

PEPP-JALK

with
Harry
Pepper

JUNE 13/80

A foul-up in scheduling saw the Redmen and Calgary Mountaineers game which was to have been played on Sunday afternoon cancelled. From information gleaned from a telephone conversation with Walt Christianson I gathered that the Mountaineers were not apprised of the fact that they had a three-game weekend scheduled in which they were to play each of the Interior teams once.

It would appear that whoever was responsible for the schedule for the Interior Lacrosse League must have been somewhat remiss in his duties. It seems almost laughable when all the entries in a league are not aware of their commitments; one would think that that would be the first duty of someone responsible for scheduling, to make sure all teams had

copies of their proposed commitments so that action could be taken to see that they were fulfilled.

That sort of thing could seriously undermine the work that John Allen has tried to put into the promotion of lacrosse here. However if I read John right, he won't let this deter him in his goal to put Rossland back on the lacrosse map.

I don't know how many of you caught him on the air awhile back, but I thought his concept of a minor lacrosse program for the entire district sounded very worthwhile and feasible.

I see Babs had explained the ticket situation for the Australian game quite fully in her Rec program news, so I'll only add a reminder to be sure and pick them up in advance and save yourself the

extra buck at the door.

Another subject that I would like to bring up here is the effort being made by the young men of our city to upgrade facilities in our local parks. According to word from Kenny Dixon of the Play-for-Funners, they have a plan in hand to repair the backstop at the Cook Avenue park and put in dugouts and possibly toilet facilities at Centennial Park.

Add to this a plan which John Stanton put forward to me in a phone conversation last night. The members of the Uplander fastball team, currently playing in the Trail Commercial League, would be willing to offer volunteer help in the erection of a small covered stand on the natural slope behind the backstop at Centennial.

John suggested that possibly a couple of the service clubs in town, or more for that matter, could be approached for assistance in such a project.

I have said it before and I'll say it again, Rossland is a very fortunate town to have a group of young men who are willing to take time off from the everyday struggle to raise young families, to recognize what we need to make our town a better place to live in and enjoy. I for one, and I hope I'm not alone, think that these energetic young people should be given all the encouragement and help we can afford to give them.

While on the subject of Slo-Pitch, I have some data for you on what to expect and when with regard to the annual tournament. It will be held June 28-29, using all

parks in town and there will be 16 teams in attendance.

Rules are the same as have been in force in previous years and there will no doubt be many familiar faces from previous tourneys to look upon and many stories to swap between games. Teams will come from Vernon (three), Kamloops (six), Calgary and Enderby (one each), Trail (one), and Rossland (four).

Now, let's all hope for a couple of nice days and the tourney will be the success we are accustomed to seeing. One year, you'll remember, it was played under almost intolerable conditions, but it was still played.

With regard to minor soccer, I would like to congratulate the statistician responsible for the standings report in The Times last week. It's very brief, games played, wins, ties and points. Who needs anything else? If you've played eight games, won five and haven't tied any, you must have lost three, right?

Rossland teams are experiencing a so-so season as a whole. Three teams, one in each division, are near the lower end of their tables, while four have respectable records and are resting in the middle section of their particular division standings. I still think some thought

middle section of their particular division standings. I still think some thought should be given to a house league in the Pee Wee divisions, with rep teams to represent Rossland in the league.

On Saturday, I watched a game between Shay Kelly's Raiders and Jimmy Johnston's Eagles. While these kids still have a lot to learn, the work of their coaches is beginning to show through in their play. The Raiders took this one 5-0 to raise their record to five wins, a tie and three losses. Scoring for Kelly's boys were John Cormack and Terry Primeau with two each and Craig Sinclair.

Lino Fabbro led East Trail to a Bantam Division victory over Jack McDonald's Rossland City team in the other game on Saturday. Fabbro scored three times in a 6-0 East Trail victory. The win was the Trail team's second in eight games; they have one tie. Other scorers for Maria Fabbro's boys were Jerry Orlowski, Mitch Young and David Dallas.

The City team is still looking to put something together. Uncertainly seems to be their big fault; they have forwards capable of scoring goals, a good sweeper, one sure-footed defender and a goalie who hasn't had too much support. But in their eagerness they are getting in one another's way too many times in crucial situations, pouncing in one situation when they should hesitate and hesitating when they should be driving.

Still on soccer, when are the Whitecaps going to put on a show worthy of NASL champions?