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Athletic Fields

BLAKESLEE FIELD NATURAL GRASS FIELD RENOVATION

Minnesota State University, Mankato

Home to the Minnesota State University Maverick football team, as well as the Minnesota Vikings training camp, Blakeslee Field sees a lot of action. Due to the high level of use, the field was in need of renovation.

During the predesign phase, both synthetic and natural turf options were considered. The ultimate decision to construct the natural turf option came down to initial construction cost, estimated at about half the synthetic turf option.

The field underwent complete restoration, with construction of new subsurface drainage, filter aggregate, root zone soil mixture, and turf. New irrigation piping was also constructed as part of the project.

Due to the Minnesota Vikings training camp starting in late July, the schedule for design and construction was aggressive. The tight timelines were met, and the resulting field has been received with accolades.

> "(The turf) was great. It was tight, it was firm, it seemed fast and it held up pretty well."
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> Brad Childress
> Minnesota Vikings Head Coach