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UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON

BUILDING PLANS ANNOUNCED FOR PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES CENTER

DAYTON, Ohio, April 4, 1975 --- The Physical Activities Center, a new building offering students additional intramural and recreation is about to become a reality. With a December 1, 1975 target date for completion, the new Physical Activities Center (PAC) will rise along Alberta Street south of the Fieldhouse.

"U.D. has long recognized that it needed additional facilities for intramural and recreational activities, especially for swimming," explained UD President, Reverend Raymond A. Roesch, S.M. "I am pleased to announce that through a combination of student fees, contributions of alumni and parents, and a few major gifts to which we hope that additional donations will be made in the near future, we can begin immediately on the construction of those physical activity facilities which are most needed at this time."

The 55,138 square feet structure will include an 8 lane swimming pool measuring 75 feet by 56 feet with a 3 meter diving board and two 1 meter boards, a 24,000 square foot multipurpose gym, locker rooms, handball courts, and meeting rooms and offices.

Overlooking the pool and the gym, will be a 2500 square foot lounge area. A four lane jogging track will encircle the gym area.

The gym area will be used for basketball, volleyball, and tennis which will be played on a rubberized surface of Dex-o-Tex.

A urethane finish will provide a safe deck for the pool which will open onto a 2550 square foot sun deck patio.

Cost of the completed structure, which will have a masonry, metal and wood exterior, will total approximately $1.2 million.

Construction of the building will be done by Illini Building Systems, Inc., a Dayton-based firm. In 1974 Illini received an award for the #1 design-built recreational complex in the United States, the Austin Road Tennis Barn. Other facilities built by the firm include the Kettering Ice Arena.

The building, says Professor Don Morefield, Director of the PAC Project for the University, "will help bring together all parts of the University community."

Its construction, he notes, "exemplifies the faith in the University of all the contributors -- alumni, students and benefactors. It verifies the interest the administration has in meeting the needs of the student body."

The idea for the building was originated by students in the Student Life Council. From there the idea was developed through to the building stage by the President's Task Force, made up of students, faculty and staff.

The PAC facility was one of several recommendations to the Task Force. The recommendations already implemented include lighting of the tennis courts, construction of a tennis rebound wall, increased intramural and recreational programming hours, and the use of Baujan Field for additional field space for student activities.

Financing for $1.2 million facility is being derived solely from contributions by students, alumni, parents, University staff, and major gifts from benefactors. To date, over $1 million has been donated; $500,000 from alumni, $250,000 from students, and $250,000 in interest and major gifts. Several parts of the facility, squash and handball courts in particular, will be finished as soon as additional funds become available.

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According to Professor Morefield who headed the fund drive for the PAC, "If the money would become available soon, the courts could be ready when the building opens."

"U.D.'s purpose is to educate the whole man," Fr. Roesch explained, "that is, not only intellectually, culturally, and spiritually, but also physically and socially. We will now be better able to do this."