

PEPP-TALK

with
Harry
Pepper

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I am sitting here writing this column in the club house of the Upper Course of the Rossland-Trail Golf Club, probably as picturesque a setting as one could find in many miles of travel around a province noted for its beautiful golf scenery.

The reason I am sitting here is that this morning is Retirees' Day and I am one of the guys who is in charge of operations today. Well, of course, it rained earlier and Percy Cutler and I came down around seven not expecting too much business, but we were mistaken as 30 golfers showed up to play the course which was pretty wet by the time the golfers had all teed off. I elected to stay behind to tally up the scores as they came in and with time on my hands I thought I might as well do some writing to pass away the time.

Last week all the members of the R-T Golf Club received a questionnaire asking them to evaluate the Birchbank course according to challenge, playing conditions, hazards, etc. Since then I have talked to quite a number of my retired friends who play both Birchbank and the Upper Course. The consensus seems to be that quite a lot of the people who play them would like to see some money spent on the rough spots on the Rossland layout.

One of the worst spots up here is that awful mudhole in front of No. 7 tee. It's not so much of a hazard as it is an awful eyesore. If the water there is unavoidable, why not dig out the area and make it a little scenic pond extending across the whole fairway? It would be just wonderful to have a little bridge over it to make it a

beauty spot, instead of an ugly scar on the course.

Anyway, it will be interesting to see if we get any feedback from the board.

The competition this week was hidden holes. No. 3 was low and No. 6 was high, and the longest putt on No. 9. Then there was a ball for the low net and one for the most honest golfer. When all the scores were tallied up Morris Sawyer had the longest putt on No. 9, an admirable stroke from about 20 feet away. Jim Scott had the hidden hole low, a par on No. 3. Bob York won the hidden hole high, a 9 on No. 6.

Bob Walley won low net with a sparkling 35 and the runner-up was Tim Jenkin with his 36. Harry Simppinson was judged the most honest.

Next week it will be Lou Crowe and Morris Sawyer at

the helm and we can look for some devious machinations as we try for a ball next week.

This week sees the annual Pat Morris Day, this year to be held at the Birchbank course. All the previous celebrations of this event have been played at the Upper Course but the story goes that the number of people signed up to play this event makes it necessary to have a shotgun start at an 18-hole.

Next week, an invitational to Nelson, a course I have never played before. Hope I can make it!

Now, to veer away from the usual format, to soccer for a while and the tremendous record of the Whitecaps in particular. Those 50,000 plus crowds must be really bringing out the best in John Giles' team. With the injury bug giving them the kind of a deal they are getting they could be excused for a slackening-off slumps, but no, they are playing their reserves and they still win. Can we expect another NASL championship in 1983?

I watched quite a lot of the TV presentation of the World University games at Edmonton over the past two

weeks and we in Canada should be proud of the effort expended by the athletes who represented our country. Third place in the world is certainly no small feat. To our athletes we owe a debt of gratitude for a magnificent performance and a job well done!

I feel a little sorry that I could not make a trip out to the Birchbank picnic ground where they recently held a barbecue honoring, among others, a very good friend and fellow-worker of mine for some years. Sometimes he even got to be my boss. His name is Doug Johnson and I want to say right now how sorry I am I could not attend. Some very pressing business prevented me from doing that but I want to wish Doug many years of the same kind of happy retirement I have enjoyed since 1977. Maybe we can get together at Rossland in the near future, Doug, and play a round of golf. I just know it will be a riot!

And in closing I would like to say that it would be nice to see a little more of Old Sol. It seems to me that he has been laying down on the job of late; everything in the garden is just laying there waiting to be give a little boost. Sure would be nice!

See you next week.