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# Elmuccio wins 4th section title

By Jim Lambert

Matt Elmuccio became the first boy in state history to win four sectional titles when he finished first in 16:32 to lead Westfield, No. 4 in The Star-Ledger Cross-Country Top 15, to its sixth straight NJSIAA North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 championship yesterday at Warinanco Park, Elizabeth.

**BOYS X-C**

Westfield, the 1995 state Group 4 champion, averaged 17:12.6 to finish with 27 points. No. 7 Randolph was second with 43 and No. 13 Newark East Side was third with 58.

"I didn't even know about it," Elmuccio, bound for the University of Colorado said when told about the record. "The more important thing to me is that the team has won every year that I've won."

The top five teams and top 10 individuals in each group in each section qualified for the state group championships this coming Saturday at Holmdel Park. The Meet of Champions will be raced on Nov. 23 at Holmdel.

Sectional Saturday was not without controversy.

After review, East Brunswick and Hunterdon Central were declared co-champions in boys' Central Jersey, Group 4 at Holmdel Park.

Hunterdon Central and defending East Brunswick finished with 83 points each. Using the sixth-runner tie-breaker rule, East Brunswick would have won. But Freehold Township didn't submit its race cards within the 15 minutes allowed following the race and was disqualified. Freehold Township coach Kevin Donovan did not hand in the cards because he was attending to an injured runner on his team.

With Freehold Township's places deleted, the final score was announced as Hunterdon Central 81, East Brunswick 82.

East Brunswick coach Rick Murray approached meet director Beth Moroney about the situation and Moroney consulted with the appeals committee.

"Hunterdon Central by virtue of the final score should have won, but that wasn't fair," said Moroney. "East Brunswick ran better and would have won the tie-breaker had Freehold Township not been disqualified, so giving the trophy to Hunterdon Central would not have been fair. We decided that the only fair thing to do was to award a co-championship."

Coincidentally, Carol Parsons, an assistant director of the NJSIAA, stopped by the meet and Moroney recommended to her that the championship be shared and Parsons agreed.

"Once Carol made the decision it became official," said Moroney.

"Taking nothing away from Hunterdon Central, we got cheated out of the championship because of Freehold Township's mistake," said Murray. "But since the overall scoring already had Hunterdon Central winning the meet, it wouldn't be fair to take it away from them. So I have no problem sharing the title."

One race that was decided by a sixth-runner tie-breaker at Holmdel was in Group 3, where Ocean Township snapped North Hunterdon's streak of four titles. Both Ocean and North Hunterdon scored 81 points. Also in Central Jersey, Somerville won Group 2 and Metuchen nipped Henry Hudson, 40-42, in Group 1.

In North Jersey, Section 2 at Warinanco, Mt. Olive junior Steve Slattery moved one victory away from joining Elmuccio as a four-time champion by winning his third Group 3 title in 16:09 over the 3.2-mile course. No. 10 Morristown captured Group 3 to win its first sectional crown since 1987. In Group 2, Adam VanAntwerp retained his title in 17:12 to help Jefferson win its eighth championship. Sophomore Brian Saliter crossed first in 17:02 to lead Whippany Park to its second straight Group 1 championship and eighth title in the last nine years.

In the North Jersey, Section 1 meet at Garret Mountain in West Paterson, No. 2 Ridgewood defeated No. 12 Kearny, 53-67, to repeat in Group 4. Kearny senior Roger Munoz won the race for the third straight year in 16:17.7. Demarest repeated in Group 3, Westwood captured Group 2 and Palisades Park scored a sectional record for Group 1 with 20 points to win its third straight title.

In the South Jersey meet at Kingsway in Swedesboro, No. 8 Toms River East edged No. 4 Highland Regional, 94-96, to retain its Group 4 title, No. 6 Brick captured Group 3, Haddonfield repeated in Group 2 and Haddon Township grabbed first in Group 1.

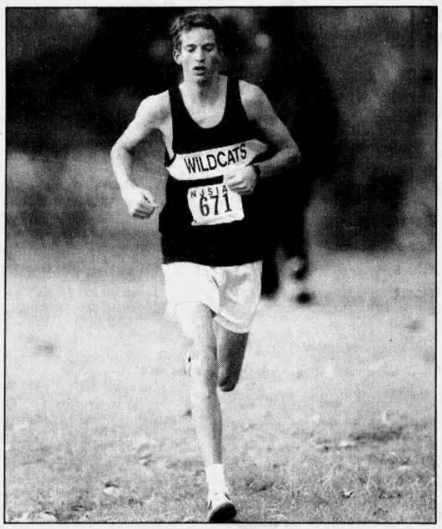


PHOTO BY SAM WHITE

**Brian Saliter of Whippany Park leads at the one-mile mark en route to victory in Group 1 race at state sectional cross country meet yesterday.**

PHOTO BY SAM WHITE

**The girls Group 4 race gets underway yesterday at Warinanco Park in Elizabeth.**

## BOYS SECTIONAL RESULTS

**NORTH JERSEY, SECTION 1**

**GROUP 4**

TEAMS: 1-Ridgewood 53. 2-Kearny 67. 3-Passaic 77. 4-Vernon 102. 5-North Bergen 135. 6-Ferris 164. 7-Hackensack 164. 8-Memorial (W.N.Y.) 176. 9-Clifton 264. 10-Passaic Tech 279. 11-Wayne Hills 333. 12-West Milford 339. 13-Dickinson 405.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Roger Munoz, Kearny 16:17.7. 2-Bernard Fraser, Passaic 16:42.7. 3-Tom Baldwin, Hackensack 16:46.0. 4-Eric Rogers, Ridgewood 16:48.5. 5-Angel Velez, Ferris 17:05.7. 6-Allan Lemmon, North Bergen 17:09.0. 7-Miguel Frade, Kearny 17:10.7. 8-Neil Burt, Ridgewood 17:11.3. 9-John Warren, Vernon 17:16.0. 10-David Drever, Ridgewood 17:18.1.

**GROUP 3**

TEAMS: 1-Demarest 65. 2-High Point 125. 3-Paramus 141. 4-Garfield 144. 5-Ramapo 155. 6-Old Tappan 184. 7-Sparta 185. 8-Passaic Valley 214. 9-Northern Highlands 268. 10-Tenafly 277. 11-Lincoln 301. 12-Wayne Valley 305. 13-Fort Lee 311. 14-Pascack Valley 333. 15-River Dell 351. 16-Lakeland 394. 17-Indian Hills 432. 18-Emerson (U.C.) 451.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Cary Snyder, Demarest 16:34.7. 2-Eamon O'Brien, Paramus 16:52.3. 3-Andres Cordero, Passaic Valley 17:01.1. 4-Joshua Magrievida, Hobcken 17:05.0. 5-Craig Giammona, Demarest 17:05.9. 6-Javian Quintana, Paramus 17:06.9. 7-Michael Hasan, Bergenfield 17:07.6. 8-Seth Holand, High Point 17:09.4. 9-Ken Jackman, Ramapo 17:17. 10-Martin Pankiewicz, Garfield 17:20.1.

**GROUP 2**

TEAMS: 1-Westwood 52. 2-Newton 109. 3-Kittatinny 111. 4-Ramsey 154. 5-New Milford 160. 6-Rutherford 165. 7-Dumont 196. 8-Harrison 203. 9-Mahwah 242. 10-Hopatcong 297. 11-Wallkill Valley 298. 12-Pascack Hills 308. 13-Sussex Tech 317. 14-Pompton Lakes 339. 15-Wood-Ridge/Hasbrouck Heights 340.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Russ Giancola, New Milford 16:50.9. 2-Matt Caporaletti, Westwood 16:59.3. 3-Steve Calijione, Mahwah 17:09.3. 4-Dave Finneran, Rutherford 17:16.9. 5-Matt VanLenten, Pompton Lakes 17:27.0. 6-Gilby Hawkins, Leonia 17:30.7. 7-Luke Hedges, Westwood 17:34.8. 8-Allen Rubel, Ramsey 17:46.7. 9-Greg Whitescarver, Hopatcong 17:47.9. 10-Luis Duarte, Lodi 17:50.0.

**GROUP 1**

TEAMS: 1-Palisades Park 20. 2-Bogota 72. 3-Glen Rock 77. 4-Secaucus 100. 5-Ridgefield 124. 6-Midland Park 183. 7-Waldwick 205. 8-Becton 205. 9-Cresskill 210.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Jeff Clark, Bogota 16:56.8. 2-Diego Gioffre, Palisades Park 17:09.8. 3-Hugo Juarez, Palisades Park 17:15.9. 4-Bobby Goers, Palisades Park 17:37.3. 5-Ron Gerhold, Emerson Borough 17:51.3. 6-Mark Sebastian, Palisades Park 17:59.3. 7-Jason Horn, Palisades Park 18:12.6. 8-Matt Lannin, Ridgefield 18:15.6. 9-Chris Murphy, Saddle Brook 18:24.8. 10-David Lunin, Park Ridge 18:40.6.

**NORTH JERSEY, SECTION 2**

**GROUP 4**

TEAMS: 1-Westfield 27. 2-Randolph 43. 3-East Side 58. 4-Phillipsburg 125. 5-Columbia 140. 6-West Orange 196. 7-Union 203. 8-Elizabeth 227. 9-Livingston 244. 10-Irvington 255. 11-Montclair 295. 12-Belleville 356.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Matt Elmuccio, Westfield 16:32. 2-Ryan Stefiuk, Westfield 17:07. 3-Abdallah Simaika, Westfield 17:10. 4-Andrew Adams, Randolph 17:14. 5-Brian Stuver, Randolph 17:17. 6-Joao Oliveira, East Side 17:27. 7-Adam Kerins, Randolph 17:28. 8-Paulo Oliveira, East Side 17:29. 9-Aarao Santos, East Side 17:33. 10-Mike Krug, Westfield 17:34.

**GROUP 3**

TEAMS: 1-Morristown 29. 2-Roxbury 74. 3-Cranford 90. 4-Mt. Olive 105. 5-West Morris 109. 6-Morris Knolls 182. 7-Scotch Plains 196. 8-Warren Hills 213. 9-Parsippany 226. 10-Nutley 244. 11-Montville 281.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Steve Slattery, Mt. Olive 16:10. 2-Tom DelSordo, Morristown 16:18. 3-Ryan Smith, Morristown 17:12. 4-Andy Boesgaard, Roxbury 17:15. 5-Russ Reed, Roxbury 17:23. 6-Kian Messkoub, Morristown 17:31. 7-Greg Beck, Parsippany 17:32. 8-Justin Frenzel, Morristown 17:36. 9-Mike Sellers, West Morris 17:44. 10-Adam Wilson, Morristown 17:49.

**GROUP 2**

TEAMS: 1-Jefferson 48. 2-Morris Hills 81. 3-Dover 89. 4-Chatham 134. 5-Caldwell 149. 6-Roselle 153. 7-Millburn 177. 8-Dayton Regional 180. 9-Mendham 210. 10-Summit 252. 11-Hillside 332. 12-Gov. Livingston 333. 13-Hanover Park 337. 14-Weequahic 341. 15-Hackettstown 352.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Adam VanAntwerp, Jefferson 17:12. 2-Andy Wallace, Caldwell 17:18. 3-Mike Lis, Dover 17:28. 4-Mike Firestone, Johnson Regional 17:35. 5-Helder Santos, Johnson Regional 17:40. 6-A.J. Adams, Roselle 17:43. 7-Brian Christ, Jefferson 17:46. 8-Erwin Ruff, Dover 17:47. 9-Brian Bergen, Caldwell 17:54. 10-Scott Davies, Dover 17:56.

**GROUP 1**

TEAMS: 1-Whippany Park 38. 2-Arts 66. 3-Kinnelon 68. 4-Madison 85. 5-New Providence 149. 6-North Warren 151. 7-Boonton 187. 8-Butler 210. 9-Cedar Grove 238. 10-Mountain Lakes 251. 11-Verona 260.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Brian Saliter, Whippany Park 17:03. 2-Edwin Lora, Arts 17:58. 3-Eric Prol, Kinnelon 18:04. 4-Pete Degnan, Whippany Park 18:31. 5-Mike Ford, Madison 18:33. 6-Matt Durante, Whippany Park 18:37. 7-Morgan Davies, Madison 18:38. 8-Kevin Iskra, North Warren 18:50. 9-Keith Win, Whippany Park 18:50. 10-David Straube, Kinnelon 19:10.

**CENTRAL JERSEY**

**GROUP 4**

TEAMS: 1-Hunterdon Central and East Brunswick 82. 3-Middletown South 86. 4-Old Bridge 98. 5-West Windsor 114. 6-J.P. Stevens 160. 7-Bridgewater-Raritan 162. 8-Edison 189. 9-Middletown North 194. 10-Hillsborough 267. 11-Manalapan 289. 12-Woodbridge 333.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Jon Fasulo, Hunterdon Central 16:37. 2-Skip Allen, Hunterdon Central 16:48. 3-Phil Vazquez, Edison 17:10. 4-Doug Riker, East Brunswick 17:16. 5-Rich Carriero, Middletown South 17:19. 6-James Belanger, West Windsor 17:27. 7-Davin Blackborow, East Brunswick 17:34. 8-Dan Babich, J.P. Stevens 17:36. 9-Luis Fonseca, J.P. Stevens 17:37. 10-Brian Cullaro, Middletown South 17:42.

**GROUP 3**

TEAMS: 1-Ocean Township 81 (tie-breaker). 2-North Hunterdon 81. 3-Hightstown 100. 4-South Brunswick 113. 5-Red Bank 217. 6-Franklin 229. 7-Lawrence 228. 8-Matawan 240. 9-Sayreville 260. 10-Neptune 276. 11-Nottingham 298. 12-Princeton 328. 13-Wall 332. 14-Steinert 353. 15-Monmouth Regional 361. 16-Watchung Hills 370. 17-North Brunswick 384. 18-Hamilton 421. 19-Ewing 427. 20-Perth Amboy 487. 20-Colonia 557.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Nathan Sisco, North Hunterdon 17:02. 2-Juan York, North Hunterdon 17:13. 3-Brad Keeton, Princeton 17:16. 4-Robert Mendez, Nottingham 17:19. 5-Louis Ruffetto, Ocean Township 17:19. 6-Dan Graham, Matawan 17:29. 7-Brian Wallace, Franklin 17:31. 8-Ryan Smith, Hightstown 17:34. 9-Scott Heslin, Hightstown 17:36. 10-Travis Graham, South Brunswick 17:37.

**GROUP 2**

TEAMS: 1-Somerville 71. 2-Ridge 103. 3-Carteret 111. 4-Holmdel 120. 5-Freehold Borough 161. 6-Allentown 163. 7-Delaware Valley 172. 8-Raritan 224. 9-Hopewell Valley 226. 10-Voorhees 230. 11-Rumson- 237. 12-Monroe 278. 13-Iselin Kennedy 330. 14-Manasquan 331. 15-Long Branch 449.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Steve Roman, Monroe 16:54. 2-Ricky Gibson, Ridge 16:55. 3-Jason DeAngelo, Carteret 17:07. 4-Marek Oleszczuk, Iselin Kennedy 17:16. 5-Simon Goldsmith, Somerville 17:44. 6-John Gottshalk, Somerville 17:49. 7-Nick Ricco, Voorhees 17:50. 8-Brian Schlomann, Holmdel 17:51. 9-Matt Hannay, Hopewell Valley 17:53. 10-Tim Harris, Holmdel 17:58.

**GROUP 1**

TEAMS: 1-Metuchen 40. 2-Henry Hudson 42. 3-Kearsburg 85. 4-Montgomery 91. 5-Bernards 112. 6-Shore Regional 151. 7-South River 202. 8-Middlesex 231. 9-Keyport 238. 10-South Amboy 274.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Jay McGovern, Henry Hudson 17:48. 2-Chris Piekarski, Metuchen 17:53. 3-Dave McGovern, Henry Hudson 17:56. 4-Sean Ryan, Metuchen 18:00. 5-Mike Gurzo, Metuchen 18:01. 6-Christian Blackmire, South River 18:15. 7-Shaun Bolger, Henry Hudson 18:23. 8-Dan Fiori, Montgomery 18:25. 9-Kevin Jordan, Shore Regional 18:26. 10-Tom Acconzo, Kearsburg 18:27.

**SOUTH JERSEY**

**GROUP 4**

TEAMS: 1-Toms River East 94. 2-Highland Regional 96. 3-Shawnee 106. 4-Overbrook 122. 5-Cherokee 128. 6-Eastern 170. 7-Triton 239. 8-Toms River North 240. 9-Lenape 246. 10-Washington Township 250. 11-Vineland 258. 12-Ocean City 259. 13-Southern 363. 14-Cherry Hill West 15-Jackson 383. 16-Millville 392. 17-Atlantic City 410. 18-Cherry Hill East 539.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Karl Savage, Eastern 15:25. 2-Matt Ruhl, Triton 15:48. 3-Murad Campbell, Overbrook 15:52. 4-Al Rispoli, Toms River East 15:55. 6-Mike Blair, Overbrook 15:57. 7-Brad Bisinger, Lenape 16:10. 8-Kevin Connor, Highland Regional 16:14. 9-Nick Ferrara, Toms River East 16:15. 10-Josh Reidenbaker, Shawnee 16:22.

**GROUP 3**

TEAMS: 1-Brick 51. 2-Toms River South 113. 3-Mainland 124. 4-Cumberland 148. 5-Absegami 154. 6-Pennsgrove Valley 157. 7-Manchester Township 180. 8-Williamstown 203. 9-Delsea 229. 10-Camden Wilson 245. 11-Middle Township 245. 12-Central Regional 301. 13-Egg Harbor 396. 14-Oakcrest 418. 15-Lower Cape May 423. 16-West Deptford 431. 17-Pemberton 445. 18-Lacey 456.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Ed Letts, Middle Township 15:42. 2-Mike Ratta, Brick 15:45. 3-Art Lathers, Middle Township 15:55. 4-Ian Hahn, Manchester Township 16:01. 5-Thirson Cox, Camden Wilson 16:03. 6-Chris Bromley, Mainland 16:04. 7-Pete Davis, Toms River South 16:06. 8-Craig MacInnes, Brick 16:08. 9-Jesse McDonald, Williamstown 16:13. 10-Bill Carroll, Mainland 16:28.

**GROUP 2**

TEAMS: 1-Haddonfield 57. 2-Kingsway 65. 3-Clearview 119. 4-Delran 176. 5-Buena 179. 6-Moorestown 184. 7-Bridgeton 187. 8-Point Pleasant Boro 206. 9-Pinelands 266. 10-Sterling 270. 11-Northern Burlington 271. 12-Deptford 282. 13-Cinnaminson 288. 14-Pleasantville 296. 15-Westampton Tech 415. 16-Collingswood 425. 17-Gateway 454. 18-Woodstown 466.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Eric Bonnette, Haddonfield 16:53. 2-Chris Armstrong, Deptford 16:06. 3-Ray Torres, Delran 16:21. 4-Vincent DeJesus, Pleasantville 16:23. 5-Sloan Fisk, Haddonfield 16:25. 6-Jason Grissom, Kingsway 16:28. 7-Bill Mason, Cinnaminson 16:38. 8-Ryan Reighn, Haddonfield 16:44. 9-Ryan Carmody, Haddonfield 16:47. 10-Nik Hale, Kingsway 16:50.

**GROUP 1**

TEAMS: 1-Haddon Township 49. 2-Maple Shade 67. 3-Point Pleasant Beach 98. 4-Riverside 136. 5-Schalick 165. 6-Pitman 171. 7-Burlington Township 179. 8-Paulsboro 195. 9-Widwood 224. 10-Medford Tech 238. 11-Woodbury 251. 12-Salem 306. 13-Penns Grove 312.

INDIVIDUALS: 1-Mike Fulton, Maple Shade 15:56. 2-Jonyong Pak, Haddon Township 16:15. 3-Frank Antonelli, Point Pleasant Beach 16:20. 4-Aaron Winkelspecht, Riverside 17:05. 5-Curtis MacNaill, Schalick 17:11. 6-Mike Procopio, Haddon Township 17:15. 7-Steve Varnum, Haddon Township 17:15. 8-Dave Prestwood, Burlington Township 17:17. 9-Dave Sitzer, Medford Tech 17:20. 10-Chris Soleau, Point Pleasant Beach 17:23.

GIRLS SECTIONAL RESULTS

## GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

# Randolph, Roxbury, Morris Hills triumph

By Jim Lambert

In a battle between the top two teams in the state, Shawnee, No. 1 in The Star-Ledger Top 15, averaged 19:05 and put four runners in the top 10 to defeat No. 2 Toms River East, 43-53, and retained its NJSIAA South Jersey, Group 4 girls' cross-country championship yesterday on Kingsway's flat course in Swedesboro.

Abbey Hartman of Ocean City, the 1995 Group 3 champion, won the South Jersey, Group 4 title in 17:49, the fastest time in yesterday's state competition. Also in South Jersey, Brick, the 1995 Group 3 champion, defended successfully, Point Pleasant Boro rolled in Group 2 and Schalick, second to Maple Shade last year, avenged that defeat with a 49-52 margin in Group. 1. Amy Beykirch of Pinelands, one of the favorites to win the state Meet of Champions, won the Group 2 title in 18:00.

The top 10 finishers in each group in each section qualified for Saturday's state group championships at Holmdel Park. The top three teams and 10 individuals who do not run for one of the qualifying teams will earn a ticket into the Meet of Champions on Nov. 23 at Holmdel.

In Central Jersey at HolmdelPark, No. 7 Hunterdon Central, withBeth Crawford winning in 19:56, defeated No. 12 Middletown South, 49-60, and No. 10 Bridgewater-Raritan was third with 89, in Group 4. Ocean Township, second last year, made it three titles in four years in Group 3. No. 5 Ridge, led by Meghann Ganey with a winning 20:00, repeated in Group 2. Metuchen captured its first title in Group 1.

In North Jersey, Section 1 at Garret Mountain in West Paterson, No. 13 Ridgewood, led by Celeste Sedo in a championship 19:24.3, edged No. 15 Hackensack, 33-39, to win its fifth straight Group 4 title. The outcome might have been different if Hackensack's Jackie Martin, All-State in 1994, didn't fall. Martin didn't finish the race.

Northern Highlands repeated in Group 3. Dana Satir finished first in 19:05.8 to lead No. 14 Ramsey to a successful defense in Group 2 and Bogota made it two straight in Group 1.

One of the tightest and most dramatic team battles occurred in North Jersey, Section 2 at Warinanco Park in Elizabeth, where No. 8 Randolph scored 41 points to edge 1994 and '95 champion Westfield, second with 44. Columbia, led by individual champion Catherine Casey, who ran 20:14, was third with 54. Randolph was a big favorite to win until All-State sophomore Stephanie Snyder was sidelined for the season with tendinitis in her right quadricep.

Leading Randolph's charge was sophomore Beth Jones, who ran her best race of the season. Jones was third in 20:21.

"Beth certainly was a big reason we won," said Randolph coach Len Pietrewicz. "We knew that Westfield and Columbia were going to be coming after us. I just told the team that we worked too hard to walk away with nothing. Losing Stephanie hurt us, but we knew we could still do it."

Morris County cleaned up at Warinanco by winning all four girls' titles and three of the four boys' championships.

Roxbury knocked off No. 6 Mt. Olive, 35-42, to win Group 3 and capture its first sectional title. Mt. Olive, which ran without freshman Marianne Herbst, who has pneumonia, had won three straight championships. One of the keys for Roxbury was freshman Jodi Boesgaard, who finished 15th in 22:10, six places ahead of Mt. Olive's fifth runner.

"She was the difference for us," said the first-year Roxbury coach, Bob Beers, whose team was third behind champion Mt. Olive and Randolph at last week's Morris County Championships. "We pointed to this meet all year and we were able to put it all together."

Cheryl Bauer continued her sensational sophomore season by winning the Group 2 race in 19:41 to lead Morris Hills to a 56-61 victory over defending Jefferson for its first sectional title since 1986. In Group 1, Whippany Park nipped Butler, 52-53.

PHOTO BY SAM WHITE

**Catherine Casey of Columbia crosses finish line to win Group 4 race in state sectionàl cross country meet yesterday**

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