

Bullets, triggerd by 'Big E,' fire few blanks

Washington subdues Seattle in NBA

Yes, a sleek Seattle Super Sonic team and a physical Washington club were worthy opponents in the National Basketball Association finals.

In a replay of the championship series by Review co-editor Del Newell, the two defensive-minded had a virtual Tong War before the Bullets won out in seven games, the same as in real-life.

The Big E, Elvin Hayes, was named MVP after averaging 22.4 points and snaring 15.1 rebounds over the seven-game route. Hayes, in the showdown seventh game, responded with a 23-point, 21-rebound performance as Washington claimed a 106-91 victory.

The two teams were evenly matched, however, with not much to choose from between them. Seattle, lacking the firepower of the Bullets and Hayes, Bob Dandridge, Mitch Kupchak and Kevin Grevey and Co., got tenacious defensive efforts from Marvin [Human Eraser] Webster, Jack Sikma, Paul Silas and Dennis Johnson, plus Fred Brown, "Downtown" to NBA buffs, netted enough outside shots to average 15 points and ignite a number of Sonic flurries.

Shooting averages, as expected, suffered because of the defensive efforts by both teams. Washington's 128-93 blowout of the Sonics in the opener, with the Bullets swishing 53 of 104 shots (51 percent), was the top offensive effort.

Ironically, the teams exchanged victories, with the Bullets winning the "my turn" championship final. In addition to Hayes, Washington got 19 points from guard Tom Henderson, who connected on nine of 10 floor shots in his best playoff effort, and 17 rebounds from muscleman Wes Unseld, who had the unenviable task of guarding Webster in the series.

Seattle, hurting in the showdown when Webster, who averaged 14.9 points and a series-high 17.3 rebounds, and Sikma both ran into early foul trouble, continued to be a sticky foe, even carrying a 76-72 lead into the last quarter. Then the Bullets blitzed it with a 34-15 blast and the championship belonged to Washington.

GAME-BY-GAME SUMMARY

No. 1 - Washington 128, Seattle 93. Hayes hit 11 of 13 first half field goal attempts as Bullets looked awesome in routing Sonics...Hayes had 26 points, 14 rebounds, Grevey 22 points and Dandridge 17.

No. 2 - Seattle 109, Washington 94. Webster tossed in 13 of his 17 points in first half and Brown had 12 of his game-high 20 in second as Sonics reversed outcome...Seattle led most of game, seizing 54-43 half-time advantage...Webster grabbed 18 rebounds while Sikma limited Big E to 17 points and 6-of-20 shooting from the field.

No. 3 - Washington 107, Seattle 90. Washington wiped out Sonics in second half, 71-47, as Dandridge scored 14, Grevey 12 and Kupchak 11 to key the charge...Seattle, surprisingly, considering the final score, had led 43-36 at the half...Hayes had 25 points, Dandridge 18 and Unseld 18 rebounds for the winners, with Webster accounting for 20 tallies and 18 rebounds for Seattle.

No. 4 - Seattle 104, Washington 99. Seattle cashed in big from free throw line, netting 40 of whopping 61 opportunities, as Washington was whistled for 36 personals and lost Hayes and Henderson by the six-count... Sonics rode roller-coaster to victory, leading 64-49 at half, falling down in the third quarter and being outpointed 24-11, then having just enough offense to hold on for victory...Webster and Gus Williams had 18 points apiece, Sikma 17 and Webster claimed 20 rebounds for Seattle... Hayes, despite missing 1½ quarters with foul woes, still managed a game-high 24 points [12-of-16 shooting from the field]...Another strange twist to the game was that Bullets launched 31 more shots than Seattle--but 40 less free throws.

[continued on next page]

No. 5 - Washington 116, Seattle 104. Seattle, ahead by 11 after one period, faltered in second half, being outpointed 32-17 in final quarter... Hayes, after 0-for-7 first period shooting and one point in opening half, scored nine of 18 total in last quarter...Seattle did 28 of 29 free throws...Grevey led Bullets with 22 points; Brown and Sikma had 15 for losers.

No. 6 - Seattle 100, Washington 98. Bruce Seals was hero for Seattle, goaling on final play for margin of victory. Seals had great game, pouring in 21 points, all in second half...Hayes again led Bullets with 24.

No. 7 - Washington 106, Seattle 91. Fourth-quarter spurt (34-15) by Bullets and Webster and Sikma's foul troubles (both departed in fourth quarter) were decisive...Hayes had 23 points, 21 rebounds, and Henderson 19 points for winners.

Note that all games were played solitaire, but with advanced rules. Now here's a statistical game-by-game breakdown of that final series:

	GAME 1 (128)					GAME 2 (94)					
	FG	FT	TP	P	R	FG	FT	TP	P	R	
<u>WASHINGTON</u>											
Dandridge	7-18	3-3	17	5	7	5-12	3-4	13	6	7	<u>No. 1</u>
Ballard	2-6	1-1	5	3	2	2-4	0-2	4	0	2	W 39 33 29 27-128
Hayes	12-18	2-4	26	3	14	6-20	5-9	17	4	12	S 26 23 16 28-93
Kupchak	3-12	2-2	8	0	9	4-9	0	8	4	8	
Unsold	2-5	2-6	6	3	14	6-8	0-1	12	3	13	<u>No. 2</u>
Pace	4-5	0	8	1	2	3-4	1-1	7	0	4	W 14 29 24 27-94
Henderson	6-12	2-6	14	4	4	1-10	0-2	2	3	4	S 17 37 30 25-109
C. Johnson	4-7	4-4	12	3	3	1-4	6-8	8	1	3	
Grevey	8-12	6-6	22	3	3	3-11	9-11	15	5	5	<u>KEY</u>
Wright	5-9	0-1	10	1	2	3-7	2-2	8	1	0	FG - field goals made/attempted
	53-104	22-33	26	60	60	34-89	26-40	27	59	59	FI - free throws made/attempted
<u>SEATTLE</u>											
J. Johnson	5-14	2-2	12	4	5	3-9	9-15	15	5	6	TP - total points
Walker	0-2	2-2	2	1	0	2-4	1-2	5	1	1	P - personal fouls
Sikma	6-14	2-2	14	3	10	4-8	3-4	11	1	9	R - rebounds [total is for team]
Seals	2-4	0	4	0	1	4-7	0	8	3	1	
Webster	4-10	2-4	10	6	13	6-12	5-7	17	5	16	
Silas	3-10	4-10	10	4	9	3-7	1-1	7	5	5	
D. Johnson	3-5	7-8	13	3	2	3-8	2-2	6	6	4	
F. Brown	4-10	2-2	10	3	5	10-18	0	20	1	4	
G. Williams	4-13	6-6	14	3	6	7-14	0	14	3	0	
Hassett	2-3	0	4	2	0	1-5	2-2	4	2	1	
	33-86	27-36	29	53	53	43-92	23-33	32	54	54	
<u>SEATTLE</u>											
J. Johnson	2-8	1-1	5	3	2	4-10	3-6	11	5	8	
Walker	1-5	0	2	0	1	1-2	5-7	7	2	1	<u>No. 3</u>
Sikma	5-11	2-3	12	3	9	7-14	3-7	17	1	6	S 14 29 23 24-90
Seals	5-9	0	10	3	5	1-6	1-2	3	2	1	W 18 18 35 36-107
Webster	7-15	6-11	20	5	18	7-14	4-7	18	2	20	
Silas	3-6	1-4	7	4	5	1-2	4-6	6	3	11	
D. Johnson	1-8	2-3	4	0	2	4-10	4-6	12	2	5	
F. Brown	7-16	1-1	15	5	5	2-6	8-10	12	2	6	<u>No. 4</u>
G. Williams	5-12	3-5	13	4	5	5-12	8-10	18	2	4	S 33 31 11 29-104
Hassett	1-2	0	2	0	0	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	W 28 21 24 26-99
	37-92	16-28	27	53	53	32-76	40-61	21	63	63	
<u>WASHINGTON</u>											
Dandridge	6-14	6-7	18	4	9	3-20	1-2	7	3	7	
Ballard	1-4	2-2	4	1	1	3-4	2-2	8	3	3	
Hayes	11-21	3-3	25	3	12	12-16	0	24	6	11	
Kupchak	5-9	3-3	13	4	13	7-13	3-3	17	5	11	
Unsold	5-12	1-1	11	4	18	5-9	3-6	13	4	12	
Henderson	4-10	2-2	10	3	1	4-11	4-7	12	6	2	
C. Johnson	2-3	2-2	6	2	0	2-6	0-1	4	1	4	
Grevey	7-13	2-3	16	3	5	5-18	0	10	3	3	
Wright	1-10	2-2	4	1	0	2-10	0	4	5	2	(continued on
	42-96	23-25	25	61	61	43-107	13-21	36	57	57	next page)

GAME 5 (104)						GAME 6 (100)					
SEATTLE	FG	FT	TP	P	R	FG	FT	TP	P	R	
J. Johnson	4-12	1-1	9	3	3	3-12	1-1	7	1	1	
Walker	3-6	0	6	1	1	2-6	1-2	5	0	2	<u>No. 5</u>
Sikma	6-15	7-7	19	5	12	3-7	3-3	9	6	10	<u>Seattle</u>
Seals	2-7	2-2	6	1	3	9-11	3-3	21	1	3	34 30 23 17-104
Webster	5-13	4-5	14	1	23	5-11	4-4	14	2	16	<u>Washington</u>
Silas	1-2	0	2	2	4	2-7	1-3	5	4	14	23 33 28 32-116
D. Johnson	3-7	5-5	11	6	2	6-11	3-5	15	2	3	
F. Brown	7-13	5-5	19	3	3	7-18	2-2	16	0	5	<u>No. 6</u>
G. Williams	7-16	2-2	16	3	3	2-11	0	4	5	5	<u>Washington</u>
Hassett	0-4	2-2	2	0	1	2-6	0	4	1	3	22 19 28 29-98
	38-95	28-29	25	60		41-100	18-23		22	66	<u>Seattle</u>

21 21 34 24-100

WASHINGTON (116)						(98)					
	FG	FT	TP	P	R		FG	FT	TP	P	R
Dandridge	7-13	0	14	2	4	7-19	1-2	15	5	3	
Ballard	2-5	2-2	6	1	4	1-6	0	2	3	7	<u>No. 7</u>
Hayes	8-19	2-5	18	5	21	9-23	6-10	24	5	15	<u>Washington</u>
Kupchak	8-13	1-1	17	4	8	7-9	2-2	16	2	11	22 24 26 34-106
Unsel	5-8	0	10	5	9	4-15	4-7	12	2	15	<u>Seattle</u>
Henderson	4-10	6-8	14	3	0	3-9	0	6	0	4	17 27 32 15-91
Wright	6-11	1-1	13	1	0	2-8	2-2	6	2	1	
Grevey	10-16	2-2	22	2	3	4-9	2-2	10	2	4	
C. Johnson	1-6	0	2	1	2	3-6	1-2	7	1	2	
	51-101	14-19	24	51		40-104	18-27		22	63	

WASHINGTON GAME 7 (106)						SEATTLE GAME 7 (91)					
	FG	FT	TP	P	R		FG	FT	TP	P	R
Dandridge	5-14	3-3	13	4	4	J. Johnson	6-19	0	12	5	5
Ballard	0-1	2-2	2	4	5	Walker	4-9	2-2	10	4	2
Hayes	8-17	7-11	23	1	21	Sikma	0-4	1-2	1	6	3
Kupchak	3-9	2-5	8	3	6	Seals	2-9	5-6	9	1	5
Unsel	3-10	7-7	13	2	17	Webster	4-10	3-3	11	6	13
Pace	0	0	0	0	0	Silas	2-5	0	4	3	15
Henderson	9-10	1-2	19	3	2	D. Johnson	5-14	0	10	2	3
Wright	7-16	0	14	4	1	F. Brown	5-13	2-3	12	1	2
Grevey	4-10	2-2	10	3	2	G. Williams	5-11	3-4	13	3	2
C. Johnson	2-6	0	4	1	0	Hassett	4-6	1-1	9	0	3
	41-93	24-32	25	59			37-100	17-21		31	57
