



## Battalion Australian Rules

The Battalions' A Team had a good season in 1987. In the expanded ten team competition we only lost the one match and that was to 1RAR by one point. The season was extended by two months to enable all teams to complete their minor round games.

The coach, Ron Harrison, was away on course for a number of weeks, which left Steve Bolitho and Darryl Thomas to run the team in his absence.

Hans returned just before the finals and with Major Gregg's backing arranged a training trip to Magnetic Island for a squad of thirty, including Blue Abraham who was the squad's cook. The trip would only have come about of course, if we made the Grand Final. This was accomplished with a twenty goal win against the Engineers. Three worthwhile days were spent on Maggy with the only setback being Stepho's sudden illness which ruled him out of the Grand Final.

We arrived back in Lavarack on the morning of the final and found that one of our star players, Buggy, had been in an accident which required a number of stitches, which also ruled him out of the game. Things were not looking all that promising.

After a stirring pre-game speech by the R.L.S.M., 2/4 RAR started the game in great fashion completely dominating all

positions for the first half. At half time, we led by thirty two points. Unfortunately 1RAR didn't realize they were beaten and fought back to lead by eight points at the last chance. In a great seesawing battle in the last quarter, 1RAR held on to win by eight points.

This was the best result 2/4 RAR has had against 1RAR for a number of years and if the players get behind the coach completely next year, he should not have to make any losing speeches at the end of the 1988 Grand Final.

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SEASON:

- The gutsy performances by Thommo and Steve Bolitho every game.
- Buggy's high marking skills.
- Bowen's tireless efforts all season.
- The tie between Wayne Lampard and Steve Wilson in our Best & Fairest Award.
- Lampard winning the competition's Best & Fairest.
- Blue McClymont's and Morrie's efforts in the final series.
- The much needed and appreciated sponsorship by Budget.

Let's go one better in 1988.  
The Manager.



The Assassin



The Coach