

June 1977

New lease agreement must be hammered out

Erection of the air support structure at River East Arena has met with further delays. A meeting with all parties concerned was to be held Wednesday to hammer out a new lease agreement.

A five-year lease had been agreed to between the city and Ballard and Associates - the Western Canadian franchisee for Barracuda Air Support.

The project came to a standstill when the Canadian franchisee, Farley and King (of Toronto) took over from Ballard and Associates (of Calgary).

"The Western Canadian franchisee had a disagreement with the Canadian franchisee, and there was a great deal of money owing between the two," explained Councillor Ray Brunka (Riverton).

While this disagreement concerned projects in other provinces, "the bills on the River East project were not

being paid."

The first lease agreement is still intact, according to Coun. Brunka, but it had been signed by the East Kildonan Parks Board, which is no longer autonomous.

The new agreement will include the city, Farley and King, and Riverbend Con-

struction, a local construction company which has now been given the Manitoba franchise for the air support structures.

"The lease agreement signing will be the stepping-off point for the structure going up as soon as possible."

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Report requested on library options

Library administrators have been instructed to prepare a report containing options and cost estimates for a library at Kent Road School, Councillor Alf Skowron (Talbot) said last week.

"The library administration (including the city librarian and the Winnipeg School Division No. 1 librarian) are to bring back a report with options which they feel will suit the joint use

reach a decision on the type of library the school should have: a school-only library, a public library, or a joint public-school library.

Coun. Skowron emphasized that a decision on the type of facility would have to be practical, in spite

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This Week Inside

• Harry Shafransky's

"It would be irresponsible

Coun. Brunka said.

"Riverbend Construction got the Manitoba franchise for Barracuda Air Support, by virtue of the money they've already got tied up in this project." Coun. Brunka explained.

The company has already installed the perimeter ring

The R.A.G. argued that events within the community.

Further air support

from front

beam, and hooked up all electrical and sewer connections. The balance of work yet to be done is minimal, he said.

"Riverbend Construction will be in a caretaker type of position ... handling the operation at this end."

The initial agreement called for a five-year lease,

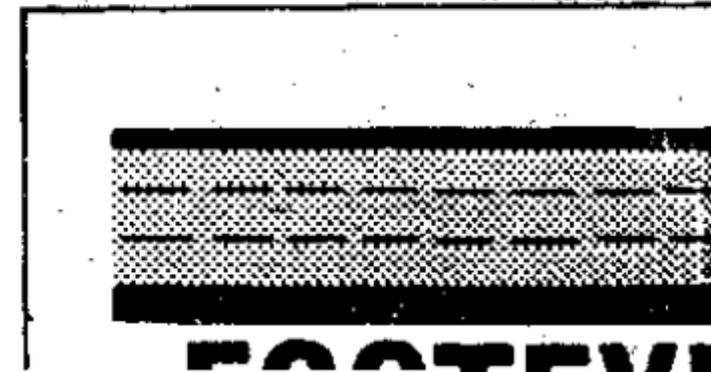
with a further five year option. The city's only responsibility was for the construction of outdoor tennis courts, which were built at the River East Arena site with lottery funds.

The air support company plans to erect the structure during the colder months,

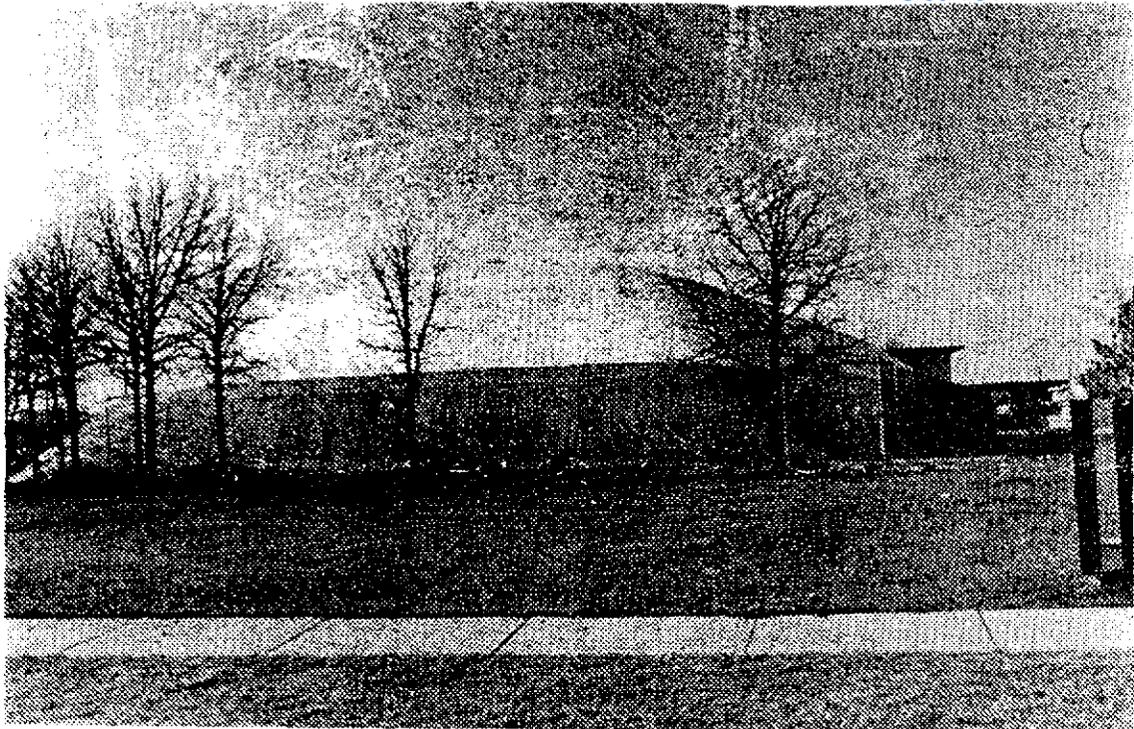
running it as a private tennis club. With the return of warmer weather, the bubble would be taken down, and the area reverted to outdoor tennis courts.

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River East



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HAVE YOU SEEN THE BUBBLE? The Four Seasons Tennis Club officially opened its new facility under the huge air support dome, at Donwood and Rothesay, this past weekend. Pauline Howanyk, manager and co-owner of the club, said the dome took only 26 minutes to become fully inflated. The erection took place without a hitch, she said.

— Staff photo