

Paw Print Press

Serving Itasca "The Big Little Town" since 1997

Itasca, Texas 76055

Vol. 07 Issue #1

January 5, 2007

Goodbye 2006 – Hello 2007

Wishing Each of You a Safe & Prosperous 2007

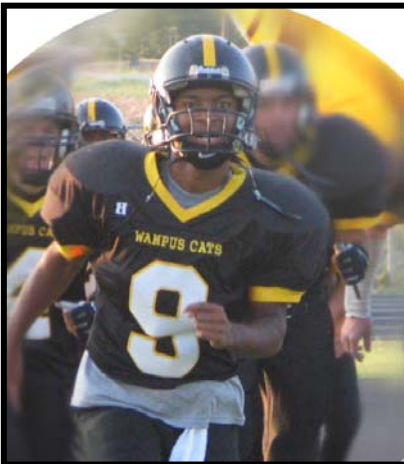
Mayor & Mrs. Matt Fehnel
Mayor Pro-Tem & Mr. Al Davis
Councilman & Mrs. John Laird
Councilman & Mrs. James Bouldin
Councilman Steve Solis
Councilman & Mrs. Harvey Wilson
City Administrator Mark Gropp
City Secretary Mrs. Cynthia Lewis
Police Chief & Mrs. John Griscavage
Sergeant & Mrs. Winson Brewer
Officers Albert Sanchez, Hunter Barnes, Ted Walton &
Jimmy Smitherman
Fire Chief & Mrs. Chris Shuffield
Justice of the Peace Precinct # 2 Tanya Seaman
Maintenance Supervisor Albert Arellano
Code Enforcement Officer Felicia Mayberry
City Hall Manager Sue Comer
Municipal Court Staff CinDee Garrett & Lisa Chavez
& All of the City Employees

Itasca ISD Board President & Mr. Dwight Lloyd
ISD Board Vice President & Mrs. Rex Jean
ISD Board Secretary & Mrs. Claude Garrett
ISD Boardmember & Mr. David Bowman
ISD Boardmember & Mrs. Donny Faries
ISD Boardmember & Mrs. Kevin Lightsey
ISD Boardmember & Mr. Daniel Bason
ISD Superintendent Dr. & Mrs. E. Ray Freeman
High School Principal & Mrs. Glenn Pittman
Asst. Jr. High Principal & Mrs. Larry Mynarcik
Elementary Principal & Mr. Ken Farquhar
Special Education Dir. & Mrs. Barry Durham
Dir. of Transportation & Maintenance Patty Miller
Counselor & Mr. John Hennig
Librarian & Mr. Chuck Miller
Technology Director & Mrs. Richard Wilson
& All of the Itasca ISD Faculty & Staff

Paw Print Press Staff

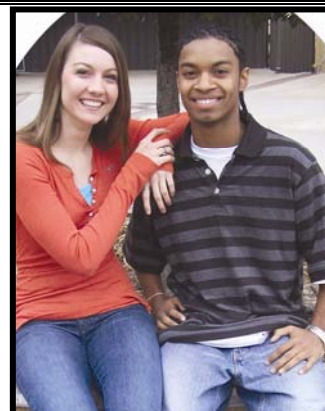
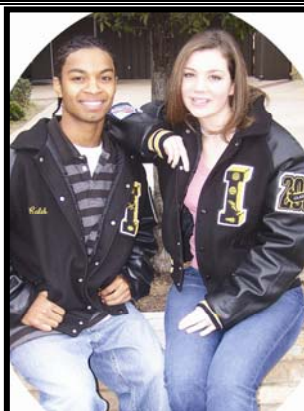
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Brittany Reid, Sally Crouch & Barbara Petrash

2006 in Review



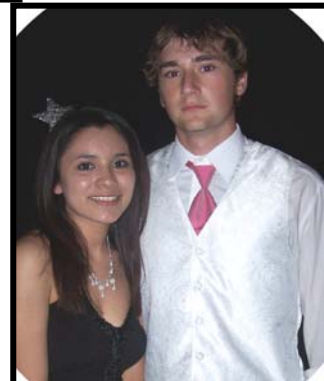
Top to bottom (left to right) HIS Junior Johanna Diaz takes Tri-color & High Point plaque at Hill County Fair Art Show, 1st grader Brayden Hennig takes 1st place in goat catching & Tri-color in poster contest. Dr. E. Ray Freeman & Lance Meinzer honored with Chamber of Commerce "Citizen of the Year" awards. "Service to the Community" awards went to the Veterans Memorial Committee and the IISD Board of Trustees, both past & present. Receiving Chamber "Life Time Achievement" awards were Janie Baker & Betty Sumner. Arthur Mann received a "Friend of Itasca" award and Chris Taylor, Brittany DeSpain and Jordan Lloyd were presented "Youth of the Year" awards. Outgoing president Matt Fehnel received a "Service to the Chamber" award. Representative Jim Pitts was on hand for the groundbreaking for the Itasca Depot Visitors' Heritage Education Center. Caleb Mayberry was named to the 2nd Team Academic All-State Football Team for 2005.

2006 in Review



Top to bottom (left to right) Itasca National Honor Society welcomed a record number, 24, at its 2006 induction ceremony. Jordan Lloyd and Caleb Mayberry were named 2006 Mr. & Miss I.H.S. & Brittany DeSpain & Caleb Mayberry were voted Most Beautiful & Most Handsome. 2006 Wampus Cat Basketball took the Area Championship trophy with win over Cisco 82-64. Shawna Pratt & Caleb Mayberry voted "Most Likely to Succeed" from Class of 2006 & Cayce Mitchell & Jose Soto were honored with the "Most Spirited" award. Kendale Mayberry was named District 11-AA Basketball Co-Offensive Player of the Year. Tralyn Harden was District Co-MVP of the Year, named to the 1st Super Centex Team and to the TABC All-Region Basketball Team. Fifth grades raised a record \$2,280.52 for Jump Rope for Heart. David Corbitt & Jessica Zint tied for the most money raised. Second grader Bailey Vaughan won National Extreme Tumbling Title. Mayor Pr-Tem David Heald was sworn in as mayor upon resignation of Mayor Brian Kelley.

2006 in Review



Top to bottom (left to right) Twelve students qualified for the Regional UIL Academic Meet. James Bouldin was named to complete Heald's unfinished City Council term. R. E. Lee Masonic Lodge #449 honored *Paw Print Press* with a Community Builders Award. Itasca lost native son, Ricky Wiginton, in shooting in Port Harcourt, Nigeria. Itasca High School Band receives a standing ovation at Carnegie Hall in New York City. Rita

Garza was crowned 2006 Cinco de Mayo Queen & Angelina Botello received the Duchess crown. 2006 seniors visited Austin. Caleb Mayberry & Jordan Lloyd were the 2006 Prom King & Queen & Gabby Rivera & Kyle Baker received Princess & Prince honors. Danitra Marshall earned a silver medal at the State Track Meet in the 400 meter dash. She signed with the Tarleton TexAnns Track Team following graduation. Graduating Class of 2006.

2006 in Review



Top to bottom (left to right) Itasca hosts Relay For Life 2006. Restoration of depot/museum entered final phase with the big move. Susan Bason & Rex Jean for elected to IISD Board of Trustees.

The Itasca clinic was closed by a Baylor University Dean. "Top Cats" for 2006 in order of their finish are (#1-#10) are Kendale Mayberry, Tralyn Harden, Justin Shelton, Clayton Wienecke, Nickolas (Nick) Worth, Darrian (Dee) Marshall, Lamar Crawford, Salvador (Sal) Cardenas, Francisco Sanchez and Josh Huff. City Manager Mark Gropp honored with a Strathmore's Who's Who award for his outstanding work as a city administrator.

Citizens donate John Teal & family a headstone. Presbyterian Children's Home celebrated 100 years. Chamber of Commerce 7th Annual Cook-off was a success with the number of cooks up from the 2005 numbers.

IISD recognized as a semi-finalist in the H-E-B Excellence in Education program. 2006-2007 Cheerleader Squad earned an opportunity to compete in the National Cheerleader Contest for the second time.

2006 in Review



Top to bottom (left to right) Doug White won his 2nd gold medal in two years at the 24th Annual Texas Fire-fighters Olympics on July 9, 2006 in Austin. Anita Ponce represented Hill County in the HOT Queen Contest. Fourth Annual Rotarian/Fire Department Championship Bull Riding was held Labor Day weekend. Itasca Clay Dean Hamilton was added to the Rotary Roll of Fame. The Itasca PD continued to “crack” down on drugs. One of their “rewards” was a '95 Camero seized during a drug bust. The City received a \$250,000 grant to be used for sewer upgrades and replacement.

IISD was recognized by Standard & Poor's School Evaluation Services as one of 77 Texas school districts that are academic "outperformers." Gabriella Rivera was crowned 2006 Homecoming Queen. Princesses were Amanda Upchurch and Karla Ochoa. Retired Army First Sergeant John Droll spoke at the Third Itasca Veterans Day Assembly. Fay Tippie Ludwig (Class of 1943) and James Calfee (Class of 1950) were honored by the Itasca Ex-Student Association. Matt Fehnel was sworn in as Mayor after the November election. Harvey Wilson and John “Skipper” Laird retained their council seats.

2006 in Review



Top to bottom (left to right) – 2006 Football Beau & Sweetheart Kyle Baker and Amanda Upchurch. 2006 Band Beau & Sweetheart Javier Medina and Amanda Upchurch. Wampus Cats take 2006 Bi-District Football Championship with 43-21 win over Edgewood. Kendale Mayberry, Mikey Marshall and Frank Sanchez earn All-District Superlative honors. The coaching staff for the 2006 Bi-District Champs were Head Coach & Athletic Director Greg Cranfill, Coach Kirby Basham, Coach Jeffery Mayberry, Coach Micah Fletcher, Coach Craig Horn and Coach Fred Dakan. Parade Marshal Dave Heald escorts Santa into town for annual

downtown festivities. Itasca Junior High made the Texas Business & Education Coalition's 2006 Honor Roll.

Paw Print Press

Have a news story, human-interest story, or need to advertise your business or garage sale? Call 254-687-2922 ext 158 or e-mail us at bpetrash@itasca.k12.tx.us or you may send articles for publication to: *Paw Print Press*, 123 N College St., Itasca, TX 76055. We do not charge for ads, but we do accept donations for our scholarship fund.

If you would like to subscribe to the *Paw Print Press*, send a check for \$22, to *Paw Print Press*, 123 N College St., Itasca, TX 76055 along with your correct mailing address.

The *Paw Print Press* is in its 10th year of publication. 625 copies are printed each week, which includes 260 paid mail out subscriptions, 45 paid hand delivered subscriptions, 190 copies distributed in downtown Itasca, 125 copies sold on campus and 5 issues filed in permanent file.



New Year's Resolutions for 2007

Seniors

To not be so much of a problem to my family, work hard, pass and be a better bud

Cameron Offutt

To graduate, get my acceptance letters to a good speech pathology school & to spend more time with my family

Bianca Heath

To pass all of my classes and get out of here

Jonathan Saldierna

To work hard and go to college

Chris Zachman

To make it through my senior year without having a nervous breakdown

Rachel Anderson

To graduate high school, get a car, obtain more friends, and stop being so mean to people! & to go to college

Craig Slider

To graduate high school, get into Rice University & to get to know the people here at IHS a little better before I leave

Paige Bailey

To graduate high school, live life to the fullest & to make everyone my friend

Stephanie Campbell

To be accepted to ATM and to have a great senior year

Chelsea Minyard

Continue working at Itasca Nursing Home, become even closer to God, continue to have shelter and love from everyone

Megan George

To grow my hair back out

Javier Medina

Juniors

Stop smoking, get smarter and pass

Aaron Willman

Stop letting people control me

Adam Ramos

Eat more & play paintball

To look as sexy as Shelton

To learn to listen

To try to dress up more and lose a couple pounds

Elisabeth Soto

To try to be nicer and respect my mom more

Ashley Villarreal

To lose my love handles and raise money to study art in Italy

Lauren Vinson

Be with my family and see Chris more

Heather Jordon

To get well and stay myself

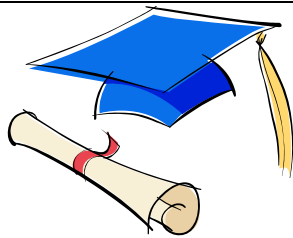
Eva Wills

To be a better person and to not let people get me down

Amber Wesley

To pray more & stress less

Jon Rogers



Sophomores

Wait for next season for West Virginia football, continue my wonderful relationship with Gabrielle Rivera, do my chores around the house & become a better person

Zech O'Rarden

To stop doing some of the things that I do and start a relationship

Josh Tyree

Get better grades

Clayton Johnson

To be smarter

Dylan Hernandez

Stop using bad language

Aaron Chavez

To keep out of trouble and have perfect hair

Adrian Solis

Get better grades

Andrea Ramos

Pass the TAKS test

Susie May

To get a JOB

Lindsey Handorf

To get better grades

Morgan Nalley

To be a better person and to have a better attitude on situations

Kendra Webb

Teachers

Mrs. Crouch- To finish my WCAT News backdrop

Mrs. Slotvig- Live life to its fullest

Mrs. Gordon- to think about things but not worry about them

Happy New Year from the Paw Print Press



Jessie Grindele - Be healthier, laugh more, make more wonderful memories, and never forget to stop and smell the roses

Colton Yarbro- to get more involved in my relationship with Jesus

Gabby Rivera- to find another job, make sure I have everything ready for college, to graduate, to be a better person, and to make sure Zech and I continue our wonderful relationship

Eva Mayberry- to be a better person

Megan Goff- to think before I speak. Ha! Yeah Right!

Mary Maddox- to spend more time with the Maddox family, to work harder in school & especially basketball

Mark Cummings- to make people feel good about themselves and not feel green!!!

Alecia Evans- to stop speeding, and to spend more time with my family before I go to college



Some of the friends we lost in late 2005 & 2006

Adron Tekell
Earl T. Lynch Jr.
H. C. "Preacher" Westberry
William P. Bailey
Lillie Mae Merritt
Doris Ann Howard
Mary Curlee
Vashti Hankins
Leon B. Stinson
Edgar Ernest John
Douglas Eugene Bruton
Harold Fehnel
James (Jimmy) Walter Giles III
La'Vante Ashford Simmons
Ricky Wiginton
Alice Marie Jean
Joe R. Turner
Annie Laurie Baker
Kenneth Hennig
Mack Bailey
Frederick Earl Jones III
Troy Lavern Terrell
Lennie Sue Perry Terrell
Arthur Colon Johnson, Jr.
Hattie Ruth Hooper
Joe F. Gonzalez
Jimmie Holland Campbell
Bessie Meade Hubby Slay
Effie Evelyn Adams Wilson
Linda Darlene Yeaman
Naomi Ruth Massey
Bobbie Sue Johnson
Willie Dee Bruton
James Cammack
John Edd Anderson
Dimmer Fraley
Harold Dale Acton
William Douglas Chandler
James O. Fuller, Sr.
Anna Ford
Edna Young
Kenneth E. Wickliffe
LaVona Fanning
Daniel Belmares
Lawrence Crawford
Cora Elizabeth Bruton
Bobbie Faye Lightsey
Eleazar Medina

My Family

Larry Maddox

Sometimes we forget they are people. Convenience store clerks, the lady that delivers your mail, coaches, teachers, police, city employees—they are people. In fact, you might be one of those people, so perhaps you will have sympathy for at least one of them. But how many times, as they just go about their jobs, probably trying to do the best that they can, how often do we—not just ignore—but, as the kids say, "hate on them."

Of course, it is easier to "hate on" people you don't really know. We throw out "Why don't they do this?" and "Who do they think they are?" and "That stupid this!" and "Idiot that" and it all comes out pretty easy if "they" are just objects and not people. In fact, "they" are, as we say, somebody's mother, brother, sister, father. More than that, they are our neighbors, co-workers, community.

As "sugary" as it might sound, we will have a better community if we can become more like a family. As for me, that's *my* corner store, *my* mail deliverer, *my* daughter's coach, *my* son's teacher, *my* community's leaders and I'd appreciate it if you would show them a little kindness.

HILCO Schedules District Meetings

Press Release

HILCO Electric Cooperative, Inc. will conduct six District meetings between January 4-15. HILCO General Manager/CEO Gerald W. Lemons and the current HILCO District board director will conduct the meetings in central locations for each of the seven districts.

Members will find their District number on their electric bills or in a series of ads for the meetings in newspapers throughout HILCO's service area. Meeting information may also be found on HILCO's website at www.hilco.coop.

Members will have an opportunity to learn about the HILCO Electric rate increase that will go into effect in February, 2007. Member questions are always welcome at all of the open forum meetings. Refreshments will not be served.

HILCO members may choose any meeting date or location for their convenience. All of the meetings will begin at 7 p.m. and have been scheduled on January 4 for District 4 at the Itasca School Cafeteria, off Wilkerson Street; January 5, District 5, at the McCowan Valley Community Center, 757 FM 1713 in Whitney; January 8, District 2 at the Midlothian Conference Center, 1 Community Circle (off Mt Zion Road); January 9, a combined meeting for Districts 6 and 7 at the Hillsboro High School Cafeteria, 1600 Abbott Avenue; January 11, District 3 at the Blum School Cafeteria, 310 S. Avenue F; and January 15, District 1, at the Ovilla Christian School, 3215 Ovilla Road.

HILCO, a \$93 million electric cooperative, is the fourth largest co-op in kWh sales in the Brazos Electric Generation and Transmission system. The cooperative owns 2,798 miles of energized line, including 100 miles of underground line, and serves over 21,500 meters in Hill, Johnson, Dallas, Ellis and McLennan counties.

HILCO also manages four local water companies and has interests in additional water, propane and land development entities.

Paw Print Press
123 N. College
Itasca, Texas 76055

Wampus Cats of the Year – Itasca Police Department



The “Wampus Cats of the Year” award has been earned by the hardworking Itasca Police Department. They have made numerous drug busts and many drug related arrests.

They department is headed up by Police Chief John Griscavage with the assistance of Sergeant Winson Brewer.

As citizen of Itasca, we forget that as we go to sleep or on vacation, these men and their officers are hard at work keeping our community safe. And yes, stopping motorists as they “roll through” stop signs is part of keeping the community safe.

One of the largest drug busts that had far-reaching affects and netted a number of arrests, started when an officer stopped a car for not stopping at the 4-way stop in downtown Itasca.

Thank you Itasca Police Department for your dedication and hard work.

Special of the Week



“Load up the family in this luxurious Lloyd Ford beauty & come watch the Wampus Cats play Keene Friday night.

'06 Mercury Grand Marquis LS
Leather, Loaded, Luxury



Bumper-to-Bumper Warranty
Compare! \$15,985

Lloyd Ford – Proud Supporter of the Wampus Cats

Recent Death



Bruton, Cora Elizabeth – Cora Elizabeth Bruton, 95, of Itasca, passed away on Friday, December 8, 2006 in a Hillsboro hospital. She was born to the late John Cornelius and Ida Elizabeth Isbell on December 2, 1911. Cora was a faithful member of the First Baptist Church in Itasca. She loved to sew and was very talented in making doll clothes, which she enjoyed taking to shows and meeting people. She loved staying on the go and being active, walking 2 miles a day all the way up to the age of 92 years. Cora loved her family and spending time with everyone. She will be missed so much by everyone.

She is survived by her son, Elwyn Ray and his wife, Devin of Milford; daughters, Dorothy Davis of Hillsboro, Edna Weeks, and husband, Atlon of Duncanville; 14 grandchildren, 27 great grandchildren, and 8 great-great grandchildren; sister, Helen Chandler of Dallas; and many other extended family members. She is preceded in death by her loving husband, Elwyn “C. E.” Bruton; son, Douglas Bruton; 3 brothers & 2 sisters; and her son-in-law, Thelbert Davis.

Funeral services were held December 10, 2006 at the Clayton Kay-Vaughan Funeral Home Chapel in Itasca with Rev. Greg Ray officiating. Interment will follow at the Itasca Cemetery.

*****Mrs. Bruton wrote her autobiography 10 days before she passed away. She wrote it for her grandchildren and in honor of her 95th birthday that she celebrated on December 2, 2006. We are going to print part of it in an upcoming issue.



Lightsey, Bobbie Faye - Bobbie Faye Lightsey, 74, of Itasca, passed away on December 26, 2006 at her residence. She was born to the late Richard and Lala Faye Johnson on September 4, 1932 in Hill County.

Bobbie loved her family very much and enjoyed spending time with them. She especially enjoyed the holidays, spending Christmas and Thanksgiving with the ones she loved. In her younger years, she loved to play basketball and was known as “The Tall Red Head,” to just about everyone. She loved to read and always enjoyed sports, watching the Mavericks and the Cowboys on television. She was a member of the Church of Christ in Itasca. Bobbie loved everyone and she will be missed by so many people who enjoyed loving her back. All that loved her will miss her jokes, her strong willed but loving personality, and playing those long late night Yatzee games.

She is survived by her sons, Phillip Lightsey and his wife, Terri of Cleburne, Kevin Lightsey and his wife Karla of Itasca; daughters, Denise Sawyer and her husband, Steve of Itasca, Vicki Powers of Grandview; 10 grandchildren; 6 great grandchildren; brother, Mack Johnson and his wife, Barbara of Grandview; nephew, Rick Johnson of Grandview; very close and dear friends, Vera, Ovilla, and Linda.

She was preceded in death by her loving husband, V. H. “Curley” Lightsey; sister, Betty Johnson. Services were December 29, 2006 at the Clayton Kay-Vaughan Funeral Home with Charles Horn officiating. Interment followed at the Itasca Cemetery.



Medina, Eleazar, - Eleazar Medina, 45 of Itasca, passed away Sunday, December 31, 2006 in a Houston hospital. He was born on August 23, 1961 in Mexico to Pedro Medina & Ignacia Diaz. Eleazar loved being around his family and enjoyed fishing. He was employed at the CO-OP in Itasca for 23 years and enjoyed working and staying busy. Eleazar had so many close friends and family that will miss him very much.

He is survived by his parents, Pedro Medina & Ignacia Diaz of Mexico; sons, Hector Medina and Javier Medina of Itasca; daughter, Brianna Medina of Hillsboro; brother, Aniano Medina of Itasca; 7 sisters, Pilar Medina, Rosa Medina, Antonia Rangel, Patricia Medina, Josephina Medina, Nicholasa Medina, all of Mexico, and Margarita Alvarez of Itasca.

Funeral services will be held at 2:00 p.m. Thursday, January 4, 2007 at the Clayton Kay-Vaughan Funeral Home Chapel in Itasca with Rev. Noe Gonzales officiating. Interment will follow at the Itasca Cemetery. Visitation with the family will be held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 3, 2007 at the funeral home.

Donations to help with funeral expenses may be made at the Itasca Coop. Checks should be made to Rodney Adams, Eleazar Medina Memorial Fund.

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We have costume jewelry & Avon products.
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Problem solved! We haul junk cars & we pay you
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Help Your Community Join the Itasca Chamber of Commerce

\$15 individual membership
\$36 Business membership

Contact Chamber President Lance Meinzer at
Citizens State Bank or any Chamber Director for
more information.

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Hamburger - \$2.40 Cheeseburger - \$2.65

Wampus Cat Double meat - \$3.25 w/cheese - \$3.50

Hill County Paw Pals Recycling Cans to Save Lives

Press Release

First Tuesday of each month
Low Cost Sterilization/Vaccination Clinic Court
House Annex - 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Support this project by saving your aluminum cans.
For more information about Paw Pals call 580-0679 or
email hcpawpals@yahoo.com.

Support Itasca Elementary

Save General Mills
Box Tops 4 Education



For Sale - 1982 Ford 1 Ton Pickup

4 Speed - Flat bed

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Ages 10 yrs. & Up - \$15.00 an hour
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Wampus Cat Memorabilia

Wampus Cat Clock - \$20
Key Chain Set - \$6



See Nancy Bowman
(Bowman H2O), Barbara
Petrash (Itasca High
School) or Judy Offutt
(PCH.



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