

Historical WASHINGTON CHESS LETTER recaps (in the pages of *Washington Chess Letter* and *Northwest Chess*) by Russell Miller

1950-1975 at five-year intervals from March 1985 Northwest Chess

March 1950

The ten-page Washington Chess Letter reported that the Seattle Chess Club team won the Puget Sound league with a perfect 6-0 match score. Their game score was 57-21. Olympia was second 6-1-1, then came the 1949 champions Tacoma 5-3. The leading player in the league was Glenn Muller of Seattle who scored 12-0 on board 3. Weaver W. Adams put on a simultaneous at the Seattle Central YMCA. He won 27 and drew 2. Washington Chess Federation held its annual dinner meeting for the presentation of awards for past the year. Pictures of the event were for sale. Portland Oregon Chess Club defeated a team of Kitsap Chess Club 6-0 in a radio match. Portland CC won a 16 board match against players from the Salem CC, the Oregon State CC, and the U of O CC. Among those winning two games for Portland were: Jim Schmitt, Jack Strong, Cal Burnham, Don Turner, Mal Skarsten and Deane Moore. Dick Murrat was elected president of Olympia CC.

March 1955

The University of Washington team won the 1955 Puget Sound league. Their match score was 8-0 with a game score of 46 1/2-32 1/2. Next were the Latvian Sportsmen. Elmars Zemgalis of the Latvian team playing first board scored 15 wins and 1 draw in league play. Olaf Ulvestad won the Seattle Open 5.5-.5. Jerry Schain and William Bills tied for 2nd in the 12 man field. It was played on two Sundays. 18 pages were in WCL this month. Dan Wade topped the postal chess rating list. G. S. Schain was editor for this issue. Annual Washington Chess Federation meeting agenda was published.

March 1960

20 pages were in the WCL this month. Editor Buz Eddy reported that Olaf Ulvestad had left Seattle for a chess-playing vacation in Europe. James McCormick won the 1960 Washington Championship with a perfect 5-0 score. 2nd was Viktors Pupols, then Mike Franett. James McCormick won the Pacific Northwest Open 5.5-.5. 2nd in the 28 man field was John Braley. Fred Byron was the tournament director. The 10 man top section of the Idaho State Tournament was won on tie-breaking by Glen Buckendorf with 3.5-1.5 and 14 Solkoff points. The others that tied with him were Dick Vandenburg, Lloyd Kimpton, C.H. Stewart. Nick Skirmants won the 15 player class B section and Bob Funderburg took the Junior section of 14 players. George Rasor was elected Idaho Chess Assoc. president. Garfield was leading Seattle High School league play. Vernon Holmes won a 5-man Pierce County Championship. The Latvians team won the Puget Sound league with a 6.5-.5 match score. .5 points behind was North Seattle. Don Eilmes was on top of the postal chess list.

March 1965

14 pages were in this issue of Northwest Chess Letter. Editor Dan Wade reported that Jim McCormick won the 9 man Northwest Speed Event. Dick Cavin was elected president of the Medford Chess Club. Jim McCormick won the 1965 Washington State Championship with a score of 4 wins and 2 draws. Next in the 7 man field were Andy

Schoene, Viktors Pupols, and Clark Harmon. The Portland Stats Collage Closed was won by Ruben Saez on tie break over Frank Nettleton. Lewis Richardson was 3rd. Gordon Cornelius won the Spokane City Closed 5-0. The Golden Horde team topped the Puget Sound league play for 1964-65. Boeing was second. Oliver Morris was the top postal player.

March 1970

Willie Skubi took over as Editor of NWC for this 16 page issue. Mike Franett won the 1970 Washington State Championship 5-2 with Vik Pupols 2nd. The March of Dimes Open was won on tie-break by Mike Schemm. Bob Mitchell and Bill Kiplinger equaled his 4-1 score in the 22 player event. Esther Schrader was the tournament director. Vik Keisar of Walla Walla took over the Northwest Ratings post from Ben Thurston. David Douglas High was tops in the Portland Oregon Metro League play 8-0. Vik Pupols won the 28 player Burnaby Open 5 1/2-1/2. Kent Pullen won the top section of Boeing CC Class Tournament. Marty Gray was the Club President. Robert Karch wrote an article on goals for 1970's. Howie Chin's High School in Chess Column reported Roosevelt on top of Seattle Metro, Auburn the top in Western Ind., Bothell topped Kingco League, Roosevelt #1 team topped the 7 team King County High School Team Championships. Richard Schultz was the top rated Postal Player. Postal Director Ron Norman reported that Schultz won a game from No. 3 rated Oliver Morris.

March 1975

A 32 page issue put out by Editor Dan Bailey gave a 4 page report on Johnny Walkers win of the 1975 Wash. State Championship complete with pictures. Randy Dean was 2nd with Yasser Seirawan 3rd. Nigel Fullbrook won the N.Vancouver Island Open over 25 others. Alan Hill scored 5-0 in Simon Fraser U Open for clear first over 21 others.

Russell's Chess Chats reported Anatoly Karpov as the winner of the Chess Oscar for 1974 as voted on by the International Assoc. of Chess Journalists. Vik Pupols won the Holiday Inn Chess Congress held in San Rafasi CA 5-0 good for \$175.00 in cash.

Aaron Means won the 20 player House of Chess event. Bill Kiplinger scored a perfect 5-0 score in Eugene Open top section. Cinthia McBride won the reserve section. Yasser Seirawan won a House of Chess Speed event good for \$100.00. Sief Polusen was the top player on Salem CC rating ladder. There was a two full page ad for 1975 Vancouver, a 10 round 6 section class event. Gene Fomin and Neil Salmon won the Wash Challenger's Cup over 29 others. They were to playoff the tie as the winner would get a spot in the 1976 State Championship. Frank Koch was the top player on Yakima CC rating ladder. Korchnoi's Komplaints team was on top of the Puget Sound League Championship section. Lynnwood High School won the Wesco League with an 8 wins 1 draw match score. Starlium High of Tacoma was on top of the Puget Sound High League. David Jones won the Shoreline High School Championship, a 30 player event. Shoreline High won the North Division of Seattle Metro League 6-0. Garfield won the South Division. In a playoff between the two plus Roosevelt Shoreline came out on top again beating both teams. Shoreline team members were Matt Edwards, Roger Croisier, David Jones, Stan Yamaguchi, Ken Alexander and Brian Barbo.

Richard Schultz as usual was the top rated postal player. There were 146 players or the postal rating list.