

OPMs lift sevens title at Brickfields



CITY outfit OPMs ended their season with a piece of silverware in the trophy cabinet after all by lifting the Plymouth Combination Sevens trophy.

The Devon One side missed out on a crack at the Devon Junior Cup over a fixtures wrangle.

The city club were ejected by the RFU after allegedly failing to fulfil a fixture on the correct date.

That meant their opponents Cullompton, from the higher Cornwall/Devon League, received a bye into the final.

The club's reserve side, the Jesters, also just failed to win the Ellis Cup, losing out to DHSOB seconds.

OPMs had to overcome stern

by PHIL STONEHAM

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opposition from an Ivybridge side in the final of the competition, played at Brickfields.

The event, which attracted 13 teams, saw Services colts lose 17-5 in a close game to the eventual winners OPMs, while the Gypsies lost 19-15 to Ivybridge in the main competition.

The final was level at half time, but OPMs just managed to pull ahead of Ivybridge after the break with a couple of quick tries to make it 26-14.

Ivybridge came back strongly and put pressure on the OPMs' line. They scored to make it 28-19, but left it too late to snatch the trophy from their opponents.

The semi-finals of the plate

competition saw Plymouth Civil Service, in their last-ever game, go down to OPMs Jesters 24-0 and DHSOB Sharks losing 29-0 to Devonport Services Barbarians.

The plate final saw Services Barbarians running riot against the Jesters to win comfortably, 52-12.

DHSOB coach and Combination representative Mike Freeman said the competition had been a good finale to the regular season.

He said: "It was played in a good spirit and there was some good rugby.

"I would say OPMs deserved to win it - in Neil Bellamy they had the player of the tournament."

Freeman thanked Plymouth Albion for allowing the Combination to use the pitches at Brickfields.

TRY SCORER: OPMs Jay Lawrence collects his own chip forward to score a great try, while (above) a Stonehouse Sharks player attempts to beat Argaum opponents to the ball

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