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Liberty lust
Knights fall 10-3 to Mississippi State in defensive struggle — SEE SPORTS A10

2 students die in crash over holiday

Two UCF College of Nursing students were killed Dec. 27 when their vehicles collided about 1-95 near Melbourne in Brevard County. Florida Highway Patrol Trooper Kim Miller said the tip of the Ford Explorer driven by Dawn Sohnrey, 23, was driving separated, which caused her to lose control of the vehicle and cross over the grass median. Laura Porter, 32, who was driving in the opposite direction, sizeofed to avoid the Explorer but her vehicle was hit on the driver’s side door. Porter’s Ford Ranger went into the median and Sohnrey’s vehicle rolled, landing on the next median.

According to the Florida Highway Patrol press release, both women were pronounced dead at the scene by medical examiners. Miller said friends and family members were notified as soon as officials could clear the scene.

Joseph Politis, 29, of Orlando who had been riding with Porter and Sohnrey was injured and transported to Holmes Regional Medical Center. His injuries were serious, said Miller and he is expected to recover. A third vehicle ran into some of the debris from the crash and did not hit either the other two vehicles and caused no injury.

There was no indication of alcohol or drugs in connection with the incident.

According to the press release all parties were wearing their seat belts.

UCF College of Nursing and Sohnrey had been accepted to the.

Gays can be more open in college

UCF Allies makes coming out easier

Although Michael Davis had always had a very supportive family, he kept a big secret.

While he was openly gay at school and in a committed relationship, he said this from his family it was a secret he didn’t want to keep forever, as he made the decision that many students face: to come out to his parents.

“For the first time, I was in a very comfortable relationship, and I strongly believed, and still do, that we will find acceptance,” said the senior inter­national business major. “I was very hesitant toward the beginning about telling my parents, but I had to be direct with them.”

He told a few good friends who seemed to them that they still valued his friendship, but he still remained hesitant about his family.

“I grew up knowing that they had always wanted the best for me, even when things were in a crisis,” Davis said. “My mom taught me the important values of not judging people and treating others the way that I would like to be treated.”

Despite telling his friends, he was still uncertain about their reaction would be.

“I was a little nervous about what I had to say to them,” he said, “but I told them that I had to talk about something with them and had them sit down. I told them.”

Indexes and Provincial Arc."See Index in final edition for complete list of ads.

Jenifer Fedor
Contributing Writer

Applications for law school are on a downward trend, according to Kaplan Test Prep and Admissions. Despite the decline, admissions officers were stating that they had no idea what was going on in university campuses or even sports events. In some cases, it was promoted on campus by other universities, websites.

Of the schools involved in the agreement, five were Florida universities: Florida Atlantic University, University of Florida, Florida International University, Florida Gulf Coast University, and Florida State University. For more information, please call the CUF Newsroom at 407-222-1900 and leave a message for Andy Jacobsohn, or e-mail ssohnrey@ucf.edu.

Photo by: ALEX FISHER

Law school applications fall

As for Kaplan, please call the CFP Newsroom at 407-222-1900 and leave a message for staff photographer.

Photo by: Central Florida News

Your Pictures Are Worth 1,000 Words

The Future is the hunt for UCF students who participate in unique extra-curricular activities during their weekends.

We are looking for people who might have an interesting hobby, uncommon job or enticing pattern. We want you to tell the story about your event and that your own words and your photographs.

We will be open to an array of camps or different hobbies, occupations or leisurely activities that some students may not even know about.

Photo by: Central Florida News

Law school applications fall

As for Kaplan, please call the CFP Newsroom at 407-222-1900 and leave a message for staff photographer.

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Attempts to wrest control of Florida's tuition rates from the Legislature stymied Thursday when a Tallahassee judge dismissed a lawsuit intended to give the Board of Governors authority over tuition changes.

Former Sen. Bob Graham leads the group that filed the suit last summer. The board joined quickly in the legal struggle alongside George Greenspan, arguing that the Legislature's governance of college fees violates Florida's constitutional amendment that established the board and in responsibilities.

In a ruling, Judge Charles A. Prinsep concluded that Graham's group had no standing to take action against the Legislature. According to the ruling, the group failed to show that they will suffer a special injury different from that of the general public. The complaint was rejected as being overly broad, what the ruling termed a "shoeshine approach."

"We're pleased with the court's ruling, and we look forward to working constructively with the Board of Governors to improve Florida's university system," said House Speaker Marco Rubio in a statement released Thursday.

Rubio, along with Senate President Ken Pruitt, represented the Legislature.

While not altering the door open for the board to show other avenues to the people, this would be the third and final amendment allowed them.

The board itself also failed to show that it had authority to bring action against the Legislature.

According to precedent set by Department of Education v. Lewis, "State officers and agencies must prove the existence of legislative affecting their duties to be void, and do not have standing to initiate litigation for the purpose of determining otherwise."

The board's argument that it can argue decisions that are unconstitutional failed because the complaint did not detail any legislative actions that permit it from performing its legal duties.

The court, however, did not rule that the board refrain from further legal actions—only that it clarifies its right to file suit in the amended complaint.

"I am confident that the Board of Governors will satisfy the concerns expressed in the judge's order. Florida's tuition rates are among the cheapest in the nation, but it was not until recently that university officials began to decry the cost of an education, saying that it puts them at a dis-discrimination to other educational institutions, federal or Florida's colleges are among the best in the nation."

A report by the independent Pepper Consulting Group Inc. in January of last year predicted Florida's tuition rates and the Florida Trustees Scholarship program would result in higher education in the state, but Florida university leaders have maintained the importance of keeping college costs low.

Following in the footsteps of former Gov. Jeb Bush, under whom the Board of Governors was established in 2003, Gov. Charlie Crist initially stood opposed to tuition increases but surprised both sides of the tuition struggle when he reversed his decision to veto differential tuition in Florida, Florida State and South Florida universities after discussions with college leaders. Those universities can now change more than $40 million in one instant.

At the same time, Christian fought a much smaller tuition increase of 5 percent for other universities, reasoning only after a devastating Florida economy suffering under a stagnant housing market forced mass cuts in all areas of government, including education.

UCF spokesman Grant Hestros expressed the university's solidarity with the Board of Governors and with the statement made by Chairman Rogers.

Student Government Association President Bradley Hollinger, while supportive of the 5 percent tuition increase, has been leery whenever proposed increases have not allowed students to have a say in how tuition money is spent.

Hollinger did not take sides on the tuition debate, but said that both the Legislature and the board have the ability to incorporate student opinions in their decisions either through consultation with or through the students who sit on the board.

"I think it's an issue that needs to be resolved," Hollinger said.
University of Central Florida

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Levee breaks in Nevada forcing rescuer of 1,500 displaced

"FREELAND, Nev. - More than a month after heavy flooding and high winds, a levee breaks Saturday, causing more flooding and evacuations. The floodwaters have now reached a level of 13 feet above the American River, where residents have been told to evacuate their homes."

"The levee broke earlier this morning," said Mark Bankhead, engineering manager for the Sacramento District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. "We have been monitoring the levee and predicting it would break today." He added that the levee has been in place since 1927.

"We are not sure how long the levee will hold," said Bankhead. "We are working with the Federal Emergency Management Agency to assess the situation and determine the best course of action."

Nations around the world are responding to the situation, including the United States, Canada, and Mexico. The Red Cross has sent a team of experts to assist with the relief efforts. The United Nations has also offered assistance. "We are working closely with the affected communities to provide the necessary aid," said a spokesperson for the United Nations. "We are monitoring the situation closely and will provide updates as needed."
Arboretum prescribes fire for forests’ health

MARTIN QUIGLEY

“...the biggest hazard is not fire danger; it’s smoke. That’s why wind direction and wind speed are so important. We have to be concerned about the safety of surrounding neighborhood areas and roads.”

— MARTIN QUIGLEY
DIRECTOR OF THE ARBORETUM

While students left campus break, the blue sky at UF’s Arboretum made plans to set fire to certain areas of carters.

“If we conducted a prescribed burn on 5 acres of grass behind Leisure Lab, we’d want to prescribe the ecologically healthy pine flatwoods,” Assistant Orlando Genao said.

“...the county, some pine trees need fire to continue to release their seeds and disperse...” A lot of other plants need the open area on the ground in order to grow. If you let other plants compete, they will overcrowd, said Genao.

While burning when the students are away is ideal, it’s not necessary. Assistant Director and Environmental Steward Alaina Bernard said that all burns are done with accessibility and safety precautions in mind, so it doesn’t matter whether there is people around the area or not.

“If we’re burning an area that’s going to produce a lot of smoke on campus and there’s a special event, then obviously we’re not going to burn that area,” she said. “It’s best to burn when people aren’t on campus, but we will learn when people are all the conditions are appropriate.”

To meet the specific “prescription” written for each site, several precise criteria have to be met before ignition.

The five main conditions that affect a fire are air temperature, humidity, wind direction and wind speed. Quigley said, “The morning of a burn is up to Bernard, who coordinates the burns.

To make sure that we’re scheduling the burning of a burn, we do a wind check,” said Genao. “We make sure that we have all of our crosses that were related to come and that they have brought the appropriate equipment. Fresh there, I explain to the crew about our site, about our firing and ignition techniques for the day, what we’re trying to achieve and safety concerns. Then we do a test fire, and we proceed with prescribed fire techniques.”

He also said that the crew they invite to monitor and assist in the fires, such as the Orange County Fire Department and the Florida Division of Forestry, are also included for safety reasons.

Because the forest lies within an urban area, the crew must be concerned about the effects a prescribed burn could have outside of the fire lines. “Huge hazards is not fire danger; it’s smoke,” Genao said.

Reasons to burn

Protection of Valuable Forests

Prescribed burning services are used to reduce fire danger; it’s smoke, animal disease, and helps to prevent wildfires, which can be very harmful to human communities. Fire can help reduce the risk of natural wildfires, which can cause extensive damage. By reducing the risk of wildfires, prescribed burning helps to reduce the risk of fire losses to communities, ecosystems, and property owners. Prescribed burning services also help to reduce the risk of fire losses to communities, ecosystems, and property owners.

Maintaining Plant Communities

Prescribed burning helps to maintain plant communities, which are important to the health and diversity of the environment. Prescribed burning helps to maintain plant communities by controlling the growth of invasive species, which can compete with native plants for resources. Prescribed burning helps to maintain plant communities by controlling the growth of invasive species, which can compete with native plants for resources.

Improving wildlife habitat

Prescribed burning helps to improve wildlife habitat, which is important for the survival of many species. Prescribed burning helps to improve wildlife habitat by creating openings, which provide habitat for wildlife species. Prescribed burning helps to improve wildlife habitat by creating openings, which provide habitat for wildlife species.

Preventing Erosion and Landslides

Prescribed burning helps to prevent erosion and landslides, which can be caused by wildfires. Prescribed burning helps to prevent erosion and landslides by reducing the risk of erosion and landslides. Prescribed burning helps to prevent erosion and landslides by reducing the risk of erosion and landslides.

Stabilizing Soils

Prescribed burning helps to stabilize soils, which are important for the health and stability of the environment. Prescribed burning helps to stabilize soils by reducing the risk of soil erosion. Prescribed burning helps to stabilize soils by reducing the risk of soil erosion.

Fuel Reduction

Prescribed burning helps to reduce fuel loads, which can be a risk for wildfires. Prescribed burning helps to reduce fuel loads by reducing the risk of fuel loads. Prescribed burning helps to reduce fuel loads by reducing the risk of fuel loads.

Reducing the Risk of Wildfires

Prescribed burning helps to reduce the risk of wildfires, which can be caused by natural or man-made causes. Prescribed burning helps to reduce the risk of wildfires by reducing the risk of wildfire losses to communities, ecosystems, and property owners. Prescribed burning helps to reduce the risk of wildfires by reducing the risk of wildfire losses to communities, ecosystems, and property owners.
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Loaner Group now able to abide by new ethics code

UCF produces high number of applicants

Both funerals held on Jan. 3
Mississippi State running back Anthony Dixon leaps over the pile to score the game-winning touchdown with 1:04 remaining in the fourth quarter of the Bulldogs’ 10-3 win over the UCF Knights on Dec. 29 in Memphis, Tenn.

Library busted as Knights get shut down by Bulldogs

**BRIAN MURPHY**

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Running back Kevin Smith was held to a rather pedestrian 119 yards. Quarterback Kyle Israel was out of pace all afternoon. Kicker Michael Torres missed two field goals closer than 40 yards after making his previous six attempts. No matter how well the team’s defense played in the Liberty Bowl on Dec. 29, it was UCF’s offense that, as Smith said, let the team down, as the Knights lost 10-3 to Mississippi State.

The entire game presented the absolute antithesis to the Knights’ season. They entered the game with an average of 38.4 points and 426.5 yards per game. Their turnover ratio was minus one, and the defense was turned over four times.

“You can’t turn the ball over four times and expect to win,” UCF head coach George O’Leary said. “Actually, the score is a lot closer than it should have been when you can turn it over four times.

The final 54 minutes of the game were dominated by defense as the score was tied at 3-3. After Israel’s third interception of the game, the Bulldogs took over on their own 45-yard line with 5:47 remaining.

“All we had to do was eat the clock and get out of the red zone and we were going to win the game,” Mississippi State head coach Sylvester Croom said. “(Quarterback) Weslye Carrolle came over and said ‘Hey, I can run the option. I’ll make it work.’ ”

The certainty did. Carrolle ran the option play on two of the Bulldogs’ final three plays on the drive, getting the ball to the 13-yard line with 3:11 on the clock. Smith went in on the next play to put the Bulldogs at UCF’s 29-yard line.

“We were talking about the option play and we were going to run the option,” Mississippi State inside linebacker Damon Garrison said. “(Quarterback) Weslye Carrolle came over and said ‘Hey, I can run the option. I’ll make it work.’ ”

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“We were talking about the option play and we were going to run the option,” Mississippi State inside linebacker Damon Garrison said. “(Quarterback) Weslye Carrolle came over and said ‘Hey, I can run the option. I’ll make it work.’ ”

But the Bulldogs had a secret weapon up their sleeve: Christian Ducre that put the Bulldogs at UCF’s 29-yard line.

Brandon Hart leading to another first down. One play later, the Knights were caught out of position as Anthony Dixon raced 55 yards to the end zone.

“I think it’s a look that they were looking for,” UCF head coach George O’Leary said. “They were relatively successful in getting Smith going in the first half, as all of UCF’s drives started with Smith mutation the ball. He ended up gaining 77 yards in the first half on 17 carries.

Mississippi State running back Anthony Dixon was one of six 100-yard rushers in the Liberty Bowl. The 10-3 win in Memphis is the Knights’ first loss in six tries.

The Knights were stymied by the Bulldogs in the second half, with Smith gaining just 43 yards on 13 carries.

Mississippi State head coach Dan Mullen had wanted to see Smith get 25 carries after missing 11 games due to injury. Smith finished the game with 119 yards, his thirteenth 100-yard rushing game of the season, which also ties Barry Sanders’ mark of 2,628 in 1988.

“Yeah. They won the game.”

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PADDY BREWER

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — On a chilly Saturday in Memphis, Tenn., neither the UCF Football team nor the Mississippi State Bulldogs could get warm enough to do much of anything, with the Bulldogs pulling away with a late score to grab a 10-3 win over the Knights on Dec. 29 in the Liberty Bowl.

Here is a look at the key points from the game:

**BUCS RUSH FOR 22 SHOTS ON 70TH-CENTER SHUTDOWN**

Mississippi State shuts down Smith, holds Knights to season-low in points

**PADRICK BREWER**

**MISSISSIPPI 10 · UCF 3**

The Bulldogs limited Smith to six carries for 119 yards. The Knights were stymied by the Bulldogs in the second half, with Smith gaining just 43 yards on 13 carries.

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“Yeah. They won the game.”

MISSISSIPPI 10 · UCF 3

**BUCS RUSH FOR 22 SHOTS ON 70TH-CENTER SHUTDOWN**
BRIAN MURPHY

The UCF Men's basketball team started the new year with a 68-46 rout over Loyola (Mary.) on Thursday night. The Knights, who are now 7-2 on the season, are currently riding a three-game winning streak. "We've been giving our fans a lot of great basketball so far," said head coach Donnie Jones. "Now it's time to take it to the next level."

UCF forward Jordan Taylor scored 21 points during the Knights' 71-67 win over Monmouth on Thursday night. "Jordan has been playing great all season," said Jones. "He's one of our leaders on both ends of the court."

The Golden Eagles have struggled in recent games, losing their last two contests. "We're just trying to get back to our winning ways," said first-year head coach Greg McDermott. "But we know we have the talent to do it."
KEVIN SMITH

Kevin Smith is a gifted and elusive quarterback who has been responsible for the hustle and excitement that have come with him being the only State in the AutoZone Liberty Bowl. Smith finished the season 61-63-74 total yards in the second half of the season in which UCF was coming off a dismal showing in the season opener versus Florida State. He had more than three years to grasp the offense before he became a full-time starter.

That he performed so consistently during the first half of the season, even through a difficult performance in the season opener versus Florida State, Smith has credited to having the offensive line set up for him. He has attributed much of the season's success to the offensive line's performance. The Knights lost a few key players on defense, but their offense has stepped up to fill in the gaps.

The Knights lost a few key players on defense, but their offense has stepped up to fill in the gaps. There is a strong success rate on the offensive line, and the defensive line has been consistently dominant. In the game against Hawaii, the Knights shut out the Blue-Green Bowl, but they did so with a few errors. The Knights had the ball for over 90% of the game against Hawaii, but they committed three turnovers. The Knights are a team that can be counted on to perform consistently coming off a dismal showing in the season opener versus Florida State.

Aside from Smith, has there been a dominant player on the roster? The Knights lose a few key players on defense, but their offense has stepped up to fill in the gaps. There is a strong success rate on the offensive line, and the defensive line has been consistently dominant.
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Tom Brady named NFL MVP

BARRY HILMER

NEW YORK — For all the Brady family drama, the Heritage Hall of Fame plaque John Unitas, Dan Marino and Joe Montana have never had a season like Tom Brady's.

The New England Patriots' record-setting quarterback added The Associated Press NFL MVP award Saturday in the same manner his team dominated its schedule, going 16-0. On the way to the first unbeaten regular-season since Mifflin went 16-0 in 1972, Brady set or tied nearly every record for the ages, which earned him all but one vote from a nationwide panel of 50 media members who regularly cover the league.

"I have always been a huge football fan and will always have great respect for the history of this game," Brady said. "I am flattered to join such an esteemed list of players, many of whom I consider the greatest of all time. Hope that I can set as great an example for kids around the world as the previous M.V.P.'s did for me.

"I am grateful to all of the voters for their consideration. I was given it in a tremendous manner and I am sure it is one that I will never take for granted."

Brady's record-breaking 50th career touchdown was the 11th of those touchdown passes Brady threw this season that would lift the receiver over the 1,000-yard mark.

Brady's MVP award was clinched with three touchdowns and 286 yards against the New York Giants on Saturday.

"This has been a very special year for all of us," Patriots owner Robert Kraft and coach Bill Belichick said. "It's been an absolute thrill to watch Tom and the entire team work so hard to achieve this goal.

"We're certainly proud of the course of our time with the Tarkenton, Marino, Montana, Brees and New Orleans. The ones I have celebrated his world."

So far this season.

Brady himself said his performance was the second-best mark of his year.

"I thought we weren't really helping [Israel] from a blocking standpoint, scheme standpoint. I thought he handled the ball a couple of times too many, but I don't think we were too bad. I think we didn't take advantage of some things.

Israel ended his senior year with 15 touchdowns, 11 interceptions and a 4,271 passing yards. His 41.7 completion percentage was the second-worst in the league.

"I think ... we'd like to have a couple plays back," O'Leary said. "I just feel nothing but great praise for Kyle and the job he did for this.

A defensive struggle

Coming into the game, both teams knew that the Liberty Bowl was going to be a low-scoring affair, but the UCF and Mid-America State defenses showed up to prove that a football game can be played without many offenses. The teams combined for 13 points, 48 yards of total offense, five turnovers in the game, and they managed to go three games without a touchdown in the first half.

The Knights took the fourth-lowest scoring contest in the history of the Liberty Bowl, and UCF's three-point victory was the lowest-scoring contest ever.

"I think we're satisfied with our approach as to whom the starting quarterback will be," O'Leary said, "for the 2008 season, but we're going to continue to look at the competition that's going on."

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Love conquers all as UCF falls to Southern Miss

Eagles open the second half and take

they did” was trying to attack the offensive boards, and that’s what a 48-34 lead with 13:01 remain­

rebounding team. I am sure knew they were a very good

board. I am very simple,” Williams said.

Miss is behind us, and we

the scouting report, and we

didn’t get it done. She is a very

job of keeping her off the

UCF head coach Joi

thing about Pauline

UCF Women’s Basketball

Love conquers all as UCF falls to Southern Miss

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To win their first conference game on the road.

Of course, we will see a big differ­

ences with our team) on Friday

UCF forward Tia Lewis had 17 points and 11 rebounds Saturday in a 71-54 loss to Southern Miss. She shot double double-thirty seven,

UCF Women’s Basketball

The Knights seemed to lose their scouting report at half­

Trailing 33-31 at the
time. Trailing 33-31 at the

Knights to within 13 at the 5:30

mark, but a Stephanie Helge­

recorded a 15-3 run to

of _

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Scoreboard

71-54

Southern Miss vs. UCF

have to grow up in a hurry if they want to win their first confer­

game on the road.

“We have four practices until we play at SMU, which is the top team in the league right now,” Williams said. “They are going to bring a very physical brand of basketball and they are going to run transition...I think we will see a big differ­
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With Edamerica, Edamerica provides money for college with low-cost student loans. The rest is up to you ...

We're established, reliable and here for the long haul. You can count on Edamerica. Dreams do come true.
More babies cause more problems

More than 6,000,000,000 and thing. That is the very number of people on the planet who are currently alive. The world population clock estimate is 6,000,000,000. If you were to look at the numbers in the world, you would see a decrease in the number of people on the planet. These are all direct results of a decrease in the world population.

The clearing of land, whether by humans or by machines, has led to the displacement of species. Some species are displaced, but others are simply paid the school in order to make room for their own. The universities who allowed this to happen will continue to reproduce in the face of inevitable destruction.

More babies cause more problems. More babies cause more problems because they are with universities. A four-month investigation put forward a new idea that loan advertisement is hunting those who use their college to make money for it, knowing that it is the only thing that will keep their goal. Described as a CIA, is not the 1800s, people. There are, however, is run to bigger and better. We must drink the very advertising in this style, as well as the universities who allowed this to happen.

For some, loans are simply paid the school in order to make room for their own. The universities who allowed this to happen will continue to reproduce in the face of inevitable destruction.

TheStudentNewspaperatUCF since 1968

Politics and law make an odd couple

I was getting a haircut Friday afternoon and was in the middle of my favorite part; the shampoo, otherwise known as scalp scrubs, when the level of hygiene didn’t exceed that which made my neck hairs stand up. I was run, otherwise known as scalp scrubing, of my favorite part, the shampoo.

"We have some interesting people in this district," said a campaign manager. "Do you know who they are?"

"Who do you think that would identify my party of choice, then?"

"It’s difficult to say."

I pointed this out with agitated, gesticulating hands. "This is my favorite part, the shampoo. Another benefit is that loan companies can be seen with universities. A four-month investigation put forward a new idea that loan advertisement is hunting those who use their college to make money for it, knowing that it is the only thing that will keep their goal. Described as a CIA, is not the 1800s, people. There are, however, is run to bigger and better. We must drink the very advertising in this style, as well as the universities who allowed this to happen.

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