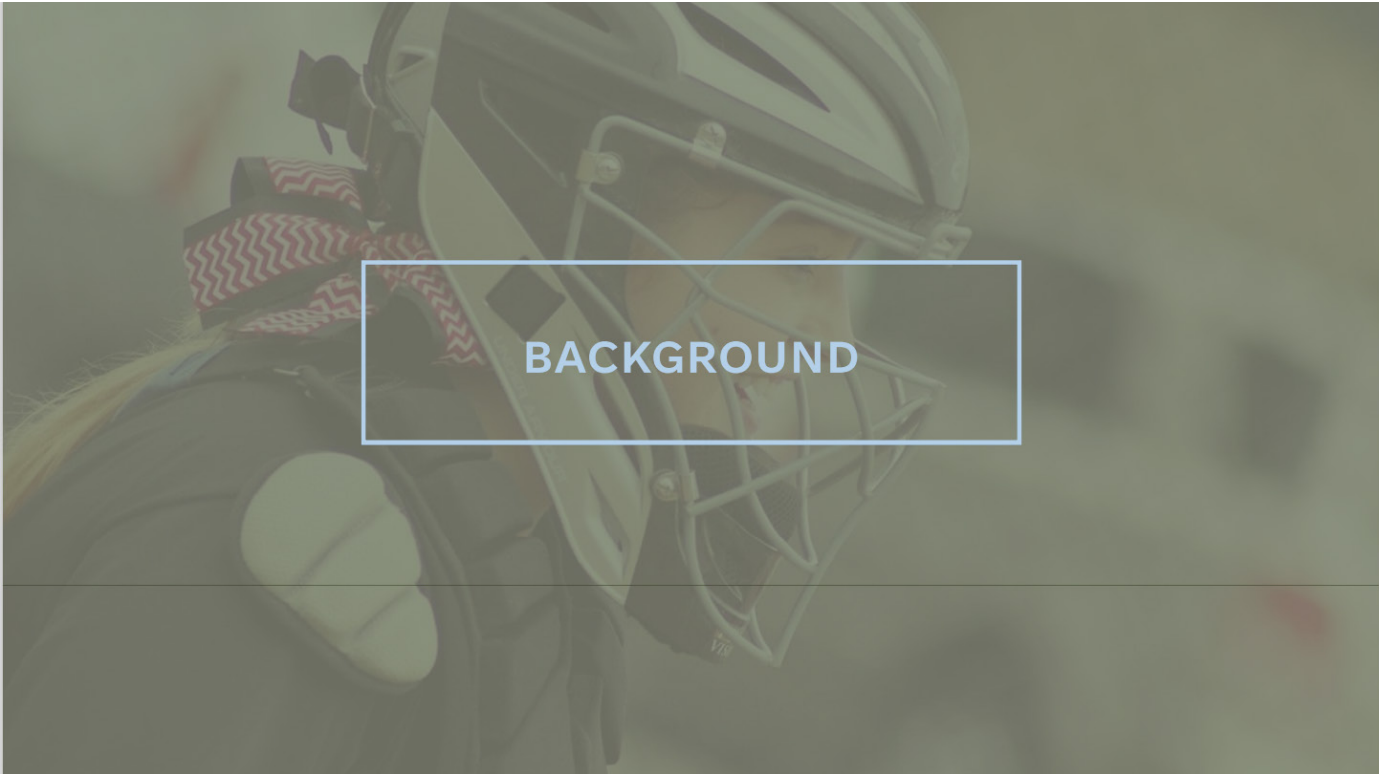
Jolene Kerr

PROJECT

Designing **Quality for Equality**. The project includes a redevelopment of the Women's College World Series. The area was converted into a sports entertainment district to advocate for women in sports, promote the sport of softball, and bring the community together.



2



BACKGROUND

PERSONAL CONNECTION

- 1 An understanding of the sport from an athlete and coaching perspective
- 2 Life lessons and a sense of confidence
- 3 Home away from home
- 4 Special bond with my dad



**WOMEN'S COLLEGE
WORLD SERIES**

- 1 Large tournament held in Oklahoma City since 1990
- 2 Iconic within the softball community
- 3 Sold out crowd every year
- 4 Seven-day tournament

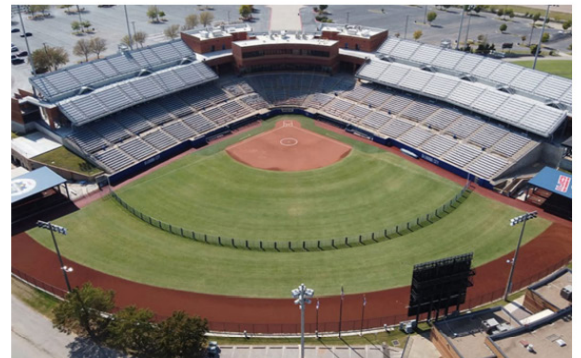


INEQUALITY

Men's College World Series



Women's College World Series



MESSAGES FOR MEN, DOUBLEHEADERS FOR WOMEN

Men's College World Series

12 Days – 3 rest days

Golf Day, massages, parade
and large banquet dinner

\$131 million dollar facility

Women's College World Series

7 Days – 1 rest day

Small meal with appetizers

No showers

7

VIEWING COMPARISONS

2021 tournaments

Men's College World Series

Average viewers: 755,000

Most viewed game: 1.7 million viewers

Number of games with 1+ million viewers: 6

Number of games with 1.5+ million viewers: 1

Women's College World Series

Average viewers: 1.2 million

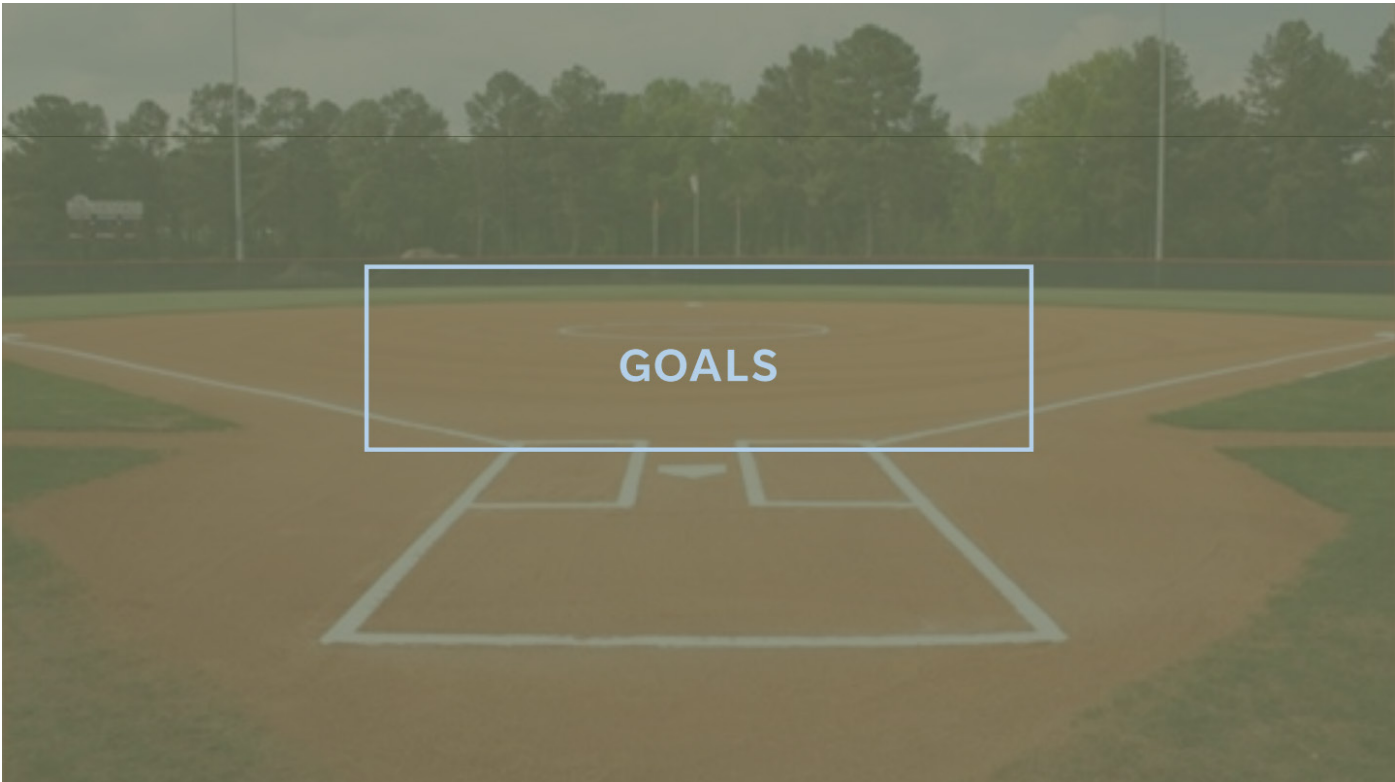
Most viewed game: 2.1 million viewers

Number of games with 1+ million viewers: 10

Number of games with 1.5+ million viewers: 6



8



GOALS

GOALS



ADVOCATE

Provide the basic necessities, and more, to give the female athletes a space they deserve.



PROMOTE

Bring attention to the game of softball through more media coverage and state of the art facilities



COMMUNITY

Creating a space that teams, officials, media, and fans will want to visit



**OVERALL
SITE**

- Large iconic site
- Dead vegetation
- Lacks in a grand entry to the area



OVERALL SITE

- Location: Oklahoma City
- Adventure District
- Tourist Destination



LEGEND

- GOLF COURSES
- FIRE MUSEUM
- ZOO
- CAMPING
- CASINO/HORSE PARK
- RESIDENTIAL
- SOFTBALL SITE
- OPPORTUNITY AREA

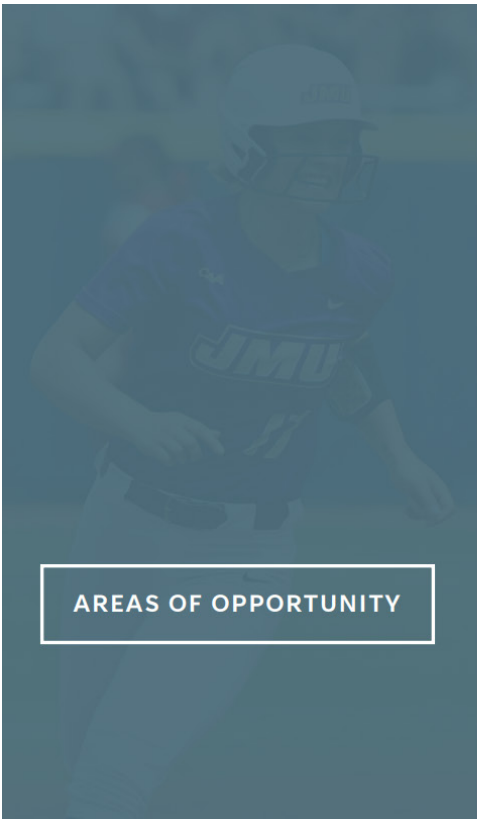
SPORTS SITE

- Space is used for the Women's College World Series and the USA softball team.
- 4 fields – Main field and 3 secondary fields
- Lacks in basic facilities especially for athletes.
- Needs new and improved parking for large crowds



LEGEND

1. PARKING LOT
2. HALL OF FAME MUSEUM
3. MAIN CONCOURSE
4. FIELD 1
5. FIELD 2
6. PLAYER ENTRANCE
7. FIELD 3
8. FIELD 4



1. New and improved facilities for the athletes
2. Improve parking
3. Give a reason for people to stay in the area

15



PROJECT PHASES

- 1** **SPORTS**
- Training Facility
 - Main Field
 - Secondary Fields (4)



INSPIRATION

- 2** **ENTERTAINMENT**
- Live! District
 - Outdoor Concert Area
 - Plaza



- 3** **COMMUNITY**
- Hotel

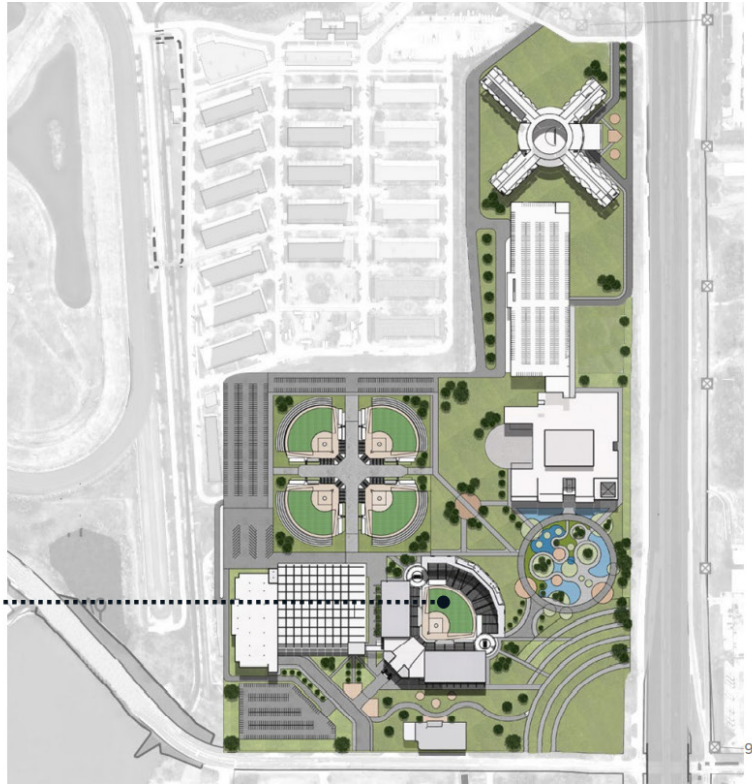


MASTER PLAN

- SPORTS**
 - 1 MAIN FIELD
 - 2 INDOOR TRAINING
 - 3 SECONDARY FIELDS
 - 4 SOFTBALL MUSEUM
- STAY**
 - 5 HOTEL
- FUN**
 - 6 ENTERTAINMENT AREA
- GREEN**
 - 7 PLAZA/GREEN SPACE

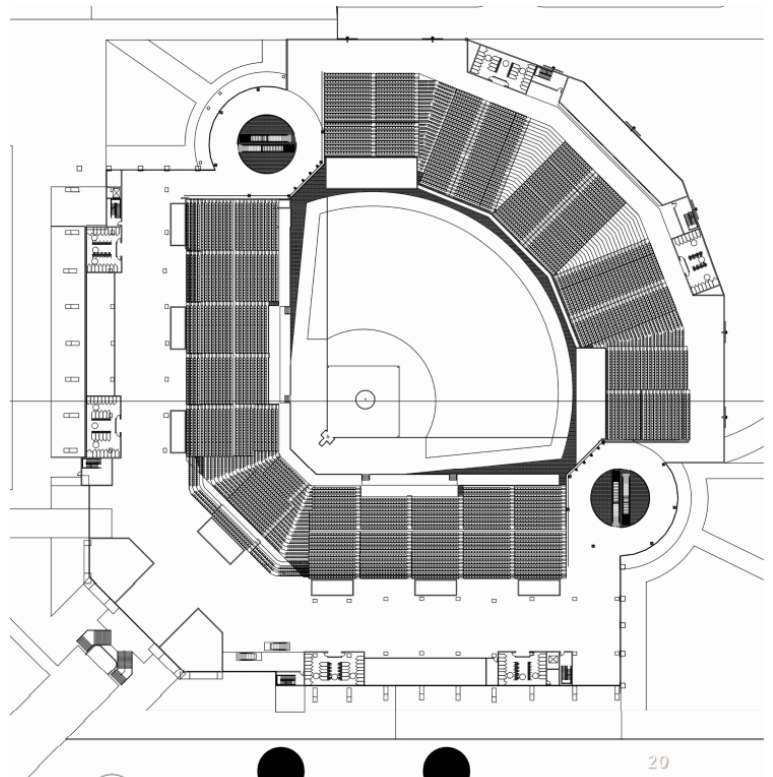
SITE

Main Field ●



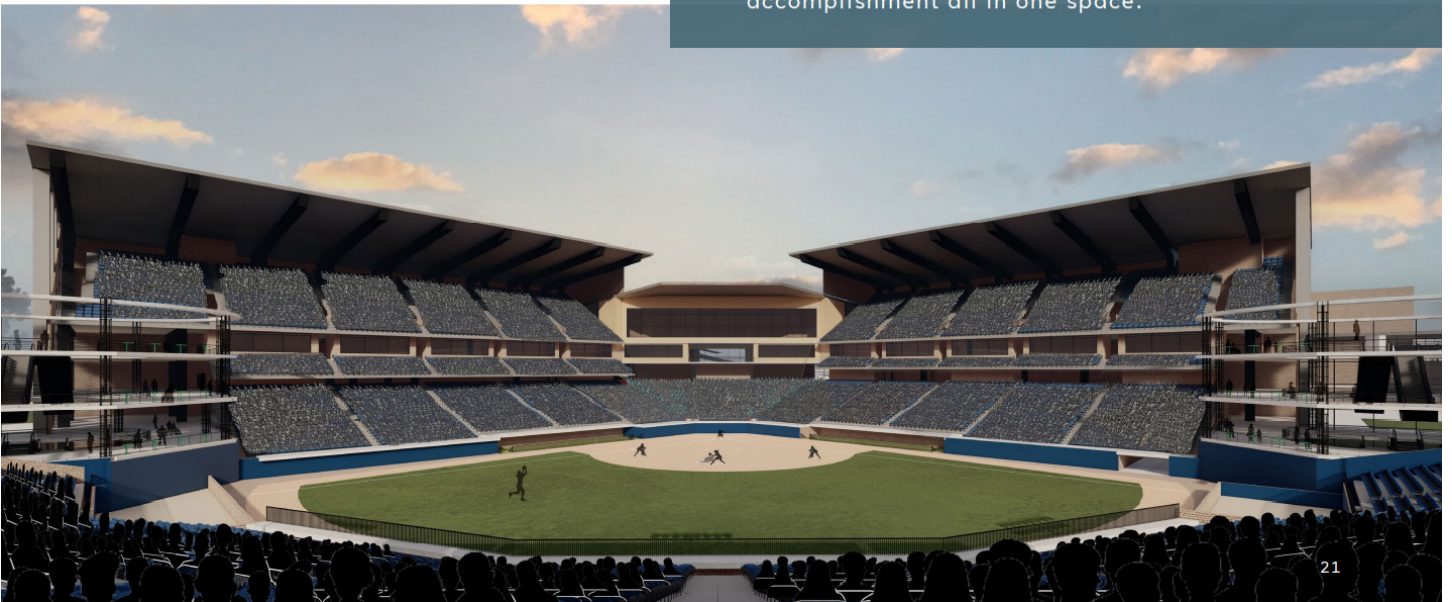
MAIN FIELD

- Large concourse with circulation and concessions
- Approximately 20,000 permanent seats
- 10 Large suites
- Media decks with a jumbotron
- 2 circulation cylinders with viewing decks
- Turf field with a tunnel to the training facility
- Large dugouts and bullpens



MAIN FIELD

A place that will provide the same feeling for everyone walking in. A place with excitement, nerves, happiness, sadness, cheering, tears and accomplishment all in one space.



MAIN FIELD

A fan's point of view walking into the stadium



MAIN FIELD

A player's point of view



MAIN FIELD

The circular viewing decks are a unique space to view the game on the main field and secondary fields.



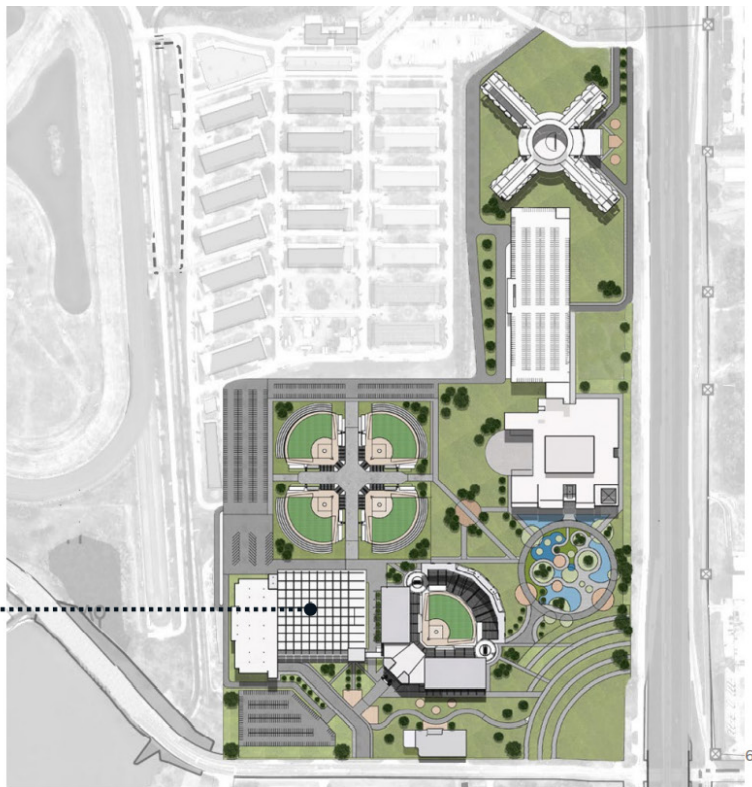
MAIN FIELD



25

SITE

Training Facility



TRAINING FACILITY

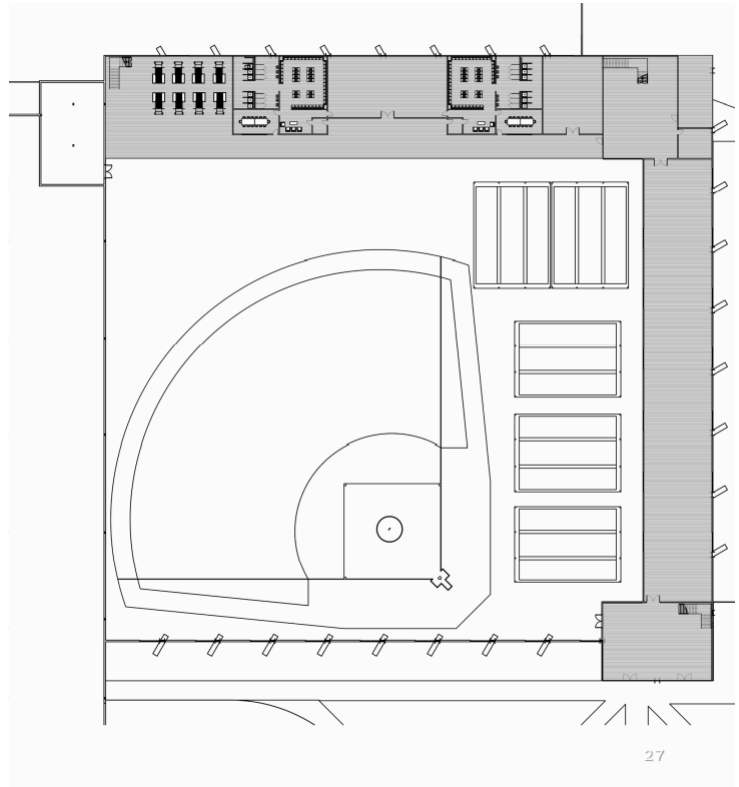
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The space is open to the public.

Indoor turf field and 16 batting cages.

Two large locker rooms with attached lounge space and meeting rooms

A lifting area and storage space.



TRAINING FACILITY

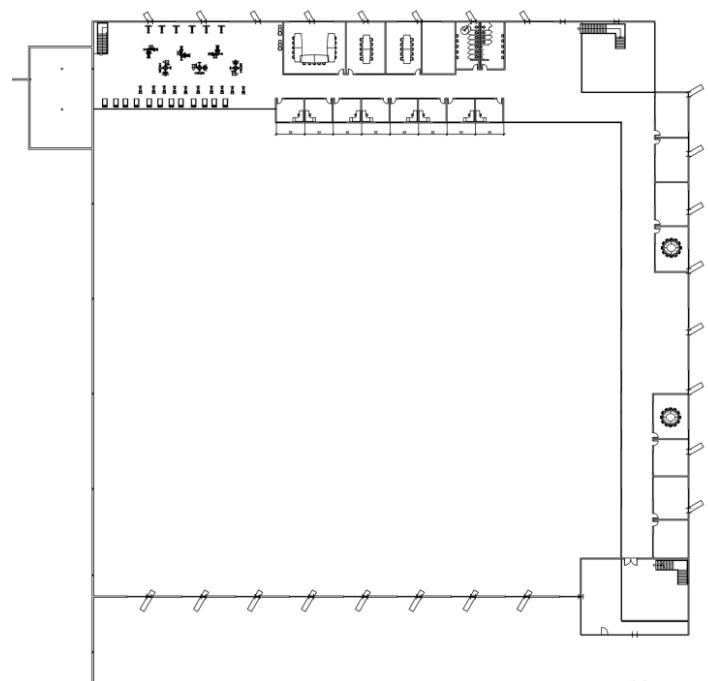
Loft area overlooking field.

Cardio and machine workout space

Multiple meeting rooms and offices.

Dedicated to teams, media, and workers.

Skywalk system connects directly to the media booth at the main field



TRAINING FACILITY

Entry to training facility and path to the secondary fields



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TRAINING FACILITY

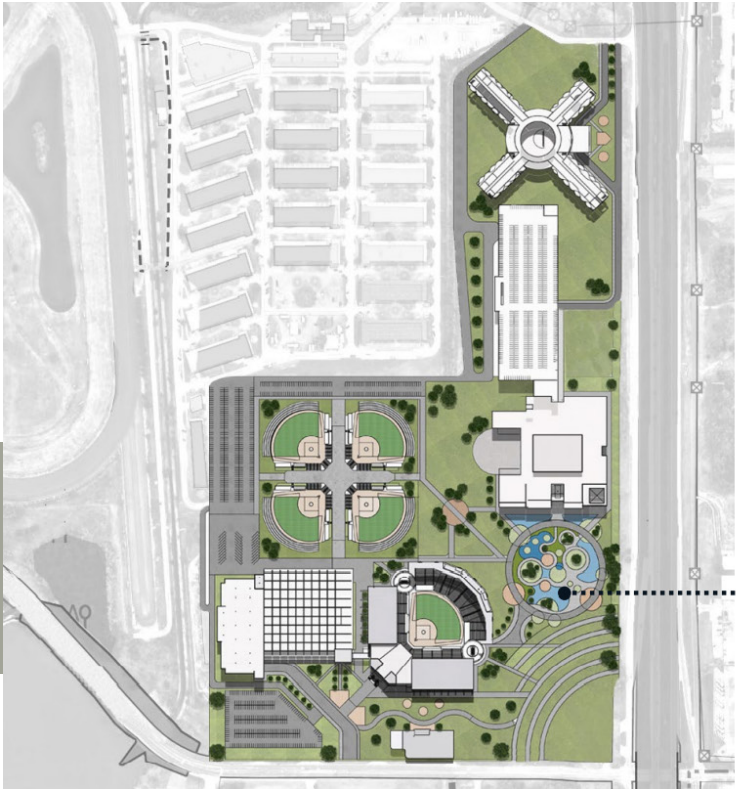
Large facility open to the public



30

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TRAINING FACILITY



PLAZA

Outdoor space
connecting multiple
venues.

New vegetation

Multiple materials with
different textures



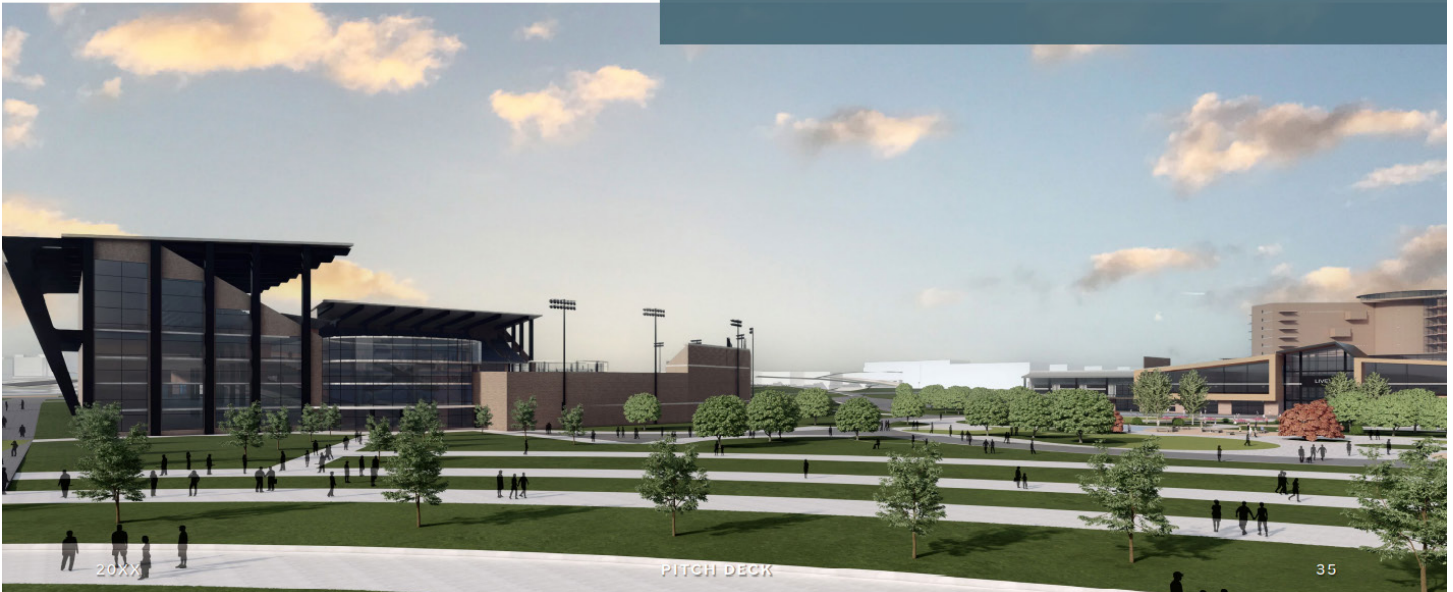
PLAZA

Creating a community



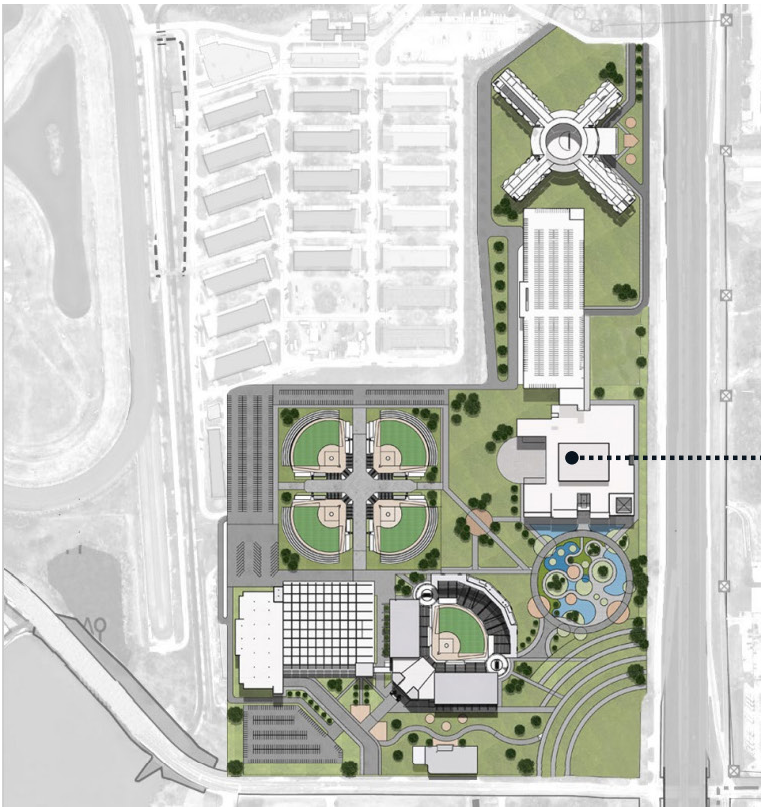
PLAZA

Corner of site leading into the site and Adventure District



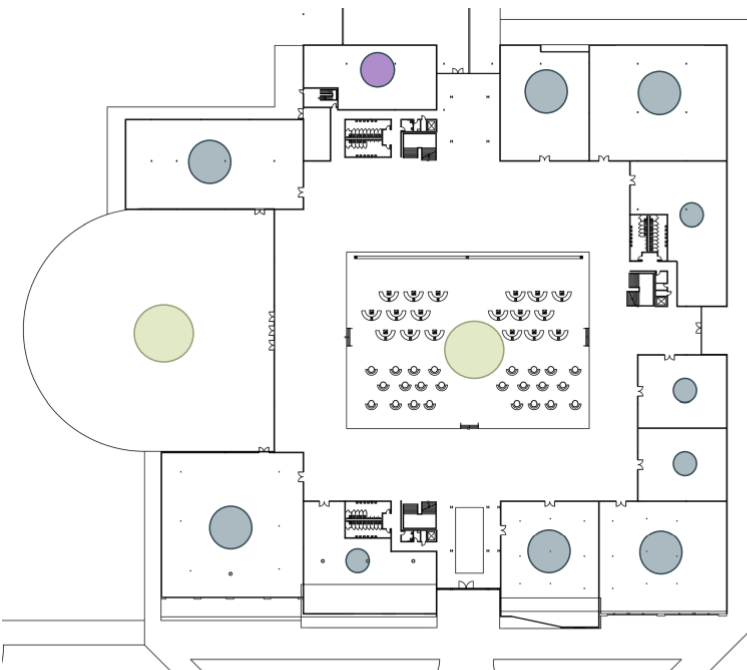
PLAZA





SITE

● Live!



ENTERTAINMENT

- Sports Viewing Area
Concert Area
- Restaurants
Bars
Shops
- Services

LIVE!

Entertainment district lined with bars, restaurants, and retail. A space to relax and watch sports.



SITE

● Hotel

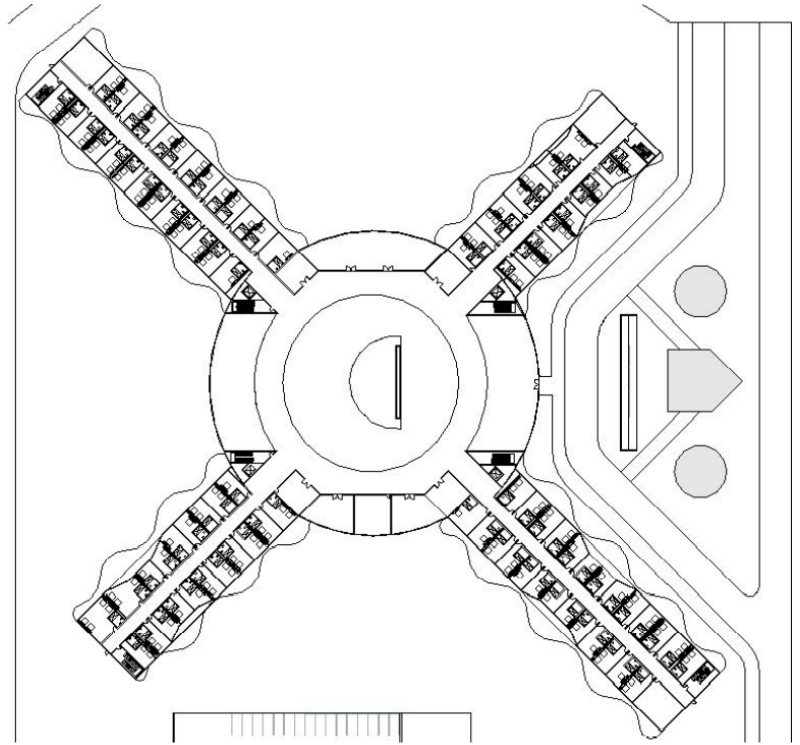
HOTEL

1,000 room hotel

Open lobby with multiple amenities

Banquet and meeting rooms for various events

A place for fans, athletes, coaches, and visitors to stay.



41

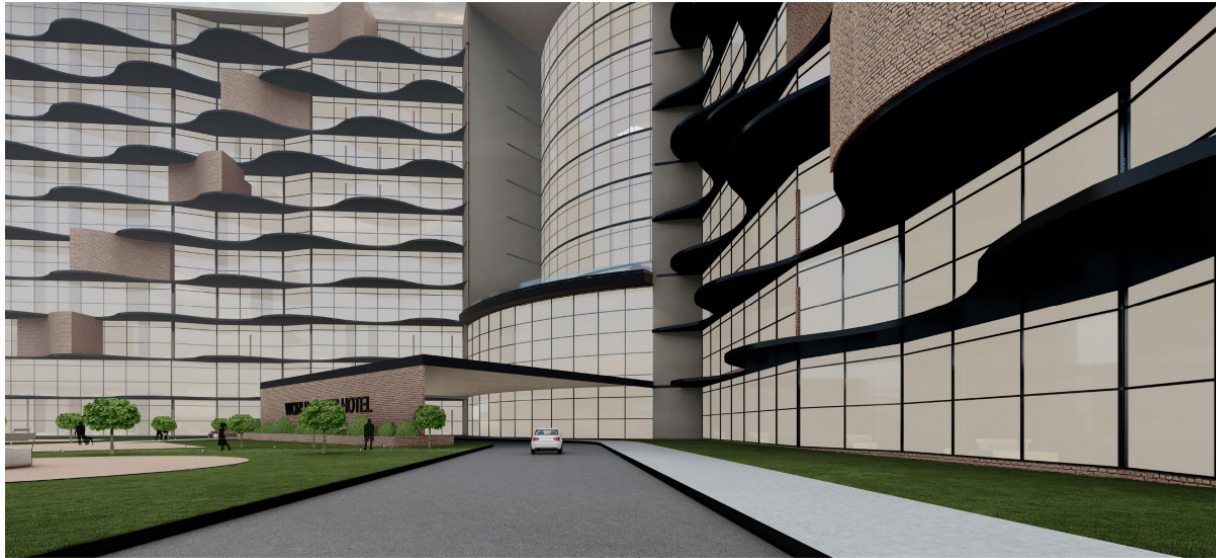
HOTEL



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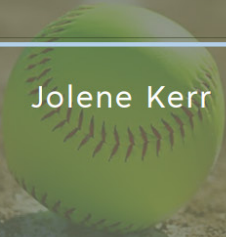
42

HOTEL



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THANK YOU



PROJECT INSTALLATION



THESIS

APPENDIX

References

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Previous Experience

2nd year fall: 2018 Darryl Booker - Tea house

2nd year spring: 2019 Cindy Urness - Mixed use housing (group project)

3rd year fall: 2019 Niloufar Alenjery - Timber structure suicide memorial

3rd year spring: 2020 Bakr Aly Ahmed - Concrete flood housing

4th year fall: 2020 Mark Barnhouse - Capstone high rise

4th year spring: 2021 Kristi Hanson - Marvin windows and Medora Studio

5th year fall: 2021 Ganapathy Mahalingam - Graduate Thesis Research

5th year spring 2022 Bakr Aly Ahmed - Graduate Thesis Design Studio



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