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SRC turf field to open by end of March

By **John Saringo-Rodriguez**

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Section: **News**

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The finance committee of the USU board of directors **approved last May** to allocate a budget of \$5.5 million from USU's Revenue Fund to build a turf field that was originally part of the G4 parking lot.

"The actual cost of construction is predicted to be closer to \$4.5 million because of cost saving measures and a favorable bid climate for the project," said Jimmy Francis, director of the Student Recreation Center. "Other than some weather challenges, we haven't had any major delays and we're staying on track with the budget."

Pedro Quevedo, 23, kinesiology applied fitness major, said the turf is a great investment and believes another field will bring a more competitive spirit among OOC SUN students.

The turf field is open to SRC members only and can be used for intramural sports, sports clubs, special events and general use.

"I think the outdoor turf field is a great addition to the SRC and another pride point of CSUN," said Associated Students Senator Talar Alexanian, 20. "I know when I take a look at the construction as I work out and see the 'N' logo on the field, I'm excited to call CSUN my university."

Those involved in the construction are **Facilities, Planning, Design & Construction**, the USU, OHNO Construction Company,

FieldTurf Company and LPA Incorporated.

The field is made up of cost-saving **FieldTurf** materials such as loose rubber, sand and cork particles embedded in high quality polyurethane grass that helps keep the grass cool. The grass is strong enough that it needs little maintenance to stay a consistent and flat field surface.

A tractor will be used to evenly redistribute the rubber and sand throughout the field while an attached magnet picks up foreign objects. The field will also have a storage for the tractor, restrooms and a drinking fountain.

"I think that in the end the project will be fantastic and that it will meet if not exceed people's expectations," Francis said.

The turf field construction began in September 2012 and is expected to be finished and operational by the end of March.

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All the OHNO construction workers have a specific job to do, Aberto Rendon (left), a driller for OHNO construction, prepares the foundation for concrete. Photo credit: John Saringo-Rodriguez / Daily Sundial



OHNO construction workers make sure that gravel is consistently flat and level before the grass can be placed on the field. Photo credit: John Saringo-Rodriguez / Daily Sundial



OHNO construction workers and FieldTurf Co. install the polyurethane grass and insert grass sections with colored lines that are sport specific. Photo credit: John Saringo-Rodriguez / Daily Sundial



FieldTurf construction workers drag the polyurethane grass across the side of the main field. Photo credit: John Saringo-Rodriguez / Daily Sundial



Jimmy Francis (left), Director of the Student Recreational Center and Cory Hughes (right), a FieldTurf foreman, talk about the progress of the turf field, while Mauricio De La Cruz (middle), a FieldTurf installer, glues together the softball home plate. Photo credit: John Saringo-Rodriguez / Daily Sundial



Jimmy Francis, Director of the Student Recreational Center walks across the new turf field. The field is expected to be complete by the end of March 2013. Photo credit: John Saringo-Rodriguez / Daily Sundial

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