



## Rugby

We ended last year's Rugby roundup on a high note with the words "Watch out 1 RAR!" Well we did! After two years building up, the Battalion finally broke 1 RAR's domination of N.Q. Rugby in that nailbiting Grand Final. The competition was short and sharp and probably would have been better if there had been two rounds instead of one. However, the season was a successful one nevertheless for the Battalion. Again two teams were entered which, with the many absences due to unit training commitments, provided depth for both teams.

The A's came through the season undefeated. At half-time of the Grand Final the score was a draw; after 10 minutes extra time each way it still remained a draw so, in accordance with the competition rules, 2/4 RAR were declared the winners. It was a magnificent effort which capped off a difficult season. Noticeable on the field that day were certain old war horses such as Cpl Danny Sheehan, Sgt Dick Damen, Maj Dick Wilson, Pte Ian Price and Maj Mark Webb, all of whom came out of retirement for 100 minutes of glory.

The B's equally should be just as proud of their achievements. It is unusual for two teams to be entered in the same competition because, logically, the B's should lose to the A's and not have a real chance to get through to the finals. However, two teams provides greater participation, depth and also serves to keep the jets in the A's honest. They came very close to making the final four, missing out by only four points, which was the cost of one game. This was because, more often

than not, players, during the season were sacrificed to the A's whenever their own players were absent. On a good day with all players present or not playing for the A's, they would have made the finals series; an all 2/4 RAR Grand Final would not have been inconceivable. Due credit must be given to the B's for the Bn Grand Final Victory; they helped get them there at some expense to themselves.

Congratulations go to Sgt Bob McPherson, who achieved top service representative honours in being selected for ASRU, Honours also went to LCpl Thomas, Capt Caldwell, Lt Kurac and Lt Shaw who were all selected for the Brigade team.

Perpetual trophies were donated this year by WO1 Thompson, Maj Wilson and Maj Wheatley. The worthy recipients:  
 Best and Fairest (Maj Wilson) - LCpl Thomas  
 Highest Point Scorer (WO1 Thomson) - Cpl O'Connor  
 Most Improved Player (Maj Wheatley) - Pte Weir

Finally, our thanks and appreciation to the small band of men who never star but who work hard behind the scenes and are an integral part of the team.

WO1 Thomson - he coached the B's last year and was Bn coach this year.

Sgt Damen - who coached the B's and tore his hair out each week because the RSM kept flogging his players.

Sgt Porter & LCpl Sammons - team managers  
 Cpl Allen - Med Asst. and strapper.

