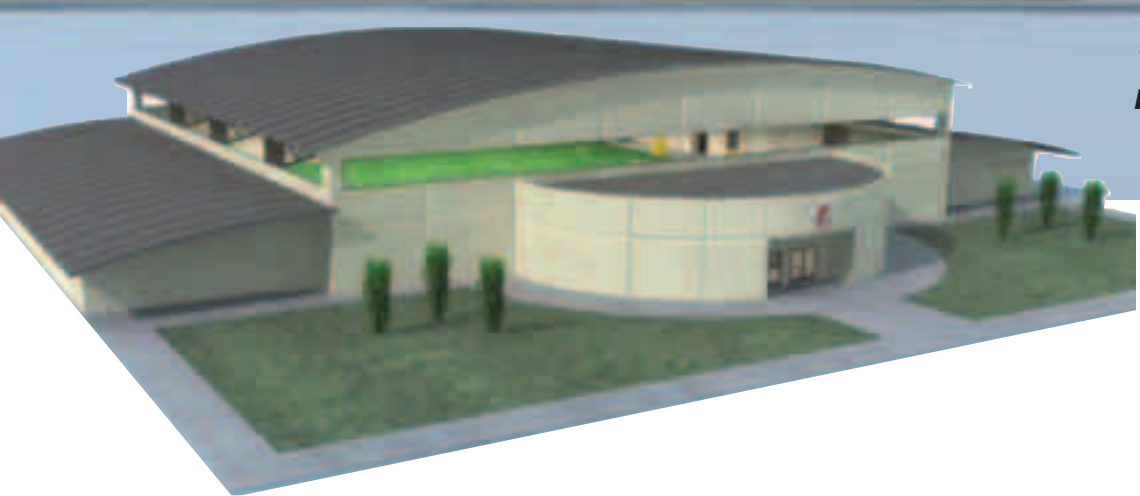


MULTI-PURPOSE FACILITY



"Every program in the school will be able to work out no matter what's going on with Mother Nature."

Hobbs Eagles head football coach Phillip Roybal.

Hobbs' indoor practice facility taking shape

JASON WATKINS
NEWS-SUN

For high school sports, bad-weather days soon will be a thing of the past in Hobbs. Practices won't be canceled due to rain, sleet, snow or lightning. By next school year, all Hobbs athletic programs will have the luxury of taking their practices inside when the weather outside gets frightful.

"Every program in the school will be able to work out no matter what's going on with Mother Nature," said Hobbs Eagles head football coach Phillip Roybal.

The Hobbs High School indoor practice facility is starting to take shape, and Hobbs coaches are begin-

ning to get excited about the future under the roof of the school's new state-of-the-art facility. Roybal said it will be unrivaled by any other high school in New Mexico — and likely by any college.

"I'm not sure that (the University of New Mexico) or (New Mexico State) has a practice facility that's as nice as what we're going to have right here in Hobbs," Roybal said. "This is going to be a top-of-the-line facility. I think it's going to be the nicest in New Mexico and as nice as anything in West Texas."

The project will be built in three phases, with the first covering the completion of more than 25,000 of the building's eventual 38,000-plus

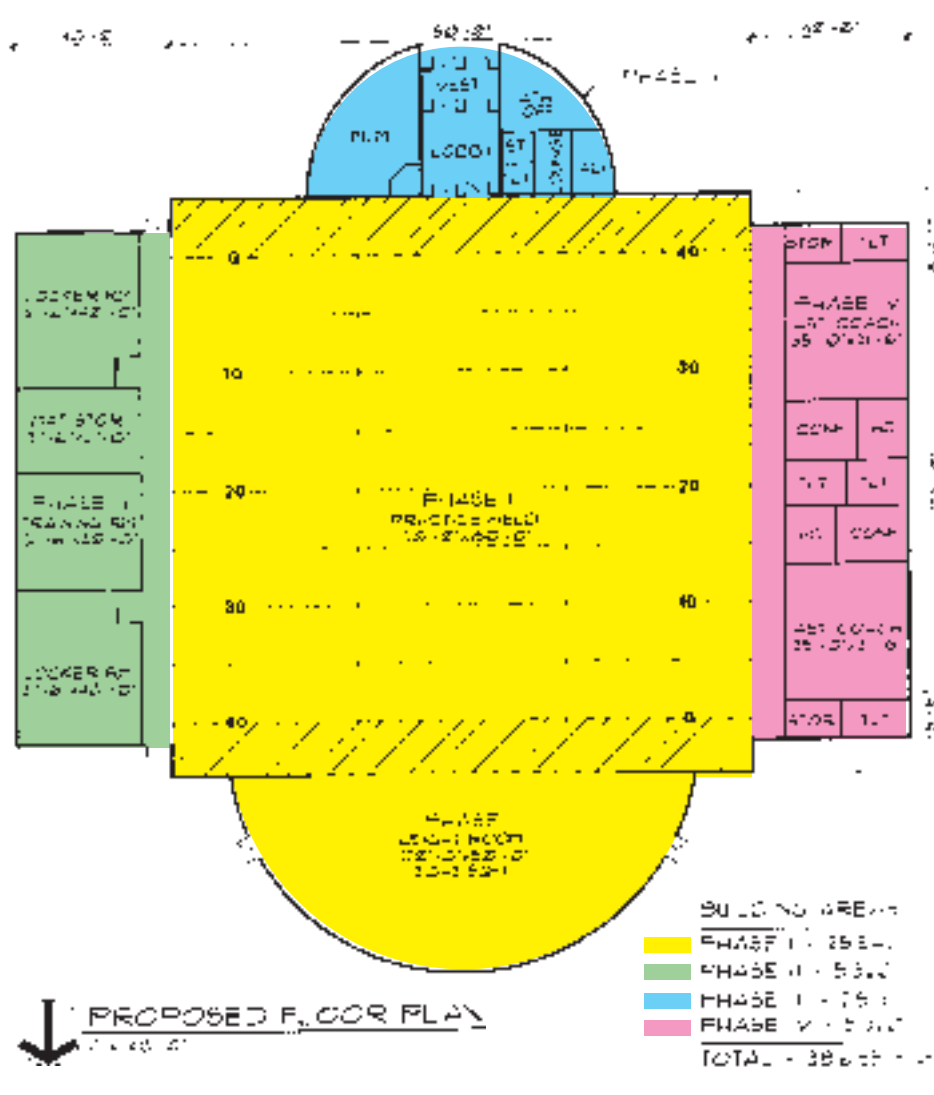
square feet at a cost of nearly \$2.475 million.

The facility will house a 50-yard, artificially turfed field, which can be sectioned off to allow for multiple team practices, along with an expanded weight room, an athletic training facility and coaches offices.

"A lot of people might think this facility is only for the football team, but that couldn't be further from the truth," Roybal said. "This is a building that can accommodate a number of our programs simultaneously."

"All of our programs — including the band — will have access. It's not just a football facility."

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