

PEPP-TALK

with
Harry
Pepper

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Once again it was the Rossland arena that was the busiest spot in town over the weekend as several events connected with the town's winter carnival were held there.

First, it was the take-off base for the novel "Bring it to the Mountain" relay race. Next there was the Atom-Sportsmanship hockey tourney and last, but then definitely not least, there was the Mixed Club's one-day curling 'spiel.

And in case that wasn't enough there was the Warriors wind-up banquet on Friday evening held in the Parish Hall.

The Atom Sportsmanship hockey was a huge success. The organization headed by Clyde and Donna Moore was well prepared and almost flawlessly carried out. The speed-skating on Sunday afternoon caused the wind-up games to be late as the crew had to scrape and flood about three times to get the ice back in shape for hockey.

If you've every been into this sort of thing you would know that it takes many long hours to draw up your schedule, get people to officiate at all levels, timekeepers, scorekeepers, referees, linesmen, etc. This means close co-operation

from the arena crew which consists of Desi, Nancy, Ray and Tommy. This weekend that co-op feeling was running at its best.

Donna Moore was responsible for the scorekeeping crew which was always adequate and she got some help from Rossland's best-known pair on this job, Jack Cox and Ken Stanton. Greta Cox was at her regular spot at the ticket window and the fellow who sold the 50-50 draw tickets for every game was Bruce Johnson aided at this job by his brother Grant.

One of the referees was a gentleman from Trail by the name of Art Crawford. The reason he stood out among the officials was the fact that he is 75. I was truly amazed when I learned this. One would certainly never know it to see him operate out on the ice.

The fact that Rossland won two of the sections of the tourney was added spice to the Rossland fans, but all games were top-notch in calibre. Every kid playing in every one of the 21 games did himself proud and each has a medal to prove it.

Next, we come to the 'spiel in the curling rink, in its third year. It is essentially a fun day. The rinks are made

up as far as possible with two men and two women on each and the spiel is divided in two sections which play alternately.

The Harvey McKay rink was top dog in the "B" section. Their 21 point total was best over-all also. Jim Albo's foursome took "A" honors with 19, with Phil Bateman's crew coming second with 15. Ivan Bell was second in the "B" with a 16 while at the other end of the spectrum was the Donna Price rink which, despite import help could garner only a four-point total. By the way, her helper from Manitoba was Ed Caswell's sister, Joan. Ed also played on Donna's rink.

To Jack and Eileen McDonald, Jim Bateman and Donna, plus the women who managed the coffee and hot-dog concession and ticket sales, go our thanks for a job well done.

Next was the Warrior annual wind-up. A pretty well packed Parish Hall saw the invited guests join the players and their mentors in an evening of fun. A fine meal kicked off the evening, prepared by the team mothers. It was absolutely tops, the beef was done to a turn, fish, salads and all manner of goodies.

This was followed by the presentation of individual player pictures and a Warrior cap to each player on the team along with the special awards earned by the players during the season. Coach Lloyd McLellan and manager Doug Buhr each took part in the presentation and Lloyd had a word of a complimentary nature for each boy as he was called up to get his gift.

I had a chance to talk to some of the boys and from what I heard there will be a very dedicated bunch of young men attending the next year's Warrior camp in September.

Of the seven boys who joined the club from out of town, only Bart Cammarata and Bert Brooker will not be returning. Rod Deibert told me he'll be back as will all the Trail boys — Gary Cahoon, Darren Pastro, Rob Porcellato and Danny Demchuk — will be welcome in Rossland whenever they come to town.

Our Rossland boys, Kenny Davis, Danny Ferguson, Gordie Stanton, Murray Walters, Peter McLellan, Scott Armour, Kevin McMaster, Terry Karenko, Dean Mayer, John Howes, Tim McNulty and Darryl

Lindgren will possibly be joined by a couple of our upcoming stars for the next campaign.

Assistant coach Ken Koshey and trainer Dan Davies along with assistant trainer Lorne Edwards, were all complimented for their work with the boys and all promised to be back again.

Compliments must be extended to the kids of the "Green Machine," Bantam champs, for their success in the tourney in Beaver Valley on the weekend and our best wishes go with them as they go to Fernie for the provincial playdowns.

An old friend, now retired from the hill, Doug Johnson, visited me on Monday. He's experiencing some trouble with his knees. He had a bone chip removed and has arthritis. Someone asked Doug what he figured caused it and got this typical Johnson answer, "You know, all the years I spent down there, a lot of the time was spent on my knees, begging for a bosses' job, that can raise hell with the old kneecaps."

Anyway, Doug's keen to get out on the golf course as soon as his knees come around.