

Buffalo Can/Am 7s:

Steel Valley

by Lex Maccubbin

Buffalo, NY

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Steel Valley (Youngstown, Ohio) cruised to a 26-14 victory over the Syracuse Chargers to take the Cup championship of the Buffalo Can/Am 7s. The score was tied 14-14 at the half, but Steel Valley pulled ahead after the intermission for the win.

Prelims

Ten teams were grouped into three pools, two in the Midwest Qualifier division and one in the Open division. After round robin play, Steel Valley, Syracuse and Buffalo advanced to the Cup round.

Steel Valley and Buffalo were paired to determine the winner of the Midwest Qualifier, with Steel Valley winning easily, 26-5.

Syracuse played three pool games in the Open division, beating Lake Erie Exiles, Buffalo II and Barracks Rangers by a combined score of 67-17. With a 3-0 record, the Chargers advanced to the Cup championship game.

Plate

In the Plate division, the Pittsburgh Harlequins struggled to beat the Lake Erie Exiles 17-12 in overtime. The game ended with a Lake Erie player being tackled 5 yards from the line. The Harlequins won

the ruck and moved the ball the length of the field, where Eagle trialist Brian Vohasky scored the winning try.

Bowl

In the Bowl division, Salem-Teikyo University beat the Barracks Rangers 17-5. Although outmatched physically most of the day, the undergraduates of Salem-Teikyo battled gallantly and were finally rewarded with a trophy for their efforts.

Thanks

The Buffalo Can/Am 7s committee wants to thank referees Jim Dale (NYS), Franz Röss (NYS), Jim McCann (NRU), Les Judge (NRU) and Bob Wier (NRU). Thanks also go out to the Gargoyle for their loyal support and the Buffalo Parks Department.

The 1997 Buffalo Can/Am 7s will be held on June 28. Interested teams should contact Lex Maccubbin 716-873-6453 or by e-mail at: Maccubbin@sc3101.med.buffalo.edu.