

# PEPP-TALK

with  
Harry  
Pepper

The Rossland Redmen are back home again after a valiant effort to secure the B.C. Provincial Senior "B" lacrosse title and a shot at the crown held for the past couple of years by the representative of the league the Redmen won this year.

The Rossland team certainly came up with the kind of performance that we had come to expect from them. I haven't had a chance to talk to any of the boys as yet, but it goes without saying that in all the games they played out there they put all they had into it.

I had a report from someone who talked to one of the Rossland boys on the team and the story goes that they felt that Armstrong was just as tough competition as any they met out on the Island. I fail to see that this report is factual, because they could beat Armstrong on any given day and they were beaten in two close games out of the three they played out there.

According to word from the Coast during the summer the eventual winners of the title, the North Shore Indians, were the class of the teams which would be in the round-robin playoff and they proved that the story was not without substance.

Speculation is going round as to the future of the Redmen and lacrosse in the Interior, we have seen the Rossland team dominate the scene in the Interior lacrosse league to the extent that we saw the former champion Vernon Tigers cut and run before the season was barely underway.

The Calgary teams were excellent competition, but how long can such an arrangement last if the support the Rossland team was getting, the Australian game excepted of course, does not improve considerably?

I have no idea whether the Calgary teams or Armstrong get any better support, but in any athletic event today it is the fan with the bucks at the wicket who has the final word, and without that support no team can long survive.

I don't want to believe for a moment the contribution that our Redmen have made to our city. The recruiting job that

Allen to promote the game of lacrosse in our area through the youth movement, deserves the support of every fan who enjoys watching the game. The young men who came here to play could very well stay to play and help develop our youngsters in their mold. I guess it largely depends on how things work out to encourage them to stay on here.

On Friday night of last week I accepted an invitation to attend a stag party held at Red Mountain Lodge in honor of Butch Boutry. Butch is getting married at the end of the month and the party was held to show what the assembled guests thought of this popular young man, who is well known throughout the area for his exploits on the ski slopes and coaching National ski teams and who now has

turned his talents to doing a great job each summer on the Upper Course of the Rossland-Trail Golf Club, as grounds keeper.

The company was good at the party, consisting of representatives of every form of sport that we enjoy in Rossland. The steaks were looked after by Bernie Fourt and Tullio Lenarduzzi, who did their usual professional job with them. The one I had I could have cut up with a fork. The refreshment situation was well taken care of and there was something for everyone to do while they were waiting for the steaks.

Butch was given a brand new set of golf clubs as a present — very appropriate, I thought, considering his present summer employment. I think he'll give them a good workout in his spare time. I imagine the guests gave

Butch a couple of other gifts, if the party followed the line of most of this kind I have attended, however since I stayed only for the original presentation, I didn't get in on any of the later activities.

Thanks, fellas, for the invitation. I enjoyed it very much, and Butch, I hope your married life will be as pleasant as your single life has been. Good luck to you both!

In closing this week, I want to congratulate the Trail Little Leaguers on their fine play at Copper Cliff, from all reports, at the time of writing this, they are undefeated and they could easily be going to Williamsport for still another time.

They have a fine record and work hard at continuing it. May the gods of fortune smile on them this time!

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I don't want to believe for a moment the contribution that our Redmen have made to our city. The recruiting job that brought a number of outstanding athletes to our city to help in the rebirth of the game of lacrosse in this area has been hailed by quite a number of local sports fans as a tremendous help.

The young men who came here and mixed with our local boys on the team have performed a great service to our town. We admire every one of them and hope they will be around our city for a long time to come.

The proposal by Coach John

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