

PEPP-JALK with Harry Pepper

Nov 8/85

Our Retirees Curling Club held its meeting on the 29th with a large number of members present. Most of last year's executive members were returned to office so it will be business as usual once we get out on the ice. That time will largely depend on the completion of our newly-renovated change-rooms and extensions that are being made to the bathrooms downstairs.

We are anticipating an Open House tomorrow, Tuesday, and the Ladies will follow us in the afternoon. We shall see what we have to work with and start working on the first draw right away. We would like to start regular competition with five-man rinks on Thursday, if possible.

So, by the time you read this, we shall have our brooms broken in for the season and be thinking of our twice weekly curling days and any bonspiels or invitations we may get to attend.

Yesterday, Sunday, we took a long walk and wound up at the rink and watched the Bantams from Rossland play against their counterparts from Nelson. When we had to leave part way through the second period Rossland had a 4-0 lead.

I was really surprised at the way these kids tear into one another. The heavy work along the boards in particular, was to say the least, a little crude but most of the time, effective. These kids haven't polished their act yet but the intent is certainly there. Sometimes they make a real hit but a lot of the time it's a tangle of arms and legs with no one really suffering too much damage. At the rate they're going they should prove pretty fair additions to the Warriors in a couple of years.

Speaking of the Warriors, they dropped a couple of games over the weekend. On Friday night they were beaten at home by the Castlegar Rebels who were very clearly the better team on the ice. The Warriors had a lead of 3-0 at one time early on. Darryl Lindgren was spectacular at that time but during the third period he fell, and whether he hurt himself or not, I don't know but he didn't seem as sharp afterwards and the Castlegar forwards were beginning to force the defence to make mistakes and I think the Rebels scored their last two goals playing shorthanded, the final 9-6.

Sunday in Spokane, the Warriors were beaten 9-5. This means that in 4 successive games nine has been the magic number that has plagued the team. In each case all those four games the Warriors have held the lead. Now we have to find a way to hold on to them.

Going down the names on your scoresheet you will notice that there are six strangers on the team, or who will soon be on it. Kevin Zakall and Kevin Vankalkeren, David Schindel and Rod Tremblay are from the Okanagan and Shaun Bleeker, hopefully to be signed this week, is from Prince George and Peter Stoochnoff is from Castlegar.

This weekend they travel East, to take on the two valley teams, Elk Valley and Columbia Valley. Then on the 15th they play Beaver Valley at home then back to back games against the league-leading Trail team, the 16th in Trail and the 19th here at home.

One hears a lot of talk about the fate of the Legion when the crop of Vets are no longer with us. However, we had a Vets Banquet last Saturday night and the way those that were there and at the dance afterward were prancing around the floor, I don't think we are going to lose our hold on things for a good while yet.

We have an award that is always presented on the Vets Banquet night and the winner this year is Paddy Flood. It's given to the member adjudged to be at the top at stirring up the pot of controversial subjects. Should we say we have a very worthy

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So with a big hello to all those people who come out to every Warrior game, I'll say 'Til next time, then!'