

JUN 5/81

PEPPER-TALK

with
Harry
Pepper

The weather this May has been discussed long and heatedly, but as we all know, there's nothing we can do about it. Last

weekend it almost put a damper on the Trail Hotelman's Annual Commercial Tournament held in Rossland and Trail parks.

The organization, led by Trail's Pat Zanier, was very hard-pressed to meet their commitments but they did though the final games were moved to Sunningdale's upper park.

Early Sunday morning it became evident Jubilee Park in Rossland was going to be of no use owing to the poor conditions existing at that facility. The schedule was already behind because of Saturday's downpour.

When conditions at Centennial Park got too damp for the games to continue there the final few games were taken down the hill and the Castlegar Carling-Okeefe Extra Old Stockers came out undefeated as they edged Trail Hotel 1-0 to take top money with Columbia Glass taking third.

Rossland's lone entry in the tournament went down to defeat in two straight games. The Uplander Hotel nine went into the tournament minus a few top-flight players and were not able to get it together.

I watched three of the games Sunday at Centennial Park, under an almost steady drizzle of rain. The calibre of ball was quite good and given half decent weather this could have been an excellent weekend. I saw games in which both finalists took part.

Another event which took place on the weekend and was not affected by adverse weather conditions, was the Golden City Lions club's annual fun night, Old Glory Nite at the high school.

The event was well attended and enjoyed immensely by all I talked with. Most people seem to enjoy the variety of events on the menu, the games of chance where stage money is used to prevent gambling, the lucky treat table and the

draw for the gold nugget.

The refreshment booth was busy from opening time to the playing of the home waltz. The very full evening was topped off by the Boston baked bean supper with sourdough bread around the midnight hour.

This year's event committee, chaired by Danny Feeney, did its job well and an excellent showing will enhance its popularity with the people who enjoy a real fun evening.

Thursday last another event, though confined to one age group but always very popular is the annual visit by members of the Rossland-Trail and Castlegar Retirees Golf clubs to their counterparts at Christina Lake.

Rich Watkinson, Doug Cavill, Henry Matthews and I left Rossland around 7 a.m. for an 8:30 rendezvous at the Christina Lake club and a 9 a.m. tee-time.

There were three foursomes at every tee on the golf course and play began under the most beautiful conditions one could contemplate.

The weather was the best we have seen and was in perfect harmony with the occasion, foursomes were mixed up so that every one got a chance to play with someone other than their regular partners. The course, always a delight to play, was at its very best as our foursome of Rico Martin of Trail, Garth Grauland of Castlegar, Henry and myself teed off from number 9.

After the nine holes the players gathered in and around the clubhouse for a session of drinks and talk among old and new acquaintances and we were served a ham steak lunch that was great.

Afterward, president Les Christensen of the host club handed out balls to the winning players and hoped we had enjoyed ourselves. Jimmy Morris spoke on behalf of the Rossland-Trail group and Earl Leroy, representing the Castlegar club, invited the whole group to renew acquaintances at the Castlegar club

June 11. The invitation was heartily applauded.

Low Gross winners were Chuck Dabner and Mike Wellock at 42, followed by Ernie Caskner, Les Christensen and B. McKinley at 43. In low net it was Sam Martin, Norm Hinton, Darrel Varner, Chuck Beley, Ken Miles, Otto Gill, Frank Blackwell, C. Waterman and B. Sharp. Walt Gerrand was closest to the pin on number 8, about two feet away, and Chuck Dabner and Jack Bailey shared honors for the longest drive, both pretty monumental belts.

Tuesday morning in the retirees get-together at the upper course, 43 members teed off under dripping skies. It cleared a little later on and all our members got in without getting too wet. Morris Sawyer was low net winner in the irons only competition with a 30, Ross Matthews and Bill Limacher each had 34 and Ron Gardiner came in with a 35.

This time around we honored the players who did not put it all together. There were five of them in the sixties who will pick up a ball on their next visit if they have not already got one.