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Martians invade with Viking man

By TOM ROSSI
And PAUL WALDSCHMIDT
Of the Emerald

Spectacular photos of the surface of Mars highlighted a lecture by James Martin Jr., project manager for NASA's Viking Project, in the EMU ballroom Monday night.

Martin's talk capped a day-long Viking symposium at the University in which he and two other Viking scientists participated.

Martin called the Viking photos "the most spectacular taken anywhere," favorably comparing the resolution to photos taken on Earth but noting that "these were taken from 225 million miles away."

Highlighting the presentation was a color photo of a possibly active volcano, 85,000 feet high, nearly three times taller than Mt. Everest, a jagged Martian canyon 100 miles wide and a sunset on Mars which colored the Martian sky with orange, blue and violet.

As expected, none of the Viking photos showed any evidence of life.

The question of life on Mars has not been answered by Viking, according to Martin. "Conflicting information" returned from

life-seeking experiments by the two landers has clouded the issue, he says.

One encouraging note in the search for Martian life, says Martin, is the confirmation of the existence of water on Mars.

"Scientists say that life can't exist without water either in liquid or solid form," he explained. Information from Viking confirms that the Martian polar caps are nearly all water, says Martin. The estimated thickness of the caps is 400 to 600 feet, he adds.

The most negative finding in the life search is the complete absence of carbon or other organic compounds in the soil samples taken by Viking, says Martin.

Organic compounds, like water, are essential to the existence of life, explained Martin.

"When an organism dies and decomposes carbon molecules are left behind," he says, "and no trace of carbon has been found on Mars."

At a news conference Monday morning, Martin expressed the opinion that life may yet be found on Mars and discussed possibilities for future exploration of the red planet to find it.

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Photo by Perry Gaskill

James Martin Jr. is silhouetted against one of the many photos of the Mars landings he showed in the EMU Ballroom Monday evening. Martin manages the Viking Project of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration which put two landers on Mars.

Appeal delays GTF plan

The organization of Graduate Teaching Fellows (GTF's) was delayed Monday, as the University announced it would appeal a ruling by an Employment Relations Board (ERB) officer which would allow the GTF's to form collective bargaining organizations.

The issue will now go to the full board.

Rupert Park, ERB hearings examiner, ruled last week that the ERB will conduct elections in which eligible GTF's will either vote for the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) as their bargaining agent, or for no representation at all.

"We feel that the board agent erred in a number of his findings of fact that led to an erroneous conclu-

sion of law," stated William Lemman, vice-chancellor of the State System of Higher Education.

While Park's ruling could have meant the third organized collective bargaining unit for GTF's in the nation, Jerry Lembcke, co-president of the Graduate Teaching Fellows Federation (GTFF), local 3544 of AFT, said the appeal was not unexpected. "We assumed that they would appeal," he said.

Lembcke said, "We are confident the original ruling will be upheld." He believes the University's action "is more of a delaying action."

The GTF's formed a union last November but it hasn't been recognized by the University.

RSB supports Bornson, Davis; presents program on their case

By HEATHER McCLENAGHAN
Of the Emerald

"I'm not a criminal," Tom Bornson told an interviewer after his arrest for the February, 1976, takeover of a Portland food stamp office.

"I've worked hard all my life. If I go to jail it's going to be for something," he said. "It's not going to be for some petty thing like robbing a bank... so why I done this was simply to say this can't go on. You can't put people in a corner like that and not expect them to come out."

Bornson and companion Lonnie Davis are serving nine-year and seven-year prison terms respectively, for holding three workers at a state food and welfare office hostage for several hours last Feb. 6. Both Bornson and Davis are eligible for bail while their convictions are on appeal. A bail hearing is expected to be scheduled some time this month.

A campaign to free Bornson and Davis on bail has been started by groups throughout the state and nation. Spearheaded by the Unemployment Workers Organizing Committee, the effort to free the two has been taken up on

campus by the Revolutionary Student Brigade (RSB).

The brigade is sponsoring a program on the Bornson and Davis case at 7:30 tonight in the EMU. Two speakers from the Portland Committee to Free Bornson and Davis will explain the men's current status and present a slide show.

Bornson's action took the form of a political statement, he says, because of the repeated frustration he encountered in his attempt to secure public assistance for his hungry family.

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ASUO to lobby against high-priced education

Higher education is in danger of becoming more elitist because dependent students from middle-income families are unable to meet the rising costs associated with University enrollment, says Jim Bernau, a representative of the Office of Student Advocacy (OSA).

In an effort to change the situation, the Student University Affairs Board (SUAB), the ASUO executive and the OSA will hold a meeting Wednesday from 2 to 5 p.m. and from 7 to 9 p.m. to gather testimony from students who have financial aid problems.

Student testimony will help shape ASUO legislative lobbying efforts for the 1977 state legislature.

A memo from ASUO Pres. Jan Oliver and Mark Cogan, vice-president for state affairs, states the ASUO "will go to the legislature asking for a financial aid program which will provide that no person be denied access to higher education for financial reasons." The memo states the financial needs of two groups have been ignored, namely the student parent and the student from a family of middle-income background.

"These are basic positions," says SUAB chairer Jeff Warren. "They're completely non-partisan."

At the same time Warren acknowledges that trying to provide equal access to education is indeed a political issue.

"There's no way we're going to influence the legislature without reams and reams of testimony," says Bernau. "If we don't put on a real good argument, there's no way the legislature is going to part with millions of dollars to help those who are hurting," he says.

"Why should they, when their constituents are screaming bloody murder about taxes?"

Wednesday's meeting is the first step in a drive to obtain statistics and testimony from students. Testimonies will be transcribed for later use as evidence before the legislature.