



unfolding under one spirit – both literally and visually beneath where the eagle had soared. I've always been a big believer that a painting can only be as good as its composition. When creating the composition for a painting, I always pay careful attention to assure that each small shape relates to its larger surrounding shape and then the larger shapes function together to make the painting work and flow as a whole. And for this particular painting, its composition resonates with the very message it conveys—*All In One Spirit*— or, "everything in unison."

At the core of the overall composition, there is a basic "A" and "U" configuration. The "A" starts at the eagle's head and runs downward to the left, through Ryan Pugh and Nick Fairley and ends at the sacked Oregon QB on the left side. The right leg of the "A"

starts at the eagle's head and runs through Lee Ziemba and Zac Etheridge and ending with Michael Dyer's foot on the right side of the composition. Wes Byrum and Kodi Burns' jerseys, together with Burns' right arm, indicate the crossbar of the A. The top of the "U-shape" is formed by Coach Chizik's hands and forearms, and continues downward on the left with implied lines running through Nick Fairley's jersey to Dyer's helmet and jersey to form the left half of the U and through Zac Etheridge, Byrum's and Dyer's pants to form the right side of the U.

The letter V has long been recognized as a symbol for "Victory." This is formed by Coach Chizik's full arms and upper torso and accentuated by his white jacket. This prominent "V" shape is echoed in the background by the spread wings of the eagle.

*All In One Spirit* will be my 18th painting that honors Auburn's accomplishments in football. The use of symbolic numbers in my Auburn paintings goes all the way back to the 1982 Iron Bowl, when I painted *The Goal Line Dive*, featuring Bo Jackson's famous game-winning dive over the Alabama defenders at the goal line. I depicted the score on the right, 23-22, on Auburn players' jerseys. In 1993, I also used the Auburn jerseys in my painting of *Terry Bowden-Coach of the Year* (pg. 3) to signify the perfect season ('93) and the perfect record of 11-0. To represent the score of the BCS Championship game in *All In One Spirit*, I have used Auburn's card system for signalling in plays to the offense during the game – "22" for the cards on the left side and "19" for the cards on the right.

