


8-23-1992

## UA3/8 Raymond Preston Health & Activities Center Dedication

WKU President's Office

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WESTERN  
KENTUCKY  
UNIVERSITY

Raymond B. Preston  
Health & Activities Center  
Dedication Ceremony

*Sunday, August 23, 1992*



# Dedication Ceremony



Welcome .....	Dr. Thomas C. Meredith President Western Kentucky University
Invocation .....	Mistianna Holcomb, President Panhellenic Council
Recognition .....	President Meredith of Special Guests
Greetings from the .....	Mr. Burns Mercer Board of Regents Chairman
Greetings from the .....	Sen. Nicholas Kafoglis Commonwealth Rep. Jody Richards Rep. Billy Ray Smith
Greetings from the .....	Dr. Burch Oglesby Faculty and Staff Head, Department of Health and Physical Education
Greetings from the .....	Dr. Jerry Wilder Division of Student Affairs Vice President, Student Affairs
Greetings from .....	Mr. Joe Rains the Student Body President Student Government Association
Comments and .....	President Meredith Recognition of Donors
Response .....	Mr. Raymond B. Preston

## UNVEILING OF PLAQUE

Closing Comments .....	President Meredith
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## RIBBON CUTTING

## TOURS

## REFRESHMENTS

# Raymond B. Preston Health & Activities Center

The Raymond B. Preston Health & Activities Center is a state-of-the-art facility serving the University's mission as a fundamental and essential physical education and recreational resource. It includes the Supergym, multi-purpose activity units for basketball, volleyball and tennis; a skyway track; 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 are covered with synthetic flooring for tennis and other uses.

Surrounding the Supergym on the second floor is a jogging skyway, which offers a view of the Supergym. The three-lane skyway is a 1/7th mile circuit. The center includes an elevator for handicapped access.

There are nine regulation-size racquetball courts, which include spectator areas on the upper levels. There is also handicapped access for one of the courts. The courts have maple-strip flooring.

The 4,800 square-foot weight training area includes mechanical and free weights, exercise bicycles, treadmills, computerized rowing machines and an olympic lifting area. It can accommodate up to 100 people.

The aerobics/dance area has 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 has 10 lanes for NCAA-sanctioned competition and intramural activities. It features underwater lighting in the heated pool and two one-meter and one three-meter diving platforms.

The Human Performance Laboratory offers diagnostic and prescriptive services for faculty, staff and students. It includes 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, administrative offices, equipment issue and storage areas, separate locker rooms for faculty and students, a centralized controlled entry and exit system and closed-circuit television monitors for surveillance.

The facility measures more than 112,000 square feet and serves as a model for this kind of facility in the United States.





# Raymond B. Preston



In honor of their 50th wedding anniversary in 1990, Ray and Hattie Preston made a special gift to Western Kentucky University.

The Henderson couple, both graduates of WKU, 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."

Now two years later, the University is home to a state-of-the-art health and activities center named for the founder of PB & S Chemical Company. The retired businessman still serves as a member of the board of directors.

Today, Preston is chairman of the board of the Ohio Valley National Bank in Henderson; chairman of the board of the Adams Street Development Corporation in Henderson; chairman of the Raymond B. Preston Family Foundation and the Ohio Valley Insurance Services, and is a member of the WKU Board of Regents.

Preston graduated from WKU in 1940 with a degree in chemistry. He is a Lieutenant Sr. Gr. in the U. S. Navy, Reserve Status.

He serves as past president of the National Association of Chemical Distributors (NACD); past president of the Southeastern Chemical Distributors Council (SCDC); past member of the Board of Trustees of Henderson Community College; past member of the board of directors of Community Methodist Hospital; past president of the Henderson Chamber of Commerce; past president of the Henderson Country Club and was actively involved in St. Paul's Episcopal Church having served as chairman of the Building Committee and Calling Committee and as a Senior Warden. He served as chairman of the Henderson City-County Air Board for 26 years.

Preston is currently a member of the board of directors of the Louisville Orchestra; a member of the board of WNIN Public Television and a member of the Henderson County Foundation for Educational Excellence.

Past honors include being named Distributor of the Year by the National Association of Chemical Distributors and he was named Boss of the Year by the Audubon Chapter of Professional Secretaries International.

Mr. and Mrs. Preston have four daughters, Viki Brigham of Peachtree City, GA; Connie Walaskay of Henderson; Charlotte Kaye Critser of Signal Mountain, TN; and Leigh Anne Pearson of Alexandria, VA; and a son Kent, a senior at Western.

# Principal Donors

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond B. Preston, Henderson  
 Western Kentucky University Students  
 Trans Financial Bancorp and Trans Financial Banks  
 Fruit of the Loom, Inc.  
 Texas Gas Transmission of Owensboro  
 Mr. Jim Scott, Bowling Green  
 Raymond B. Preston Family Foundation  
 Dr. J. Russell Ross, Owensboro  
 Dr. and Mrs. Michael J. Jarvis, Owensboro  
 Mr. and Mrs. David N. Roberts, Owensboro  
 American National Bank  
 Mr. and Mrs. Pete Mahurin, Bowling Green  
 Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Webb, Bowling Green

# Donor Opportunities

Natorium .....	\$500,000	
Health and Fitness .....	\$500,000	
Laboratory		
Supergym .....	\$400,000	.....WKU Students
Weight Room .....	\$350,000	
Aerobic/Dance Studio .....	\$175,000	
Skyway Track .....	\$100,000	..... Trans Financial Bancorp and Trans Financial Banks
Administrative Suite .....	\$75,000	
Lounge .....	\$50,000	.....Fruit of the Loom, Inc.
Men's Locker Room .....	\$25,000	.....Mr. Jim Scott
Women's Locker Room .....	\$25,000	
Wellness Resource Center ..	\$25,000	..... Texas Gas Transmission Corporation of Owensboro
Loggia .....	\$20,000	
Pool Sun Deck .....	\$15,000	
Racquetball Court .....	\$15,000	.....Preston Family Foundation
Racquetball Court .....	\$15,000	.....Dr. J. Russell Ross
Racquetball Court .....	\$15,000	
Racquetball Court .....	\$15,000	
Racquetball Court .....	\$15,000	
Racquetball Court .....	\$15,000	
Racquetball Court .....	\$15,000	
Racquetball Court .....	\$15,000	
Training Room .....	\$12,000	
Outdoor Equipment Center ..	\$12,000	

For information on naming opportunities, contact the Office of Development



# Contractors

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## ARCHITECTS

Johnson/Romanowitz/Architects & Planners  
Lexington-Louisville

## STRUCTURAL CONSULTANTS

Florence & Hutcheson Inc.  
Paducah

## MECHANICAL & ELECTRICAL CONSULTANTS

Congleton-Morris-Thorup & Associates Inc.  
Lexington

## CONSTRUCTION MANAGER

Alliance Corporation  
Glasgow

## CONTRACTORS

*Site Development* - Holland Inc., Rockfield  
*Asphalt Paving* - Scotty's Contracting, Bowling Green  
*Concrete & G.C.* - Beacon Construction, Bowling Green  
*Masonry* - Loyd Evans Masonry, Murray  
*Steel & Erection* - Modern Welding Co., Elizabethtown  
*Roofing & Sheet Metal* - Geoghegan Roofing & Supply, Bowling Green  
*Swimming Pool* - Langston Construction Co. - Carmel, Ind.  
*Aluminum & Glass* - W.R. Cole & Associates, Louisville  
*Drywall, Plaster & Exterior* - Danville Acoustics, Danville  
*Ceramic & Quarry Tile* - Mazzoli & Associates, Louisville  
*Acoustical, Resilient & Carpet* - Acousti Engineering Co., Nashville  
*Wood Flooring* - Martin Flooring Co., Louisville  
*Synthetic Flooring* - The Little Floor Co., Bowling Green  
*Elevator* - Dover Elevator Co., Murray  
*Athletic Equipment* - Clayton Co., Louisville  
*Racquetball Courts* - Hollman, Inc., Murray  
*Mechanical* - Green Mechanical Construction, Glasgow  
*Electrical* - Speakman Electrical Co., Bowling Green  
*Fire Protection* - Holmes Fire Sprinkler, Madisonville



# Building Committee

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Kemble Johnson, chairman  
Paul Cook  
Alton Little  
Robye Anderson  
Wayne Mandeville  
Howard Bailey  
Burch Oglesby  
Richard Cantrell

Debby Cherwak  
Wayne Higgins  
William Powell  
Joan Krenzin  
Harry Largen, *ex officio*  
Russell Turner  
Jerry Wilder, *ex officio*  
Regina Shanwell



