


9-28-1990

UA3/8 Raymond Preston Health & Activities Center Groundbreaking

WKU President's Office

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/dlsc_ua_records

 Part of the [Movement and Mind-Body Therapies Commons](#), [Recreational Therapy Commons](#), [Sports Sciences Commons](#), and the [Sports Studies Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

WKU President's Office, "UA3/8 Raymond Preston Health & Activities Center Groundbreaking" (1990). *WKU Archives Records*. Paper 2607.
http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/dlsc_ua_records/2607

This Other is brought to you for free and open access by TopSCHOLAR®. It has been accepted for inclusion in WKU Archives Records by an authorized administrator of TopSCHOLAR®. For more information, please contact topscholar@wku.edu.



WESTERN
KENTUCKY
UNIVERSITY

**Raymond B. Preston
Health & Activities Center**

Groundbreaking

3:00 p.m.
September 28, 1990





Program

Presiding	Dr. Thomas C. Meredith President, Western Kentucky University
Invocation	Mr. Richard W. Bridges Pastor, First Baptist Church Bowling Green
Recognitions	President Meredith
Greetings from the Board of Regents	Mr. Joseph Iracane Chairman
Greetings from the Faculty and Staff	Dr. Burch Oglesby Head, Department of Physical Education and Recreation
Greetings from the Student Body	Mr. Michael Colvin President, Associated Student Government
Greetings from the Legislature	Sen. Nicholas Kafoglis Rep. Jody Richards Rep. Billy Ray Smith
Greetings from the Commonwealth	Gov. Wallace Wilkinson
Remarks	President Meredith
Groundbreaking	

Reception to Follow

Raymond B. Preston

More than 50 years ago, Raymond B. Preston met the former Hattie Paff in a psychology class at Western Kentucky University.

In honor of their 50th wedding anniversary, the Prestons, and the Preston Family Foundation, made it possible for the university to begin construction on a \$10 million health and activities center by making the largest single gift ever made to the institution.

"My wife and I met here 52 years ago," said Mr. Preston. "Two years later we were married. We could think of nothing better than to return something to Western on our 50th wedding anniversary. The things we learned here have served us well."

Mr. Preston, founder, chairman of the board and president of P.B. & S. Chemical Co. in Henderson, graduated from Western Kentucky University in 1940 with a degree in chemistry.

He is past president of the National Association of Chemical Distributors (NACD) and past president of the Southeastern Chemical Distributors Council (SCDC).

He is a past member of the Board of Trustees at Henderson Community College, a past member of the Board of Directors of the Community Methodist Hospital and a past president of the Henderson Chamber of Commerce and



the Henderson Country Club.

He has been actively involved in St. Paul's Episcopal Church and served as chairman of the Building Committee and Calling Committee and as Senior Warden. He served as chairman of the Henderson City-County Air Board for 26 years.

He currently is a member of the Standing Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of Kentucky and is a member of the Development Steering Committee at WKU. He presently serves as a director and interim president of the Ohio Valley National Bank in Henderson.

Mr. and Mrs. Preston have four daughters, Viki Brigham of Peachtree City, Ga.; Connie Walaskay of Henderson; Charlotte Kaye Critser of Signal Mountain, Tenn.; and Leigh Anne Preston of Alexandria, Va.; and a son, Kent, who is a sophomore at Western.

Raymond B. Preston Health & Activities Center

The Raymond B. Preston Health & Activities Center serves the University mission as a fundamental and essential physical education and recreational resource. It will include the Supergym, multi-purpose activity units for basketball, volleyball and tennis; a jogging skyway; handball and racquetball courts; weight room; aerobics/dance area; swimming pool and diving platforms; human performance laboratory; lounge and vending area, and ancillary features.

The Supergym is the showpiece of the Center and consists of six minigyms in an open area of approximately 40,000 square feet. Activities on the Supergym's four maple courts include basketball, volleyball, dancing, fencing and roller skating. The remaining two courts will be covered with synthetic flooring for tennis and other uses.

Surrounding the Supergym on the second floor will be a jogging skyway, which will offer a view of the Supergym. The three-lane skyway will be a 1/9th mile circuit and will include an elevator for handicapped access.

There will be nine regulation-size racquetball courts, which will include spectator areas on the upper levels. There will also be handicapped access for one of the courts.

The courts will have maple-strip flooring.

The 4,800 square-foot weight training area will include mechanical and free weights, exercise bicycles, treadmills, computerized rowing machines and an olympic lifting area..

The aerobics/dance area will have 4,850 square feet with 12-foot ceilings, mirrored walls, hardwood floors, a self-contained sound system and a television projection system.

The natatorium includes a 25-meter by 25-yard swimming pool with diving well, pool deck area and spectator seating on the second floor. It will have 10 lanes for NCAA-sanctioned competition and intramural activities.

The Human Performance Laboratory will offer diagnostic and prescriptive services for faculty, staff and students. It will include graded exercise testing, hydrostatic weighing for body composition and analysis, blood analysis, respiratory testing, flexibility assessment and muscle strength and endurance measurement.

The ancillary features include a lounge and vending area with space for socializing, training and first aid rooms, separate locker rooms for faculty and students, a centralized controlled entry and exit system and closed-circuit television monitors for surveillance.

The facility will open in 1992.

OTHER DONORS TO THE RAYMOND B. PRESTON HEALTH & ACTIVITIES CENTER

Western Kentucky University Students
Trans Financial Bancorp Inc. and
Citizens National Bank
Fruit of the Loom
Mr. Jim Scott
Dr. J. Russell Ross
First Kentucky National Foundation and
American National Bank

Mr. Pete Mahurin
Mr. Johnny Webb
Western Kentucky University Credit
Union
Bowling Green-Warren County
Chamber of Commerce
Bowling Green-Warren County Alumni
Association