Official newsletter of the Southeastern Chapter of A.A.L.L.

MICROCOMPUTER NEWS

by
J. Wesley Cochran
University of Mississippi

From The President

Carol Billings Law Library of Louisiana

Calling one's self a member of a profession carries an obligation not only to strive constantly to learn more about one's field, but also to help foster the general welfare of the profession and those who are a part of it. Participation in AALL and its chapters is surely the best means that most have for fulfilling the double obligation. At various stages in professional lives the proportions of receiving from and giving to colleagues are likely to shift considerably, and that is as it should be. Novice law librarians are more likely than members of some other professions to rely upon mentors and more experienced co-workers or colleagues for tutelage since formal programs in law librarianship are the exception rather than the rule. Institutes, programs, and publications sponsored by AALL and its chapters are undoubtedly among the most significant examples of that process.

After each of us has spent a few years gaining experience in the profession, it is natural to share the things that we have learned with our colleagues. The national organization can appear large and intimidating for a newcomer, thus becoming active in a regional or local chapter is the perfect way of break into professional association life. Serving on a committee introduces you to interesting people and permits you to use your talents to accomplish something worthwhile.

One might question why the Southeastern needs a column Librarian microcomputer hardware and software news. aren't there plenty of all. other in microcomputer columns I thought so, until I newsletters? started looking for something that would help me with information on practical applications of hardware and software in my library.

When I volunteered to write it, I envisioned this column as a source for news of hardware and software applications in law libraries in the Southeast, but that will depend greatly on you. If your library is trying new things with microcomputers, I want to hear about it. Please send me a note; I promise a quick

response.

One of the first things, but one of the do when beginning hardest, professional activity selecting is appropriate literature. If your library. like mine, is starting to experiment with microcomputers in library operations, you might be looking for some appropriate sources of news and developments. literature which we selected for University of Mississippi Law Library falls into three categories: 1) general microcomputer news and developments; 2) microcomputer applications in libraries 3) new technology applications (including micros) in libraries. Because hardware configuration. literature which we selected is biased towards MS-DOS-based personal computers, but other computers are covered in several of the titles.

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EDITOR'S CORNER

This first column for me is extremely easy to write. just a few thanks to certain chapter members and a continued plea for contributions.

Hazel and Mary have been great during the transition. Both have called and given their support and encouragement. Carol, as a former newstater editor, the understands time pressures and the constant reassurance which an editor needs. All chapter members havo been supportive, agreeing to edit columns, to write columns and articles, and to forward information to me. Information is the number one need for the newsletter. Please continue to send me information about the library profession and libraries in your area. The editors need this information to make the newsletter useful to you.

Finally, thanks must go to Randall Brown and Cheryl Olszowy of Law Book Exchange. Randall's kind offer to print the newsletter is going to save the chapter the costs of typesetting and printing. Cheryl is the contact person at Law Book Exchange who is working out the various details of printing and mailing. Her job is not an easy one until the procedures for copying, mailing, etc. are determined and perfected. As you can see, the newsletter is not being typeset. The cost of typesetting the newsletter is tremendous. Also, with Randall's offer to print and duplicate it was not going to be easy to tocate a printer who would only agree to typeset the original. Please let members of the Newsletter Committee or the SEALL officers know how you feel about the change.

I hope that you enjoy this first issue. Let me hear from you with information for future issues. Deadlines for copy to be submitted to me follow:

#2 Winter 1986 - 11/15/86

#3 Spring 1987 - 2/15/87 #4 Summer 1987 - 5/15/87

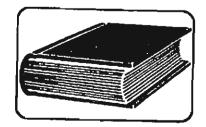
There can necessarily be very little flexibility with these dates. Call me if you have urgent requests!

Timothy L. Coggins University of North Carolina

& & &

The Southeastern Law Librarian is the official publication of the Southeastern Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries. It is published quarterly in September, December, March and June, Editorial comments or submissions should be sent to the editors: subscriptions and membership information should be directed to the secretary; and inquiries regarding advertising should be made to Doina G. Massey; University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Law Library; Chapel Hill, NC 27514; (919) 962-1321.

The opinions expressed in the columns and articles are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of SEALL. The <u>South-</u> eastern Law Librarian is not copyrighted; however, credit should be given when quoting or photocopying materials from this publication.



My previous experience as a chapter officer has been with the New Orleans Chapter--one of AALL's newest smallest. As one of NOALL's charter members, I remember fondly how we groped to define our purpose, establish our committees, and figure out what they should be doing. The Southeastern Chapter served as the model, but it seemed so venerable and stable compared to our unsophisticated efforts. Nevertheless. enthusiasm ran high, and we still have mixed feelings of surprise, pride, and everytime we successfully accomplish a program or project.

Now that I am one of the group of people responsible for making things happen in SEAALL, I realize that being perceived as venerable and stable can be even more difficult than being young and During 1987, we will inexperienced. commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the North Carolina Law Librarians, the organization that evolved As we look back over the into SEAALL. roster of our distinguished predecessors, it would be tempting to think complacently that we can just drift along on the strong reputation that they established for SEAALL.

But!! It is part of our professional obligation to flourish and make our own mark. Because Southeastern is the oldest chapter and because so many of our members are movers and shakers in our profession, it is our obligation to lead and to innovate. Dick Danner took an important step in that direction this past year when established the new Education Committee. I have just appointed members to two additional new standing committees, Publications and Publicity and Public Relations. During this year the officers and members of the three new committees will be defining their duties, exploring needs, and setting goals.

To give you an idea of kinds of things they will be considering here are a few examples of possible projects and duties:

(1) Education Committee: Considering institutes, symposia, staff exchanges, grants for special projects, special interest sections; sharing of educational tapes and materials outreach programs, and consulting services.

- (2) Publications Committee: Advising the newsletter editor on policy and management matters; facilitating the publication of works emanating from or of special interest to chapter members, such as bibliographies, procedures manuals, statistical studies, surveys, regional legal history papers, etc.
- (3) Publicity and Public Relation Committee: Serving as a liaison to the AALL Public Relations Committee; preparing and/or submitting news items about SEAALL and its members to the AALL Newsletter, Council of Chapter Presidents Newsletter, bar journals and other legal and library media within the region, and local newspapers; encouraging members in the various states to use the AALL Public Relations Booth at bar, judicial and library conferences in their area; generally heightening awareness of the profession and its work in the legal and library communities.

All three of these committees need your ideas about what their roles should be. If you have a project in mind that appropriately falls within their purview, contact the chair. Perhaps the committee can assist you in bringing it to fruition.

The Southeastern Chapter has both a strong reputation and an exceptional store of talent. We have the wherewithal to make things happen. I'm grateful that you have given me an opportunity to be a part of that effort, and I encourage you to jump in and speak out! You'll never meet a more terrific bunch of people. Best wishes for a fruitful year!

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— ONLINE UPDATE —

ELECTRONIC LEGISLATIVE SEARCH SYSTEM (ELSS)

by
Kathy S. Heberer
Rumberger, Kirk, Caldwell,
Cabaniss & Burke

If you need to monitor one state's legislation only, accessing legislature's automated bill status system would meet your needs. Likewise. if your follow only federal legislation, Congressional Quarterly's Washington Alert might do. But if you need to track both state and federal bills, OCH's Electronic Legislative Search System allows you one system and one search protocol.

ELSS provides online access to summaries of bills and actions on those bills from all fifty states and the U.S. Congress. The files are updated daily and the system is available 24 hours per day, seven days a week. If a bill is amended to cover an entirely new subject (as was Florida's 832 this session), the relevant new subject codes are added promptly. This current, comprehensive coverage is a strong point of the system while the lack of full-text retrieval and significant retrospective coverage are weaknesses.

Searching is done by subject codes, bill number, sponsor, jurisdiction, type of action, and date, in any combination. You may specify that the results be given to you immediately, later in the day, or the next day. Users select from a variety of output formats ranging from a list of titles and bill numbers to a full report. Very

sophisticated, precise searches may be run but searching may neither be done in levels (as LEXIS) nor modified (as Westlaw). All of your requirements (including output format) must be stated in one initial search statement. retrieval ís satisfactory, a completely new search statement must be entered. Depending upon the area of law of interest you may find the subject codes too broad. legislation instance, dealing with the statute of repose has been given the general subject code for products liability. CCH provide telephone customer assistance using and selecting subject codes.

Search formulations for ELSS are not immediately clear to the uninitiated, thus training on the system is crucial. CCH provides free of charge one user's manual and training for four people with the basic subscription. Free refresher classes are available and a newsletter announces new features and system changes.

The cost of ELSS depends the type subscriptions you select. A Global subscription is the basic subscription and provides complete online access to the system. There is a \$500.00 start-up fee and users pay \$2500.00 in full in advance for each calendar year. This works out to approximately 14 hours of usage paid for per year which you must use or lose. If a company uses more than the \$2500.00, it will be billed on a sliding hourly scale (the more hours you use the lower the hourly rate). Profile and Profile Plus subscriptions

are available. CCH monitors selected subjects for you and automatically forwards hard copy. The more CCH does and the less you do the more you pay!

If a library or company can afford it and if projected usage warrants subscribing, you'll find ELSS a worthwhile online service for legislative research, lobbying, or helping clients avoid unpleasant surprises.

WESTLAW UPDATES

by
Sallie Irvin
Wake Forest University

WESTLAW is adding four new gateways to outside databases: Dow Jones News Retrieval, DIALOG, PHINET, VU-TEXT. These gateways will allow users to access the databases fram WESTLAW directly without the extra steps of WESTLAW and exiting each reconnecting to separate database. Charges emcompass connect plus the search charges and will be announced as the gateway becomes available.





however. accessing these through WESTLAW services will not cost more than accessing them on your own. This fact, coupled with the added convenience direct access through WESTLAW, makes these excellent gateways an WESTLAW's addition to services.

VU-TEXT is the world's largest full-text newspaper databank and recently has added several new items. including the Charlotte Observer. One_ recent addition, the ECS Maritime Credit Reports, will be valuable to attorneys dealing in maritime law. A new political file, POL (AP Political File), will become increasingly valuable as the political races begin. Valuable information about state and legislative federal candidates will available through POL.

WESTIAW also is adding full text of state the The first state statutes. to be added is the 1985 Illinois Revised Statutes. West intends to add a state every few weeks. federal databases are now completed from 1789 and the Supreme Court database will be completed with a few months. Several state databases have expanded: Florida (fulltext of Supreme Court from 1889); Louisiana 1886); and Georgia (from 1938). WESTLAW continues to backdate their state databases as rapidly as possible. Also the corporations and securities specialty databases have been added to every state.

Environmental law is a hot topic in the Southeast. Eight environmental databases have been added to WESTLAW with documents in the areas of pollution

control, waste management, and conservation of natural resources. FENV-USC Code contains relevant sections; FENV-CS combines cases from the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals and the District Courts. Each of these may be separately accessed through FENV-SCT. FENV-STA, and FENV-DCT. The relevant sections of the Code of Federal Regulations and Federal Register are in FENV-CFR and FENV-FR. Pre-1945 cases are covered in FENV-CS-OLD.

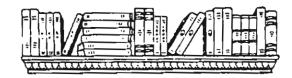




LEXIS UPDATE

by Sally G. Waters Stetson Law Library

LEXIS has added several features in the past few months, none more helpful than its new libraries By entering the index. Tutor service on LEXIS and (press the Select Service key and pick Tutorial), one can instantly go into an alphabetical directory of all files in LEXIS and NEXIS. This directory is currently 215 pages in length. You will first see screen listing each letter of the alphabet and telling what pages each letter occupies, then you



may pick out the pages you wish to see and go from there. The best part of this directory is that the listing is alphabetical by the name of the file or library, not by the file or library identifier. Also, the listing tells both the library and file in which the item is contained. For example, the listing for Georgetown University Law Journal (sandwiched between George Washington Review and Georgia Attorney General Opinions on page 88 of the directory) shows that the library is Lawrev and the file is Geolj.

IEXIS has continued to expand its ALR coverage. The ALR Federal, 3d and 4th are online in full text. Annotations may be found by going to the ALR library; however, by using Courts library in Genfed, or Omni library in States. you can call up ALR annotations and cases at the same time. One major new enhancement to ALR is the use of star paging. For example, when an ALR annotation first appears, there will be a list of the contents of the annotation. the same outline of the topic that you would see in an ALR volume. To get to a certain spot in annotation online, you can use the star paging system, by typing in p, asterisk, and the section number. example, to get to section 5 of an annotation after viewing the contents outline, type p*5.

(continued on page 12)

MICROCOMPUTERS (cont. from page 1)

If you are introducing microcomputer services at your library, you might consider the following titles. You may not need all, but a combination of one or two from each category will keep you informed of developments in the field. Thankfully, none of these are priced outrageously, so most libraries should be able to afford a selection.

I: MICROCOMPUTER NEWS & DEVELOPMENTS

PC, published bi-weekly by Ziff-Davis Publishing at \$34.97 per year, is a standard source for developments for IBM PC's and compatibles. Each issue of PC has a theme, comparing different vendors Recent issues have featured products. color monitors. EGA board (Enhanced Adapters), Graphics and database management software. PC experts test and review the products.

PC World is published monthly by PC World Communications, Inc. (\$23.75 per year). PC World, too, is a standard source of information and is similar to PC in the type of articles which it carries. PC World, like PC, has a featured theme for each issue with several articles about one particular aspect of microcomputers. One important difference is the level of knowledge required to understand the articles; PC World requires a bit less sophistication to read than PC.

InfoWorld is a weekly microcomputer news magazine, printed on newsprint and published by Popular Computing, Inc. (\$39 This is the "National Law per year). Journal" of the microcomputer industry. InfoWorld reports developments A regular newspaper-style writing. feature is the reviews section. Each week several new hardware and software products are reviewed fully, and notices of reviews in previous issues are published for several weeks.

II: MICROCOMPUTER APPLICATION IN LIBRARIES

Meckler Publishing Company wants to dominate publishing in the field of libraries and microcomputers. publishes three periodicals as well as two monographic series dealing specifically with microcomputer application The best known of the periodicals Small computers is Libraries, published monthly \$29.50 pear). The Graduate Library School of the University of Arizona began Small Computers in 1981 and recently sold it to Meckler. Articles on Apple microcomputer applications are a large part of each issue.

The newest of the three from Meckler, Public Computing, is designed to provide information on public access microcomputing. Public Computing began only this year and is published bi-monthly (\$18 per year). Issues are small, usually 12 pages or so, but contain useful "how we do it good" information.

Meckler's other periodical, M300 and PC Report, published eleven times per year at \$37, competes with OCLC Micro in providing information on expanded uses of the OCLC M300 workstation. OCLC Micro is published bimonthly by OCLC for \$30 per year. Substantial differences between the two exist.

M300 and PC Report is similar in approach to Meckler's <u>Public Computing</u>. The issues are small and contain short articles written by librarians and "how we do it good" information. <u>OCLC Micro</u> contains articles written by some of the microcomputer specialist at OCLC, so the information is generally more helpful. Though most of the coverage of <u>OCLC Micro</u> concerns using the M300, both as an <u>OCIC</u> terminal and as a microcomputer, recent issues have included some articles on Apple microcomputers. If you have an M300 and need to choose between these two titles, you should take OCIC Micro.

An international periodical in this group is The Electronic Library, published bimonthly by Learned Information Ltd. for \$65 per year. Electronic Library is the least likely of this group to provide helpful, practical information.

(continued on next page)

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Microcomputers (cont. from page 6)

III: NEW TECHNOLOGY IN LIBRARIES

Pierian Press, Inc. publishes set of periodicals companion considering, Library Hi Tech and Library Hi Tech News. A combined subscription to both is \$90 per year, though separate subscriptions (\$45 for Hi Tech, \$65 for News) are available. Ηi Tech quarterly and contains five and six page background articles the oninformation technology. Included as well are bibliographies and book reviews. News is monthly and contains newspaper-style notices of libraries using new technology. It contains an index to current articles published in computer industry professional library literature related to applicable technologies libraries. to articles and notices microcomputers are a large part of each issue of these titles, recent issues included information on other technologies such as optical disks and fiber optics.

The Third Annual AALL Winter Institute, "Creating and Maintaining In-House Databases," will be held January 7-10, 1987 at the University of California at Hastings College of Law in Francisco. for this Directors S. Institute are Sandra Gold of Keck, Mahin & Cate in Chicago and Betty F. Taylor of the University of Florida.

The intended audience for the Institute includes law librarians who are designing in-house databases or planning to do so in the near future. Admission will be based on a careful mix of representative

institutions, including type, size and geographic Institute mix. The provide designed to with the participants theoretical background and information practical necessary to create maintain in-house databases of various size and level of complexity for use on various types of computers.

Patricia Strougal, Chair Committee of the advises that Education, application forms can be found in the September 1986 AALL Newsletter. Extra applications are available from the Co-Directors of the Chicago from Headquarters.

APOLOGIES \mathbf{or} Jo Ellen McComb of the University of Kentucky Law Library. Jo Ellen contributed to the article about Labor Law in the last issue of SOUTHEASTERN LAW LIBRARIAN (vol. 11, no. 4, Summer 1986), but her name was not included in the authorship lines. SORRY!

TECHNICAL SERVICES, THE PRESENT: A BRIEF LOOK

by Carol A. Nicholson University of North Carolina

brief look at This Services Technical law Departments in libraries is based on a questionnaire distributed April 1986 for of preparation presentation at the 1986 Annual Meeting of AALL. were libraries Ninety mailed questionnaires and services technical 41 librarians responded.

The survey reveals that it is, indeed, an exciting be time to time services technical libraries increase the use catalogs, online electronic microenhancers. other mail, and technological advances. No technical are longer librarians services restricted to LC subject headings, classification manual card schedules, production, etc.

the According to results. questionnaire departmental priorities for the coming year can be grouped into a few basic Personnel, categories. acquisitions, cataloging, serials continue reflect the basic concerns, but the top priorities for 1986-87 are retrospective and conversion projects reclassification Only one and automation. responding library did not use a bibliographic utility for cataloging. Nine have A few online catalogs. also use a bibliographic utility for acquisitions and serials. The ratio of OCLC to RLIN users is about 2 to 1, while NOTIS and INNOVAQ seem to be the most popular integrated systems.

Microcomputer use very popular with technical services librarians. About 70% of the libraries have one or more microcomputers; the IBM-PC leads the list. Several libraries listed the M300 as their micro. reflecting the usefulness of having dual-purpose One fluke of machines. automation is the impact or lack of impact that it has had on performance clerical duties.

Many technical services librarians still perform a small number of clerical tasks to back up support staff and to keep informed the about routines the performed in department. The items listed most often include typing reports, correspondence. materials of a confidential This reflects the nature. basic lack of secretarial support. Yet, professional duties do prevail reflected in the individual priorities listed by the respondents.

Writing for and editing professional publications attendance professional conferences and institutes were the top professional priorities listed by librarians for the coming year. Administrative duties, such as improving the workflow technical in services, training new staff, delegating duties. increasing effective use of personal time, were also mentioned. 0f course, retrospective conversion mentioned most frequently in regard to actual cataloging/acquisitions duties, while continuing education priorities

demonstrated the emphasis

on computerization.

Continuing education programs of interest mentioned include the review of software local online catalogs/ automation. the use of microcomputers, the development of administrative and management skills, the development of more familiarity with legal materials, etc. Some technical services librarians also mentioned the need to pursue a law degree.

The survey reveals that technical services librarians are involved in a fast-moving and exciting present and are looking forward to a bright future!



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— S.E.A.L.L. BRIEFS—

FLORIDA

ANN C.S. BENTON is the Education new Representative for Mead Miami. Data Central in Florida. Ann has a B.A. Florida from State University and was a Sales Representative wi th Harcourt, Brace Jovanovich prior to joining Mead Data. With Mead Data Central, Ann concentrates on LEXIS and NEXIS.

GEORGIA

New member L. CHRISTINE RICHARDS is Assistant for Librarian Long. Norman Aldridge in & Atlanta, Georgia. Prior to joining the firm in 1986, Christine was Information Assistant with the Southern Newspaper Publishers Association. She has an undergraduate degree in journalism from Brenau College in Gainesville. Georgia. Christine needs only ten complete hours to masters in Library Science State Georgia University.

NORTH CAROLINA

STANLEY HAMMER bas taken a leave of absence from his position as Associate Librarian Campbell at University School of Law clerk for Library to Justice Louis B. Meyer of the North Carolina Supreme Court.

Law Librarian and Professor of Law at UNC-Chapel Hill LAURA N. GASAWAY was installed as President of AALL at the July Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C.

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SOUTH CAROLINA

JULIE B. LUPPINO has been named the Librarian at Roddey, Carpenter & White in Rock Hill for the past 1/2 years. Julie has a Bachelor of Music $fr\alpha$ Converse College and a in Librarianshi Masters from the University South Carolina. Serials Librarian with the Public Library of Charlotte & Mecklenburg County on a part-time basis prior to joining the law firm on a full-time basis.

VIRGINIA

PETIT is the MICHAEL Librarian, Associate Technical Services George Mason University for the past nine and one-hali years. Prior to joining the staff at GMU he was a Cataloger at Catholic University of American and worked part οf as cataloging project at the Carolina Suprem Court Library. Michael has a B.A. and a M.S.L.S. from Catholic University.

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CHARLESTON IN THE SPRING

The 1987 annual meeting of the Southeastern Chapter of A.A.L.L. will be held in Charleston, South Carolina on April 2 through April 4. Johnson, Hazel Vice-President/President-Elect, is planning an excellent and varied program to meet the interests of all The Mills chapter members. House, located in the heart of Charleston's historical district, will be the It is convention hotel. walking within easy distance of many of the city's sights. shops, restaurants and, of course, the Battery where The War began.

April is a delightful time of the year to visit Charleston and the South Carolina low county. Plan join us for the opportunity to meet your colleagues, attend a first rate selection of programs, and see one of the east coast's charming most cities.

> Bruce Johnson, Chair 1987 Annual Meeting Local Arrangement Committee

Southeastern Chapter American Association of Law Libraries

FINANCIAL REPORT

Beginning Balance (April 15, 1986) \$7,040.24 Deposits:

> NOW Interest (April, 1986 - May, 1986) 64.66 Dues 60.00 Advertising in Chapter Newsletter 100.00

> > Total Deposits 224.66

Debits:

Postage and Copying (1986 ballot) 223.38 Miscellaneous 65.79

Total Debits 289.17

ENDING BALANCE (June 30, 1986) \$6,975.73

Respectfully Submitted,

Margarette M. Dye Secretary/Treasurer





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section 5 has a certain subsection you wish to view, you may also specify that - p*5c.

Other significant changes and additions have been made to LEXIS. Los Angeles Times is now available on NEXIS within 24 hours of publication (the file is Lat), with coverage back the to beginning of 1986. Also, a library new featuring corporation information has been established. Called Incorp, this new LEXIS library features corporate filings with Secretaries of State. Thus far, only fillings from the state of Illinois available online, but plans call for fast growth of this library, so from information more states should be available soon.

CONSORTIUM MEETINGS

During the AALL Annual Meeting, representatives from twenty southeastern academic law libraries met discuss again forming of a consortium for cooperative projects. This was the third such meeting in the past year, the first having been held September, 1985 in Atlanta and the second taking place during the Chapter meeting Charlottesville last April. the purpose of the July session, to which representatives from all academic law libraries in Southeastern Chapter were invited. was discuss the articles of incorporation and bylaws which have been drafted and circulated to the academic

libraries by the Coordinating Committee. Members of the Coordinating Committee are Larry Wenger, Bruce Johnson, Wes Daniels, Bill Beintema, and Robin Mills.

The consensus of the group was that it appropriate at this time to proceed with organization not-for-profit a corporation so that the group will have a formal structure and be able to apply for foundation grants if the opportunity should arise. The Coordinating Committee was, therefore, asked to draft a final version of the articles and bylaws and circulate them to southeastern academic library directors for input approval. and

> Robin Mills, Chair Coordinating Committee

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