

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 April 1985 Northwest Chess

April 1950

Editor Jack Finnigan had 6 pages in this issue. The cover was “an on-the-spot picture of a recent event.” The picture was of the presentation of the trophies for the team and individual championships for the year. It was reported that Latvian Chess master Elmars Zemgalis was due to arrive soon. The Seattle Chess Club team won the Puget Sound League with Olympia second. 20 players took part in the Puget Sound Open with Bob Stork winning 5-1. Jack Strong and Gerald Schain were next. The Washington State Speed crown was won by Jim Amidon. The event was held in Everett. Bob Neale won the Seattle CC Championship with 15 wins and 1 loss. Next was Glenn Muller.

April 1955

G.B. Schain was the editor of this 18 page issue. Ted Warner won the 2nd annual Inland Empire Open with 5.5-.5. Robert Oycus was 2nd with 5-1 and Dan Wade was the top of the 4.5 score group. This is the event that Dan Wade would have won on a tie-break had he accepted the offer of a draw from Ted Warner in the last round. Warner made the offer because he thought he would win on a tie-break. Wade thinking so also refused, but they were wrong. 40 players took part. The minutes of the 1955 WCF annual meeting were printed. Ken Mulford was elected President. Dr. Parker V-P. Peter Husby Sec., W.H. Raleigh Treasurer, Gerald Schain editor, and Viktors Pupols tournament director. Franklin High of Seattle defeated both Cleveland and Lincoln Highs of Seattle in matches.

April 1960

Buz Eddy was the editor of this 20 page issue. I guess he must take credit also for the page that was run upside down. Clark Harmon won the 12 player Oregon Junior. Mark Franett topped the North Idaho Junior 5-0 and Willy Brandal and John Braley tied for 2-3. The quarterly rating by Robert Karch appeared. The Northwest Senior Masters on the list were James H. McCormick, Olaf Ulvestad and Elmars Zemgalis. There were 3 Northwest masters; Dr. Peter Lapikan, Viktors Pupols, and Viesturs Seglins. There were 285 players on the whole list. Phil Dolph won the Boise City Championship 7-0. Dick Vanderburg was next 6-1. Neil Power and Jerry Wolfe were winners over Viktors Pupols in a 20 board simultaneous held in Everett. Yakima CC topped Kennewick High Club 8.5-3.5. Danny Towne topped the Yakima Junior College Event. William Hoge was elected president of the Yakima Chess Club.

April 1965

This 22 page issue was put out by Dan Wade. WCF Treasurer's report shows 310 members and \$768 on hand. The Ashland team topped one from Klamath Falls 5.5-4.5. The minutes of the WCF annual meeting appeared, Clark Harmon was elected President and Dick Parsons as the new editor. Fred Howard continued in the rating post as did V-P Col Bosse. WCF membership dues were raised from \$2.00 to \$3.00, the first raise in 14 years. Dr. Anton Walloch won the Pierce County title. Members of the Puget Sound

League All-Star team were 1. Andy Schoene, 2. John Braley, 3. Clark Harmon, 4. Matt Kenney, 5. Eddie Sonier. Glenn Muller won the 1965 Seattle CC title. John Braley topped the 12 man top section of the Puget Sound Open. Jim McCormick was 2nd .5 points behind the 4.5 winning score. David Fulton won the "B" section. Bruce Betzer of Portland won the Washington Junior on a tie-break over Eugene Fomin and Bill Blackmore when they scored 4-1 in the 10 man event. Peter Hashisaki won on a tie-breaker in the Washington High tournament over Randy Dean and Eugene Fomin. 16 players took part. Greg Kern and Ivars Dalbergs tied for 1st-2nd in the Grays Harbor Open both with a 4.5-.5 and the same tiebreaks. 38 players took part. Clark Harmon won and Buz Eddy directed the U of Washington Championship. 14 players took part. In the quarterly rating report Ivars Dalbergs and Andy Schoene were tops. There were 250 players on the list. Brian Potter won the B.C Championship.

April 1970

Editor Willie Skubi put out a 24 page issue of NORTHWEST CHESS. This was issue 269. A three-way tie was the result of the Astor Open. George Krauss then of Tacoma, Gerald Van Deene of Aberdeen and Jerry Weikel of Eugene all scored 4-1 in the 17 player event directed by Esther Schrader.

Mike Franett won the 1970 Washington State Championship with a 5-2 score. Vik Pupols was 2nd 4 1/2-2 1/2. Other scores were: Jim McCormick 4-3, Kent Pullen 3 1/2-3 1/2 as was Peter O'Gorman, Mike Murray 3-4, Johnny Walker 1/2-4 1/2 and Alan Clark 2-5. Rex Wilcox of Pocatello won the Idaho State Championship.

Bob Eldridge reported in the British Columbia section that Robert Zuk won the 25 player Lower Mainland Open. Ken Morton and Charles Balmer tied for 1st 4.5-.5 in Mary Hill Students Tournament.

Harry Glidden reported in the Oregon Chess News Section that David Mitchell was the Oregon Jr. Champion scoring 4-1 in 6 man field. 12 teams took part in NW Interzonal High School Tournament. Three tied for first: Roosevelt Seattle, David Douglas of Portland and Sonora, California all 4-1 match scores. David Douglas was top team in the Oregon Metro League as of 2/19/70 with 10-0 match score. Top players on club ladders were: Seattle CC- Svend Monrad; Spokane-Jim Hanlen, Seattle U-Howard Chin.

David Groenig won the Spokane City Championship. The WCF annual report listed WCF as having \$796.83 cash on hand. Only one contested office was to be placed on the ballot, V-P Angus Pitt against Willie Skubi. Elected Officers were Russell Miller-Pres, Norm Hardy - Sec., Kathy Miller-Tres, Casey Nyman-Publicity Director, Tim Kauppila-Tournament Director, Vik Keiser-Rating Director, Willie Skubi-Editor NWC, Jeff Hanson Publisher, Don Eisenberg-Circulation Director, Ron Norman-Postal Director, Howie Chin-High School Director.

Richard Schultz was the top player on the Postal Chess Rating List.

April 1975

Dan Bailey was the Editor of a full 32 page issue of Northwest Chess. Oregon Editor Aaron Means reported William Kiplinger, Clay Kelleher and Alan Dvorshak tied for 1st in the 40 player Open Section of the Portland Winter Open. They had 4.5-.5 good for

\$61.75 each. Richard Backer won the Reserve Section 5-0 good for \$70.00. That was largest 2-day Open ever held in Portland to that time. The 3rd Annual Oregonian-OMSI Chess Tournament results listed Mark Witty of Adrian School as Grade 5 top player in the State, Greg Mase of Whitaker in Portland as tops for Grade 6, Greg Vitko of Markam Portland tops of Grade 7 and Teddy Leong of Astoria Jr. High 1st in Grade 8 competition Tom Kuge of Reynolds High in Portland won the Grade 9-12 event.

Yakima Valley College Feb Quad winners were Teddy Garoutte, David Klinetobe, Frank Koch, Bill Misemer and Danny Estes. Ernst Rasmussen and Neil Salmon scored 4-0 to top a Tacoma Tornado. John Donaldson edged out Matt Edwards and Bob Haukap to win Washington High School Individual of 26 players. Yasser Seirawan took part but finished last after winning in round 1, losing to Doug Walker in rd 2 and then dropping out. Robert Morris 40 player King County Tornado 4-0. The 21 player Ellensburg Open had 3 players all scoring 3-0, Don Taylor, Russell Miller and Larry Rude. Ellensburg won the Eastern Washington League with 4-0 match score. Top league scorers were 1-Wayne Hatcher, 2 - Steve Wilson, 3-Jim Klingele and Bill Horton, 4-Dennis Vaguhan and 5-Jay Schrader.

\$100 first Prize in 1975 Fort Vancouver Open went to Yasser Seirawan for his 5-0 score besting 58 others.

Salem CC beat a Team from Portland State 5-0. There was a full page ad for \$1000.00 Continental Life and Accident Idaho Open. Randy Dean was the best of 14 5 Minute players taking part in the Championship Section of the King County 5 Minute Championship. Robert Karch announced his resignation as President of Washington Chess Federation and Northwest Postal Chess Director. 16 5 player Teams took part in the Washington State Jr. High Team event which was won by Meany-Madrona Middle School 4-0. 34 teams took part in 75 Washington High School Team event which was won by Juanita High of Kirkland 5-0. Top board scorers were: Yasser Seirawan on 1, Dan Ryan on 2, Randy Walter on 3, Leonard Coglass on 4 and Byron Biystone on 5. Dan Bailey reprinted Ben Franklin's 1779 MORALS OF CHESS.