

Australian Tour Itinerary 1977

- April 12 - Arrive in Los Angeles
- April 16 - Australia vs California at California State University at Long Beach
- April 20 - Australia vs South II at University of Maryland
- April 23 - Australia vs South I at Essex Community College, Maryland
- April 24 - Arrive in Ithaca
- April 26 - Australia vs U.S. Touring Team at Cornell University
- April 30 - Australia vs U.S. Reserves at Cedar Crest College, Pennsylvania
- May 3 - Australia vs Philadelphia II at Cheltenham High School, Pennsylvania
- May 5 - Australia vs Philadelphia I at Marple-Newton High School, Pennsylvania
- May 8 - Australia vs Central New Jersey at Rutgers University
- May 11 - Australia vs U.S. Touring Team at Greenwich Academy, Connecticut
- May 14 - New England Tournament at Dedham, Massachusetts
- May 17 - Australia vs Long Island at Hofstra University
- May 19 - Australia vs Philadelphia Colleges in Philadelphia
- May 21 - Australia vs U.S. Touring Team at Philadelphia



Mrs Gerry Bowden.

## Her second lacrosse trip

The tour of America by the Australian women's lacrosse team in April and May will be the second tour of its kind for Mrs. Gerry Bowden (26), of Fremantle women's lacrosse team.

Mrs Bowden is one of six West Australian women in the team, and has been chosen as playing coach.

She also accompanied the team which went to America in 1972, but at that time she lived in South Australia and represented that State.

The other West Australians in the team are Wendy Taylor (22), also from Fremantle club, Helen Stratton (20), from South Perth club and three Wembley club players, sisters Jennifer (20) and Lynette Johnson (19) and Wendy Moran (20).

Mrs Bowden, who has been playing lacrosse since 1965, said that the game as played by women differed vastly from the men's version.

"People who have watched men's lacrosse think that it would be a terribly rough game for women to play, but in women's lacrosse there is almost no body contact," she said.

"There is no need for women to wear pads and helmets as the men do, and there is little danger of anyone being seriously hurt."

She said that finding the \$2000 required by every player in the touring team was proving difficult for most of the West Australian players, who had to rely mostly on individual fund raising efforts.



Miss Stratton

## S. Perth girl to tour U.S.

Four of the six West Australian players in the Australian women's lacrosse team to tour America in April and May are school teachers or trainee teachers.

South Perth women's lacrosse player Helen Stratton (20), a pre-school teacher is one of the team.

The other members of the touring team are Wembley club players Wendy Moran (20) and sisters Jennifer (20) and Lynette Johnson, (19) and Mrs Gerri Bowden (26) and Wendy Taylor (22) from the Fremantle club.

Mrs Bowden and Jennifer Johnson are also schoolteachers and Lynette Johnson is a trainee teacher.

Mrs D. M. Stratton, Helen's mother, said

that this could pose some problems as far as the Education Department's attitude was concerned.

"At present we don't know whether the girls will be granted leave of absence," she said.

Each member of the Australian team had to raise \$2000, Mrs Stratton said.

The South Perth women's lacrosse club was a very small one, comprising only one senior team, compared with two senior and two junior teams in Wembley and two senior and one junior team in Fremantle.

"Most of Helen's fund-raising efforts have been small affairs and I doubt if she would have hit the \$1000 mark yet," said Mrs Stratton.

### TOURISTS PREPARE

The lacrosse girls will also be busy over the next few days, in preparation for the Australian team's tour of the United States.

—one girl from interstate, who are joining the four Victorians in the touring side, arrived in Melbourne today, and settled straight down to the business of training together.

But they do not have much time as they trained together this afternoon, and will only have tomorrow and Saturday for more training sessions before jetting out to the U.S. on Sunday.

The 21-member team will be leaving Tullamarine at 2 p.m. on Sunday and flying via Honolulu, to Los Angeles, where they will arrive on Tuesday of next week.

Their first match against the Combined United States side will be on April 18, but they will be playing many other local, university and State teams on the six-week tour of the U.S.



## Girls need money to play in U.S.

Story: JOHN MORT. Picture: GREG WOODS

Pictured above are five of the six WA girls who have been selected for the Australian women's lacrosse team to tour the United States for five weeks.

They are (from left) Lynette Johnson (19), Jennifer Johnson (20), Gerry Bowden (Australian coach), Helen Stratton (21) and Wendy Moran (20). But unless enough money can be raised to pay the girls' air fares by April 10, the scheduled departure date, some of them may have to miss the tour. Public relations officer for the Women's Lacrosse Association, Mrs Beris Johnson, said today: "Things are now getting desperate. We have been working very hard over the past months trying to raise the \$2100 each girl needs for her air

fare and uniforms." "I sent out 30 letters to various businesses and companies in WA asking for sponsorship, but received only six replies. These were from retailers offering goods to be used in fund-raising functions," she said. "The association has been able to raise some money by conducting cake stalls and quiz-nights. "The response to these functions, especially the quiz-nights, has been good. Particularly from other lacrosse players," said Mrs Johnson. "But the amount raised still would not

cover half of the girls' air fares." Originally, 26 girls from different States were to make the tour, but already seven have had to withdraw for financial reasons. "All the girls have been training intensely six nights a week and are expected to perform well against the All-American side as well as the individual State teams they are to play. "After working for so long, it would be a great shame if some of the girls were not able to take part in the tour," she said.



◆ The Johnson sisters, Jennifer (20) left, and Lynette (19) started playing lacrosse almost accidentally about the age of 12 when a team was short of two players. Their mother, formerly Beris Folland, was an Australian 800 metres title and record-holder. Jennifer and Lynette are members of the Australian lacrosse team

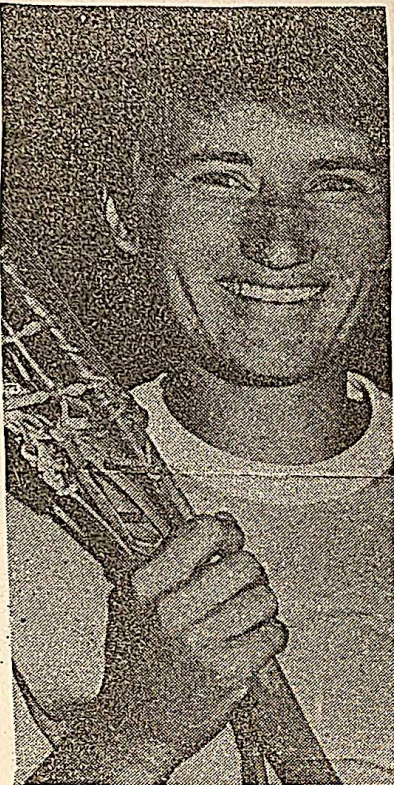
## SEVEN WA GIRLS IN NATIONAL SIDE

By Dorothy Goodwin

Only three years ago WA women's lacrosse teams were soundly thrashed in interstate matches.

But in the last two years the sport has made such progress that seven members of the Australian team to tour America in April are from WA. They are coach Gerry Bowden, of Kelmescott; Beth Ford, of Nedlands; Jennifer and Lynette Johnson, of Wembley; Wendy Moran, of Wembley; Helen Stratton, of Carlisle; and Wendy Taylor, of Palmyra. The team will leave on April 8 for an eight week tour of America and England — the world's top lacrosse countries. On their return the girls hope to put their experience to use by forming junior lacrosse teams.

Coach Gerry Bowden said that though the sport was only 10 years old in this country, Australia was rapidly catching up with America and Europe where the emphasis was on the skills rather than speed. Lacrosse was still a bit of a mystery sport here though about 200 girls played it in WA. "I suppose you could liken it to aerial hockey," she said. "But I want to dispel any ideas that women's lacrosse is a dangerous sport. Under men's rules it is a body contact sport, but women's lacrosse is non contact control and throw plus — more a game of catch, speed."



Barbara Mattsson... captain of Australia's lacrosse team heading for the United States.

## Our lacrosse women head for America

Barbara Mattsson hopes more than 1,700 hours of training will give Australia's women's lacrosse team a chance to prove its worth in America next month.

Barbara will captain the team, which leaves Adelaide on April 6 to play a Test series against top women's lacrosse teams in the United States.

It is the second international competition for the Australian team.

"Lacrosse started in Australia in the early '60s, but it didn't arrive in Adelaide until 1968," Barbara said.

The national team's first American tour was in 1972 but only three team members from the original tour are included in this tour.

The team will be in America for two months, but Barbara plans to stay until September and undertake some studies in the U.S. in association with her Adelaide diploma.

"No doubt our own team has improved in the last five years, but so has the American team."  
 "I'm going with mixed feelings. I don't really know how we'll go but the team is fit and we'll put up a good fight."  
 The 12 team members, plus six reserves, have trained together since early January for their meeting with the Americans.  
 "We have trained for two hours as a team three times a week, and each member does an hour of solo training every day," Barbara said.  
 Barbara started playing lacrosse in 1969, after stints of basketball, netball, and other women's sports.  
 She is studying for an associate Diploma of Recreation at Salisbury College of Advanced Education and has topped the course in the last two semesters.



Home News photo by Denis O'Keefe

ON THE ATTACK—Kathy Mitton of the Central District Team gets off a shot at goalie Elaine Matthews of the Australian Women's Lacrosse Touring Team despite the efforts of defender Barbara Mattsson. Mitton missed the shot and Australia won the game, played on Antilles Field at Douglass College yesterday, 10-8.

## Aussies hop off in triumph

By CLAUDIA STEIN  
Home News correspondent

NEW BRUNSWICK—Two worlds came together yesterday as the Australian Women's Lacrosse Touring Team met the Central District Team on Antilles Field at Douglass College.

It started off with the friendly international addition of exchanging pins. The Central team, composed of 14 women from New York and New Jersey gave the visitors a gold pin in the shape of a pine tree. The Australian's reciprocated with a small gold kangaroo, and then proceeded to hop away with a 10-8 victory to mark their first East Coast win of their six-week U.S. tour.

The 18 Australian women, ranging in age from 18 to 30, began their second tour of the U.S. four weeks ago with a victory over a California team. Since

then, however, they have met defeat in Baltimore, Washington, D.C., Philadelphia and against the U.S. National and Reserve teams.

In yesterday's game, 22-year-old kindergarten teacher, Helen Stratton and 18-year-old student Mary Herbert combined for six of the Aussie's goals. Stratton's three goals were scored in uninterrupted succession, all within the first eight minutes of second-half play. It broke the 4-4 halftime score and secured their lead for the remainder of play.

"They certainly have improved since their last tour here five years ago," said Central's captain Lois Hely of Westfield, who contributed four goals. "Most of us had not seen them play recently, so we did not know what to expect."

Hely pocketed three of Central's first-half goals and assisted Heidi Faith

of Rutgers with the fourth. Aussie goalie, Elaine Matthews was kept busy with 14 attempted Janet Swanson, other end of the field. H also of Rutgers, was busy halting 11 attempts.

Barbara Thompson, a teacher and coach at Cherry Hill West High School attempted to decrease Australia's three-point lead in the second half, by scoring on a set-up pass from Faith and later, on a solo drive through the middle. But the Aussie's aggressive offense maintained control and shot 17 times on goal, capitalizing on six.

The traveller's leave for Connecticut tomorrow and as one green-kilted player put it, "It has been marvelous here and everyone has been extremely friendly. But we all miss our homes."

The telephone company must have been pleased, because all the women called their mothers to wish them a happy day.

# La crosse makes its debut Saturday

By CANDY GREGG  
Asst. Sports Editor

What sport features "cradling" as its major tactical skill?

And what sport is played without boundaries, using natural obstacles off the playing field to form sidelines?

The answer to these questions is the "new" game of women's lacrosse. The sport was originally played by the North American Indians, and is perhaps the most popular game in the East for adult women. But the game has existed for under two years on the West Coast.

Cal State Long Beach students will be able to witness the sport played on an international level Saturday, when CSULB hosts a contest between the Australian National team and a squad of California All-Stars.

Starts at 10 a.m.

The game will begin at 10 a.m. on the 49er field, and will be followed by a lacrosse clinic for all interested persons. No admission will be charged for the match or clinic.

Four 49ers compete for the California squad, including women's field hockey coach Barbara Longstreth. Longstreth is the only veteran member of the CSULB contingent, with experience in both playing and coaching.

In Philadelphia, the "center of women's lacrosse," according to Longstreth, she coached the Philadelphia One team which captured first place in the first and second National Championship tournaments in 1975 and 1976.

She has also played on 10 United States women's teams. "I feel like a pioneer and it's exciting," said Longstreth. "Lacrosse is a free moving, creative and aesthetic game. It's a new educational experience."

## Other players

The other three members of the CSULB group are freshman Patty Morita and seniors Marlean Free and Cathy Coor. Morita and Free were both members of the 49er varsity field hockey team, of which the latter was captain. Coor is an AAU javelin thrower.

"What's neat about lacrosse and playing it is the freedom," said Free. "The skills are natural, and it feels very free—it's a natural, flowing game," she said.

"I really like the game because it's a "minor" sport, different than the usual softball and basketball," said Coor. "It's a unique sport," she added.

"Lacrosse has great appeal to women athletes because the skills can be carried over from other sport backgrounds like softball and basketball," said Free.

The three 49ers will accomplish quite a feat with their performance Saturday. They were introduced to the game by Longstreth at a workshop just four months ago. They have practiced every weekend since January 8, but a selection to an All-Star team after playing for such a short period of time is an unusual achievement.

"It's really exciting for them, having never played before and here they are in an international match," said Longstreth.

The 20-member Australian team is making a seven-week international sweep. Saturday's game will be the first stopover on its tour.

The game is played with 12 women per team playing positions such as "cover point" and "left attack wing." Unlike the men's counterpart, it is free from body contact. Only the goalkeeper is allowed to wear protective clothing of any kind.

"It's a very fundamental game," said Longstreth. "Lacrosse looks somewhat like a game of basketball being played on a 'big' court. It's like a huge game of keep-away," she said.

"It requires a great deal of mental discipline and physical endurance," said Free.

## Drawback

One handicap of the pioneering effort is the lack of qualified officials on the West Coast. Umpires for Saturday's game are flying in from the East at their own expense. Prospective officials from California will be rated during lacrosse action this weekend.

Longstreth believes the sport will grow quickly here.

She helps promote the game by conducting regular workshops and coaching intramural lacrosse at CSULB from 3-5 Thursdays. This is open to men as well as women.

"Lacrosse is going to grow; I'm confident of that," said Free. "As long as people like Barbara and Patty and Cathy and myself are interested, it's going to grow."

# U.S. Laxers Beat Aussies, 12-1

The United States women's lacrosse squad defeated the Australian touring team 12-1 yesterday on the Schoellkopf Poly-turf.

A crowd of about 500 witnessed some precise, fast-moving lacrosse, mainly by the U.S. squad. The Australian team ran into some problems coping with the artificial turf, but do not blame their loss entirely on that. As their team captain Barb Mattson, said, "we can't take anything away from the U.S. team. They played well, their passing was more accurate than ours. A few of our players aren't quite playing up to scratch."

The first time that the Aussies played on an artificial surface was during Monday's practice at Schoellkopf. They had some trouble picking up ground balls, and their pivot-turns were slow.

The U.S. team is composed of

college students and college graduates who played lacrosse all through school. However, in Australia, women play on recreational teams during the five winter months, a few times a week. Practice six or seven days a

week is unheard of over there. The touring team had little chance to play together before arriving in the States two weeks ago. Yesterday's game was the fourth time they had ever played together.

—Laura Muller

12 The Cornell Daily Sun

Tuesday, April 26, 1977

## Laxwomen Edge IC, 13-12; Aussies to Meet U.S. Team

In a very closely contested game, the women's varsity lacrosse team edged out Ithaca College, 13-12, yesterday afternoon. The "B" team lost 11-2, but showed improvement over last week's play against Brockport.

The Red team managed to impress the Australian touring team which they are hosting this week. Today, at 4 p.m., the Australian women's lacrosse team will take on the United States Reserve team on the Schoellkopf Poly-Turf. The Australians have been

trying to rest and take it easy while in Ithaca to overcome the problem of exhaustion which plagued them in Maryland last weekend. The U.S. team is composed of some of the best women lacrosse players in the U.S. today.

Yesterday afternoon it took a while for the Red squad to get hustling. Cornell was down 4-1, seven minutes into the game, as Sue Hartwell scored the sole Red goal. However, the Red was not down for long as Ginny Groton and Allison Locke provided two

goals which got the squad moving. IC scored twice more in the half, but Groton scored again, on a pass from Gwynne Kennedy, and Locke's pass to Amy Schroeder connected for another Red goal. The halftime score was IC 6, Cornell 5.

The second half scoring came from two more goals from Groton and Locke, with Hartwell contributing one more. Carol Johnson came off the bench in the second half and scored three for the Red. Locke's last goal, at 24:00, proved to be the game-winning goal.

IC outshot Cornell 21-17, but Marsha Smith made some key saves for the Red in goal.

— Laura Mullen



**THE STRAIN OF IT ALL:** Gail Purcell (right) of Hanover, Md., moves in on Geraldine Bowden of Australian Nationals, during their match Tuesday at Schoellkopf. Photo by Larry Baum.

## International Lacrosse Match Scheduled 1st Time in Poconos

Cedar Crest College, Allentown, will be the site of the first international lacrosse match ever played in the Pocono-Lehigh Valley area when the United States Womens Reserve Lacrosse Team plays the visiting Australian Womens Touring Team April 30 at 1 p.m.

Two local women will play on the U.S. team. Jake Buskirk of Nazareth, a 1974 graduate of Lockhaven State College and three year member of the U.S. reserve squad, will play center on the U.S. team.

Vickie Geyer, a junior member of Betty Lou Murphy's outstanding East Stroudsburg State College women's lacrosse team, is one of the youngest members of the U.S. Reserve team selected at the 45th U.S.W.L.A. National Tournament at Swarthmore College last May. She learned to play lacrosse at Pottstown High School. She will play at left attack wing.

Other members of the U.S. Reserve team are Goalkeeper Sandy Hook, Baltimore, Md.; Point and Captain Claudia Bloom, Cranbury, N.J.; Center Point Bunny Watts, Haverford; Third Man Gail Purcell, Hanover, Md.; Right Defense Wing Bev Burnett, Baltimore, Md.; Left Defense Wing Barbara Collins, Leola; Right Attack Wing Carla Andre, Collegeville; Third Home Ginny Ramsey, Phoenixville; Second Home Sharon Duffey, Media; First Home Mary Bodo, Haverford; Reserve Goalkeeper Sally Wilson, Avondale, R.I.; and Reserve Defense Wing Sue Dunton, Swarthmore.

The squad of 20 Australian women arrived in Los Angeles last week. During their six weeks tour they will play 14 matches in seven states against top U.S. district and national teams.

Manager Margaret Joan Cleggett, a former member of the Australian national team, says she is bringing a young, aggressive and well trained squad that will give a good account of itself against these top U.S. teams. The Aussies range in age from 18 to 30 and come from various occupations, teachers, coaches, clerks and secretaries.

Jackie Pitts, president of USWLA, and herself a former

8-time All-American, said this site was selected for one of the games because of the fine facilities at Cedar Crest and the growing interest in women's lacrosse in this area.

Geyer and Buskirk bring to four the number of All-American women lacrosse players from this section.

Gail Messner Lipstein, daughter of Mrs. B.M. Messner of Youngwood Court, East Stroudsburg, was first selected as Goalkeeper on the U.S. Reserve team in 1972. She is a graduate of

Stroudsburg High School and University of Pennsylvania and is now working as a Physical Therapist in Philadelphia.

Beth Allen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard K. Allen of Analomink Lake, made the U.S. Reserve team that same year. She was later selected to play on the 1975 World Championship U.S. Touring team which went undefeated in a six weeks tour of Great Britain in the fall of 1975.

A graduate of West Chester State College, she is now a physical education teacher and coach in suburban Philadelphia.

# Aussie women lacrosse stars vs. U.S. in Allentown Saturday

By PAUL REINHARD  
Call Sports Writer

The best women's lacrosse in the world is being played these days in the United States. The Americans earned that honor when, in 1975, they went undefeated on a tour through Great Britain, the country that originated the game.

It's not unusual, then, that a country looking to upgrade its program would come to the U.S. for pointers, and that's exactly what an Australian national team is doing this month.

The United States reserve team, a group of women who are just one step away from being the best the country has to offer, will take on the Australian team in a special exhibition game at 2 p.m. Saturday at Cedar Crest College.

It will be the first international lacrosse game ever played in the area, and much of the credit for getting the event to Allentown must go to Jacqueline "Jake" Buskirk, who is a member of the reserve team, an instructor at Cedar Crest and who will become lacrosse coach next year.

Buskirk, who will start at center for the American team, is one of two Lehigh Valley area women who will take part in the game. The other is Vickie Geyer, an East Stroudsburg State junior who was ESSC's leading scorer last year and is in her first year with the reserve national team. She is the youngest player on the team.

The game will be open to the public, and there will be no ad-

mission fee. "We think lacrosse is the most exciting sport there is, and the interest is growing. We're hoping we can get more people in the Lehigh Valley to know about it through this game," Buskirk said.

It will be the fourth game on the tour for the Australians, who lost to the U.S. No. 1 team 12-1 on Tuesday and were beaten by South No. 1 12-6 and South No. 2 17-5.

"The Australians have never been a scoring power," Buskirk said, "but they are an eager bunch. They are improving with every game, and they never let down. South-1 scored six goals in a row against them, but they never let it get to them. The score in that game was 9-3 at the half, and each team got three goals in the second half."

For many people, the game on Saturday will be an introduction to not only the touring Australians but an introduction to women's lacrosse. Buskirk thinks anyone who sees it once will want to see it again.

"It's a very fast-moving game, and we rely on the passing game to get the ball to the goal," she said. "It is a very cleanly-played game. As you get into higher levels, such as the international level, the body contact that does occur is much more limited than among the beginning players. Defense, stickwork and footwork are much more important."

The women's game consists of two 25-minute halves, with times out only in the event of injury. The goals, each 4½ feet wide and six feet high, are 100 yards apart; and while there are no hard-and-fast bound-

aries, the Cedar Crest field is about 60 yards wide.

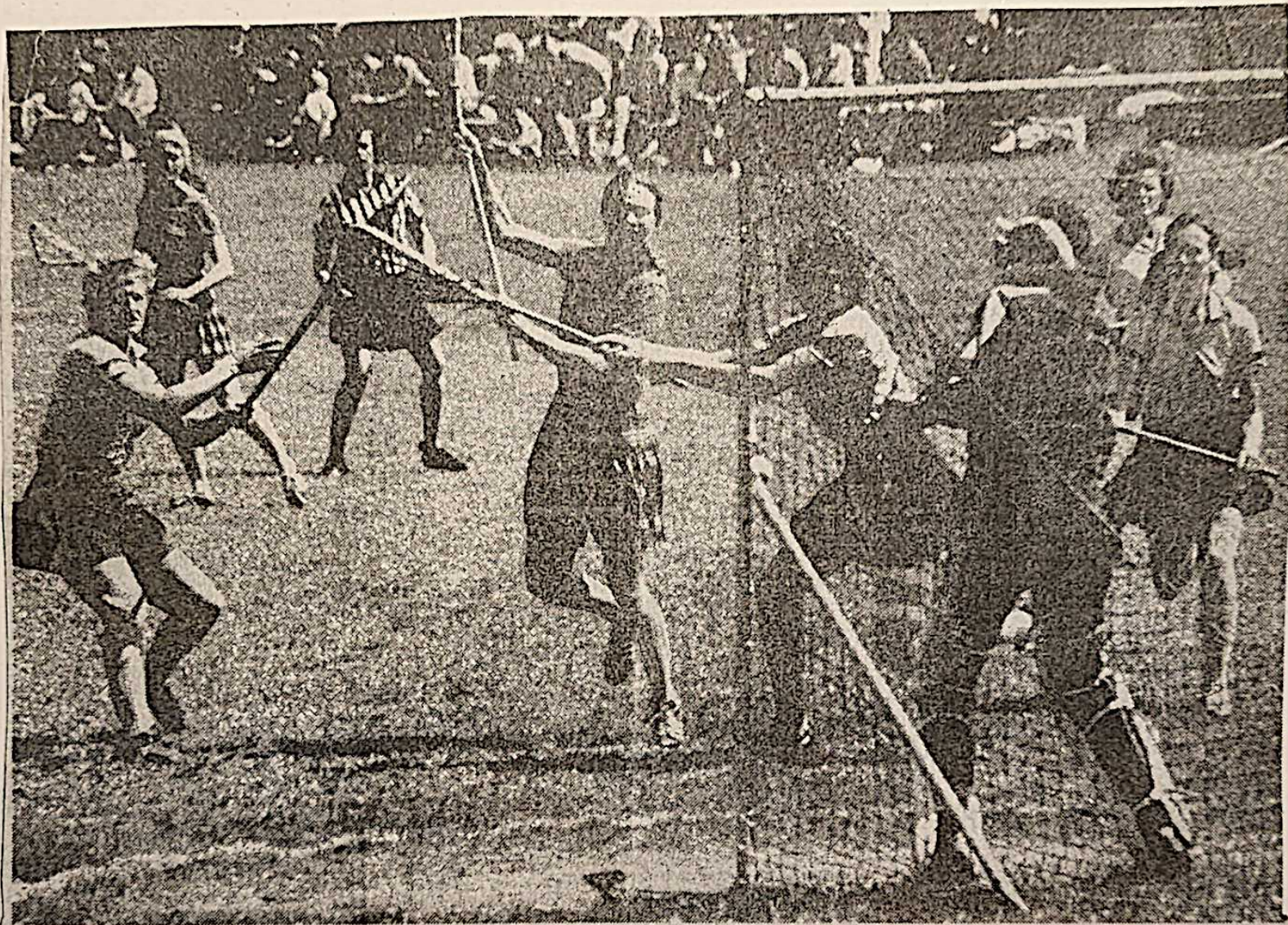
While men's lacrosse is a much more physical game, in which players wear protective equipment, the women wear the "official" uniform — a kilt — along with rubber-cleated shoes. "We don't wear any special equipment," Buskirk said.

She thinks the women's game is more demanding than the men's game. "In men's lacrosse, you often see people standing around; but the women are actually running the entire 25 minutes of each half. Stamina is very important, and you must condition yourself well before you can compete."

Buskirk plays the center position. "The center is a kind of connector between the defense and the attack team," she said, "but the primary concern is defense." The center might score on a "raid" one or twice a game, but her offense is most effective when it is unexpected.

Geyer, who scored a goal in every game for ESSC last season, will start at left attack wing. "This is Vickie's first year on the reserve team, and she is inexperienced. She needs some coaching, but she will be a good player as she learns more about the game," Buskirk added.

Buskirk, on the other hand, has been playing lacrosse since her days in junior high school. Her high school coach was Jackie Pitts, an eight-time All-American and 11-time member of the U.S. team who is currently the president of the United States Women's Lacrosse Association. Pitts is expected to attend Saturday's game.



### **On its way**

Viki Geyer (dark jersey in center) of the U.S. Reserve team takes pass from teammate Jake Buskirk (upper left), pivots around two Aussies

and sends ball home for first score of match in opening seconds.

*Photography by Joel Bieler*



WOMEN'S U.S. RESERVES LACROSSE TEAM

vs.

WOMEN'S AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL TOURING TEAM



CEDAR CREST COLLEGE

Allentown, Pa.

April 30th 1977

2:00 p.m.

**Pre-Game Ceremonies**

Welcome Address - Miss Doris Hamman, Head of  
Physical Education Dept.  
Cedar Crest College

Exchangement of National Pins between teams  
National Anthems

Officials - Jane Vache  
Joan Keiser

Tour Chairman - Mrs. Jake Buskirk  
Physical Education Instructor  
Cedar Crest College

Publicity Chairman - Mrs. Heidi Butler

*Home # 759636*

The Physical Education department would like to express their appreciation to everyone who contributed in the preparation of this event; Building and Grounds Department, Information Services, Cedar Crest Varsity Lacrosse Team, and the hosts and hostesses who provided housing and hospitality for the Australians.

Donations to U.S.W.L.A. would be greatly appreciated and may be given to any member of the Cedar Crest Lacrosse team.

U.S. Reserves

Goalie	Sandy Hoody
Point	Claudia Bloom
Cover Point	Bunny Watts
3rd Man	Gail Purcell
Right Defense Wing	Bev Burnett
Left Defense Wing	Barb Collins
Center	Jake Buskirk
Left Attack Wing	Viki Geyer
Right Attack Wing	Karla Andre
3rd Home	Ginny Ramsey
2nd Home	Sharon Duffy
1st Home	Mary Bodo
Substitute	Sue Dunton
Head Coach	Kathy Heinze
Assistant Coach	Micul Morse

$\frac{1}{2}$  time 5-1 to USA.  
Time 9-6 to USA.

Australian National Touring Team

Number

1	Barb Matteson, Captain
2	Helen Davies, Vice Captain
3	Geraldine Bowden, Coach/Playing
4	Heather Bassett
5	Barbara Cheevers
6	Deborah Walker
7	Janine Flavel
8	Ann Gorman
9	Diane Hoban
10	Mary Herbert
11	Jennifer Johnson
12	Lynette Johnson
13	Elaine Matthews
14	Wendy Moran
15	Helen Rogers
16	Helen Stratton
17	Wendy Taylor
18	Pam Withers

Margaret Clegget,  
Team Manageress

Dr. Kath Taylor, M.D.,  
Team Physician

POCONO MOUNTAINEER

WEEK OF MAY 12-18, 1977

## Girl Lacrosse Team Overcomes Ausies

Showing that she has completely recovered from a two week's illness, East Stroudsburg State College's Vicki Geyer was the leading scorer with three goals as the United States Women's Reserve lacrosse team overcame the Australian touring team 9-6 at Cedar Crest College last Saturday. Ms. Geyer scored the first two goals for the U.S. and picked up one more in the second half.

Coordinated team effort that overcame the hard charging Australians was illustrated by the fact that six U.S. players scored goals, two by Mary Bodo and one each by Bex Burnett, Ginnie Ramsey, Karla Andre and Sharon Duffey.

The U.S. team completely dominated the first half with excellent passing and interceptions. However, Australian Coach Geraldine Bowden changed her team's offense for the second half and held the Americans to four goals while scoring the same number.

Outstanding defense by the Americans made the big difference in the second half. Defense players Barb Collins, Claudia Bloom and Bunny Watts were especially effective and U.S. goalie Sandy Hoody excelled in stopping the many Australian shots at her goal.

Although the Australians have yet to beat any American team on this tour, this was their best game and their play in the second half showed that they are learning fast. Barbara Cheevers and Diane Hoban did especially well in outmaneuvering the U.S. defense, each scoring twice for the visitors.

## Aussie Women In Stick Contest Here Saturday

Following a year behind their country's men lacrosse squad, the Australian Women's touring team invades the Baltimore area this Saturday.

The women from Down Under have been touring the U.S. for six weeks, starting on the West Coast and traveling East. After a successful stint in upstate New York and Long Island, the Aussies played the national champions, Philadelphia I.

Saturday they will meet South I at Essex Community College at 1 P.M. Admission is \$1. fifty cents for students.

If the ladies are anything like their male counterparts, the contest should be filled with excellent stick work and fast, hard passing.



Photography by Joel Bieler

Sharon Duffy of the U.S. team fights off stick check for assist

Wednesday, April 27, 1977 ITHACA JOURNAL

## U.S. women stop Aussies

In a quick-moving match played at Schoellkopf, the U.S. First Team women's lacrossers stopped the touring Australian Nationals, 12-1, Tuesday afternoon before 500.

It was 6-1, at the half. The U.S. team outshot their guests, 39-9, and was led by Barb Doran, who scored four times, and assisted on three other goals.

Other scorers for the U.S. were Connie Larzo 1-1, Linda Creisler 2-3, Rosanne Neff 1-4, Jane Diamond 3-3 and Julie Staver 1-0.

Jennifer Johnson scored the only goal for the Aussies.

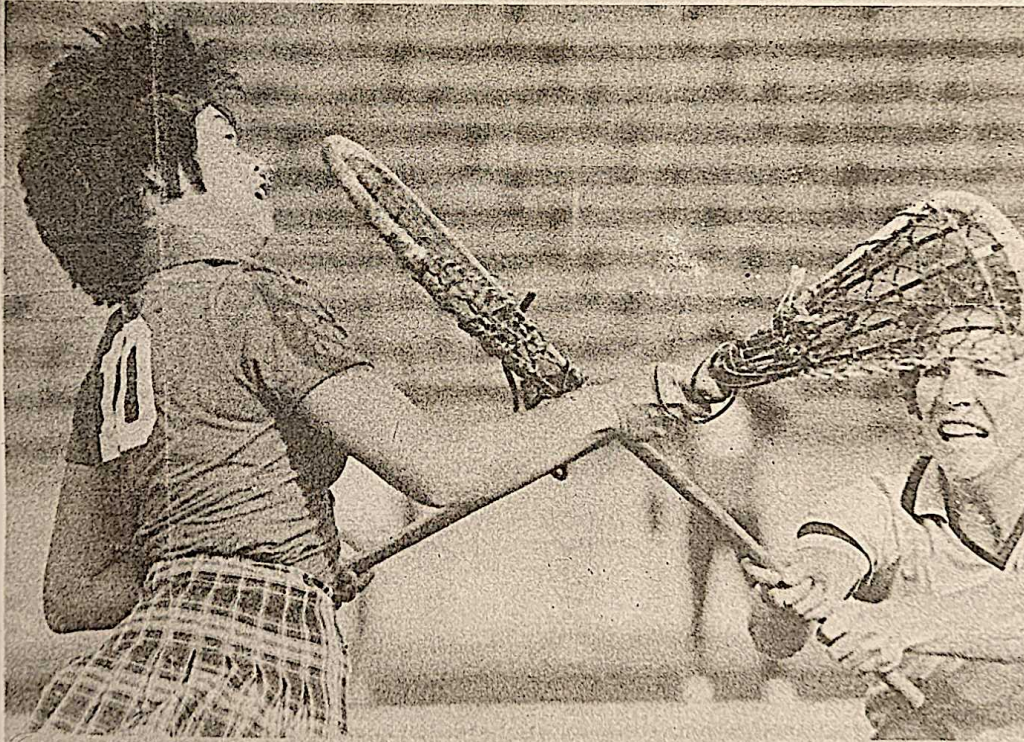
U.S. goalie Donna Coulter made six saves, while Aussie netminder Wendy Taylor had 18 saves.

The Aussies will continue their tour of

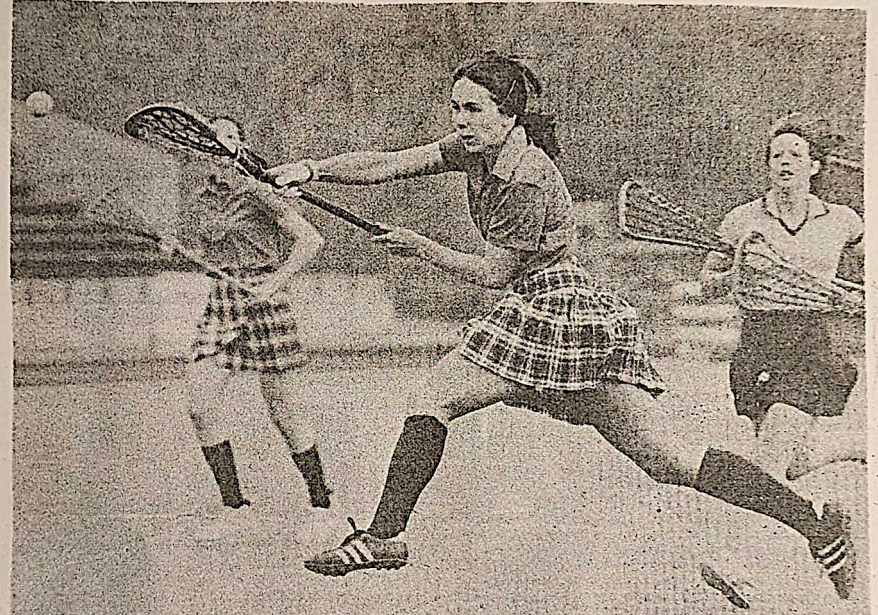
the U.S. through the end of May, playing several more American teams.

The Poly-Turf at Schoellkopf gave Aussies some trouble, as they only played together four times.

While the U.S. squad is made up of women who had played the sport through high school and college, the Aussie team is made up of women who had experienced the sport on a recreational basis.



**CHECKED:** Linda Creisler (left) of Hummelstone, Pa. — a member of the U.S. First Team — crosses sticks with Australia's Wendy Morgan. Photo by Larry Baum.



### *Top scorer for U.S.*

Barbara Doran of the U.S. First Team scores the second of her four goals Tuesday at Schoellkopf, as the American women lacrossers defeated the Australian Nationals, 12-1. Photo by Larry Baum.

# U.S. reserve squad cops lacrosse opener

By KEN MOYER JR.  
Call-Chronicle Sports Writer

Jackie Pitts watched the action intently along the sideline. The U.S. Women's Lacrosse Association president, who had nurtured the sport in its infancy during a 15-year career, had a special feel for the game.

The eight-time all-American, who toured for several years with the U.S. team, relished the occasion, beaming with satisfaction after a well-executed give-and-go play and wincing just the same over a rushed shot or long stick check. She's promoted the U.S. program for several years and takes great pride in its rise atop world competition.

And yesterday, one could sense her pleasure in the flourishing U.S. game as the U.S. Reserve team opened its international series by turning back the Australian National Touring team 9-6 at Cedar Crest College.

The afternoon had an international flavor from the opening ceremonies to the conclusion of the 50-minute (two 25-minute halves) match in which East Stroudsburg State's Viki Geyer scored three goals and former Cedar Crest athlete Jake Buskirk spearheaded a strong midfield passing game for the U.S.

Unlike the men's game where brute

force is demanded and body checking a way of survival, the premiums in women's lacrosse are speed and finesse combined with an unselfish team style. With no substitutions except for injury and no off-side penalties (a player may run the entire field), the rigors of the game drain even the stamina of the best-conditioned athletes.

In the opening seconds of play, Buskirk, who now teaches at Cedar Crest, pulled in the draw and sprinted the length of the field before drawing a defensive player and passing to Geyer for the score.

With the Aussies playing a loose man-to-man, Geyer quickly made it 2-0 off a nifty pass from Mary Bodo of Philadelphia. Aussie Barb Cheevers countered with a score when she took it all the way in by herself.

The Americans, however, were cutting better and making the short, crisp passes while Australia opened up with longer lobs and had only one girl bringing it up. The difference was evident.

A few minutes later, Geyer found Bodo positioned alone near the goal and the Warrior junior didn't pass it up. Bodo's goal put the Americans up 3-1 and midway through the first half Bev Burnett of Baltimore came up from her defensive position and popped one in

for a 4-1 cushion.

Australia's Mary Herbert then put the moves on the U.S. defense with three beautiful dodges and a goal. The U.S. though, charged right back minutes later when Sharon Duffy of Penn State hooked up with Ginny Ramsey and a 5-2 halftime lead.

The U.S. picked up right where it had left off in the first half as Karla Andre slapped in a missed shot and Geyer followed with a long bounce shot that gave the Americans their biggest lead at 7-2. Australia was creating the 2-on-1 situations but lapsed into poor positions around the goal.

The Aussies, however, who had practiced only once before leaving Melbourne, didn't travel 17,000 miles to be routed and their desire to make a game of it wasn't more evident than from that point on.

Helen Davis, Cheevers and Herbert clicked for goals within a seven-minute span as Australia improved its stick game with shorter passes and pulled to within 7-5.

Andre then fought her way downfield and shoveled a pass off to Bodo, who tossed it in. Cheevers retaliated with a score after hooking from behind the goal, but the U.S. promptly closed the door with Duffy penetrating straight on for the insurance goal.

# Lacrosse Big Secret for 45 Years

The Australian women's lacrosse team landed in California last week for the start of a 6½-week American tour and came away with an astounding 19-4 victory over a Los Angeles-based team. Well, maybe astounding is too strong a word. The score may seem lopsided, but then again, California is not exactly a hotbed of lacrosse players . . . yet.

The Aussies arrived in the East and were greeted with a 17-5 defeat against South II, a 12-6 loss against South I, a 12-1 loss against the U.S. Team, a 9-6 defeat against the U.S. reserve team and a 9-7 defeat against Philly II at Cheltenham High School field last night.

They meet the three-time U.S. national champion Philly I team tomorrow at 8 P.M. at Marple-Newtown High.

"Even though they (Philly I) are undefeated, we can beat them," said Aussie player-coach Gerry Bowden. "We're a young country in lacrosse and we're over here to gain experience and knowledge as well as to win."

Despite that lacrosse is not very young (the U.S. Women's Lacrosse Association was formed in 1932) in this country, it remains America's best kept secret. Some 10,000 women at high school, college and club levels play the sport, yet the emphasis still remains in the East.

It was only three years ago when the association decided to stage a national championship. The philosophy of the organization had been to de-emphasize the importance of titles and champions and statistics, but now field hockey may be taking some of the potential lacrosse players, especially since field hockey will be a new event in the 1980 Olympics.

The way it looks now, you either have to be a field hockey player or a lacrosse player," said Julie Staver, member of the Philly I championship team and four-time All America in



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championships and hopefully a spot in the AIAW's calendar as soon as there are enough college teams to merit a championship.

"In lacrosse, there are few rules, no boundaries and lots of room to be innovative," said Staver. "But we still need to work on creating backhanded shots, more use of the right and left

both sports. "There are so many hockey tours and there will be lots of tournaments coming up in preparation for choosing the U.S. Olympic team for 1980."

Staver, assistant women's athletic director at the University of Pennsylvania, realizes the chances of the U.S. making the final cut are slim. "Only six teams will be playing in the Olympics and we placed tenth at the '75 world championships at Edinburgh. The Soviets have an automatic berth."

But because the Olympics add credibility and legitimacy to a sport, field hockey's inclusion in the Olympics will add strength to this fast-rising sport.

Lacrosse is the scene of fighting two factions, one that encourages growth, rule changes, tighter strategy and one that wants to see the game left alone.

"I see nothing but problems if lacrosse follows field hockey and tries to become part of the Olympics," said Philadelphia Caroline Haussermann, former USWLA president.

hand, and flipping shots over the head. Traditionally, there has always been a man-to-man defense, but some teams are developing a zone defense.

"Another problem in lacrosse is the fact that the game isn't as widespread across the world as field hockey," he continued. "They play lacrosse in the British Isles and Australia and that's it."

Some steps are being taken to increase the popularity of the sport. The USWLA will host a meeting of the International Federation of Women's Lacrosse Associations in two weeks in an effort to standardize the rules and help develop and promote the game.

The USWLA has accepted an invitation from the British Universities Sports Federation to send a team of collegiate players to tour Britain next

year.

And its president, Jackie Pitts, has pledged a promise for change. "The USWLA must not stand still," said Pitts in her president's letter in Crosse Checks Magazine, the USWLA's official publication. "Change and growth in lacrosse are good but let's not change so rapidly that we forgo basic values and slide backward instead of forward."

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"There's no way the U.S. will be one of the five. I pray lacrosse doesn't go the same way. I could be accused of being an oldtimer, but I want to see lacrosse maintain its independence away from politics."

Haussermann sees lacrosse as a game of beauty, fluid movement and freelancing. "I see lacrosse as a sort of dance on the field," she said.

"It has an airborne quality of movement and it's up to the individual players to figure out a way to outwit their opponents. To break into that open space and use their skill and intelligence. I hate to see the sport get like basketball or football with set, patterned responses to certain situations and completely structured."

# U.S. women lacrossers defeat

## Jane Diamond hat trick leads to 10-1 victory

GREENWICH TIME, THURSDAY, MAY 12, 1977

Over 800 spectators at Greenwich Academy, yesterday, were treated to some outstanding women's lacrosse as the highly favored United States team defeated the touring Australian team, 10-1, in the second of three test matches.

Led by their outstanding right attack wing, Jane Diamond, who tallied a hat trick, the USA team took charge from the opening draw.

In a first half that saw the Australian line defense planting its feet and gambling on sweeping checks, the USA attack, with accurate, flat passes, deftly wove its way to goal.

After the first two US shots went wide of the goal, second home Connie Lanzl took a pass from center Merle Werley and hit the high upper corner at 3:20.

Lanzl from left defense Janice Rensimer, followed by first home Barb Doran's determined run through three Aussie defenses for an underhand shot; Werley made it 3-0 on an outside bouncer with an assist from left attack Rose Ann Neff; Doran on an underhand as she circled the crease, unassisted; and Neff unassisted at 12:30 on a bouncer to give the USA a 6-0 lead and a perfect six for six in the shots on goal department.

Meanwhile, the USA defense was brilliant as they came away with the ball time after time on interceptions and accurate stick checking. The first Aussie shot on goal came at the 15:00 mark, and goalkeeper Sally Wilson was there for the save. The line defense of Captain Julie Staver at third man, Mary Ann Smeltz at cover point, and Sue King at point kept the Australians tied in knots. Wing defenses Rensimer and Robin Cash gave the US speed on the outside to open up the play.

The US tallied twice in the last four minutes as Diamond tallied first on a low bounce shot as she circled the crease.



## Aussies 2nd time

and on a pass from Lanzl as she bested the Australian goalkeeper Wendy Taylor with a high shot.

The second half was a whole new ball game as both teams played practically even. The United States outscored their guests, 2-1, but unlike the first half, the Aussies mounted numerous scoring attempts and play carried from end to end.

The Australian defense played a much better game in the second half as they were tighter, causing the USA to lose the ball. Wilson made two big saves for the US to stop an Aussie threat. Neff then put the US on top by a 9-0 margin at 9:47 on a high bouncer.

After an Australian shot ticked off the post, center Gerry Bowden put the Aussies on the board at 17:42 on a high shot that deflected off a US defensive stick and got past Wilson.

The final tally of the match came from Diamond at 23:10 off a feed from third home Linda Kreiser.

Crosse Checks: If the Australian team had played the first half the way they played the second half, the score would have been much closer. The USA's Wilson was credited with six saves, while Taylor recorded 10. Australian Captain and third man Barbara Mattson was a stalwart on defense. The frustrated Aussies needed another

strong attacker to get through the swarming US defense. United States Coach Kathy Heinze had no answer as to why her team let down in the second half. The final match of this series will be played in Philadelphia on May 21, and the Australian team will return home on May 22. — Angela Tammaro



**INTERNATIONAL LACROSSE** — After the relative calm of the pre-game ceremonies in which the United States and Australian Touring women's lacrosse teams lined up on the Greenwich Academy field for the playing of the national anthems, top picture, the action on the field got hot and heavy, as indicated by the bottom picture in which the United States' Barb Doran, plaid skirt, battles Australia's Wendy Moran for a loose ball. Sue King, plaid skirt in background, of the US looks on. The US won the game, 10-1. — Hood Photos



Post Photos by Robert Kallus  
Aussie player-coach Geraldine Bowden (left) crosses sticks with a Long Islander.

## Island stickwomen beaten

Set against the backdrop of Hofstra's towering dormitories, 1500 spectators witnessed the demise of the "hometown" Long Island Women's Lacrosse Assn.

While the visiting Australian National Touring team taught our women a lesson in passing and running, all was not lost in yesterday's 15-0 shellacking. "It was a pretty even match," said LIWLA coach Dr. Nathalie Smith. "Their conditioning paid off and we missed too many connections. But we still played well."

### BALANCED

Australian coach Geraldine Bowden had this to say. "We had a very balanced scoring attack with each forward scoring at least a goal. We were faster and certainly have more experience having been together since Janu-

Who are these women and why are they playing lacrosse? They are a conglomeration of college students, nurses, teachers, housewives, secretaries and the like who have found they love this fast-moving sport.

### FREEDOM

"I enjoy the freedom of play and the creativity involved with the game," said LIWLA co-captain Betsy Hulme. "I picked it up three years ago at the Lawrence Country Day School, where I teach. First I coached and now I play."

Betsy did not play in high school or college as many women do today but her intensity toward the sport has enabled her to be selected to next Sunday's all-star tournament in Providence. She is also the president of the LIWLA.

Where will the lacrosse

stars of the future come from? "Long Island has a strong field hockey program for girls," says Dr. Smith. "Also basketball teaches the cuts necessary to play lacrosse. They're both running sports and that's the essence of the game."

Dr. Smith, or as her friends call her, Muffy, keeps a busy schedule coaching Hofstra's varsity as well as the LIWLA team.

Muffy says she "just" works six days a week coaching lacrosse, his type of dedication makes it no small wonder that three other women beside Betsy Hulme have made it to the all-star tourney at Brown next weekend. They are Pat Pavlovich, a teacher and coach at McKenna junior high in Massapequa; Marti Sinnerich, who played four years at Bowling Green; and Cindy Lewis, co-chairman at Hofstra.





◆ Members of the Australian Women's Lacrosse team, though tired, are still all smiles after arriving home from a tour of the United States last night. From left to right they are—Wendy Taylor (WA), Debbie Walker (SA), Ann Gorman (SA), Mary Herbert (SA), and Helen Stratton (WA).—Picture: JOHN CAMPBELL.

## LACROSSE GIRLS HOME AFTER U.S. TOUR

By Peter Malone

It would be hard to find a lovelier group than the Australian women's lacrosse team.

Sitting, laughing and joking today it was hard to believe they had flown in from London at 2am this morning.

The girls had just returned from a 49-day tour of the United States and they paid all expenses themselves.

It was obvious that the girls had become very close friends on the trip.

The girls played 16 games in the U.S., winning six of them. It's a better record when you note that though the girls had 125 goals scored against them, they scored 122.

"The games we lost weren't a fair indication of the game," said local girl Wendy Taylor (22) from Palmyra. "They were all keenly fought."

One thing the girls all agreed on was the great hospitality of the Americans.

Mary Herbert (18), from Seacombe Gardens, SA, said: "I had a ball. I thought it was terrific. One of the best things apart from playing was staying in the houses. They really lay on the hospitality."

Experience was the biggest gain for the team, playing the faster and more skilled Americans.

"We are going to have to change our game if we are to be better in the international matches," said Ann Gorman (21) from seaside Glenelg, SA.

It was great fun as they chatted about their experiences—like the time Ann and Wendy missed the plane in Las Vegas and when they were all sick flying in a light aircraft through the turbulent wind currents of the Grand Canyon, or when Wendy witnessed a robbery in New York.