

# PEPP-TALK

with  
Harry  
Pepper

On Sunday morning we took a ride out to Nancy Greene Lake and helped out as the Rossland Golden City Lions Club and its sister club from Castlegar got together to do their annual stint for the Crippled Children of B.C.

This event is called the Snowarama and takes place every year in the late winter starting from a base set up at the junction of the two highways from Castlegar and Rossland on the way to the Coast.

The local Sno-Goers club get together on that day to honor the pledges their backers have donated by riding their snowmobiles over about 100 miles of pretty rough terrain in the mountains to the north of the highway. They own a cabin out there in the mountains and the drive there and back constitutes one half of the necessary mileage.

These adventurous souls make one round trip starting at about 8 a.m. and get back, have lunch and set out again to complete their journey. This year a Castlegar rider completed his ride and was back in camp before 1:30 p.m.

This year there were 12 riders and they collected around \$5,000 in pledges towards the cause of the needy children. It was a very nice day for the event this year, not too cold and the sun even came out for a while.

Gordie Phillips, Wayne Ashley, Del Ferrel, Arnie Lindgren, Bruce Edmison, Jim Schuck, George Tomick, Ken Profili, Gary Drake and myself represented the Rossland Lions and there were also a number of members of the Castlegar Lions acting in various capacities on hand to help out. This is a very worthy

cause. Although the number of riders was down this time around, the pledges donated proves the work was worth it.

One day last week I ran into Ron Fabbro in the Legion in Rossland. Ronnie, whom I used to coach a while back, was telling me that he and a bunch of his former teammates got together a while back to play a game of basketball against a Trail team. Ronnie's teammates in the hoop game were Tommy Thompson, Albert Holm and Ernie Severs and they were aided by their old high school coach George Bloor. Incidentally, Ronnie's team won the game.

Turning to curling for a moment, two teams from the Retirees' club have won the right to go into the seniors' playdowns being held in Castlegar. Going on this jaunt will be teams skipped by Angus Popplewell and Phil Bateman. Angus has Russ Broughton playing third, Gil Besso second and Cleve Cowland lead while Phil has Rich Watkinson, Joe Rosse and Carl Seefeldt in that order.

The Rossland Legion darts team chartered a bus last weekend to go out to Castlegar for a dart tourney. In the ensuing play the Rossland team took second place to the Trail Legion with the host branch winding up third.

Dennis Irons, who made arrangements for the trip took 15 other players with him and the other two branches had a like number. In 36 games played Trail won 14 edging Rossland by one. Castlegar won nine. Dennis tells me Nelson and Beaver Valley were supposed to show up too but failed to put in an appearance.

This coming weekend the Rossland play-for-fun hockey group hosts its annual tournament with eight teams from around the district battling it out for the championship trophy. Starting at 8 a.m. Saturday morning the two Rossland entries, Labatts and Skidders, will be in competition with teams from Trail, Genelle, Castlegar, Grand Forks and Beaver Valley.

If you have nothing else planned for the weekend drop around for a look-see. The cost is minimal and you'll see some pretty exciting games played and there are always lots of eats and drinks available. When they call this a fun tournament, they really mean what they say.

Well, the Warriors have had it for this season. For a while there it looked as though they had the momentum going for them. The Nelson kids seemed to falter but it was the Nelson juniors who got it together in the stretch while the Warriors floundered especially after losing Rod Diebert with an ankle injury.

The Moose Jaw youngster was a key man on the Rossland blueline and was badly missed in the last few games. I guess the game that hurt the Warriors most was the loss at home to the Nelson team in the final game between the two. The loss seemed to take a lot of the starch out of the team and the loss in Grand Forks wrote the obit for this year.

The playoffs could hold a number of surprises. Both the Valley teams in the East could cause some trouble and don't dismiss Spokane either. Traill will probably win the West but we could have a surprise here too.

That's it for this week.



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**SNOWARAMA** was responsible for raising more than \$5,000 to help crippled children last Sunday at Nancy Greene Junction. The riders included Reiny Bermel who collected in excess of \$1,500 in pledges. It was sponsored by the Lions Clubs