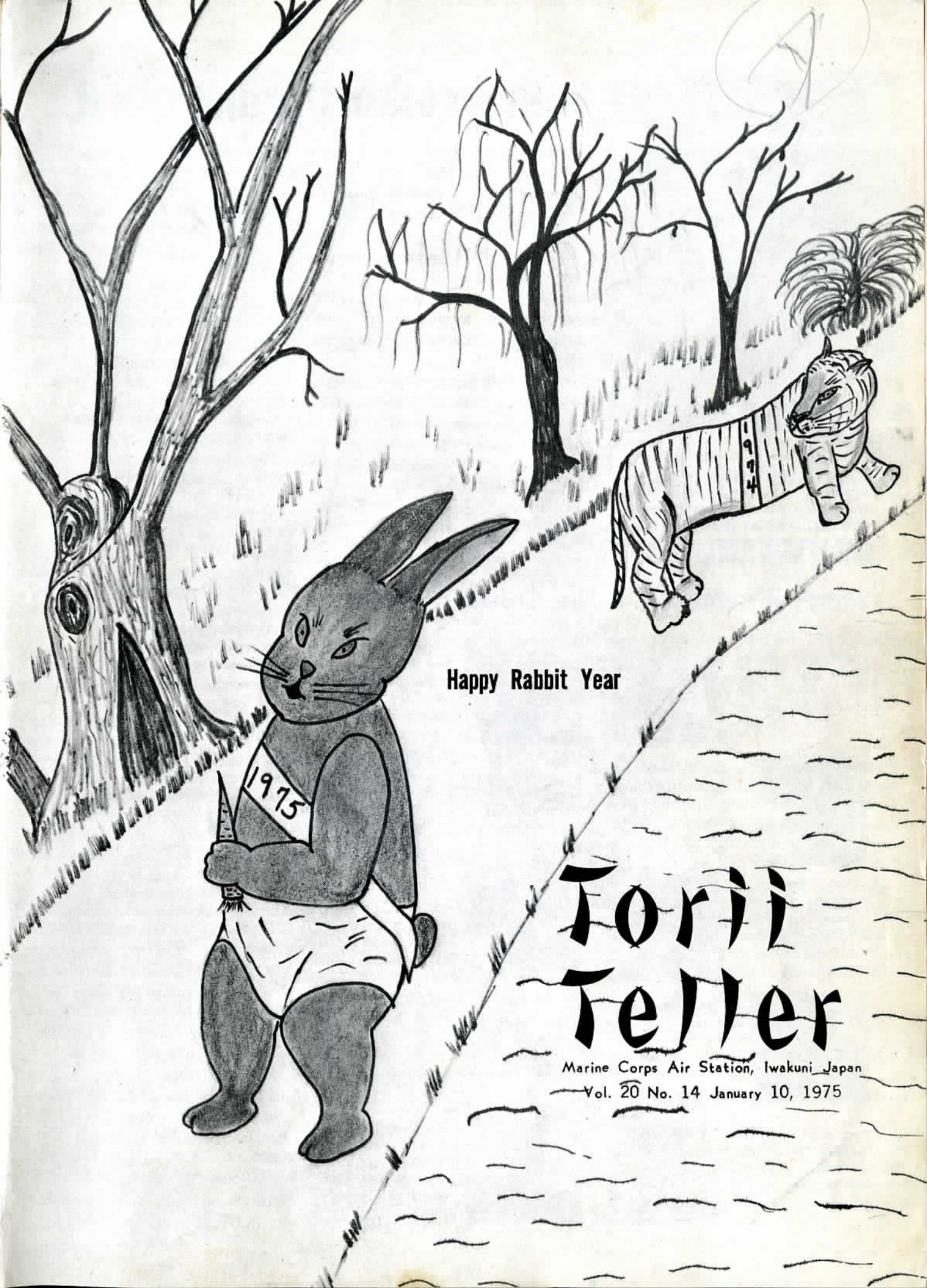




Happy Rabbit Year

Torii Teller

Marine Corps Air Station, Iwakuni, Japan

Vol. 20 No. 14 January 10, 1975

The military got a new commander-in-chief in 1974 when President Gerald R. Ford took office following the resignation of Richard M. Nixon. The 1st Marine Aircraft Wing received new equipment — a jet that takes off straight up. Women joined the Corps' Fleet Marine Force. A three-way pay hike was given to service people instead of the customary basic pay raise.

A new Secretary of the Navy was named. J. William Middendorf II became the 62nd person to hold the post replacing John W. Warner who resigned in April.

Locally, the 1st MAW became the command of newly promoted MajGen. Victor A. Armstrong when he received the 33-year-old 1stMAW Colors from MajGen. Frank C. Lang in April.

BrigGen. Richard E. Carey, also newly promoted, reported aboard in August to become the 1stMAW's assistant wing commander.



THIRTEEN-MONTH TOURS RESUMED FOR MARINES SENT OVERSEAS ON UNACCOMPANIED TOURS TO THE FLEET MARINE FORCE IN JANUARY.

In November SgtMaj. John J. Fernane became the 1stMAW sergeant major. The Air Station had had a similar ceremony in July when SgtMaj. B. S. Gallagher replaced SgtMaj. T. B. Ellis.

SgtMaj. Grace A. Carle became the sixth sergeant major of Woman Marines in May.

As the leadership changed, so did the composition of the 1stMAW.

Marine Attack Squadron 513 arrived in August with the first overseas deployment of the AV-8A Harrier. VMA513 replaced VMA-311

which returned its Skyhawks to MCAS Beaufort, S. C.

H&MS-17 was reduced to zero strength and split in two during August to form two new squadrons, Wing Transportation Squadron 17 and Wing Engineer Squadron 17. The two units, unique to the Marine Corps, will undergo a year-long test to determine the practicability of centralizing the Wing's engineering and transportation talent.

The complexion of the entire Fleet Marine Force changed in April when 13 Woman Marines were selected to join the 2dMAW and

to yen was increased when military banking facilities were authorized to sell yen at the third full yen below the acquisition rate for bulk sales.

It was announced in November that superior performance pay would end Jan. 1 and shortage speciality pay would be cut.

Transportation costs also increased in 1974 with hikes in taxi fares, railroad tickets and gasoline. Stamps and telephone rates were also hiked. The cost of lunch and supper in the messhall also went up reflecting hikes in the subsistence allowance.

The price of movies at the Sakura

Looking Back

the 1st Marine Division in a pilot program of assigning women to Stateside combat units.

Prices and wages rose again in 1974. In October a 5.5 percent three-way pay raise took effect. For the first time quarters allowance and subsistence were increased along with basic pay.

For enlisted men it was the second raise in subsistence during the year, but for officers it was the first such raise since 1957.

Mid-July was when the Corps began making retroactive payment of a pay raise which was delayed from Oct. 1, 1972 to Jan. 1, 1973. July 1 was also the beginning of new mileage rates paid for military travel. Military people now get eight cents a mile for permanent change of station moves. Temporary additional duty travel rates went from five to seven cents a mile in August.

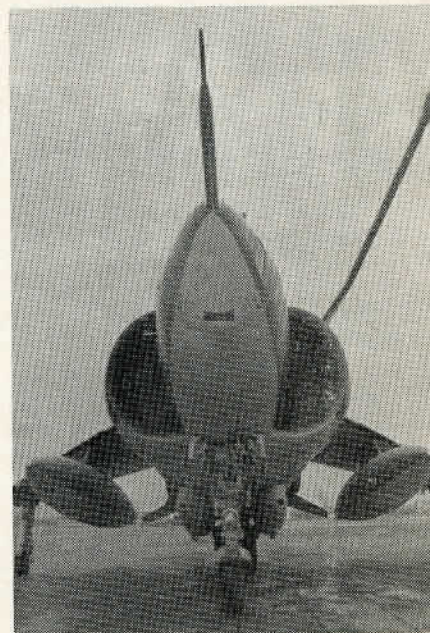
Clothing allowance for enlisted men was also increased in July while the clothing allowance for Woman Marines was reduced.

In May Serviceman's Group Life Insurance coverage was increased to \$20,000.

There were other more unpleasant cost increases in 1974. Beginning Aug. 1 the cost of converting dollars

went to 50 cents in July.

The departed year was a happy one for 7313 Marines who were selected for staff NCO promotions,



A JET THAT TAKES OFF VERTICALLY JOINED THE 1STMAW IN AUGUST WHEN VMA-513 ARRIVED WITH ITS HARRIER

but longer time-in-grade requirements for most occupational fields reflected a return to peacetime promotions following the war boom of previous years. Quarterly promotion periods were established for sergeant and corporal hikes.

The lead time to request retirement or transfer to the Fleet Marine

Corps Reserve was increased to 14 months in October.

January saw the return to 13-month overseas unaccompanied FMF tours.

Last year was the first peaceful year for the Marine Corps in over a decade, but valor continued to be recognized. On Nov. 8 the Commandant dedicated the addition of "Vietnam" to the Marine Corps Memorial in Arlington, Va. in honor of the thousands who served in the conflict.

One of those Marines who died in Vietnam, PFC Ralph E. Dias, was posthumously awarded the Medal of

at 1974

Honor. He was the 56th Marine to earn the award for Vietnam valor.

MAG-12, the last American aviation combat unit to leave Vietnam, was twice decorated for its service. The aircraft group received the Navy Unit Commendation, its fifth such award during its history, and the Vietnamese Meritorious Unit Citation.

Six 1stMAW Marines helped rescue a Japanese couple from their partially submerged automobile after it overturned outside the Air Station's North Gate in July.

PFC Dominick R. Cuteri of MABS-15 organized Japanese residents into a bucket brigade after he spotted a local house on fire. Local Japanese fire officials credit his actions with preventing major damage to the neighborhood.

After almost 14 years the presentation of the National Defense Service Medal was ended in August. The medal had been presented to servicemen from Jan. 1, 1961 to Aug. 15, 1974.

The 1stMAW's two fighter squadrons, VMFA-115 and VMFA-232, and VMA-211 garnered aviation awards during the year. VMFA-115 received the Aviation Efficiency Award and the Chief of Naval Operations Aviation Safety Award.

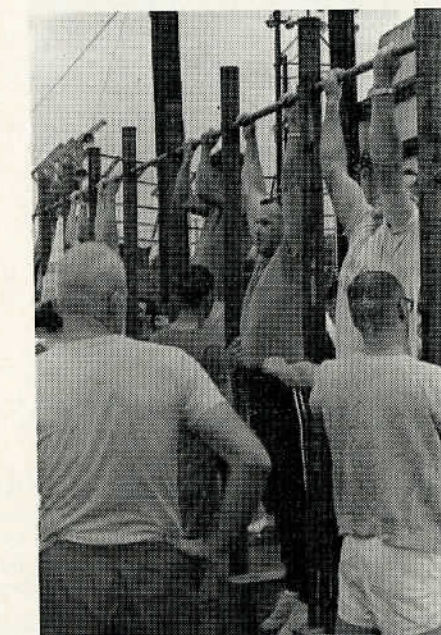
Sgt. Rickey A. Hess of VMFA-115 was selected the plane captain of the year.

VMFA-232 received the Hanson Award as the Corps' best fighter squadron. VMA-211 was also the recipient of a CNO Aviation Safety Award.

The Air Station's Dining Facility Number 1 received the W. P. T. Hill Award for excellence in September. It was the third time in four years the Mess received the award.

Marines went to the aid of their fellow man in October by making fools of themselves during FEN's

record-setting marathon on behalf of the Overseas Combined Federal Campaign. Besides helping to raise the most money ever contributed to a fund drive here, the marathon conducted by Army 1stLt. Si Sidle and GySgt. Chuck Royal set a new



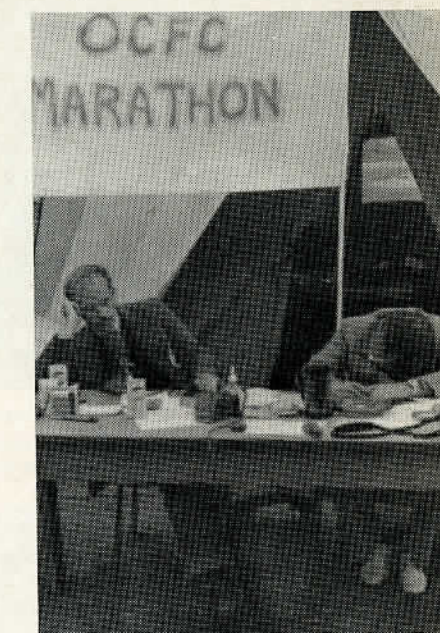
THE CORPS' INSPECTOR GENERAL AND HIS TEAM FOUND FEW FLAWS DURING THEIR INSPECTION HERE IN SEPTEMBER.

continuous broadcasting record for American Forces Radio and Television Service announcers.

The Mini-Mart opened in May. A new Correctional Facility was completed in August and a new

Customs Inspection Facility was opened officially Dec. 18.

Two 1stMAW captains, Joseph W. Seabrooke Jr. and Frank E. Littlebury, became the first two graduates



ARMY 1STLT. SISIDLE (LEFT) AND GYSGT. CHUCK ROYAL SET A NEW AFRTS BROADCASTING RECORD IN OCTOBER WHEN THEY HOSTED THE OCFC MARATHON.

of Los Angeles Community College here. They received their diplomas in September. GySgt. Baldwin C. Rhoady became the first Marine to graduate from the University of Maryland here and MSgt. Robert L. Davis became the first Air Station Marine to graduate from LACC. The two received their diplomas in December.

Pepperdine University began offering a graduate program leading to a masters degree in administration in November.

Direct flights from here to Norton Air Force Base, Calif. began in February for the first time.

Approximately 30,000 Japanese visitors from throughout southern Japan toured the Air Station in May during the annual Friendship Day Open House.

Thirteen-year-old Richard Sims became the first scout here in almost 15 years to attain Eagle rank.

The Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. Robert E. Cushman Jr., in July and the Corps' Inspector General and his team in September led a year-long list of Japanese and

(Continued on Page 10)

Looking...

(Continued from Page 7)

American dignitaries that visited here.

The year also had its lighter moments.

In June Chief Warrant Officer Tom W. Turner, the Public Affairs Officer here, clarified the announcement that the Commissioned Officers' Mess (Closed) would be closed for about two weeks.

"Last week's news... shouldn't trouble anyone with an open mind.

"After all, how could a closed mess be open?

"But the closing... hit several hundred of our better paid help pretty hard. It meant that they would be eating in the General Mess, if at all.

"Now, the generals don't ordinarily eat in the General Mess. They eat in the Commanding General's Mess.

"The members of the Closed Mess, now closed, can't eat breakfast in the Open Mess, because it's closed at that hour.

"With both the Closed Mess and the Open Mess closed for breakfast, those who would ordinarily eat breakfast in the Closed Mess, back when it was open, must break their fasts in the General Mess, as the Open Mess had always been closed then, and the General's Mess is closed to them."

In September the following question was asked of the Disbursing Officer during his appearance on FEN's "They!" Show.

"I know that LES (Leave and Earning Statement) will enable a Marine to maintain an accurate record of his pay and allowances, but my question is, if this is so, then why does my LES indicate I should get more pay and I get less. And sometimes it indicates I will get less pay when I should get more. If I get more pay when I should get less the next payday, I will get less, or vice versa. Would you care to add to this and sum it up for me so that I might have a better understanding of LES, more or less."

About The Cover

To welcome in the year of the rabbit, the **Torii Teller** this week takes a look back to the year of the tiger. The rabbit and tiger are two of 12 zodiac signs used by the Japanese. This week's cover is by Mrs. Mary Buchschacher.

H&MS-12 Wins Cup Twice

It was H&MS-12's year in sports during 1974. The squadron twice received the Air Station Commanding Officer's Athletic Excellence Trophy. The trophy is presented semi-annually to the team earning the most points for participation in Intramural sports.

MWHS-1 was presented the same trophy in April for the six-month period ending Dec. 31, 1973. The



H&MS-12 CO, LTCOL. T. R. JOHNSON, RECEIVED THE CO'S CUP FOR ATHLETIC EXCELLENCE FROM COL. E. S. MURPHY, AIR STATION CO, DEC. 20. H&MS-12 WON THE CUP TWICE IN 1974.

second place team was H&MS-12 who finished two and a half points behind MWHS-1.

Iwakuni won the WestPac regional slow pitch softball championship in July by defeating Okinawa. Okinawa had captured the fast pitch championship a week earlier.

PMO went undefeated in the playoffs to win the Intramural Basketball Championship in February by defeating H&MS-15, 81-64. PMO had



WTS-17 DEFEATED NASU, 24-16, NOV. 9 IN FLAG FOOTBALL PLAYOFF ACTION TO WIN THEIR FIRST INTRAMURAL CHAMPIONSHIP.

finished in a first place tie with H&MS-12 with 12-2 records in the National Conference. H&MS-15 with a 9-5 record was one of two wild card teams in the tournament.

H&MS-12 captured the Air Station's volleyball trophy in April.

NASU-1 upset H&MS-12 in the playoffs to win the slow pitch softball championship here Aug. 8. NASU-1 had finished the season, 17-3, while H&MS-12 was undefeated in regular season action.

The fast pitch crown was won by H&MS-15 the same day after defeating MWHS-1, 6-5.

WTS-17, bidding for its first intramural trophy, won the flag football crown in November by defeating NASU, 24-16, as time ran out in the game. WTS-17, PMO, NASU, and WERS-17 had all ended the season with 7-1 records.

MWHS-1 finished first in intramural sailing with 57 1/4 points in November.

Marines won team honors at the Interservice Boxing Tournament held at Fort Bragg, N. C. in April, winning four gold and three silver medals. Featherweight Roger Stafford of Iwakuni was one of the gold medal winners while Riley Smith won a silver medal.

Iwakuni's Steve Zouski was named most valuable boxer of the 1974 Commander, Naval Forces Japan Boxing Tournament held here in October. Zouski won the tournament's light heavyweight crown.

Marine 1stLt. Howell Michael ran the mile in 3:56.4 during a track meet at Quantico, Va. in May.

Mary Iman of Iwakuni took high game honors with 241 in the All-Marine Bowling Tournament held in May at Camp Pendleton, Calif.



OVER 75 GOLFERS WENT OUT IN THE RAIN IN THE ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S DAY GOODWILL TOURNAMENT. TROPHY WINNERS ARE FROM LEFT: YOMEYA, SECOND PLACE JAPANESE LOW NET; KAWANAKA, JAPANESE LOW NET; JIM ERBRICK, LOW GROSS; BOB SHERIDAN, AMERICAN LOW NET; JOE ANDERSON, SECOND PLACE AMERICAN LOW NET. FRONT ROW FROM LEFT ARE: DR. HORIE, THIRD PLACE JAPANESE LOW NET; JACK RESH THIRD PLACE AMERICAN LOW NET.

MABS-15 Wins 5th; Perry & SJA Win 1st

MABS-15 won its fifth game in a row at H&MS-12's expense, 68-57, in Intramural Basketball action here last Monday night.

The two teams had been tied for the lead in the National Conference with four wins apiece.

A ten point scoring string at the end of the first half propelled MABS-15 into an 11 point lead and coupled with an eight point string early in the second half gave them a 17 point margin, the largest of the game.

H&MS-12, plagued by turnovers, managed only one six point string and that came with six minutes left in the game.

Marcus Harris led the MABS-15 team with 23 points. Timothy O'Brien had 19 points and Steven Cedergren 15 points for the winners.

James McDonald had 20 points for H&MS-12 followed by Steve Hood who had 16 points and Larry Lattimer with 13 points.

MABS-15's remaining opponents are NASU and PMO as they bid for a perfect season.

Hampered by a player shortage, MABS-12 scored a 59-58 win over H&MS-15 after blowing an 18 point lead.

The MABS-12 team had only six players for the game and one of them fouled out with 11 minutes left in the game. Three other MABS-12 players had four fouls on them and as a result MABS-12 tried to slow the game down in an effort to consume time. The strategy nearly backfired as H&MS-15 outscored MABS-12, 28-11, in the final 12 minutes of action including 14 straight points to give them a brief 56-55 lead with 90 seconds left in the game.

Coper McMillan, MABS-12's high scorer with 23 points, sank two free throws with 58 seconds left in the game and followed up with a basket to give his team their minimum margin of victory.

Robert Spencer had 17 points and Charles Willis had 12 points for MABS-12.

James Tucker scored 24 points and Ronald Martin 12 points for H&MS-15.

Basketball Schedule

Tonight

5:30 p.m. MWHS-1 vs OMD
7:00 p.m. H&MS-15 vs H&HS-18
8:30 p.m. MABS-15 vs NASU

Monday

5:30 p.m. H&MS-12 vs MWWU-1
7:00 p.m. MWCS-18 vs Perry School
8:30 p.m. MABS-12 vs VMCJ-1

Tuesday

5:30 p.m. VMCJ-1 vs VMA(AW)-533
7:00 p.m. VMA-513 vs MWWU-1
8:30 p.m. VMFA-232 vs Perry School

Wednesday

5:30 p.m. Medical vs WERS-17
7:00 p.m. ATC vs WES-17
8:30 p.m. WTS-17 vs SJA

Thursday

5:30 p.m. PMO vs MABS-15
7:00 p.m. MWHS-1 vs Supply
8:30 p.m. H&MS-15 vs VP-9

In other Monday night action MWHS-1 defeated MWCS-18, 85-43.

Perry School won its first game Tuesday night in a come from behind overtime victory over Medical, 54-46.

Medical jumped out in front in the first half with Bob Walker chalking up 16 points to give Medical a 28-16 half time lead. In the second half John Bussjaeger dumped three consecutive baskets to begin Perry's long walk back to contention. Perry still trailed by 10 points as Medical continued to score. Baskets by Perry's Steve Marcantonio, Rich Wynne, and Jim Phillips tied the game, 40-40. With 4:15 left to play, Don Tardiff and Bussjaeger put Perry ahead for the first time, 44-40. Medical again tied the score and the game went into overtime. Medical took the lead 46-44 but baskets by Tardiff, Phillips, Wynne, and Bussjaeger brought Perry their victory.

SJA won their first game by defeating MWWU-1, 51-20, in other Tuesday night action while VMCJ-1 defeated ATC, 59-42.