

PEPPER-TALK

with
Harry
Pepper

On Monday I had a chance to talk to a young Rossland businessman who has had a very colorful career in sports and now is operating his own store in a business in which he is well qualified, the sale, fitting and instruction in the use of ski equipment.

Skiing is a fast-growing and very popular sport around the world today and Rossland is one of the places that is renowned all over the North American continent for its facilities, and one of the people who have helped earn this renown is the young man I am going to write about today.

Butch Boutry was born in Rossland and got all his education here. Like a lot of Rossland youngsters he developed a great liking for the sport which was to become the main theme of his life. On skis at the age of five, he soon became proficient in the sport and participated in all the categories up to and including a spot on the Canadian National Team.

In 1973 he was called upon to coach the National team and held that position through 1976, coaching them in World Cup events in Europe and in Can-Am events all over North America. A certified ski instructor who has coached and instructed many people on his home hill, Big Red, he has been a Senior Examiner in the Canadian Coaching Federation since 1966.

Last year he was named coach of Canada's Disabled Ski Team and led them to a very successful showing in the Disabled Olympics in Norway. His charges came through with three gold medals, two silver and one bronze. Later this winter he will conduct a number of camps for the disabled skiers to train them for the 1982 Olympics to be held in Switzerland.

Butch will continue to coach the disabled and anyone else who needs his services will be

picture of the club is better than had been hoped for. Several projects are lined up to further improve things and a delegation will meet with the Recreation Commission to try to iron out several difficulties that have cropped up.

Reporting on the team effort so far this season coach Doug Buhr said he is satisfied with the way the team is coming together and has hopes that future games will show the improvement he looks for. The team is now down to a player limit of 20, having lost the services of Peter McLellan who is going back to Trail to play Midget hockey for which he is still eligible.

At present the team consists of nine players from Rossland, two from Trail, four from Castlegar and five from other points outside the Kootenays with another possibility from up north in the offing. It was reported the team will entertain the Penticton Knights in an exhibition tilt Dec. 28 and the Knights will also play in Nelson and Grand Forks.

Halloween night the Rossland Legion held a masquerade party in the club rooms. It was well attended and enjoyed by all, the music by Fred Orlando and his group was excellent, the mood was festive and some of the costumes were really great.

Prizes for the costumes were won by Ches Lenard for a man's costume that I can only describe as "in-describable"; by Catherine Lloyd as an Indian maid, best woman; by Sam Manson, most original, as a Mountie; the best dressed couple was won by Brent and Louise

Watkinson and the most comical was a runaway for Jack and Eileen Macdonald as a very aged couple. They looked and acted the part to a fare-thee-well and another couple who drew a lot of comments were Edith McCuaig and Lomar Keir as a pair of Capilano ballplayers. As I said before, it was quite a night, as all the goblins weren't out on the street.

The Rossland Retirees Curling Club got under way Tuesday morning with what promises to be another good season with 31 members in all turning out for the opener and about another half-dozen unable to attend for various reasons. The season will again be in four parts, to represent play for the four trophies with a change of personnel for each competition.

Winter looks as if it is on its way. The feeling in the air says "snow" and this will please the people who frequent the slopes of Red and Granite. Curling and watching hockey games at the Arena will be the winter diversion for yours truly.

I have neglected one thing in past weeks. A gent by the name of Alex Ross passed along a soccer program from the Crystal Palace ground. The game he watched was played against Ipswich Town who at the time were riding high on top of the English First Division. They are my favorite team in English soccer and I want to say "Thank you" to Alex for his thoughtfulness in forwarding it to me.

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Butch will continue to coach the disabled and anyone else who needs his services will be given any assistance he can give. He was married during the summer and his business which is winter-oriented by its nature, will keep him busy the rest of the winter months.

During the summer months he can be found down around the Rossland-Trail Golf Club's upper course where he works at maintaining the greens and fairways of our magnificent nine-hole course. He tells me he enjoys the work at the course and will continue at it as long as he is able.

I asked about the possibility of the expansion of his business. Butch will adopt a wait and see attitude towards this, but meanwhile he's pretty happy doing the things he likes the best and at a pace he can enjoy.

The Warrior management held a meeting Sunday evening and chairman Jim Markle reported the over-all

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