

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 June 1985 Northwest Chess

June 1950

Washington won the International Peace Arch match with BC 16-12 on the Class A boards and 14-4 on the B boards. Mt Vernon was the site for that match while Colville was the site another Washington win 4-1. G. S. G. Patterson of the Seattle CC staged a 14-0 simultaneous exhibition at the Aberdeen CC. The Tacoma CC was meeting at the USD at 13th and Fawcett in those long ago days. This issue was 18 pages.

June 1955

Washington would be trying for its third straight win of the International Match to be held July 24 at the Peace Arch in Blaine. Bob Edberg of Tieton won a Yakima CC RR 24-1-2. 18 pages in this issue. William Bills current State Champion won a 10 man speed tournament at the Seattle CC. USCF Ratings were printed in this issue. Some that might be of interest to current NWC readers were: Arthur Dake 2400, Victor Pupols 2027, Ivars Dalbergs 2014, Dan Wade 1909, Jim McCormick 1900, Ken Mulford 1733, Oliver LaFreniere 1719, Vince Bricher 1600, Joe Bricher 1550. This issue says Jim McCormick is retired from chess at age 18. Issue says American Chess Foundation Inc. was formed this year to provide sound financing for chess in the USA. Fred Howard won the West Seattle CC Championship.

June 1960

Vie Pupols won the Puget Sound Open over a field of 46 with a perfect 5-0. In 2nd spot was Richard Schultz. Jim McCormick was third. The time control was 30/1 but then a petition was circulated calling for 50/2. The TD then amended the control to 50/105 minutes. Pupols won the \$40.00 first prize by beating McCormick in round 5 with the black pieces. Other current members of WCF scoring were Oliver LaFreniere 4-1, John Braley 3.5-1.5, Dan Wade 3-2, Jerry Wolfe 2.5, Buz Eddy 2. Ivars Dalbergs won a USCF rated Interstate Open 5-0. Don Turner won the unrated section. WCF officers elected at the annual meeting were: Pres-Max Mage, V-P - Peder Husby, Sec-Charles Joachim, Tres-W. Raleigh, Editor-Dan Wade, Publisher-John Braley, Postal/Circulation-R.R. Merk, TD-Buz Eddy, Publicity-Oliver LaFreniere, Rating Director-Richard Schultz.

Mike Franett won 20 player top section of the USCF rated Idaho Open 4.5-.5. Jerry Wolfe won the B section of 12 players. Franett had now played 24 tournament games without a loss. Don Eilmes was the top rated postal player.

June 1965

In the BC Open Duncan Suttles and Elod Mascasy tied at 4.5. Clark Harmon won the 2nd annual U of W Chess Tourney, Kent Pullen was 2nd. U of W and Portland State played a 5 board match to a 5-5 tie. U of W beat a Fort Lewis team 3-1 and a McNeil Island Team 5-1. Dana Sudborough and Phil Dolph tied for 1st in 36-player Rouge Valley Open Championship. Oliver Morris and Vik Pupols were the top rated postal players.

June 1970

This issue was only 1 page of tournament announcements and the July issue was expanded to 32 pages. NWC Editor Willie Skubi between work and not being able to get his mail was not able to get the issue to Yakima for printing and mailing before the circulation director WCF President Russell Miller was to leave on 2 weeks vacation.

June 1975

Dan Bailey was editor for a 32 page issue of NWC. Bruce Harper and Robert Chow won the BC Championship 6-3. 320 players took part in the largest chess event to date in the Northwest, Vancouver 1975 May 17-25. The open event was won by Paul Keres with Elod Macskasy, Gyoza Forintos. John Watson tied for 2nd-4th. The prize fund was \$16,128.00. Keres was undefeated scoring 8.5-1.5, 1.5 better than the 2nd-4th placers. Duncan Suttles had 6.5 in the 34-player field. Nigel Fullbrook won the 36-player A Section 8-2. Robert Zuk won the Expert Section of 18 players. Gary Burk won the 62-player B Section 8.5-1.5 with William Schill and Matt Edwards and Eric Tangborn at 7.5. Frank Szarka won the 88-player C Section 9.5-.5. Paul Sontag won the D & Unrated Section 8.5-1.5. The event drew 151 players from BC, Washington 33, Oregon 17 and Idaho 2. Keres won \$2,670.00 for 1st and \$8,028.00 was awarded in the Open Section. The event is still being held on a smaller scale and called the Keres Memorial.

The House of Chess in Portland had to close. Mike Schemm won the 27-player Grants Pass Open 5-0 for \$37.75. Alien Thompson won the Newport Open 4.5-.5 over 7 others. Rob Hankinsori won the Yakima Spring Open 4.5-5. Robert Stephenson won the Idaho Open 5-0 good for \$225.00. Richard Vandenburg was 2nd in the 58-player field. Allen Thompson won the Open Section of the Ellensburg Spring Open 3-0. There were 14 players. In the closed section Joe Huffman won 3-0. Vik Pupols won \$87.50 for his 4.5-.5 best score in the 29-player Puget Sound Open held in Olympia. Paul Eggers and Randy Dean tied for 2nd 4-1. Current US Champion Walter Browne played a 35-board simultaneous at Boonin CC. Pat Hessen and NW Rating Director Bruce Bailey beat the Grandmaster while Mike Spiegel drew. Richard Schultz was the top postal player on this issues rating list.