

= David Bedell @-@ Sivright =

David Revell " Darkie " Bedell @-@ Sivright (8 December 1880 ? 5 September 1915) was a Scottish international rugby union forward who captained both Scotland and the British Isles . Born in Edinburgh , and educated at Fettes College where he learned to play rugby , he studied at Cambridge University and earned four Blues playing for them in the Varsity Match . He was first selected for Scotland in 1900 in a match against Wales . After playing in all of Scotland 's Home Nations Championship matches in 1901 , 1902 and 1903 , Bedell @-@ Sivright toured with the British Isles ? now known as the British and Irish Lions ? side that toured South Africa in 1903 . After playing the first 12 matches of the tour , he was injured and so did not play in any of the Test matches against South Africa .

The next year Bedell @-@ Sivright was appointed captain for the British Isles team that toured Australia and New Zealand . Due to a broken leg he played only one Test match during the tour ? against Australia ? but was involved in a notable incident during a non @-@ Test match . Despite not playing , Bedell @-@ Sivright pulled the British team from the field for 20 minutes after disputing the decision by a local referee to send @-@ off one of their players . Bedell @-@ Sivright eventually allowed his side to resume play , but without their ejected teammate .

Following the tour Bedell @-@ Sivright briefly settled in Australia , before returning to Scotland to study medicine . He captained Scotland against the touring New Zealanders in 1905 , and in 1906 helped his country defeat the visiting South Africans 6 ? 0 . After retiring from international rugby in 1908 he went on to become Scotland 's amateur boxing champion . A surgeon by profession , he joined the Royal Navy during the First World War , and died on active service during the Gallipoli Campaign .

Bedell @-@ Sivright had a reputation as an aggressive and hard rugby player , as well as a ferocious competitor . He was an inaugural inductee into the Scottish Rugby Hall of Fame , and in 2013 was inducted into the International Rugby Board (IRB) Hall of Fame .

= = Personal history = =

David Bedell @-@ Sivright was born in Edinburgh in 1880 to William Henry Revell Bedell @-@ Sivright of North Queensferry . Bedell @-@ Sivright was educated at Fettes College. before going to Trinity College , Cambridge in 1899 to read medicine . He later completed his medical training at the University of Edinburgh . His brother John played for Cambridge University RFC , and gained a single international cap in 1902 .

There are many tales surrounding Bedell @-@ Sivright , and it is difficult to separate fact from fiction . He had a reputation for aggression , and in 1909 became Scottish amateur boxing champion . After one international he rugby tackled a cart horse in Princes Street in Edinburgh after apparently laying down on a city tram track ? this held up the traffic for an hour as no policeman would approach him . It is not clear exactly where Bedell @-@ Sivright picked up the nickname " Darkie " . One explanation is that it was due to " cynical " tactics he employed as captain , the other is that it was due to the dark rings around his eyes .

On 25 January 1915 Bedell @-@ Sivright was commissioned as a surgeon in the Royal Navy . He was posted to the Hawke Battalion of the Royal Naval Division stationed at Gallipoli during the Dardanelles Campaign in May 1915 . He was loaned to the Royal Scots Fusiliers from 8 to 20 June , and was then posted to the Portsmouth Battalion of Royal Marine Light Infantry . After a period onshore in the trenches while serving at an advanced dressing station , he was bitten by an unidentified insect . He complained of being fatigued and was taken offshore and transferred to the hospital ship HMHS Dunluce Castle . Two days later , on 5 September , he died of septicaemia and was buried at sea off Cape Helles . He is commemorated on the Portsmouth Naval Memorial .

= = Rugby career = =

Bedell @-@ Sivright learned his rugby while a student at Fettes College , but first came to note as a

player when he represented Cambridge University in the Varsity matches ? contested against Oxford University ? between 1899 and 1902 ; this won him four sporting Blues . He was first capped for Scotland in 1900 in a match against Wales at St Helen 's , Swansea . The match was a turning point for Welsh rugby , who won 12 ? 3 , but the selectors stuck with Bedell @-@ Sivright who won another 21 caps for his country . He is the only Scottish player to have won three Triple Crowns ? wins over Ireland , Wales and England within the same Home Nations Championship (now the Six Nations) ? in 1901 , 1903 and 1907 .

In 1903 Bedell @-@ Sivright was selected for his first match with invitational touring side the Barbarians . He played a total of five games for the side between 1903 and 1907 , and captained them against Cardiff RFC in 1907 .

Bedell @-@ Sivright was later chosen to tour with two different British Isles teams . The first was the 1903 tour of South Africa under the captaincy of fellow Scottish international Mark Morrison . Although at the centre of the British Isles pack , Beddel @-@ Sivright did not play in any of the test matches . He played in the first 12 tour matches , where the team won six and lost six , but was injured thereafter .

In 1904 , at the request of the England Rugby Board (known as the Rugby Football Union) , Bedell @-@ Sivright was selected to lead a British Lions team on a tour of Australia and New Zealand . He only played in one Test , against Australia , because of a broken leg , but the team did go undefeated in Australia ? winning all their matches there , and the three Test matches 17 ? 0 , 17 ? 3 and 16 ? 0 . A notable incident on the Australian leg of the tour was a dispute between the British side and one of the Australian referees . The referee ? Hugh Dolan ? had ordered off British Isles player Denys Dobson after claiming Dobson had directed a personal insult at him . Bedell @-@ Sivright was not playing , but pulled his team from the field for 20 minutes while disputing the decision with Dolan and the other officials . Eventually the British side returned to play , but without Dobson . Following the match Bedell @-@ Sivright accused the referee of incompetence , and an inquiry eventually cleared Dobson of using indecent language , but he became the first British Isles player ever ordered off .

The five @-@ match New Zealand leg of the tour was far less successful for the British team . The tourists won their first two matches , but their third ? the sole Test against New Zealand ? was lost 9 ? 3 . Bedell @-@ Sivright did not play in the Test after injuring himself in the teams ' first New Zealand tour match , but blamed that loss , and their subsequent draw and loss (the final loss was 13 ? 0 to Auckland) on fatigue after their tour of Australia . According to a New Zealand newspaper , Bedell @-@ Sivright only ever claimed his side was " stale " after a loss , and never before . A New Zealand representative side was scheduled to tour the British Isles in 1905 , and Bedell @-@ Sivright did not report favourably on their chances of success . This may have contributed to the Home Nations underestimating the All Blacks ? as the 1905 team become known ? who ended up winning all but one of their 35 matches .

Bedell @-@ Sivright was so impressed with Australia that he decided to settle there . After a year he became bored of jackarooing (stock @-@ rearing) , and decided to leave and head back to Scotland to study medicine . While studying in Edinburgh he joined the Edinburgh University RFC ? captaining them for two seasons in 1906 ? 07 and 1908 ? 09 . He had returned to Scotland in time to face the touring New Zealanders , and so he captained his country against them at Inverleith . The All Blacks had not been troubled in any of their previous matches on tour , scoring 612 points , and conceding only 15 . Rugby writer Winston McCarthy described the Scottish forwards as " fast , vigorous and good dribblers " , and they led 7 ? 6 at half @-@ time . However the New Zealanders were the better team , and scored six unanswered points in the second half to win 12 ? 6 .

In 1906 the South Africans were touring the British Isles , and Bedell @-@ Sivright was selected for the Scotland side that defeated them 6 ? 0 . This was the last Home Nations team to defeat South Africa in nearly 60 years . Hence he became the first Home Nations ' player to contest a Test match against each of Australia , New Zealand , and South Africa .

Bedell @-@ Sivright was one of the inaugural inductees into the Scottish Rugby Hall of Fame in 2010 , and in 2013 was inducted into the IRB Hall of Fame in a ceremony that honoured players from the British and Irish Lions (as the British Isles team is now known) and Australia during that

year 's Lions tour of Australia . Edinburgh University RFC have a scholarship in Bedell @-@ Sivright 's honour ; the scholarships of between £ 500 and £ 2000 per year are intended " to attract the best young talent in the UK [United Kingdom] to play and study at The University of Edinburgh " .

Writing in 1919 , rugby journalist and author E. H. D. Sewell said of Bedell @-@ Sivright " If a plebiscite was taken on the question : " Who was the hardest forward who ever played International football ? " Sivright would get most votes if the voting was confined to players , and probably so in any event . " Bedell @-@ Sivright is described as one of the " hardest " men to ever play for Scotland , with author Nick Oswald ? who wrote a book on the history of Scottish rugby ? describing him as " a very aggressive forward . He didn 't excel in any one aspect of the game , but he was an absolutely ferocious competitor . " On hearing of his death , it was reported that :

= = International record = =