

Campground reservations for 21 areas

Legislation permits reinstatement of camping fees

"Hey, uh, can you tell me how I get a reservation to camp in Grand Canyon or Bryce Canyon Park?"

"Yes sir, I have all the information right here about our campground reservations. However, many of our campgrounds, the ones at Bryce Canyon National Park included, are still available only on a first-come, first-served basis and cannot be reserved in advance."

This may be typical of the questions that must be answered throughout the National Park System this year by park rangers and technicians in visitor centers, entrance stations, or campgrounds, not to mention those on patrol, giving campfire talks, and leading tours.

First, some basics: Park Reservation System, Inc. (PRS), now operates a nationwide, computerized campsite reservation system for 21 areas of the National Park System. Last year's pilot project in six parks was operated by American Express Reservations, Inc.

PRS will not have locations available for walk-in customers other than those in the 21 parks on the system, but it does offer service by mail and telephone. Prospective campers should be asked to plan ahead, if possible, and write to Park Reservation System, P.O. Box 1976, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406, for reservation order forms and information on the complete program. If time is short, they can use the toll-charge long-distance number, (319) 363-0221, or the toll-free number, (800) 553-8425. PRS has more lines available on the toll-charge system than on the toll-free system; therefore, the public is more likely to get quick service through the toll-charge system, particularly in the early weeks of the program.

Reservation coupons can be found in PRS advertisements in many newspapers and magazines. Those who write or call PRS or any of the 21 parks on the system can obtain the coupons and information by mail.

Only PRS itself can make the reservations, however. This, too, can be done by mail or telephone, but PRS must receive payment or the number of an acceptable credit account to which the fees may be charged, at least 48 hours in advance

of the time the visitor plans to arrive in the park.

Unlike last year, many of the parks on the reservation system have no campsites set aside for first-come, first-served use. In those parks, only those sites which have not been reserved 48 hours in advance are available for the visitor who arrives without a reservation.

The 21 areas on the PRS program are: Acadia National Park, Maine; Assateague Island National Seashore, Maryland portion only; Blue Ridge Pkwy., N.C.-Va.; Cape Hatteras National Seashore, N.C.; Catoclin Mountain Park, Md.; Crater Lake National Park, Ore.; Everglades National Park, Fla.; Glacier National Park, Mont.; Grand Canyon National Park, Ariz., drive-in campgrounds only; Grand Teton National Park, Wyo.; Great Smoky Mountains National Park, N.C.-Tenn.; Greenbelt Park, Md.; Gulf Islands National Seashore, Fort Pickens, Fla., campground only; Mammoth Cave National Park, Ky.; Platt National Park-Arbuckle National Recreation Area, Okla.; Prince William Forest Park, Va.; Rocky Mountain National Park, Colo.; Sequoia National Park (but not Kings Canyon National Park), Calif.; Shenandoah National Park, Va.; Yellowstone

(Continued on page 2)



The disappointment of arriving after a long drive to find that the campground is full can now be avoided at many NPS areas. With the advent of the Park Reservation System at 21 areas, prospective campers can reserve their sites in advance or find out if campsites are available before planning a stop.

National Park, Wyo., and Yosemite National Park, Calif.

Last year, reservations were available only during peak vacation seasons; this year they will be available throughout the year for many campgrounds on the system.

What will it cost? Under Public Law 93-303, signed June 7, the Service can resume charging for campground use. The fees vary from \$1 per site per night to \$4 per site per night. The reservation service charge is \$2 for each reservation, whether the reservation is for one day or two weeks (the campgrounds have limited visitor stays, in some cases the limit is seven days, others permit as much as a 30-day stay). PRS will charge the entire amount to a camper's BankAmericard or Master Charge account on request.

Some 71 units of the National Park System still offer camping on a first-come, first-served basis, and a few have write-in reservation systems operated by the parks themselves. By writing to the appropriate park superintendent, visitors can obtain free, mail reservations for the boat-access campgrounds in Dinosaur National Monument, Colo.-Utah; the inner-canyon (hike-in and boat-access) campgrounds in Grand Canyon National Park, Ariz.; the campgrounds beyond Savage River in Mount McKinley National Park, Alaska; and the campgrounds at Point Reyes National Seashore, Calif. Many areas also require reservations for back-country campsites and group campsites.

Finally, two other unique reservations programs exist. At Grand Canyon National Park, which has a hand in every form of campsite reservation, sites may be reserved for the Havasu Canyon campground only through Havasupai Tourist Enterprise, Supai, Ariz. 86435, telephone (602) 448-2121. And at Virgin Islands National Park, the park concessioner handles reservations, by mail only, Cinnamon Bay Campgrounds, P.O. Box 4930, St. Thomas, V.I. 00801.

Holders of the Golden Age Passport are still entitled to a 50 percent reduction of the campsite user fee. Public Law 93-303 also provides for issuance of permanent Golden Age Passports beginning in 1975, instead of the annual passports offered in 1973 and 1974.

The Golden Eagle Passport continues to cover entrance fees only, not user fees. However, the pro-

visions for both passports have been amended to cover entry of any family group, regardless of their mode of entry, but they also remain valid for any group which arrives in a single, privately-owned vehicle as before.

So, how does the questioning visitor get his reservations for the Grand Canyon or Bryce Canyon? For Bryce Canyon, he relies on

the traditional first-come, first-served system long-practiced by the National Park Service. For Grand Canyon, however, he is faced with three choices: for highway-access campgrounds, contact PRS; for inner-canyon campgrounds, write to the Park Superintendent; and for Havasu Canyon, contact Havasupai Tourist Enterprise.



Safety: Always in Season

Safety tip on spring - loaded bumpers

Beware of spring-loaded bumpers following an automobile crash! A Phoenix police bulletin has cautioned officers to take extreme care in trying to separate collided vehicles equipped with the new spring-loaded safety bumpers. In recent incidents in that city, five patrolmen lost fingers and one part of a foot while working to separate vehicles which had crashed. The officers reported the bumpers of the new cars shot out like a "spring-loaded ram."

Blue Ridge Parkway safe place to work

In putting safety emphasis on visitor protection, NPS must not lose sight of the necessity for accident prevention among employees. An outstanding employee safety performance has won the Blue Ridge Parkway a National Park Service certificate of commendation accepted by Granville B. Liles, superintendent, and Harold J. Stout, safety officer. Stout, who has been associated with the Parkway for 20 years, pointed to the record of 1,500,000 man-hours without a lost time accident as "a remarkable achievement." He attributed the record to "continuous cooperation of our staff and field people." The

last lost time accident among Parkway personnel occurred two years ago, Stout said, noting that some 180 permanent and seasonal employees were involved in achieving the safety showing.

May figures improve NPS safety record

Visitor fatalities in the National Parks for May showed a strong downtrend. Motor vehicle deaths (only one) are less than anticipated, even with reduced travel and lower speeds. Drownings are down from 13 in May of 1973 to six in May of 1974. "Perhaps our emphasis on water safety has begun to pay off," said Richard Marks, assistant director, Visitor Services. "It appears visitors are influenced to the degree that they are taking more care to avoid hazards of park waters. This good news indicates that our work can produce results. But we must keep the pressure on, not relax our efforts," Marks said.

Visitor Fatalities through May 1974

	1973	1974
Drownings	27	25
Motor Vehicles	27	12
Falls	5	5
Misc.	5	8
Total	64	50

Prince William Forest Park nature center gets face lifting

By James Carroll, Public Information Specialist WASO

National Park superintendents learn early and often that signs and exhibits can grow old, even become ill, much like the human body.

More and more superintendents, however, are learning of a remedy—the Service's emergency repair and rehabilitation program directed by Frank Phillips, museums contract manager at Harper's Ferry Center.

Phillips handles the program

about like a doctor would treat his patient. "We like to hear about the parks' problems," Phillips says, "to see what we can do to help."

In the past year, Phillips has made "house calls" to parks as far apart as Hawaii and the Virgin Islands. Currently about 100 projects are underway.

Phillips is most proud of one of the projects close to home—the re-

habilitation and improvement of the nature center at Prince William Forest Park Va., south of Washington, D.C.

Thanks to the emergency repair and rehabilitation program, youngsters visiting the nature center can now step on treadles to listen to recorded sounds of wildlife and to view slides of plants found in the Park.

A table invites children to "please touch" the objects of nature on display, and exhibit panels tell the historical story of man's use and abuse of the area's natural assets.

The children seem particularly fascinated with the nature center's active beehive.

Key people in the Prince William story are acting superintendent Arnold Simmons, who transferred from Golden Spike National Historic Site in Utah where he was a technician, to the Park Maintenance Chief Carlton McCarthy, who provided direction for the skilled craft people on the staff, and Phillips, a man with a deep understanding of field problems.

Phillips began his career in Yellowstone and spent 10 years in the field before moving into museum work in 1956.

"It is important to let the field know that this program exists," Phillips emphasizes. "Then the field can let us know their problems," he explains. "Teamwork is essential. Reports of problems should be prompt and accurate," he stresses.

A special reporting form has been designed, and accompanying black and white polaroid photos of exhibit problems are requested.

The work, which the in-house production staff is too busy to handle is done under contract by exhibit contractors located throughout the country.

"This is a means by which we can keep all exhibits looking good until a longer range program is established," Phillips says.

So Phillips will continue his role as emergency man and doctor for ailing exhibits of the Park Service. Park superintendents and visitors will be especially thankful.



Nature Center at Prince William Forest Park, Va., before (above) and after (below) improvements made possible by the National Park Service emergency repair and rehabilitation program.



NPS hosts park directors meeting

The National Park Service recently hosted a two day meeting of state park directors, NPS regional directors, other members of the Directorate and representatives of the National Conference on State

Parks to begin what Director Ron Walker characterized as a ... "re-opening of a dialogue between those of us who administer some of America's greatest park, recreation, and historic areas."

At the opening session, Horace Albright, second Director of the Service, spoke to the group about the formative years of the NPS. He offered many colorful anecdotes of the early days of the Service. Assistant Secretary Reed said that the reforming of a group to "brain trust" a mixture of state and federal parks to serve all people was a highlight of the year. James Watt, director of the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, discussed the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

John Cook, associate director, Park System Management, talked about the new thrust for Interpretation; Dr. Ernest Connally, associate director, Professional Services, explained the involvement of the Service in historic preservation; and Ray Freeman, assistant director, Development, mentioned some of the facets of regional planning and the master plan for development of Great Smoky Mountain National Park. Charles Keely, assistant to the Director for Public Affairs, addressed the group on recent Service information activities. Deputy Director Russ Dickenson, who chaired the meeting, asked the state park directors to state their hopes for future State-Federal parks cooperation. The 18 participants then formed smaller groups for more intensive interaction.

One day's session was divided between a question and answer period involving state park officials, representatives of other Interior bureaus and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and a report by the chairmen of individual groups.

A significant result of the conference was the advancement of a number of valuable suggestions on park administration and further cooperation. The hope was expressed that meetings—to include all State Park Directors—could be held in the future.

Park directors from California, Colorado, New Hampshire, Mississippi, Pennsylvania, Oklahoma, Kansas and the state of Washington attended the meeting.



NPS Deputy Director Russ Dickenson (center) chaired a meeting of state park directors recently in Washington. Dickenson was introduced to the group by Lon Garrison, former Albright Training Center director and now president of the newly formed National Society for Park Resources. One of the state park directors attending was Chris Delaporte, (left), state park director for Oklahoma.

Denver Mapping branch scores in design contest

Roland Pression, Chief of the Mapping Branch at the Denver Service Center, has received a first prize in the 1974 Map Design Competition of the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping.

A real estate segment map prepared by Pression and his staff was selected from a field of 170 entries for special honor.

The map charts the ownership status of property contained in Cumberland Island National Sea-

shore, Georgia, and shows the precise configuration of each tract as the basis for land acquisition by the National Park Service. The winning maps were exhibited during the American Congress's annual convention in St. Louis earlier this spring.

The Congress judges maps in competition on the basis of absolute accuracy, visual presentation and cartographic design.



Her Royal Highness Princess Margaret, her consort, the Earl of Snowdon and an entourage of distinguished guests arrive for a tour of Independence NHS. Superintendent Hobie Cawood greets them.

Princess Margaret visits Independence Hall NHS

By Ronnie Spiewak, Newsletter Staff

Her Royal Highness Princess Margaret, her husband the Earl of Snowdon, and an entourage of distinguished guests visited Independence Hall NHS, Phila. recently.

In the United States for the annual Kentucky Derby in Louisville, the Princess' party flew to Philadelphia following the race to dedicate a children's hospital. Her wish to see the historic home of the Liberty Bell (made in England, incidentally) moved Superintendent Hobie Cawood and Mid-Atlantic Regional Director Chet Brooks to arrange for a private tour and to personally meet the party.

"My what a beautiful building!" observed Princess Margaret as she and her husband neared the site amid smiles and applause from some 250 Philadelphians who came to see her.

Accompanying the royal couple were the Honorable Walter H. Annenberg, U.S. Ambassador to the Court of St. James, and Mrs. Annenberg; the Honorable Mrs. Wills, Lady-in-Waiting; Lord Napier, Equerry to Her Royal Highness; Lady Ramsbotham, wife of Her Majesty's Ambassador to the

U.S., and other distinguished visitors.

Dressed in period clothes, NPS Interpreters Maria Burks and Ronald Thompson directed the party to the Assembly Room where the Articles of Confederation and the Constitution were debated and adopted by representatives of the 13 colonies almost 200 years ago.

The Liberty Bell, which was ordered by the Colony of Pennsylvania in the mid-1700's and cast in England, stirred interest yet called for a diplomatic statement by Superintendent Cawood who recalled the Bell's British beginnings.

Commenting on the 20-minute private tour, Superintendent Cawood remarked, "They were pleasant, polite and easy to talk with—much like the average visitor. I was especially pleased with the crowd which turned out to greet the party."

A few days before the royal visit, Independence NHS entertained another distinguished person—United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim. Mr. Waldheim was especially impressed with the Liberty Bell's message taped in German, his native tongue.

Energy still needs to be conserved

The lifting of the Arab oil embargo against the U.S. has not made energy saving less important, Secretary Rogers C.B. Morton said recently.

"The need to conserve energy remains just as strong today as three months ago and will remain so for several years," he said.

Morton pointed to the possibility of a reapplication of the embargo, escalating oil prices and a need to reduce dependence upon foreign oil as good reasons for continuing conservation.

Results thus far, he said, demonstrate that significant reductions in energy consumption can be made.

"I am asking everyone to continue their support for the program and in addition, to continue to conserve energy in all aspects of their daily life," he concluded.

Petite Chalmette ranger tops law enforcement course

By Ben Moffett, Media Relations Specialist, SWRO

Santa Fe, N.M.—The image of a National Park Service ranger as a big, capable, coolheaded, warm-hearted outdoorsman almost fits Janice Ann Wobbenhorst. Almost, but not quite.



Janice Ann Wobbenhorst

Miss Wobbenhorst, chief ranger at Chalmette National Historical Park, La., is a petite, capable, coolheaded, warmhearted outdoorswoman.

Some 40 male classmates of Miss Wobbenhorst's at the Consolidated Federal Law Enforcement Training Center Police School in Washington, D.C. recently found out just how capable and coolheaded the 5-foot-5, 130-pound ranger can be.

Miss Wobbenhorst scored 960 points out of a possible 1000 to graduate at the top of her class—the first woman in the school's 14-session history to achieve such an honor.

"We're very proud of what Janice has accomplished," said Joseph C. Rumburg, Southwest Regional Director whose region encompasses the states of Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico.

The 960 point total was the second highest score ever at the school which trains law enforcement personnel for 24 federal agencies.

John Doer, deputy assistant director of the school, said Miss Wobbenhorst's high marks came as a result of consistency in all aspects of the test, which included a written exam and practical exercises.

"She did as well in those areas

involving the work of the policeman in the field as she did anywhere else," Doer said. "For instance, she scored 49 out of a possible 50 points in arrest techniques and 57 out of 60 in patrol techniques."

Art Hehr, superintendent at Chalmette and Miss Wobbenhorst's supervisor, was tickled over her success at the school. But he was quick to point out that law enforcement is a miniscule part of the ranger duties at Chalmette, which commemorates the Battle of New Orleans.

"I knew she would do well. She always succeeds in anything she tries," said Hehr of the 25-year-old Wayne State, Neb. graduate who was valedictorian at her high school in Belden, Neb. "But Janice is much more than a policewoman. She heads up our interpretive and visitor service divisions here. She is creative, imaginative and a tireless worker. And she's a very warm and friendly person."

With her obvious skills in law enforcement together with a college background rich in history and science, Miss Wobbenhorst appears to have the perfect credentials for a ranger.

And she doesn't tarnish the ranger image of hardy outdoorsman. Her hobby is backpacking.

Back pay coming for NPS employees

Extra vacation cash may be in the offing for thousands of NPS employees as early as July, according to Bernard Chotiner, Division of Systems Design.

The reason—NPS will make payment to its employees for the amount due because the scheduled October 1972 pay increase was delayed until January 1973.

"We appreciate the desire on the part of all our employees to receive this retroactive pay at the earliest possible date and our finance division is hard at work to get this money in all our employees

hands as soon as possible," said Charles Mangers, deputy associate director for Administration.

There are a few snags that may delay even further the retroactive pay, but Chotiner said repayment should be completed by the end of the summer at the latest.

One of the problems is computing the exact amount due to each employee on the rolls during that three-month period. Many have quit, retired or died since then. All of these extra calculations must be entered when programming the computer.

"Realizing that there are about 7,000 individuals to be paid between \$59 and \$430 each, it is easy to see that this is no simple task," Mangers said.

When it does come, employees will receive both their regular pay and the retroactive amount due them in the same check. Two separate statements will be enclosed with each pay check. The Government will deduct 20 per cent in Federal tax, seven per cent retirement, plus, in selected cases, deductions for life insurance costs. No state tax will be deducted.

Teton transpark bikeway dedicated

"It was a great day in a great place and for a good cause."

These were the words of Superintendent Gary Everhardt, Grand Teton National Park, after taking part in a day-long program at Grand Teton which involved:

- dedication of a portion of a transpark bikeway

- a "Miles for Money" bike/hike that involved 300 participants from Jackson Hole as a fund-raising benefit for the Learning Center, a project of the Teton County Mental Health Association

- a western trek for horseback riders; hikers and bicyclists over a 34-mile route that raised nearly \$8,000 for the Learning Center.

The Bikeway, which rolls and winds past the scenic heart of Grand Teton National Park, is recognized as a necessary addition to the transportation mix in the park. According to Everhardt, people are bringing their bicycles, renting them, and in some cases even using them as the only means of cross-country travel.

Director Walker on the move

June 12—(Great Falls of the Potomac, Md.)—Filming of public service TV feature on water safety.

June 13—Washington, D.C.—National Capital Parks press preview, American Folklife Festival.

June 14—Washington, D.C.—White House press preview, Summer in the Parks.

June 15—Gatlinburg, Tenn. and Cherokee, N.C., speeches on 40th Anniversary Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

June 20—Tour of Bicentennial and other NPS areas, Mid-Atlantic Region.

June 21—Tour of Bicentennial and other NPS areas, North Atlantic Region.

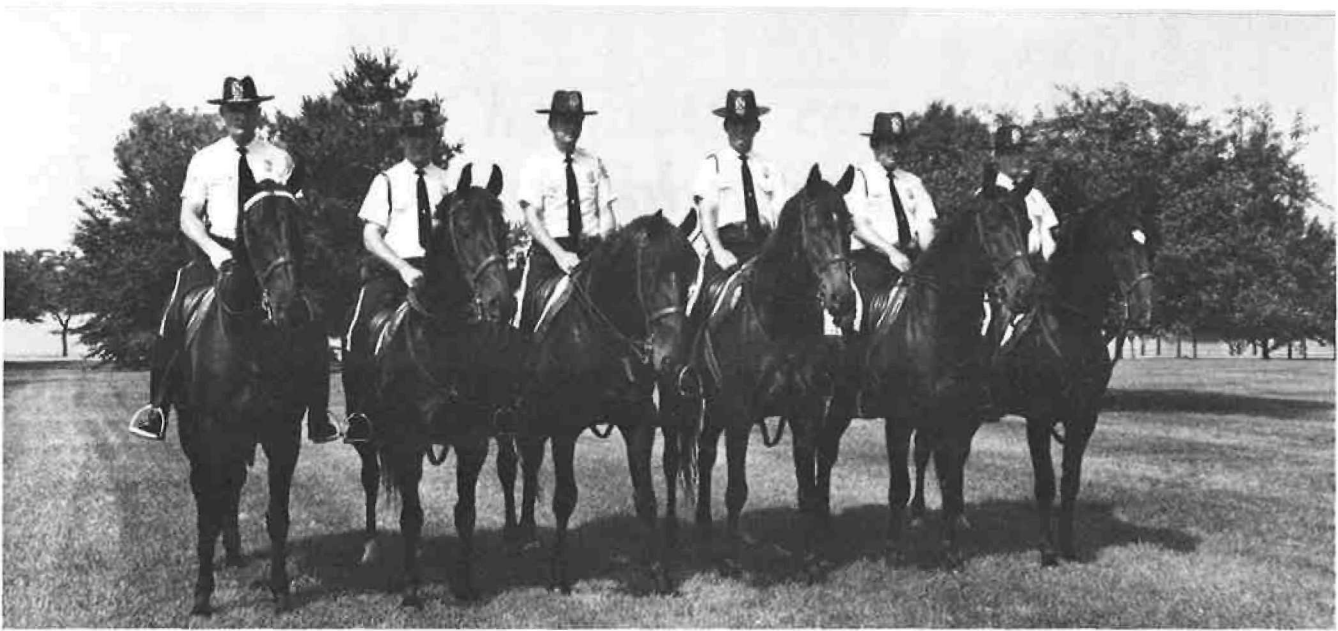
June 22—Mystic Seaport, Mystic, Conn.—Speech at rededication of the whaling vessel Charles W. Morgan.



Grand Teton National Park Superintendent Gary Everhardt with Jackson Hole City Councilman Tom Lamb assisting, cuts ribbon dedicating a portion of a transpark bikeway.



Bikers will have little trouble following Teton transpark bikeway which is well marked with the standard NPS signs.



Winning equestrians and their mounts who won first place in police competition at Devon, Pa. are: (l to r) Sgt. Denis R. Ayres, 2nd Officers and Officers Norbert A. Bonjo, Reubin L. Ginn, Chester Brigidini, Frederick R. Lohr and James L. Novak.

Park Police score sixth win

The U.S. Park Police Horse Mounted Unit does not horse around when competing in police competition with other law enforcement units. In fact, its six for six track record lessens the credence of the old adage—"You can't win 'em all."

The unit's latest triumph came May 29 in Devon, Pa. where it once again trotted off with first place

laurels. In this competition, U.S. Park Police Inspector Milton Lomax notes, the unit was up against some tough rivals—the 150-horse Philadelphia Police Department and the 51-horse Pennsylvania State Police.

Members of the winning team were Sergeant Denis Ayres and Officers Reubin Ginn, Norbet Bonjo, Chester Brigidini, Frederick Lohr and James Novak.

In individual competition Sgt. Ayres took second place and Officer Brigidini captured fourth place.

Last year, the NPS team clinched the winning cup with its third consecutive win at Devon. Last August, the team took first place at Quentin, Pa., and in October rounded out the year with a first place finish at the Washington International Horse Show.

Maintenance experts confer

A three-day gathering of NPS maintenance experts from Washington, regional and park levels was held recently at Mather Training Center and in Washington, D.C.

The more than 30 attendees, including Associate Director, Park Systems Management, John Cook, and new WASO Maintenance Chief Gerald Rowe, met to "get direction and define problems on a Servicewide basis to aid in budgeting and planning of future maintenance needs," said Chief Rowe. Until January 1974, he said, there had been no coordination of maintenance activities from Washington since 1969 and each park area and region planned on its own without benefit of Servicewide goals and standards.

Nine groups were selected to write position papers on separate topics which could later be utilized in establishing a Servicewide maint-

enance policy. Position papers are planned on water and sewer system operations, the maintenance intake program, implementation of the Federal Highway Act, road striping, NPS signs, solid waste, road rehabilitation, preventive maintenance, historic preservation and energy conservation.

Director Walker addressed the group as they met in Washington.

He stressed the importance of applying "management objectives" to maintenance operations.

An example of a problem area that will require centralized direction from Washington is NPS's commitment to standardization of all signs by 1978. Standards for operation will have to be established and maintained by Washington for this project, Rowe pointed out.



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