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Touch Judges:

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HULL

- G. Kemble 1.
- S. Evans 2.
- J. Leuluai 3.
- F. Ah-Kuoi 4.
- D. O'Hara 5.
- D. Topliss 6.
- P. Sterling 7.
- P. Edmonds 8.
- I. Patrick 9.
- P. Rose 10.
- L. Crooks 11.
- W. Proctor 12.
- G. Divorty 13.

Subs:

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February 10th — Oldham v Castleford
Silk Cup Cut Challenge Cup 1st Round



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Asst. Groundsman: W. Carr Official Time Keeper: J. Ruscoe

CLUB RECORDS

Record Victory 67-6 against Liverpool City April 59
Record defeat 11-67 by Hull K. R. Sept. 78
Record attendance 28,000 v Huddersfield Feb 24th 1912
Record receipts £9,100 v Wakefield 24th Feb. 1980
Record transfer fee paid £18,500 to Hunslet for Mick Parrish Sept. 1980
Record transfer fee received £11,002, 10s. from Workington for Ike Southward Jan. 62
Record try scorer Reg Farrar 49 tries 1921/22 season
Record goal scorer Bernard Ganley 224 goals 1957/58 season
Record point scorer Bernard Ganley 28 points v Liverpool City April 59
First game October 21st, 1876 v Stalybridge
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Runners-up: 1906-07, 1911-12, 1923-24 and 1925-26
Lancashire Cup Winners: 1907-08, 1910-11, 1913-14, 1919-20, 1924-25, 1933-34
Runners-up: 1956-57, 1957-58 and 1958-59
Lancashire Championship Winners: 1908-09, 1911-12, 1918-19, 1921-22, 1954-55, 1966-67 and 1968-69
Runners-up: 1907-08, 1909-10, 1921-22, 1956-57 and 1957-58
Lancashire Shield Winners: 1908-09, 1910-11, 1911-12, 1919-20, 1923-24 and 1954-55
Colts Premiership Trophy: 1975-76 and 1979-80

WATERSHEDDINGS SURVEY

WHAT a pleasure it is to be back in action again after the big freeze! These notes had to be written before we knew whether or not we could stage last Tuesday's re-arranged First Division encounter with Bradford but today's match is certainly our first weekend game at Watersheddings since the visit of Halifax on New Year's Day.

The ice-age weather has hit us badly with the Sunday home games against Bradford and Castleford frozen off to follow our postponement of the home match against Leeds on December 23rd because they were in the John Player Special Trophy.

The Leeds match has been re-arranged for Sunday 3rd March, when we both have blank dates, so that the game would probably not be affected too much, although we did miss the chance of attracting a big Christmas holiday crowd to Watersheddings through no fault of our own.

We hoped to play the Bradford match last Tuesday night, but no date has yet been announced for the home game with Castleford.

The probability is that this match, like Bradford's, will have to be played on a mid-week evening, so we hope you will all do your utmost to turn out when the outstanding games are finally played, so that our financial losses are cut as much as possible.

The fact that we were drawn away from home in the first two rounds of the John Player Trophy, plus the three postponements means that, at the time of writing, we had had only two home games in 11 weeks.

This inevitably causes some financial hardship — and we can only hope that the weather relents so that we enjoy a much more profitable February than we did a barren January.

Not only is there no money coming in through the turnstiles when matches are postponed, but the players run short of match practice and there is always the worry of a backlog of fixtures building up.

As you will have read in the Press we had considered taking a match to Oldham Athletic's ground at Boundary Park, but the plan was shelved in the end because it would have meant us sacrificing our plum home game against Wigan on Easter Monday.

If the freeze continues there is always a chance we might have to go to Boundary Park, but we prefer to think that the weather might improve now and that we can quickly get back to normal operating.

Next Sunday, of course, is the big day in the Challenge Cup — the first round. Some preliminary round ties were due to be played last weekend, but next Sunday sees the start of the Cup campaign for the Oldham club with the visit of Castleford.

It will be a difficult tie to win and it has all the makings of being a real cup cracker, so do support us on the day and try and encourage your friends and workmates to come, too.

We are charging normal league match prices for the cup-tie but we are putting both ground and stand tickets on sale — not only to give all our supporters the opportunity of getting a seat if they wish, but also in a bid to speed up the flow of people through the turnstiles.

We expect a big cup crowd, so please get here early and how about helping everyone out by buying a ticket in advance. If you want a seat, buying early will guarantee it. If you are a stand-up fan, at least you will probably not need to queue half as long if you can gain admission through the ticket entrance.

Tickets are priced at £2.80 for E stand, £2.80 for the bench seats at either end of the main stand, £3.30 for most of the main stand, and £4.00 for the VIP block to the right of the committee box.

Ground tickets are available also, priced at £2.30 for adults and £1.20 for pensioners and juniors.

Tickets will be available next week as follows:

Monday — pavilion office between 9.15 a.m. and 4.30 p.m.

Tuesday — pavilion between 9.15 a.m. and 4.30 p.m. and also between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.

Wednesday — pavilion office between 9.15 a.m. and 4.30 p.m.

Thursday — pavilion office between 9.15 a.m. and 4.30 p.m. plus between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.

Friday — pavilion office between 9.15 a.m. and 4.30 p.m.

Saturday — pavilion office between 9.30 a.m. and 12 noon.

Arrangements will also be made to have a supply of tickets on sale in the social club each evening.

The Cup campaign, of course, has an extra special meaning for Oldham fans, as we are one of the few leading teams never to have played at Wembley, so do book a date in your diary for next Sunday...and pop in for your tickets!

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HISTORICAL NOTES ON HULL

by Tom Webb

HULL F.C. have an uninterrupted history since the club's foundation in 1865 by E. Waltham, W.H.H. Hutchinson, Beevor Lambert, F.A. Scott, R.J. Wade and others who were all former public school boys mainly from Rugby, Cheltenham and St. Peter's, York. After a number of grounds, the club settled at the Athletic Ground (Boulevard) on the Anlaby Road, moving from Holderness Road which is now Hull Kingston Rovers' territory. Paradoxically Rovers moved to the Holderness area from the Boulevard when Hull F.C. took up residence there.

In 1895-96 Hull was a founder member of the Northern Rugby Football Union but major titles continued to evade the club who were runners-up in various competitions several times. That state of affairs has ended long ago and only this season I watched Hull defeat Hull Kingston Rovers in the final of the Yorkshire Challenge Cup.

One of the most important signings in the whole history of the game was made when Billy Batten was secured from Hunslet in April 1913 for a record £600 fee. Many Hull people thought that the fee was too high but their doubts were completely extinguished when the last three games of the season were played at the Boulevard. The takings at the three home games were well over £600 up on the average home gate so the fee was recovered in just three games. Before Billy joined Hull the club had never won an important trophy. During his spell with them Hull won all four trophies, The Challenge Cup, the Championship Cup, the Yorkshire League Championship Cup and the Yorkshire Challenge Cup.

The Hull players who won the Northern Union Challenge Cup for the first time in 1913-14 was Ned Rogers; Alf Francis, Herbert Gilbert (captain), Billy Batten, Jack Harrison; Jimmy Devereux, Billy Anderson; Billy Holder, Tom Herridge, Dick Taylor, Joe Hamill, Alf Grice and Steve Darmody.

Bert Gilbert, Steve Darmody and Jimmy Devereux were signed from Australia. Later they were joined by Sid Deane another of their countrymen who had meanwhile played with Oldham. Andy Morton another Australian star had been with Hull but had returned home.

Joe Hamill later settled in New Zealand where he became the organiser for the New Zealand Northern Union Council. His son Trevor after associating with the Ellerslie club also became an official of the New Zealand Council.

Officials of the club when it first won the Challenge Cup included Messrs. A.J. Boynton, chairman, A. Charlesworth, secretary and Sid Melville the trainer. The chairman and trainer were still in office when the game fully resumed in 1919-20 but C.N. Lofthouse had replaced A. Charlesworth as secretary.

1922-23 was a memorable season, Hull topping both the Northern Rugby League and the Yorkshire League while the "A" team topped the Yorkshire Senior Competition. Unfortunately after winning 13 successive games Hull lost to Hull Kingston Rovers in the semi-final of the top four play-off for the league championship and lost to Leeds in the Challenge Cup final, a classical case of falling between two stools.

Billy Batten stayed with Hull until his transfer to Wakefield Trinity in May 1924 for £350. During his stay he had been paid £14 a match, the highest fee paid to any footballer either in Association Football or Rugby League Football. His benefit match played on April 3 1920 versus York resulted in the sum of £1,079.13s.8d., then a record for the Rugby League, or Northern Union as it was still called at that time. His family, brother Jimmy, sons Bob and Eric and grandson Ray have also been stars in their own right.

HERE COME HULL

FEW of Hull players need any introduction here. From fullback to loose-forward, the Boulevard lads are household names in Rugby League across the world.

By their own high standards, Hull are not enjoying the best of seasons so far as the First Division is concerned...but one cannot discount the very real possibility of Hull coming on the rails to challenge for the title or even lifting a pot or two from outside the top four.

They already possess the Yorkshire Cup, having beaten city rivals Hull KR last autumn to keep the county trophy at the Boulevard for the third consecutive year.

Last Saturday they met Rovers again in the final of the John Player Special Trophy, which attracted a massive gate to Boothferry Park in a repeat of the Yorkshire Cup final.

Indeed, Hull have made something of a habit of collecting silverware in the last four seasons. Not a season has passed since 1981-2 in which Hull have not lifted at least one trophy.

In 1981-2 they won the John Player Trophy and the Challenge Cup. They followed with another double success in 1982-3, winning the Yorkshire Cup and the First Division championship.

Last season they had only the Yorkshire Cup to show for their efforts, but this season they have already collected some silverware and it would be a brave man who would ignore their claims for success in the Challenge Cup, the Premiership, or even the league championship.

Their league performances have not really matched up the high standards they have set in previous years, but that merely goes to underline once more what a narrow dividing line there is between success and failure in the First Division.

It was on their way to last Saturday's John Player Trophy final appearance that Hull beat Oldham at the Boulevard in round two on December 2 when a crowd of 11,496 saw the home team triumph 26-14.

They will be out to repeat that success in today's First Division encounter, and as usual they can put a star-spangled side on the meadow which has a nice blend of youth and experience, world-wide talent and locally-produced hopefuls.

In overseas players such as New Zealanders Gary Kemble, Dane O'Hara, James Leuluai and Fred Ah-Koui and Australians Peter Sterling and John Muggleton, Hull possess some of the finest players in world Rugby League.

Kemble must be able to lay claim to the title of the world's No. 1 full back, while O'Hara is a strong finisher, Ah-Houi can operate equally successfully at stand-off or centre, and Leuluai has few peers as a clever centre whose finishing power is matched only by his creative ability.

So to the Aussies, and Hull have two equally good players here in forward Huggleton and scrum-half Sterling — two very good friends of our own Sydney pair Paul Taylor and Chris Phelan.

Now that Taylor is playing at scrum-half in the Oldham team a top battle is expected because these two fine players, who are good friends off the pitch and team mates for the Parramatta club when back home in Sydney.

Hull, though, have not forgotten their local talent and they have some of the best young players in the game assembled at the Boulevard — lads such centre Gary Schofield, a hit on last summer's Down Under tour, and forwards Andy Dannatt, Wayne Proctor, Sean Patrick and Gary Divorty.

Experience is provided by Steve Norton in the pack and David Topliss at half-back in what must be one of the strongest all-round squads in the Rugby League.



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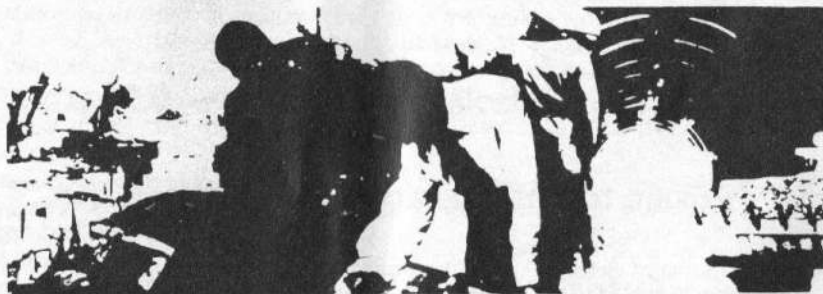
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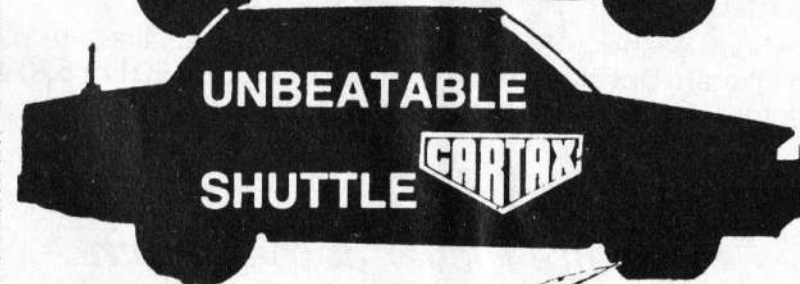
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PROFILE OF THE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION OF THE CLUB

As supporters will by now be aware, Oldham's new Lottery Manager is Mick Worrall, the club's International second-row forward, who joined the club with the successful Colts side in 1978. We have every confidence that Mick is the right man for the job which is vital to the future success of the club. This follows a trend where the Oldham players are becoming now more involved with Fund-Raising and Public Relations.

Mick along with Kes Bostock, Lifeline Manager, and their staff have created lots of interest throughout the town by visiting local pubs to make the weekly Lifeline Draw. Hopefully the very keen interest shown in Lifeline will help to promote the Lottery.

Enthusiasm amongst players, staff and committee is at its highest level for many years as the club strives to win a major trophy. BUT REMEMBER THE OLDHAM CLUB RELIES ON YOU THE SPECTATORS, WITHOUT WHOM WE CANNOT ACHIEVE SUCCESS.

People who would like to help the club, contact Mick Worrall, Les Bostock or Frank Myler. We would be only too pleased to oblige.

Message to Lifeline Members

There will be a free Grand National Draw on March 30th exclusive to Lifeline Members. 1st Prize £250, 2nd Prize £150, 3rd Prize £75 and 4th Prize £25. Each member drawing a horse will also receive £10.

Anybody wishing to join Lifeline before the said date please contact Oldham Development Association on 626 4501 or 620 4870 and ask for Les or Mick.

Frigidaire Player of the Month

Before today's game Andy Goodway will be presented with a cheque for £200 and a silver salver after winning the Daily Express-Frigidaire Player of the Month award for December.



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BRIAN BATTY Daily Mail

With clubs preparing to hit the Wembley trail, new sponsors Silk Cut must be delighted with the opening draw for this year's Challenge Cup competition.

There is rich promise of some tremendous first round ties on February 9th or 10th and also some fine clashes in the preliminary rounds.

The pairing of title-chasing St. Helens, winners of the Lancashire Cup, with League champions Hull K.R. is a highly attractive tie.

But there is the equally attractive clash between Leeds and last May's Wembley winners Widnes, who have completely dominated the competition over the last decade.

Leeds are anxious to salvage something tangible from a disappointing season following their Australian signings, having twice fallen in the semi-finals this season.

But Widnes are hoping to come back to fitness and form after so many injury setbacks, plus suspension blows.

High-riding Oldham are another club figuring in a tough encounter when Frank Myler takes his men into a tie against Castleford, coached by his former Great Britain team-mate Mal Reilly.

That will certainly be some contest at Watersheddings and so will the preliminary round tie between Barrow and Halifax with the winners facing a long haul to London to meet Fulham.

Those amazing Cup fighters Featherstone Rovers, coached by the experienced Alan Agar, will be tough opposition for Salford as they bid to earn a first round tie against neighbours Swinton.

Warrington coach Reg Bowden won't be underestimating Sheffield Eagles on their own pitch while Leigh are relieved that they are at home to Huddersfield, who deserve respect with Brian Lockwood in charge.

Cumbrian side Carlisle have a long haul to Hull, but this won't apply to four of their side who have experience of playing at The Boulevard and will be out to prove a point against their former club.

Although Bradford Northern are having a mixed season in the First Division they should leap the Southend hurdle without difficulty and could make it to Wembley with Ellery Hanley in devastating try-scoring form.

But whatever your beliefs I believe the first round will produce a few upsets and certainly a great number of enthralling clashes.

SUPPORTERS CLUB NEWS

President: Mr. D. Blackburn, **Chairman:** Mr. D. Pilkington, **Treasurer:** Mr. T. Heywood, **Secretary:** Mrs. J. Pilkington, **Committee Members:** Miss. A. Collinge, Mrs. H. Heywood, Mrs. L. Wolstencroft, Mr. I. Pilkington, Mrs. E. Crowther, Mrs. L. Chadderton, Mr. C. Clarke, Mr. J. Gallagher, Mrs. S. Collinge, Mr. B. Doleman, Mrs. A. Doleman, Mrs. G. Doleman.

The Supporters Club would like to welcome all the Players and the Committee of our visitors from Hull. Hoping we have a good, clean and entertaining match, we would like to invite all the supporters to our canteens situated at different parts of the ground and our souvenirs shop at the pavilion end and the programme shop at the waterhead end.

Souvenirs in our shop are Sweaters at £10.00 each, Sweatshirts at £8.50, and juniors £6.50, Scarves (Oldham) £2.75, Ties £3.50, Lapel Badges 65p, Blazer Badges £7.50, Patches £1.00, Gloves (small and large) £1.50, Pens 25p, Red and White Shirts with Club Badges 24" to 42".

OLDHAM SUPPORTERS CLUB

AWAY COACHES TO LEIGH

on SUNDAY 17th FEB. 1985

Leave Social Club at 1.30 p.m.

Prices: Adults £1.70. Juniors £1.05

SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP TICKETS

Standing tickets, priced £4.00, for the 1985 Silk Cut Challenge Cup Final at Wembley on Saturday, 4th May, can be obtained from the Club Secretary.

This is the 50th Rugby League Final at Wembley and the match day timetable will include a special celebration parade of a star player from each of the previous 49 Finals.

Supporters Club membership is only £1.00 per person.

Junior Reds welcome any new members so that you can act as ballboys and ball girls. Saturday morning Social Club, new sew-on badges. Contact Joe in the Social Club. Membership £1.00 as last year. A symbol on sale, see J. Gallagher (Social Club).

HIGH POINT

Man of the Match

C. HAWKYARD v Bradford

LIFELINE

A reminder to Lifeline & Lottery members that we are now situated in the Pavilion at the Rugby ground. The entrance is at the rear of the pavilion opposite the Greyhound track.

New agents required for both Lifeline and Lottery. Ring 061-626 4501.

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Joe Gallagher, who runs the junior reds, is still keen to recruit more youngsters. Membership costs £1 for the season, there are regular functions on Saturday mornings, and members can get the chance to act as ball boys or girls on match days. If you are interested see Joe in the Social Club.



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FLASHBACK by Tom Webb

5 Years Ago

Sunday, February 3, 1980

Oldham had no game but remained in second place behind Featherstone Rovers who had 33 points from 19 games, Oldham having 29 points from 18 games. With only 26 games in the second division we were virtually certain of promotion and by the end of the season we finished third, Halifax taking second place by a slightly better points average.

Geoff Munro was in eighth place in the try scoring list with 17 successful crossings of the goal line but Eric Fitzsimons did not reach the top ten goalkickers until later in the season.

10 Years Ago

Sunday, February 2, 1975

OLDHAM 18 SWINTON 2 (Second Division)

Oldham: Murphy; Elliott (2 tries), Larder (2 goals), Wainwright, Barton (try); Treasure, Brown; Ashcroft, Taylor, Hughes (try), Hall (goal), Reynolds, Farrell.

Substitutes Daley for Ashcroft after 73 minutes and Blair for Treasure after 77 minutes.

Swinton: Hindley (goal); Fleay, Cooke, Evans, Jackson; Atkinson, Green; Butler, R. Evans, Young, Lowe, Henighan, Fleet.

Substitutes Lawton for Butler after 30 minutes and Dainty for Green after 60 minutes.

Referee: Bernard Shoeman, Leeds (now Dewsbury secretary. Attendance 3,526. Half-time score 7-0.

15 Years Ago

Saturday, January 31, 1970

WHITEHAVEN 11 OLDHAM 9 (League comprised one division)

Whitehaven: Donnelly (4 goals); Buchanan (try), Shimmings, Shuttleworth, Morris; Ryan, Maddison, McLeod, McCracken, Pringle, Gainford, Hunter, R. Martin.

Substitutes Powe for Shuttleworth and Dennis Martin for Ray Martin.

Oldham: Murphy; Elliott (try), Collins (try), Garrett, Larder (try); Davies, Smith; Gardiner, Taylor, Dunn, Irving, Standing, Churm.

Substitutes Crellin for Garrett and Clark for Dunn.

Referee: Billy Thompson, Huddersfield. Attendance 1,350. Half-time score 4-9.



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1984

SEPTEMBER

2—Hunslet (3.00)	W 32-10	H
9—Workington (2.30)	W 44-2	A
12—Widnes (7.30)	W 18-2	H
16—COUNTY CUP	L 26-32	
23—Leeds (3.00)	W 18-14	A
30—Leigh (3.00)	W 12-8	H

OCTOBER

7—Barrow (2.30)	W 34-12	A
14—Warrington (3.00)	L 15-16	H
21—St. Helens (3.00)	L 5-32	A
28—Featherstone (3.00)	W 26-8	H

NOVEMBER

4—Bradford (3.00)	W 23-14	A
11—Hull K.R. (3.00)	L 5-31	H
18—JOHN PLAYER TROPHY v York	W 22-6	
25—Warrington (3.00)	W 18-12	A

DECEMBER

2—JOHN PLAYER TROPHY v Hull	L 14-26	
9—Barrow (3.00)	W 44-8	H
16—Hull K.R. (3.00)	L 0-14	A
26—Widnes (3.00)	L 14-10	A

'a' team fixtures

1984 (Subject to change)

AUGUST

31—Salford	A
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SEPTEMBER

8—Workington	H
15—Carlisle	A
21—Widnes	H
27—Leigh	A

OCTOBER

12—Warrington	A
27—Featherstone	A

NOVEMBER

2—Bradford	H
9—Salford	H
20—Wigan	A
23—Warrington	H

DECEMBER

1—Carlisle	H
8—Barrow	A
14—Swinton	H
21—Widnes	A
28—Halifax	A

1985

JANUARY

5—Barrow	H
11—Bradford	A
18—St. Helens	H
25—Wigan	H

1985

JANUARY

1—Halifax (3.00)	W 24-12	H
6—Featherstone (3.30)	W 6-13	A
13—Bradford (3.00)	P	
20—Castleford (3.00)	P	
27—Wigan (3.00)	P	
29—Bradford (7.30)	W 16-14	H

FEBRUARY

3—Hull (3.00)	H
10—CHALLENGE CUP	
17—Leigh (3.30)	A
24—CHALLENGE CUP	

MARCH

10—St. Helens (3.00)	H
17—Hull (3.00)	A
24—Hunslet (3.30)	A
31—Workington (3.00)	H

APRIL

5—Halifax (7.00)	A
8—Wigan (3.00)	H
21—Castleford (3.30)	A

FEBRUARY

2—Swinton	A
22—Featherstone	H

MARCH

7—St. Helens	A
15—Halifax	H
22—Leigh	H
30—Workington	A

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