AS I SEE IT

WITH

HARRY PEPPER

If the Rossland Minor Hockey Association has a successful season in 1971-72 it will be in no small measure due to the efforts of a corps of young people who thus far have shown a remarkable degree of dedication to the jobs they volunteered for.

Starting at the head of the list with President Jim Markle and his exec, composed of Jack Fisher, Vice-Pres., Don Mc-Kay, sec.; Vi Krest, Treas.; Bill Profili, Ref-in-Chief and Lloyd McLellan as Head Coach, we can carry on with coaches and managers of the various Rep and House league teams.

The Midget Rep will be handled by former Senior Warrior centre, Steve Chorney who will have Kenny Davis as assistant. The Bantam Reps have Art Jenner as manager and Joe Rosse as coach. Joe will be assisted by Gerry Flanagan and Bob Profili.

The Bantam "B" team has Jim Dupuis as head man and Jim can call on Don Drake for help. Doctor Phil McCormack will fill a dual role here as manager, also acting as manager for the Pee Wee Reps, who have Kelly Campbell and Wayne Harder as coaches.

The Pee Wee house league consisting of "A" and "B" teams have Ken Fines, Jim Stuart and John Piros with the "B" squad and Terry Woodhouse and Rollie Phillips with the "A" group.

Looking after the fortunes of the Pee Wee Pups are Lou Corrado, who is director of this division, Jack Woodward and Ron Davis are coaches of "A" and "B" teams respectively. Their helpers are Robbie Simm, Ken Gibbard and Ivan Peacock Jr.

The Mighty Mites who started out last year with Lou Corrado as head man, have Bert Molnar in that position this year. He will be assisted by Cal and



Dayle McKerracher, Mark Cross, Jimmy Williams and Gordie Leduc.

Working under the direction of Chief Ref. Bill Profili as referees and linesman are Dave referees and linesman are Bob Campbell, Jack Wert, Kenny Ivan Bell, Hal McCormack, Jim Brinson, Ken Gibbard and Jim Cotton.

This makes a grant total of some 45 men and women who are taking an interest in the activities of some 175 kids enrolled in Minor Hockey this season, which is a giant step in the right direction. If this is continued on down through the coming years it will be a fine thing for Rossland youth's winter activities.

Despite the fact that the Junior Warriors have hardly played a game without incurring a game or match penalty to at least one player, they are still on top of the local league with a 2-point lead over Trail and Cranbrook.

Two players have already received 2 and 4 game suspensions and it is very likely that when league statistician George Vlanich of Trail releases his next report the Warriors will be leading in most departments especially the sin-bin parade.

One thing about it is, this shows the Rossland kids are not backing down from anybody and maybe as the season goes along this statistic will make itself felt one way or the other. Penalties can hurt, but as long as they are not cheap ones, they won't be too bad.

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Today, around noon I took a trip down to the Trail hospital. I went there to take a friend of mine in to have some surgical adjustments made to his otherwise normal physical frame. The friend, in case you would like to know, was the happiest guy in our fair city the evening before, as his hustling soccer club had just won the Juvenile Soccer Cup by beating the Castlegar Dynamos by a 4-2 score. His name -- John Hughes.

When we in Rossland decided to enter teams, in what was then the Trail District Minor Soccer League, John was one of the originals. He has seen the soccer picture develop in our town, and now has got his just reward.

I think that this cup-final victory means quite a lot to John, as indeed it should. But I'll be willing to bet that he would be the first to say, "Give the kids the plaudits, they are the ones who earned it."

When you work with young people you get the feeling that whatever you do largely depends on what you have to work with and I know John would say he has had the best, and they proved him right with the performance they put on last Monday.

These kids wanted to get that championship for John so bad, they could taste it, and throughout the ninety minutes it took to decide it, they never let down.

If I had to pick stars I would have to pick fifteen of them, as every kid did exactly what was required of him. John Feeney and Dave Secco on the right wing did a fine job while scoring 3 of the 4 goals, while a youngster who never ceases to amaze me with his gutsy performances, Tommy "The Mighty Mite", Stanton, got the



other.

The showing of young Ken Bertoia in the Rossland goal was not much short of perfection and ot in front of him, Brad Haynes and Paddy Flanagan performed stupendously.

The youngster wearing the ribbon around his head was Ernie Jacobson, and when they make better soccer players than him, I'd like to have them on my team.

Dave Martin, Geoff Tulhurst, Mike Evans, Ron Roberts, Lorne Lambert, Gerry Mc-Nulty and young Gary Stanton all filled the bill when called upon while Ernie Rella and Pat Portz were waiting in the wings if needed.

Every one of these boys have come up through the ranks of our minor league soccer and we hope that during the next few years to develop a system that will allow them to go on playing this grand game for as long as they wish to.

Elsewhere in this issue you will find the rundown on the full day's operations from last Monday and next week we will endeavor to give you final league standings plus goal scoring records for the whole season.

I would like to say here and now how grateful I am to people who help to make it possible for us to continue this program. To name names would be a big job, but you all know who I mean so you take it from here, Thank You!