

Max 16 86 EPP-JALK

with
Harry
Pepper

Rossland has always been identified with the game of soccer. I came here in 1951 and played with the likes of "Robbie" Robertson, Hec Henry, the Douglas boys (Harry and Bill), Bob Simpson, Ken Fetherstone, John Hughes and others who don't readily come to mind.

When old age caught up to me and I could no longer participate actively, I took on a job with John Hughes, to try and teach our local kids the rudiments of the game. We have raised some pretty fair players, as the boys learned and enjoyed what they were doing.

We still have a good bunch of kids who are now grown up. Names like Mike and Tim Evans, Dave Secco, John and Tom Stanton and Rob Martin have gone through the early training and later turned into pretty good players. Ron Shearer was another who fit into that group and I understand he has a son who plays a pretty fair game of soccer.

The minor soccer is still a force in Rossland and the game has seen a lot of people take up where we left off and continue to aid the kids who like to play the game.

However, I have learned that we have a new kid on the block. It takes the name of rugby and it has several boosters. Rich Chobanuk passed along the news that Rossland's high school kids have really taken to the game. I've watched them in practice several times. These kids have really put out in practices and games they have played. These games have earned them the right to play for the Provincial Championship in their category. They earned it by defeating a Castlegar team recently by a score of 26-3. Rich tells me there are no outstanding stars on the team, just everyone digging in and putting out. Don Hooper and Paul Broyd are helping the boys to learn and it would appear from the success they have had with the kids, these three gents have done a helluva job. Those finals by the way, will be played in Kelowna May 23, 24 and 25. If anyone who enjoys the game can see their way clear to go along to give these kids some support in the Okanagan city, the boys will appreciate it. They will be up against some formidable teams. Rugby is big stuff at the coast with all the facilities and top-level coaching needed to produce top teams.

To hockey for a moment, the news that Tom and Glenda Renny have been forced to abandon their business in Trail must have come as something of a shock to Trail hockey people. Tom did quite a job with the Junior Smokies last season while Glenda served the Rossland skaters in the figure-skating field for quite some time. Tom will be a definite asset to Eddie Mountain and his Rockies and we shall all miss this likeable young man around the arenas in the area. About all we can say is that the West's loss is Invermere's gain.

Still with the winter sport, Bob Zanussi tells me that a Warrior meeting is called for the 14th to try to iron out the wrinkles in the club's affairs. I'll have to try to catch that one.

Well, Tuesday broke in with what could almost be called a blizzard. The wind reached fantastic velocity after blowing strongly most of the night. I called Roger McKeown at the upper course to see how things were going at about 8:30 and he said they had three foursomes out or ready to go and he thought it could be a bad day for us and the Retirees. After I spoke to him the storm got worse and I wondered how anyone could play under those conditions. Anyway, Robert called back around

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Celebrations by the Legion on its 60th birthday take all kinds of forms. Last Friday evening Branch No. 14 held its party at the Oddfellows Hall and quite a party it was. A fine meal, the usual speech-making, fine music and dancing to the wee hours were on the agenda and everyone reported the next day how much they enjoyed it.

This Saturday evening we shall hold an awards night in the spirit of the 60th with music, dancing and refreshments to follow in the Legion basement room. Of course the music will be in the upstairs area after the ceremony.

The Branch will kick off the presentation by the RLOP of our anniversary play, "We'll Meet Again", May 22 is the date and tickets are still at the branch. Don't miss this date at the Rossland High School. This presentation will also take place alter in Trail, Castlegar, Nelson and Nakusp, all within the month. So if you miss it here, you can still catch it later.

Dennis Hirons reports a bang-up time at Nakusp's 60th. A dart tournament was held both days. Rossland winners were Joe and Lori Letoria, second in the doubles event, while the men's high score was won by Gerry Waite. Dennis said fun was the watchword and offers his thanks on behalf of Branch 14 to Betty Walker for a fine organizing job.

And with that we'll say,

'Til next time, then!