MU to award record number of degrees

A record number of graduates—approximately 1,850—will be awarded degrees during Marshall University's 139th annual Commencement to be held Saturday, May 15, at 11 a.m. in Memorial Field House.

Marshall's previous largest class, 1,770 students, was graduated in 1974, according to Registrar Robert H. Eddins. The 1975 figure was 1,741.

Among the degrees to be conferred will be the first from Marshall's Community College. The college expects to award two associate degrees during the program.

Dr. James G. Harlow, president of West Virginia University, will deliver the Commencement address. He also will receive an honorary degree from Marshall, Doctor of Humane Letters.

Honorary degrees will be conferred on L. Edward Grubb, chairman and chief officer of Inco Limited (formerly International Nickel Co. of Canada, Ltd.) and Joseph J. Smith, director of research and development for Union Carbide Corporation's Chemicals and Plastics Operations Division. Grubb will receive a Doctor of Laws degree and Smith will be awarded a Doctor of Science degree.

Honorary degree candidates will be presented by Dr. A.M. Tyson, vice president for academic affairs, and the degrees will be conferred by Marshall President Robert B. Hayes.

Others participating in the program include Marshall's Symphonic Band, conducted by Prof. Kenneth W. Large; Rev. Dwight Wilson, associate dean of students; Donald D. Ferguson, Marshall Alumni Association president; Symphonic Choir and Brass Ensemble, directed by Dr. Paul A. Balshaw; Prof. John Creighton and the academic deans:

- Dr. Bernard Queen, College of Education; Dr. George J. Harbold, College of Arts and Sciences; Dr. L. Aubrey Drewry Jr., College of Business and Applied Science; Dr. Robert W. Coon, School of Medicine and Associated Health Professions; Glenn Smith, Community College, and Dr. Paul D. Stewart, Graduate School.

Because of the graduating class size and the limited seating capacity of Memorial Field House, the university again will use a ticket system for admission to Commencement, Eddins said.

All persons, both guests and participants, must have a ticket in order to enter the Field House.

'Chief Justice' praised by Washington critic

Nearly 1,400 Marshall University alumni and friends attended the performance of "The Chief Justice: John Marshall" given Tuesday at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C.

The production of the musical epic, featuring some 160 Marshall music students and Huntington community musicians, represented West Virginia in the Bicentennial Parade of American Music Series.

The performance was reviewed by the Washington Post Music Critic, Paul Hume, and his critique which was published in the Post Wednesday under the headline, "In Praise of John Marshall," follows:

"West Virginia could not have chosen more aptly in selecting the music to celebrate its day yesterday at the Kennedy Center than to present the historic cantata, "The Chief Justice: John Marshall."

With all the musical resources of Marshall University, named in honor of the great Chief Justice, under the direction of composer-conductor Paul Whear, the life and signal achievements of Marshall were strongly set out. It was of this man that Oliver Wendell Holmes wrote, "If American law were to be represented by single figure, skeptic and worshiper alike would agree without dispute that the figure would be one alone and that one John Marshall."

It was Marshall writing the historic decision in Marbury vs. Madison who said, "The very essence of civil liberty consists in this right of every individual to claim protection of the laws."

It was John Marshall during the trial of Aaron Burr, a trial that caused the Chief Justice to be burned in effigy, who issued a subpoena to the president of the United States and for his papers for the first time in history.

If Whear cannot match these momentous events in words and music of matching power and grandeur, few could. There are special touches as in the use of Mozart's "non piu andrai" at the mention of the role of Beaumarchais in trying to bribe Marshall when he was a special envoy to France in 1798.

Using chorus, orchestra, soloist and two narrators, Whear gave us a panorama of Marshall's life to the end of his 34 years as leader of the Supreme Court.

The music serves competently and the performance was excellent.
The Advisory Council of Faculty of the West Virginia Board of Regents met May 5, 1976, and conducted the following items of business:

1. The Chancellor touched on the following topics in his report to the Council:
   1) The Legislature is expected to override the Governor's veto of the $1,000 across the board salary increase bill when it reconvenes on May 14. Approximately 5,500 full time faculty and staff employees will be among the recipients. The increase will consume all but about $450,000 of the monies appropriated for personal services for FY 1976-77. However, the Governor recently requested additional data from the BOR and the Chancellor is hopeful that supplemental appropriations will be forthcoming. Allocations will have to be made at the June BOR meeting regardless of what happens between now and then.
   2) The BOR is trying to expedite the capital improvements program. The largest item will be a $1.7 million outlay at the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine.
   3) A BOR task force recently completed work on guidelines in the area of Affirmative Action, and a document containing helpful models has been delivered to each institution in the system.
   4) Each institution in the system has been asked to develop clearer guidelines in the area of admissions. The BOR hopes to develop a statement of philosophy regarding admissions to replace the bits and pieces carried over from the Board of Education era.
   5) Re tenure, the Chancellor agreed that Policy Bulletin No. 36 is in need of revision and supported the suggestion that the Advisory Council of Faculty begin work on a draft. Lately the BOR has taken the tougher end of the spectrum on tenure, the 6-year requirement being the norm.

2. Revised Policy Bulletin No. 4C (Delegation of Certain Personnel Authority and Responsibility to Presidents), which was approved by the BOR at its May 3 meeting, was examined by the Council. It was agreed that, while the revision represents a substantial improvement over the original, further revision seems desirable. A committee was appointed to begin work on a draft.

3. Re the possibility of establishing a new date for election of retirement system, action was postponed indefinitely for a variety of reasons.

4. Following an around-the-table exchange of information regarding faculty participation in the determination of faculty salaries and increases, it was agreed that the question should be explored further at the next meeting of the Council.

5. The agenda for the June 18 meeting includes the following topics:
   1) Tenure considerations.
   2) Institutional procedures for determining increments; institutional guidelines for setting salaries for new appointments.
   3) A personnel guidelines for setting salaries for new appointments.
   4) Revised Policy Bulletin No. 4C (Delegation of Certain Personnel Authority and Responsibility to Presidents), which was approved by the BOR at its May 3 meeting, was examined by the Council. It was agreed that, while the revision represents a substantial improvement over the original, further revision seems desirable. A committee was appointed to begin work on a draft.
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6. Each institution in the system has been asked to develop clearer guidelines in the area of admissions. The BOR hopes to develop a statement of philosophy regarding admissions to replace the bits and pieces carried over from the Board of Education era.

Special price for employee ducats

Marshall University employees, faculty and staff, are urged to order their 1976 Thundering Herd football season tickets now. Faculty and staff members can purchase season tickets at a reduced rate. Six home games go for just $15 per adult and $9 per youth -- that's only $2.50 and $1.50 respectively per game. A flyer is being sent to each employee with more details which include a variety of payment plans. The 1976 home football schedule: Sept. 11, Miami of Ohio; Sept. 25, Central Michigan; Oct. 16 Dayton (homecoming); Oct. 30, Akron; Nov. 6, Villanova; Nov. 20, Southern Illinois. All home games will be played on Saturday afternoon with a 1:30 p.m. kickoff. For more information visit the athletic ticket office at Gullickson Hall or call 696-3190.

Dept. history written by Mrs. Czompo

Mrs. Elizabeth Czompo, assistant professor of mathematics, has prepared a history of Marshall's Mathematics Department for the university's files.

A member of the department since 1958, Mrs. Czompo will retire at the end of this semester. Her manuscript outlines the department's growth from 1869 when arithmetic, algebra and trigonometry were offered to 1896 when the first mention is found of a Department of Mathematics and on through to the present.

Her 30-page history discusses the high points of curriculum development from the use of Ray's Arithmetic in the late 1800s to such graduate level courses as "Stochastic Processes" of the 1970s.

She also has sketched briefly the professional histories of the faculty members since Miss Lillian Hackney, who came to Marshall in 1895 and was the first department head.

Faculty and staff achievements, activities...

DR. DONALD C. TARTER, professor of biological sciences, DAN K. EVANS, assistant professor of biological sciences, and MICHAEL L. LITTLE, instructor of biological sciences, recently presented papers at meetings of the Association of Southeastern Biologists at New Orleans. TARTER and LITTLE's paper was entitled "Emergence Patterns, Distribution and New State Records of Fishflies in the Eastern United States (Megaloptera: Corydalidae)." Evans' paper was entitled "The Carex rosea--Carex retroflexa (Cyperaceae) Complex."

Other staff and students in the Biological Sciences Department who attended were: FRANCES HISSOM, instructor; DAVID CRAWFORD, graduate student; CLEMENT COUNTS and TERRY KEEN, undergraduates; SCOTT HOPKINS, CHARLE M. MURPHY, JAY NEERHOOF, and JAN TAYLOR, graduate assistants.

(Continued on Page 3)
More faculty and staff achievements, activities...

(Continued from Page 2)

KENNETH E. BLUE, staff counselor at the Student Development Center, attended a symposium on "Delivery of Mental Health Services to the Black Consumer" held in Milwaukee, April 28 through May 1.

Final News Letter

This is the final News Letter for the second semester. Publications will resume with the Friday, June 18th, issue. Throughout the summer terms the News Letter will appear in a bi-weekly basis.

The deadline for submitting news will be 10 a.m. on the Wednesday prior to Friday publication. News items may be brought to Old Main 115 or sent to the Office of Informational Services through campus mail.

Pinning ceremony tonight

Nursing achievement pins will be awarded to graduates of Marshall's two-year associate of science in nursing degree program at 7:30 p.m. tonight in Smith Recital Hall.

Dr. Robert W. Coon, vice chancellor for health education of the West Virginia Board of Regents and interim dean of Marshall's School of Medicine, will be the speaker.

Music will be provided by Ralph Yost, a Marshall voice major from Manassas, Va., accompanied by Kay Wildman, Music Department librarian.

LETTER

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all who made a contribution toward lovely gifts and the party that were given me. Also I want to thank all the people who came to share in the refreshments Tuesday.

It has been my pleasure to have served Marshall University and to have associated with such a great group of co-workers.

Nevada Mills
Secretary
College of Arts and Sciences

Taylor elected treasurer

Dr. Ralph Taylor, assistant professor of biological sciences, was elected treasurer of the Marshall University Chapter, AAUP, at the chapter's meeting on May 5. Last week's News Letter incorrectly that Ralph Turner, assistant professor of journalism, had been elected to the post.

Absences excused...

Excused absences have been approved by the deans of the respective colleges for the following people on the dates listed:

MAY 3-4, Shelia Napier, Mark Thacker, and Stanley Williams.

Elected to the board of directors of the Huntington Kiwanis Club at its last meeting were DON SALLYERS, director of security, and SAM STANLEY, sports information director. They will serve two-year terms beginning Oct. 1976.

MARK PANKIN, assistant professor of mathematics, bowed his first 700 series on May 10 with the Service Club League at Ted and Ed's Pro Bowl, rolling a 788. PANKIN turned out games of 275, 289 and 224 for his 768 series. The 289 game was his highest game ever, according to The Herald-Dispatch.

MRS. OLIVE B. HAGER, assistant professor of physical education, won a grand prize in a contest sponsored by WGNT Radio. She was awarded a $5,093 gift certificate from Love Furniture.

Ashland Oil, Inc.
gives $15,000 grant

Ashland Oil, Inc., has given Marshall University $15,000 to assist the school in three areas of academic concern.

The donation, made through Ashland Oil's education and community support program, is a direct grant made by the corporation to the university. Ashland Oil designated that $10,000 of the funds be used to purchase a nuclear magnetic resonance spectrometer for Marshall University's Chemistry Department, $2,500 be added to the W. Page Pitt Scholarship in journalism, and $2,500 be given to the Big Green Scholarship Fund for student athletes.

The money is in addition to $21,100 given to Marshall this year by the Ashland Oil Foundation, Inc. More than 340 Ashland Oil employees have attended or graduated from Marshall University.

Dr. C. L. McNearny
is awarded fellowship

Dr. Clayton L. McNearney, assistant professor of bible and religion, has been awarded a Fellowship in Residence for College Teachers by the National Endowment for the Humanities, according to Dr. A. Mervin Tyson, MU vice president for academic affairs.

The selection of Dr. McNearney for a 1976-77 fellowship was announced by Dr. Ronald S. Berman, chairman of the Humanities Endowment, which is headquartered in Washington, D.C.

He was one of 149 university and college teachers selected from nearly 800 applicants for the fellowships which carry awards of up to $14,500 for nine months of full-time research and study.

The West Virginia Board of Regents has granted Dr. McNearney a leave of absence for the 1976-77 academic year, so that he may avail himself of this opportunity to improve his knowledge and understanding of his own discipline, Dr. Tyson said.

The purpose of the fellowship program is to allow outstanding teachers of undergraduates to spend a year away from teaching responsibilities, devoting full-time to scholarly research, Berman said.

Each of the fellows also will have an opportunity to attend one of 15 seminars, directed by leading scholars in various humanities field.