

Mars visit headlines SWOMSI fundraiser

By SARAH McDONALD
Of the Emerald

"I really do not know what the fuss is all about — landing on Mars, I mean, I landed there 40 years ago." New York Times, July 25, 1976.

The man making this claim is none other than Flash Gordon (alias Buster Crabbe) who will be featured at "Destination 2076 A.D.", the SWOMSI (Southwest Oregon Museum of Science and Industry) 11th Annual Benefit Auction Saturday and Sunday.

The event will begin at 4:30 p.m. Saturday with a special sneak preview and no-host cocktails in the Agriculture Building of the Lane County Fairgrounds. At 5 p.m. the silent auction begins with a slide variety of items up for bids. A champagne gourmet dinner will be served at 7 p.m. accompanied by an oral auction.

Live entertainment will follow featuring Buster Crabbe speaking on his "trips to Mars," the Viking program and his thoughts about future space exploration. Crabbe's presentation will end with a surprise happening.

Tickets are selling for \$20.76 per person. Advance reservations may be made by phoning SWOMSI at 344-5248.

The free public auction will open at noon Sunday featuring space exhibits, science films and a full-scale model of Pioneer 10, the spacecraft which gathered information on Jupiter and is now on its way out of our solar system. Computer games such as Star Trek and Space War will be an added feature.

Thousands of dollars worth



Photo by Kevin Pope

Steve Davidson, right, planetarium director for SWOMSI — Southwest Oregon Museum of Science and Industry — discusses

the topic of "Black Holes" with an interested viewer after the show. The museum's 11th benefit auction is Saturday.

of items, from 10 pounds of cheese to jewelry, have been contributed by merchants for the public auction.

SWOMSI is a non-profit organization dedicated to explaining the world science and technology. Funds will be used for the continuing educational and cultural services SWOMSI provides for Southwest Oregon.

Other services provided by SWOMSI are:

- Historic photographs of Viking I Spacecraft landing on

Mars are on display at the museum. The photos are the personal property of University Affirmative Action Director Myra Willard, who worked on Viking I project prior to coming to Eugene. As new photos become available to SWOMSI they will be added to this exhibit.

- SWOMSI gets status reports on Viking I and Viking II from the Jet Propulsion Laboratory several times a day. Latest information about these spacecrafts can be ob-

tained by calling SWOMSI at 344-5348.

- Another community service is the planetarium. "Small Bodies of the Solar System" will be opened Sept. 18 and continues through Oct. 28 at the Planetarium. Show times are 1, 3, 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5 p.m. Saturday.

Federal funds for a new home in Alton Baker Park for SWOMSI and Lane IED Planetarium have been

awarded by the Economic Development Administration. The federal award of \$410,000 will be matched \$337,200 in local revenue to provide the estimated \$748,000 cost of the project. Providing the local funding will be SWOMSI, Lane Intermediate Education District, Lane County and the City of Eugene.

Construction could start as early as next spring and be completed by late fall of 1977.

Butz out of dinner, too

Jerry Lausmann said Tuesday that Earl Butz, former Secretary of Agriculture in the Ford Administration, is out as a featured speaker in a fundraising dinner honoring the candidate in Washington D. C. later this week.

One of the more outspoken members of Ford's cabinet, Butz was forced to resign Monday because of the furor over derogatory racial comments by him recently published in Rolling Stone Magazine.

"Obviously he isn't there any more," Lausmann, Fourth District candidate for Congress, said of the change in plans.

The dinner scheduled for tonight at 5 at the Capitol Hill Club in Washington was to be sponsored by Butz, Oregon Sen. Mark Hatfield, Idaho Sen. James McClure, congressmen John Rhodes from Arizona, Guy Vander Jack from Michigan and Steve Symms from Idaho.

With Butz out, Lausmann says Secretary of the Interior Thomas Kleppe may take his place.

The dinner is to be a fund-raiser for Lausmann's campaign, he said, and "a chance to get to know some of the businessmen in the area."



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