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Federal Law Requires UMSL to Log Crime

KAT RIDDLER
NEWS EDITOR



Fire Alarm on 2nd floor of MSC



Emergency Blue Light at Parking Lot K

The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (Clery Act), originally called the Campus Security Act, is a federal law that requires universities to disclose information about crime on campus for the safety of its students. It affects both public and private institutions and is enforced by the United States Department of Education.

The Clery Act states that all universities must publish an Annual Security Report (ASR) by October 1 of campus crime statistics which can be viewed by current students and employees as well as prospective students. Three calendar years of crime statistics are documented in the ASR, along with campus security policy, procedures, and the basic rights guaranteed of sexual assault victims. The report must be given upon request. The report is published on the University of Missouri—St. Louis Police Department's website and a hard copy can be obtained at 44 Campus Police Building as well.

The Clery Act requires university police departments to record crime that occurs on unobstructed public property immediately adjacent to, or property that goes through the university's property. This includes crime at Greek housing.

Under the Clery Act, the university's police department has to keep an online daily incidents report to keep students informed of crime on campus. The incident log can be found on the police department's website at safety.umsl.edu/police/campus-crime-info/daily-log.html. Under law, the log has to be updated with reports within two business days, state the nature of the problem, when it occurred, and the disposition of the report, if available. The disposition is "usually report taken because there is always additional information that we are getting along the way," said Sergeant Marissa Smith, Clery Coordinator and CALEA Manager. There is also a closed option when a suspect has been apprehended.

"Yes, it's a good source for students to know...I think that helps [students] to understand what's going on on campus. You always want to be aware of your surroundings," Smith said.

It is not just crime that is reported on the daily log. Items that are turned into the police department, such as lost keys or wallets, are also listed. The Clery Act also requires a fire log to be kept and displayed like the incidents log; UMSL Police Department combines both logs into one. Although it is required by law to have an incidents log, there is no standardized requirement on the amount of detail of the record keeping. "I know there are some other universities they don't give a synopsis at all. They don't really let you know what occurred," Smith said.

In researching for this story, we noted that the UMSL Incident Log had more information about an individual incident than Missouri S&T and Mizzou. We also attempted to look up Clery reports for UMKC,



Campus emergency & information phone by the Fireside Social Lounge

but found it difficult to navigate through the website and unable to find 2014-2015 current logs.

"They [the legislature] allow you to try to get what's best for your students, because I guess every campus is not the same. I think given suggestions on ways to make it better are always a positive thing," Smith said. The UMSL Police Department takes comments and suggestions to make the daily log better.

There is a process for how a police report is added to the online log: the police officer takes the report, the dispatch supervisor reviews every report the next business day, the supervisor determines what to put in the synopsis found online, and the dispatch supervisor then enters the information online. "There are other dispatchers at work- our dispatchers work 24 hours a day- so if he [the dispatch supervisor] is unavailable they are available to also post."

There are also campus-wide alerts in place to keep students and faculty aware of potential threats called the Clery Timely Warning. There is a gray area on what constitutes the use of a Clery Warning versus noting it in the incident log, "The situation varies. So if we see the same MO [modus operandi] over again we'll say 'OK they're targeting a certain area.' We see that they are going after students in the MSC building, it could be one or two students. There's a likelihood that one student has ran into this suspicious person and we see there's a need there," said Smith.

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The Current

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THE CURRENT ONLINE

Clarification: UMSL Directory

In last week's issue of The Current on personal student information being listed on UMSL's web site student directory, a representative of the UMSL Registrar's Office wanted to make it clear that our reference to what constitutes "educational records" did not

imply that students' official Educational Records are available to the public.

(FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99) is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student educational records. However, it allows schools to disclose, without

consent, "directory" information such as a student's name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, honors and awards, and dates of attendance. The main thrust of our story was to make students aware of what personal information was being made available online by

the university and that students have the right to ask that such information not be made public.

The Registrar's Office also made us aware that in the "near future" students will no longer have a deadline to opt-out of having their information online.

Game Corner

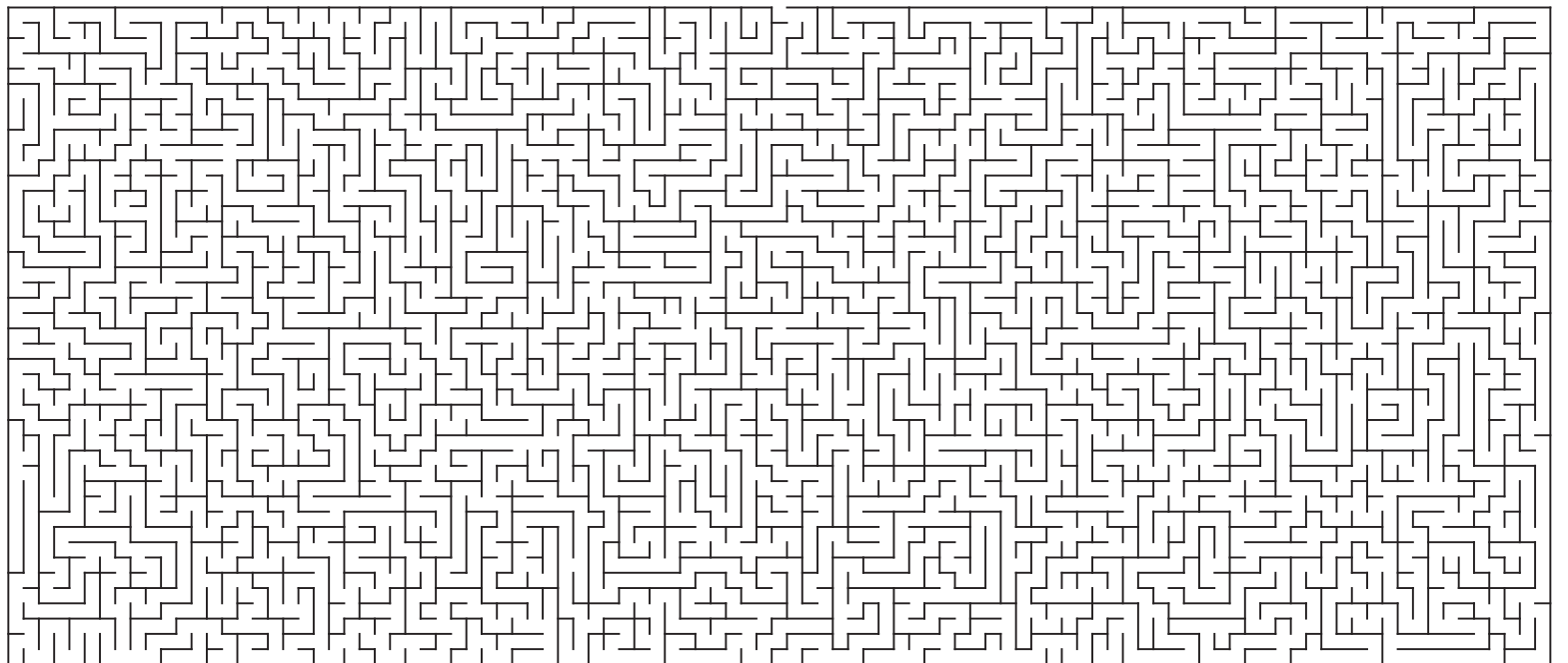
Difficulty: Peachy

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Last Week's Solution

1	4	2	6	9	5	3	7	8
5	7	8	3	2	1	4	9	6
9	3	6	4	8	7	5	1	2
2	5	1	8	4	6	9	3	7
8	9	3	7	1	2	6	4	5
7	6	4	9	5	3	2	8	1
6	8	7	5	3	4	1	2	9
3	1	5	2	7	9	8	6	4
4	2	9	1	6	8	7	5	3

Difficulty: Phosphoric Acid



THE UNDERCURRENT

By Ryan Brooks

WHICH EXCITES YOU MORE, VALENTINE'S DAY OR MARDI GRAS?



MIKE WEAVER,

Senior, Biology

"I'm not celebrating either, because nobody loves me."



AUDREY FISCHER,

Sophomore, Economics

"Valentine's Day, because there's chocolate!"



LUCY DEVEREUX,

Junior, Elementary Education

"I'm excited for Valentine's Day-- not because of the day, but because there's candy!"

MON 25
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TUE 27
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WED 13
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THU 23
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FRI 30
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Federal Law Requires UMSL to Log Crime

KAT RIDDLER
NEWS EDITOR

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"I think it's important for everyone to know that they need to update their emergency notification system. If it's not updated, they will not receive the Timely Warnings or any emergency notification. Also when they are no longer a student and they don't want those timely warnings and emergency notifications that's good to

know, too," Smith said.

To update the emergency contact for students: Login to MyView, Click Campus Personal Information, Click Phone Numbers and add or change as needed, Click Save. For employees: Login to MyHr, Click Employee information in the Self Service menu, Click UM Emergency Info and add or change as needed, Click Submit

Changes.

"If there is ever a time you see a suspicious person, in that area, you know there are crimes going on, you see someone pick up a phone that you're not really sure it belongs to them- call the police department. We are here 24 hours, 7 days a week. I don't think everyone knows that either, I think people may think that we close after hours or we

close on weekends, but we are always here," Smith said.

"Just be aware and help us help you. You see something, give us a call. We love for the students to call and let us know what they see," Smith said. "We are more than willing to come out and assist."

For legal information on the Clery Act, the law can be found under 20 USC 1092 (f). For a summary of the act visit clerycenter.org/summary-jeanne-clery-act. If you have any questions or concerns please contact the UMSL Police Department next to Gallery 210 or call them at 314-516-5155.

News Brief

Building Upgrades, Power & Heating Outage on Campus

KAT RIDDLER
NEWS EDITOR

The Thomas Jefferson Library and Social Sciences and Business Building were closed from 6 p.m. Saturday till 8 a.m. Sunday due to no electricity and heating for upgrades to the cooling systems. Clark Hall, Express Scripts Hall, and J.C. Penney Building were also without heat during this time, but had electricity. If you have any questions, please contact Juan Garcia, senior project manager, at 314-516-6373 or email at jdgarcia@umsl.edu.

Homecoming Court Competition Sets New Challenges

KAT RIDDLER
NEWS EDITOR

The requirements to win Homecoming King and Queen at the University of Missouri—St. Louis have changed this year.

The requirements to run for Homecoming Court are as follows: currently enrolled at UMSL, have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0, complete the application in entirety, be sponsored by a student organization or campus department, be able to fulfill the active role and duties for the Homecoming Court and Homecoming King and Queen which include attendance at Homecoming events, participation in the Lip Sync Competition and Scholarship Crowdfunding Campaign, and attendance at the Homecoming Dinner and Dance, and the applicants must be available for an interview on January 14. All applications were due January 7 this year.

The rules to be Homecoming King and Queen have been changed from being solely based on student vote to incorporate other involvement. Candidates will be judged on four categories: an interview, participation in a Lip Sync competition, crowd funding campaign for a scholarship of candidate's choosing, and the student vote. The Lip Sync competition will have Cameron Roark, the President of the Student Government Association and Deja Patrick, senior, political science, Vice President of SGA as Master of Ceremonies.

Jessica Long-Pease, direc-

tor of the Office of Student Life, said, "The Homecoming Committee made this decision to mimic what many other campuses already do in terms of court election. It also allows candidates to participate in multiple areas of the week including philanthropy work. Instead of electing Homecoming royalty based on simple popular vote, candidates will be elected based on their engagement on campus and with Homecoming week."

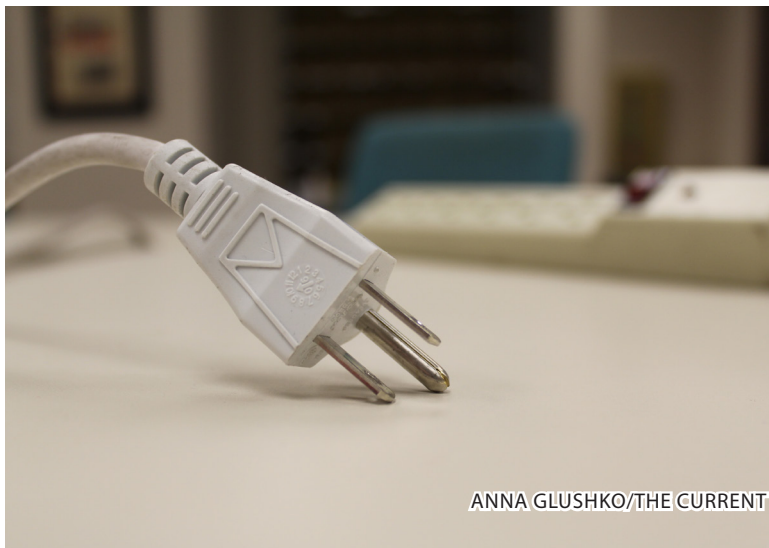
"It also makes it much more fun to compete using other means than just a popular vote. With that being said, I believe more people will think they have the opportunity of becoming king or queen since it is not just about popular vote," said Roark, junior, criminology and criminal justice.

"I think it should solely be student vote. It's for the students. The Office of Student Life should have let the students pick again," said David Niemann, junior, education.

"Since the popularity contest is still part of the selection process, students retain at least an element of control. It's not as clear as it should be. While the new rules are not inherently bad and the added elements focus more on character and accomplishments, the fact that the change in selection process was kept fairly quiet makes it a problematic decision process," Victoria Rogers, senior, biochemistry, said.

The Homecoming King candidates are Adrian Lid-

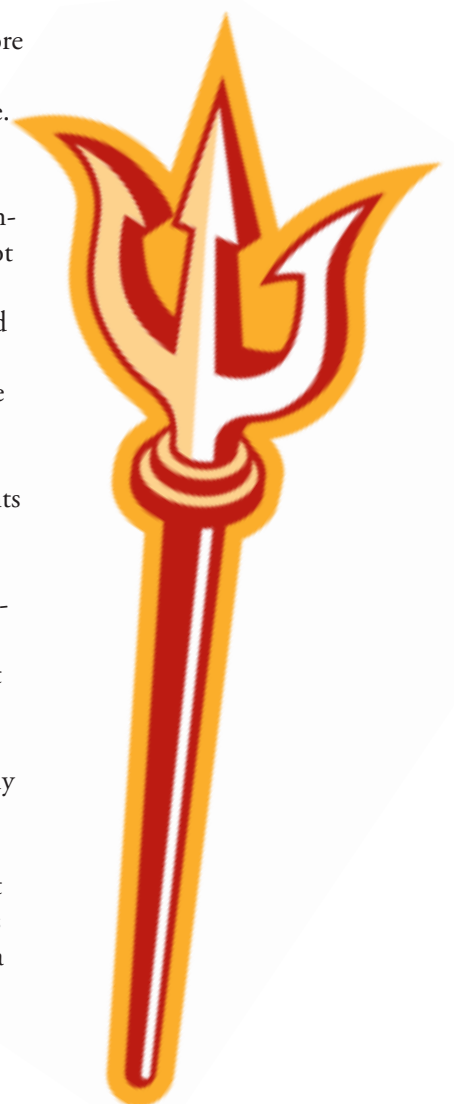
dell, senior, education; Ethan Schroeder, freshman, SUCEED; Michael Weaver, senior, biology; and Nick Schueddig, sophomore, nursing. The Homecoming Queen candidates are Elizabeth (Elle) Fitzpatrick, senior, biology; Megan Galluzzo, junior, nursing; Kelsi Schlundt, junior, nursing; and Devon Stegeman, sophomore, criminology and criminal justice.



ANNA GLUSHKO/THE CURRENT

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UMSL Alumni Shines Spotlight on Human Sex Trafficking

JILL HARDY
STAFF WRITER

UMSL Alumni Mabel Davis plans to use her knowledge and research to combat the issue of human sex trafficking as well as spread awareness. Each year 15,000 to 18,000 women and children are trafficked to the U.S.

A key factor in preventing modern day slavery is recognition, both of the victims and the processes used to enslave them. Traffickers target the vulnerable. Some victims are sold by family members, others are victims of trickery. Whatever the means, traffickers find their targets using whatever means necessary. Perhaps it is a desire for love, attention, money, or desire to escape poverty. Traffickers generally lure their victims with the promise of alleviating the undesirable circumstances or pain of unfulfilled needs.

Eventually, traffickers convince the victims that the reason they were captured is their own fault and brainwash their victims by keeping them isolated.

The more isolated the victim, the more successful the trafficker. Some traffickers are families and may be exploiting their relatives. Traffickers, also referred to as pimps, are not limited to one identity, and the relationships can be more complicated than a kidnapper and his or her captive. This issue of modern slavery is not just an international atrocity, it is also an issue occurring everyday right here in the United States'

backyard.

Davis learned about the issues of human trafficking as an undergraduate in the UMSL Political Science department. She later decided to research the issue even further while pursuing her graduate degree.

According to Davis, "I wrote and researched a paper about the misconception of Asian immigrants in our country. The myth was that most Asians were doctors, business owners, and highly successful. It was shocking to find out that many Asian immigrants were living in poverty without access to social services and medical care. Additionally, many were underpaid. Throughout this research, I came across articles about Asians being trafficked to this country from Cambodia. Equally shocking, my research led to the selling of human beings for sexual purposes through fraud/coercion. I wanted to know more. I didn't realize that this was an epidemic internationally. Many were tricked into coming to the United States thinking that they would make a lot of money to send home to their families (just like many others around the world). However, when they arrived on U.S. soil, reality hit."

Through her research, Davis realized that the reason many of the victims keep quiet is that they were brainwashed by their exploiters. They were conditioned to believe that the authorities will beat them and



COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

deport them. Also, traffickers threaten to harm their families if they tell anyone or if they attempt escape. Some victims are so mentally damaged that they escape and return to their exploiters because in many ways the dysfunctional and often violent environment is perceived as love or "home."

Davis added that there are many ways to combat human sex trafficking and exploitation by contacting organizations in the St. Louis area.

The International Institute of St. Louis helps to rescue women and children from human sex trafficking. The International Institute also helps immigrants to get on the path to obtaining citizenship. The Rescue and Restore Coalition

and the Covering House are also instrumental in the fight against sex trafficking.

Should anyone see something remotely suspicious, please call the National Trafficking Hotline at 888-373-7888. If you are anyone you know has been a victim of Human Sex Trafficking or any aspect of modern day slavery, you can contact either of the organizations previously mentioned. Non-citizens of the U.S. can also contact Legal Services of Eastern Missouri and request the Immigration Law Program at 314-534-4200 to qualify for a temporary VISA and access to assistance on obtaining a Green Card.

For more information, go to FreeTheSlaves.net and check

out the documentary, *Dreams Die Hard* on YouTube. The United Nations has labeled Human Trafficking an International Crime. Perhaps American citizens can work together to diminish and even eradicate the incidences of this massive violation.

If you see anything suspicious contact campus police at (314) 516-5155. They are located at 44 Campus Police Building next to the North Campus MetroLink station. For more information on U.S. statistics of human sex trafficking, visit the U.S. Department of State website at www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/2014/?utm_source=New+Resource:+Trafficking+in+Persons+R.

Celebrating Valentine's Day with Fandoms

KARLYNE KILLEBREW
FEATURES EDITOR

Many people were expressing different types of love over this past weekend with Mardi Gras, Valentine's Day, Singles Awareness Day, and a relaxing President's Day off on Monday, for some. Many indulged their whims and desires for revelry, costume, food, chocolate, stuffed animals, and other people. Not ones to be left out were ardent fandoms around the globe.

Many days out the year people devote their time, passion, and monetary resources to expressing their deep commitment to the characters and worlds of books, movies, sports, music, art, and the lives of individual celebrities. That ardent desire to emulate and keep track of events dealing with a specific outlet of entertainment is called

fandom. According to Merriam-Webster, "[a] fandom is a group of 'all of the fans (as of a sport)' or 'the state or attitude of being a fan'."

Perhaps the most relevant example would be the large drove of excited, curious readers packing out theaters this past weekend to see E. L. James' "Fifty Shades of Grey." The first installment was brought to life on the big screen. Various news outlets quote financial forecasters, predicting a box office record-breaking \$80 million plus grossing for the "Fifty Shades of Grey" opening weekend. According to USA Today, the studio kept it modest and predicted about \$67.9 million. Although the audiences were not limited solely to fandoms, the devotion displayed is an ex-

cellent testament to how much support goes into being part of a fandom.

What probably first comes to mind when people think about fandoms are fantasy football matches, cosplayers elaborately decked out in costume at anime or manga conventions, people spending hundreds of dollars on robes, replica wands, and butterbeer at Harry Potter World in Orlando, or even something as tame as writing or reading fanfiction. Perhaps an apt synonym for fandom would be a subculture. Some people periodically act out the daily lives of characters or a world that captivate them, but all of the aspects of fandom participation are not quite so modern.

The concept of fandoms is not really new. Although few

official studies have been conducted on the matter, fandoms are popularly recognized as dating back to the early 20th century. Some of the earliest labeled fandom activity arose in response to the original publications of Sherlock Holmes novels and short stories (1890-1928). According to a piece from www.denofgeek.us, a site monitoring popular culture's reactions to genre television, movies, comic books, and many other forms of major entertainment. People began writing letters to enlist the help of the famous Sherlock Holmes to, "help them find their purses," and hire them to be the detective's housekeeper. Apparently, people even began sending letters to his fictional dwelling of 221B, rumored to secretly exist. (No time or funds

are currently available to travel to London and find out.) Once author Arthur Conan Doyle attempted to kill off Sherlock in "The Hounds of Baskerville," but people began producing their own continuations of the character in what would now be termed, fanfiction.

Whether 1890 or 2015, people have clearly found an avenue to express their love for something or someone in traditional ways: love letters, special outfits, and near obsession being some of the most familiar methods of exchanging valentines. Fandoms are often called subcultures, but really they are just another celebration of immense love.

'Aqueous' Fills Gallery Visio with Neon Octopi

CATE MARQUIS
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

ART REVIEW

The octopus is a sea creature that has long fascinated the human imagination. While legend and fiction might paint these creatures as menacing, the octopus is actually shy and uses a variety of disguises to conceal itself. Artist Caitlin Funston paints the octopus in friendly, neon-bright pastels, turning upside down both the scary fictions and the creature's own true secretive nature.

"Aqueous" is Funston's colorful, playful, imaginative octopus' garden of delights, a collection of gouache watercolor paintings and multi-media sculptures. The exhibit is currently on display at Gallery Visio, the student-run University of Missouri-St. Louis art gallery, located in the lower level of the Millennium Student Center.

The art exhibit opened Wednesday, February 11, with a reception starting at noon. Artist Funston was in attendance, discussing the inspiration behind her art works, as gallery

patrons viewed the art, mingled, and munched on a buffet of light refreshments.

Funston is a recent UMSL graduate in fine arts. The artist has long been intrigued by the octopus, tracing back to a childhood encounter at an aquarium. As a student, Funston continued her aquatic connection by working in a seafood restaurant. But while the octopi the artist encountered in that job are gray and lifeless, the octopi in her paintings are vibrantly alive with color.

"Aqueous" features several paintings of various sizes, all of which are titled "Tentaculon," and a pair of sculptures. All but two of the colorful paintings in the exhibit are offered for sale. The art fills the gallery space with eye-popping color and a sinuous sense of movement created by twisting tentacles. The artist notes that the octopus' appendages are more properly called "arms" rather than tentacles, as is the case for starfish. Many of the paintings in the exhibit draw a visual

parallel between the octopus and the starfish, by focusing on the arms and the suction cups underneath them.

The tentacles or arms loop around and overlap, against a backdrop of swaying seaweed and other elements of the creature's undersea habitat. Paired with the bright contrasting colors, and the depth produced by the gouache painting technique, more opaque and textural than plain watercolor but just as fluid, the paintings in "Aqueous" almost seem to move. The multi-media sculptures, which resemble neon-bright seaweed, are displayed in the corners of the gallery space, creating a kind of natural environment for these imaginative octopi.

The use of bright, neon colors for the paintings makes them visually very appealing. Funston uses that palette of colors in her work frequently but, in this case, she made that choice for specific reasons. First, the colors acknowledge that the usually hidden octopus actually can be very colorful, able to



Visitors to Gallery Visio peruse the art works in "Aqueous" at the exhibit's opening

change color like chameleons. The octopus uses its shifting colors and patterns to either blend in with its surroundings, or confuse potential predators or prey. In her art, Funston uses color and pattern to do the opposite - reveal rather than conceal the octopus. Other examples of the artist's work can be found at her website www.caitlinfunston.com.

"Aqueous" is an appealing, fun art exhibit, one that offers students a refreshing change on a drab winter day. The exhibit runs through March 11. Gallery Visio is open Monday through Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. They can be contacted by phone at (314) 516-7922 or by email at galvisio@umsl.edu.

Gallery 210 Lights Up with 'Moments of Illumination'

ALBERT NALL
STAFF WRITER

ART REVIEW

Gallery 210 opened 2015 with "Moments of Illumination: Drawn from the Liminal" on January 21. The exhibit by artist Joe Chesla will be on display until March 28.

Chesla's work has the purpose of engrossing the viewer's sensible interpretation of inanimate objects. The three art pieces, each in separate rooms of Gallery A, combine the use of light and white objects in ceramic, glass, or tile. The objects reflect the strong light to particular effect, often seeming to glow from within.

A panel discussion on Saturday, Feb. 21 with artists Joe Chesla and Meghan Grubb, whose exhibit "House of Stories" opens that day, will be held at 4 p.m. in Gallery 210. Following the discussion, there will be a reception from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. The reception and the art exhibits are free and open to the public.

Chesla holds a MFA from Utah State University, along with a BSA from the University of Wisconsin-Stout. His solo presentations range from

exhibitions at the Amalgam to CG Gallery in Edwardsville IL, to fine print shows in St. Louis, which include the Fleishman Hillard Gallery. Chesla is a teaching professor at St. Louis Community College at Meramec.

The concept of minimalism in Chesla's pieces utilize pared down design elements that create special moments in various forms of visual art and design. The work is set to expose the spirit, bare-bones, and identity of a subject by the elimination of all non-essential forms, features, or concepts. Further, as a form of process art, Chesla presents a product that assimilates arts and craft into the harvesting and reordering of actions and proceedings. The process and activities that contribute to the construction of the actual work is then defined as a work of art in itself. By way of pure human expression, the corroboration, along with the force of passion, transforms the work into a creative journey of the psyche, rather than a deliverable end product.

The outcome of the transformation inherent in Chesla's



Artist Joe Chesla's "Moments of Illumination: Drawn from the Liminal" is on display at Gallery 210

work is aesthetically splendid to behold. This makes the final product quite intriguing and poetic, and can be interpreted as idiosyncratic and provocative to some.

The bench in Chesla's exhibit is more than just a seat in the local square; it is a historical narrative of that which is symbolized by its upholstery of light blue circles and dots. Does the bench tell the anecdote of a leg-

endary novelist, poet, cartoonist, or any number of visionaries and dreamers? What about the larger than life lamps, and the tiles in the display? Whose career as an executive chef or restaurateur is represented by the bright lights and shadows on the floor? These questions are up to the viewer's interpretation. The signature piece in Chesla's collection are the shelves with rows of vases, glasses and other

bric-a-brac. What could be seen as a much cluttered assembly is nicely assembled with great systematic order.

The free art exhibits on display in Gallery 210 are supported by the UMSL Fine Arts and Communications Department, along with grants from the Missouri Arts Council, and the Center for Humanities. Gallery 210 hours are Tuesday-Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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For the Love of Basketball

CHANESE DAVIS
STAFF WRITER

After a disappointing loss against Southern Indiana on Thursday night, it seemed the UMSL Tritons women's basketball team might not be ready to carry on their Valentine's Day winning streak. Yet despite the odds, in Saturday's game against Bellarmine University out of Louisville, KY, the Lady Tritons managed to pull out a fascinating win of 80-59.

For the third straight year with Katie Vaughn as the head coach, the Lady Tritons found love for basketball during the annual Valentine's Day game and stole the hearts of the fans. UMSL led the game 32-27 at the end of the first half but had to fight to get that lead. The first

half had the crowd hopeful but concerned due to the excessive turnovers and the inability to grab a rebound on the offensive and defensive ends. During the second half, the team exploded on the boards and court with man-to-man defense for the remainder of the game.

With 17:48 remaining in the second half, Bellarmine was fighting to catch up to the Tritons after back to back threes put up by Alexis Lawrence, senior, business administration, during the first two minutes of the second half. At the beginning of the second half just at 17:48, Bellarmine managed to pull out a sweet jumper but further efforts were put on pause as

Amber Daly, junior, psychology, kicked off a 6 point run, forcing a timeout from the Bellarmine team. After the timeout, the Tritons continued to open up an impressive lead, bringing the fans to the edge of their seats.

At 5'5, Alexis Lawrence, the shortest member on the team, led in scoring, sinking 27 points to include seven 3-pointers and three 2-point field goals. From the top of the key, Lawrence more than doubled her average points per game. Following Lawrence on the boards, Amber Daly shook up the court with her skills managing to shake off any contender and ball her way to an impressive 16 points and 6 assists. Jordan Fletcher, sopho-

more, business administration, who started off slow in the first half, came out fast and furious under the rim during the second half, snatching eight rebounds and scoring third highest on the team with a solid 15 points.

With all of the team's players racking up minutes on the court in this game, it was inevitable by the second half that the Valentine's Day streak was in full bloom. The UMSL Tritons plan to continue this momentum as they host Quincy on February 19 at 5:30 p.m.



Jordan Fletcher, sophomore, business administration, scoring inside the paint

(left picture) Louie the Triton walks across Mark Twain Athletic and Fitness Center's basketball court

UMSL TRITONS

MONDAY February 16th	TUESDAY February 17th	THURSDAY February 19th	FRIDAY February 20th	SATURDAY February 21st
Men's Golf at Newberry College Invitational	Men's Golf at Newberry College Invitational	Women's Basketball at UMSL vs. Quincy @ 5:30 p.m. Men's Basketball at Indianapolis @ 7:30 p.m.	Softball vs. Kentucky Wesleyan Rosemont, Illinois @ 9:00 a.m. Softball vs. Upper Iowa Rosemont, Illinois @ 3:30 p.m.	Women's Basketball at Truman State @ 1:00 p.m. Softball vs. Wayne State Rosemont, Illinois @ 11:00 a.m. Men's Swimming at Drury Invite @ 1:00 p.m. Women's Swimming at Drury Invite @ 1:00 p.m. Softball vs. Grand Valley State Rosemont, Illinois @ 6:00 p.m. Men's Basketball at Indianapolis @ 7:30 p.m.



YIMAN WU/THE CURRENT

UMSL's Men's Swimming Team Gets to the Top

NICHOLAS PEREZ
SPORTS EDITOR

Tritons own Men's Swimming Team is currently in the GLVC Championships. Day one of the Championships is a day to remember for UMSL. The Men's Swimming Team finished with two top seven places. They are not only setting records there, but breaking UMSL records; the 800 freestyle relay posted a B-cut time of 6:49.64 which gave them 6th place. Matt Borges, freshman, Anson Tam, freshman, biochemistry biotech, Felix Kusnierz, freshman, Physical Education, and Fernando Robledo, sophomore, pre-engineering, secured the highest finish of the day on Wednesday for the Tritons.

Borges, Kusnierz, Robledo, and Mladen Senicar, sophomore, biology, placed seventh in the 200 medley with a time of 1:34.98. Day two, Thursday's performance, would make Michael Phelps jealous.

In the 200 freestyle relay UMSL placed 6th, giving them 95 points in the standings. Borges, Tam, Senicar, and Robledo are the superstars on the relay team that locked in top rankings Thursday. Robledo recorded a season best 20.98 in the 50 freestyle, while Borges locked in his spot in the 200 IM with a 16th place finish, clocking in at 1:54.83. Saturday Prelims are very impressive;

some of the stars are Alvaro Zaragaoza, freshman, business marketing, who set a personal best in the 100 backstroke with a time of 1:56.89. Hannah Kinney, freshman, nursing, set a personal best in the 100 freestyle with a time of 1:10.57. Fernando Robledo set a personal record in the 100 freestyle with a time of 46.95. Sidnie Campbell, junior, biochemistry Biotech, set a personal best in the 200 breaststroke with a time of 2:33.65. If you want to watch the live action via the web cast, go to www.glvcsports.com/ watch and watch our swimmers continue to perform at Olympic levels.

Softball Continues to Dominate 8-State Classic

NICHOLAS PEREZ
SPORTS EDITOR

The UMSL Tritons rallied on Friday the 13th against Fort Hayes State to win 5-4, bringing their season record to 6-1. It was a close game throughout; UMSL opened the seventh inning with two outs and switched leading score the whole game. Brianna Butler, senior, Elementary Education, and Alex Stupek, sophomore, nursing, locked in two out RBI hits to clench the win, while Katie Rutledge, senior, Liberal Studies, got her third homerun of the season, knocking it right out of the park. Fort Hayes came back a few times to take the lead towards the end but UMSL was right there to stop

them in their tracks. UMSL had eight hits to Fort Hayes' seven. Coming off the adrenaline from defeating Fort Hayes, the UMSL Tritons softball team took it to another level and dominated Saturday morning's game against Minnesota-Mankato 10 to 2. The Tritons took in nine hits which included grand slams from Brianna Butler, senior, and Katie Rutledge, senior. UMSL continues the tournament play this week. Stay tuned for updates to follow your Triton Softball team to the championship.

Down with the Campus Directory

ABBY NAUMANN
OPINIONS EDITOR

When I was in the fifth grade, state social workers from internet safety teams began annually visiting my school to show disturbing, bone-chilling videos of children who had posted any of their personal information online ending up stashed in a trunk and carted away to the border by a middle-aged pervert. Faces blurred, music and graphics stereotypically dark and erratic, the whole production was very much “Dateline-NBC” inspired. I can imagine it was similar to what the older folks nowadays experienced in the “Reefer Madness” or “Duck and Cover” days. Was it an over-dramatic representation generalizing that the use of any type of social media made you automatically a victim of abduction? Of course. But did it convey an important message that was burned into our naive little fifth-grade brains? Totally.

With grade schoolers across the country being chastised for putting so much as their middle names on the internet, I find it shocking that a school of higher learning felt it appropriate to post all their students’ contact information on the web without so much as batting an eye. Yes, I speak of the UMSL Campus Directory.

My first experience with the directory was when an old high school acquaintance now enrolled at Mizzou called me on

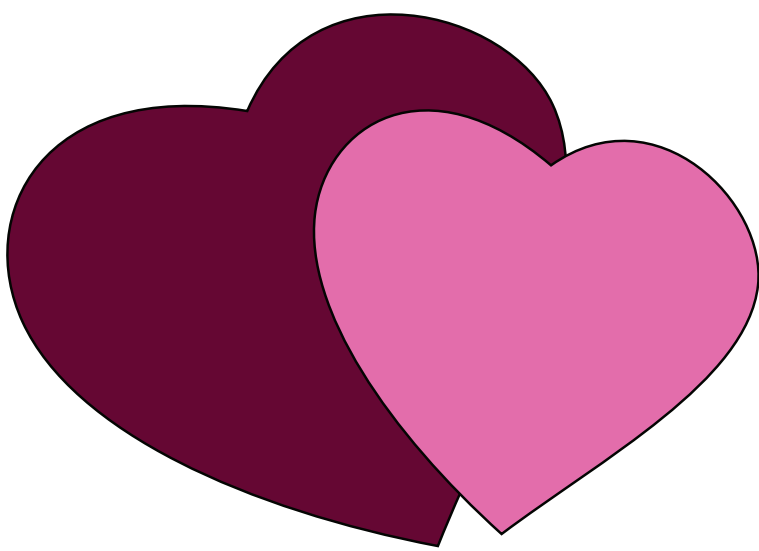
my personal cell phone using the number they had found on the site to tell me “Hey, Abby, you know all our personal information is online?” No, sir. No, I had not. Because while the university may have hidden a disclaimer in a form I signed, they did not have the decency to ask me if I wanted my contact information posted for the world to see in plain English. Which leads me to ask, are you hiding something, or is my safety just not that important to you?

Here’s the thing, I couldn’t care less if FERPA does not expressly prohibit the posting of students’ contact information online. FERPA doesn’t expressly forbid me from wearing my underwear on my head in public. There is no reason it should be online in the first place. A fifth grader could tell you that once something goes online, you can never get it back, photos of your Florida vacation, a poem you wrote about a puppy, and your home address. Yes, I can request to have it removed. But now my information can never truly be erased from the web.

Why is this a problem? It may be unlikely that some deranged, sexually-depraved individual is going to google the directory and kidnap you. But it is quite conceivable that your ex-boyfriend or a stalker could use the directory information

to get to you. And that poses a danger. Personally, as a columnist, I am horrified by the idea of having my contact information online. What’s to stop a disgruntled reader from showing up at my home or verbally harassing me on my cell phone for finding an article I wrote disagreeable? If someone wants to contact me, they can ask me in person for my number or email address, or in the case of readers, email or write to me at The Current. Professors and classmates have direct access to students’ emails via Blackboard. There is no need for a student directory.

I could not be more disappointed with UMSL. As an organization which prides itself of education and the fostering of knowledge and research, I cannot fathom how anyone thought it was okay to create a directory of student contact information online when so much evidence points to the dangers within such actions. I hope it doesn’t take a tragic death or injury to a student, a memorial service, a heartbroken family, and a lawsuit to change this. I do not simply want the ability to take down my information. I want the directory gone for good, so that no student has to find out too late that his or her home address and phone number has been shared with the world.



Cupid Announces New Friends-with-Benefits Arrows to be Used this Year

Weekly* Chuckl

ABBY NAUMANN
OPINIONS EDITOR

In light of a shifting attitude in romantic comedies, Eros himself announced this week that his traditional arrows will be replaced by new “friends-with-benefits” versions. The original arrows, dating back in usage to the dawn of monogamy, have been a symbol of love and Valentine’s Day since the holiday’s beginnings. These arrows are cited as being the inspiration for such relationships as Shakespeare’s Romeo and Juliet, It’s a “Wonderful Life’s” George and Mary, and from the modern girls’ night classic, Noah and Ally of “The Notebook.” While such pairings have been called a great success, Cupid told *The Current* this week that it is time he dropped the archaic notion of true love and got with the times.

“I am often invited to see romantic comedies— which is frustrating, because I’m actually more of an action-movie god—and I noticed a new trend. Men and women simply aren’t falling in love anymore. What the people want these days is an awkward run-in with a coworker or high school crush, a few cups of coffee, and several days of meaningless, casual sex before the whole thing breaks off violently,” he said. “I’ve been holding out for the homosexual couples, but it seems like

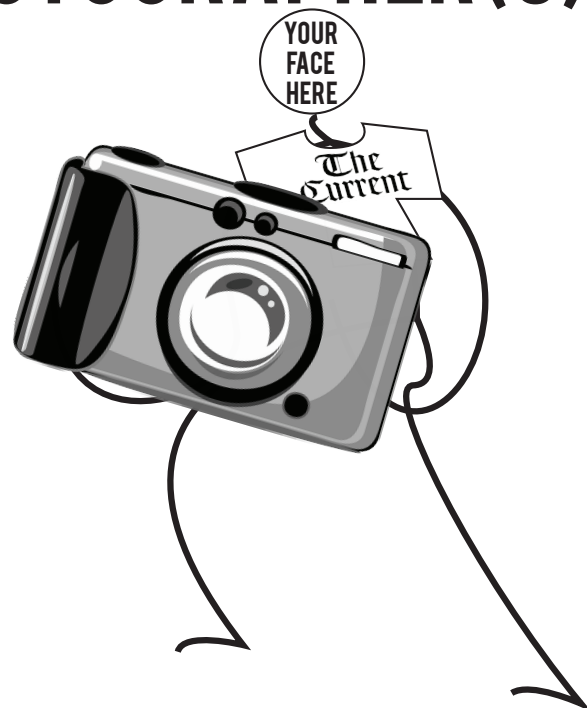
in every movie I see, they are simply hosting wine-and-cheese parties before hooking up with someone in a silk shirt whom they just met.”

When asked if he had given up on true love for himself, Cupid explained that personally he is still a fan of serious one-on-one relationships— be they hetero, homo, bi, trans, pan, or queer— and even considers the maturity and openness of polyamory quite enjoyable. “But,” he conceded, “the people want what Mila Kunis and Justin Timberlake have, and if that means masking your fear of commitment and rejection by ‘playing it cool’ with an alcohol-fueled sexcapade, your wish is my command.”

In related news, Mother Nature has been passing out goody-bags with each arrow-shot— complete with contraceptives, pamphlets on STD-testing, and antidepressants— in the hopes that despite the glorified depictions on screen, someone, somewhere is going to take their emotional and sexual health seriously.

* Disclaimer: this fictional column is a writer’s satire and does not reflect the views of The Current

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Technology Column



Don't Fear the Smartwatch

SARAH HAYES
STAFF WRITER

The new 'it' thing in technology is a piece of wearable tech known as smartwatch. These devices are basically smartphones for your wrist. The concept isn't a new one; it's been prevalent in science fiction since the days of the iconic "Star Trek" wrist communicators in the sixties. There have been proto-smartwatches on the market for as long as there have been cell phones and wristwatches, but it's only been in the past couple of years that they have come into fruition.

Recent devices like the "Pebble" and "Samsung's Galaxy Gear" are leading the pack in the current smartwatch wave. The appeal of having your smartphone strapped onto your wrist and in a smaller package is what these companies are banking on; they hope you'll completely abandon your mobile phone and go full smartwatch, turning the user base of phones into a modern equivalent of Maxwell Smart talking into his watch, only cooler looking.

Naturally, since the current version of the smartwatch is a relatively new entry in the market and is not thoroughly understood by all, there is a movement to restrict usage of them in certain venues. One of the institutions putting smartwatches in their cross-hairs is, of course, higher education.

According to a January report from Sky News, universities are now banning smartwatches from exam rooms. They believe the devices can be used by students to cheat, since a smartwatch has Internet capabilities and therefore can be used to search up answers or pull up an app that could solve difficult math problems. They also say that it has become harder to tell smartwatches from

traditional wristwatches, but considering how ridiculously quasi-Trekkie some smartwatches resemble, I find that particular defense stands on unstable ground.

I can see why universities would want to ban smartwatches from test rooms, especially since there have already been reported instances of students using them to cheat. But in the end, it is a rather silly blanket ban to enact and an even harder one to enforce. First, it requires teachers to either confiscate all watches before the test and keep an eye on them during the test period, or walk around during the test and keep a constant vigilance on everyone's wrists—Mad-Eye Moody style. Personally, the idea of any of my professors – even the ones I like – skulking around my desk just in case I happen to whip out a wrist communicator is unnerving. Think of the test anxiety!

Secondly, having a wristwatch – smart or not – does not mean a student has the intention to cheat. Heck, having a smartphone or a laptop or a tablet does not mean its user intends on furtively looking up math formulas during exams. People who want to cheat on their tests and feel like their best way of passing is taking the easy and duplicitous way out will get there by any means at their disposable, technology-aided or not. If they do not have phones, they'll write notes on their shoes, sneak in flashcards, or look at another student's paper. Equating the two groups on the same level and punishing them both when only one is actually guilty of anything is short-sighted, and ultimately wrong.

I do not have the magic bullet to stop cheating. We as an educational community could

crush the culture of cheating being acceptable, and hold our fellow students—and ourselves—accountable, but that's a much more complicated and complex answer than simply banning a certain device and following the slippery slope of banning all technology in every academic setting 'just in case.' Cheating and plagiarism are serious issues and they demand serious solutions. If the movement to ban smartwatches becomes wider, we as a student body should stand against it and fight against cheating ourselves. Do not let the Luddite mentality of "ban technology now, ask questions later" dominate the conversation on smartwatches at school.

For those still worrying that a hypothetical someone with a "Pebble" will get a better grade than you because of it: smartwatches are not as widely used on the same pervasive level as smartphones. Digital Trends reported that in 2013, two million smartwatches were sold to consumers; certainly, the number rose in 2014 with the introduction of new models. However, those figures pale in comparison to the number of smartphones were sold in a year; over one million phones were sold, according to the International Data Corporation.

So relax. There is not a malicious cabal of students using Galaxy Gears to cheat on tests. There are not even enough smartwatches in the United States to seriously sweat a wave of academic dishonesty based on using them. Keep calm and feel free to get your Captain Kirk on in confidence – or wait until Apple comes out with their own version, eventually.

Women in Male Dominated Musical Genres

ALBERT NALL
STAFF WRITER

The lingering debate over rapper Iggy Azalea extends well beyond racial customs in the recording industry. This is about men and our reactions to seeing women redefining the standards in musical genres that are traditionally dominated by males. The moment I realized that was the day I was flabbergasted at seeing a young, eye-catching African-American female named Mickey Guyton on Bob King's Country Top 40 Countdown website atct40.com.

Guyton's "Better Than You Left Me" is a debut single for the singer from Arlington, Texas, and the song is now climbing fast on the country airplay chart. Guyton was inspired at a young age by seeing LeAnn Rimes sing the National Anthem at a baseball game at age eight. Executives in country music are bold enough to compare Guyton to the legacies of great country superstars such as Martina McBride and Reba McEntire. This is a drop in the bucket among the many accolades Guyton has received from critics that run the gambit, from *USA Today* to *The Guardian*, a British daily newspaper.

Another African American female country singer, Rissi Palmer, performed at a tree lighting ceremony for outgoing president George W. Bush in 2008. At age 19, Palmer could not have found anybody better to mentor her than Rhythm & Blues legends James "Jimmy Jam" Harris III and Terry Lewis, who offered her a recording deal. Palmer did not concur with the producer's intent to reshape her "tangy" country style, and thus turned them down. The former Star Search contestant finessed her way into the country charts by way of a shrewd social media campaign by Starbucks entertainment and iTunes. In 2007 and 2008, Palmer placed three songs on the country charts, including a cover of "No Air" which was done by American Idol winner Jordin Sparks.

The mark of African American women on the country music charts was trailblazed by singers who were prolific in their own right in both jazz and R&B. In the pre-rock era, Ella Fitzgerald did a cover of "When My Sugar Walks Down the Street" which made number two on the country charts in

1944. For Tina Turner, her stint as a country artist was a rite of passage in her divorce from Ike Turner. This is cited by pop music historians as paving Turner's path to pop music superstardom by the 1980's. In the mid 1970's the Pointer Sisters wore outfits that were viewed by many as being so dowdy and passé that nobody thought much of them singing country music at clubs. But that was before a top 20 country hit and a stint singing at the Grand-Ole-Opry made industry executives realize that the Pointer Sisters' old school style was nothing to laugh at.

The most historically significant African American female on the country charts was Linda Martel, who started out as a member of a girl group. Martel became the first black woman to sing at the Grand-Ole-Opry in 1969. Appearing as a skit actress on such themed shows as "Midwestern Hayride" and "Hee-Haw," Martel did material that crossed over from the R&B chart. One of her songs that made the country charts in 1969 is the top 25 hit "Color Him Father," a poignant song about a young boy's relationship with a stepfather.

This brings me to a very important distinction that needs to be made on the topic of women in recording. What some may see as a flagrant disrespect of hallowed traditions in male-dominated musical genres could be interpreted by others as "sass" and zest among women. It appears whether it is hip-hop or country, that women do not choose their preferred type of music; the genre chooses them. If we as men are experiencing trepidation over diverse women making a mark in the music industry, we should be nervous. Mickey Guyton's first chart hit is bringing that message to men in general. What many of us perceive as male-bashing is really artistic empowerment among female artists and songwriters across the board. What resonates with music lovers across genres is something that recording industry executives, regardless of race and gender, are heeding. Whether it's Iggy Azalea or Mickey Guyton, the artist and the diversity that they bring into the music industry is the prize.

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