

AS I SEE IT

WITH HARRY PEPPER



In my column last week I neglected a very important item, I explained who won all the trophies in the Minor Soccer but neglected to tell who was responsible for the donation of the various awards, so we'll correct that now. The most valuable and sportsmanlike overall trophy was the only one we had at the start of the past season, but enough people came forward with generous offers that we wound up the season with seven all told. That particular trophy was donated by the A&J Body Shop in annable.

The most valuable Junvenile award will bear the name of Jim Pollock, who did quite alot to help us with the kids before departing for the East Kootenay to take up residence.

The most improved Junvenile will take the "Rossland Miner" trophy donated by publisher Joe Remesz.

The most valuable Bantam gets a trophy donated by George Thompson of Hunt's Grocery. I have not been told what its name will be.

Our Secretary, Mrs. Greta Cox has given a trophy for the most improved Bantam which has now been received and will be presented shortly.

The attractive award won jointly this season for the most valuable PeeWee is a gift from the owners of the Allan Hotel, Ernie and Lena Davidson, and will bear the name of their establishment.

And lastly, the most improved PeeWee Award is an idea I had, and carried through on. I would like to say how grateful we of the Association are to all the kind people who helped us in this respect.

Now, to come back to a more seasonal subject, I would like to express some thoughts which developed over the last couple of weeks after watching the Junior Warriors take the Junior Smokies in two straight games.

While both games had the same final result, the pattern that was followed was entirely different in each. This leads me to believe that the coaching of this year's youthful edition of the Braves is indeed in apt and capable hands.

are doing the job, Don Savinkoff, Mike Popoff and Bill Henne are all giving the Warriors full measure.

The line leaders, John Stanton, Mike Evans and Jim Stuart, can all be classified as veterans, if one can hang that tab on a Junior Hockey player, and each one is doing exactly what a leader is supposed to do, and they all do it in a differnt way. Stuart, I believe, this season has become considerably more aggressive. While this does not harm his playing ability it does attract the Refs' attention, with the result that Jim is taking considerably more penalties.

John Stanton, the Warrior Captain, relies on slick stick-handling and moves at terrific speed to do his job and he does it well.

Mike Evans on the other hand is a cool-headed youngster with a lot of ability. He makes it look as though he enjoys every minute out there, and he sure doesn't get ruffled very easily.

I mentioned backchecking-while back and the wingers on the team are doing it well, Doug Jones, Ken Bertoia, Savinkoff, Popoff, Henne, Tom Stanton and the Rosse brothers, Rcik and Eddie, plus Lyle "Tinker" Oliver, who has been used on both defence and forward. They can all go both ways, and this season they have been doing a bang-up job of it.

If this turns out to be Rossland's year in B.C. we can attribute it to the fact that this is a happy team and this has to reflect on everyone connected with the club.

I'm going on record as still being opposed to the closed shop atmosphere in the executive, but I must say that so far this season, I have no reason to pick holes. Let's all hope everyone's efforts will give Rossland a Championship.

I have the backing of more than one of Lloyd's young chares for this statement, which for me is sufficient evidence.

In the three latest games against Trail, Lloyd has used a different goaltender and in each case the choice could not have been questioned. Each boy came up with a magnificent game. True Jackie Wert's was in a losing cause, but in that game it was most certainly no fault of his.

Both Tommy Castle and Lorne Kinakin did a fine job, but both had the benefit of a solid defense in front of him. While this does not take anything away from either boys' performance, it does make their lot quite a bit easier.

Every game the team plays now shows evidence that the defense in particular is absorbing well the coach's teaching.

For one thing, in each of the last two games, a different team has taken the lead. This throws an entirely different kind of proposition at the defence in each case. One, they must help the forwards make up that goal, but not open up enough to allow another to be scored on them. Again, when a goal or two ahead and the opposition is driving hard, their job is to contain them and so allow them less chance to pull even.

Yes, I think Jim Cotton, Joe Caron, Doug Davis and Bob Hook have benefitted quite alot from Lloyd's teaching.

The forwards also have shown its effect. While pattern plays and the like are not as smooth as they could be, all the forwards are showing that they are learning what to do with the puck when they get it, and as to back-checking, this is one phase of the game in which this years' edition the warriors are showing to advantage. As to goal scoring, with 4 or 5 players in the top brackets, we know there is not much deficiency there.

I have been particularly impressed with the way in which our recruits from Castlegar

At the game on Saturday night one of the Juvenile Soccer medallions was found and turned over to Jack Fisher at the Miner. The party owning same can pick it up there.

And just a reminder to all soccer players; If you still have uniforms at home, please return them to Mrs. Cox, Jack Fisher, John Hughes or Harry Pepper.