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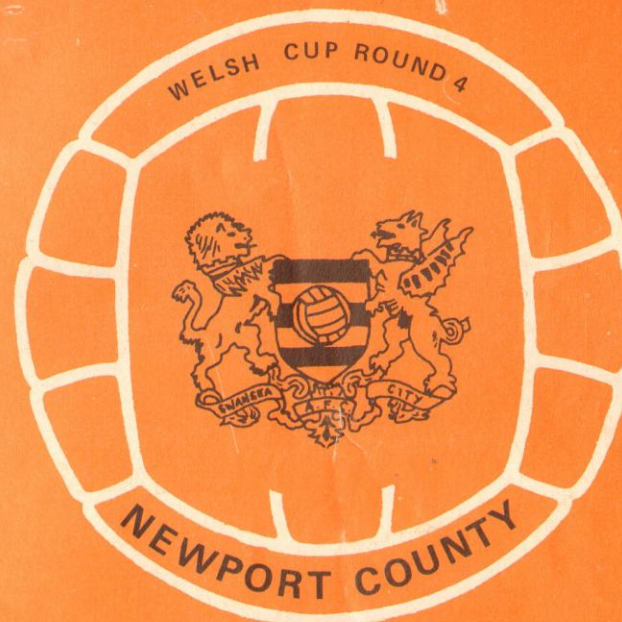
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TUESDAY JAN. 9th 1973 K. O. 7.30 p.m.

MATCH DAY MAGAZINE

7p

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Harry Gregg says . . .

Tonight, I hope, will be the start of a new chapter in my football career. The road back to a part of the game I love, European football. The chance to march into the 'Lions' Den' of football on the Continent is an experience I loved as a player. Now I want it as a manager.

During my years at Manchester United, the European games were great occasions.....nights when the sporting attention of the football world was focused on Old Trafford. It was tremendous!

The crowds packed the terraces in noisy excitement, the drama reached fresh heights, the football was hard but often brilliant. I played in a long series of United's games in Europe, the European Cup itself which United are still the only English team to win; the Fairs Cup (now the UEFA Cup) and the European Cup Winners Cup.

This last named competition is the one that concerns us tonight or I want to concern us from next May onwards. We are out of the F.A. Cup, the League Cup and the promotion race. So I am asking the players to really go out and give every ounce they have to win the Welsh Cup this season.

Swansea's players are lucky in that they have a better chance along with Cardiff City, tonight's opponents Newport County, and Cup-holders Wrexham — than any club in the Football League of winning a place in Europe.

I dearly want to see that same gripping sense of occasion I remember so well at Manchester being repeated season after season at the Vetch Field.

NEWPORT

Pen Pictures

JOHN MACEY

Came to Newport from Grimsby at the start of 1970-71 but played in only 16 League matches last season. Claims a unique record in that he was the first League goalkeeper to be named as a substitute.

STEVE AIZLEWOOD

A Newport-born centre-half who made his League debut for Newport County in April 1969 whilst still at school. Gained a Welsh Under-23 Cap last January when he played against England at Swindon.

GRAHAM COLDRIK

Although Newport-born, began his career with Cardiff City where he gained a Welsh Under-23 Cap in addition to European experience. Joined Newport County as a full-back in March 1970.

BRIAN HARRIS

Captain and Assistant-Manager. Bebbington-born Brian joined Everton as a youngster and made his League debut as an outside left in 1954. Gained League and Cup medals with Everton before moving to Cardiff City in September, 1966 as a defensive half-back. Captained Cardiff City to European success and joined Newport County at the start of last season as playercoach. Appointed Assistant-Manager last February.

DAVID WILLIAMS

Another Newport-born player normally a full-back but who has played in mid-field. Made his League debut for Newport County in April 1961 and is the longest serving professional with the Club.

ALAN WOOD

A local-born centre-half who began his career with Lovells Athletic where he gained Welsh Amateur honours. Later moved to Bristol Rovers and Merthyr, joining Newport County in 1965.

WILLIE BROWN

One of the few non-Welshmen on the Club's staff. Falkirk-born striker who began his career with Burnley where he made one substitute appearance. Came to Newport at the start of 1970-71.

PETER HARRIS

A Neath-born midfield player who joined Newport County in October 1968 after a period on trial with Chelsea. Made his League debut in August 1970 and during that season gained Welsh Youth honours.

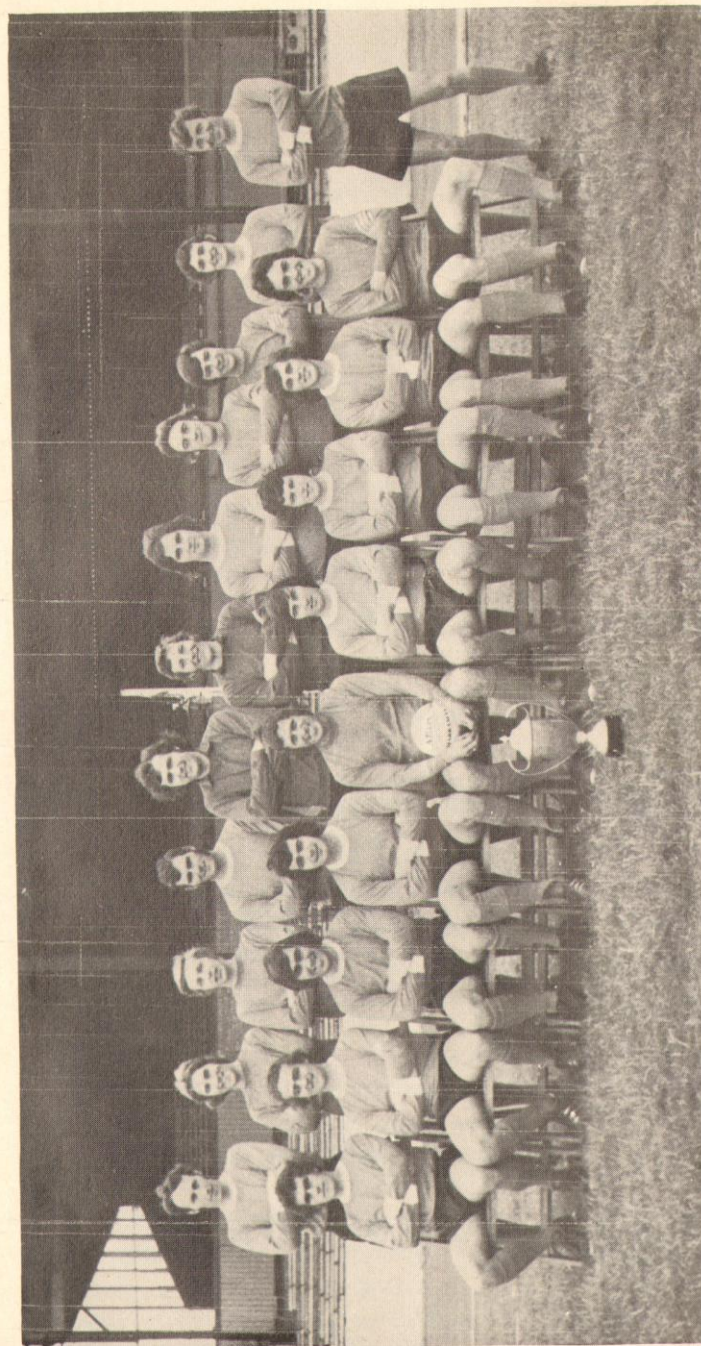
DENIS HAWKINS

A Swansea-born midfield player who joined Leeds Utd straight from school. Made only 2 first-team appearances at Elland Road, although gaining 6 Welsh Under-23 Caps. Spent the latter part of last season on loan to Workington and moved to Newport from Shrewsbury in the Summer of 1972.



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NEWPORT COUNTY F.C. 1972-1973

Back Row (Left to right) Alan Wood, Graham Rogers, Mike Hancock, Graham Coldrick, Terry Lynch, John Macey, Steve Aizlewood, Steve Fisher, Ken Swain, Willie Screen, Len Hill.

Front Row (Left to right) Andy White, Jeff Thomas, Denis Hawkins, Willie Brown, Brian Harris, David Jones, Wynne Hooper, Peter Harris, Philip Guilfoyle.

THIS SPACE TO LET

PEN PICTURES (Continued)

LEN HILL

Caerleon-born Hill, a midfield player who is also a Glamorgan County cricketer, originally joined Newport County from Lovells Athletic in 1962 making his League debut in January 1963. In July 1970 he moved to Swansea City but returned to Newport on loan in February 1972 signing on a permanent basis in March.

WYNNE HOOPER

Another skilful midfield player who comes from Seven Sisters near Neath. Joined Newport County as an apprentice professional in 1966 and made his first-team debut in March 1969.

ROD. JONES

A local-born striker who originally joined Newport County as an amateur in 1969. Gained Welsh Amateur honours in 1970-71 and became a part-time professional at the start of last season.

WILLIE SCREEN

A Swansea-born Welsh Under-23 Cap winner who joined Newport County in the Summer of 1972 from Swansea City.

JEFF THOMAS

A local-born player with his only League Club, Jeff is a versatile forward who can play in both midfield and striking positions. Although still in his early twenties, has been a regular in the side since making his debut as a 16 year-old at the end of 1965-66. A Welsh Under-23 Cap.

ANDY WHITE

A Newport-born outside-left who joined Newport County in 1969 from neighbouring Welsh League Club, Caerleon.

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FOOTBALL COMBINATION

Tuesday January 23rd Tottenham k.o. 7.00 p.m.

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He has refereed in Germany, Denmark and many other European countries as well as behind the Iron Curtain. He has taken charge of many internationals and was a reserve referee for the Mexico World Cup.



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Newport County

Michael Boon, Sunday Express Sports Columnist.

This is the one that counts. Newport County did themselves a power of good when they held the Swans to a Vetch Field draw in the first round of the League Cup last August, and then won handsomely in a replay at Somerton Park. But neither club had much hope of reaching the Wembley final..... both have every hope of winning the Welsh Cup.

Those two fine early season displays by Newport launched them on their way to a highly promising opening half of the season. They are in the running for promotion and have never been outside the top eight.

Manager Bill Lucas and his assistant, coach and skipper Brian Harris have slotted the pieces together neatly and attractively at Somerton Park: this is the best Newport team for a very long time.

There is one new player on the books. Peter Passey, an experienced defender who played 20 matches last season for Newport 'on loan' from Birmingham. He has now come to stay. Newport paid cash to import him and it is a sign of the better turn of fortunes for this gallant club that they are now dealing in cash bids.

Support has built up dramatically — in fact, they have been ahead of Swansea in crowd figures more than once recently — and manager Lucas is looking for a win tonight. It would be quite a step in bringing European football to Somerton Park for the first time.

Passey can do several jobs. He slots handily into the back four at either full-back or defensive wing-half, or can use the experience he gained with Birmingham to drive the attack forwards with thrustful work in mid-field.

His role tonight will depend on injuries. Graham Coldrick, who had a cartilage operation earlier in the season, has improved rapidly towards match fitness in recent weeks while David Williams, out of action with a fractured cheekbone, could be ready as well.

Up front, Lucas and Harris are hoping that the busy, talented Jeff Thomas will be fit too. He went down with cartilage trouble in September but has been drilling himself for a return to League football about now.

Newport's only fault at the moment is that they have not been able to finish' in the opposing goalmouth quite as effectively as they have built up in mid-field, where former Swan Len Hill is in top form at the moment, and attack from the flanks where the elusive Andy White has been sending across a flow of crosses.

Willie Brown, although still high in the Fourth Division goal scoring lists, and former amateur international Rod Jones have not been ramming in quite so many goals recently. "They are playing well but it seems that so often the ball is going inches on the wrong side of the posts where, earlier in the season, it was inches on the right side," explains Lucas.

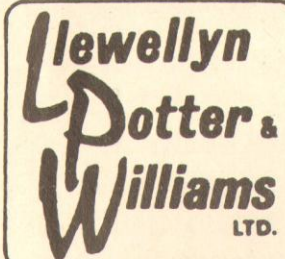
Willie Screen, a close season signing from the Vetch Field, has toiled splendidly for Newport during their recent run. He started in his usual mid-field role but then switched to full-back after the injuries to Coldrick and Williams — and as Swans supporters know well, has given every ounce of himself.

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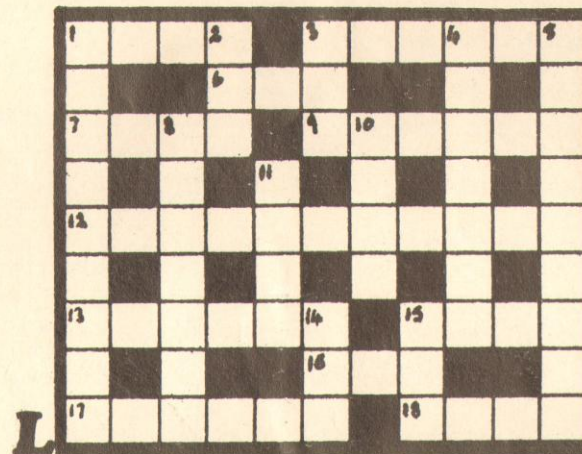
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CLUES — Across

1. Scorer of first Wembley F.A. Cup Final goal (4)
3. Soccer writer/broadcaster: ——— Saunders (6)
6. ——— Viktor (Czechoslovakia) (3)
7. Edgeley Park defender (4)
9. National side wearing yellow shirts and blue shrots (6)
12. Manager of Portugal (4,7)
13. Manager who was once Footballer of the Year (6)
15. Site of cartilage trouble (4)
16. Third-choice keeper in Brazil 1970 World Cup squad (3)

17. Somewhat damp after 90 minutes exertion (6)
18. Nickname of Dunfermline Athletic (4)

CLUES — Down

1. Port Vale striker (4,5)
2. ——— Napier (Blackburn) (3)
3. ——— Utrecht (1,1,1)
4. Head man at Edgar Street (7)
5. Head man (formerly Mackay's (7)
8. Second-team player (7)
10. Watford striker (4)
11. Hatton or Hollins (4)
14. Goddard or Graydon (3)
15. Well-known feature at Anfield Rd. (3)

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Taffy was a Welshman?

David Gwyther won't thank me for the thought; nor will the Football Association of Wales secretary Trevor Morris to whom the credit belongs..... but is England now biting too deeply into the selection of Welsh national teams? As I say, it IS just a thought but worth thinking over.

The Senior, Under-23 and Youth teams now include a considerable — and increasing — number of players whose only thoughts about Wales as a homeland are the yellow photographs of Dad's Christening. That, of course, is now enough to make them as thoroughly Welsh as Penclawdd cockles as far as Soccer is concerned

The rule now states that if a player's father was born in Wales, then that player is eligible to play for the Land of his Father. One or two players in English clubs are now protesting that rule does not go far enough: "let's make it mothers born in Wales as well," they claim.

There is no denying the numbers of otherwise totally English players wearing the red shirt of Wales. National team manager Dave Bowen says: "We don't think about it. Everyone fits in well, has a joke about it and then gets on with the job of trying to win matches for Wales."

I accept that. But could the time arrive when national identity becomes obscured and even lost? It is a danger in my opinion.

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I know the counter attack now coming up at me. "What about Rugby? Wales has capped players whose grandparents were Welsh."

I accept that too. And I know that there has been no loss of national fevourbut can you imagine any player, no matter how distant his Welsh blood, failing to be inspired and proud standing there amid the singing at the Arms Park?

The movitation is utterly different in the harder world of professional football Soccer does not have that patriotic 'hwyl' and there is no use pretending it does. The attempts to whip up singing at internationals in recent years can be summed up in one word: embarrassment.

I appreciate, too, that names like Wally Barnes will be thrown up against me. That fine Arsenal full-back was, I believe, only 'Welsh' because his father was a soldier who was stationed in Wales at the time.

There are other players who have worn the Welsh shirt with distinction with similar scanty qualifications. The difference is that they were always the minority: within a generation, English-born players could be in the majority in Welsh teams.

You doubt me? Then look at the Welsh Youth team that drew with Scotland in the recent match at Newport. It was drawn almost entirely from players with English clubs. It is reasonable to suppose that many of those players will marry English girls, and settle in England for good.

In turn, their sons will be English in everything apart from having the good luck to be able to play football for Wales if they, in turn, become professional players — and there are so many instances of sporting talent passing from father to son.

But to return to Dave Gwyther: of course, it was right that he played for the Welsh Under-23 team. He may have been born in Birmingham but all of his football and most of his life has been Welsh, just as his parents were.

Trevor Morris will tell me that I am talking nonsense. The chief regret in Welsh football these days is that the rule was not pushed through in time to prevent Emlyn Hughes from being snapped up by Wales before Sir Alf Ramsey jumped in

May be Mr. Morris is right but I am not sure. Are you?

By Michael Boon, Sunday Express Sports Columnist

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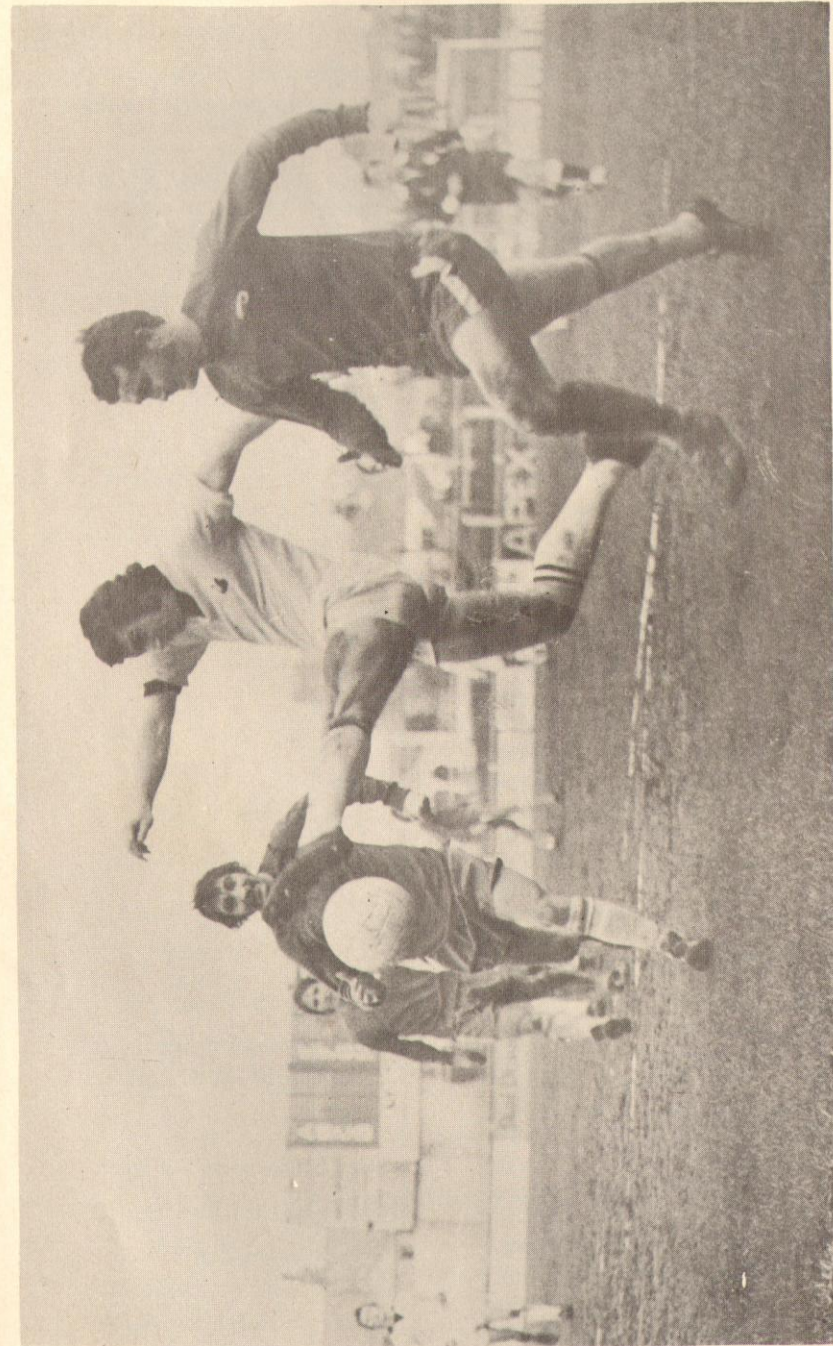
ACTION AGAINST SOUTHEND



Derek Bellotti saves with Brian Evans in close attendance.



Wyndham Evans scores Swans goal.



David Gwyther gets through the Southend defence.

Photos by courtesy of Evening Post

1972/73 SEASON — FIXTURES AND RESULTS TO DATE

Date	Opponents	Ground	Result		Att.	Scorers
			F	A		
Aug. 12	Scunthorpe	Away	0	1	5,636	
Aug. 19	Walsall	Home	2	1	4,211	G. Thomas (P) H. J. Williams
Aug. 25	Southend	Away	1	3	11,233	D. Gwyther
Aug. 29	Charlton Ath.	Away	0	6	4,283	
Sep. 2	Rochdale	Home	2	3	2,457	H. J. Williams B. C. Evans
Sept. 9	Brentford	Away	2	0	9,986	G. Ingram D. Gwyther
Sept. 16	Rotherham	Home	0	1	3,465	
Sept. 19	Tranmere	Home	1	1	2,617	H. J. Williams
Sept. 23	Shrewsbury	Away	1	2	2,415	J. Johnson
Sept. 27	Notts County	Away	0	2	6,118	
Sept. 30	Bristol Rovers	Home	0	2	3,711	
Oct. 7	Grimsby Town	Home	6	2	3,071	B. Evans D. Gwyther R. Rees
Oct. 11	Bolton	Away	0	3	6,391	G. Thomas (2) + 1 Pen.
Oct. 14	Plymouth	Away	1	3	5,034	G. Thomas
Oct. 21	Blackburn Rovers	Home	2	2	3,060	B. Evans H. J. Williams
Oct. 24	Chesterfield	Home	2	1	2,630	B. Evans D. Gwyther
Oct. 28	Oldham Ath	Away	0	2	5,860	
Nov. 4	Notts County	Home	3	0	3,508	H. J. Williams (2) D. Gwyther
Nov. 10	Tranmere Rovers	Away	1	1	6,051	B. Evans
Nov. 18	Margate F.A. Cup (1)	Away	0	1	3,014	
Nov. 25	Halifax Town	Away	1	1	1,815	H. J. Williams
Dec. 1	Wrexham	Home	3	1	2,206	D. Gwyther (2) P. Jones,
Dec. 16	Watford	Home		P		
Dec. 23	York City	Away	0	3		
Dec. 26	Shrewsbury	Home	0	2	4460	
Dec. 30	Walsall	Away		P		
Jan. 6	Southend	Home	1	1	2,466	
Jan. 9	Newport (Welsh Cup)	Home				
Jan. 13	Chesterfield	Away				
Jan. 20	Rochdale	Away				
Jan. 26	Brentford	Home				
Feb. 3	Bolton Wanderers	Home				
Feb. 10	Rotherham	Away				
Feb. 17	Scunthorpe	Home				
Feb. 24	Watford	Away				
Mar. 3	Grimsby	Away				
Mar. 6	Bournemouth	Home				
Mar. 9	Plymouth Argyle	Home				
Mar. 17	Blackburn Rovers	Away				
Mar. 19	Port Vale	Away				
Mar. 24	Oldham	Home				
Mar. 31	Halifax Town	Home				
Apr. 7	Wrexham	Away				
Apr. 14	Port Vale	Home				
Apr. 20	Bristol Rovers	Away				
Apr. 21	Bournemouth	Away				
Apr. 24	York City	Home				
Apr. 28	Charlton Athletic	Home				
May 5	CUP FINAL					

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