



—Keith McQuiggan photo

The Australian national lacrosse team looked like a legion of commandos from a science fiction film as they warmed up for the recent game against Rossland Redmen in full playing attire. Australia is

now playing at the world tournament at Vancouver and the Redmen have two home games this weekend.

SPORTS TALK

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Last week saw Rossland the host to the Australian National Lacrosse team and it turned out to be a memorable occasion. Not only did it attract the largest crowd in recent memory to the Rossland Arena but it also gave a big boost the fortunes of our Redmen.

The lacrosse played was of a crowd-pleasing calibre and the fans who numbered close to 1,100 were appreciative. The last time the arena had a sports event crowd approaching that magnitude was for the Warriors-Grand Forks hockey series of a few years back.

The actual score in the game was 12-7 in favor of the Redmen, with coach John Allen once again a very positive factor in the Redmen's scoring statistics.

John had three goals and four assists, linemate Ken Storoshenko two goals and three assists, while Rob Grant, a real speedster, helped himself to two goals, single goals went to Peter Janssen, Walter Christianson, Hughie Small, Mike Amos and Steve Joyce.

The scoring by the Aussies was all done by two players, Steve Ellis got five goals and Wayne Little scored the other two.

The after-the-game festivities carried on well into the following day with some of the players from "down under" accepting the hospitality of some of the Redmen

players and staying overnight in their homes.

I imagine that the trip to Armstrong, where they were to play next, was a pretty hasty affair, as some of the players were still in bed around noon.

Talking to Neil Murdoch, who drove them in from Calgary and on to Armstrong, I got the idea that he had enjoyed the task of busing the team around. He told me he considered them a fine bunch of young men, worthy representatives of their great country.

I had a chance to talk to one or two of the players as well as the two referees who travelled with the team. Allan Jennings, a team member, told me their trip across Canada had been quite an experience and would be remembered by the players for a long while. He said they really appreciated the reception they had received in Rossland and really liked the surroundings here.

We in Rossland can appreciate his feelings; you could travel many, many miles before you can see a more beautiful setting than our mountaintop town and our people are known far and wide for their hospitality.

Referees Greg Miller and Bob Bengner travel with the team and assist in officiating at the games. Both are competent officials and worked well with our local people.

I asked Greg about the lacrosse situation in Australia

and he told me the game is played in only three centres down there, Adelaide, Perth and Melbourne. Sydney, the largest city, does not have a team at all.

As we sent them on their way we wished them a lot of luck in the big tournament in which they are over here to take part. Having seen them and their style of play, we shall find it interesting to follow their progress in the upcoming tourney.

So, it's so-long Aussies! It was nice to have you visit us and get to talk to you, it will remain an event long remembered by all who took part in it, even for such a short time.

While at the game I got a chance to talk to one of the players recently returned from the hockey trip down under. He told me that the facilities for hockey down there are not to be compared with what we are used to in this country.

The boards are only about knee-high and in some cases are metal, the backdrop in some cases consists of netting instead of wire mesh, the puck does not bounce off it but drops straight down. The boys enjoyed the trip, which was fairly successful but apparently hockey is not big business down there as it is here.

Well, it's that time of the year again. The first of a series of games in the mixed-up slo-pitch league was held Monday evening and after the smoke had cleared the score read 18-17 for Tongo Taylor's crew over one managed by Babe Laface. This was the first but we are assured there will be more to come.

Excerpts from notes on the event drawn up by Donna Price are as follows: The start of the game was held up awaiting the arrival of Donna who was out golfing, Bernie Fourt had trouble hitting the pitching of

Roberta Delich — he said she winked at him every time she threw the ball — Tim Laface pitched a strong game for the winners and Sharon Schuck played well until she had to leave for work.

She was replaced by a visitor from Leduc, Alta., by the name of Harold Gyte, related to No. 2 Joe. This must be getting to be some league, importing players from all over.

Southpaw Zula Laface and husband Rudy played on the same team and got along quite well and Dave Tweed was happy to see the game end as his old legs were giving him trouble catching up with the balls Sandy hit to him.

It is hoped that Bea Driscoll will be able to turn out for the next game. She was missed by everyone and more fans would be appreciated. It's lots of fun to watch Babe trying to clear his players bench. Wonder what Babe is trying to tell us?