

Elmwood Kildonan's Pool now officially open

The new Elmwood Kildonan's swimming pool at 909 Concordia Avenue was officially opened Thursday. The \$2.1 million pool is 204 feet long and 43 feet wide, and has two moveable bulkheads which allow three different activities to go on at once, in the diving area, recreational swimming area, and beginners' pool area.

The pool is two and one-half feet deep at the shallow end, gradually increasing to 14 feet at the diving boards. There are six lanes, each seven feet wide.

The facility also features two saunas - one for men and one for women - and a 16-station universal exercise gym.

A high-beam cedar roof and 100 spectator observation deck overlook the pool. Its volume is approximately 500,000 gallons of water, and maximum capacity 400 swimmers.

The total cost to the city - \$2.8 million - includes a parking lot for over 100 cars, and landscaping.

The north side of the pool is closed in by a wall of windows and future plans call for a fenced in sundeck area just outside, said Bob Ashuk, director of East Kildonan Parks and Recreation.

Councillor Anne Jorowski (Leighton) welcomed those who attended Thursday's official opening, and introduced the special guests. Reverend F. Weibe gave the invocation.

Dave Bain spoke on behalf of the subcommittee of Parks and Recreation; followed by Allen Rouse, of the River East school board; Nick Daikiw, Commissioner of Works and Operations; and Councillor Norm Stapon

(Springfield Heights), who spoke for the mayor.

A ceremonial key was passed from Mr. I. Coop, representing the contractor, the Number 10 Architectural Group; to Peter Warkentin of W.W. Construction, the builder; to Councillors Alf Skowron (Talbot) and Ray Branka (Riverton); and councillors Alf Penner (Kilnorth) and Mike Ruta (Miles Macdonell); who finally passed it to Bob Ashuk, of the Parks and Recreation Department.

A swimming demonstration was given by Kerry

Skibinski, Jennifer Tymchak, Hadyn Henricks, and Naomi Guilbert. The Pan Am Divers put on an aquatic demonstration, followed by the Dolphin Swim Club's speed swimming performance.

Lifeguards for the new pool displayed their lifesaving techniques, followed by a synchronized swimming demonstration by the Elmwood - Kildonan Y.M.C.A.

Ten full-time staff have been hired to man the new pool, and up to 40 part-time staff are on call.

Choir wins two first prizes

The Mennonite Children's Choir of Winnipeg returned recently from two international festivals in Europe, where they won two first prizes.

Although they obtained high marks at a festival in Wales - 86 and 87 - it was at The Hague where they won the first place International Jury and Public Awards. The latter was awarded after ballots had been distributed to the audience and the results tabulated, explained Helen Litz, the choir's founder and director.

"We had a marvellous, marvellous time," she said, pointing out that the choir toured during their 22-day stay, in between festivals.

The 43-member choir sang in schools and churches in Germany and Salzburg, then went on to the festival in Wales. The prizes there went to three British choirs. Thirty five countries were represent

at Wales.

"In the Hague they gave out books after the competition, with popular choruses from The Messiah, and others, and the audience became the choir," said Mrs. Litz.

"It was a very demanding tour, but very rewarding. We had a few cases of illness, and were glad we had our nurse along," she said.

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