

## TDRS save among top ten engineering achievements in 1983

The Tracking and Data Relay Satellite (TDRS-A) save was cited as one of the ten top engineering achievements of 1983 in the National Society of Professional Engineers' (NSPE) 18th Annual Outstanding Engineering Achievements competition.

NSPE President Louis Bacon last month visited Goddard and presented Center Director Noel W. Hinners and TDRSS Project Manager Ronald K. Browning with a commemorative plaque for Goddard's role in the satellite rescue.

The \$100 million communications satellite was deployed from the Space Shuttle Challenger April 4, 1983, but failed to reach proper orbit because of an equipment malfunction. After 58 days of delicate maneuvers, a NASA-industry team of engineers succeeded in placing TDRS-A into geosynchronous orbit.

By using tiny one-pound thrusters, the engineers boosted the 5,000-pound spacecraft 8,662 miles farther into space. Since becoming operational, TDRS-A has successfully supported Landsat and Space Shuttle operations.

The other nine achievements range from a modernized weather forecasting system to a device which helps paralyzed people walk. The projects honored were: Automated Field Operations and Services, a national weather communications network; the production of industrial chemicals from coal; a co-disposal energy recovery



**TDRSS AWARD**—From left to right: Center Director Noel W. Hinners, TDRSS Project Manager at Goddard Ronald K. Browning, and National Society of Professional Engineers President Louis Bacon display plaque awarded to Goddard for its role in saving the Tracking and Data Relay Satellite. Bacon made the presentation on center last month.

facility; a system using microprocessors to move paralyzed muscles; a new cystic fibrosis detection device; the Energy Independence, a coal-carrying, coal-fired ship; the Foothills Water Treatment Pro-

ject; the Four Allen Center Office Tower; and a steam and electric co-generation facility.



**FUN RUN** - More than 300 people participated in the 17th Intercenter Fun Run April 11. Finishing in the top three positions in the two-mile run were: Ed Boggess, 9:54; David Hershier, 10:28; and Bill Conroy, 10:38. Barbie Beckford placed 32nd at 12:35 as the first woman to finish. Center Director Hinners and Deputy Director Quann finished at 16:58 and 15:01 respectively.



**STS-5 ASTRONAUT** - Bill Lenoir (unshirtd), mission specialist on STS-5, provided support to Goddard Public Affairs during STS-41-C. While here, Lenoir participated in the FUN RUN, placing 19th at 12 minutes flat.