

DESIGNSOLUTIONS

Journal of the Architectural Woodwork Institute

Football Complex
University Renovations
Corporate Offices
Marketing Firm



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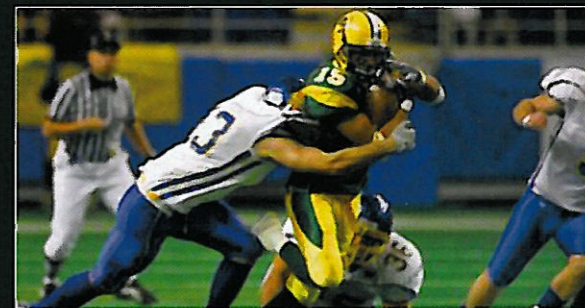
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SUNDERLAND FAMILY
Football Office Complex



High Scores For University Football Complex.



Since 1965, North Dakota State University's Bison Football team has captured eight national championships. Starting out as the "Farmers" in the 1890s, and changing to the "Aggies" in the early 1900s, the current Bison athletic symbol was developed by head football coach Stan Borleske in 1919 because he and members of the football team wanted a strong and fierce mascot.

The Bison was a logical choice. The great animals once roamed the North Dakota prairie in vast numbers, and over the years Bison athletic teams added an additional name, the "Thundering Herd."

Since every herd needs a place to gather, the NDSU football offices and facilities recently underwent a remodel. The office remodel portion of 6,000 square feet lasted just under a year, and was completed in April 2006. The single-level facilities remodel covered 1,500 square feet and was completed in August 2006. The cost for both portions of the project totaled \$3.4 million.

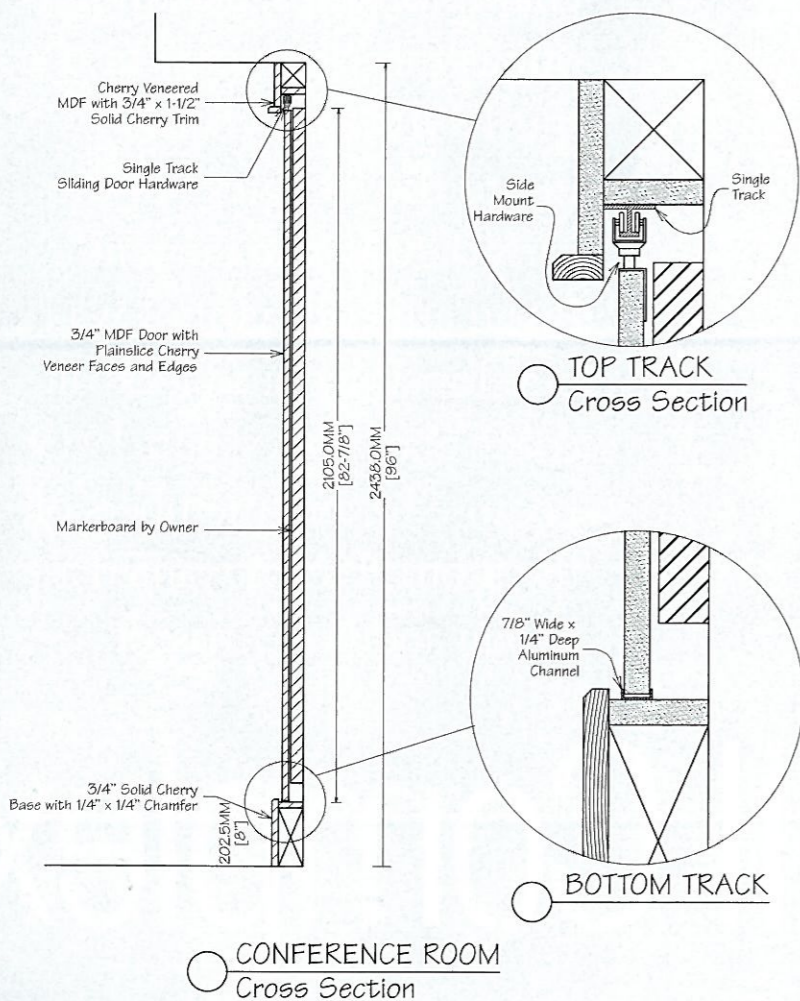
Design of the project was conducted by R. L. Engebretson, P.C. of Fargo, North Dakota. Architectural woodwork for the project was fabricated by AWI

member firm JSM Woodworks Inc. of West Fargo.

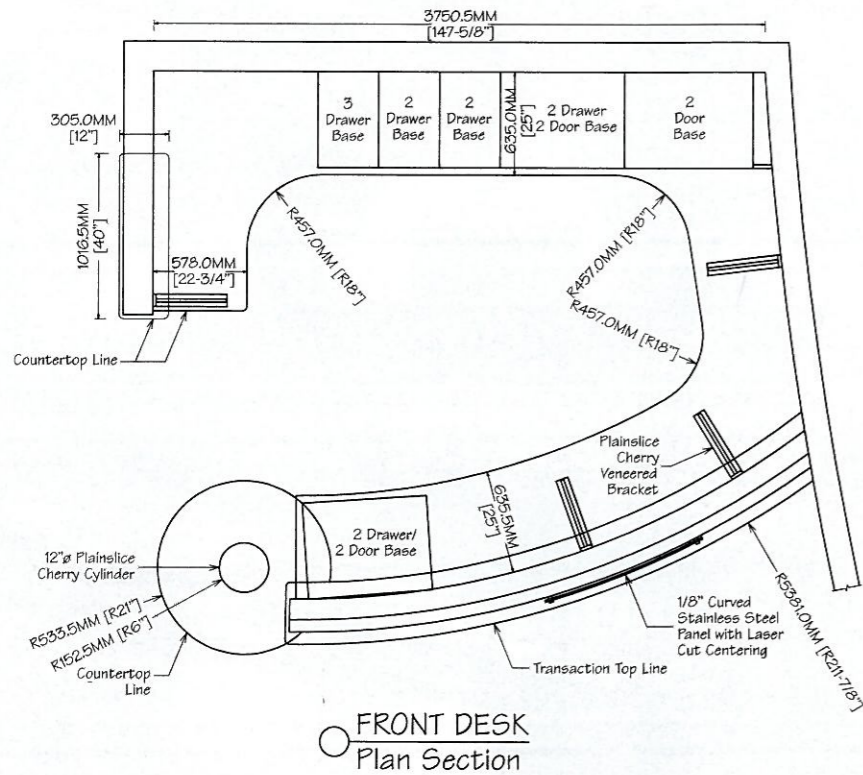
TIMELESS SPACE

According to designer Nicholas Lynch, the primary design objective was to "create a timeless and classical space that would appeal to a wide array of football enthusiasts, from potential donors to prospective players." Additionally, NDSU wanted a space that would enforce and verify the fact that the team had moved up to Division I. "As a part of this," notes Lynch, "a large amount of technology needed to be incorporated into the design, most of which was hidden

▶ THE CONFERENCE ROOM TABLE IS surrounded by beautiful Cherry paneling and an overhead soffit of wood.



▶ THE CONFERENCE ROOM with sliding wall doors and overhead screen closed.



from plain sight.”
Curved forms were used to give the space a contemporary feel and to help guide the sightline of visitors. The use of architectural woodwork, glass, granite and steel produce a “wow” factor, giving visitors a warm, inviting welcome.

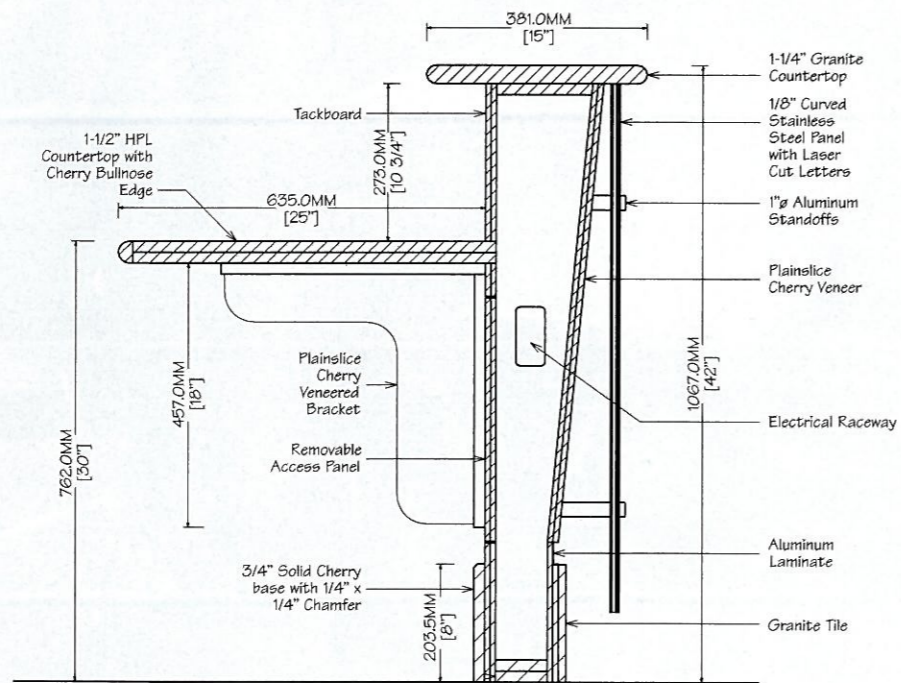
Materials and forms have been kept subtle enough, says Lynch, that the space will be comfortable and impressive 30 years from now. Specialty lighting throughout the space emphasizes the timeless design.

“The use of reveals in the wood, while obviously functional, allowed us to place much of the required technological infrastructure behind wood panels where it could be easily accessed and utilized without presenting itself blatantly to the casual observer.”

WALLS OF WOOD

Sequenced and book matched, plain sliced Cherry veneer, and plain sawn solid Cherry was used for the project. Selected for its appearance and dura-

bility, Cherry was used on the conference table, wall paneling, cutout player profiles, elliptical suspended ceiling panels, the curved front entry wall,



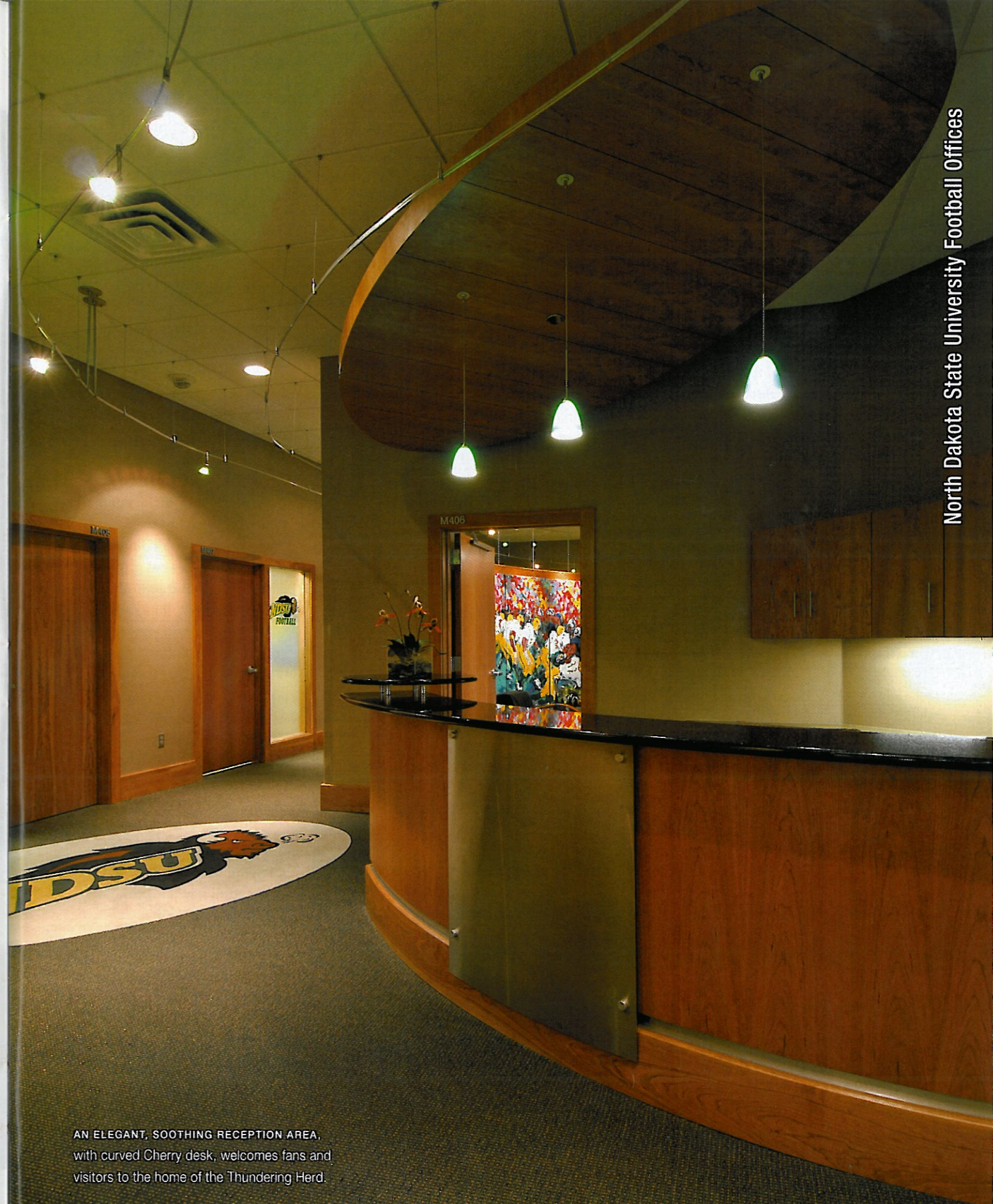
cabinetry, desks, door jambs, casing and mouldings.

The front entry wall is the most intricate aspect of the project, says JSM Woodworks’ Project Manager Jason Messer. It is a full wall of large panes of glass, oversized doors, floor to ceiling wood panels and granite tile.

“Due to the complexity and requirement that there be no visible seams or edges on the panels, the front wall was completely fabricated, assembled and finished in our plant, then disassembled, delivered to the job site and re-assembled.”

“The wall has interlocking ribs and studs to provide a consistent arc and added rigidity. Visible fasteners were not acceptable, thus we used a keyhole locking mechanism that allowed the panels to lock together rigidly without seeing any fasteners.”

Cherry paneling also clad the angled walls of the stage in the team meeting room. The panels feature inset aluminum channels with sweeping arcs that span the entire width of the wall.



AN ELEGANT, SOOTHING RECEPTION AREA, with curved Cherry desk, welcomes fans and visitors to the home of the Thundering Herd.

“Because of the channel,” explains Messer, “the large Cherry sheets were divided into many smaller, irregular panels that wrapped around the angled walls while maintaining perfect grain pattern and sequence.”

AREAS OF INTEREST

There was, from the inception of the project, a desire for custom artwork, explains Lynch. Therefore, many of the wood panels and wall treatments are designed as backdrops for the art.

The auditorium, which is used for press conferences, is press and camera friendly. The Cherry paneling, adds Lynch, compliments human skin tones.

“The front wall of the auditorium consists of floor to ceiling paneling with arced stainless steel reveals running through the wood,” he continues.

“The best part is the play on perspective when the wall angles out, but the reveals don’t appear to change their curve when you look at the wall head on. It’s a flawless assembly and there is a hidden door in one of the panels for access to presentation tools.”

The wall behind the front reception desk is both curved and tapered as well, and features a laser-cut Bison logo.

THE TEAM’S TEAM

The woodworking team helped



▲ THE FRONT ENTRY WALL features large panes of glass, oversized doors, floor to ceiling Cherry panels and granite tile.

identify and select materials that met the design intent yet had acceptable lead times, says Messer. “Since unforeseen issues arose, we worked closely with the architect and general contractor to make decisions quickly.”

“We have worked with JSM

Woodworks on several projects before this one and have always been pleased with the results,” adds Lynch. “On this project we consulted with JSM prior to the bid on several topics. Due to the complexity of the designs and the amount of woodwork, sitting down with them helped all of us understand what was expected and how everything was to be accomplished.”

And accomplish they did. The team’s team executed a brilliant strategy in designing and building beautiful new facilities for the Thundering Herd.



▲ A DOMED CEILING HIGHLIGHTS the beautiful Cherry clad waiting area featuring a laser-cut bison on the wall.

Project:	Football Team Offices and Facilities	Fargo, ND
Project Owner:	North Dakota State University	Fargo, ND
Woodworker:	JSM Woodworks Inc.	West Fargo, ND
Architect:	R.L. Engebretson, P.C.	Fargo, ND
General Contractor:	Roers’ Construction Inc.	Fargo, ND
Photographer:	William Kloube, Heliostudio	Fargo, ND