NASA Gives Up on Mars **Polar Lander**

Pasadena, Calif (AP) After more than a month of searching for a signal from NASA's Mars Polar Lander, mission controllers gave up hope of saving the \$165 million mission to the Red Planet. The last effort to communicate with the three-legged lander ended at 11 a.m. Polar Lander was to have touched down Dec. 3 for a 90-day mission near Mars' south pole to study the atmosphere and dig for ice. It was last heard from minutes before beginning its descent. Space agency officials have a myriad of explanations for what could have happened to the craft, including an explosion or a failed radio system.

Martin Luther King Honored

Atlanta (AP) Vice President Al Gore and several elected officials attended ceremonies to honor slain civil rights leader. Martin Luther King Jr. on Monday. Gore spoke at Ebenezer Baptist Church, King's church. South African President Thabo Mbeki, Gov. Roy Barnes and Atlanta Mayor Bill Campbell led a march in King's honor. King would have turned 71 on Saturday. Around the country, several service activities took place, including blood drives, neighborhood cleanups and Habitat for Humanity house-building projects.

Glaxo Buying SmithKline Beecham

London (AP) British pharmaceutical giant Glaxo Welcome plans to buy rival SmithKline Beecham for about \$76 billion in stock in a deal that would create the world's largest drugmaker. The deal would create a company to be called Glaxo SmithKline that would hold a 7.3 percent share of the global pharmaceutical market and have a combined market value in excess of \$182 billion. The companies say job cuts are expected, but no numbers were given. The new company would have its corporate headquarters in London, and its new operational base in the United States.

Alabama Allowed To Segregate AIDS Cons

WASHINGTON-The Supreme Court let a few states continue, at least for now, segregating inmates who have the AIDS virus from most activities available to their general prison populations. The court rejected an appeal in which Alabama inmates who are HIVpositive argued that the state's policy violates federal laws banning discrimination against the disabled. Today's action does not set a legal precedent. The denial of review leaves intact a federal appeals court ruling that said Alabama's policy does not run afoul of the federal anti-bias laws.

Court Orders Restudy **Equal Pay**

WASHINGTON - The Supreme Court surprisingly ordered lower courts to restudy rulings that said states and their agencies must abide by a 1963 federal law requiring employers to give men and women equal pay for equal work. The court said those rulings should be reconsidered in light of its decision last week that said state employees are not protected by a federal law banning age bias. The issue involves a case at Illinois State University, where female professors alleged in a 1995 class-action suit that the school pays them less than their male colleagues.

Consumers Paying Debt **More Quickly**

WASHINGTON - A consumer group says creditcard users are paying off their credit card debts more quickly and resisting taking new cards. The Consumer Federation of America said the more cautious borrowing led to 112,000 fewer people filing for and receiving bankruptcy court protection last year than in 1998, which it termed the largest one-year decline on record. Stephen Brobeck, executive director of Consumer Federation, said consumers with credit card debts have realized the importance of paying more than the minimum payment on their monthly bills and are sending heftier payments.

Frigid Cold Continues in Northeast

NEW YORK - Temperatures dropped into the basement again in the Northeast. Volunteer cooperative observers reported lows in northern Vermont of 38 below zero at Enosburg Falls, and minus 33 at Sutton, the National Weather Service said. It was so cold that the Olympic Regional Development Authority at Lake Placid, N.Y., couldn't even make ice for its new mile-long luge track. Temperatures below zero also were common across the rest of the Northeast: Saranac Lake, N.Y., reported 29 below zero; the northern New Hampshire town of Berlin dropped to 28 below

Police News/Vancouver

Crime Stoppers

The Portland Police Bureau, in cooperation with Crime Stoppers, is asking for your help in identifying and apprehending the individual responsible for a burglary. On Thursday, January 6, 2000, at approximately 5:45 in the morning, a subject parked his car in front of the Air Link Cellular Telephone store located at 3626 Northeast Sandy Boulevard. After getting out of the car, he took time to peer through the windows before returning to the car to retrieve a large rock, which was then used to break the glass out of the front door. The subject entered through the opening and took a large number of cellular telephones.

The suspect is described as a white male in his 20's, approximately 5'10" to 6'0" tall, medium build, short dark colored hair, clean shaven, wearing a light color waist length jacket with a dark collar, and jeans.

Crime Stoppers is offering a cash reward of up to \$1,000 for information, reported to Crime Stoppers, which leads to an arrest in this case or any unsolved felony crime, and you can remain anonymous. Call Crime Stoppers at (503) 823-HELP.

Internal Affairs finds no misconduct from Vancouver police

CONTRIBUTEDSTORY FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

A preliminary Internal Affairs investigation has revealed no misconduct on the part of Vancouver Police Services officers who made a marijuana seizure on November 13,

On November 13, 1999, at 1:58 a.m., Vancouver Police Officers responded to the residence of Mr. Steven Pogue after his wife called and reported a domestic disturbance. When Vancouver Police arrived on scene to investigate the domestic disturbance, they observed 28 marijuana plants and marijuana paraphernalia inside the Pogues' residence.

Police learned that Mr. Pogue told the police he had a medical prescription to use marijuana. Police consulted with Mr. Pogue's treating physician and attorneys from the Clark County Prosecutor's Office. After consulting with the Prosecuting Attorney's Office and Mr. Pogue's physician, police confiscated Mr. Pogue's marijuana plants and grow operation paraphernalia. The Prosecuting Attorney's Office advised police that the quantity and method was a felony and the doctor confirmed to police that the quantity was clearly beyond the scope of the prescription. Police left a sufficient amount of processed marijuana, satisfying the doctor's prescription.

Vancouver police officers arrested and booked Mr. Pogue for allegedly assaulting his wife.

A Vancouver Police Services Internal Affairs investigation was conducted as a result of a claim filed against the City. That investigation has not been completed.

New deputy supervisor named for Gifford Pinchot National Forest

FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

A Willamette National Forest ranger has been named the new Deputy Forest Supervisor for the Gifford Pinchot National Forest, effective February 27. Lynn Burditt has served as the District Ranger for the Blue River Ranger District of the Willamette National Forest since May of 1989. She also recently served as Acting Deputy Forest Supervisor of the Willamette National Forest.

"I'm pleased to announce Lynn's appointment," said Claire Lavendel, Gifford Pinchot Forest Supervisor. "Lynn brings a wealth of knowledge and skills to a demanding job and a deep commitment to community service. We are very lucky to have her join our team. The people and surrounding communities who depend upon and enjoy the Forest will be well served by her."

Ms. Burditt spent time at the Mount St. Helens Ranger District in 1981 with the Volcano Recovery Project.

"I'm thrilled to be returning to the Gifford Pinchot" Ms. Burditt said "I am looking forward to working with everyone on the Forest during these exciting times.'

Before coming to the Pacific Northwest Region, Ms. Burditt served as the District Ranger for the Tally Lake and Hungry Horse Ranger Districts in northern Montana.

Raised in Oakridge, Tennessee, Ms. Burditt joined the Forest Service in 1974 as a Youth Conservation Corp Crew Leader. After receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in Outdoor Recreation Resource Management from Iowa State University in 1976, her first assignment was as a forester on the Palouse Ranger District in eastern Idaho. She received a Masters of Forestry from Oregon State University in 1982. Ms. Burditt served on the Flathead National Forest in Kalispell, Montana from 1981 until 1989. Ms. Burditt, 44, enjoys photography, outdoor activities (hiking, canoeing), reading, working with human rights/ conflict resolution issues and community youth programs.

Vancouver with C-Tran to develop traffic plan to ease traffic volume

CONTRIBUTED STORY FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

The City of Vancouver is expecting traffic volumes to increase on MacArthur Blvd. between Mill Plain Blvd. and Lieser Rd. and Andresen Rd. south of Mill Plain on Friday, Jan. 21 from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. due to an event hosted by St. Joseph Catholic Church, 6600 Highland Dr. (at the corner of Highland and Andresen).

The City of Vancouver's transportation, police, operations, and neighborhood services in partnership with C-TRAN, Washington State Department of Transportation, and the Vancouver School District and with cooperation from representatives of St. Joseph Catholic Church have developed a traffic management

The plan was developed to assist in traffic movement to and around the event and to minimize, to the extent possible, traffic and parking impacts on the following neighborhoods: Northcrest, Northwood, North Garrison Heights, Vancouver Heights, Dubois Park, Evergreen Highlands, and Father Blanchet Park.

The plan calls for the following traffic revisions in and around the neighborhoods for the duration of

Andresen will be limited to southbound event traffic only between MacArthur and Evergreen Blvd. Andresen will be closed to all northbound traffic at Evergreen Blvd. With the exception of C-TRAN, Vancouver Public School District buses, and emergency services vehicles. C-TRAN and Vancouver School District buses will continue the normal routes however, traffic volumes may cause slight delays.

Detour routes for northbound Andresen from Evergreen will be either east on Evergreen Blvd., to Sleret, to Middle Way to Lieser to MacArthur; or west on Evergreen, to Blandford Dr. to MacArthur.

Highland Blvd. Will be a right turn only onto Andresen.

Lousiana, Gulf, Corregidor, and Buena Vista will be closed at Andresen.

All neighborhood streets intersecting MacArthur, between Devine Rd. and Lieser., will be right turn only onto MacArthur.

The traveling public is encouraged to carpool or use mass transit to reduce traffic congestion in the area. Transit users can take C-Tran Route 32 Evergreen from the Vancouver Mall

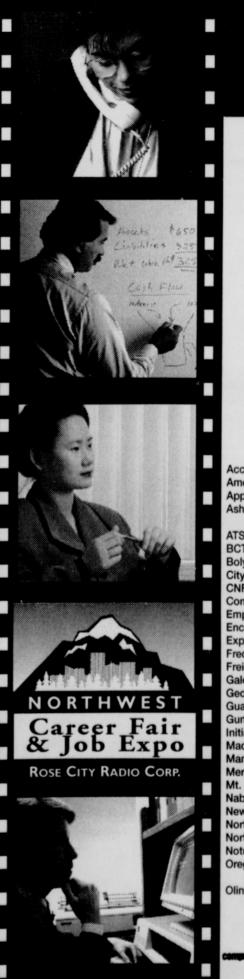
or the 7th St. transit mall directly to St. Joseph Church. Route 38 MacArthur/Cascade Park stops on MacArthur at Andresen. Motorists traveling form I-205 should take Hwy. 14 west to the Lieser exit and proceed north to MacArthur then west to Andresen. From I-5 motorists should take the Mill Plan Blvd. Exit east to MacArthur and east to Andresen.

Event parking is available onsite. Off site parking will be available on MacArthur between Mill Plain and Lieser on the shoulders and bike

Vehicles parked in restricted areas or blocking driveway may be towed at the owners' expense. The parking lanes on Andresen between MacArthur and Highland will be reserved for group buses and vanpools.

St Joseph Church has hired six off-duty police officers and one off duty police supervisor to assist in providing traffic control in the surrounding area. Vancouver police traffic unit officers will be working in the area. Commander Tony Braunstein will be at St. Joseph Church throughout the

Vancouver fire services have also been notified in the event of a medical emergency.



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