

ION PAGE

AUG 29/80

PEPP-TALK

with
Harry
Pepper

What a difference a word can make to a sentence! In last week's column, I stated that I didn't want to "belittle" the part that the Redmen had played in our town; when that word came to the surface in print, it was "believe," so you can see what I mean.

It could have been my writing, or it could have been a typographical error, either way it was one rare occurrence; my copy usually comes out just the way I write it. In almost eight years of doing this column, this is the only time I can remember being misquoted — but at least I never got any phone calls from outraged Redmen or their fans.

While on the subject of the Redmen, I am very happy to pass along something I picked up yesterday about one of our local members of the Redmen who was indeed a real meaningful force on the team this year.

Walt Christianson is a big strong boy who seems to revel in the rough going which is part and parcel of lacrosse. Well, Walt's worth has been recognized by no less a team than the Victoria Shamrocks, a senior team of top calibre at the Coast.

Walt is being given a two-game tryout by the Shamrocks. By the time you read this, those games may be history, but I will look forward to reading the reports on how he shows up

and I know a lot of other people will be doing likewise.

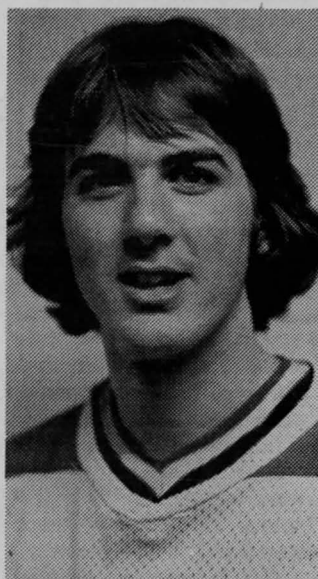
This week I was going to be a little critical of the format of the Little League championship series which was won by the B.C. rep, Andy Bilesky's Trail Little Leaguers.

The format was dictated, I understand, by the big TV moguls and called for a one-game playoff for the Canadian title between the Alberta rep from Calgary and the Trail team. Their decision made no allowance for the fact that B.C. was unbeaten and Alberta had a 4-1 record. They were televising one game and that would have to suffice.

As we B.C. faithful were well aware, our boys have the wherewithal to take them to Williamsport and we never doubted that they would need any more than one game. As it turned out Barry Parisotto pulled another shutout from his bag of tricks and B.C. were 6-0.

But doesn't it get a little sickening when the big TV concerns can dictate the way our kids' game should be regulated? We've seen it happen in practically all adult pro sports, but when it interferes with our kid sports, it seems to be just a little much.

Well, the Golden City Days are a little over a week away and from what I hear, preparations are going full-steam ahead. People like George Dyson and Mim Castle are up to their ears



WALT CHRISTIANSON
... tryout with Victoria

in work, preparing the various programs which will be the meat of this annual event.

With the news which was relayed to us this morning via the radio, it looks as though the beer supply will improve to the point where our worries about the beer garden being able to operate during GCD are considerably lessened.

The Fall Fair, held in conjunction with the Golden City Days, will once again be a big drawing card for the many visitors who seem to flock to our city during this festive occasion. The Warriors' hockey club is already planning big doings for their part in the celebration, and most every club and organization worthy

of the name will be going all out to do their part to make this year's the biggest and best ever.

The second part of the Minor league soccer season is just around the corner and the kids will be back on the soccer fields doing their thing. This part of the season is not too long and winds up with the various playoffs in early October.

Rossland teams have had a reasonably good season and as the time goes by we may once more have a division champ on our hands.

We have been very fortunate in soccer that we have quite a number of dedicated people around who are winning to dig in and do a first-class job of giving the kids some really top-notch instruction on the game of soccer. John Habicht, Jack McDonald and Joe Hughes, and others like Blaise Szekely and Shay Kelly put in a lot of time with the kids and the kids are starting to show the good it is doing.

Despite a spate of injuries to key players, the B.C. Lions are holding their own in the league this season. I guess the big news this season is the apparent downfall of the Motreal Alouettes; the cutting of four former key players shows the extent to which the team has sunk.

It looks like Edmonton from the west again, so far the east hasn't a reasonable facsimile of a contender for the Grep Cup.