

Mission Statement

The Parker Youth & Sports Foundation is dedicated to the support and preservation of parks, sports facilities and athletic programs in the greater Yakima area.

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Willie Turner: Fast on His Feet, Fast with Anecdotes

Yakima was treated to a delightful evening of stories when Willie Turner and Richard (Dick) Fosbury spoke at the Legends Reunion June 19. World-class athletes and roommates at Oregon State University from 1966-1970, both complemented each other's achievements. Dick and his wife, Robyn, made the trip from Ketchum, Idaho, to honor his former roommate.

Willie's claim comes from three separate world record-tying performances in the 50-yard and 100-yard dashes and the 100-meters race. He not only tied the world record in the 100-yard and 100-meters, but ran the second-fastest time in history in the 200. He is still known as the greatest sprinter in the history of Washington State.

Willie graduated from Davis High School in 1966 and was set to attend San Jose State. Finding out his paperwork was misplaced by an assistant coach, Willie enrolled at Yakima Valley Community College to await the second-semester enrollment at San Jose. When Oregon State University's track coach found out about the situation, Willie was offered a scholarship to enroll the following January with the new trimester. Instead of waiting for the later date of entry at San Jose, Willie chose Oregon State.

His first year at Oregon State, in 1967, Willie turned in an eye-popping time of 10.0 to equal the world record, on a cinder track no less. He won the NCAA 220 national title as a senior in 1970. Between those feats, he helped lead the track team to OSU's first Northern Division PAC-Eight crown since 1946, as he won both sprint events and anchored the 440 relay in 1968. Along with the legendary Dick Fosbury, Willie pushed OSU to win back-to-back titles in what is still considered the best two consecutive years in OSU sports history.

Willie's early international success was as a member of the USA 4x100 relay team that set an American record of 39.05 in the 1967 Pan American Games in Winnipeg, Canada. He also tied Harry Jerome of Canada for the 100-yard dash title with a blazing time of 9.27 in what was one of the first actual photo finishes in track history.

In 1970, Willie won gold in the 200 meters with a time of 20.3 at the West Germany track and field meet. Later that year, he again won the 200 meters (20.8) at the USA-USSR track and field meet. In 1971, he won a featured 200-meter event in 20.6 at Madison Square Garden in New York. Unfortunately, Willie's attempts to make future Olympic teams in 1972 and 1976 were thwarted by injuries. He retired from international racing in 1976.

He later coached track at UCLA. Willie has been inducted into the Oregon State University and Central Washington halls of fame. He returned to Yakima to comfort his ailing parents.



See Willie Turner, continued on page 4

Message From the Office



Connie Little and Jerry Ward holding down the office.

There're no two ways about it -- the annual Parker Youth & Sports Foundation Golf Tournament and Legions Reunion has taken on all the elements of a "family reunion." Old friends, 'older' teammates and special guests made the

High Hopes Golf Tournament and Legions Reunion one of the best. Honorary Tournament Director Willie Turner and his former teammate, Dick Fosbury, were not only delights to meet, but their stories were a melancholy, 1960's stroll down memory lane.

Parker Partners of the Month

As one who had a good seat from the sidelines (actually from the locker room), it was truly exciting to watch the grand show come together on June 19 and 20. The activities of the weekend are well noted within this High Hopes newsletter, so I wish to share with you the contributions of "The Team" that brought it all together, all of whom are recognized as Parker Partners of the Month.

Eric Carlson took on the task of chairing this year's golf and reunion planning committee. He organized the weekly meetings and had a hand in virtually every aspect of the weekend. Scott Wilson and Bob Alexander took on the Field Day for youth at YVCC with the assistance of Carol Finney and the involvement of several local youth organizations, such as First Tee, Yakima Youth Soccer, Yakima Youth Baseball, the YMCA, and YVCC.

The Friday night Legions Reunion included the photo and filming skills of Connie Little; ticket sales were handled by Kelly Robbins and her mother Sheila; and the highly successful Silent Auction was coordinated by 'ever faithful' Tom Garrison.

Thus came Saturday, and our primary fundraising activity of the year, the High Hopes Golf Tournament. Whereas Eric and the committee were in charge of "information in," Virginia Hays was making sure that the data was recorded and turned into "information out" as to team registrations, billing and receiving, publication of the tournament program; the list goes on as to Virginia's ability to keep the entire weekend on task and on line. Not enough can be said about the contributions Spud Edmondson makes to the golf tournament. For four years now, he has been relentless in his recruiting of teams and sponsors and works from sunup to sundown on "tourney day." Between Spud and Bill Faller, their recruitment of former athletes from Davis, Eisenhower, and YVCC really brings the 'family Reunion' atmosphere to the weekend. Tournament support (at 6 a.m. by the way) included former Foundation treasurer Nancy Leahy, Bill Baker and Jim Scoggins. Others helping with getting the golfers ready for the day included Jim Leahy, Barbara Amstutz, Lynne Ward, Gay Edmondson, Emily Harris, and Jim Gosney. Trudy Bray coordinated the team pictures and, of course, there was Connie Little taking film and pictures for Foundation archives.

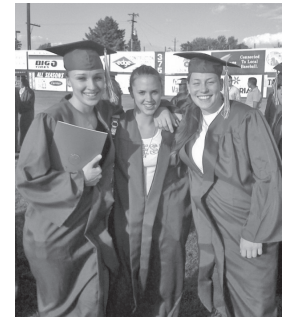
Locker Room Chatter....'send in those e-mail addresses'

A reminder that the Foundation office is sending out periodic notices to Parker Partners and friends via e-mail, thus our ongoing invitation that you send us your address if not receiving the Chatter as well as an address of someone who would enjoy receiving our "non-commercial/sales pitch." Send to info@parkeryouthfoundation.com. We try to share stories and information about the Foundation membership as well as keep you informed of coming events and board meetings. Just a reminder here that the annual meeting of the PY&SF will be scheduled in October and the Locker Room Chatter will be used to announce that date, time and place as soon as we know.

YVCC/PYSF News

First Recipient of Donahue Scholarship Graduates

Chelsea Nill was the first recipient of the PY&SF Joe Donahue Scholarship, awarded in the fall of 2007. Chelsea completed her AA degree and was an Eastern Region All Star for the YVCC basketball team this past season.



YVCC teammates Brittany Weaver, Evergreen State-bound; Kaitlin McBride, University of Alaska-Anchorage bound; and Chelsea Nill, Evergreen State-bound, June 14 after graduation at Parker Field.

Andrea Pogorelc, 2009-10



Andrea Pogorelc, 2009-10 Joe Donahue Scholarship recipient.

Donahue Scholarship Recipient

Andrea Pogorelc, 2009 Eisenhower High School graduate, was recently selected from seven applicants as the 2009-10 Joe Donahue Scholarship recipient.

Andrea loves soccer. She played for the Eisenhower soccer team for four years. She chose to organize the daily activities and serve as a coach for a Tiny Tykes Soccer Camp, 4- and 5-year-olds, as her senior project. She was in charge of planning all activity.

Andrea plans a career as an elementary physical education teacher with the idea of a middle school or high school career eventually.

YVCC Athletes of the Year

YVCC Athletes of the Year for 2009 are Nico Sandoval, men's basketball, and Ashlee Phy, women's wrestling.

Nico was named to the First Team All-Eastern Region and All-Tournament Team in 2009. He also earned All-Academic Team honors and the NWAACC Academic Leadership award.

Nico will attend Fresno Pacific University in California in the fall, where he will be a part of the basketball team.

Ashlee has been featured in several PY&SF newsletters this year for her accomplishments on the inaugural wrestling team. Ashlee was the national champion at 130 pounds on the 2009 National Championship Team, recording the most pins in the fastest time, and was named the tournament's Outstanding Wrestler.



Ashlee Phy

Contributions Continue to Assist with the Foundation's Mission

Parker Partner Membership Roll Call

Welcome to more Parker Partners. The Foundation office is organized enough to begin the process for renewing Parker Partner memberships. Look for the mailer early in the fall. Thank you for your support.

Ken Bongers Yakima Youth Golf Organization - First Tee of Yakima Kenneth Feingold Mike & Barbara Flanagan Parker Garland Paul George Cheryl Hahn Phil Hinrichs Eric & Jill Johnson Jon Kinlock Dr. Ed & Denise LaBissoniere	Cindy MacNider Virginia Norman Darlene & Burl Olmstead Scott Parker Tom Parry Many Perez Del Rankin Jean St. George Kirk Tourtillotte Jim & Camille Wade Bob & Maurine Winters Betty Yaden
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Faller/Brayton Endowment

The Endowment hopes to eventually support the goals of PYSE.

Denise & Gene Conor Steve & Winnie Evert Gregg Fugate	Don Rasmussen Stan & Laurie Renecker Bob & Maurine Winters
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Memorials

The Foundation is fortunate to have a mission that others find important to honor loved ones. Thank you for remembering them.

Don & Joyce Bedlington Gary Bedlington Nellie Holder Jane Carlton Beverely Thomson Betty Yaden Chuck Dorich Betty Yaden	Don Dillon Mary Lou Dills Bill & Nancy Faller Jack & Florence Fleming, & Janice Beatty George R. Gochnour Charlie & Doris O'Connor Gordon & Darlene Smith R.K. & Kay Smith Jerry Ward
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General Donations

Jennifer Brayton Bruce Crockett	Tom Parry Manny Perez
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Grants Scoreboard

The Foundation awarded two grants totaling \$6,560 to local youth programs on June 8 during the Yakima Monday Morning Quarterbacks meeting. Grant applications were submitted by program representatives and reviewed by the Grants Committee – Carol Finney, chairman, with members Bill Baker, Ellwood Crosier and Gene Rostvold. The committee conducted interviews with each applying group and submitted its recommendations to the board for the April meeting.

The chart below provides a brief synopsis of what was approved.

Requesting Organization & Representative	Purpose of Funds	Amount Granted
Team Yakima Volleyball Club	Player participation fees – scholarships for low-income participants	\$1,560
Yakima Youth Soccer	Player participation fees for low-income participants.	\$5,000



Brenda Moore, Kyle Sixkiller receive a check on behalf of Team Yakima Volleyball from Carol Finney, Grant Chair.



Carol Finney presenting Yakima Youth Soccer representative Darren Joffs with a check.

If you haven't heard Willie speak, you are missing a treat. He shared stories about being a skinny kid growing up on the east side of Yakima – stories that provided the strength of the man he is today.

- Willie's mother nudged him to be the best he could be – providing both moral and ethical values.
- Yakima Valley Monday Morning Quarterbacks financially helped him attend a national AAU meet when he was 13, a meet where he ran fast enough to tie Jesse Owens' record.
- Running and hiding from OSU head coach during practice by cutting across fields while the coach had to stay on hard surfaces in a golf cart trying to keep up.
- Acknowledging his third-grade teacher, who was in attendance at the Legends Reunion.
- Willie striving to beat bigger, faster and stronger athletes – and succeeding.

Willie continues the lessons he learned from his parents. He serves the youth in Yakima as chief of security at Wilson Middle School and coaches track sprinters and jumpers at Davis High School. Willie's influence continues to the next generation of young people. And they are fortunate to be around him.

Legends Reunion Guest Feature

"Flop" Turns Into Gold for Fosbury



A native of Portland and Medford, Oregon, Dick Fosbury revolutionized a new technique of high jumping called the "Fosbury Flop" during his junior year of high school. It has become the standard jumping technique of today. The curved run-up allows the high jumper to reach the bar with more speed and to do a more

powerful jump. The body arches over the bar and the center of gravity is underneath, which is an indisputable mechanical advantage.

Choosing Oregon State University for its School of Engineering, Fosbury cleared 6'6 ¼" as a freshman, although Coach Wagner wasn't sold on the "flop," calling it "a shortcut to mediocrity." During his sophomore year, the flop paid off with a jump of 6'10" as Fosbury won the spring Pac-8 championship.

During his junior year, 1967-68, OSU had three 7'0" jumpers, two more than most programs. Not enthusiastic about returning to school following a national title, Fosbury survived academic probation as well as the draft, avoiding the Vietnam War, ironically due to a bad back x-ray classifying him 4-F. He rallied by winning the Pac-8 title again, along with an NCAA championship, setting a collegiate record at 7'2 ½".

At the 1968 Mexico City Olympic Games, jumping was highlighted as Bob Beamon long jumped 29' 2 ¼" and Fosbury cleared a world record 7' 4 ¼" for the gold medal on his third and final attempt.

Dick and his wife, Robyn, made good use of their time on Friday, June 19, by participating at the Parker Field Day in the late morning. The Parker "Field Day" was held at Parker Field. He was gracious at the Legends Reunion that evening, mingling with the crowd. Dick was Willie's roommate at Oregon State University and told many amusing stories about their collegiate experiences, including short cuts during practice, without overshadowing Willie.

Currently, Fosbury owns an engineering firm in Ketchum, Idaho, and is president of the World Olympians Association.

Career Highlights

1. Records

- Olympic Record: High Jump - 2.24 m (October 20, 1968 – Still standing)
- American Record: High Jump - 2.24 m (October 20, 1968 – Still standing)

2. Championships

- 1968 Olympics: High Jump
- 1969 NCAA: High Jump

3. 1992 - Elected to the U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame



Fosbury Flop, invented by Dick Fosbury while at Medford High School, Medford, Oregon.

Fundraiser Highlights

New Venture Added to Fundraising Weekend



Two young guys enjoying the Parker Field Day at the 1st Tee session.

“Parker Kids Sports Day,” was held on the Yakima Valley Community College campus from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday, June 19. The staffs from Yakima Valley Community College athletics, the Yakima Parks and Recreation Department, First Tee of Yakima, the Yakima YMCA, the Yakima Police Athletic League, and Yakima Fire and Rescue, provided four 45-minute sessions of athletic and lifetime skills - baseball, basketball, golf, soccer, softball, and volleyball.

The fifth through eighth graders were bused to the campus, compliments of A & A Motorcoach, or dropped off by parents. The campers were treated to hot dogs, soda and apples at noon. Willie Turner spent the afternoon autographing posters for anyone seeking one.



High Hopes Scramble and Legends Reunion Recap

The financial update for the Foundation's annual fundraiser held June 19-20 is detailed below. Scott Wilson and Bob Alexander organized a Parker Field Day for fifth-to-eighth-graders earlier in the day on the 19th. The event was designed to provide a free skills camp and lunch with Willie Turner.

INCOME:

High Hopes Scramble	\$25,631.00
Legends Reunion	\$ 1,810.00
• Silent Auction	\$ 2,958.00
Parker Field Day	\$ 0.00
Outstanding Invoices	<u>\$ 1,900.00</u>
TOTAL	\$32,299.00

EXPENSES:

High Hopes Scramble	\$12,534.65
Legends Reunion	\$ 4,083.48
• Silent Auction	
Parker Field Day	<u>\$ 965.00</u>
TOTAL	\$17,583.13

NET:

\$14,716.13



Scott Parker, Connie Little and Karen Koonce enjoying a pleasant afternoon at Apple Tree.



Dick Fosbury, left, joins in with others congratulating Willie Turner as Paul George presented Willie with a plaque Paul had held in trust for the past 30 years on behalf of OSU and Yakima Monday Morning Quarterbacks.

Legends Reunion Special Recognition

Contributor of the Year

Richard A. Smith received the first Parker Partner Contributor of the Year Award at the Legends Reunion event. Dick has supported the Foundation since it was restarted in 2004 - serving on the Golf Committee and as a resource for other fundraising efforts. He also has provided financial support in the form of corporate sponsorship.



Since he is a man who prefers to remain behind the scenes, it was a pleasant surprise when Dick shared his story with PYSF board member Scott Wilson recently.

Dick was born in Seattle to Todd and Margaret Berry Smith in 1930. He and brother Todd attended Magnolia Grade School and Queen Anne High School. Dick graduated from the University of Washington, earning a degree in commercial art and advertising. He would also take courses from Ashborne University in London, England.

Dick was like many other boys – he mowed lawns, delivered newspapers, picked strawberries and topped trees on Bainbridge Island; was a caviar maker on Pier 45; and worked in construction with the Kent sewer system and for a laundry service.

During his high school career, Dick was a well-known athlete. He was the Seattle High School Batting Champion in 1947 with a .462 average, was selected to the All-City Baseball teams in 1947 and 1948 and All-State Baseball team in 1948 and received an All-American Baseball honorable mention in 1948.

Dick was signed by the Brooklyn Dodgers Baseball Club in 1948 and played for seven teams before joining the Chicago Cubs Baseball Club in 1953. He made the all-star teams while with the Cambridge, Maryland, Eastern Shore League D team; Bisbee-Douglas Arizona Texas League C (.484 OB %, 119 RBI); and the Great Falls, Montana, Pioneer League C (.499 OB %, 19 triples and 27 stolen bases). Other teams ranged from Johnstown, PA, Mid-Atlantic League C; Fort Worth, Texas League AA; Pueblo, CO, Western League A; and Billings, MT, Pioneer League C.

When Dick went from the Class C Great Falls club to the open classification L.A. Angels, sportswriter Frank Finch observed, “the good-looking kid appears to be one of those rare “naturals,” for he’s been busting up games right and left since getting his big chance to howl for Stan Hack’s Cherubs.” Later in the article, Finch quoted Manager Hack as describing Smith as a “big, strong guy with all the tools. He can run and throw exceptionally well and he’s full of hustle.”

Dick was promoted to the starting lineup in left field after Max West was injured. Because Dick was hitting during opportune at-bats and stealing bases, when West returned to the lineup, West was moved to right field. While with the Los Angeles Pacific coast League AAA from 1953-55, Dick was a Rookie of the Year nominee in 1953.

Dick entered the business field with as much success as his playing career. His business career highlights include:

- 1953-1957 Working during the off-season for his father-in-law as a mash-tub operator, assistant distiller, and marketing division with Alberta Distillers, LTD, a Canadian company;
- 1957-2000 Crystal Linen & Uniform Service in Yakima - partnered with his father and brother – renamed Crest Linen;
- 1963-1985 Family partnership acquired other dry cleaning services including Pendleton Laundry (Pendleton, OR, 1963), City Peerless Laundry and Dry Cleaning (Yakima, 1966), Crystal Linen (Yakima, 1985), Crystal Linen (Pasco, 1985) and Crystal Linen (Wenatchee, 1985); and
- 2000 Merged with Cintas International.

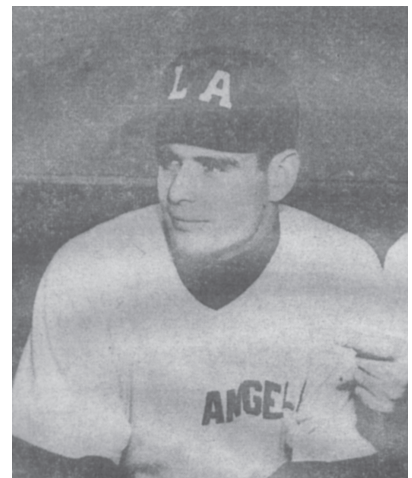
Dick has been active in the Yakima community as a member of the Yakima Chamber of Commerce and United Way, Capitol Theatre director, a 32nd Mason and Shriner.

Dick listed highlights of his life as:

- Marriage to a Canadian beauty;
- Father of three beautiful and talented daughters;
- Master of dozens of canines – mostly Blacks and Yellows;
- Lobbying in Washington, D.C., on behalf of the laundry industry;
- Playing in the same ball park with Gil Hodges, Carl Furillo, Duke Snyder, Jackie Robinson, Roy Campanella, Joe Black and Carl Erskine and against the likes of Satchel Paige, Virgil Trucks and others;
- Professional Baseball All-Star selections;
- Owner of a 356 SC Cabriolet – Irish racing green –then selling the car at the request of his father and the Washington State Patrol;
- European skiing holidays, wine touring in France and beer touring in Germany with family and friends;
- Owning a home in Sun Valley, skiing the greatest mountain and making life-long friends there;
- Spending countless enjoyable hours in duck blinds and the fields with gundogs; and
- Making late-in-life friendships with fly fishermen, salmon hunters and sportsmen.

Dick’s regret is that his father didn’t see the culmination and the rewards found in a lifetime of effort and risk-taking in our business (laundry service). His father lived to serve – served as the chamber president, introduced the Visitors and Convention Bureau concept to Yakima and served as its president. Such activities were efforts designed to make Yakima a better place – and his son, Dick, has followed suit.

Dick is married to Betty-Joan Reifel Smith. They have three daughters – Sharyl-Ann Cahill, Laura Drovetto and Pamel Sudmeier.



Dick Smith, 1953

Parker Partner of the Year



Stan Renecker, Parker Partner of the Year, congratulated by Coach Bill Faller.

In recognition of his exceptional interest shown and contributions to the Foundation, the directors have selected Stan as the Parker Partner of the Year. He has been a major contributor each year and in 2007 proposed the Faller/Brayton Endowment with a large initial donation. Last winter he added a matching contribution and, thanks to Stan's leadership and generosity, the Endowment fund has reached \$75,000.

The exceptional interest that Renecker has demonstrated toward the Parker Youth & Sports Foundation comes from his own experiences in competitive sports and growing up in the Yakima Valley. He believes strongly in the Foundation mission statement and goals and the values young people can realize from participation in sports. Stan has said, "I have been very fortunate in life, and I want to help provide opportunities for others who haven't been so fortunate. I think the Parker Youth & Sports Foundation provides a great avenue for doing that."

Stan married a Yakima girl, Laurie Burrill, in 1979. They have three children, Laura (22), Katie (18), and Robert (13).

Parker Partner Membership Renewal

Parker Partner membership renewal notifications will be sent to members the end of September. Membership is valid for November to October. We hope you will support the Foundation with the \$25 renewal fee.

Check the foundation website for photos of the event.



Don Crook, always supporting High Hopes Scramble, creator of the High Hopes Dream print.



More and more people are honoring parents by sponsoring a hole at the High Hopes Scramble—Buck LaBissoniere, Swede Lindquist and Don and Nellie Holder were recognized.



Yakattack, winner of Flight 1, Alex Podruzny, Lane Phillips, Rocky Jackson and Verne Welo.



Apple Tree Golf Course and Resort provided an array of special backdrops on a beautiful day of golf.



Scott Wells, Riverside Athletic Director, introduces Honorary Chairman Willie Turner at Legends Reunion.



Only female team in the tournament — 3 Highland Lassies (high school classmates) and the Lone Ranger (Naches High School alumni) — Marlene Williams, Lynne Willard, Evva Lane and Judy Gano.



YES! I want to support parks, youth activities and sports with a donation to the Parker Youth & Sports Foundation.

I wish to contribute:

- ☐ Parker Partner Membership @ \$25 per year
☐ General Foundation
☐ The Joe Donahue Scholarship Fund
☐ Faller/Brayton Endowment
☐ In Memory of Amount \$ _____
☐ Please send information about the **June 20, 2009 High Hopes Golf Tournament**

Special Areas:

- ☐ Parks & Playfields
☐ Youth Sports Programs
☐ Scholarship
☐ History of Area Sports

Parker Store: Items now available – soon to be available via the website

- _____ High Hopes Print(s) @ \$160 each for a total of \$ _____
 _____ Pride & Pinstripes, Autographed Book by Mel Stottlemire @ \$35 each
 _____ Brayton/Faller Grand Club Bat @ \$1,000 each
 _____ Golf hat w/Parker logo @ \$10 each
 _____ Souvenir golf ball w/Parker logo @ \$5 each
 _____ 2008 golf tournament towel @ \$10 each

Order Total: _____
(Shipping Included)

Payment Method: Check enclosed Bill my credit card: We accept: Visa Master Card

Credit Card #

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 Exp. __ / __ / __

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Signature _____ V-CODE _____

Name _____ Business _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: H _____ B _____ E-Mail _____

The Parker Youth & Sports Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) Foundation Thank you for your tax-deductible donation.

Contact information Phone: 509-469-9336 E-Mail: info@parkeryouthfoundation.com

Web site: www.parkeryouthfoundation.com or
www.parkeryouth&sportsfoundation.org

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