

# The Houghton Star



## President Travels to China and Nicaragua

by Brad Wilber

Houghton College President Daniel Chamberlain made two trips overseas, one to mainland China and one to Nicaragua. President Chamberlain feels both trips were valuable learning experiences for him and his colleagues. The trips made important strides toward educational improvements in both countries.

Last fall, President Chamberlain was selected to attend an international symposium on economic development and consultancy in Shanghai. He was privileged to be the only American among many European experts and Chinese scholars. President Chamberlain specifically discussed funding and development of social sciences.

"During China's Cultural Revolution (1969-1979), it was almost treasonable to study sociology" because of the spirit of skeptical inquiry it espouses, said President Chamberlain. "I talked about how social sciences are funded here (in the U.S.) to try and help the Chinese make up for the time they lost during the years when sociological study was discouraged."

President Chamberlain noted that while China's young people seem open to new ideas, the older generation is reluctant to speak out and suggest changes. "Those people have been through a great deal of turmoil in their country. Because of such painful past experiences, they don't want to take risks, to rock the boat."

Most Americans have heard stories of how populous China is. "In Shanghai, they move about by any conveyance they can get; there were bicycles by the millions." The Chinese, he added, do not think it necessary to excuse oneself when one jostles another pedestrian because bumping into others on the street is inevitable. "When I ran into a man and said, 'Pardon me,' my Chinese companion was very surprised and asked me, 'Oh, do you know him?'"

China also has a much lower standard of living than the United States. There, the purchase of a nice 35mm camera represents about the same investment - 3 or 4 years' discretionary income - as buying a

strong faith in the future."

He believes that the trip to Nicaragua also achieved much. He was one of a delegation of nine

Western New York college presidents led to Nicaragua by local congressman Amory Houghton to select eight students who will get two-year scholarships to study at colleges in Representative Houghton's district.

The other schools represented on the January 7-10 trip include Jamestown Community College, Corning Community College, Keuka College, Alfred State College, Alfred University, St. Bonaventure University, and the College Center of the Finger Lakes.

The trip was privately funded by Representative Houghton. Pres. Chamberlain said that "forty-seven congressmen went to Nicaragua last year on a similar trip at taxpayer's expense. Representative Houghton feels that they returned to the States with the same misconceptions they had when they left." Representative Houghton didn't want public moneys to be wasted again, nor did he want his delegates to return home without gaining new insights into the Nicaraguan situation.

new car over here. Despite this, Chamberlain says, the Chinese are a "vibrant, optimistic people with a spring in their step and a

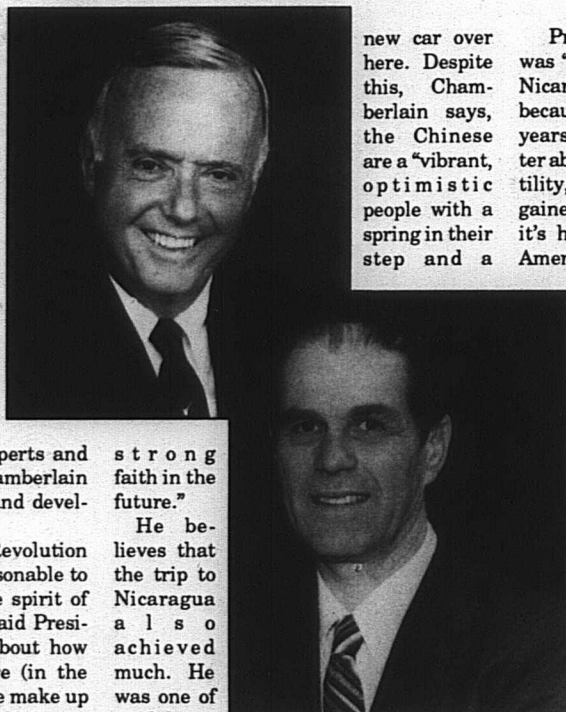
President Chamberlain said that he was "more prepared" for what he saw in Nicaragua than some of his colleagues because his sister lived there for many years and his son now puts out a newsletter about Nicaragua. "I expected some hostility," he admitted. "Ever since Nicaragua gained independence some 150 years ago, it's had quite an unpleasant history of American intervention. But the people were very warm; they dislike American policies, not American people. There is no 'Yankee, go home!' syndrome."

Cities like Managua, where the presidents stayed, are relatively peaceful because the guerilla warfare is confined to a rugged, low-populated mountain range that separates Nicaragua from the other northern Latin American countries. In fact, for all the furor here over the Contras, most of the graffiti on Managua's walls is pro-Sandinista because Managua is the seat of the established government.

Nicaragua is a country victimized by rampant inflation and political instability. There are more than a dozen political parties in Nicaragua, and it is so hard to maintain order that the government infrastructure is on the verge of collapse.

That is why, says President Chamberlain, the most vital criterion for the student selection is the commitment of the scholarship recipient to return to Nicaragua after his education to help alleviate the problems there. "They can't just get rich here and stay. Their country is so peace-loving and yet so wartorn. These students must be eager to go back and work to correct this tragic irony."

On both of his trips, President Chamberlain was warmed by the friendliness of the people he met and learned a great deal by spending time with them. Most importantly, however, he feels that the accomplishments of the Shanghai symposium and the Nicaraguan scholarship program will help to improve education there and ease some of the poor conditions he encountered.



Above: Amory Houghton, Below: Daniel Chamberlain



# Bright Interviews Translators

by John Bright

Carolyn Paine Miller was raised in Houghton, New York, where her father was president of Houghton College. After graduation from Houghton in 1960, she took linguistics training at the Summer Institute of Linguistics at the University of North Dakota and was accepted as a member of the Wycliffe Bible Translators. She was assigned to Vietnam in 1961.

With her husband, John D. Miller, she began a study of the Bru tribespeople, an ethnic minority in South Vietnam, and undertook the preparation of literacy materials and translation of the New Testament into the Bru language. Their four children were born in Vietnam. The older three were in school in Nha Trang when Carolyn, John, and LuAnne were captured by Communist forces in the highland of Banmethuot in March, 1975. The family was reunited following the Millers' release in November of 1975. The Millers are continuing their work as Wycliffe Bible Translators in the state of Sabah, Malaysia. Currently, their children Nathan and LuAnne are students at Houghton.

Recently, a translator using a computer program discovered 90 percent overlap between Bru and the So languages of eastern Thailand. Enroute to the states, the Millers stopped in Thailand to verify and clarify linguistic patterns and now it appears that their Vietnam work will soon mean Scriptures for thousands in another part of Southeast Asia.



Mr. and Mrs. Miller in their home in Houghton on a recent Sabbatical

**We thought that your work translating the Bible was very important, and would make an interesting story. How far has the work progressed?**

Well, actually, there are several projects being carried on here, the translation being the one we are most involved with. We had completed about fifty percent of the New Testament, but then we ran into some problems. Some people here feel that we should do a different type of translation. This is one of the areas where it is sometimes difficult doing translation work. It is a difference of opinion about what a translation really is.

**It was explained to me that the Catholic church in your area wants you to do a literal translation, whereas you prefer a "meaning" translation. Is this where the problem lies?**

There again, it's not so much a distinction of church as of understanding what a translation is. We work with all of the churches here, and so this is a part of our job—to try and help people understand that the purpose of translation is, not just to bring words across, but to really get across the meaning of the original text. It is something that we have been struggling with.

**You mentioned that you are in cooperation with several churches. What churches besides yourselves and the Catholic church are involved?**

There are a number of churches. The Anglican church, the Lutheran church, and an evangelical church in the area are all interested in translation. In fact, there is a local interchurch committee which has been set up to encourage the work of Bible translation. It's called the Bible Translation Committee of Saba, and its chairman is an Anglican priest who is very supportive of the work of translation in general and a "meaning" translation in particular.

**It sounds as if you could teach us a great deal about interdenominational cooperation. You do much better over there than we do in the United States.**

This is something which has been a real blessing. The extent of cooperation that the churches here enjoy is not something to be taken for granted, but something which we have found to be a real blessing. It has never been a problem for us to work with different churches or with them to work with each other and that sort of thing.

**What is your relationship with the government like?**

Our sponsorship is through the state government. We work through the Ministry of Culture and with various other cultural organizations doing documentation of folk literature, writing dictionaries, and helping them plan ways of promoting their own language and getting it in use. We've also held local writer's workshops to teach them how to develop literature in their own language. We also operate in various consultant capacities. All of our work here is done at the request of local groups. We have a cooperative relationship with both the government and cultural agencies.

**Can you tell me something of the other types of missionary work going on in Saba?**

Actually, other types of work are mostly done by the local churches. One of them has just started a seminary. There are outreach groups that go into various outlying areas. As far as our work here, translation is really only a part of it. For instance, we will be leaving soon to go to Thailand for a month to help develop a project there that involves using a computer to adapt an existing translation for other related languages.

**Is that a very advanced program?**

In some countries it's quite advanced, but in Thailand it's just getting off the ground. It's a real area of concern because there are many languages related to the language that we worked on in Vietnam. There are many representatives of these languages in refugee camps, and although it's not possible, of course, to get into Laos or Cambodia, we believe it is quite possible for some of the refugees who are returning to these countries to get Scriptures in. This is something that we would appreciate prayer for—for wisdom in knowing how to think and plan for that and also in the Lord's provision for people to actually work on the project.

**Do you have any other specific concerns you would like the people back here in the United States to pray about?**

I think one would be the continued cooperation and openness in work. But I guess the main thing that we pray daily for is that we will have the Lord's wisdom and the Lord's sensitivity.

# Dean Bence Journeys to Japan

by Deb Maret

Last semester, Dean Bence spent a week in Japan, where he had been invited to be a guest speaker by two organizations: The John Wesley Society, and the Japan Holiness Association. A friend of his, Barry Ross (who is an alumnus of Houghton and now a missionary in Japan) recommended him to these institutions.

Dean Bence's lectures at the John Wesley Society were primarily about his doctoral studies. While at the Japan Holiness Association (an annual Bible conference near Tokyo), he did more preaching. He also spoke in churches in the Tokyo area on Sundays.

When asked for some impressions about the culture, Dr. Bence remarked everyone had been very surprised at how young he was. In Japan, age is considered to bring one wisdom more than an education. He also noted (with a smile) that the first question put to him wherever he went was, "Why do you have a beard? Another thing that was hard for him to get used to was the role of women in the Japanese society. Everyone was surprised by the

"kindness" he had shown to his wife by bringing her along. "They didn't know" he said with a grin, "that I hadn't had a choice as to whether she was coming or not."

One thing that very profoundly impressed him was something he witnessed when he gave a lecture at a Bible college: the attitude of the students toward their teachers. The students have a great deal of respect for their professors and information given in lectures is not questioned; the teacher, or "sensai," is always right. However, the students tend to have what he called a "Kamikazee mentality:" if a student does decide to question a teacher on some point, he will not back down from his position until either he has proven the teacher wrong, or the teacher has proven him wrong. It is a fight to the death. Therefore, if a professor asks for questions after a lecture, he is, in essence, challenging his students to a dual. "In contrast to our liberal arts education," Bence said "it makes me very appreciative of a system that encourages give and take discussion."

Would he like to go back again? "Oh, yes! tomorrow," was his ready answer. He



found the Eastern culture fascinating and would love to experience it again. "Every educated person must have a cross-cultural experience sometime in their life. I came back more educated than when I left." He also added that he was now even more committed to bringing about a curriculum here on campus that would be more cross-culturally oriented.

## Seniors: Take a Reality Break

by Gayle Schulz

Seniors: Welcome to "Real World 101."

This spring, the Senior Class and Career Development are sponsoring a Senior Brunch and Pizza Series. Amidst the culinary delights of quiche, sausage, and OJ or Big Al's hot and cheesy pepperoni pizza, alumni and guest lecturers will address issues that you must face after graduation.

The first session, "Lunch Hour: Taking Care of Business" will be held on Saturday morning, February 20 from 9:30 to 11AM in the cafeteria. Brunch will begin with a time for you to meet and eat with your classmates. Several presentations on personal money management will include advice on how much of your paycheck you should allot toward rent payments and other expenses, what to look for in car and life insurance plans and how to choose an employee benefits package.

On March 19, "After 5: Living on the Outside" will feature testimonials of Houghton alumni who have successfully adapted to life after a bachelor's degree. Some have gone on to

grad school, and others, moved back home or ventured into an unfamiliar area. They will talk about entering a new community, apartment hunting, getting involved in social, religious, and/or civic organizations, making friends, and taking advantage of local resources.

"9 to 5: What a Way to Make a Living!" on April 5 will focus on ethics in the work place. A pizza party will launch seniors off

into this third and final fling into the near future.

Plan for a fun and informative time of looking back on your semesters here and forward to what lies ahead. The setting is informal so you won't have to tease your hair or starch that collar early Saturday morning.

Sharon Givler, Director of Career Development, encourages seniors to attend.

## REAL WORLD 101

Some things are best learned by experience. Some things can be gained from experience and a little helpful guidance from your friends. Join your classmates for three exciting and informal gatherings designed to help seniors say "good-bye" to one world and "hello" to another. Each program features a unique set of adjustments soon to be faced by the class of 1988. Guest speakers and recent alumni are resource people for this series sponsored by the Senior Class and the Career Development Center. Good food and company is promised.

Saturday, February 20

9:30-11:30am

Trustees Dining Room  
Brunch Menu

**Lunch Hour: Taking Care of Business**  
Personal Money  
Management Advice  
How to Buy Insurance  
Choosing Among  
Employee Benefits

### Registration:

Tickets can be purchased in the CDC any time during regular business hours beginning February 10, 1988.

Cost for series - \$3.00

"Unfortunately there are no PACE courses in the 'real world' to orient you to a new environment and responsibilities. Perhaps that's as it should be. If, however, you are interested in making an informed start beyond Houghton and are eager to benefit from the experience and expertise of others who have rented, financed, and relocated, the Senior Brunch and Pizza Series will be helpful."

Tickets must be purchased in advance. The cost is \$1.50 for each individual session or \$3.00 for the series. Tickets can be purchased in the CDC at any time during regular business hours beginning February 10.



## Sports

### Malibu West Surfs to Victory

by Kevin Fuller

Last Thursday night, "Malibu West" faced "Some Team" in a game which would have an impact on who will remain in the cellar of the Men's league. A victory would have given "Some Team" a ray of hope in their struggle to move up in the standings, but "Malibu West" shattered their hopes with a 37-27 victory.

Jay Preskenis led "Malibu West" with great ball handling and shooting, while John Quick dominated on the boards. For "Some Team", Brian Flach sparked the offense with consistent shooting from the perimeter, along with Randy Tenants' inside play.

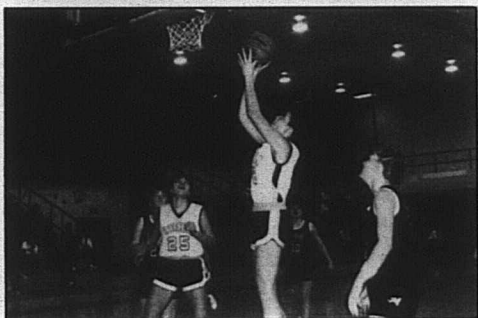
"Malibu West" started off the game on an 8-0 run, following a series of rebounds and uncontested lay ups. "Some Team" soon got back into the game, though, and before they realized it, "Malibu West" was holding on to a three point lead. The

scoring seemed to end as rapidly as it had begun, and the half ended with "Malibu West" on top 14-12.

"At the end of the first half, I thought that we might have a chance to climb out of last place," says "Some Team's" captain, Chris Lumia, "but I guess this is going to be a rebuilding year."

A fast paced second half was an interesting one both to observe and to be a part of. Air balls and missed lay ups seemed to be more common than actual baskets, but both teams managed to score quite frequently. After the last fumbled pass, illegal substitution, and missed foul shot, "Malibu West" found themselves victors by a score of 37-27.

"Due to all of the air balls and broken plays," laughs "Malibu West's" John Quick, "our games can at least be commended for being entertaining!"



### Women Wallop Westminster

by Kevin Fuller

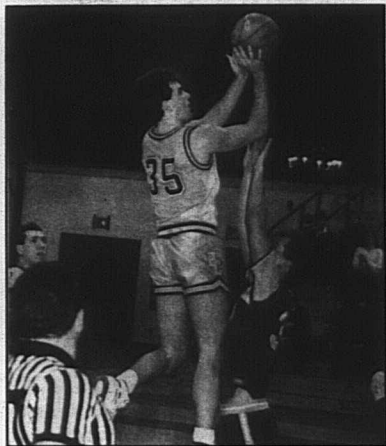
The Houghton College Women's Basketball team, under the supervision of Coach Skip Lord, increased their record to 10-2 by defeating division leaders Westminster College 58-53 Saturday evening.

The competition was close throughout the game, with the highest lead being a seven point advantage held by the Highlanders midway through the first half. Although the score was consistently close, the points were scored in varying fashions. Houghton focused on short jump shots around the key by Ndunge Kitt and Pam Bigham, along with strong inside play by Jackie and Jody Carlson. Westminster shied away from their inside game, and provided instead an impressive outside shooting display. Gayle Skarmac and Donna Deedon provided consistency from the outside, while Pam Beatty was outstanding from the top of the key. Beatty shocked the crowd when she hit a second

half three-pointer, a shot usually saved for the men's style of play. The first half of play was low scoring, with only 53 points being scored between the teams. Ndunge Kitt hit a fifteen-foot jump shot to round out the first half of scoring, with Houghton grasping a 29-24 lead going into the second half.

Westminster began perfecting their outside shooting during the second half, causing the lead to change hands several times during the first ten minutes of the second half. With the score tied at 41, and ten minutes remaining in the game, Ndunge Kitt hit another outside shot which gave Houghton the lead for good. The Highlanders held on to defeat Westminster by a score of 58-53.

A victory over the first seated Westminster was very important for the Houghton Women, and they should be in very good position as they play the remainder of their schedule.



by Don Tremblay

### Fridge's Line

by Rob Zarges Jr.

The men's basketball team has been struggling in the highly competitive District 18 of the NAIA, but the performance of sophomore Tom Kirschner has proven to be nothing short of excellent.

Tom came to Houghton last year from Baptist Christian Academy and he resides in Haddon Heights, NJ with his parents, Don and Agnes Kirschner. He broke into the starting line-up as a freshman and averaged 9.1 points and 4.1 rebounds.

This season Tom plays a major role on the Houghton squad. Playing the small forward or swing position, he has risen to the top of scoring for the team as well in district 18 with a 23.5 points per game average. To add to his accolades, he also leads in three-point shooting percentage and is in the top three in both free-throw percentage and field-goal shooting percentage in the district.

Although it is apparent that Tom Kirschner can get the job done on the offensive end of the floor, he is also the floor general on the defensive end. He plays with no regard for his body and can never be seen standing still, or with his mouth closed. If he is not antagonizing the man he is guarding, he is giving a word of encouragement to his fellow teammates.

Scholastically, Tom has a 2.9 GPA and is working towards a BA degree in business.

Overall Tom Kirschner is an unreplaceable piece in the Houghton machine and is a credit to the team and the college. That is why Tom Kirschner gets the *Star's* Players of the month award for January.

## Editor's Note

Artistic expression is an essential part of creative journalism. However, people interpret art in different ways because everyone carries with them preconceived "baggage" or subjective ideas. These grow out of one's background. Perception is often distorted by our strong feelings toward an issue that concerns us.

In an effort to bring the issue of alcoholism and alcohol awareness to the forefront, we tried to artistically portray the interrelationships between these issues in the context of a Christian community. Some people in this community have been adversely affected by substance abuse, and in an effort to communicate helpful facts to the public, we made an artistic statement that was left open to artistic interpretation. Our purpose was not to offend.

After hearing some of the responses to the cover photo, I felt a need to clarify our intent. Our aim was to inform the members of this community about the hurt and pain caused by substance abuse. We attempted to show that through the framework of Scripture, prayer, and a positive Christian environment such as Houghton, reconciliation can occur.

Sincerely,

Patricia Uleskey  
Editor-in-Chief

## AN OPEN LETTER TO THE STAR STAFF

Visual symbols are very powerful. Journalists frequently use art and photography to convey their ideas to others. However, the messages one seeks to portray through these media are not always the messages perceived.

In my recent chapel address, I described one impression that some longstanding friends of Houghton might have after looking at the cover of a previous issue of the *Star*. I did not intend to suggest that there was only one way to "read" that picture; nor would I suggest that the *Star* staff purposely juxtaposed those symbols to offend a segment of the Houghton community.

Another interpretation of the photograph is offered elsewhere in this issue. I do not question the motives of those who printed the picture—only their judgment. In drawing attention to this matter, I simply wanted to alert students to the strong convictions held by some individuals who have deep attachments to the College and to appeal for a greater sensitivity to their feelings in the context of Christian love.

Sincerely,

Dean Bence

## Holocaust

Dear Pat,

On Thursday, January 28, William Eisen addressed students in Fancher Aud. and gave a firsthand account of the horror of the holocaust. He was the only member of his family who survived. The scars from the brutality of the concentration camps remain with him today. Six million human lives were exterminated. 1.5 million children were killed because they were Jews.

Mr. Eisen said, "I have a bone to pick with the Western world ... Where were Roosevelt and the religious leaders when we were being killed? ... Why were you so passive? You had to know!"

Mr. Eisen's account is chilling because the horror continues. The holocaust is not merely the past; it also is the present. Why remember this genocide if we are not moved to work against the repetition of such human rights atrocities?

In the United States today, one human life is destroyed every twenty seconds because it is not yet born, and hence, deemed inferior. Over twenty-one million unborn Americans have been killed in the past fifteen years, not to mention the children of other nations. Why are we so passive?!

We can fight this injustice. We can pray regularly for laws that will restore constitutional protection for the unborn and vote for people who will back them. We can write government officials and pressure them to support our agenda (one letter to a U.S. Representative counted as the opinion of 200 constituents who didn't bother writing). We also can pray that the mothers and fathers of aborted children will accept Christ's forgiveness and realize the value He places on their own lives. We can ask God to have mercy on all of us who hurt because of this holocaust.

Many communities have educational and political action groups that work with churches, schools, hospitals, and the government to protest the violence of abortion. There are hundreds of centers across the nation where a woman may receive emotional and financial support throughout pregnancy and after giving birth. These centers need volunteer help throughout the year. If you want to find out more about these centers, please see me. We can think of constructive ways to oppose the slaughter of innocent lives.

God commands us in Proverbs 31:8, "Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves and for the rights of all the unfortunate."

Sincerely,

Gayle Schulz

## U.S. Senate can Make or Break INF

The treaty to eliminate intermediate-range Nuclear Forces, signed last month by Reagan and Gorbachev, is being threatened in the U.S. Senate by amendments that would weaken or destroy it.

Assistant Senate Democratic Leader Alan Cranston is warning that the "right-wing extremists" are preparing a major fight to kill two treaties at once in what would be a "catastrophe" for nuclear arms control.

Cranston, the veteran Californian lawmaker who counts votes in advance for the Democratic Senate majority, told a news conference, "the battleground is shifting" in the debate over the Intermediate Nuclear Forces Treaty signed December 8 by President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Now, he asserted, conservative opponents of the agreement are trying to tie it to the issue of conventional armed forces and the Strategic Arms Reduction Talks that Reagan hopes could produce another superpower treaty this summer.

"I believe that we can almost surely

defeat any killer amendment designed to bring down the INF treaty," Cranston said a week before the Senate hearings on its ratification begin. "I believe the INF treaty will be adopted by the Senate."

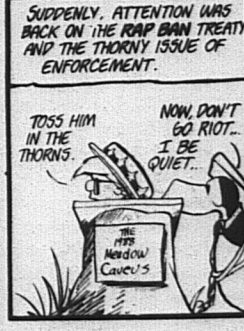
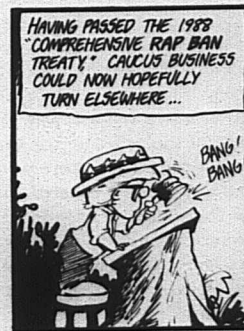
"However, he warned, 'I believe the main thing we now have to guard against is amendments or reservations or understandings that senators will seek to attach to the INF treaty that would make negotiations of the START treaty difficult if not impossible.'

There are 43 Senators who are undecided on the issue of passing the INF treaty without amendments in states like New York and Pennsylvania. Signing the INF Treaty was a first step towards nuclear disarmament. We must not allow the Senate to reverse this progress by placing restrictions on the agreement. In order to ensure the INF treaty call or write your Senators now urging them to approve the INF treaty without any amendments. The address: U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510. Capitol Hill Switchboard 202-224-3121.



# BLOOM COUNTY

by Berke Breathed



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