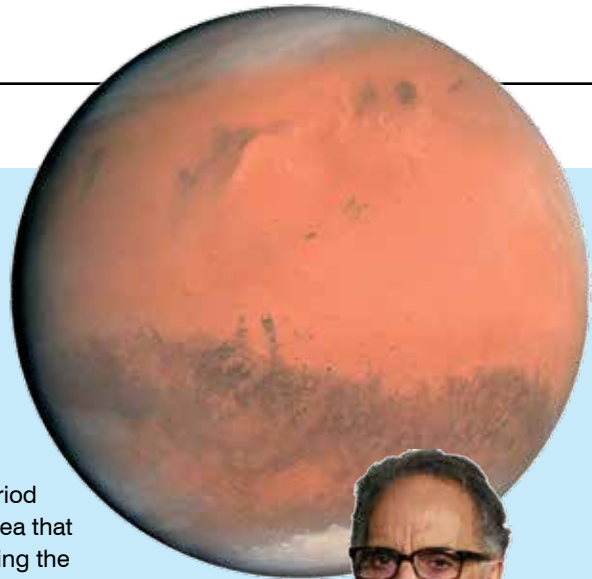


Sooner Shorts

Immature Mars

The red planet is suffering from arrested development and an astrophysics team at the University of Oklahoma believes they know why. Like other dysfunctional families, the orbital instability of its larger siblings kept Mars from growing into an Earth-sized planet says Matthew S. Clement, OU graduate student in the Homer L. Dodge Department of Physics and Astronomy. Recent geological data from Mars and Earth indicates that Mars' formation period was about 10 times shorter than Earth's, which led to the idea that Mars was left behind as a "stranded planetary embryo" during the formation of the Sun's inner planets.



Davis-Undiano wins multiple awards

Robert Con Davis-Undiano, World Literature Today's executive director, will be inducted into the Oklahoma Higher Education Hall of Fame in November. He is OU's Neustadt Professor and Latino Studies Program director, and his book *Mestizos Come Home! Making and Claiming Mexican American Identity* won the 2017 International Latino Book Award. In December 2017, he won the Hispanic Arts Council's writer of the year award and in September received the President's Award from the Latino Community Development Agency in Oklahoma City. His play, *Day of the Dead—A One-Act Real Life and Death Play*, was presented by the OU School of Drama in October.



TOP-NOTCH BRAIN

OU meteorologist and vice president for research Kelvin Droegemeier has been tapped to lead the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. Pending Senate confirmation, he will likely become the president's top science adviser. A Regents' Professor of Meteorology, Droegemeier joined the OU faculty in 1985 and has served the science and education communities at the national level for more than 25 years.

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Be Consumed

At 60 feet long, “The Meg” could have chomped on the shark from Jaws as a snack. Though Megalodon vanished 2 million years ago, it is making a guest appearance at the Sam Noble Museum of Natural History through Jan. 6. The national traveling exhibit, “Megalodon: Largest Shark that Ever Lived,” features a 60-foot-long, walk-through sculpture and highlights the evolution, biology and shark lore that follows the most dominant predator that ever lurked beneath the sea.



Capt. Charles W. Ward

BEST OF THE BEST

Four University of Oklahoma alumni will be inducted into the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame in November. They are Lt. Col. William Hamilton of Granby Colo.; Capt. Charles W. Ward, Tulsa; Capt. Robert Lloyd Ford, Okeene (featured on the cover), and 1st Lt. William M. Grammar, deceased. Hamilton graduated from OU in 1957, and went into the Army, serving 20 years including combat tours in Cambodia and Vietnam. Ward returned from World War II, and attended OU, graduating with an architecture degree in 1950. Ford graduated from OU and its ROTC program in 1966. A combat helicopter pilot, he flew more than 1,000 missions in Vietnam. Grammar went to OU in 1960 and was in Naval ROTC. He was killed in action in Vietnam in 1967.



DANCING FOR PARKINSON'S

The OU School of Dance is offering Dance for Parkinson's classes each Thursday in the Reynolds Performing Arts Center, Room 2002 on the Norman campus. Classes are free for people with Parkinson's, their families and caregivers. Recent studies have shown that dance may be an effective alternative to traditional exercise for people with Parkinson's which can affect balance. For more information, contact the School of Dance at dance@ou.edu or (405) 325-4051.