



Monument to the Fallen

In 1922, when the University of Oklahoma announced the funding campaign to build a stadium and a student union, the painful emotions accompanying the end of World War I were fresh still. As the two dominant structures took shape on what was then the southeast corner of the campus, dedicating them to the students, faculty and staff who died in that conflict seemed eminently fitting. WWI, after all, was to have been "the war to end all wars;" sadly that hope was short lived.

Oklahoma Memorial Stadium and the Oklahoma Memorial Union still bear their hallowed names, but their significance has dimmed for subsequent generations of Sooner students. While

bronze plaques honoring those who served in WWI and those who died in WWII adorn walls in the Union, the war dead never have been commemorated at the stadium.

When the stadium was rechristened the Gaylord Family Oklahoma Memorial Stadium in 2002 to recognize the \$12 million gift toward the facility's major expansion, the late Edward L. Gaylord stipulated that a monument was to be built to those OU veterans who had given their lives for their country. This tangible tribute to members of the University family lost in WWI, WWII, the Korean War, the Vietnam War and the Persian Gulf War will be located at the stadium's northeast corner with completion ex-

pected by the end of the 2003 football season.

With approximately 700 names in hand, University officials are intent that no appropriate names be omitted. President David L. Boren has asked that family members and friends of these OU war fatalities send their names to the President's Action Line for inclusion in the memorial lists. "When the memorial is constructed, we want to make sure it is as complete as possible," Boren said.

The Action Line can be contacted by e-mail at actionline@ou.edu, by phone at (405) 325-1212 or by mail at 660 Parrington Oval, Room 110, Norman, OK 73019.

—CJB



HOK Sport Inc.

Architect's rendering of the stadium memorial to the University of Oklahoma's war dead.