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Cuban law will allow citizens to buy and sell property

MIRIAM ARIAS
Staff Writer

Raúl Castro is giving back to the Cuban people what his brother Fidel took away more than 50 years ago.

The administration of Raúl has approved a law allowing the Cuban population to buy and sell property. The new law took effect on Nov. 10.

Since April 2011, the Cuban Communist Party has been adopting new sets of lineamientos, or guidelines, which encourage a shift from a command economy towards a more mixed one.

Associate professor in the College of Law José Gabilondo believes this law is good because of the doors it opens for Cuban people.

“Anything that creates new choices for people — in this case in terms of real property — is good,” said Gabilondo in an interview with Student Media.

While beneficial to the Cuban economy, the people who have long awaited such law will still face certain government restrictions and regulations.

Buyers will be allowed to buy up to two homes and all financing must be made through Cuba’s Central Bank, which will charge fees along with an eight percent tax rate to be split by buyer and seller.

The policy also includes a threat of prison for those who lie about the true value of home prices.

The implementation of this new law has also given rise to questions of class divisions in Cuba. According to José Gabilondo, economic inequality has been unquestionably affecting Cuba particularly in the last decade as sectors of the economy become “dollarized.”

Dollarization occurs when residents of a country use foreign currency alongside or instead of domestic currency.

This dollarization marks a significant division among classes since it benefits those who earn their living from dollars, but leaves those who are still dependent on the peso a step behind.

“The new law may set the stage for the kind of economic inequalities that are common in capitalist economies, but in a way that may be more systematic than dollarization,” Gabilondo said. “That said, it is undeniable that Cuba’s liberalizing reforms of its economy are on a crash course with its socialist commitments to redistributional equality.”

Gabilondo pointed out that though people are expecting forms of social
Program provides sustainability for countries in need

GLOWS, page 8
Five people employed in water sanitation. "In America, we use water to drink, to clean ourselves and even to wash our cars," Abott said. "Most people don't have that advantage." Miriam Shotadze, program director for GLOWS in the country of Georgia, said sometimes natural resources are readily available but lack of environmental laws cause what may have been potable water to be severely polluted.

Her program, titled Integrated Natural Resource Management in Watersheds of Georgia, aims to make these types of laws clear, Shotadze said. "This could include plans for emergency irrigation."

Shotadze’s program started in September 2010, and it is a six-year project. By the end of the six years, Shotadze and her team hope to make a lasting impression by "empowering local communities and authorities by promoting local governance mechanisms that enable rural people to advocate for change that better their lives," as stated in the project brief.

Other programs GLOWS directs are just taking off, but their directors say they hold promise. David Mutekanga, program director in Rwanda, hopes to bring clean drinking water to 86 percent of households by 2012, but said the access to clean water will have a domino effect. "Providing clean water will also help with food security, as Rwanda has rain-fed agriculture," Mutekanga said. "Their crops are vulnerable to climate variations."

Abott also stressed that if other issues arise, GLOWS will try to address them. "My team also campaigned against the cholera outbreak, which is also related to clean water," Abott said. "Education is the foundation. The more we educate, the better off these countries will be."

This story was researched and written for JOE 3300 Advanced News Writing taught by Dr. Fred Blevens in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication. A version of this story also appeared on the website of the national conference of the Society of Environmental Journalists at the University of Miami. You can see this and other class work for SEJ at themiamiplanet.org or by going to thenews-wave.org

Hurricane simulators recreate powerful storms

WIND, page 1
The second WoW, and the one currently being used, is made up of six counter rotating propellers. Originally, each propeller was housed in an individual pod but that set up didn’t simulate accurate hurricane characteristics.

A small-scale version was made and tweaked for about three months to get the right configuration and, once the researchers were happy with it, a full-scale version was built. The new WoW will allow researchers to test the damage done at different angles. "Nothing is getting destroyed," Conklin said. "We are just measuring the forces and we want to know how wind reacts with the building."

The National Hurricane Center, which is also located on the Modesto Maidique Campus, is a forecasting center and is not part of the project, but Leatherman notes the important relationship between the separate mission of the two organizations. "If a hurricane comes you can track the storm perfectly," he said, "but if you don’t build your house stronger there is still going to be damage."

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Saldana: It’s a step forward for the Cuban people

PROPERTY, page 1
A large photo on the right was taken by Ana Teresa Deliz.

The Beacon will gladly change any errors. Call our MMC office at 305-348-2709 or BBC at 305-919-4722.

CORRECTIONS
In Vol. 22, Issue 39 of The Beacon in the Art by the section, the large photo on the right was taken by Ana Teresa Deliz.

The Beacon will gladly change any errors. Call our MMC office at 305-348-2709 or BBC at 305-919-4722.
Despite bowl eligibility, FIU's chances of going to a bowl game still in question.

Although FIU has become bowl eligible and sits at seven wins this season, the Panthers may not be invited to a postseason game after Louisiana and Arkansas State accepted SBC bowl bids.

WESLEY CARROLL filled in for Jake Medlock at quarterback and may start again against MTSU.

Panthers travel to MTSU for critical season finale

Jackson Wolek
Staff Writer

Last year, FIU was one win away from clinching the Sun Belt championship outright. Instead, Middle Tennessee had an 8-5 record against the Blue Raiders a bowl game.

This year, MTSU has the potential of making the Sun Belt outright. Last year, FIU was one win away from clinching the Sun Belt.

The only time more than two Sun Belt teams have made it to a bowl game in the same year was last season.

Wesley Carroll filled in for Jake Medlock at quarterback and may start again against MTSU.
Young talent could lead the way next year for Panthers

It is a difficult time for the women’s volleyball team. After suffering a second-round loss to eventual Sun Belt champion Western Kentucky for consecutive seasons, the Panthers will add another year to a title drought that now extends to 10. They will say goodbye to another set of seniors and will go into the off-season with a new question, which in reality is a question that has been asked for years. “How do we improve enough to win a championship?”

Before the team can even ask the question, they must assess what the team has as far as players go and what their mentality is. Let’s just say the first is easier to address than the latter.

SOME BAD THINGS, SOME GOOD

Starting with the players, losing senior middle blockers Andrea Lakovic and Sabrina Gonzalez is a big blow to a defense that played well this season. Both players combined for 191 total blocks this past season, anchoring the front line for the Panthers that immediately goes from being full of experience to one with very limited playing time.

Freshman Silvia Carli played 57 sets, roughly half of the sets of her predecessors, which gives the Panthers a semblance of continuity at the position. However, there is no secure number two.

Senior Priscilla Higgins will return to the team with no experience at the college level, having suffered an injury to her foot and losing a spot in the rotation.

The same issue of lack of players guarding the net can also be addressed, along with back line protection. Libero Chanel Araujo will be in her senior year, flanked by freshman Carolyn Fouts, who received plenty of playing time in her first season.

After those two, there is red-shirt junior Rachel Fernandez, who may or may not exercise her last season of eligibility due to graduation. Coach Daniela Tomic will undoubtedly reload at both positions and build a rotation to see what sticks, but that brings the issue of having players learn on the job, which will bring growing pains.

The bright spots for the Panthers are on the offensive side of the game. Five players will be returning to the outside hitter position, including All-Sun Belt player Jovana Bjelic for her senior year. Although it seemed that Bjelic was the only option on offense, Uta Tkralja showed signs of being the “Robin” to Bjelic’s “Batman” before suffering a knee injury midway through the season.

With an expected recovery in time for next season and junior Marija Prsa adding experience to a loaded position, Bjelic will not be alone to carry the offense. Red-shirt freshman Jessica Egan seems to have the setter position locked up going into next year, even if red-shirt junior Renele Forde decides to return. Forde faces the same predicament as Fernandez as far as eligibility.

CHANGE OF FOCUS

The talent may be there but the mentality is not. The phrase that the team lived by towards the end of the season was, “We’re getting ready for the tournament,” as if every thing would change once that illusion-filled date came. There were glimpses of brilliance this season, but the moments of despair and frustration clouded whatever bright spots there were. I think the goal should not only be to improve, but also to win.

When the season starts, the bulls-eyes will be on the backs of SBC champions WKU and rival Middle Tennessee. FIU must change their motto. No more, “We’re focusing on the tournament.” It is not a bad goal to have, but you can’t really put a face to that phrase. What the goal needs to be is, “Beat WKU and Middle Tennessee.” It is a tangible idea that the Panthers can focus on and can lead to a change in power in the conference.

This can lead to that elusive title that has not been in FIU’s grasp for a decade. Let’s hope they realize it, for their sake.
DOCUMENTARY DETAILS CUBAN HISTORY IN MIAMI

ANDY RUIZ-CASTAÑEDA Staff Writer

“...We are a living experiment that made that it,” said Kath- erine Fernandez-Rundle, state attorney for Miami-Dade County. Fernandez-Rundle is one of many people staring in the new docu- mentary film, “Cuban America.” The film is directed by Adelin Gasana. It explores the Cuban-American diaspora and its effect on the city of Miami, and delves deep into Cuban-America- nian society and culture through interviews with countless Cuban- Americans, all from different walks of life.

The University played a crucial role in the making of the film. Six University professors, the former president Modesto Maid- ique, and an array of students and graduates were interviewed and featured in the documentary.

 Much of the film is focused on Cuban immigration to the U.S., which plays an important role in the Cuban-American experience.

Starting off with the first waves of immigration in the early ‘60s with the more affluent Cubans, the film then continues with Operation Pedro Pan. The operation was a major effort made by the U.S. government and the Catholic Church to trans- port Cuban children into Miami without their parents.

Later, there are freedom flights of the ‘70s, the Mariel boatlift of the ‘80s, the balseros (rafters), and the U.S. visa lottery.

Another major aspect of the film was Cuban race relations. Oftentimes considered taboo in Cuban-American society, the film confronted issues of racism in Miami and on the island.

While the population of Cuba is predominantly black and mixed race, the Cuban popu- lation in Miami is predominantly white.

The initial wave of exiles who arrived in Miami were wealthy Cubans of mostly Spanish descent, which led to chain migration, causing more white Cubans to arrive in Miami.

The Mariel boat lift was the only wave of Cuban migration that was predominantly made up of Cubans of African descent.

Many of the Cuban-Americans interviewed in the film speak of racist tendencies in Miami. Some Afro-Cubans interviewed in the film offer both humorous and sobering anecdotes of their expe- rience growing up in predomin- antly white Cuban culture and trying to find their way in Miami, a once-southern segregationist city with strong racist sentiments.

Most white Cubans are Roman Catholic, and a large percentage of Afro-Cubans prac- tice Santeria, a Caribbean reli- gion that blends Catholicism with traditional West African religion. The largest population of Santeria practitioners outside of Cuba is in Hialeah.

“I tried to keep it from a soci- ological perspective and not an ideological or political perspec- tive,” said Gasana after the screening.

“...Much of Miami’s tumultu- ous past is part of the movie.”

During the ‘60s and ‘70s, the majority of illegal contraband being imported to the U.S. from Latin America through Miami was marijuana.

However, Miami took a much darker turn in the ‘80s. In 1980, Castro authorized an opening of the port of Mariel for any Cubans who wanted to leave to the U.S. Many of the Cubans fleeing were a large number of prison inmates and patients from mental health facilities.

Castro used the opportunity to “clean house” among Cuba’s jails and asylums. Upon arriving to Miami, the Cubans were subjected to a long documenta- tion process and, as a result, had to live in refugee camps for an extended period of time.

Soon, violent riots began spreading throughout the refugee camps. At about the same time, cocaine bootleggers were imported to Miami from Colombia. With the rate of cocaine imports rising at a swift pace came an increase in crime.

Riots, violence and drugs soon turned Miami into a dangerous city, as fictionalized in the film “Scarface.” The turmoil of the ‘80s did have one major effect on Miami: much of the city’s rapid expansion happened in the ‘80s and ‘90s was funded by “coca- mine.”

In the past 10 years, Miami has evolved greatly. The city has seen massive immigration from other countries besides Cuba. Miami is now home to growing communities of people from countries such as Venezuela and Colombia.

It has also seen what has been called a “re-Cubanization.” 2000 to 2010 experienced the largest scale of Cuban immigration in all of Miami’s history. Gasana, the film’s creator, was born in Rwanda but came to the U.S. as an infant shortly before the...
HAUTE TOPIC

**Capulet collections offer high fashion at low prices**

Laflour the term “recessionista.” I do not know who coined it, but the insensitive term used in magazines is not a marketing technique I will ever fall for. Magazines use it because it appeals to the guilty consciences of the top one percent. Like it or not, the supposed “recessionista” style has had its effect on the fashion industry. Even since the recession started, labels have been creating all sorts of lower-priced brands for the lowly masses like myself. There are not many advantages to the financial situation that we are in. However, you could see capulet collections as a silver lining.

If you have turned on the TV at all these past two weeks, you have probably seen the creepy yet cool advertising of Versace for the H&M collection. The collection is inspired by the “greatest hits” of the Italian fashion house with a modern silhouette so many pieces can fit seamlessly in the closets of men and women today.

The problem is -- other than the fact that I would never wear teal pants cut from silk kimono fabric -- the stuff does not come cheap. With most of the dresses running around $200, I would not blame you if you headed over to Zara to buy two dresses instead of one. Capulet collections are tricky things. Either the designer’s work is completely compromised because of the poor craftsmanship and fabric quality of the mass-produced garments, or the clothes end up being completely hideous because the designer does not want to lose customers at their higher price points.

Earlier this year, Target launched their Missoni capulet collection. The collection included all sorts of products, from hosiery to clothes. While the collection was a financial success for Target, I realized that the fashion aspect of the line was null. The clothes were uninspired and gimmicky.

Of course, that did not stop me from buying whatever I could get my hands on. I am glad, though, that I did not waste too much on any of the more expensive pieces. Overall, I did not think it was the ideal capulet collection. Target and H&M have had successful collaborations in the past like Luella, Thakoon and Lanvin. What made these collections unique was that they stayed true to the designer’s aesthetics, and the clothes were well made at a more affordable price. Department stores and boutiques that are looking into collaborating should take these lines as an example for what works. I fantasize about potential collaborations all the time. My top picks would be Alexander Wang for The Gap, Marc Jacobs for Zara and Tom Ford for any store. The style of these designers would match well with the fast fashion chains. Rumor has it that Tom Ford is being considered for an H&M collaboration, so maybe my dream will come true.

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Haute Topic is a weekly fashion column. Look for it every Wednesday this fall.

RADIATE REVIEWS

**Album about break up does not wallow**

You could not find an odder juxta-position of music and lyrics than with Los Campesinos. On first listen, they have what sounds to be upbeat, flowery arrangements that go along energetically without hooks, but lead singer Gareth Campesinos’ personal lyrics offer depth and personal introspection that most bands struggle for.

That is what makes “Hello Sadness” another solid album in Los Campesinos’ catalog; it is an album that still invigorates because of the jubilant pop-punk style. But ultimately, it is a cathartic album that follows the emotions of breakups.

The near autobiographical album deals with the pain and heartbreak Los Campesinos start off the story of heartache with the first track, “By Your Hand,” which has that bouncy snap that goes along energetically without hooks, but lead singer Gareth Campesinos’ personal lyrics offer depth and personal introspection that most bands struggle for.

But with grief-inducing lyrics – “By your hand is the only end for forever/I have been dreaming/you’ve been dreaming about me” – the track is anything but bouncy. It is sung in declaration, as if this infinite sadness is something to exclaim about.

It works here, as the track hearkens back to a time when pop-punk dealt with existential relationship dilemmas without all the sexual pain of breakup.

I listen to DJ Mike Manchild’s show Radiophonia on Thursdays at 4 p.m. on Radiate FM 95.3 Miami, 96.9 North Miami, and 88.1 Homestead.

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UPCOMING WEEKEND EVENTS

**FRIDAY, OCT. 25**

- **Nature Preserve Volunteer Day:** 2:55 p.m., FIU Nature Preserve. Make sure to arrive on the scheduled time in order to receive volunteer credit. Wear closed-toe shoes; anybody wearing sandals may be asked to go home. Long pants are strongly recommended. Workdays happen rain or shine, so please plan accordingly.

- **Cleomead:** 6 p.m., Bardot

- **Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity:** 12 p.m., $5-

- **AFresco:** 11 p.m., $10, The Stage

- **Get Physical with MANDY, Delete, and Ms Madison:** 11 p.m., TreeHouse

**SATURDAY, OCT. 26**

- **Kayak Day on the Bay:** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Biscayne Bay. They will lead you on an excursion into the Mangrove Trails of Oleta State Park. Biscayne Bay Sandbar or the tropical beach known as Sand Spur Island.

- **FIU Men’s Basketball vs. Coastal Carolina:** 7 p.m., Convocation Center.

- **G-Spot: Bike Love:** 7 p.m., Gove Student Center

- **George Thorogood & The Destroyers:** 8 p.m., $15-$30, Magic City Casino

- **Tracy Morgan:** 8 p.m., $32.50, The Fillmore Miami Beach

**SUNDAY, OCT. 27**

- **FIU Women’s Basketball vs. CSU Bakersfield:** 5:30 p.m., U.S. Century Bank Arena

- **Blogfest 2011** will be presenting with Ghausuddin, Saheed, Art Morera, SIR YNG, Ron Slydo, SilentHandEnt, and DJs X and Got Now! 7 p.m., $10 for 21+.

- **WORK! presents Tribal Madness with DJ Paulo and Peter Rauhoven:** 10 p.m., $40, Mansion

- **Lombardi:** 7 p.m., $15-$39.50, Mosaic Theatre

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WRITE TO CALENDAR@FIUSM.COM TO HAVE YOUR EVENT FEATURED!
The Penn State scandal shocked me on many levels; first as a human being, next as an advocate, finally as a student. I think the most shocking thing I have seen so far is the reaction of most of the students and even people I have personally encountered.

Instead of being concerned with the victims, they are upset because of a tarnished logo. On Nov. 5, former Penn State assistant coach Jerry Sandusky was charged with 40 counts of sexual abuse of a minor, with the charges applying to eight victims assaulted over the course of 17 years.

Subsequently, former head coach Joe Paterno has since been terminated and administrators Tim Curley and Gary Schultz have also been charged with perjury and failure to report child abuse.

In the midst of this news, students at Penn State took to the streets, violently rioting for their football program rather than for the disgusting revelations of sexual abuse. To say their anger is misguided is a vast understatement.

No doubt, this situation will forever tarnish the school’s reputation and hang a dark cloud over its stellar football program.

Even so, football is the least of their problems. If anything, the students should be flipping cars and breaking storefronts because an authority figure who claimed to be an upstanding human being is nothing but a monster that exploited the trust of young boys to feed a disgusting sexual appetite.

I would also like to further express my anger at all the people who witnessed this abuse and did little to stop it in time.

As discussed on Monday’s episode of Public Reason, FIU Student Media’s radio show dedicated to gathering opinions and generating discussion, everyone from the nameless janitor to assistant coach Dennis McQueary to Paterno have sealed their reputations with this asinine opinion that these victims been from the upper echelons of society, Sandusky’s actions would have been revealed much more quickly.

Even the revelation came about in the same time period, there would be a few more answers as to whether those involved in the cover-up should be held accountable.

From all there is to learn from this, the first and foremost is this: sexual assault of anyone, child or adult, is not something to keep silent about for any reason. Even if the abuser is a person in power with a great reputation and public image, they lose the right to that when they victimize others.

To the readers, I plead with you: if you ever see any sexual abuse, especially that of a child, do not stay silent. Protect the correct party and say something so the abuse will stop. The abuser can be held accountable and the victims can begin to heal.

My heart goes out to victims; I wish you nothing but love, health and healing.

“Class Dismissed” is a biweekly column critiquing education in America.

RESOURCES

FIU Victim Advocacy Center
24-Hour Hotline: (305) 348-3000
www.vac.fiu.edu

RAIN
24-Hour Hotline: (1) 800-654-HOPE
www.rain.org

www.facebook.com/fiustudentmedia

Did you ever see any sexual abuse, especially that of a child, do not stay silent.

Send us your Letters.

Have something on your mind? Send your thoughts (300 words maximum) to opinion@fiu.edu or drop it off at either GC 210 or MMC 114. With your letter, be sure to include your name, major and year. The Beacon reserves the right to edit for space, content and clarity.

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Hubert Library starts out day with a blackout

JONATHAN RAMOS
Asst. News Director

The Glenn Hubert Library at the Biscayne Bay Campus suffered a power outage on Nov. 21, which temporarily halted book checkouts. While a mishap with a cable, the library had only some functioning computers, and was forced to leave the front doors open to allow air circulation, as air conditioners were not functioning.

The library was limited in power from 7:30 a.m. until roughly 3:30 p.m., after the Florida Power and Light Company addressed the issue.

“One is a three phase cable and one of them went out,” Library Technical Assistant Supervisor Jude Cobham said, who was told it would take up to a week to replace, but a temporary fix would be installed the same day.

Edward Furras, assistant director of Facilities Management, said that FPL reversed a loop cable and tracked it into another area to address the issue, but an examination will continue.

“They will do a thorough investigation of everything to make sure no more issues come up,” Furras said. “This was an inadvertent thing. There was no way to predict it.”

The lack of power affected the Center For Excellence in Writing, which is based in the library and tutors students. Michelle Almonte, graduate tutor, said that the library laptops they use were out of battery and there were no means for online tutoring until the power was back.

One of Almonte’s tutoring sessions was interrupted after her laptop ran out of powered. Some students were uncomfortable with the temperature in the HL, with the air conditioner not working.

“The heat was unbearable,” said Carol Solano, junior, who was taking a class in the library from 3:00 to 3:50 p.m. “It was nearly impossible to focus on my test. Without ventilation, the class, smell was difficult to handle.”

Furras was pleased with the fast response by FPL.

“FPL responded as quickly as they could and fixed it as quickly as they could,” he said.

As students entered Biscayne Bay Campus’ Glenn Hubert Library, they were greeted by a hand written sign announcing the building’s technical difficulties with the electrical system, which was not repaired until roughly 3:30 p.m. by the Florida, Power and Light Company.

Drug law case on fast track in Fla. Supreme Court

BILL KACZOR
Associated Press

A case that could result in the release of hundreds, if not thousands, of drug offenders is on a fast track in the Florida Supreme Court.

The state’s appeal of a Manatee County judge’s decision on Sept. 14, which struck down Florida’s drug law because it lacks a requirement for “guilty knowledge” of illegal narcotics, is running parallel with, but quicker than a similar federal case.

Just two weeks after the Manatee ruling, a three-judge state appellate panel sent the Manatee case to the Florida Supreme Court. The state’s appeal of a Manatee County judge’s decision on Sept. 14, which struck down Florida’s drug law because it lacks a requirement for “guilty knowledge” of illegal narcotics, is running parallel with, but quicker than a similar federal case.

A program started by the School of Environmental Arts and Sciences at Florida International University has brought clean drinking water to more than 20,000 people in Tanzania, and is in the process of doing the same for Rwanda.

Global Water for Sustainability is a program that aims to “promote the integrated management of water resources and aquatic resources worldwide,” as stated in its mission statement. With many success stories dating to 2005, GLOWs has spread to six countries in Africa, South America, and Europe.

FLU’s partners in the GLOWs consortium include USAID, World Wildlife Foundation, CARE and Water Aid America. Together, these programs work with scientists, government officials and students to create innovative ways to bring water to these sanitation-limited countries. Viviene Abot, program director in Tanzania, was able to witness that country’s progress, but says the discovery of a new tool will extend success throughout the world.

“Scientists have discovered a new well-drilling tool that only costs about $20,” Abot said. “It’s still in its infant stages but we have hired scientists to make this tool readily available. I’m certain it will be a success.”

Abot’s project, and perhaps the most recent success story of GLOWs, is titled Rwanda Integrated Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Program (iWASH). Its main objective is to increase sustainable access to water supply to poor rural and small town dwellers.

But Abot said that the root of the problem must be addressed.

“We’re trying to take a much more holistic view of the management and use of water,” Abot said. “Many programs focus only on water supply or water resource management, but very few programs try to take a more holistic view.”

Abot’s team works with the local water sanitation program there and trains the workers on how to maximize their supply of clean water.

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