

May 5th

1973

Cardiff Arms Park

National Stadium

Snelling Seven-a-side Tournament



President: Lord Brecon

Official Programme

Price 10p

CATCH THE BASS SPECIAL

... AFTER THE TOURNAMENT

Supplied by

**Welsh Brewers
LTD**

The Last Big Day of the Season

By J. B. G. THOMAS (Sports Editor, Western Mail)

It has been traditional for the top sixteen Welsh clubs, since 1954, that their season ends after the playing of the Snelling Sevens, normally held on the last Saturday of the season. However, this year it is being staged a few days after the end of the 1972-73 season, and is in direct competition with the F.A. Cup Final TV showing, which carries on almost throughout the day. Nevertheless, the Snelling Tournament Committee, with the ever cheerful Frank Trott as secretary, believes that rugby men will support today's Sevens as well as they have done the previous 19, and that the 20th "production" will be exciting.

The defenders of the Snelling Cup are Cardiff who won it last year when they beat Bridgend in the final, 15-4, and they expect to meet a strong challenge this year from Bridgend, Neath and Llanelli. One could argue that Llanelli will start as favourites in their Centenary Year, having beaten the All Blacks and carried off the WRU K.O. Challenge Cup last Saturday on the Cardiff Arms Park.

They should be able to field the Seven with the speediest back division and, this year, Cardiff will be without John Bevan but have the other six players of last year's Seven. Bridgend always do well in the tournament although they have won the Trophy only once, and have all of last year's players available. John Davies, of Cardiff, not included in the Cup final, was top scorer and player of the tournament last year, winning the Everson Award.

The surprise Club of last season was Glamorgan Wanderers. Their gallant seven got to the semi-final for the first time and received a splendid ovation from the crowd. It is the "surprise" nature of the tournament that makes it so interesting and one would like to see a new club in the final as in the early days, when Penarth (1956) and Abertillery (1957) almost beat Newport.

Following a season of misfortune one would like to see Newport do well, as they leave tomorrow for South Africa and a hard tour. Since this club did so much to launch the competition, one wishes them better luck today and no injuries to their players. In 19 years Newport have won the Snelling Sevens on nine occasions and Cardiff, their closest rivals, on four.

The tournament has been played regularly at the Cardiff Arms Park since 1964, when the most exciting of finals went to extra time, with Cardiff beating Newport 23-20 in glorious sunshine. It has been staged three times at Rodney Parade and four times at St. Helen's, but is now a firm fixture at the Arms Park, thanks to the kindness of the WRU, who now own the national ground. However, it has had to be put back a week, as the WRU do not wish their K.O. Cup final to clash with the F.A. Cup Final, as it did last season and also that it be played in the actual season as a 15 a side match.

Today's draw for the 1st Round is interesting with a cracking match to start the day, between Swansea and Neath, followed by another local "derby" between Ebbw Vale and Abertillery. In the third match, Maesteg, who met Cardiff in the second round last year, meet them in the first today. Poor Maesteg, they do not get the best of luck in the draw!

Glamorgan Wanderers, like Maesteg, face a fancied side in the first round, Llanelli with their considerable scoring potential, but if Cardiff and Llanelli get through the first round, they will clash in the second, and one fancies the winner of this match to reach the final.

In the bottom half of the draw, there should be a splendid match between Aberavon and Bridgend, and the "Wizards" with a young side could prove the "dark horses" of the tournament. Penarth play Newport; Newbridge meet Pontypool, and Cross Keys play Pontypridd. So everything is set for an exciting day!

A Drop of Water Please

The Snelling Sevens used to be an open tournament but after the strange happenings of the 1953 Final they wisely decided to confine the entry to Clubs they knew. It all started, because of the infuriating manner that Ewart Each-way, had of needling people into bets that he knew they couldn't win. He stood at the bar drinking his blood-red whisky and water, and drawled out his sarcastic challenge using his special needling voice, and his special needling face — a cross between Bernadette Devlin and George Saunders, and said "I'll bet you lot £500 a man, that you couldn't win the Snelling Sevens even if you had ten men". Dai Twice flushed with Worthy E and the fact that he had scored the Club's first try of the season — that morning — it was Boxing Day, took the challenge without thinking, and shook on it.

The enormity of the situation, caused a hurried meeting to be called next morning, and we brought in to advise us Gerry Weekes, who had the reputation of being something of a whizz-kid ever since he had driven first-time through the one-way system in Llanelli without getting booked. He was very good — but in the final count I reckon it was the water that did it. We were used to it, we got quite a laugh out of seeing peoples expressions when they got scarlet tea, or watched their whisky turning blood-red when they added the local water. It was quite harmless and didn't taste, but I am sure it was responsible for the fact that in a village of five hundred souls, we had twenty sets of identical twins and a couple of other genetic freaks — like Redwood Watkins who was eight foot tall and played centre forward for the village soccer team.

The team we picked was — Redwood Watkins, as line-out man, but since he couldn't handle, we developed a system whereby he jumped and headed the ball to the scrum-half, Mongolian Morgan, who had recently returned to the village from Vietnam, where he had been seconded to the South Korean Brigade, was selected as hooker, and the other prop was Counterweight Williams so-called because he worked at the local open-cast mine and due to his enormous weight was employed to sit on the rear end of the excavator to balance the weight of the loaded shovel. At scrum half we played the only chap in the club with first-class experience. He had played once for Aberavon against Neath because no-other scrum half would play and for the same reason he played once for Neath against Aberavon. After each match he didn't play again for the rest of the season.

The rest of the team was made up of Dai Twice, Tommy Twice and Dicky Twice. The trainer was Redwood Williams's father — Eiffel Williams, sometimes called Tower.

The tactics were brilliant in their simplicity. We banked very heavily on that dread of all Tournament Secretaries, the fear of running over time and spoiling their carefully planned Schedules. All referees are warned of this.

By using a double-headed coin we arranged to win all the tosses. We would invite the opposition to kick off and we would then deliberately knock the ball on. At the first scrum, Mongolian Morgan, by using a little-known Korean form of

Karate involving Acupuncture, would, by applying pressure with his head on the opposing hookers clavicle and sticking a pin in his back — temporarily paralyse his hooking leg, of course he went off.

Simultaneously all the backs except the scrum half were to start running, non-stop, in figures of eight across the pitch. They had to keep this up for three minutes. When the ball came back to the scrum half, as it was bound to — he would kick it as hard as he could to touch. Since he always sliced it, it usually went over the stand. Of course the referee couldn't add on all the time he wasted so the ball was out of play for most of the three minutes.

If, as actually happened, the opposition got the ball they were so bemused by the antics of the other three backs that they inevitably dropped it or knocked on. This way we managed to get the only try of each game we played.

At half-time, Eiffel Williams came on wearing his World War I Great coat, which reached to his knees. Under this was Tommy Twice, Dicky Twice and Dai Twice's identical twin brothers. They proceeded to do what their brothers did in the first half. Their brothers were taken to a waiting ambulance, to an oxygen tent, to recuperate.

Of course the Snelling Committee were not too pleased that we took the Cup, and they altered the entry rules the following season. By this time, the victorious Seven had long since departed by jet, using their £500, to follow the Lions Tour. The fact that there were ten of them and they only bought seven tickets was irrelevant. Fooling Air Hostesses is easy if you're an identical twin.

DOUBLE DAI

Edwin Field Finance

(an Associated Co. of EDWIN FIELD & Co. Est. 1929)

Westbury House, Penuel Lane,

Pontypridd

Tel: 404041 (10 lines)

INCORPORATED MORTGAGE & FINANCE BROKERS

Private H/P on Vehicles not more than 5 years old

Mortgages for Residential and Commercial Properties

Life Assurances/Investment Consultants

also at 202 HIGH STREET, BLACKWOOD Tel: 2097

Teams and Players in Today's Matches

ABERAVON

Colours: Red and Black

Alan Phillips	...	...	...	1
Richie Davies	...	...	...	2
Ogwyn Alexander	...	...	...	3
Graham Wyatt	...	...	...	4
Clive Shell	...	...	...	5
Alan Rees	...	...	...	6
Ffrangcon Owen	...	...	...	7
John Bevan	...	...	...	8
Steve Roper	...	...	...	9
Colin Beynon	...	...	...	10

CROSS KEYS

Colours: Black and White

Graham Ship	...	...	...	1
Bobby Windsor	...	...	...	2
Les Ship	...	...	...	3
David Finch	...	...	...	4
Glyn Bram	...	...	...	5
Phil Watkins	...	...	...	6
Mike Partridge	...	...	...	7
Gareth Evans	...	...	...	8
David Davies	...	...	...	9
Brian Anthony	...	...	...	10

ABERTILLERY

Colours: Green and White

Robert Jones	...	...	...	1
Dawson Jones	...	...	...	2
Paul Williams	...	...	...	3
Martin Brickell	...	...	...	4
John Jenkins	...	...	...	5
Keith Weeks (Capt.)	...	...	...	6
Mike Shottle	...	...	...	7
Adrian Rees	...	...	...	8
Adrian Barwood	...	...	...	9
Robert Harris	...	...	...	10

EBBW VALE

Colours: Red, White and Green

Clive Burgess	...	...	...	1
Graham Evans	...	...	...	2
Brian Leas	...	...	...	3
Glyn Turner	...	...	...	4
Mike Grindle	...	...	...	5
David Rees	...	...	...	6
Ray Parry	...	...	...	7
Lawson Jones	...	...	...	8
Russell Shurmer	...	...	...	9
Ken Barnes	...	...	...	10

BRIDGEND

Colours: Blue and White Stripes

David Morris	...	...	...	13
Doug Schick	...	...	...	12
Vivian Jenkins	...	...	...	11
Ian Lewis	...	...	...	10
Alan Thomas	...	...	...	9
Billy Pole	...	...	...	1
Gwyn Lloyd	...	...	...	2
Peter Williams	...	...	...	3
Tony Hodge	...	...	...	4
Derek Brain	...	...	...	5

GLAMORGAN WANDERERS

Colours: Camb. Blue, Black, White

Mike Thomas	...	...	...	1
Phil Adamson	...	...	...	2
Paddy Keepings	...	...	...	3
Tommy Coombes	...	...	...	4
Terry O'Gorman (Capt.)	...	...	...	5
Graham Arscott	...	...	...	6
Neil Brown	...	...	...	7
Gwyn Williams	...	...	...	8
Mike Dwyer	...	...	...	9
John Rickets	...	...	...	10

CARDIFF

Colours: Cambridge Blue and Black

John Bevan	...	...	...	14
Keith James	...	...	...	13
Wayne Lewis	...	...	...	12
Alex Finlayson	...	...	...	11
John Regan	...	...	...	10
John Davies	...	...	...	9
Carl Smith	...	...	...	5
Roger Lane	...	...	...	6
Gary Davies	...	...	...	8
Mervyn John	...	...	...	7

LLANELLI

Colours: Scarlet

Hefin Jenkins	...	...	...	8
Arwyn Reynolds	...	...	...	2
Gareth Jenkins	...	...	...	7
Selwyn Williams	...	...	...	9
Phil Bennett	...	...	...	10
Roy Bergiers	...	...	...	13
John Williams	...	...	...	14
Ton David	...	...	...	6
Barnard Thomas	...	...	...	12
Andy Hill	...	...	...	11

Teams and Players in Today's matches

MAESTEG

Colours: Black and Amber

Ceulanydd Williams	...	...	...	15
Glyn Lee	...	...	...	14
Glyn Griffiths	...	...	...	13
Phillip Phillips	...	...	...	12
Phillip Griffiths	...	...	...	11
John Davies	...	...	...	10
Alan Roberts	...	...	...	9
Jeff Protheroe	...	...	...	8
John Morgan	...	...	...	5
Lyndon Bowen	...	...	...	3

PENARTH

Colours: Royal Blue

Ray Taylor	...	...	...	1
John Jenkins	...	...	...	2
Mike Edwards	...	...	...	3
Paul Humphries	...	...	...	4
Terry Ellis	...	...	...	5
Terry Patterson	...	...	...	6
Alan Stamp	...	...	...	7
Alan Tame	...	...	...	8
David Davies	...	...	...	9
David Ings	...	...	...	10

NEATH

Colours: Black with White Maltese Cross

Wyn Davies	...	...	...	1
Gwynfor Higgins	...	...	...	2
Peter Davies	...	...	...	3
Martin Davies	...	...	...	4
Roy Lewis	...	...	...	5
Dave Morris	...	...	...	6
Billy Lauder	...	...	...	7
Ian Hopkins	...	...	...	8
Norman Rees	...	...	...	9
Stuart Hodgson	...	...	...	10

PONTYPOOL

Colours: Red, White and Black Hoops

Brian Gregory	...	...	...	1
Mike Harrington	...	...	...	2
Mervyn Fudge	...	...	...	3
Graham Price	...	...	...	4
John Davies	...	...	...	5
Derek Thomas	...	...	...	6
Phil Waters	...	...	...	7
Richie Pugh	...	...	...	8
Bob Thomas	...	...	...	9
Chris Bradshaw	...	...	...	10

NEWBRIDGE

Colours: Blue and Black Hoops

Mike Dowling	...	...	...	1
Gerald Rodwell	...	...	...	2
Clive Davis	...	...	...	3
Gareth John	...	...	...	4
Jeffrey Martin	...	...	...	5
Anthony Browning	...	...	...	6
Paul Edwards	...	...	...	7
Brian Hawkins	...	...	...	8
Terry Francis	...	...	...	9
James McCreedy	...	...	...	10

PONTYPRIDD

Colours: Black and White Hoops

Steve Parsons	...	...	...	1
Afron Jones	...	...	...	2
Huw Davies	...	...	...	3
Ray Hughes	...	...	...	4
Colin Bolderson	...	...	...	5
Jeff Hazzard	...	...	...	6
Alan Candy	...	...	...	7
Bob Penberthy	...	...	...	8
Dennis John (Capt.)	...	...	...	9
John Lewis	...	...	...	10

NEWPORT

Colours: Black and Amber

John Jeffery	...	...	...	1
David Ford	...	...	...	2
Richard Barrell	...	...	...	3
Geoff Cartwright	...	...	...	4
Paul Evans	...	...	...	5
Norman Edwards	...	...	...	6
Stephen Willis	...	...	...	7
Richard Taylor	...	...	...	8
Mark McJennett	...	...	...	9
Gareth Talbot	...	...	...	10

SWANSEA

Colours: All White

Hywel Griffiths	...	...	...	1
Alan Mages	...	...	...	2
Phil Llewellyn	...	...	...	3
Darryl Cole	...	...	...	4
Roger Blyth	...	...	...	5
Robert Dyer	...	...	...	6
David Richards	...	...	...	7
A. N. Other	...	...	...	8
Trevor Evans	...	...	...	9
Geoff Wheel	...	...	...	10

THE SEVEN-A-SIDE TOURNAMENT, 1973 for the "SNELLING" CHALLENGE CUP and the "BILL EVERSON" AWARD

FIRST ROUND			SECOND ROUND			SEMI-FINAL			FINAL		
Match											
1	SWANSEA	(A)	9	SWANSEA	(A)	13	SWANSEA	(A)	15	LLANELL	(A)
	NEATH	(B)									
12.00 noon (Ref: D. O. Hughes)											
2	EBBW VALE	(A)			(B)	2.40 p.m. (Ref: D. M. Davies)					
	ABERTILLERY	(B)									
12.20 p.m. (Ref: C. G. Jones)											
3	CARDIFF	(A)	10		(A)		LLANELL	(B)			
	MAESTEG	(B)									
12.40 p.m. (Ref: D. M. Davies)											
4	GLAM. WANDERERS	(A)			(B)	4.10 p.m. (Ref: K. Rowlands)				LLANELL	
	LLANELLI	(B)									
1.0 p.m. (Ref: W. Hitchings)			3.0 p.m. (Ref: D. O. Hughes)								
5	ABERAVON	(A)	11		(A)				5.30 p.m. (Ref: E. M. Lewis)		LLANELL
	BRIDGEND	(B)									
1.20 p.m. (Ref: K. Rowlands)											
6	PENARTH	(A)			(B)	14	BRIDGEND	(A)			
	NEWPORT	(B)									
1.40 p.m. (Ref: H. J. K. Watkins)			3.20 p.m. (Ref: C. G. Jones)								
7	NEWBRIDGE	(A)	12		(A)		NEWBRIDGE	(B)			
	PONTYPOOL	(B)									
2.0 p.m. (Ref: C. Thomas)											
8	CROSS KEYS	(A)			(B)	4.30 p.m. Ref: C. Thomas)					
	PONTYPRIDD	(B)									
2.20 p.m. (Ref: E. M. Lewis)			3.40 p.m. (Ref: W. Hitchings)								

Interval Match

5.0 p.m.

Ref: H. Watkins

The Trophies will be presented immediately after the Final.

By relating the letters A and B in each match to the scoreboard spectators will be able to follow details of the score
Between the last Semi-Final and Final Games, the Final of the Cardiff Schools under 11's Seven-a-Side Tournament will be played

INTERNATIONALLY YOURS !

Seer Sports International

**56 COWBRIDGE ROAD EAST, CARDIFF
Tel: 24880**

**We supply the Sports Stars !
May we supply you ?**

THE LARGEST RANGE OF SPORTS TROPHIES IN WALES!

Seer Sports (Trophies) Ltd.

**54 COWBRIDGE ROAD EAST, CARDIFF
Tel: 25306**

**SUPPLIERS OF THE 'SNELLING SEVENS' AWARDS and
THE WELSH RUGBY UNION CHALLENGE CUP AWARDS**

Special discounts for Clubs. Send now for free Catalogues!

KEEP THE NATIONAL STADIUM TIDY

KEEP WALES TIDY

**We would like to thank the Cardiff Battalion of the Boys Brigade —
litter Defence Volunteers**

Bill Everson Award Winners

Six players have won the Bill Everson Award as the star man of the Snelling Sevens since the trophy was instituted in 1967. Appropriately, David Watkins was the first winner. The award perpetuates the name of a great secretary of the Newport club, and it was the dynamic little Newport outside half who took the prize as he inspired his side to a 21-15 victory over Cardiff in the final.

In 1968, Bridgend wing John Williams, who joined Llanelli this season and gained his Welsh cap as a replacement player in France, scored seven tries to win the award. Then Barry John was the star in 1969 with his record of 36 points in the tournament as Cardiff piped Llanelli for the title 18-15. In 1970, Neath's darting Dai Parker, the 5 ft. 2 in. scrum half, was the winner as his team beat Ebbw Vale in the final.

Llanelli's John Thomas became the trophy-winner in 1971 for his superb tactical control. The Stradey Park club triumphed 31-10 against Newport in the final on that occasion. Last season, John Davies, the Army full back, figured in the scrum half role for Cardiff to help them regain the Snelling Cup and earn himself the Everson Award as the outstanding player.

Telephone: Pontypridd 3235

GRAIGWEN SERVICE STATION LIMITED

PANTYGRAIGWEN ROAD, PONTYPRIDD

M.O.T. TESTING STATION



'Anyone for BP?'

There's more to BP than just keeping the oil flowing. Plastics, chemicals, agriculture, shipping — there are very few games we don't play. We're winners in most of them, too.

Here's hoping your luck's as good as ours!



BP Worldwide



Cardiff, winners of the 1972 Snelling Challenge Cup at the Arms Park National Stadium. Left to right: Wayne Lewis, John Bevan, Roger Lane, John Regan (capt), Mervyn John, John Davies, Gary Davies.

W. J. MAHONEY & Sons Ltd.

SCRAP IRON and METAL MERCHANTS

all communications to be sent to:

15 RALPH STREET, COEDPENMAEN

GOOD PRICES GIVEN FOR COPPER AND

OTHER NON-FERROUS METAL

SPOT CASH WAITING — CASHBUYERS OF ALL SCRAP
REGISTERED LOCAL AUTHORITY COLLECTORS OF WASTE

**COEDPENMAEN WORKS, COEDPENMAEN WHARF,
PONTYPRIDD, Glam.**

Tel: PONTYPRIDD 402491

RULES OF THE TOURNAMENT

1. The game shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Welsh Rugby Union.
2. The Tournament shall be played on the knock-out principle, the Clubs being drawn against one another by ballot.
3. The duration of each game, before the final game, will be fifteen minutes, i.e., seven minutes each way with one minute interval at half-time. In the event of no decision being reached after fifteen minutes play, the teams shall change over and continue playing until one side scores, such side being the winners, ends being changed every seven minutes if necessary. In extra time there will be no intervals. The final tie will be played for ten minutes each way, with an interval of two minutes at half-time.
4. A scrummage will be formed by not less than three players on each side.
5. Teams must be prepared to turn out at the time stated on the Official Programme or at such time as indicated by the Tournament Sub-Committee. In the event any team refusing to so turn out they will be automatically disqualified and their opponents declared the winners.
6. Each team will be represented by 10 players whose names shall be furnished to the Organising Official in charge of the Tournament at least one hour before their first tie and from which seven must be nominated for the first tie and the same seven must play throughout the Tournament except in the case of injury when an injured player may be substituted (on the decision of the Medical Officer in attendance) by one of the other nominated players. No injured player, if substituted, can take any further part in the Tournament. No substitutes will be allowed during the course of a tie.
7. The Committee reserve the right to give their decision on any point which may arise in the interpretation of these rules, and this decision shall be final.
8. The decision of the referee on all questions relative to play shall be final.
9. The times stated on the programme are only approximate. The Committee do not bind themselves that the ties will be played at the time stated.

**This programme is sponsored
by B.P. in Wales**

PREVIOUS WINNERS

1954	Newport beat Ebbw Vale 6-0 (Newport)
1955	Cardiff beat Newport 8-3 (Newport)
1956	Newport beat Penarth 5-3 (Swansea)
1957	Newport beat Abertillery 11-8 (Swansea)
1958	Ebbw Vale beat Newport 10-5 (Cardiff)
1959	Newport beat Pontypool 6-3 (Newport)
1960	Llanelli beat Penarth 14-10 (Cardiff)
1961	Newport beat Pontypool 8-3 (Cardiff)
1962	Newport beat Neath 19-3 (Swansea)
1963	Newport beat Bridgend 8-0 (Cardiff)
1964	Neath beat Cardiff 10-5 (Cardiff)
1965	Newport beat Newbridge 9-8 (Swansea)
1966	Cardiff beat Newport *23-20 (Cardiff)
1967	Newport beat Cardiff 21-15 (Cardiff)
1968	Bridgend beat Pontypool 25-5 (Cardiff)
1969	Cardiff beat Llanelli 18-15 (Cardiff)
1970	Neath beat Ebbw Vale 18-8 (Cardiff)
1971	Llanelli beat Newport 31-10 (Cardiff)
1972	Cardiff beat Bridgend 15-4 (Cardiff)

* indicates extra time

WANT A BET ?

REMEMBER THE NAME!

**DEREK PUGH
(RACING) LTD.**

•

Prices quoted on any event

For details of credit accounts

Phone Newport 63816

Printing

**PROVINCIAL
PRINTING
& PUBLISHING
CO., LTD.**



FERRY ROAD, CARDIFF
Telephone 28729

WE SPECIALISE IN PROGRAMME PRINTING