New evidence for a warmer and wetter early Mars


Original press release on the ESA website:
http://sci.esa.int/mars-express/58613

HRSC/Mars Express and HiRISE/MRO helped to map extensively sedimentary plains in Northern Hellas basin. Many plains were previously interpreted as lava flows.

HiRISE data were used to provide details of orbital facies and texture of sedimentary layers, interpreted as fluvial and lacustrine, and to quantify post-deposition erosion.

Coupling of HiRISE and CRISM data enabled identification of abundant phyllosilicates (red) on sedimentary rocks (light-toned).