Governor Gaston Caperton, left, one of the strong supporters of the Marshall University stadium project, receives a spade as a souvenir of recent groundbreaking ceremonies for the 30,000-seat facility. Making the presentation during a campus visit by the governor last week was MU President Dale F. Nitzschke. The governor was to have used the spade, which includes a plaque with his name on it, during the groundbreaking ceremonies.

Lecture series planned

Marshall University next fall will launch a new lecture series, “Toward Mid-East Understanding: An Israeli Perspective,” according to MU President Dale F. Nitzschke.

The announcement was made during a dinner at Nitzschke’s home for members of Huntington’s Jewish community in recognition of their support for Marshall University.

Nitzschke said the lecture series will be coordinated by Ms. Lynne S. Mayer, special assistant to the president.

Nitzschke said plans for the lecture series were an outgrowth of a trip he and his wife, Linda, took to Israel last spring. The trip was coordinated by Project Interchange and was supported by members of the Huntington Jewish community.

“We came away with a broader perspective and some new insights on the problems of the Middle East,” Nitzschke said. “I would like Marshall University to be the vehicle to bring some of those insights and perspectives to our area so that others may share in and benefit from them. I continue to believe that understanding and appreciation of the problems—their origins, present day manifestations, and future prospects—is fundamental to achieving solutions.”

Ms. Mayer said the schedule, topics and speakers for the lecture series will be announced in early fall.

Rotary makes donations

Gifts from the Huntington Rotary Club to Marshall University have resulted in more than $100,000 for student services during a three-year period, according to Dr. Edward G. “Ned” Boehm Jr., MU vice president for institutional advancement.

Thomas J. Bell, representing the Huntington Rotary Club, recently presented checks totaling $6,360 for Marshall programs. Of the total, $3,000 is earmarked for the Perkins Direct Student Loan program which is matched on a $9-for-$1 basis by the federal government. Another $3,000 is for Marshall’s Society of Yeager Scholars academic program. The $360 check was for the Huntington Rotarians’ Book Memorial Service Project which memorializes Huntington Rotarians through books given to Marshall’s libraries.

“The club has some unique fund-raising methods to benefit Marshall,” Boehm said. “Proceeds from a raffle at each weekly meeting are split between the winner and Marshall’s Society of Yeager Scholars. The club honors members who are celebrating birthdays by presenting them with an envelope in which to place their personal check to the Perkins loan program.

“The Huntington Rotarians’ Book Memorial Service Project has provided the impetus for other organizations to memorialize or honor members through books given to Marshall’s libraries. The commemorative book program is an idea which is catching on,” Boehm said, “and our library collections are enriched through the program.

“The Rotary motto is ‘Service Above Self’ and the organization is celebrating its 75th anniversary of service,” Boehm said. “The club is definitely providing a service to Marshall and we hope others will follow the club’s lead.”

Thomas J. Bell, right, representing the Huntington Rotary Club presents checks totaling $6,000 to Dr. Edward G. “Ned” Boehm Jr., Marshall University vice president for institutional advancement.
Site for child care center discussed

Marshall University has initiated negotiations with the West Virginia Department of Highways to obtain the department’s district headquarters building in the 2200 block of Fifth Avenue as the site of a Marshall child care center, according to MU President Dale F. Nitzschke.

“Care for children of our students and employees is one of Marshall University’s most pressing problems,” Nitzschke said. “We are hopeful we can acquire the Highway Department building and renovate it to become an excellent facility for this purpose.”

Part of the Highway Department’s property directly north of the building already has been acquired in connection with the construction of a new Marshall football stadium, Nitzschke noted.

Vice President for Administration K. Edward Grose is handling the negotiations with the Highway Department and planning for development of the facility. Dr. Nell Bailey, vice president for student affairs, is responsible for program and staff planning.

Once in operation, the child care center is expected to be largely self-supporting, Nitzschke said. He said funds have been earmarked for the property acquisition and renovation, as well as for a director’s salary.

The Highway Department is seeking a site on which to relocate its Huntington District headquarters, Grose said.

Nitzschke said there is a possibility another local institution may elect to join Marshall in the venture.

Employee achievements

Dr. BEN F. MILLER, associate professor of music, presented a percussion clinic at the Texas Bandmasters Association convention held July 31 in San Antonio. The T.B.A. meeting is one of the world’s largest conventions for band directors. More than 3,000 band directors were registered for the event.

Dr. GARY O. RANKIN, professor and chairman of the Department of Pharmacology, recently had a paper titled “Effect of buthionine sulfoximine on acute N-(3,5-dichlorophenyl) succinimide-induced nephrotoxicity in Fischer 344 rats” published in Toxicology Letters. Co-authors were VONDA J. TEETS and DEREK W. NICOLL of the Pharmacology Department and PATRICK I. BROWN, professor and chairman of the Anatomy Department.

ROBERT BICKEL, STEVEN BANKS and LINDA SPA-TIG of the Educational Foundations Department co-authored an article titled “Bridging the Gap Between High School and College in an Appalachian State: A Near-Replication of Florida Research.” The article has been accepted for publication by Research in Rural Education.

Dr. ROBERT P. ALEXANDER, dean of the College of Business, has been selected as the 1990 West Virginia Tree Farmer of the Year. He received the award at the annual meeting of the West Virginia Forestry Association held July 13-14 at Canaan Valley State Park. As West Virginia’s winner, ALEXANDER will be a candidate for the Southern Regional Tree Farmer of the Year Award for 1991. The award was presented based on the amount and quality of the forestry activities accomplished, the demonstrated educational influence and effect on the area and state and the perception that the tree farmer has of forest and land management.