

1979-1980

PEPP-JALK

with
Harry
Pepper

Last Saturday night at the arena we had a chance to see something happen which could happen again and again as the KIJHL season continues. A come-from-behind victory is always very satisfying and when it comes over a team that had not suffered a defeat previously in the new season and with the talent the Kimberley Knights showed, it becomes something to crow about.

I think if we delve into the record book we would find that this situation has been a rare occurrence in the past few seasons. Rather, the Warriors have been known to build up a substantial lead in the early going only to see it frittered away in the closing stages.

What I have tried to point out in my previous columns and I reiterate today is that this is a totally different hockey team we have in Rossland this season, predominantly home-grown in personnel. We should never forget the contribution being made by the few out-of-town youngsters on the roster, but our kids are playing hockey like they were enjoying every minute of it and because of this things are going to happen that we weren't looking for in the past.

Wednesday night we saw them go up against the Grand Forks Border Bruins who have trounced them on two occasions this season. If the Warriors had kept digging the way they did on Saturday, the Bruins wouldn't have run away with the last two periods.

I've said it before and I'll repeat it, this Warrior team seems to shrug off penalties like they never happened. In fact, I feel that they can play four men to five in two-minute penalty situations and ride them out without the opposition realizing that they have a man advantage. I don't think this is a situation that a coach relishes, but when it happens so often it sort of becomes a fact of life, one which he must be grateful for.

On Wednesday, the Retirees' Curling Club met to open the 1979-80 season, not the playing part, but the organizational end of things. I know that they are looking for any new members that are

yourselves, and anything you pick up along the way is gravy, be it prizes, social contacts, special skills or just plain hard-earned sore muscles. All you need to bring is an age-bracket totalling more than 58 years, a minimal amount of money and the intention to join in the fun of retirees' curling. You could be opening up a whole new vista of good times.

Now another note which was struck the other evening. A couple of members of the Ladies' Auxiliary to the Legion offered the suggestion that I should give a couple of events coming up in Branch No. 14 a little airing in this column. OK ladies, here goes.

On Saturday, Nov. 3 the Legion members will be selling poppies on the streets of our town and as a reward for their efforts they will be tendered a supper. All right, that's not exactly true — the annual Vets' Banquet happens to fall on the same day as the poppy sale, so even if you don't sell any poppies and you are a veteran of any of the last few wars, you should get up to the branch clubrooms and enter your name on the list as wishing to attend this annual wingding. It's sort of a warmup for the Nov. 11 celebration.

The other, still a little distant yet, but one which has proven very popular, is the Annual Grey Cup breakfast. This year it will be on Sunday, Nov. 25. There will be two TVs in the basement clubroom and there will again be a really delightful breakfast presided over by such competent chefs as No. 1 Joe, known to the uninitiated as the Swiss yodeller, or better still, Joe Thalman, and his sidekick, sometime golfer and curler of note, Phil 'Cool Hand Luke' Bateman. There'll be a few others who will pitch in to help dish up those delicious hot cakes, sausages, bacon and eggs, so get a ticket from Tommy at the bar and enjoy a good day at the game.

The other night at the hockey game I was approached by a very charming young lady who said to me, "Harry, I wish you wouldn't call my auntie Prissy. We all call her Cissy."

I can appreciate the feeling behind this because I know the sort of person with whom this name is associated. However, having met and enjoyed, on several occasions, the company of the lady in question I can only say that I can't for the life of me ever imagine anyone thinking

Priscilla Starbuck prissy. She is just about the most outgoing person anyone can ever hope to meet. I think everyone who met her felt the same as I did. She's just nice people, whatever name you tag her with.

We shall look forward to the proposed visit of the Montreal Canadiens' Old-Timers to Trail to play the '61 Smoke Eaters. For us hockey fans out here in the West, this would be a once-in-a-lifetime occasion. I hope everything works out for the promoters of this proposal — it should certainly draw well.

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On Wednesday, the Retirees' Curling Club met to open the 1979-80 season, not the playing part, but the organizational end of things. I know that they are looking for any new members that are available. To play in this league you don't have to be any whiz-kid. All we ask is that you come out and enjoy

pick up along the way is gravy, be it prizes, social contacts, special skills or just plain hard-earned sore muscles. All you need to bring is an age-bracket totalling more than 58 years, a minimal amount of money and the intention to join in the fun of retirees' curling. You could be opening up a whole new vista of good times.

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