

Bubble deflates after 27 years of use



The Bubble in its final hour before being deflated Friday morning in Iowa City.

By Brendan Stiles

HawkeyeDrive.com

IOWA CITY, Iowa – “The Bubble,” which had been used as the Iowa Hawkeyes’ indoor practice facility since 1985, was deflated Friday morning as part of ongoing renovations being done to the Hayden Fry Football Complex. The process lasted just over a half-hour before it was officially ruled as deflated.

The space occupied by the Bubble will be used as 689 additional parking spaces that will be used for home football games. Iowa associate athletics director Jane Meyer said Friday the plan is for Phase One of the renovations to be completed by Sept. 5, three days before the Hawkeyes’ home opener against Iowa State. The actual practice facility used by the football team is on pace to be completed by August.

“When it was put in, as we all know, it was very appropriate and served its purpose,” Meyer said. “It has gone beyond its lifetime.

“We’re not going to be just constantly blowing air in this thing. We’ll have a much more energy-efficient building in our new practice facility.”

As a result of the ongoing construction, Iowa’s spring practices had all been conducted inside Kinnick Stadium.