

# PEPP-TALK

with  
Harry  
Pepper

An interesting footnote to the story now breaking regarding Kelowna's acceptance into the WHL has been passed along to me from a friend in Penticton. Art, "Chow" Sdao, regularly keeps me in touch with the OK sports scene and his latest dispatch says, quote, "I hear from a pretty good source that Chris Parker and Marc Pezzin can afford to lose \$50,000 in their first year's operation of the Kelowna Tier I entry in the WHL," unquote.

This seems to tie in with the story in Tuesday's Times which had Pezzin's picture over the quote "fight for fans." I suppose it will largely depend on the type of hockey dished up in the big league. Whether the Okanagan fans will go for this type of hockey or wish to stay with this BCJHL team in the same city is probelmatical, I suppose.

"Chow," who keeps his ties with our city and the whole district by paying us regular visits from his home in Penticton, is a very well-known sports figure to various organization in Rossland. He played both hockey and ball as a young man and was trainer for Rossland's Warriors hockey team way back. He also did his bit for the Redmen lacrosse team in the same capacity.

Always a controversial figure, "Chow" mentioned that he has a standing bit with KIJHL president Jim Markle the Kelowna entry in the WHL won't last the first year.

"Chow" recently

recovered from a serious heart problem and is back to more or less normal health right now. He invites all his friends from the Kootenays to visit him when they are in the Okanagan. He mentioned he has lots of room in his apartment at No. 4, 385 Winnipeg St. in Penticton and sure welcomes company.

Talking of visiting with seldom-seen friends it reminds me that one afternoon a week or so back a bunch of us were sitting in one of Rossland's watering holes having a beer when who should walk in but a hockey star from some years back in the WIHL, John Rypien. He came out of the B.C.-Alberta border area round Coleman to carve a niche for himself in the local senior league.

A colorful player and a more colorful story-teller John entertained us for an hour or so with stories of his days on teams from Spokane, Trail and Rossland. At present he does ambulance work for the Trail Fire department and lives in Fruitvale.

Always a shiftly hockey player though a little on the light side, John could score goals and always seemed to play the game with a grim determination. At least, he always looked as though we was grim and determined when he was out there on the ice.

This week's retirees day at the upper course was played under sometimes threatening skies but we managed our rounds without getting too wet. I went round on the last foursome with Phil Bateman, Gord McLaren and Rich Watkinson and had somewhat of a bad day, one short of the worst round carded for the 36 people out for the day's festivities.

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Frank Blackwell had the low gross with a neat 41. Low net scores of 32 were shot by Ken Davis and Clyde Myman while Gil Page followed with a 34. Least putts competition was won by Jimmy Morris who only used his putter 13 times. Duke Scodellaro, Jack Buchanan and our man from Northport, Noland Garrison, didn't put much more wear and tear on theirs either, each took 14 putts.

While on this subject, we have no offers to run next week's event. I see where it conflicts with the Nelson Summer 'Spiel, so next week maybe we'll just have to muddle along and do our best. July 13, by the way, is Pat Morris Day at the upper course and we usually get a good crowd out for that one.

I got up to watch Saturday night's soccer game at Jubilee against Kimberley. The Labatts have certainly got a lot of plaudits coming for their midfield and defensive play. On Saturday evening Joe Hughes got them all the scoring they needed to win 1-0 and the midfielders, defence and goalie did the rest with one of the best performances I've seen the Labatts put on.

I was watching England and the Czechs play Sunday and didn't get to see the Cranbrook game but it speaks pretty well for the Rossland team that they held the powerful East Kootenay squad to a 0-0 tie.

Coupled with their surprising 3-2 win over Nelson last week it would appear that the team is getting around to playing up to their potential, I believe that a lot of credit is coming to the Labatts' new coaching team. They seem to be directing the team the way they need to go to win soccer games. The emphasis seems to be on the strength of the defence and an ability to score just the necessary goals to win those games. Their goaltending also sparkles.

A gent visited his doctor and the news was given him that he had not much longer to live — about six hours his doctor told him. He went home and told his wife his problem and suggested they spend his remaining time on a bottle of rum and some passionate love-making. His wife's answer to his proposal: "That's all right for you, you don't have to get up in the morning."

What do you think? O.K.