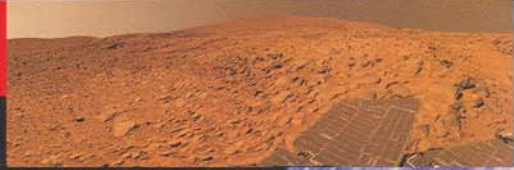


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A fraction of a second after the Big Bang, the universe hyper-inflated from a subatomic particle to the size of a softball.

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