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## **L.A. Valley College “Kicks-off” Renovated Athletic Complex with Pageantry**

***Funded by Los Angeles Community College District’s \$2.2 billion Proposition A/AA Bond Program, refurbished complex features a state-of-the-art track and multi-purpose field***

**VAN NUYS (June 22, 2006)** Los Angeles Valley College today celebrated the installation of a new state-of-the-art athletic field and the renovation of Monarch Stadium with a “kick-off” featuring a variety of demonstrations by Valley College athletes. The new field and stadium renovations are part of the campus’ construction and renovation plan, funded by the \$2.2 billion Proposition A/AA Bond program approved by voters in 2001 and 2003.

"Thanks to Los Angeles voters, Valley College students will now enjoy the premier sports facility in the San Fernando Valley," said Dr. Tyree Wieder, president of Los Angeles Valley College.

Monarch Stadium was originally built in 1958, and refurbishment began in 2005 with repainting. Since then, a Sprinturf football and soccer field and a Mondo track have been installed. Mondo has been the sports surface of choice for seven Olympics, and is the surface upon which hundreds of world records have been achieved. Los Angeles Valley College now has the only 10-lane Mondo track in California.

"Athletics are a key part of the college educational experience, and Valley College students will reap the benefits of the new Monarch Stadium," said Darroch "Rocky" Young, chancellor of the Los Angeles Community College District. "Plus, the field has been designed for both playability and durability, and the Sprinturf will minimize our use of water and fertilizer, keeping with our ‘green’ building approach."

To celebrate the opening of the field, members of Valley College’s football, baseball, softball, track and men and women’s soccer teams “took” the field by bursting through a run-through banner. Athletic events were presented on the field, including a football kick-off, a ceremonial soccer goal score, and a relay race, with the final leg run by LACCD Board of Trustees member Nancy Pearlman. Los Angeles City Councilmember Wendy Greuel and Board Vice President Michael Waxman also made remarks.

This was the second facility to be opened under the ongoing modernization program at Valley College. Last month, a new Maintenance & Operations Center and Sheriff’s Station was dedicated. Soon, Valley College will be celebrating the groundbreaking of the new Allied Health and Sciences Center.

The Los Angeles Community College District’s construction and modernization projects receive funding from Propositions A and AA, two bond measures overwhelmingly approved by Los Angeles voters in 2001 and 2003. Propositions A and AA are providing more than \$2.2 billion for new construction and renovations at each of the nine community colleges. For more information, visit the construction program’s web site at [www.PropositionA.org](http://www.PropositionA.org).

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