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University of Montana's new Dornblaser Field nearly ready for kickoff

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Phone (406) 243-2522

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UM'S NEW DORNBLASER FIELD NEARLY READY FOR KICKOFF

MISSOULA---

Construction of the University of Montana's new field and track facility near South and Higgins Avenues in Missoula is nearing completion despite difficulties posed by adverse weather conditions and strikes. Workmen at the site said bleachers are nearly 90 per cent completed and the playing turf is presently in good condition.

The new facility, which replaces old Dornblaser Field, will provide the Grizzlies with a change house that will service both UM and opposing teams, and also will provide fans with a permanent concession stand, said James E. Gordon, UM mechanical engineer.

Cost of the new facility, for construction alone, is set at \$186,500, said William R. Palmer, UM assistant business manager and assistant controller. Hoiland-Zucconi Architects of Great Falls are the architects for the new facility.

Inclement weather has prevented the laying of the asphalt track at the new facility. Both rain and a strike of construction workers slowed roofing on the change house.

Interior parking will be provided at the new Dornblaser. Lots will be constructed east of the playing field, bordering the UM golf course, and to the south of the stands between the greens and South Higgins.

The bleachers, nearly completed, will seat approximately 8,000 spectators. Additions will be made at either end of both bleachers that will allow additional seating for nearly 2,000.

UM's contract with Gleason Construction Co. specifies that the field will be ready for occupancy Sept. 5, when the Grizzlies will begin practice there. Final completion of all facilities is set for Oct. 1, but the bleachers and playing field will be finished in time for the Grizzlies' first home game against Utah State University on Sept. 28, according to Gordon.

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