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## Current, June 21, 1983

University of Missouri-St. Louis

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# CURRENT

June 21, 1983

University of Missouri-St. Louis

Issue 453

## Olson to retire in '84

University of Missouri President James C. Olson has announced his plans to retire effective July 1, 1984.

"By the end of the next academic year I will have served eight years as chancellor (of the University of Missouri-Kansas City) and eight years as president, and Vera (Olson's wife) and I have concluded that we wish to try new challenges and a different way of life while we are still young enough to make that possible," Olson said.

"You have brought the highest level of dignity and respect to the office of the president," said William G. Cocos Jr., president of the UM Board of Curators. Cocos added that the curators will discuss the presidential selection process at their June 23 and 24 meeting.

"The timing of Dr. Olson's decision will enable us to have sufficient time to seek a replacement," Cocos said, "and we will want to review the most appropriate search and selection process."

When Olson became UM presi-

dent June 1, 1976, he indicated that he would retire at 65. However, Olson said that as he approached 65, "various members of the board, faculties, public officials and friends of the university, as individuals, expressed the hope that I would stay on." Olson will be 67 next January.

Olson's career in higher education began in 1940 when he was a part-time instructor at Northwest Missouri State University while working on his doctorate at the University of Nebraska. After four years in the Army Air Forces (1942 to 1946), he became director of the Nebraska State Historical Society, but continued to lecture at several universities.

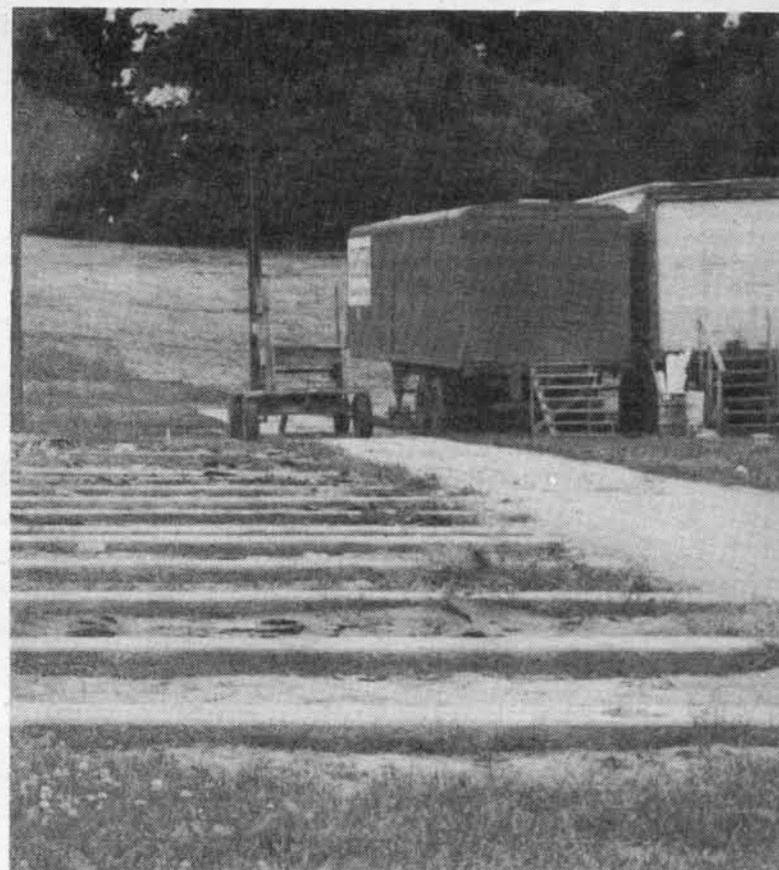
In 1956, Olson returned to the University of Nebraska as professor and chairman of the history department after serving 10 years with the historical society. In 1965, he became associate dean of the University of Nebraska's Graduate College and one year later he was named dean. In 1968 Olson became the vice chan-

cellor for graduate studies and research.

The Board of Curators selected him as chancellor of the Kansas City campus in 1968 and asked him to become president of the UM system June 1, 1976. He is the 16th president in the UM's 144-year history.

Olson is widely known for his involvement in higher education, having served on a number of National Education Association committees, appeared before Congressional committees on the needs of higher education, and participated in other sessions involving issues and policies affecting postsecondary education.

"It has been a high privilege to serve as president of this great university, and Vera and I have enjoyed our roles," Olson said. "Needless to say, we will continue to fulfill them to the best of our ability during the remainder of my term as president, and we will remain interested in and concerned for the University of Missouri."



Frank Russell

**UNDER CONSTRUCTION:** The new soccer stadium will be constructed on this site near the Mark Twain Building.

## Handicapped activist McBroom dead at 24

Denver E. "Gene" McBroom, a quadriplegic UMSL student and president of the UMSL Disabled Student Union, died June 9 at DePaul Health Center following complications after recent kidney surgery. He had been in a coma for two weeks.

Mr. McBroom was active in promoting the rights of the handicapped. As president of the Disabled Student Union, he was instrumental in making the campus more accessible to handicapped students.

Mr. McBroom became a quadriplegic at the age of 13 following an accident which broke his neck and severed his spinal cord. He graduated from Hazelwood Junior High School following the completion of his GED equivalency diploma. Mr. McBroom was forced to stop attending classes at Hazelwood Junior High School and completed a self-study program to earn his GED.

Mr. McBroom, 24, was a second-



Denver E. "Gene" McBroom

semester junior at UMSL majoring in rehabilitative clinical psychology. He came to UMSL in December 1981 after receiving his associate's degree in psychology from St. Louis Community

College at Florissant Valley.

"Gene was good at pointing out inaccessibilities on campus," said Marilyn Sneed, coordinator for disabled, minority and international students at UMSL. "because he would go places that other students wouldn't go." Sneed added that Mr. McBroom said that there was no curb cut for handicapped students in front of Benton Hall and that handicapped students could not easily get from the North campus to the South campus. Mr. McBroom was instrumental in getting building and curb modifications for the handicapped in Hazelwood and Florissant.

Mr. McBroom would travel around campus in an electric wheelchair which he would operate by pressing a button using the muscle in his elbow. "Some people wouldn't come to grips with their disability," he said. "But this is reality. I'm not going to let being in a chair affect me."

Sneed said the thing she admired most

in Mr. McBroom was his tenacity. "There wasn't anything he felt he couldn't do," she said. "Even setbacks didn't stop him. Her was an inspiration to everyone who knew him."

The Disabled Student Union is a group of approximately 10 active members which strives for making UMSL more accessible to handicapped students. Sneed said that 75 handicapped students are identified in the files but that an unofficial estimate shows more than 200 disabled students on campus. "Gene was very supportive when things happened," Sneed said. "He held the group together."

Mr. McBroom is survived by his mother, Lillian, of Hazelwood; two brothers, John Strasburger of Florissant and Darren McBroom of Hazelwood; two sisters, Jacque Recker of St. Peters and Debi McGraw of Florissant; and a grandmother.

## Admission requirements may be raised

The University of Missouri system is considering raising admissions requirements according to recommendations in a recent national report on higher education in the United States.

In a report submitted to President Ronald Reagan after more than one year of study, the National Commission on Excellence in Education said that colleges and universities should raise their admissions standards to help turn back a "rising tide of mediocrity" that has undermined the quality of American education over the last two decades.

The report said that the United States was losing its international preeminence in education and called for tougher requirements for high school graduation, higher salaries for teachers, and new incentives to attract academically gifted students into the teaching profession.

On the UM campuses, faculty and administrators have been discussing raising the university's admissions standards for the past year.

A compromise proposal is currently before UM administrators and will be discussed by the Board of Curators meeting June 23 and 24 in Kansas City.

The proposal establishes minimum entrance requirements for freshmen students at all four UM campuses. Entering freshmen would be required to complete a minimum number of high school courses in specific subject areas and to achieve a satisfactory combination of high school class rank percentile and aptitude test percentile.

The new standards would require 14 units of credit in the following academic areas: four units of English, including two units emphasizing composition or writing skills, and one of the

remaining units permitted in speech or debate; three units of mathematics, at the Algebra 1 level and higher; two units of science (not including general science), one of which must be a laboratory course; two units of social studies; and three addi-

## Student council planned

**Erik Schaffer**  
news editor

Plans are being discussed for the formation of a presidents' organization here at UMSL, according to Sandy Richey, president of the Psychology Organization. The organization will be made up of the presidents from the various clubs on campus, said Richey.

Richey said that the different organizations could combine funding to set up seminars or to bring in speakers. She also said that the group would help pre-

tional units of foreign language are strongly recommended.

The course requirements and percentile standards would become effective in the fall 1987 semester to allow current high school students to plan their classes accordingly.

vent clubs from duplicating procedures.

According to Richey, one of the major purposes of an organization such as this would be to "influence the management of UMSL as far as education." The group would function as a voice for students involved in the organization, in case of departmental cutbacks or in case a department is dissolved.

The first meeting of the group has been tentatively set for July 17, according to Richey. She said the formation and purpose of the group will be discussed.

## inside

The around UMSL page features movie listings, building hours, important dates and classified advertising. Information you need to know can be found at a glance..... **page 2**

"Return of the Jedi" stands out as a better-crafted film than its predecessors in the George Lucas film series about galactic good vs. evil. The film is a bit lacking, though, in plot development..... **page 3**

Two UMSL baseball players were drafted and one has signed with professional baseball organizations at the close of the Rivermen's season. Their decisions about professional sports will influence others waiting for their chance at the big time..... **page 4**



# around UMSL June-July

22

Wednesday

- **Intramural softball** will be sponsored by the athletic department every Wednesday at noon at the Mark Twain fields. Interested teams and persons should call 553-5125 or 553-5641 to register.
- **Arts For Older Adults** will exhibit

their work in a program called "Showcase" from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the J.C. Penney Auditorium. Craft demonstrations are from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., and refreshments and entertainment by the UMSL Jazz Ensemble will follow.

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Friday

- **"Raiders of the Lost Ark"** is presented at 7:30 and 10 p.m. at 101 Stadler Hall. Admission is \$1 with an UMSL student ID and \$1.50 for the general public.

the UMSL intramural and athletic departments will be held at St. Charles Golf Course between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Greens fees are \$3.70 for nine holes and \$7.10 for 18 holes. No preregistration is required. Call 553-5125 or 553-5641 for more information.

- A golf tournament sponsored by

4

Monday

- Independence Day holiday.

8

Friday

- **"Annie"** will be presented at 7:30 and 10 p.m. at 101 Stadler Hall. Admission is \$1 with an UMSL student ID and \$1.50 for the general public.

## Computer Center Summer Hours

June 1-5	8 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday 1 p.m.-8 p.m. Sunday
June 6-July 3	7 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday and Saturday Closed Sunday
July 4	Closed for Holiday
July 5-31	7 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday and Saturday Closed Sunday
Aug. 1-14	7 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday Closed Friday, Saturday and Sunday
Aug. 15-21	8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday Closed Saturday and Sunday
Aug. 22-31	Same as June 1-5

## Summer Hours

### Thomas Jefferson Library

Monday-Thursday	7 a.m.-9 p.m.
Friday	8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Saturday	Closed
Sunday	1-8 p.m.

### Education Library

Monday-Thursday	8 a.m.-9 p.m.
Friday	8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Saturday	Closed
Sunday	1-5 p.m.

## Help Wanted

Wanted: UMSL students to apply for co-op positions with Defense Mapping Agency. Requirements: 60-75 hours completed, full-time students, at least 2.0 GPA. DMA is seeking math, physics and physical and earth science majors to train as cartographers. See Alice Roester at 308 Woods Hall.

Wanted: UMSL students to apply for co-op positions with U.S. Customs Service. Requirements: 60-75 hours completed, full-time student, and GPA of 2.0 or better. Customs Service is seeking AOJ or liberal arts majors to train as customs inspectors. See Alice Roester at 308 Woods Hall.

## CURRENT

University of Missouri-St. Louis  
1 Blue Metal Office Building  
8001 Natural Bridge Road  
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Phone: 553-5174

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Editorials expressed in the paper reflect the opinions of the editorial staff. Articles labeled "Commentary" are the opinion of the individual writer.

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# features/arts

## 'Jedi' shines as forceful summer movie

Frank Russell  
features/arts editor

**Return of the Jedi**  
★★★★½

Summer.

The word causes ecstatic shivers up the spines of Hollywood movie moguls, but for connoisseurs of serious or experimental films, a long, dry season lies blisteringly ahead.

And just as sure as highs in the upper 90s are the ravings of college film critics that the summer films are mindless wastes of valuable celluloid. It's as predictable as June 21 being one of the longest days of the year.

But those ravings are usually for good reason. Summer movies are generally quite mindless.

Fortunately, though, many of this summer's efforts are very well made. Creativity in film-making, if not necessarily in film writing, seems to be evident in this year's bumper crop.

Of course, there's "Return of the Jedi." If anything, the new "Star Wars" film is exceptionally well-crafted.

Plot development, on the other hand, seems to be a valid area in which to criticize the film. Quite a few plot twists are revealed, surprisingly but satisfyingly tying up all the trilogy's questions.

Even so, George Lucas and Lawrence Kasdan's script is somewhat disappointing, especially considering the two have already proved themselves with other projects.

The same can probably be said for the lead human actors, as well. Mark Hamill, Harrison Ford and Carrie Fisher seem a bit bored with their roles; after all, it's been six years since they originated the characters of Luke Skywalker, Han Solo and Princess Leia.

Even so, the film is more than a fitting conclusion to the Luke Skywalker trilogy and a definite

crowd-pleaser.

Lucas has described the films as sort of a three-act play, with "Return of the Jedi" as the concluding third act, the climax. In that sense, perhaps, the film's action-special effects orientation can be excused. In other

### review

words, one cannot admonish "Jedi" for lack of story as its story was already laid out in "Star Wars" and "The Empire Strikes Back."

The film is quite definitely a visual assault, but certainly a pleasing one at that. The special effects in "Jedi" are more extravagant than in any film that has preceded it; Lucasfilm's effects subsidiary, Industrial Light and Magic, quite obviously poured much effort into the film, utilizing nearly every trick it has

developed in the production of such films as "Raiders of the Lost Ark," "Poltergeist," "E.T.: The Extraterrestrial," "Dragon-slayer," and "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan."

As far as this summer's films go, "Return of the Jedi" is undoubtedly one of the best, and certainly the best so far. Anybody want to go into a partnership making stuffed Ewoks?

**War Games**  
★★★

**Blue Thunder**  
★★

"War Games" and "Blue Thunder" are definitely the summer's most severely overrated efforts. Both are directed by John ("Saturday Night Fever") Badham, a man who knows how to make immensely popular films but not very good ones.

"War Games," somehow, has been compared to "E.T.," supposedly for the sense of innocence the two films are alleged to share. The comparison, however, is quite laughable. Where "E.T." was magical, "War Games" is contrived. It's plainly a difference of making good films that become popular and pandering to some low perception of the common taste.

Even Mathew Broderick's portrayal of the 15-year-old computer whiz kid who nearly starts World War III is disappointing, especially compared to his debut in the Neil Simon film "Max Dugan Returns."

In short, "War Games" is not the wonderfully charming film it has been cracked up to be.

"Blue Thunder," Badham's police helicopter nightmare, is even more of a travesty.

St. Louisan Dan O'Bannon's script seems possessed with a "1984" sense of paranoia; the film might have been marginally interesting from that perspective.

Badham felt obliged, however, to tear whatever there was of O'Bannon's plot to shreds. Action sells tickets, so action there was.

**Octopussy**  
★★½

Bond may be back, but "Octopussy" bombs badly.

One cannot reasonably expect serious filmmaking from a James Bond film; style and adventure have been the trademarks of the series. "Octopussy," on the other hand, is simply tired and bland, filled with old Bond jokes and old Bond routines.

**Trading Places**  
★★★★

Terribly funny "Trading Places" is not.

Dan Aykroyd and especially Eddie Murphy shine, of course, but not too brightly relative to co-stars Ralph Bellamy, Don Ameche, Denholm Elliot and Jamie Lee Curtis.

Director John Landis ("Animal House," "An American Werewolf in London") composed a film that is stunning in its classic, dare I say preppy, style, sort of "Animal House" all grown up, perhaps.

All in all, however, "Trading Places" is the perfect Christmas movie, flooded with holiday cheer. But isn't this summer?

Serious filmgoers won't find this summer completely worthless, especially if they spend much of it at the Tivoli Theater in University City.

"Starstruck," Gillian Armstrong's Australian "new wave musical comedy," premieres at the theater Friday, running through June 30.

The 1927 silent epic "Napoleon," with a new soundtrack by Carmine Coppola, is scheduled for July 17 and 18.

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# sports

## Kavanaugh, Lawson picked by pros

Dan Kimack  
sports editor

Junior shortstop Tim Kavanaugh and senior first baseman Dave Lawson of the UMSL baseball team were chosen in the regular phase of the recent major-league baseball draft of amateur talent. Senior catcher Mark Hupp was not.

All three, however, turned out to be legitimate big-league choices with potential shots of becoming major-league performers. And according to Coach Jim Dix, two more standouts from his 1983 ball club — William Shanks and Ray Howard — also are prospective big-league ball players. Dix said each has the potential to become the fourth and fifth UMSL players selected by major-league teams this year.

The difference, though, between Kavanaugh, Lawson and Hupp is the route each has taken to the big time.

Kavanaugh was a 23rd-round pick of the St. Louis Cardinals in the recent baseball draft. Lawson went in the 29th round to the Houston Astros. Hupp, though, was not drafted. Instead, he signed as a free agent pick of the Texas Rangers.

But, by no means does the fact that Hupp wasn't drafted hurt his chances of making it with the Rangers club, Dix said.

"Hupp throws better than 60 to 70 percent of the catchers in the game today," Dix said. "The question is if he can hit enough to warrant himself a position with the team. He's an excellent defensive catcher, but he'll have to prove he can play every day."

Hupp, a Jennings High School product who hit .360 through the course of the 1983 season, has made plans to begin the big-time baseball venture Friday, following orders to report to the Rangers Class A team in Sarasota, Fla. Dix described the

Florida State League as "outstanding" and laden with second- and third-year professionals.

Kavanaugh, on the other hand, "has the best physical tools," ever to come out of UMSL, according to Dix. "He comes closer to major-league potential than any other at UMSL. He has a strong arm and power at the plate and he can run."

"His chances will revolve around his concentration and consistency," Dix added.

Kavanaugh, a 6-foot, 170-pound graduate of Jennings High School, has been assigned to the Cardinals' Erie, Pa., team in the Class A New York Penn-League. Kavanaugh has waived his final year of eligibility with the Rivermen to sign with the Cardinals.

During the 1983 season, Kavanaugh hit .267 with five home runs and six RBI. He held a career batting mark of .263 with the Rivermen along with a total of six home runs and 28 RBI.

Lawson, a 6-foot-2, 185-pound four-year starter for the UMSL red and gold, attended St. Charles West High School. Lawson, however, has not yet signed with the Houston Astros — and for a good reason, of course.

Aside from leading the Rivermen hardballers with a .386 batting average, 38 RBI and 62 total bases, Lawson also was a stellar performer in the chemistry classrooms. And according to Dix, he has a "comfortable" job awaiting him at Monsanto Co.

"He just might not sign," Dix said. "He has the best chance of hitting in the big leagues, though. I equate him with the Keith Hernandez-type of player. He might have that kind of ultimate potential."

He just might. Lawson consistently matured at the plate throughout his collegiate career. Hitting just .216 as a freshman, Lawson pounded Missouri Intercollegiate Athletic Association

pitching year in and year out to boast an overall batting mark of .336 with eight home runs and 93 RBI.

But as far as Lawson's future in baseball, the jury is still out.

Also in limbo are Shanks and Howard.

Of the two, Dix definitely would like to see Howard signed as a free agent, due in part to the interests shown by professional scouts.

as for Shanks, Dix also would like to see him signed into the big leagues — but not for another year. The reason: Shanks has one more year of collegiate eligibility remaining and Dix feels he will be the force behind the 1984 Rivermen.

"Howard and Shanks also have the ability to be picked up as free agents," Dix said. "But sometimes the scouts are powerless. There's a lot of politicking involved."

## 1983: The year that wasn't

Dan Kimack  
sports editor

Coach Jim Dix is going to remember his 1983 baseball season for a long time. He'll remember it as the year that could have been, but wasn't.

And while he may not remember one key play or a single individual effort, Dix will remember that at least three of his players from the '83 season were given their chance to make it in the major leagues.

He's going to remember that seven of his performers were placed on the all-conference teams.

But more than anything else, Dix will remember the early season weather and what it did to his chances of gaining a berth in the regional playoffs — the first step toward the coveted National Collegiate Athletic Association Division 2 World Series.

And, of course, he'll remember the fact that his UMSL Rivermen had a legitimate chance of gaining that playoff berth, but were snubbed due to NCAA rules governing the selection into the prestigious tournament.

During the preseason, Dix billed his Rivermen as the team of teams to ever play the American pastime between the white lines of UMSL's baseball diamond. He pinned a gold star upon each one of his players noting them as the finest individual baseball talent he had ever coached.

For example:

—Pitcher William Shanks, 4-2 record with a 2.73 ERA — first-team all-conference selection;

—Outfielder Dennis Beckmann, .492 batting average, 24 RBI and 11 stolen bases — first-team all-conference selection;

—First baseman Dave Lawson, .386 batting mark with 38 RBI — first-team all-conference selection;

—Second baseman Ray Howard, .370 batting average, 33 runs scored and 25 RBI — first-team all-conference selection;

—Catcher Mark Hupp, .360 batting average — all-Missouri Intercollegiate Athletic Association second-team selection;

—Relief pitcher Mark Hahn, 5-0 record and four saves, 1.61 ERA — MIAA honorable mention selection;

—Outfielder Kent Reid, .303 batting mark — MIAA honorable mention selection.

But, whether they were the best UMSL ball team ever will forever remain to be seen. Without a bid into the regionals, the UMSL hardballers fell short of their aspirations, along with their expectations.

Their downfall, though, can be attributed to one glaring factor.

Due to uncontrollable circumstances — a 3½ week layoff due to rainy predictions by the weatherman — the Rivermen were deprived a fair shot against other league foes who had gained game experience when they first

met the green Rivermen. As Dix will attest to, you don't get the same benefits from playing indoors as you would on the verdant turf.

After the red and gold gained that game experience, though, they began to play up to their full potential, Dix said. At the end of the season, Dix' hardballers battled their way to a winning record at 20-14, with an 8-4 conference standing.

That's where things begin to get sticky. Even though UMSL finished at 20-14, which was better than Northwest's overall record of 17-17, it had not won its division, and it had not won the conference tournament.

Had Southeast knocked off Northwest in the playoff, UMSL's chances of gaining a regional bid would have risen greatly.

And had this year been next year, UMSL's shot at the regionals would also have been greater.

So, what the Rivermen were hoping for was a strong conference, a strong schedule, and a weak regional — a stacked deck of cards, you could say.

And when Dix looks back on the 1983 baseball Rivermen season, he's going to remember the good, the bad, what might have been if this year were next year with the expanded format, and the weather.

"The weather was a farce," Dix said.

It was the year that could have been, but wasn't.

## Swim coach chosen

Richard A. Fowler has been named the men's and women's varsity swimming coach at UMSL by Athletic Director Chuck Smith.

Fowler, a South St. Louis County resident, has been the coach of the Mehlville Senior High School boys' swimming team since 1967 and has coached the girls' team there

the past two seasons. His experience includes directing the adult swimming education and summer swim youth programs for both the Mehlville School District and St. Louis County Parks and Recreation Department as well as teaching water safety, officiating at area swim meets and coaching water polo, cross country, and volleyball.

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