

MARCH 20

PEPP-TALK

with
Harry
Pepper

These kids have been at it for some years now, through Atoms, Pee Wee Tier Two and now they are setting their sights on the Provincial Tier One Pee Wee title. I'm talking, of course, about Rossland's own "Green Machine" as someone saw fit to pin that name on them two or three years back.

Now, the final game is over in the district playdowns and who are sitting on top of the heap? Rossland Tier One Pee Wees!

After several weeks of battling it out with teams from Trail, Nelson and Castlegar, the kids emerged from it all with a convincing 12-7 victory over Castlegar in the complex last Saturday night to earn the right to represent the West Kootenay in the provincial playoffs to be held at Fort St. John this coming week.

In the final district playoff the first game was won by Rossland in Castlegar by a narrow 5-4 margin; Castlegar came back in the second game, in Rossland, to earn a 5-5 tie to set the stage for a final game in Castlegar.

In this one the boys piled up a 7-1 margin and then coasted to the comparatively easy 12-7 win and the West Kootenay Minor Hockey championship.

Coach John Stanton, Jim Drake and manager Maurice MacArthur have really done a fine job with these lads. The "Green Machine" will now go up against the best in the province and we wish them all the luck in the world, they have earned it.

It's almost too soon to be thinking about the future for these youngsters, but we do have visions of them being kept together and maybe one day becoming the scourge of the KIJHL.

In the Junior playoff, Trail now has a 2-1 lead in games after last night's overtime 5-4 win over the Cranbrook Colts. With the extra home game the Junior Smokies could very well upset the dope bucket and emerge

on the Birchbank course. From all reports it's been pretty good out there since some time in January.

The Legion's one day 'spiel goes this coming Sunday with 12 rinks, curlers from all around the area will head for the Rossland rink Sunday morning for a day of curling and other related festivities.

When he returned from Vancouver, Herbie Castle brought me a Canuck magazine. It's a glorified edition of what we know as a hockey program, some 72 pages of this and that, giving

one an idea that, in Vancouver, the Canucks are pretty big business.

There's news from the NHL, closeups of players, management, staff and directors of the Canucks, player rosters of both home and visiting teams, plus lots of hockey talk, hockey notes, discussions between players and even some cartoon. It's quite a publication and well worth the asking price of a couple of bucks.

Well, any time now I suppose we'll be hearing the bounce of the soccer ball and

the crack of the bat on ball as it would appear that spring is just around the corner, getting closer every day the way the weather is these days.

During the recent play-for-fun tourney I ran into Armando Demidaros and the popular Labatts soccer player gave me a piece of his mind regarding Labatt coverage in the Times. Seems like I've been neglecting the boys so we'll have to see what can be done about that when the 1981 season rolls around.

1981

now has a 2-1 lead in games after last night's overtime 5-4 win over the Cranbrook Colts. With the extra home game the Junior Smokies could very well upset the dope bucket and emerge from what looks to be a tough series with a hard-earned win.

Quite a number of local enthusiasts took the trip to the Coast on one of Neil Murdoch's buses last weekend to watch a pair of Canuck games. As it turned out they couldn't have picked a better time as the Canucks posted victories over both Chicago and Buffalo.

Among those making the trip were KIJHL western VP Herb Castle, Dr. Hugh Campbell, Arnie Sherwood, Jim Markle, Ray Dominici and Don Adamo. A fine trip and some excellent hockey fare was reported by all.

Turning to curling, the big news this week is a well-deserved win for a Rossland rink in a bonspiel in Grand Forks over the weekend. The girls' rink, composed of Irene Dunlop, skip, Corrie Bateman, third, Donna Price, second and Lil Watkinson at lead, took first prize in the "B" competition and the Boundary Electric trophy by beating out the June James rink from Oliver. Good going, ladies!

The Business girls' season in-drawing to a close as they are for most clubs. In the next to last draw Beryl Davis won over Donna Price, Vi Krest beat Arlene Dyson, it was Enza Boutry over Jane Feeney and Irene Dunlop beat Phyllis Woodward. The last games will be played March 23 and the girls will go to sorting out their golf clubs, tennis racquets or what have you. Some may even play some softball.

In the final competition in the Retirees club, it has boiled down to about three more dates to go before we close it down. The Bob Stevenson, Norm Harry and Len Scott rinks are left in the "A" event, the Phil Bateman, Jack Mitchell and Rich Watkinson rinks will vie for the "B" while Arnie Vanness, George Dyson, Angus Popplewell and Doug Harrison will have to be content to go for the Consolation.

This year, the switch from curling to golf is not going to be so sudden as quite a bunch of our curlers have already put in a month or so