

Historical WASHINGTON CHESS LETTER recaps by Russell Miller October 1960

Seattle's Finest Trounce B.C. by Dan Wade: [Things in brackets added by Russell Miller.]

Seattle's finest smashed Vancouver B.C.'s top eight 6.5 to 1.5 in games played Saturday afternoon, September 24th [1960] at the North Seattle Chess Club. Seattle won 5 games, drew 3 and lost NONE. This was a definite reversal of form for both sides as in the last played match in Vancouver, B.C., Seattle was defeated 7.5-1.5. This was the third top board match between the two cities - Seattle having won the first in the series 5.5-2.5 some time ago (1958) at Olaf Ulvestad's Chess Center.

Unable to secure the services of Ulvestad, who is in Europe, Seattle still was able to field a very strong team with Elmars Zemgalis, James McCormick, Viktors Pupols, Richard Schultz, Viesturs Seglins, Dr. A. [Arthur] A. Murray, Dan Wade and Charles Joachim facing the enemy in the order named.

Zemgalis won over E. [Elod] MacSkasy, giving Elmars a 2-1 advantage over MacSkasy. They have met in all three matches. For facts on this game see out games pages in this issue. McCormick gained an advantage over W. (sic) [Miervalda] Jursebskis (who has KILLED Washington's finest for several years) but the slippery Jursebskis finally managed to get off the hook and get a draw. This was the longest game of the match.

Viktors Pupols had an uphill fight in his third board battle with G. [Gerhard] Neufahrt & finally overcame any disadvantage – we are told he had to draw. Richard Schultz won a nice game over N. [Nathan] Divinsky (for the details see the Games) and Viesturs Seglins was the first to win defeating F. [Frank] May. Schultz played 4th board because Seglins wanted to get his game over with in a hurry and the Vancouver 4th board man arrived later than their 5th board man. Seglins put the pressure on May and won a piece causing May to resign after only 24 moves.

Dr. A. [Arthur] A. Murray double fianchettoed, put on tremendous pressure, won a pawn and in general played his usual positional type grinding game to finally force his opponent K. [Kaj] Nielsen to finally throw in “ye olde towel.” Dan Wade and his opponent, J. Taylor, played a real donnybrook - all attack and both kings in trouble. Taylor appeared to have an easy win after Wade's attack was finished but didn't make the best possible moves and Wade found a way to draw a position which at first appeared hopeless. Charles Joachim and G. Schneider were in a nice even game that held promise of great things before the game could be terminated. All of the sudden Schneider blundered, lost a piece, and the contest was terminated.

The games were held at Don Eilmes's home (which is also the North Seattle C. C.) and coffee and cookies were served by Mrs. Don (Mary) Eilmes. Joachim had also a hand in the refreshments department, bringing coffee cake made by his daughter. Don Eilmes had fixed up the club with everything desired to make it a probably the best place to hold a match or small tournament in the northwest.

The Vancouver players were on daylight saving time and we were on standard causing a mix up. John Braley and Mike Franett arrived on time but not on time because of this time trouble so we lost some strength but fortunately the outcome was very good anyway.

Seattle, Washington 6.5 Vancouver, B.C. 1.5

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|-----------------|----|---------------|----|
| 1. E. Zemgalis | 1 | E. Macskasy | 0 |
| 2. J. McCormick | .5 | W. Jursevskis | .5 |
| 3. V. Pupols | .5 | G. Neufahrt | .5 |
| 4. R. Schultz | 1 | N. Divinsky | 0 |
| 5. V. Seglins | 1 | F. May | 0 |
| 6. A. A. Murray | 1 | K. Nielsen | 0 |
| 7. D. Wade | .5 | J. Taylor | .5 |
| 8. C. Joachim | 1 | G. Schneider | 0 |

Seattle had the black men on the odd-numbered boards.