

ASIANS IN UNIVERSITY SOCCER

by Dick Taitton

ASIAN students are playing a major part in the development of Soccer football in Australian universities. Soccer is by no means the strongest football code played in Australia, and the enthusiasm and skill of students from Asian countries is likely to have a strong influence in building up Australia's international standing in the game.

The Universities of Sydney, Melbourne, Queensland, Adelaide and New England now play against each other in an annual Soccer tournament, and this season's competition at St. Lucia, Brisbane, in which the University of Queensland retained the

It is also significant that the University of Queensland captain is an Asian—Basir Mahomed, from Malaya—and that more than half the team that represented the University of Adelaide are from Asian countries.

Twenty-two year-old Bowen Pain, captain of the University of Melbourne team, and a final year Law student, says that the Asian students' best football assets are their speed and ball control, and mentioned his vice-captain, Top Sutopo—a physical education student—as an example. "Topo, as we call him, is a real juggler with the ball," Pain said,



Left: Balkar Singh Bains (Queensland) and Top Sutopo (Melbourne). Right: Queensland centre forward Glen Oey in action.

Napier Cup, reflected considerably the type of football played by the Asian students.

Star forward of the carnival, for example, was Indonesian medical student Glen Oey, who in three matches scored eleven goals for Queensland. Another outstanding forward for Queensland was Balkar Singh Bains, of India, who was second top-scorer of the tournament with seven goals. If I were selecting an Australian Universities team to tour Asia, Oey and Bains would be the first two I would choose.

and Pain is right. Again, Melbourne's outside-right, Mickie Ng, a Chinese Malayan, is delightfully reminiscent of the fast, clever wingers in the Chinese Soccer teams that have visited Australia.

The University of New England took part in the carnival this year for the first time. The New England team was formed only last April and has hardly yet had time to acquire the teamwork so essential in Soccer. Although 37 goals to one were scored against New England the team improved greatly as the carnival progressed, and students

from other universities could not help admiring their keenness and determination to make good. "We shall be back next year," said Kee Ying Seow, a Malayan science student who was the New England captain, after it was all over. Science student C. F. Wong, from British North Borneo, and Indonesian student M. Lubis, who with Seow are regarded as the backbone of the team, agreed.

The University of Sydney, which has one of the oldest university Soccer clubs in Australia, has as a member an Arts student from Malaya—

Glen Oey (Indonesia) for Queensland were against New England. After having scored the winning goal for Queensland in a 3-2 defeat of Melbourne Oey was carried off the field five minutes before the end of the match with a back injury, and was taken to hospital for observation. Because of his injury Oey could not play against Adelaide, and Queensland suffered its only defeat of the carnival. Adelaide scoring twice in extra time after a scoreless draw.

With a win Queensland would have won the



University of Sydney back, Abdul Rahim of Malaya is beaten for the ball by a University of New England forward but goalie saves

Abdul Rahim—who has been with the team since 1952. His team mates know they can depend on him in the defence line. The Sydney team also includes Frank Hutabarat, from Indonesia, who has been an Economics student for eighteen months.

In the University of Adelaide team is Mirwab Rangkuti, a political science student, who had been in Australia only three months when the carnival took place. Mirwab Rangkuti is an Indonesian, as are also Iskanto, Noesbar, Ramly Nasution and Ismar, Engineering students. India is represented by Amar Singh.

Seven of the eleven goals scored by forward

Napier Cup outright again. As it was, Queensland, Melbourne and Adelaide each scored six points for the Cup, but under the rules of the competition Queensland as holders retained the Cup.

A handsome silver cup presented by the Chinese Consul in Queensland, Mr. T. M. Chen, for the team judged by the referees the most sportsmanlike and best turned out was won by New England. Mr. Chen's two sons, Sam and Steve, play for the University of Queensland and also for Annerley, which is a First Division club in Brisbane.