AUC theater professor Lars Tatom flew to California last Monday for medical treatment after injuring his back in an accident involving the metal detector on the Falaki campus.

The accident forced the cancel-lation of the last two performances of the play, ‘Redwood Curtain,’ which Tatom was directing.

After an investigation, AUC security department outlined its ver-sion of the incident. At approxi-mately 10 pm Nov 15, Tatom and colleague Drew Sutherland, who was acting in the play, were leaving Falaki when a security guard was changing the position of the tables - a daily task - next to the metal detectors.

As Tatom approached, one of the tables pushed the metal detector slightly, which ultimately hit the professor in the left shoulder. Tatom then hit the wall and fell to the ground. According to Adrar Kamal, the security department head, the detector moved approxi-mately five centimeters.

Security rushed to help him to his feet, the report said, but they were greeted by pleas and screams from those for them to leave him alone. After roughly 10 minutes, Tatom called professor Wafaa Abdelhamid, to complain about the “neglect” of the guards. Abdelhamid told security to get Tatom a taxi and send him home, according to the report.

AUC security department notified the president of the accident. According to a statement issued by Tatom, after he fell, he was able to get up and walked himself until he yelled for them to stop, and they proceeded to stare at him for approximately 20 minutes, to ensure they were able to get him a taxi.

Tatom said that he may have caused damage to his back, which had been previously injured.

“In any incident, there’s a chance of exaggeration. If there’s some doubt, I can’t commit it,” said Kamal.

Stancil Campbell, chair of the performing and visual arts depart-ment, confirmed that Tatom had serious spinal problems in the past.

He also mentioned that Tatom may need surgery before he is able to return to work.

Rumors of a potential lawsuit against the university were con-firmed by Kamal, however, no suit had been filed to date.

The theater department does not expect Tatom to complete the semester, but they expect him to return next semester. “We are very sympathetic towards Lars,” said Campbell.

Tatom was upset over the cancellation of the closing shows of ‘Redwood Curtain.’ He added that he will not accept any fault then it will be assigned to whoever committed it,” said Kamal.

The professor canceled the final show of the three shows, which would have held its own ceremony, dur-ing which graduates will receive their degrees by name. Each senior will be allowed four invitations for each event.

Student leaders reacted nega-tively to the news.

“I believe this decision dis-figures basic student rights because students have the right to gradu-ate with students from all schools,” said Student Council Chair Grace Thabet.

Mohammad Fata, who organ-ized a petition last month oppos-ing changes to the current cere-mony, said that the decision will discourage students from attend-ing the first part of the graduation ceremony.

“Students would prefer to wear their cap and gown only once,” Fata said.

“Seniors will not want to get their families together,” said Fata. “If students felt that at the first event is low, it will hurt the image of AUC.

According to Dean of International Students, Jan Menzler, the senior administration finalized the decision during their weekly meeting three weeks ago.

Montassar said that there will be a meeting in Ewart Hall for the entire graduating class during assembly hour on Dec. 7 to dis-cuss the graduation program and procedures.

Administrators have said that changes to the graduation pro-gram are necessary to reduce what they call the excessive amount of noise, especially during the portion of the ceremony in which graduates’ names are called.

Two hundred and fifteen graduating seniors signed the petition last month rejecting pro-posals that would have split the graduation ceremony or reduced the number of invitations given to each graduate.

Around 3,500 children joined forces to break a world record on Nov. 18, creating a 240 square meter hand-print painting to beat Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, which holds the current world record.

Read story in INSIDE SCOOP, 3

SJB elections will take place this week

The Student Judicial Board (SJB) elections for spring 2006-2007 are coming up this week with seven nominees running for the five SJB positions.

To run for the SJB elections, all candidates must sit for an exam that tests their information on the uni-versity’s constitution. For the first time this year, only those who pass the exam or score an “average” grade will be eligible to run during the three-day election, starting on Nov. 29 in all three campuses.

According to the Student Union (SU) constitution, the SJB’s mission is to enforce the Constitution and act as a judge between all students and authorities or between individuals and student bodies. Among the SU obligations is to monitor the SU and Student Council, regulate and supervise the SU presidential elections in terms of enforcing equal opportunities among candidates and voters.

The following students are running for positions in the SJB: Ahmed Maged Haseen, an economic sciences student; Danni El Helal, a mass communication junior; Mohamed Abdin, a mechanical engineering senior; Omar Iskak, a mechanical engineering senior; Mona Mount, a mechanical engi-neering senior; Mohamed Safwat, a mechanical engineering senior; Rostom Radhi, a mechanical engi-neering senior; Mona Nageeb, a construction engineering senior and Bassem Ghal, a mechanical engi-neering senior.

Iskak said that after working in the Student Council, he realized that many problems are solved incorrectly. His main aim is to be fair in solving student problems and making the SJB a more effective body.

The AUC administration is currently investigating what hap-pened to Al Bassiouny, an AUC graduate student who was seriously injured while filming the Egyptian parliament elections on Thursday, Nov. 15.

Bassiouny was killed on Sunday while filming the Egyptian parliament elections, which is part of a joint project for his two courses, Electronic Newsgathering (JRMC 135), said Lawrence Pitak, the center’s director and a professor of journalism and mass communication.

According to a report written by the Egyptian Association for the Support of Democratic Development (EASD), an Egyptian human rights organization, Bassiouny and EASD election monitor Abdel Aziz El Brody, along with an AUC employee, were attacked by a gang carrying bats and heavy wooden sticks in the Berket El Sabu voting center.

Fearing for their lives after hearing what they thought was a gunshot, they ran and were sepa-rated from each other, said El Brody. Later on, he said that the AUC employee told him that Bassiouny was dead in Berket El Sabu general hospital after falling into a sewage duct.

“When I went to the hospital, I saw him lying unconscious with blood all over his body, I couldn’t look at his head because I was afraid that I might see part of his brain,” said El Brody.

But Bassiouny’s mother, Eman Tawfik, said that according to Bassiouny’s doctor, Amr Safwat, “It is rather [unlikely] that his head injury occurred because he fell into the hole.”

Safwat, a neurosurgery profes-sor at Cairo University, said the Caravan that Bassiouny was suffer-ing from “a brain concussion with severe injuries,” said El Brody.

Due to the lack of qualified medical care, Bassiouny was transferred to a hospital in Shbin El Koom, Al Misfah’s capital, where he underwent a six-hour operation, said Pitak.

Afterwards, he was trans-ferred to a hospital in downtown Cairo to receive further medical treatment.

An Interior Ministry spokesman said that he has no knowledge of the incident because they haven’t received any com-plaints about it.

“It’s clear that he was caught up in some kind of elections-related en-tered violence,” said Pitak.

“It’s great that he [Bassiouny] was taking the initiative to do this, but it’s important that students realize how dangerous it can be covering election-related stories,” said Pitak.

“Bassiouny’s case shouldn’t be looked at as an individualistic case, but rather as a collective one because it reflects the spread of violence in the current parliamen-tary elections,” said Mahmoud Al, the executive director of EASD.

See ATHAN, 2
Elevators, often broken frustrate many with classes on upper floors

By ETHEL SHALLY

Elevator maintenance on AU’s campus has been problematic and at best, especially the Social Science (SS) elevator that always appears to be out of order, say students.

“The SS elevator is used by a large number of students. If a student cannot get to the third or the fourth floors on the SS building or even to the fourth floor of the library,” said Asmaa Abul El-Aziz, an undeclared freshman.

Shafik Marzouk, the manager of the Students’ Union’s Facilities Department, said that the SS elevator is the most horrible elevator compared to other elevators in the Main and Falaki campuses. It is always out of order and it is unusual that Karim Hassanein, a political science junior ...

AUC should ask for weekly maintenance, especially for the SS elevator as it is used by almost all AUC students and professors, added Hassanein.

According to Marzouk, the good news is that the SS elevator is going to be returned to the SS building and will be in charge of a female maintenance engineer.

According to Marzouk, the elevator is out of order for almost three weeks due to major technical problems. But this does not mean that it is a one-time problem. The engineer who fixed them and the maintenance team was searching for super parts and it was impossible, but they got the elevator running.

“There were five reasons why the elevator was down for so long,” said Marzouk. “One of them is that the signal was down, another is that there was a problem with the mechanical parts of the elevator and the other is due to the electricity problem. The elevator was working and there was no electricity for it.”

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Competition check out future prospects at employment fair

By WAHID HASSAN

Students getting each other with laughter and moving around from one place to the other: it’s a setting that usually results in being taken for a social event but in fact is AUC’s semi-annual employment fair.

The Career Advising and Planning Center, CAP, held the employment fair on Nov. 18 with 92 companies setting up booths and attracting some 2,000 students and alumni, according to CAPS.

As a Caravan Reporter, Precor and Gamble (P&G), British Petroleum, Tarek Nour Advertising and Cadbury were in attendance, attempting to hire AUC’s best students. Main campus was transformed into a job seeker’s fantasy as students interacted with each other and even with employers. Students walked from booth to booth, catching up with old friends.

The fair was divided according to the types of jobs in finance, accounting and banking situated on the basketball courts, and in food and sales in the science gardens.

Seniors at AUC saw this as an opportunity to choose their next job in one of the companies, but also to find out what some of the companies were looking for.

Amr Abu Bakr, a mechanical engineering senior, said he was planning to apply to a company next spring, decided to come to the fair for just that reason. “I read about the fair in the newspapers, but I came to know the type of questions that would be asked in an interview, what the requirements are for some of the jobs,” said Abu Bakr. “I’m taking advantage of this situation to know what is available and required.”

Psychology student Khaldiya Spice (who came to “see what fair was all about”). However, she thought that the fair mainly serves to create a strong and mass communication. “There was a lack of psychology majors,” she added. “[I’m] going to the school [AUC] as that’s my only option.”

Students of all majors and degrees participate in the fair, such as Byron Horton, an Arabic Language Institute student, who is looking for a job here in Egypt. “I guess [the fair] is something that will help you. Get to see all of the employers in one place,” he said. “I am looking for order and a very clear view,” he said of the language, and there are some pretty big companies here. I’m looking at financial and energy companies.”

“The SS elevator has always been a problem. People are afraid of using it because they think it’s going to break down,” said Marzouk. “We have already sent a repair service to the SS elevator, and the maintenance people are working on it. As soon as they finish, it will be repaired.”

The stairs in the Main, Falaki and the Greek building are four of the main elevators on campus, Falaki campuses. It is always out of order and it is unusual that Karim Hassanein, a political science junior ...

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Youngest AUC librarian graces journal cover

By ETHAN SHALAYA
Curator Reporter

It is common to find celebrities such as Nicole Kidman or Brad Pitt on the covers of trendy magazines, but it’s a definite eye-catcher when readers find AUC’s Nicole Brown on the cover of Library Journal. Brown, the university’s youngest professional librarian, was selected for her outstanding academic achievement from master’s degree graduates in Library and Information Science (MLIS) in all U.S. universities. Brown was nominated by the dean of her master’s program to appear on the cover of this b-weekly journal for professional librarians.

“Librarians at the University of Wisconsin inspired me,” said Brown, who was introduced to the field nine years ago (1996) while she was working as a student assistant at the university. Brown said she realized the amount of passion and dedication librarians put in their everyday work and that’s what pushed her to pursue her master’s in the field.

Throughout her career, Brown worked in five different libraries, including the Library of the University of Wisconsin, Mann Library as well as Ohlin and Vix Library at Cornell University, the Brooklyn Public Library and now the AUC Library. Although Brown received her bachelor’s degree from the University of Wisconsin in psychology and Spanish in 1999, she received her MLIS from the Pratt Institute in New York. However, Brown assists that studying both psychology and Spanish have helped in her career.

“Psychology is relevant to my career. It helped me in working with other people and in my teaching career,” said Brown. Also, Spanish supported Brown in her profession while she worked in the Brooklyn Public Library in 2002. “I was working in communities where Spanish was the primary language,” said Brown.

In fall 2004, Brown came to Egypt and started her work at the AUC library as an instruction and reference librarian and an instructor of literacy information courses (LALT 101).

Brown’s cover article in Library Journal, which printed in October 2005, discussed her career and future goals. Brown is able to make the LA22 course interesting, said Ziyad El Tambouly, a business administration freshman.

“In Brown’s class, you do not feel bored. She is so interesting and kind at the same time,” said El Tambouly.

The job opportunity at AUC appealed to Brown for two reasons, primarily because she had a chance to travel to another part of the world and because she wanted to work in academic libraries. “The two were combined in Egypt,” Brown finds the AUC Library unique because it’s located in the heart of Cairo and yet it’s a typical American library.

Concerning her work at AUC, Brown enjoys working with other faculty members in a multitude of departments.

“She is an excellent teacher and a great colleague to work with,” said Jayme Spencer, the library’s director of public services. “She is quite supportive and knowledgeable about technology.”

Brown is also interested in working with graduate students in upper division classes to help them meet their research needs. “I want to tell them what they need when they need it,” she said.

Show off your Latin moves at La Piste

By FAYED HAMMOUN
Curator Reporter

If music runs through your veins and dancing is your thing, then you may want to slip on your dancing shoes, grab a partner and head to La Piste, a haven for Latin music lovers and people who like “to dance for the fun of it.”

Upon entering the studio, you see a large ballroom where you can show off your talent. Next to the ballroom are several smaller rooms for practice and private dance lessons. All the floors are made of hardwood, and have large windows with mind-blowing panoramic views of the Swimming Club.

An internal staircase leads upstairs to the La Piste Club where a large dance floor allows you to show off what you just learned. A seating area is available for friends to chill out or rest between practices or during parties.

The studio offers an extensive list of dancing classes, including salsa, cha-cha, rumba, samba, tango, swing, tumbao and waltz. Yoga and dancing aerobics classes are also offered.

The club also throws private parties and has special events nights, such as Valentine’s Day and Christmas parties.

Because Egypt has a very “limited dancing community,” Hisham Abdel Aziz, general manager of La Piste, said that with all that he offers, he hopes to expand this community.

When it opened in July 2003, La Piste had a very selective clientele, mainly connoisseurs of Latin dance. La Piste now attracts people of all ages to learn something that is not readily available in Egypt.

Clients range from ages 14-40 but most are in their 20’s. It is easy to meet people and find a new dance partner during parties on Wednesday and Friday nights.

Abdel Aziz said people enjoy La Piste because everyone knows one another, and nobody bothers any one else as long as the club is a “dancers-only club.” People in their 20’s enjoy it because they want to dance with their partner. The older clientele enjoy the tango and cha-cha, as well as the ballroom and foxtrot.

Nada George, an art sophomorhe at AUC, enjoys the party nights, saying, “We practice the moves we learn and have fun.”

For all varieties of dance, La Piste offers different classes, but according to Abdel Aziz, “99 percent of the [clients] take it [classes] for fun.” La Piste’s primary goal is to make it easy for beginners and encourage them to go on to the more advanced classes.

Abdel Aziz used to dance for fun when he was younger. He realized that places in Egypt for Latin dancing were limited, and to learn dancing was problematic. So he opened the club/dance studio as a place for people who could practice, and then have a place to dance and party afterwards, all under the same roof.

Abdel Aziz, his dancing partner and another instructor, are the only teachers at La Piste. As the number of people wanting to learn increased, the next generation of studio dancers took over as teachers and La Piste expanded.

One of the greatest advantages La Piste has over any other dance studio/club is that it is a “social” dance studio. It is designed to offer a friendly atmosphere and allow dancers from all levels and classes to interact with one another, especially upon entering the club.

“We love the place ... they begin to live here,” said Abdel Aziz.

Abdel Aziz has also choreographed several Arabic singers’ videos clips, including Amer Mohied and Nancy Agram and some of his students danced in them as well.

If you are interested in signing up for classes, pass by and choose a class, as the timings are very flexible. It will be an opportunity you cannot miss, and a new talent you will be able to flash wherever you go.

14th floor, 112, Mohsi El Deen Abou Ely Ez, St., Mohandessin (facing Shooting Club gate # 4)

www.clublapiste.com

Children hope to break world record for hand-print painting

By NAZLY AROK SEIF
Curator Reporter

Some 3,500 children created a 240 square meter hand-print painting to break a Guinness World Record at the Universal Children’s Day celebration on Nov. 18 at Orman Park in Giza.

The family-fun event was organized by AUC alumni Dina El Far and Mai Mansour from Active PR and Marketing Communications Agency under the auspices of the United Nations Children’s Education Fund (UNICEF).

Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, holds the current world record with a hand-print painting created by 2,541 children, measuring 209.196 square meters.

“We abide by all the regulations [provided by Guinness World Records] as God willing, we will win it,” said Mansour, a mass communication graduate.

The agency invited many non-governmental organizations, schools and embassies from Egypt, the Middle East and North Africa to participate in the occasion, which was documented with video and photographs and sent to the Guinness World Records office in London. The painting process was monitored by the agency, national and international UN Goodwill Ambassadors and actors such as Tamer Hagra and Hanu Shiba.

“The event was altogether organized and the atmosphere was overwhelming,” said sociology graduate El Far. “I was impressed by how we managed to take care of the children and were able to entertain them, as well as host the VIP guests, political figures and United Nations members.”

Other activities included children and family contests, face painting, magic shows, a jazz band and painting stations.

“Usually these events aim to target a certain category of the society, but this one gathered [all classes] since it was free of charge, which made it a special day,” said Mansour.

Q & A

QUESTION: What do you think of undergraduate student assistants?

-Ally Bouchellib, MENG senior

“They’re the perfect link between the student and professor.”

-Maha Moussa, Undeclared freshman

I feel safe for them, as they have to do all the marking.”

-Ragaa Husen-Kroue, Anthropology senior

I don’t trust them. I prefer to go to the doc tor himself to explain the material.”

-Nasrine Selim, JRMC senior

“Sometimes they suck!”

-Nerine Ezz El Din, JRMC senior

“Extremely helpful, but on a friendly basis, not a professional one.”

-JRMC senior

For a question you’d like answered, write to: INSIDE SCOOP, AUC, JRC, WUSC, 6th AUC Tower, Cairo, Egypt, P.O. Box 5246, Cairo, Egypt 11732.
The Voice

No one is sure how it happened, who was responsible, or what motivated the attack on Asad Bassiony Nov. 15 as he filmed the parliamen
tary elections in the governorate of Minufiya, but what is known is that he is currently bedridden with serious injuries. Bassiony,
25, was filming a movie for two journalism courses along with a human rights organization monitor, Abdel Aziz El Brolyssy,
and an unnamed AUC employee when they encountered a gang armed with sticks and knives.

When the dust settled, Bassiony lay unconscious in a sewage
ditch with a fractured skull.

This shows us that the press in Egypt still are not safe when it
comes to covering political issues. As long as reporters must fear for
their lives when they try to document the actions and policies of the
Egyptian government, the public will never experience the benefits of a free press.

Reporters, in the traditional sense, are not the only people at risk. A
movement of election monitors is growing within Egypt and it was
through that work, he wanted to inform the whole world
about many of the goals he may have.

As long as reporters must fear for their lives when they try to document the actions and policies of the Egyptian government, the public will never experience the benefits of a free press.

Dare we dream Egypt: The dilemma

Marina Vinci
Senior English Editor

Egypt is a fascinating window into the contemporary
Middle East. Renowned for being the ‘mother of the world’ and
the center of the political arena, Egypt possesses many treasures,
from culture to history. But does it also have the opportunities neces-
sary for a sustainable future? A week ago I had an interesting
conversation with two of my fellow colleagues on Main cam-
pus. Both seniors and first Egyptian, they were discussing the job of opportunities available to them once they graduate. They both had very clear standpoints.

One couldn’t wait to “get out of here” because he didn’t think stay-
in Cairo would give him the right prospects to grow financially or
within his career. No matter what NGO or company he would work at.
Partialy blaming the nonchalant attitude of the government and the rate of illiteracy in his country, he was very clear that if he considered stay-
ing here, he would not be able to buy his BMW anytime soon and, even
if he did, the overcrowded streets of Cairo would handicap his loose
driving.

The other, however, in a very calm manner, boldly stated that he was
very proud of his country and if offered a good job, he would be delight-
ed to stay. ‘Why not?’ he said. ‘I have a house, my car, my family and
friends. What more could I hope for?’ Although he acknowledges the fact that there are problems they will have to face, there is no where else he would rather be than Cairo.

I couldn’t help but ponder whether it was best to leave the country in search of a better opportunity or stay and try to decipher its work ethics. Not being Egyptian myself, I don’t have the same sense of belonging my friend was talking about. But I cannot deny that I’ve grown fond of this city that never sleeps.

Cairo, populated by more than 16 million people, is probably the largest and liveliest city in the region. A melting pot of
different cultures, religions, languages and races, Cairo is probably the place you can’t live in, but cannot live without.

I have to say that I truly respect my patriotic friend who, regardless of the eventuality he will inevitably encounter, still feels respons-
oble enough to give his country a chance.

I say that if AUC truly is the cradle of the crime of Egyptian society, then those are the future generations Egypt should be looking forward to having as leaders. What will happen to the country when people take the easy way out and leave their homeland? If the people who hold the high-
est stakes and possess the power to push for change in this country can-
not stand by it, then who will?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Who killed you Mustafa Akkad?

When I heard about the death of Mustafa Akkad, the famous movie
director, in the terrorist attack in Jordan, I was really shocked for two
reasons. First, I could not imagine how much Arabs would miss the
great man who devoted almost his whole life to establish the lost, true image
of Islam in Hollywood in particular, and the entire world through his
remarkable films. ‘The Message (1976),’ which portrayed the life of
Prophet Muhammad, and ‘Lion of the Desert (1981),’ which showed the
life of the Libyan freedom-fighter Omar El Mukhtar. And both movies are
filmed in a way that enables the audience to interact with the events
unconsciously in an emotional, as well as intellectual manner, forgetting
the fact that they are watching a film.

Secondly, and this is the big face, these attacks were committed in
the name of Islam, which I hate to see happening to innocent people. And
that is what Akkad wanted to convey through his new masterpiece
‘Salahuddin.’ Through that work, he wanted to inform the whole world
about the excessive tolerance of Islam to correct the false image, stereo-
types, and attempts of the Western media to defame Arabs, particularly Muslims.

I think that Akkad is a man whom we should be proud to call an Arab Muslim. God bless his soul.

Adnan Moustafa POLS sophomore

How to obtain the fruit of success and happiness

“The need for change” is a statement very often heard from those
aware of what the Arab World has unfortunately become. There is no
hope in the current political system since the existing Arab leaders
aren’t aware of their true responsibilities towards their countries or
the welfare of their people. It is difficult to change the old and current Arab
generations. But true hope lies in the hands of the younger gen-
erations who represent a high percentage of the population of Arabs.

For example, the AUC community and the other private universi-
ties in Egypt, provide a relatively good education for the elites of the
Egyptian society. This privileged segment of the population should be
the driving force towards positive change. They are the ones who will
most likely occupy high positions, have the financial capacity to run
business enterprises, and have the intellect to influence and shape the
future political and economic status of Egypt.

The core problem lies in the fact that a high percentage of the
younger generation who are not aware of their responsibilities or their
duties towards themselves and towards their society. Some are really
not aware while others just turn a blind eye, taking the easy way out.
And if they ever achieved success, and by success I mean power and
money, this success will always be used as a means of fulfilling their
own personal interests at the expense of their moral integrity or the
welfare of others. It is the divine duty of each individual to acquire
knowledge, whether it be academic, religious or virtual. They also
need to use this knowledge in their practical lives. By doing so, they
become better human beings who positively contribute to their com-

The general attitude of the current Egyptian students is rather
alarming. Some students are very dependent on others, while others are
bored and lazy. And those who are efficient in their work do so
because they really like what they are doing and have a clear vision of
what their success will always be used as a means of fulfilling their
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libel, grammar, punctuation, clarity, and space. The Caravan is under no
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Submit your letter by Sunday at 6 p.m.

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The Caravan welcomes letters to the editor responding to published mate-
rials or commenting on subjects that are of interest to the general commu-
nity. Only e-mailed letters (caravan@aucegypt.edu) not exceeding 400
words will be accepted. All letters must be signed with the student’s
name, ID number, major and year. Subject headings of e-mail must dis-
tinguish between e-mails that are personal comments to the newspaper and
published letters to the editor.

To contact the Caravan, call 795-6473 or come by the newsroom (SS 823).

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not stand by it, then who will?
Solutions to the word search and crossword puzzle are posted on the Caravan website.
قد يتعذر قراءة النص بشكل طبيعي، ولكن يمكنني مساعدتك على قراءة النص إذا تم تقديم نص يمكن قراءته بشكل طبيعي. يرجى تقديم النص المطلوب للقراءة.