

PEPP-TALK

April 27/84

with
Harry
Pepper

Thinking back the other day to the time I started penning this column I picked on one clue that started me thinking. The lad that was doing The Times sports then previously worked for the old Rossland Miner but, for whatever it's worth, I couldn't come up with his name.

Anyway, I remembered I had been doing a column for the Miner and Fred White at the time the building was torched and life on the paper became hectic. For a time, we did our writing at home and the paper maintained an office from which all the material was sent to Cranbrook printed there and returned. Bill Taylor ran the papers in Kimberley and Cranbrook and he'd come over and visit us to see how things were going.

Finally, we moved over to the vestibule of the bowling alley in Rossland and after some months there, I remember it was on my 60th birthday I received a letter from Bill telling me my services were no longer needed as they were closing up shop in Rossland.

The young fellow who was doing sports asked me one day if I would like to write a column to see how it would fit into The Times. I sent him a sample; he devised the heading and Pepp-Talk was born. I think the year was 1973 but I'm not sure what month it was.

However, this is all leading up to the main subject of this week's tale.

The year, 1975, saw the city take over the running of recreation and formed the commission that has been in place since

it took over from the Rossland Civic Activities Association, which had done that job up to that time.

Lloyd McLellan was the Recreation Director in the early going. I'm not sure whether he was the first. I believe we had another fellow come in from out of town for a short time, but if that was so, the name escapes me. Lloyd combined the job with that of Warrior coach for several seasons until he got another job with the school district. It was then that the present director came upon the scene. Jack Richardson, also a local boy, took over.

The preent board, which is responsible for the operation of Recreation Rossland is chaired by Gerry Riemer, a local business woman, and is backed up by Jean Cormack, representing the school board and Bob Steckle, representing the city. Other members of the board are Doug Hinton, who spends a lot of time helping run minor hockey and the Warriors, Shirley Donald and Henry Salomon de Friedberg, while Babs Bouchier is the secretary.

One of the projects with which the commission is concerned right now is the building of a soccer field in

the proximity of the old cemetery. I haven't seen it yet but I'm told the work is already under way. It should be all right in that area as it would get the full benefit of hours of sunshine. I happened by the park at Black Bear on Sunday and it has a way to go before it will be playable and there is also a lot of snow still around on the Lions' campground.

I have at hand the latest report on upcoming activities of Rec-Rossland for Spring '84. There is quite a good mixture of programs one can take up. There's a rundown of the programs you may pick out if your taste is for something different: archery under Bud Muffly at the arena until May 24, 7-9 p.m. with all equipment provided for a nominal sum; ten-speed bike clinic with Ray von Diebitsch at the high school parking lot; summer soccer school for boys and girls 6-16 years with a fee that includes instruction, ball and T-shirt. This last program is sponsored by Warfield, Trail and Rossland, along with B.C. Soccer Association and will take place at Warfield's Haley Park.

Also on the menu are jazz dance at the Rossland high school, instruction by Brenda Naccarato;

physical pursuit at the Miners Hall under Resa Bouchier; musercise by Meg Meredith, also at the high school; creative dance with Suellen Thomson and tennis with John Clark. This last includes various categories and will begin in June.

While you may be aware of all these offerings, I wanted to point out this is just the spring session and activities in season are being promoted by our Recreation Commission all year round. The whole program is a tribute to the job these people are doing. All they ask is for us to participate.

Well, the Flames gave it a good shot by taking the Oilers to seven games. Our two local boys, Bozek and Kromm were much in evidence as the Calgary team gave it a great try but came up a couple of goals short. I'm hoping the Canadiens continue the kind of hockey they showed against Quebec. It would be nice to see a Canadian team take the Stanley Cup once more.

Our Legion dart players returned from their trip to Squamish but I've not seen any of them to talk to, so that will have to wait until next week.

Till next time, then!