

# Sport in 2<sup>nd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup>

## SOCCKER

Since the inauguration of a Task Force soccer competition, the 2/4 RAR side has reigned supreme. 1976 was no different. We once again, under the tutelage of Bob Nugent, cleaned up all comers to take out the trophy for another twelve months.

Over the years 2/4 has always had a strong side, although the numbers have been dwindling with transfers and re-postings. This year, although we missed a few players of the calibre of Arthur Francis, Jess Rychlewski and Brian King, we had a TEAM of players who had the will to win and who did themselves proud with their performance.

We once again had players chosen in the North Queensland Army Team—Sgt Bob Nugent and Pte Jeff Smith. These two were also selected in the Queensland Army side and also the North Queensland civilian team. Our congratulations go to them both. We lost near the end of the year the services of Kenny Fox, who took his discharge. Our best wishes go to him in "Civvy Street". A fine goalkeeper.

At the end of the season we acquired a new strip for the Battalion side. This is presently being held at DPRI and will be ready for next year's conquests. A final word . . . when you are wearing the heavy scene from some 'rubbyite' or 'strulie', just point out our track record. You can't argue with success.

Best of luck in '77.

## AUSTRALIAN RULES

The '76 Australian Rules season was very short, of three days duration, due mainly to our training commitments. The competition contained only four teams which were: 1 RAR, 2/4 RAR, 4 Fd Regt and 103 Sig Sqn. Initially it was thought that the Aust Rules side would fare badly in the competition due to the problem of getting a team together for training. This doubt was quickly dispelled when Cpl Tassie Davis was appointed Captain/Coach. With keen interests in Aust Rules and with other battalion members giving full support, 2/4 RAR was able to field a team.

Our team quickly proved their superiority in the competition by being the only team to be undefeated. Each team member gave his best in each game, so it was difficult to name individuals, as best players. This fact is reinforced further as 2/4 RAR provided the bulk of players to represent North Queensland in Brisbane in the annual inter area carnival.

The '76 2/4 RAR side was made up by the following players:—

Cpl Joe Stephen	Pte Hoof Clarke
Cpl Rod Harris	Pte Willie Wilson
Pte Tubby Brewer	Pte Tex Ritter
Pte Dutchy Holland	Pte Phill Callow
Cpl Baz Torney	Capt George Mialkowski
Pte Keen	Pte Mark Killen
Cpl Mick Coombs	Pte Hobby Nobbs
Lcpl Al Sullivan	Pte Pete Egan
Pte Ed Schlegel	Pte Conway Brown
Cpl Tassie Davis	Pte Smith
(Captain/Coach)	Pte Jones
Pte Pete Kingdon	Pte "Cockroach" Coburn

Our congratulations go to those selected for the NQ Area side. They were:—

Cpl Joe Stephen	Pte Tubby Brewer
Cpl Baz Torney	Cpl Tassie Davis
Pte Keen	(Captain/Coach)
Cpl Mick Coombs	Pte Pete Kingdon
Lcpl Al Sullivan	Pte Hoof Clarke
Pte Ed Schlegel	Pte Willie Wilson
Cpl Rod Harris	Pte Dutchy Holland

Special thanks go to Pte's Kelly, J. B. Murphy, King, Hayes, and Moore who assisted as trainers, time-keepers, and goal umpires, boundary umpires and Pte Presbey who as central umpire controlled quick flowing games.

It is widely accepted that 2/4 RAR have the best Aust Rules players in 3 Task Force. This was proven by the '76 season, no doubt we will again prove ourselves in '77.

## ATHLETICS

1976 was not our best year for athletics. However, the performances of some individuals was very encouraging.

The cross country team performed very creditably and gained third place in the Task Force competition. Noteworthy was Pte Twidale's third place, against some very able opposition. In the inter company cross country, A Company proved too strong.

The inter Company Athletics was held on 1st October, and some good performances were turned in. Pte Killen (B Coy) won the 1500 metres from OC A Coy in a thrilling finish. Pte Twidale (A Coy) toyed with his opponents in the 5000 metres and he is a big hope in the Area meeting.

Cpl R. G. T. Smith's effort in the 800 metres was outstanding and he carries the Battalion's best wishes into the area meeting also.

Tug-of-War was the best standard for years. A Coy's lightweight team were very well drilled and did not lose a pull. B Coy's heavyweight team had some anxious moments before finally winning from C Coy.

The most thrilling events for the day were the relays, on which the result of the competition depended. B Coy won the medley relay but still trailed A Coy in overall point score. The finish in the 4 x 100 metres relay was very close, but B Coy were in front and won the competition by one point from A Coy.

## CRICKET .

It was once said that Cricket was the cause of the downfall of the British Empire. It is true that it was the cause of the downfall of 2/4 RAR. In two successive years we were runners-up to 103 Sig Sqn. However, it's not who wins but how the game is played.

Our method of playing could perhaps be described by cricket purists as strange, peculiar, extraordinary and quite incredible, but, because of our unorthodox approach, we won all our games except the big one. A confused attack is a guarantee to confuse any enemy. Mind you, we didn't try to be confusing other than we became confused trying not to be confusing. Something like that anyway.

Throughout the season individual performances were good and bad, generally bad, but it was done so well. No one is worthy of mention other than one old stalwart who shouldn't be named as he is well known to the writer.

Seriously though, we had a successful season and enjoyed our cricket. Fortunately the game still retains the traditional ideas of what sport is all about or what it should be these days. I said I wouldn't mention names but then, being vain mortal beings, who would buy a book unless he gets a mention? So here goes.

Firstly our thanks to dear cricket captain or skipper Alex for leading us so well. He put a lot of work into the organisation and how heartbreaking it must have been for him each week. Even if he had been last wicket in he still would have been an opener. Mind you,

he was a bit selfish with the ball. I never did get a bowl even when I pulled rank. Indeed, a very wise skipper but still damnably mean.

The Officers performed to their usual standard. Now, what's that supposed to mean. I leave that to you. The Officers no doubt will have a different idea to you, but then life would not be healthy without criticism.

The mainstays of the team were Skipper Alex, Colonel John Deighton, Barry Torney, Greg Shannon, Tassie Davis, Joe Stepien, Les Stephens, Glen Stumpke, Steve Bender, Obie O'Brien, Snow Dinnison, and Bob George. I wasn't going to mention the umpire, Grant Clarke, for reasons which should be obvious to at least the players. Even if he was wrong in his decisions, at least he was consistent. However, for career planning, never give a senior officer out.

Some of the team have left, whilst others are about to do so. Instead of farewell to arms, we say farewell to cricket. For the sake of cricket I trust it is permanent for some.

Damn, another wicket is down. I'm on, haven't padded up, is it worth the effort, it hasn't been so far, but then you never know, can I borrow your box, no I don't need a runner. Then they say "good luck". How helpful your comrades can be as you trudge back, saying "bad luck, it didn't look to be out from here", and you agree.

But then cricket is so unpredictable, and that is the beauty of it all.

See you flannelled fools soon in the coliseum.

# Swimming



L/CPL SMITH ACCEPTS THE SWIMMING  
TROPHY FOR SUPPORT COY



CPL RUSS SMITH WINS THE START,  
100 METRES FINAL.



CPL. REG PARKER RUNS THE BALL FROM THE RUCK FOR SUPPORT COY.

## RUGBY '76

The year of '76 was not good for Rugby, as there was no competition as such because of the commitments of the Task Force. However, we did manage to get a bit of Rugby under the belt.

The Task Force competition was in fact a cut-throat knock-out competition which was played over a week and fostered by 1 RAR.

The 2/4 RAR rugby side was selected from a series of inter-company rugby games which in some cases were a little vigorous, but of course played in the true spirit of the game.

Four teams were entered in the intercompany rugby, one from each rifle company and one from Support/Admin combined. B Company were the winners of the inter company competition, with Support/Admin in second place, followed by C and A Company.

Some good rugby was played in this series, with all players trying very hard. The players that were really outstanding were Lt Jenkinson, Lt Casey, Cpl Hannah, Cpl Russell, L/Cpl Kelly, L/Cpl Waddell and Pte Tindall. Once again, congratulations B Company.

The 2/4 RAR side for the Task Force knock-out competition seemed at the time a well-balanced team. However, the draw of the competition did leave a little to be desired as the two major sides had to play in the first game, which was 2/4 RAR and the gunners, with the gunners beating the home side by a narrow margin, and of course eliminating the 2/4 RAR side. The gunners were the eventual winners of the competition. The main stays in the 2/4 RAR side were Lt Antoniuk, Lt Casey, Cpl Russell, L/Cpl Waddell and L/Cpl Kelly.

The North Queensland Army side that toured South Queensland showed the Southerners how the game of

rugby is played. Well done to all members of the Battalion that were in the North Queensland side.

1977 is a new season. The Battalion will win this time provided the game is taken seriously in the fields of training, playing, and attitude.

Let's take it seriously and take the shield, as it belongs in 2/4 RAR.

"JEEZ.....MAYBE I AM TOO OLD FOR THIS."

