

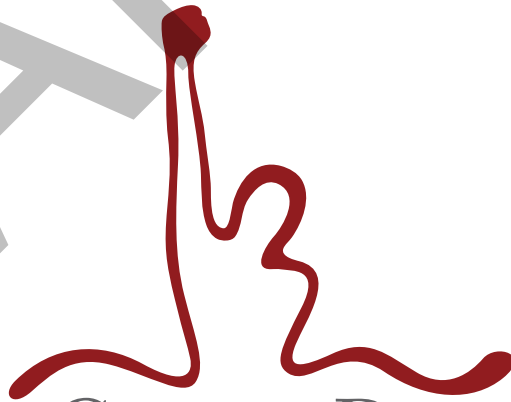
*Jays*

*Holy Name  
Blue Jays*

Varsity Football • 2010



SAMPLE



GAME DAY  
*memories*

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## Holy Name Varsity Football

League Record: 7 - 0 | Overall Record: 11 - 2

Season: 10-11 League/Div: Inter-County League - Section 2

Date	Opponent	Score
Fri, 9/3/2010	Pope John Paul II	W 21-49
Sat, 9/11/2010	Shenandoah Valley	W 8-19
Fri, 9/17/2010	Exeter	L 12-48
Fri, 9/24/2010	Schuylkill Valley	W 27-23
Fri, 10/1/2010	Hamburg	W 14-28
Sat, 10/9/2010	Fleetwood	W 40-2
Fri, 10/15/2010	Kutztown	W 20-34
Sat, 10/23/2010	Wyomissing	W 36-14
Fri, 10/29/2010	Blue Mountain	W 14-20
Fri, 11/5/2010	Central Catholic	W 41-21
Fri, 11/19/2010	Steel-High	W 7-42
Fri, 11/26/2010	Millersburg	W 20-27
Fri, 12/3/2010	Bishop Carroll	L 34-21



designed and compiled by: Jackie Schmehl



# Roster

Jersey #	Player Name	Position	Class
50	Aguilar, Tomas	T/DT	Fr
3	Allen, Tim	SE/DB	Jr
43	Budock, Peter	RB/LB	Jr
36	Caruso, Freddy	RB/DB	Sr
34	Christian, Dan	RB/LB	Sr
23	Coccia, Nick	RB/DB	Jr
75	Crotty, Dan	T/DT	Sr
17	Eliff, Brian	QB/DB	Sr
76	Fernandez, Jose	T/DT	Sr
33	Figura, Jeremy	RB/LB	Sr
83	Figura, Jon	TE/DE	Jr
92	Gaspari, Pietro	TE/DE	Fr
60	Ha, Joachim	OL/DT	So
87	Hetzel, Joseph	SE/DB	So
20	Higinbotham, Webb	P/K	Jr
28	Hines, Jazzmon	SE/DB	Jr
22	Huntsman, Jack	FB/LB	So
24	Huntsman, Josh	P/K	Sr
7	Kase, Matt	QB/DB	Fr
66	Kochen, Matt	G/DE	Jr
53	Kozlowski, Zach	C/DT	Jr
44	Kutz, Cooper	RB/LB	Fr
64	Lara, Steven	G/DE	So
58	Laser, Tim	G/DE	Jr
4	Leaf, Marcus	SE/DB	Jr
78	Long, Collin	T/DT	Sr
51	Marabella, Stephen	T/DT	So
56	Martinez, Josh	G/LB	So
12	Meridionale, Anthony	QB/LB	Jr
72	Miller, Caleb	OL/DL	Sr
84	Mohn, Tanner	TE/DE	Sr
14	Natole, Tom	SE/DB	Sr
88	Nestro, Brandon	RB/LB	Jr
59	Neubert, Dan	C/DE	Sr
63	Peffley, Josh	G/DT	So
31	Scott, Dan	SE/DB	Sr
65	Setley, Joe	G/DE	So
77	Van Etten, Mike	OL/DL	So
2	Waligurski, David	SE/DB	Sr
49	Waligurski, Nick	RB/LB	Fr
32	Warren, Chris	RB/DB	Fr
55	Winters, Chris	T/DT	So
62	Wood, Patrick	G/LB	So
41	Wood, Tim	G/LB	Jr
57	Wright, Cullen	C/DE	So

# Scouting Reports

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## SEPTEMBER 3, 2010

### Holy Name (7-4) vs. Pope John Paul II

*(Last season's final records in parentheses)*

**Kickoff:** Tonight, 7, at Forino Sports Complex.

**Series:** First meeting.

**Notable:** Game marks debut of the Golden Panthers. The school opened this year in Royersford, as a merger of St. Pius X and Kennedy-Kenrick high schools. PJP II is a member of the Pioneer Athletic Conference. ... Running backs Freddy Caruso, Jeremy Figura and Dan Christian, who combined for nearly 2,300 rushing yards, return to lead the Blue Jays, as does QB Brian Eliff, Berks' fourth-rated passer a year ago. ... Golden Panthers have just nine seniors on roster. ... Pius went 8-6 last year and qualified for the PIAA playoffs; Kenrick went just 1-9.

## SEPTEMBER 10, 2010

### Holy Name (1-0) vs. Shenandoah Valley (0-1)

**Kickoff:** Saturday, 1, at Forino Sports Complex.

**Series:** First meeting.

**Notable:** Freddy Caruso scored four TDs, one short of the school record he shares, and had 202 yards from scrimmage in 49-21 win over Pope John Paul II. ... Blue Devils turned it over twice in falling behind 14-0 in first four minutes last week and fell to powerful North Schuylkill 43-0. ... Blue Devils are replacing four starting offensive linemen from a team that went 7-5 and won the Eastern Conference Class A title a year ago. ... RB Eric Whalen rushed for 1,468 yards and 15 TDs last season, including a school-record 371 yards against Jim Thorpe. ... Devils play in the Anthracite Football League.

## SEPTEMBER 17, 2010

### Holy Name (2-0) vs. Exeter (1-1)

**Kickoff:** Tonight, 7, at Don Thomas Stadium.

**Series:** Blue Jays lead 22-11; first meeting since Exeter's 7-0 win in 2000.

**Notable:** Holy Name QB Brian Eliff is the top-rated passer in the Inter-County League, with six TDs, no interceptions and 321 yards passing. ... FB Jeremy Figura has not played yet for Holy Name because of a shoulder injury suffered in preseason. ... Freddy Caruso has five TDs this season and 41 in his career, seven short of the school record. He needs 21 rushing yards to become the eighth at the school with 2,000 career yards. He needs 3 receiving yards to top Ryan Nye's career record of 949. ... Eagles turned it over six times in 28-6 loss to Blue Mountain last week. ... Eagles have played well against the run, allowing just 117 yards per game, third-best in the I-C.

## SEPTEMBER 24, 2010

### Holy Name (2-1) vs. Schuylkill Valley (2-1)

**Kickoff:** Tonight, 7, at Leesport.

**I-C Section 2 records:** Opener for both.

**Series:** Blue Jays lead 33-4 and have won six straight, including 33-14 last year.

**Notable:** Panthers' 645 total yards in 49-14 win over Pius X last week was the second-most yards produced by a Berks team over the last 20 years. The highest figure on record is 661 yards, by Exeter in a 2001 win over Twin Valley. Schuylkill Valley rushed for 601 yards in that game, the second-highest figure on record behind Exeter, which got all of its 661 yards on the ground. ... The Panthers produced a pair of 200-yard rushers, Dylan Scheidt and Derek Gaul, in the same game for the first time in school history. ... Panthers have bounced back from a season-opening loss with wins over Panther Valley and Pius X. ... One year after leading Berks in total offense they are ranked No. 1, averaging 442 yards per game and a Berks-best 377 on the ground. ... Ryan Matthews had a team-high 11 tackles and a sack for the Panthers against Pius X. ... Blue Jays rank eighth in the league in rushing defense, giving up 178 yards per game. ... They gave up 253 rushing yards in 48-12 loss to Exeter last week, the Eagles averaging 6.8 yards per carry. ... Freddy Caruso became the eighth player in school history to top 2,000 rushing yards. He's second all-time at the school in points, touchdowns and rushing touchdowns.

## OCTOBER 1, 2010

### Hamburg (3-1) vs. Holy Name (3-1)

**Kickoff:** Tonight, 7, at Forino Sports Complex.

**I-C Section 2 records:** Hawks 0-1, Blue Jays 1-0.

**Series:** Blue Jays lead 29-9 after winning 26-7 last season.

**Notable:** Jeremy Figura's 2-yard TD run with 24 seconds left completed a 14-play, 75-yard drive that gave Blue Jays the lead for good in 27-23 win over Schuylkill Valley last week. The Section 2 opener saw the lead change hands seven times. ... Freddy Caruso, who scored three TDs in the win, needs three TDs to match Dan Ciabattoni's school career TD mark of 48. ... Holy Name's Brian Eliff needs one TD pass to tie Jack Causa for second-most in school history, at 22; Mike Reedy owns the record with 28. ... Hawks' defense faces another challenge against a strong running team. They gave up 373 yards on the ground in falling to Blue Mountain 47-7 last week. Hawks were also hurt by a pair of fumbles. ... Holy Name has won five of the last six meetings in the series, but the games have been close: Jays won 16-15 in 2002, 7-6 in 2003 and 17-14 in 2007.

**Quotable:** "We're pretty good at taking one game at a time. We looked at it as, 'We have a new season starting.' As far as we were concerned, the slate was clear. We're trying to win one game at a time to win a section championship." — Holy Name coach Rick Keeley, on bouncing back from a loss to Exeter to beat Schuylkill Valley.

## OCTOBER 8, 2010

### Holy Name (4-1) vs. Fleetwood (0-5)

**Kickoff:** Saturday, 7, at Tiger Stadium.

**I-C Section 2 records:** Blue Jays 2-0, Tigers 0-2.

**Series:** Blue Jays lead 9-0 after winning 25-13 last season.

**Notable:** Blue Jays are ranked No. 1 in the District 3-A ratings and can clinch a playoff spot with a win tonight. ... Blue Jays QB

# Caruso's four scores fuel Holy Name's romp

Freddy Caruso scored four touchdowns and compiled 202 yards rushing and receiving to lead Holy Name past Pope John Paul II 49-21 in the season opener at Forino Sports Complex Friday night.

The Blue Jays led by only seven after three quarters but won in blowout fashion after outscoring the Golden Panthers 21-0 in the fourth.

Dan Christian finished with 133 yards from scrimmage and two scores for Holy Name, and quarter-

back Brian Eliff was nearly perfect, completing 8-of-11 passes for 195 yards and three TDs.

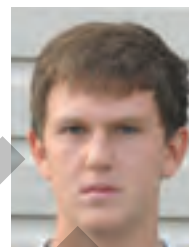
The final score may have been even more lopsided had Holy Name not gone for a fourth-and-one conversion in its own territory late in the first half, which led to a Panthers' TD that cut it to seven with less than a minute to go.

David Cottellese's 20-yard TD pass to Jared Siejk on fourth-and-10 late in the third quarter kept Pope John Paul II in contention, but the

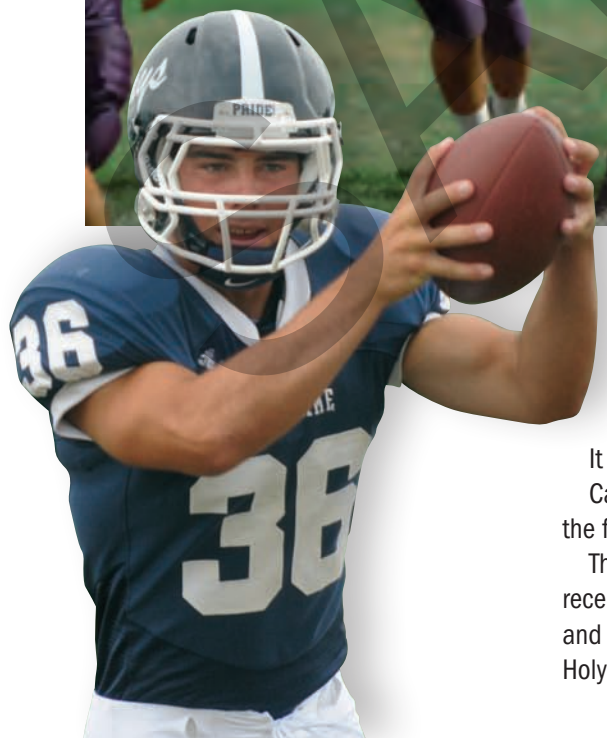
Blue Jays offense was too much in the final period.

Cottellese led the Golden Panthers with 131 yards passing and also ran for 33 yards.

—Ryan Remp



**Brian Eliff**  
Holy Name



## Star of the night Freddy Caruso, Holy Name

It was the "Freddy Caruso Show" Friday night at Forino Sports Complex. Caruso caught touchdown passes of 58 and 26 yards from Brian Eliff in the first half, then ran for TDs of 52 yards and 1 yard in the second.

The Blue Jays running back racked up 104 yards rushing and 98 yards receiving. Caruso's best run came when he took a pitch to the right side and escaped from a crowd before racing 52 yards to the end zone to start Holy Name's 21-point, fourth-quarter outburst.



# Jays-Spartans rivalry also has I-C 2 lead on line

Last year's 21-0 Holy Name victory figures to have very little bearing on meeting between the league unbeatens

**By Mike Drago**  
Reading Eagle

Not surprisingly Bob Wolfrum doesn't want to think too much about last year's meeting with Holy Name.

It ended up being a long day for his Wyomissing football team, and not just because the Inter-County League Section 2 showdown was interrupted several times by lightning delays.

The Blue Jays dominated every facet of the game and went home with a 21-0 victory, their first shutout over Wyomissing in 26 years and one of the few whitewashes the Spartans have ever endured on their home turf.

"Any time anybody beats you, especially on your home field, that bothers you," Wolfrum said on the eve of Saturday's rematch with the reigning Section 2 champs. "That was a real letdown last year.

"We're not making a big deal about it, but I'm sure in the back of everybody's mind they don't want to see it happen again, that's for sure."

Holy Name coach Rick Keeley isn't dwelling on last year's breakthrough win, either — even if it was the first for the Blue Jays in five seasons and just their second in 14 years over the Spartans.

"I don't know if last year has anything to do with this time," Keeley said. "This is another team for us, and another team for them. It's still the same good rivalry."

It's especially good because it once again will have a huge bearing on the Section 2 championship. The Spartans (4-0, 6-1) and Blue Jays (4-0, 6-1) share first place with Blue Mountain, with each still to play the Eagles. The team that loses Saturday will, at best, have to share the title; the winner will still have a chance to win it outright.

The Blue Jays' biggest challenge will be stopping a typically potent Wyomissing offense that is averaging 295 yards rushing and scoring nearly 39 points per game.



READING EAGLE: LAUREN A. LITTLE

**Alex Anzalone is one of the ring-leaders in Wyomissing's offense, which is averaging 295 rushing yards per game.**

The Jays stopped them last year, but they've lost a pair of all-league defenders from that squad and haven't been the same on defense this year. They're ranked ninth in the I-C in rush defense, giving up 174 yards per game, and 11th overall.

"Our offensive and defensive lines have their work cut out for them," Keeley said. "That's one of the strengths of Wyomissing; both their lines are very good. It'll be a challenge to match up with them, especially size-wise."

Wolfrum likes the improvement he's seen from his guys up front on offense: center Justin Gonzalez, guards Garrett Zinn and Connor Longacre, tackles Skyler Lash and Josh Hamsher and tight end Spencer Lloyd.

"We're getting much better," he said. "Last week (when they ran for 463 yards in a 41-31 win over Schuylkill Valley) we just did a great job. We were knocking people backwards. We've come a long way offensively in the last few weeks."

Wolfrum's concerns rest on the other side, where Holy Name can be just as potent. The Blue Jays have an all-senior backfield, led by all-league halack Freddy Caruso,



READING EAGLE

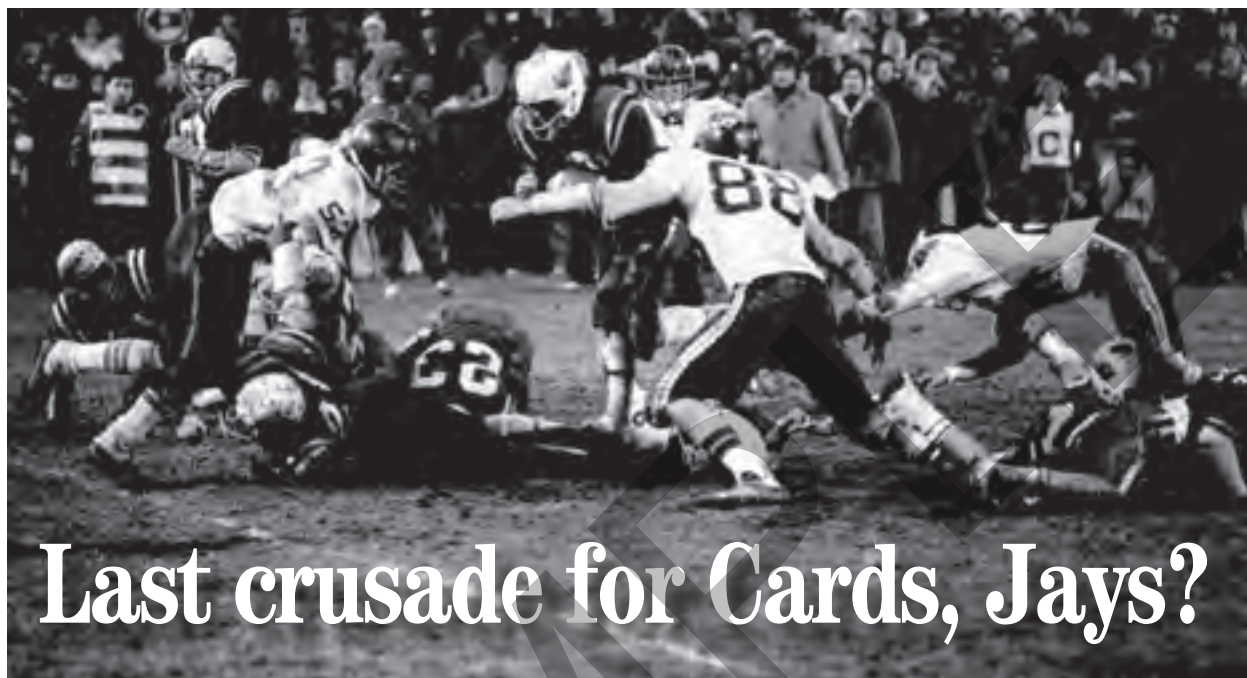
**Freddy Caruso, Holy Name's all-time leader in TDs and points, has scored 18 touchdowns this season.**

and are averaging nearly 30 points per game.

Caruso has scored 18 TDs and is Holy Name's all-time leader in TDs and points.

"They're a big-play team," Wolfrum said. "They've got kids that can go the distance on any play. You can do a great job nine out of 10 plays, and they'll still score because the kid (Caruso) goes the distance on you."

"I've seen him go the distance on plays when there was nothing there, and he still goes on his own. You can play great defense, and he still gets you once in a while."



## Last crusade for Cards, Jays?

By Mike Drago  
Reading Eagle

**T**HE DAYS when Central Catholic vs. Holy Name was the biggest game on the Berks football stage have long passed.

Other programs, at bigger schools — Wilson, Gov. Mifflin, Daniel Boone, Muhlenberg, Wyomissing, Conrad Weiser — have assumed the Berks football spotlight in recent decades.

There was a time, however, in the 1970s and 1980s, when Holy Name-Central was the game.

It seemed that almost every year the Inter-County League championship came down to the season finale between Reading's parochial high schools.

Those two small schools regularly outplayed the bigger guys in their league, and nine times in an 11-year stretch from 1975-85 the I-C title was decided by what transpired in the Campbell Cup Trophy series.

Twenty-eight times in the 42-year history of the series one or both schools finished first or second in the I-C.

They meet for the 43rd time Friday, the game again harboring title

implications. The Blue Jays can claim outright ownership of the Section 2 title with a win; the Cardinals can force them to share it if they pull off the upset.

This meeting, though, is like no other in the rivalry's storied history: This one could be the last one.

A letter from the Diocese of Allentown, sent home with students at both schools in early October, confirmed that plans to build a new Central Catholic High School have been shelved.

The letter stated that a study is under way to determine the future course of Catholic education in Berks County; a report is expected in January.

Though the letter did not come out and say it, the findings in that study could result in the ultimate closing of Central Catholic, with students being sent to Holy Name.

People at each school fear such an outcome.

There is no official timetable — nothing is official at this point — but people in both communities realize the end could come quickly for Central Catholic.

The doors could close for good in June.

"If this ended up being the end of

the rivalry, it would be upsetting to me," said Jack Causa, a quarterback on Holy Name's first team and a coach at the school for the past three decades.

"It would be a shame," echoed Mike Murphy, who has played and coached basketball at Central since the mid-1980s. "This rivalry has meant so much to so many people in so many different sports."

Many of the players lining up opposite each other Friday could be teammates next football season — playing for a school called neither Holy Name nor Central Catholic, for a team not called the Blue Jays or Cardinals, wearing uniforms that are neither navy blue nor cardinal red.

Pure speculation, some will contend, but a stark possibility, one both sides are bracing for.

Central Catholic coach Ray Serafin, who played end for the Cardinals, called his seniors together this week to let them know that Friday's game could be the last ever played by a Central Catholic football team.

The idea was not news to them; they were thinking along the same lines, Serafin realized.

"It makes you step back and take a look at things differently," he said

*continued on page 27*



# This Fab Four fits Holy Name to a (Wing)-T

By Mike Drago  
Reading Eagle

During their youth football days Freddy Caruso, Danny Christian, Brian Eliff and Jeremy Figura were rivals.

Caruso and Figura played for Lincoln Park; Christian and Eliff for Wyomissing.

When they arrived at Holy Name they quickly formed a bond and realized they had more in common than their school uniforms.

"We all have similar goals," Eliff said. "We all have a passion for football. We've been close friends throughout all these years."

Caruso, Eliff and Figura all saw varsity time as freshman; Christian joined them the next season.

They've all been in the starting lineup since 2008 and have been the backbone of a Holy Name team that has captured back-to-back Inter-County League Section 2 titles and now has its sights set on a District 3-A championship, Friday against Millersburg.

"It's something special to be playing with the same guys (for all these years)," Christian said. "We're all comfortable with each other; we're all brothers."

The Blue Jays feature a rarity in high school football: an all-senior Wing-T backfield that has been together for four years — a combined 15 varsity seasons of experience.

Caruso, who cracked the starting lineup at halfback as a freshman, has become the highest scorer in school history. He also leads Berks in interceptions and is one of the I-C's top safeties.

Christian is the other



READING EAGLE: TIM LEEDY

**Holy Name's all-senior Wing-T backfield, from left: Jeremy Figura, Freddy Caruso, Brian Eliff and Danny Christian.**

halfback, the team's leading tackler, and one of the top linebackers in Berks County.

Eliff has thrown a school record 32 TD passes during his two seasons as a starter at quarterback.

Figura is a three-year starter at fullback and has rushed for more than 2,100 yards.

Holy Name offensive coordinator Jack Causa calls it the best backfield the Blue Jays have ever had.

Combined, the foursome has produced nearly 6,000 rushing yards, scored 105 touchdowns, and contributed to 33 victories.

Of course their value exceeds more than just stats. The experience and leadership they provide is the reason the Blue Jays are the No. 1 seed in the District 3-A tournament, ranked in the top 10 in sev-

eral state polls and the favorite to win a district title.

With their talented senior quartet leading the way the Jays play with confidence, and they play smart. Their plus-23 turnover differential — the best in the county — is evidence.

"You're confident that the kids are going to play well with that kind of leadership," said Holy Name coach Rick Keeley. "Every week I've gotten the sense that these guys are ready to play again. That's your senior leadership. They go out thinking they can win."

Eliff is the unquestioned leader in the offensive huddle. He knows exactly where everybody should be lined up and what their assignment is on every play.

And he knows exactly what he's doing with the ball before he throws it. His exceptional 32-to-5 touch-

downs-to-interceptions ratio is proof of that.

"Brian runs the show, and whenever anybody has questions, he points them in the right direction," Christian said. "We all know that we can turn towards each other and ask for help; we know we've got each other's back."

Figura provides the power and inside running game, helping open the wings for Caruso and Christian.

Christian is an adept runner, receiver and blocker who helps spring Caruso for those big plays.

"It's a treat to play with Fred," Christian said. "If I miss a block, he can make that guy miss. That's the way he is. He's got the moves, he's got the power in certain situations. He's got the whole package."

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