

# RECREATION

## PEPP-TALK

with  
Harry  
Pepper

During the past week we have seen two sports events which gave us a great deal of pleasure and brought out the best in a whole lot of the participants, the first, the final game in the West Division (KIJHL) finals, the second, most of the twelve games played in the Rossland Arena in the Steve McFarland memorial Tournament over the past weekend.

The game in the Trail Memorial Centre between the Trail Juniors and the Castlegar Rebels didn't lack one thing which makes hockey the finest spectator sport in the world. In this pressure-packed seventy-odd minutes of the fastest game played, there was not a moment when the fans were not on the edge of their seats wondering what sort of drama was coming up next.

It was as most of the games in this series, a netminding duel between two of the finest young goaltenders ever to perform in this league and in the end it had to be a definite break that ended it.

Just a few minutes into the

second overtime period, that break coming as Trail sent three attackers against a lone defender and Dan MacDonald's magic was at an end, it was, as Bert LaFreniere, KIJHL president, said afterwards "a helluva way to lose a hockey series."

After it was all over I spent an hour or two with Trail goalie Dan McFarland and his family, where everyone was very happy with the result. This will be Dan's last year in the junior ranks and naturally he would like to go out a winner. Be that as it may he certainly gave the Trail club an outstanding effort during the past season and capped it with a really stellar performance on Tuesday night.

We shall just have to wait and see what happens in the league final, the East winner, Cranbrook Colts, are a very powerful club, I think they only lost three or four games during the past 40-game schedule and had a relatively easy time in their own playoffs.

Someone said there were around 3,000 people at the

game on Tuesday night. I think it is high time that the hockey fans realized the quality of the entertainment they can get by watching the kind of hockey these youngsters provide.

On the other end of the scale everyone who I talked to who watched the Rossland tournament was really high on the show put on by these teams who play the game strictly for the fun they get out of it. It was indeed a well-run tourney. Games got under way on time and the action was fast and furious, the officials kept a tight rein on the play and the rough stuff was kept to a minimum. There were a couple of unfortunate incidents due more to over-exuberance than calculated roughness, but all in all it was the kind of hockey one can sit back and enjoy.

Every team in the tourney had its own bevy of fans. Rossland teams, Labatts, Skidders, Red Moguls and Snappy Service, had their fans as did the A1 Gulf and Tank Room teams from the Trail area, there was also considerable support for the

teams from Spokane and Campbell River.

We have seen the Spokane boys before, they are one of the originals of the tournament and always give it a good shot. The pleasant surprise this year was the showing of the Campbell River team, a number of the boys on this team originated in this area, Joe and John Feeney, Joe Caron, Mike Evans and Gary Stanley are all Rossland's own and Billy Vulcano played junior hockey in Trail, they are coached by a gent named Jim Howie, who, I'm told is a boxer of some repute on the Island.

They played a good brand of competitive hockey and I particularly liked their goaltender, a tall, tow-head by the name of Bandy Beaulieu, a real stand-up goalie. Randy is a lighting consultant in everyday life and for my money one of the better goalies in the tournament which has had quite a number of them over the years of its existence.

Joe and John Feeney didn't, to my knowledge, play much hockey as youngsters in Rossland but they showed a lot of savvy of the game over the weekend.

Mike Evans is still the Mike we knew in his days in junior hockey for the Warriors and big Joe Caron has just got a little older. He looks pretty good.

Brian Eaton's powerful Snappy Service team came out on top this year. The team, with a number of top-ranking district players on the roster, went undefeated through the competition to win the "A" event over the boys from Campbell River while the A1 Gulf with Dino and Nerio DeRosa leading the way, knocked off the hometown Labatts to take the "B" side.

While on the subject of hockey I want to extend my best wishes to the Rossland Pee Wee Reps who are engaged in a series with Castlegar for the Kootenay crown. At present they have a win and a tie and a win in Castlegar on Saturday night would send them to Fort St. John in quest of the provincial title.

On the Business Girls' curling front this past week it was Irene Dunlop over Jane Feeney, Beryl Davis over Arlene Dyson, Vi Krest over Bev Bell while Donna Price and Phyllis Woodward played to a tie.