Tennis bubble returns after long absence

By Tom Curtis

A new, stronger bubble roof went up over the J. B. Carr tennis courts early yesterday morning. This roof replaces the one which collapsed during last January's blizzard.

The new covering is vinyl-coated nylon. The roof's cable-constrained rather than straight fabric like the last roof. The cables will take much of the load off the fabric and should strengthen the roof.

The roof also features an insulating envelope which the last roof lacked. The roof is similar to ones located near North Station in downtown Boston. The roof was manufactured by Byrd Air Structures of Buffalo, N. Y. The last roof collapsed during a 20-inch snowstorm on January 20. High winds caused huge rips in the roof which made it irreparable. The original roof was installed in 1971. The new roof has an estimated lifetime of ten years.

The work of putting up the roof began Wednesday and was not finished until early yesterday morning. Problems with equipment delayed the project. The job of actually inflating the roof was not begun until after dark.