



Sally Green Prouty

A Retrospective compiled by Dean Johnson and Tim Boggan

I dedicate this book . . .

. . . to my husband Carlton Prouty and to my family for being so supportive of all the paths of endeavor that I have chosen to pursue. I give great credit to my father, Fred Green, for being my coach from the first day I held a table tennis

paddle until I retired. I also cherish the steadfast support that I received from my mother Pauline Green and my brother Warren Green.

Sally Green Prouty



Fred P. Green, in 1953



Sally and Carlton in 2008. Photo by Dean Johnson

SALLY GREEN PROUTY PROFILE

USATT Hall of Fame Inductee (1979)
by USATT Historian Tim Boggan - (c) 2000

The 1938 World Championships

. . . would be played in London, at Wembley, and, since all four members of last year's winning U.S. Corbillon Cup Women's Team -- Ruth Aarons, Dolores Kuenz, Jay Purves, and Emily Fuller -- were not interested in representing the U.S. this year, especially since they'd have to pay all, or at least most, of their own way, the USTTA Selection Committee, in the absence of any Tryout, began going down the Ranking list to see who might be available. Turns out U.S. #3 Mrs. Margaret Wilkinson (widowed at an early age, she preferred to be called "Miss"), and U.S. #13 Mrs. Clara Harrison, accepted. Next in line? The young 16-year-old from Indianapolis (born on December 23, 1922), U.S. #14 Sally Green.

In a July 27, 1937 letter

. . . to Indianapolis Ranking Committeeman Henry Spaulding who'd spoken highly of Sally, Ranking Chairman Reg Hammond says "COLOR" is what we need at Women's Team Tryouts – "and if Sally Green can give it [as Spaulding said she energetically could], she's as good as selected for a place right now. I was sorry we had to decline her last year." No problem then that Sally's quite young to be going abroad, Hammond's predisposed toward her, and she is #14 on the Ranking list. So, chaperoned or not, can she go to London?

Alas, no – "school work" and piano lessons (she was said to

practice "three hours daily") were reasons enough to prevent her from accepting. Instead, her place was taken by U.S. #16, 15-year-old Betty Henry, Sally's arch-rival from South Bend, who, on being the recipient of an extremely fortunate draw at Wembley, would advance all the way to the Women's semi's.

However, it was not Henry who'd go on to greatness (she'd retire in her teens, marry, then in her early twenties suffer a fatal illness), but the zippy, fidgety Green (later Prouty) who, as we'll see in Part II, will totally dominate the U.S. Women's game in the coming War years. How, for her, did it all start?

Sally Green's Career Achievements

Reportedly "frail and ill as a child

. . . Sally 'snapped out of it' when she was 8." Six years later, this vibrant teenager had already won more than 30 trophies – swimming/diving trophies – and so, having begun "playing table tennis at 13 [early in 1936] to loosen up a back she had sprained while diving," was poised for the inevitable meeting with ever-flexible Fame.

Her "springboard"? The three table tennis tournaments – with the help of her father/coach Fred (briefly an Indiana TTA President) – she'd won in the 1936-37 season. These were: the December 19-20 Indiana State Championship at Kokomo, over Henry; the February 6-7 Northern Indiana Open at Huntingdon, over Mrs. Mary Mason (at this tournament last year Sally'd won what was her first ever title, the Mixed with Jerry Jacobs, a title they did not successfully defend); and the February 13-14 Missouri Valley Open at Kansas City, over Mrs. W.L. (Helen) Van Dusen, about to be the Nebraska Open Champ. In between, at the January 30-31 Ohio Open at Columbus, she lost in the semi's to the winner Clara Harrison.

Three out-of-town tournaments, from late January to mid-February, in three weeks – obviously Sally was very serious about improving. Already she was starting to develop "an aggressive, masculine-type game" – characterized by a hard-driving forehand. The March 20-21, 1937 Lake Cities Open in Toledo, where, attacking, she beat Henry in the final, was another tournament close enough to go to – but the National's in Newark, New Jersey, that was just too far away.

The '37-38 season saw fashion-conscious Wilkinson down Green in the November 19-20 Northern Indiana at Gary, then Harrison gain "an easy victory" over her in the Indiana Open at Muncie. However, Sally did beat Henry at Indianapolis, did beat Nebraska's Dorothy Glasson at Omaha (where she also won the Mixed with Garrett Nash). So midway into the season Green found herself leading the Wilkinson Cup, a new participation competition in which the more important the tournament was, the more points for advancing in it one would get.



**Sally posing with
her racket at age
14 in 1936.**

Sally's parents . . .

. . . had to be giving her great support, for come Saturday or Sunday she was usually away at an out-of-town tournament. In fact, that February she didn't miss a weekend. At the February 5-6 Ohio Open at Columbus, she defeated Cleveland's Jean Everling and won the Mixed with Nash. Then three weekends in a row – at the Central States Open at Huntingdon, the Illinois Open at Evanston, and the Western's at Kansas City – she beat the Chicago veteran Helen Ovenden, who in 1935 had been the first woman to represent the U.S. at a World Championship. This last match with Helen at Kansas City, however, was a semi's, and in the final Green would fall to Kuenz who, paired with Blattner, would also win the Mixed over Sally and her then regular partner Garrett Nash.

The warm-up tournament for the upcoming National's – though it seemed like a National's itself with a mammoth entry of 350 players and \$500 in trophies – was the March 12-13 Lake Cities Open, and as Nash, playing in tournament after tournament, was keeping up the same non-stop pace as Green – Sally would win the women's Wilkinson Cup this season, Garrett the counterpart men's

Hammond Cup – it was a certainty he'd be going to Toledo. But enroute from St. Louis, Nash and George Hendry were stranded, so put in a call to the Greens for help. Then they caught a bus and after arriving in Indianapolis at 4 a.m., "hiked two miles with grips in hand to the Greens, woke them up, and piled into their car." Fortunately for Garrett and Sally, though they didn't win any Doubles, they did win the Singles – Garrett over George, Sally over Henry.

Ten days later, at the 1938 Philadelphia National's, Green – in showing as one observer said, "the best drive in the country" – had the distinction of playing the most exciting quarter's match, though in a losing -10, -17, 19, 9, -10 effort against the eventual Champion Fuller. So, keep your fingers crossed, Sally, maybe next year. Actually, it was around this time that right-handed Sally did, literally, begin the habit as she played of keeping "the first and second fingers of her left hand crossed." She tried to break herself of it, but the effort "threw her off her game," so, what the hell, she'd be eccentric.



Sally in 1939

Although the season-ending National's marked the end of the Wilkinson Cup race, Sally, now U.S. #6, followed up by playing in two back-to-back nearby Ohio tournaments – winning both from Norma Hieronymus (later Studer). The first of these, the April 23-24 Miami Valley Open at Cincinnati, was historically memorable, not because of Green but because of Topics' first mention of another winner ... of the Women's Consolation – one, Leah Thall (later Neuberger, World Mixed Doubles Champion).

With the beginning of the 1938-39 season, Green picked up where she'd left off- swept through Ohio TTA Secretary Hieronymus in the October 22-23 Miami Valley Open at Hamilton. Then, less than two months later, in the Southern Open at Louisville, Sally, the Women's winner, began to establish a very successful Mixed Doubles partnership with young Roger Downs of Indianapolis, the Men's winner.

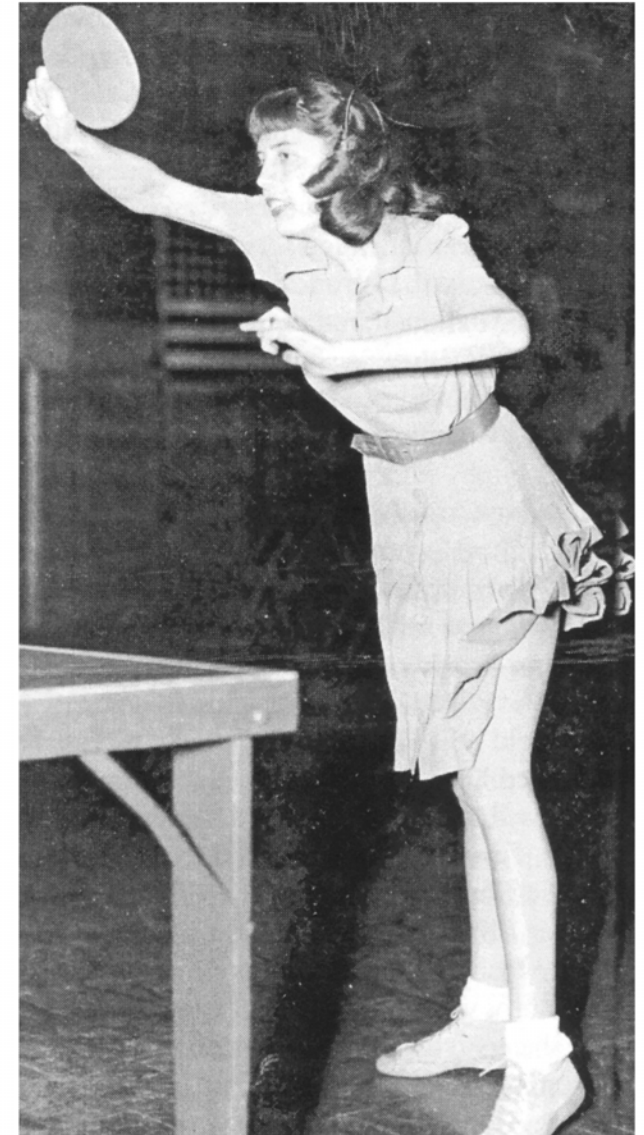
At the December 3-4, 1938 . . .

. . . Indiana Open, played at Jimmy McClure's TTC in Indianapolis, Green wiped out Wilkinson, and Sally and Roger won the Mixed, as they would later at the Central States over John Varga and Henry. John had no doubt taken Betty under his authoritarian wing at the South Bend Y and perhaps had given her some coaching tips on how to play Sally, for at the January 7-8 St. Joe Valley Henry got the better of Green, 19 in the 4th.

There was talk in South Bend that Betty might win the April U.S. Open, especially after she again beat Green in the February 7th Huntington, Indiana Central States Open. But then Sally came back the next weekend to win the Michigan Open from Henry, 19 in the 4th. Moreover, as it would turn out, Betty would be the only player from South Bend competing in these nearby Toledo National's. So was there anyone really close to her (Varga excepted, or not excepted?) to give her the friendship and support even a Champion needs?

Henry, seeded 8th, drew the #1 seed, Defending Champion Fuller in the quarter's and never had a chance – averaged only 12 points a game. Green, seeded #4, drew the #1 foreign seed, the Hungarian superstar of the early 1930's and 1935 World Singles runner-up, Magda Gal Hazi, who, with her husband Tibor, also a superstar, had arrived in the U.S. only two days before the start of the tournament. Already in the twilight of her career, she couldn't have been at her best after all that traveling and fell in 4 to Sally's aggressive play.

Coming out to meet Green in the semi's was Ruthe Brewer, friend to Sol Schiff and Doug Cartland, who when traveling with them certainly improved her play. Ranking Chair Hammond spoke of her "New York" game, and Sol and Doug in their 1939 book *Table Tennis Comes of Age* affirms that she's "practiced with various men and picked up a man's game." But of course so had Green. It did look like Ruthe was well on her way to making Papa Brewer's National Championship hopes for her come true – but, after being up 2-0 on Sally, she lost in 5.



It was around this time of the 1938 Philadelphia National's, that right-handed Sally began the habit of keeping the first and second fingers of her left hand crossed.



Sally with the album that was created and maintained by her father, Fred. It contains nearly 200 pages of photos, articles and mementos of Sally's career. The following pages contain images of some of the pages in the album. Photo by Dean



Sally with Betty Henry in 1938.

THE INDIANAPOLIS SUNDAY STAR. FEBRUARY 20, 1938

ODDS AND ENDS IN SPORTLAND

By AL ROCHE

SALLY GREEN.

SALLY GREEN is a little girl with big ideas. Though only 15 years old, she already has formed the habit of getting what she goes after. In another year, when she's "sweet 16," this versatile miss hopes to pay a visit to far-off Egypt and look down on the world from the head of a sphinx. What, pray tell, led her to cultivate such an ambition, and how, in the name of the bearded prophets, can she possibly fulfill this unusual desire? The answers aren't as difficult to provide as one might imagine.

One day, some three years ago, Sally played her first game of table tennis with friends in the neighborhood where she lives. When her dad came home and saw her in action he appointed himself coach and proceeded to instruct her in the fundamentals of the sport. The child's progress was so rapid she soon gave indications of becoming a standout and forthwith transferred her "training quarters" to the Paddle Club.

Today she's queen of three domains, having recently won the Ohio, Central States and Missouri valley championships. If that isn't traveling somewhere in a hurry, celluloid balls don't bounce.

Sally was invited to go to Europe with this year's American team which returned home last week, but "Coach" Green decided she was too young to do herself or the United States cause justice. Next year, she hopes, the situation will be reversed, and if she succeeds in landing a berth with the squad which will play at Cairo, Egypt, a date with a sphinx will be in order.

There is no end to Sally's dreams. In 1940, if table tennis is included on the Olympic sports program, she will bid for a place on the team which will carry the colors to Tokio. By way of preparing, just in case, Sally has been picking up commonplace Nipponese expressions from a little Japanese schoolmate at St. Agnes's Academy where she is a student. Needless to say, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Green of 4231 Guilford avenue can't find words to express themselves properly when their daughter peps up a dinner-table conversation with a demonstration of her linguistic talent.

Sally merely gave up one style of paddling for another when she embarked on her table tennis career. Swimming was her first athletic endeavor and she also met with success in that field, winning 15 or 20 medals and trophies in water carnivals before she began cluttering up the house with the type of awards she now is acquiring. The young lady was such an expert swimmer two years ago Mrs. Flora Kinder, Hoosier Athletic Club instructor, wanted to take her aside for a special training course in the belief she possessed Olympic possibilities.

A summary of 15-year-old Sally's achievements provides ample evidence to establish one fact. She's a "doer" whose most fantastic ambitions are not to be taken lightly.

1938 Indianapolis Star

THE KANSAS CITY STAR, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1938.
NEW TITLES THE AIM OF THESE CHAMPIONS.

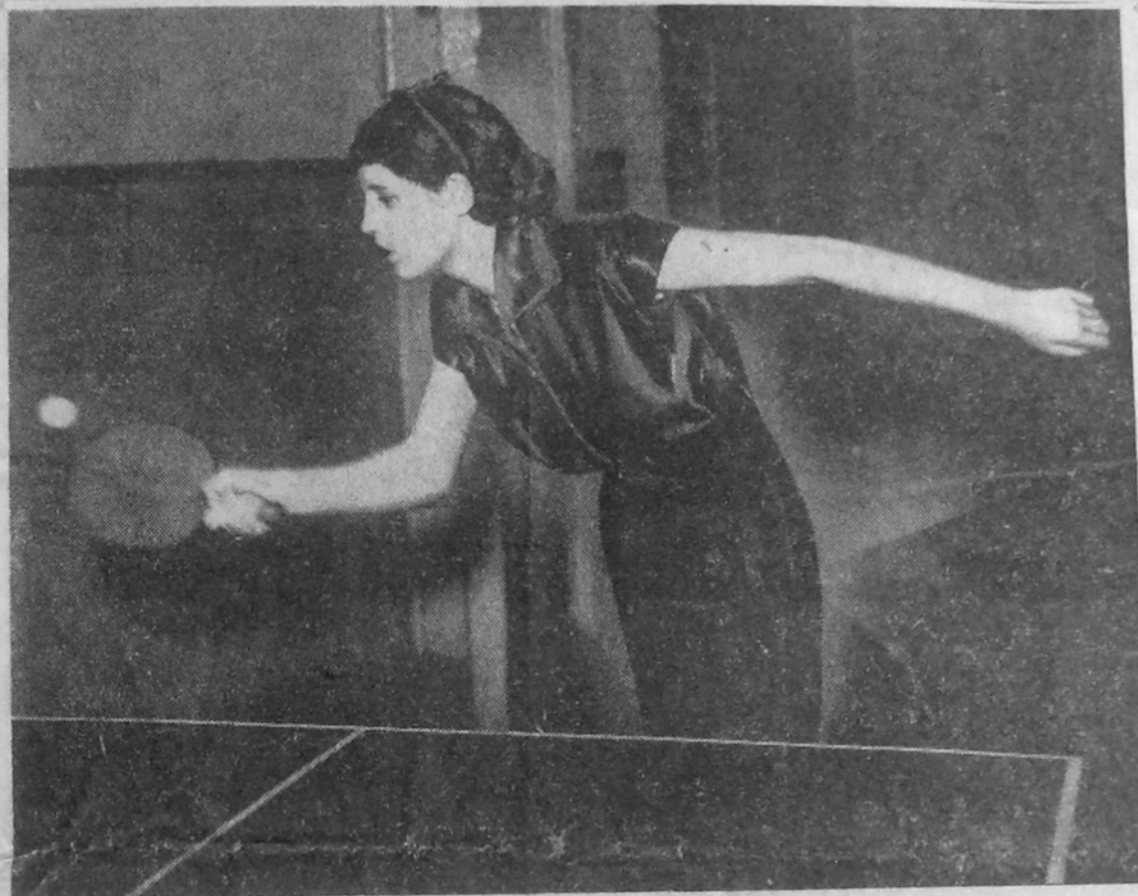


In the competition for the Western table tennis championship are these women who are, from left to right, Sally Green of Indianapolis, Marjorie Blattner of St. Louis and Delores Kuenz of St. Louis. Each holds several titles. Miss Green has won five tournaments, including the Missouri Valley. This is the first singles tournament for Miss Blattner, who shares the state mixed doubles honors. Miss Kuenz has an especially good record, being St. Louis city and Missouri state champion as well as being ranked No. 4 nationally. She was with the American team in the Vienna competition.

Sunday World-Herald

Sports Section

OMAHA, NEBRASKA, JANUARY 23, 1938



Pert Sally Green Favored to Retain Title

Sally Green, just 15, the Indianapolis lassie who is ranked fourteenth nationally, is favored to retain her Missouri Valley table tennis singles crown in the

Sunday windup of the two-day tourney.

To keep her crown, she'll have to get past Dorothy Glasson of Lincoln in a semi-final match,

then must face the winner of the Vaud Van Dusen, Omaha, Helen Baldwin, Des Moines, match.—World-Herald Photos by Eldon Langevin.



Sally in 1938

Success in Ohio Table Tennis Tourney No Surprise to 15-Year-Old Champion

By JEAN DRAKE

"O, I'm not the least bit surprised I won," said Miss Sally Green, 15-year-old state women's table tennis champion, after her victory over Miss Jean Everling, Cleveland, in the

finals last night at the Columbus Auditorium. Sally explained:

"You see, I have good coaching, I pray each time I hit the ball, and when I have finished . . ." and she produced a

miniature table tennis paddle which, to her, is a good luck omen.

Sally is the youngest nationally recognized woman table tennis player in the United States. She is now a sophomore at St. Agnes Academy School for Girls, In-



Miss Green

dianapolis. Her ranking is fourteenth.

Miss Green, who teamed with Garrett Nash to win the mixed doubles in the state tourney, has been playing just three years under the tutelage of her father.

From her mother, a former opera singer, does Sally inherit her love for music and dancing. She takes piano at St. Agnes and spends about four hours a day "just practicing."

Mr. Green has been a ranking tennis player on the Pacific coast, and is applying tennis strategy and techniques in his coaching of Sally. Her other coaches are Richard McDowell and Henry Spalding, Indianapolis, who, Sally says, are better coaches than players.

She took up playing table tennis with the boys of her gang in the Green basement and in two months time was persuaded to enter the women's singles at the Hoosier Athletic Club for the Indiana state championship. Surprisingly, she reached the semifinals. Goaded on, she practiced diligently, entering

and winning tournaments until she now has over 25 cups, large and small.

She was invited to go to Europe this year as a member of the United States table tennis team but she refused.

Sally was defeated in Columbus last year in the Ohio Open by Mrs. Clara Harrison, Cleveland, who is now returning from Europe with the United States table tennis team.

Sally is a likeable girl. She enjoys good times, sports, dancing, the company of a certain Eagle Scout in Indianapolis whose pin she wears, and "Mickey" her dog.

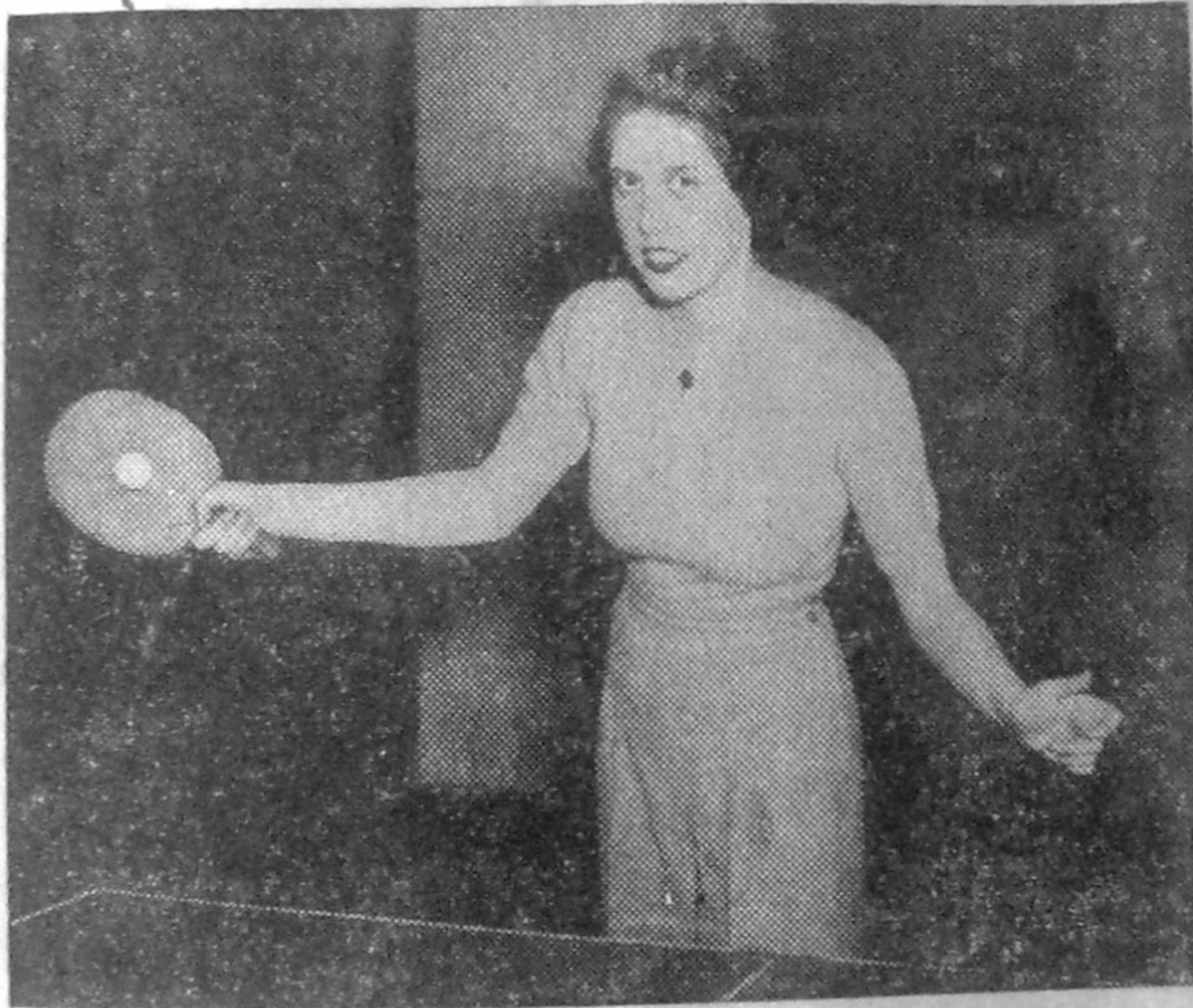
Sally is also an excellent swimmer, holding city records in the 100 and 220-yard free style events. She has given up competitive swimming, however, to excel in table tennis.

Her chop stroke is neat, concise; she has 15 different services; a good drive and excellent defense. She has a tendency to hurry her service, which she avoids by bouncing the ball a few times before each serve.



1939 "Man of Distinction, Lord Calvert" night at the Edgewater Beach Hotel in Chicago. (l-r) Graham Morgan, Sally, Sally's mom Pauline Green, Sally dad, Fred Green and Dorothy Morgan.

In Tourney Opening Here Today



Sally Green (above) of Indianapolis, national women's champion, heads the field of feminine stars which will compete in the Indiana open table tennis tournament starting today at the Hotel Antlers. Billy Holzrichter of Chicago, defending title holder, and Garrett Nash of St. Louis, ranked No. 2 nationally, are among outstanding entrants in the men's singles division. Sessions will get under way today at 2 and 7:30 p.m., and tomorrow at 2 and 7:45 o'clock.

Champions Threatened as Play Resumes

SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 1940

McClure and Sally Green Go into Third Round Today; Schiff Out for Solo Crown

Hoosier Betty Henry Scores an Impressive Victory; Helen Baldwin Is Only Seeded Player Beaten.

BULLETIN

Magda Gal Hazi of Budapest, Hungary, and Molly Kareivis of Newark, N. J., seeded No. 1 in the women's foreign doubles, were defeated by Marge Leary of Peoria, Ill., 1940 Western Open champion, and Helen Baldwin of Des Moines, Iowa, in the third round of the women's doubles this afternoon. The scores: 22-20, 17-21, 21-18.

By J. E. O'BRIEN

Uneasy lies the head that wears the crown, somebody said, and railbirds at the 10th annual U. S. open table tennis tournament are inclined to agree.

It was evident from the singles sessions that started early yesterday afternoon at Tomlinson Hall and lasted until a few hours today that a bumper crop of title contenders was

in hand. With the unwieldy field trimmed considerably, a lot of action is expected this evening when the women soloists meet in quarter-final play and the men go to it in the round of 16. The marathons yesterday caused a revision in the tourney schedule so that the first round of the women's doubles was run off this morning. The favorites rode safely through their first tests, with the top seeded teams of Sally Green-Irma Wilkinson and Ruth Brewer-Matilda Plaskow recording victories. The boys and veterans also began their paddle wars at the matinee session.

McClure, Sally Win

Two home-grown favorites, Jimmy McClure and Sally Green, went rolling into the third round but with them went a pack of title-hungry seeded stars and some other unseeded players who are anxious to cause trouble.

Slim, blue-shirted McClure was in command most of the way during his first two matches, defeating

in Paddle Meet

THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 1940

McClure and Betty Henry Top Seedings For Paddle Meet Opening Tomorrow

South Bend Girl Takes Boost in Rankings

Defending Champion Jimmy McClure of Indianapolis and brilliant Betty Henry of South Bend top the seedings in the men's and women's singles divisions of the 10th annual U. S. table tennis tournament, George M. Binger, tournament manager, announced today.

Mr. Binger announced the seedings as made by National Ranking Chairman Elmer F. Cinnater of Rock Hill Village, Mo., who rated the players for the U. S. Table Tennis Association event. Play in seven divisions starts tomorrow afternoon in Tomlinson Hall, with final matches scheduled for Sunday night.

McClure's first in the men's seed was no surprise, since he has maintained this season the form that carried him to the top at Toledo a year ago, where he was seeded second. Miss Henry made a big hop upward among the women, however, passing even Sally Green of Indianapolis, who was runnerup to Emily Fuller in 1939 (Miss Fuller has retired).

Sally Green No. 2

Miss Henry, ranked No. 7 nationally and no better than No. 6 last year at Toledo, was given top spot by Chairman Cinnater because of her shining record in competition since last year's nationals. Miss Green, No. 2 both nationally and in the tournament last year, stays in that position this year.

In the men's foreign seed, Lazlo



Jimmy McClure

Betty Henry

Anderson and Bill Holzrichter of Chicago, Les Lowery of Newton Center, Mass., Bill Price of St. Louis, and George Hendry of Canton, Mo.

In the national rankings, Pagliaro is No. 4, Schiff No. 5, Anderson No. 14, Holzrichter No. 10, Lowery No. 15, Price No. 7 and Henry No. 8. At

Time Schedule—

- FRIDAY**
- 7:00—Men's singles preliminary matches.
 - 7:30—Men's singles first-round matches.
 - 8:00—Official opening.
 - 8:30—Women's singles first and second-round matches.
 - 9:15—Men's singles second-round matches.
- SATURDAY**
- A. M.
 - 9:00—Men's consolation matches.
 - 9:30—Veterans' singles first-round matches.

Indianapolis Boy and Girl Clean Up In O. V. Table Tennis

A boy and a girl from Indianapolis captured the men's and women's singles titles of the Ohio Valley Table Tennis Tournament that came to a close Sunday night at the Seelbach Hotel ballroom. And each also gained a share of the two remaining crowns.

Thirteen-year-old Charles "Chuck" Tichenor, who is to defend his National boys' singles title in his home town several weeks hence, conquered Bob Green, a fellow townsman, 21-13, 21-14, 21-8, in the men's championship final. Sally Green, 17-year-old Southern queen and second ranking player in the Nation, conquered Mrs. Martha Kelsall Keifer, Louisville, 21-16, 21-19, 21-13, in the women's final. Miss Green has beaten Mrs. Keifer in three tournament finals here this season.

Both Win With Mitchell.

Tichenor paired with Sterling Mitchell, another Indianapolis performer, to take the men's doubles crown, beating Bob Green and Jim Shrout, 21-15, 21-16, 21-16, in the last match. Miss Green teamed with Mitchell to nab the mixed doubles halo, besting Bob Green and Mrs. Keifer, 21-13, 21-14, 21-10, in the final.

Owsley Harper, Louisville's foremost performer, afforded Tichenor his toughest match in the tournament, carrying the youngster to five games before yielding in the semi-finals. Tichenor won 21-16, 14-21, 21-17, 13-21, 21-4. Green gained his final spot by eliminating Mitchell, 19-21, 21-11, 19-21, 24-22, 23-21, in a semi-final upset.

Miss Funk Loses.

Miss Green ousted Louise Funk, promising city youngster, 21-10, 21-15, 21-19, and Mrs. Keifer eliminated Dorothy Elkins, young Indianapolis lass,

23-21, 19-21, 21-17, 21-16, in semi-final matches.

Tichenor and Mitchell sent Hock and Hock to the sidelines, 21-18, 21-15, 21-17, and Green and Shrout waylaid Harper and Roth, 21-16, 21-12, 21-8, in "semi" doubles bouts.

Mitchell and Green subdued Tichenor and Funk 21-15, 21-16, to move into the mixed doubles championship round and Green and Keifer got there with a 21-15, 21-15 conquest of Harper and Elkins.



—(C.-J. Photos—

These Hoosiers Made Clean Sweep

These Indianapolis table tennisers made a clean sweep of the titles in the Ohio Valley tournament at the Seelbach Sunday. Sally Green won the women's singles and shared in the mixed doubles and Charles Tichenor bagged the men's singles and shared the men's doubles with a fellow townsman, Sterling Mitchell.

Three Champs to Represent City in National

Jimmy McClure, Charles Tichenor And Sally Green to Risk Titles Here

By AL ROCHE.

TWO KINGS and a queen, who call Indianapolis home and who have reigned serenely for a period of 12 months, will lay their championship crowns on the line, then attempt to protect them against the challenge of nearly 200 pretenders to the throne when the 10th annual United State open table tennis tournament takes over the spotlight in flag-bedecked Tomlinson hall next Friday.

The kings are Jimmy McClure, men's singles titleholder and a veteran at the ripe old age of 23, and Charley Tichenor, ruler of the boys' division, who ranks at the head of his class despite the staggering burden of 14 years of age.

The queen is 17-year-old, brown-eyed Sally Green, coholder of the women's double diadem and as charming a miss as you'll find in Sportland.

Arrayed against this trio, of which the Hoosier capital may be pardoned for being proud, will be a galaxy of expert paddle wielders, some of whom reside here and others who will register from such far-away points as Budapest, Hungary; Portland, Ore.; Montreal and New Orleans.

Competition of the hottest variety will continue three days in more than half a dozen divisions and the ever-colorful coronation of champions will take place just before they turn off the lights Sunday night.

If you think there will be any lull between the time the first ball is sent spinning across the net until the last stroke has been made on the third day, perhaps a few figures will convince you to the contrary, or, if nothing more, save you completely befuddled as to the possibilities of this tournament.

22 Matches Scheduled.

Two hundred and sixty-two matches are scheduled. If all could go the limit there would be 1,310 games. If each game could go the limit of 21-19, or 11 points, a total of 52,400 points could result. Since the average exchange for one point would be 15 times, celluloid spheres would cross the net a total of 6,900 times if the marathon continued. Concluding this dizzy diving into the realm of possibilities, it is estimated a total of 400 balls will be utilized before the balling field is reduced to the bare wire stage.

Pa., in the finals. The latter announced her retirement recently, assuring the coronation of a new titleholder. Whether or not the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred P. Green of 423 1/2 Guilford avenue will measure up to the task of occupying the vacated throne is a matter for the future. Sally would rather discuss the past.

Tells of Biggest Thrill.

"The biggest thrill I've had since I began playing this game came last year when I opposed Magda Gal of Budapest in the quarter-finals at Toledo," she said. "I was almost breathless and my eyes fairly popped when I looked across the net and saw a girl from Europe! It seemed like I was facing someone from a million miles away and it was some time before I could pull myself together and win the match."

"Did you say it seemed like she had traveled a million miles from Europe?" Mr. Green interjected.

"Well, several thousand, anyway," Sally replied with her prettiest smile.

And there you have a pretournament picture of the two kings and the queen the host city will see to the battle front in quest of further table tennis honors. See them in action will be more interesting.

Table Tennis Tourney

Table Tennis Tourney Offers \$1,600 in Trophies



Pictured are Miss Doris Belzer (left) and Miss Nancy Ann Trimble with the more than \$1,600 collection of trophies to be awarded in

ments at Tomlinson hall April 5, 6 and 7. The trophies are being sponsored by outstanding local civic-spirited merchants and organizations.

received and, since the war situation in Europe makes it impossible for the world's tournament to be held, the national takes on world-wide importance and will be the greatest

Indianapolis Players Share in National Table

Miss Green, Tichenor, McClure Among Title Winners In Tourney

By AL ROCHE.

INDIANAPOLIS standard bearers smashed their way to victory in four of seven divisions last night as the 10th annual United States open table tennis championship tournament did a brilliant fadeout at Tomlinson hall.

When the final shot in the three-day free for all had been fired and the smoke of conflict had disappeared above the dangling lights the star of stars who stood out in a brilliant cast of performers was Sally Green, a 17-year-old senior at Shortridge High School.

Sally, at the peak of her game at the most opportune time, not only retained her interest in the women's doubles crown, but she soared to greater heights than ever before by blasting her way to an easy triumph in singles.

Charlie Tichenor, 14-year-old freshman at Shortridge, repeated his 1939 feat of winning the boys' singles diadem and Jimmy McClure, although shorn of his men's singles title, retained a place in the front rank of the nation's paddle wielders by gaining a share of the men's doubles championship.

Lou Pagliaro of New York succeeded McClure as ruler of the men's singles field when he humbled Sol Schiff, a fellow townsman, in the finals, and other winners were William Gunn of New York in the veterans' singles and Tabur and Magda Gal Hazi of Budapest, Hungary, in the mixed doubles.

Coronation Ceremonies Filmed.

Coronation of champions for 1940 was recorded by M-G-M, Fox Movietone and Pathe News sound movie machines as Mildred Bjone, a 19-year-old freshman at Northwestern University was crowned tournament queen and Governor M. Clifford Townsend officiated at the presentation of trophies.

Taking the court before a gallery of approximately 1,000 spectators, Miss Green, runner-up for the women's singles diadem in 1939, rolled up an early advantage on Ruth Brewer of New York and had things pretty much her own way. The score was 21-17, 21-7, 16-21, 21-13. Miss Brewer, sadly off form after a fine afternoon stand in which she defeated Betty Henry of South Bend, seeded No. 1, 21-19, 21-13, 21-13, made a fine comeback to take the third set after trailing by seven points at one time, but Miss Green smashed sizzling placements home for point after point in the final set and went on to a convincing conquest. The local star gained the right to play for the title by beating Mildred Wilkinson of Chicago in the semifinals.

21-13, 21-13, and Bellak smothered Ray Pearson of Seattle, Wash., 21-14, 21-13, 21-13.

Gunn took over the veterans' singles crown when he measured John Tatom of Omaha, Neb., 21-15, 21-14, 9-21, 21-18, and Mr. and Mrs. Hazi ascended the mixed doubles throne by eliminating Bob Anderson of Chicago and Mayo Rae Rolph of Portland, Ore., 21-14, 24-22, 21-13.

Bill Cross of Belleville, N. J., downed Ed Litman of Minneapolis, 25-23, 21-12, 10-21, 15-21, 25-23, for consolation honors in men's singles.

Results of matches played too late at night for publication in yesterday's issue of The Star follows:

MEN'S SINGLES.

Fourth Round.

Pagliaro defeated Ralph Muchow of Evanston, Ill., 21-11, 18-21, 16-21, 21-14, 21-12. Price defeated Coulson, 21-18, 18-21, 22-20, 23-21. Pearson defeated Bob Anderson of Chicago, 21-16, 21-18, 21-11, and Bellak defeated George Hendry of St. Louis, 21-14, 21-19, 16-21, 21-12.

WOMEN'S SINGLES.

Quarterfinals.

Miss Brewer defeated Miss Rolph, 21-17, 21-9, 21-18.

MEN'S DOUBLES.

Quarterfinals.

Pagliaro and Canning defeated Ed Serma of Minneapolis and Pearson, 21-16, 23-21, 21-15; McClure and Schiff defeated Gordon and Ralph Muchow of Evanston, Ill., 21-12, 21-14, 21-15, and Coulson and Tichenor defeated Bill Holzrichter of Chicago and Anderson, 21-16, 21-19, 23-21.

MIXED DOUBLES.

Semifinals.

Rolph and Anderson defeated Margaret Koolery of Detroit and Holzrichter, 21-16, 14-21, 21-16, 11-21, 21-12, and Hazi and Hazi defeated Ceba Moness of New York and Bellak, 12-21, 8-21, 21-19, 21-19, 21-16.

VETERANS' SINGLES.

Semifinals.

Gunn defeated Morris Bernstein of New York, N. J., 14-21, 24-22, 20-22, 21-15, 21-18, and Tatom defeated Ed Dugan of Chicago, 21-15, 21-9, 21-19.

BOYS' SINGLES.

Semifinals.

Tichenor defeated Carl Manley of Chicago, 21-14, 21-12, 31-14, and Roy Weissman of New York defeated Jandro Fridman of Omaha, 21-19, 24-22, 22-20.

Tennis Championships

Local Stars Annex Paddle Crowns



SALLY GREEN.



CHARLES TICHENOR.



JIMMY MCCLURE.

These three Indianapolis table tennis stars upheld Hoosier honor in the national championships which were decided last night at Tomlinson hall. Miss Green annexed the women's singles titles and retained the doubles crown with Mildred Wilkinson of Chicago; Tichenor successfully defended his boys' singles championship and McClure teamed with Sol Schiff of New York to capture the men's doubles diadem, although he relinquished his singles championship.



Lou Pagliaro and Sally Green Are the New King and Queen Of the Table Tennis World

McClure Dethroned but Shares Doubles Title as Takes Boys' Championship

Lou Pagliaro and Sally Green Are the New King and Queen Of the Table Tennis World

McClure Dethroned but Shares Doubles Title as
Tichenor Takes Boys' Championship

By **FREMONT POWER**

The sporting assemblage will now turn to page 18 and sing all four verses of Indian Love Call—and loud on the choruses, if you please.

Which is just a way to say the national table tennis tourney, all three days of it, are over and that the next item on the agenda is the Indianapolis Indians' opening game here

April 18 against the St. Paul Saints. Before they locked the doors of old Tomlinson Hall early this morning, new table tennis champions had been crowned in five divisions and among them were three Indianapolis stars.

Jimmy McClure, lean young leader of the local table tennis contingent, fell from his throne in the men's singles, victim of a brilliant performance by red-haired Sol Schiff of New York.

The scores: 12-21, 21-12, 16-21, 21-18, 21-13. McClure lost a long placement battle in the fourth game and then slowly faded.

Betty Henry Upset

The other most startling upset was Ruth Brewer's victory over little Betty Henry of South Bend, seeded No. 1 in the women's singles. The New Yorker won, 21-19, 21-13, 21-13.

If there must be a hero from the
nominations

Sally Green and Pagliaro Victors

(Continued from Page Six)

had this to say of his loss to Schiff in the singles: "The turning point in my game came when I tried to help manage this tournament and play too."

Seedings Announced for Table Tennis

*M'Clure, Betty
Henry Head
Lists*

By GEORGE JOHNSON

If Betty Henry, Bob Anderson, Billy Holzrichter and Les Lowery entertained any ideas about slipping up on their opposition in the United States table tennis tournament, which starts unwinding the tenth time at Tomlinson hall tomorrow, they may read further and weep.

These four rising young people made most of the news in the men's and women's singles seedings, announced by George M. Binger, tournament manager, almost instantaneously on their receipt from Elmer F. Cinnater, of Rock Hill Village, Mo., national ranking chairman of the United States Table Tennis Association.

Miss Henry was ranked No. 1 among the women, indicating that those who are supposed to know think Betty has the best chance of the forty-seven candidates to pick the crown voluntarily relinquished by Emily Fuller, the two-time champion from Bethlehem, Pa., whose singles career won over tournament table tennis in the contest for Miss Fuller's attentions, so she rested this year.

Exhibit Improvement.

Bob Anderson, Billy Holzrichter and Les Lowery weren't the top three in the men's rankings, but they were the next three to the top, ranked at Nos. 4, 5 and 6, whereas they weren't among the first eight in Toledo last spring. And their national rankings are fourteenth, ninth and fifteenth, respectively, which ought to indicate to you what improvement they've been exhibiting.

Naturally, the lead among the men goes to the defending champion, Jimmy McClure, of Indianapolis. The rankings committee obviously is of the opinion that Jimmy can take care of himself despite the fact that he's been playing many exhibitions and hasn't had any too much tourney tempering.

Two New Yorkers, Lou Pagliaro and Sol Schiff, McClure's doubles partner, follow the Indianapolis pair at Nos. 2 and 3. Pagliaro also is a comer, having ascended from sixth-place seeding at Toledo to be favored for the second final-

round berth. Schiff is Schiff, still one of the game's best.

The seventh and eighth places in the men's seedings are filled by Bill Price and George Hendry, of St. Louis, their positions just matching their national standing, though Hendry was fifth seeded at Toledo and so must have fallen off some since.

For a time it was thought that Miss Fuller wouldn't be the only champion not to defend a word from George T. Bacon, Jr., of Pelham Manor, N. Y., the veterans' singles ruler. But, after it was announced that he wouldn't be here, Bacon wired his entry fee and was accepted.

Of course, he leads the seedings in his specialty, followed by Moe Bernstein, of Newark, N. J.; Bill Gunn, of Mamaroneck, N. Y., and Ed Dugan, of Chicago, a "rookie" who has just turned thirty-five and will be playing for the first time among the "old men."

First to Arrive.

Bernstein, champion in 1937 and '38, was the first of the out-of-town players to arrive. He came in last night and immediately appeared at Champion McClure's club for practice.

The strong Indianapolis contingent, hoping for a sweep of all seven titles, bases its slim veterans' championship hopes on Paul Jackson, who must meet Champion Bacon in the quarter-finals, if both last that long, and the tournament director, George Binger, who might chop down some big timber before being sent back to his administrative duties.

Finding Miss Henry above Sally Green, 1939 runner-up, was a surprise to the Indianapolis girl's followers, but the seedings are based not only on national rankings (Miss Green is No. 2, Miss Henry No. 7), but on play in competition between national meets. Miss Henry has been batting down every one who crossed her path this season and is believed to be in the best form of her career.

Ruthe Third.

Following these two in the women's seed are Ruthe Brewer, of New York, No. 3 nationally; and Mildred Wilkinson, of Chicago, who'll help defend the women's doubles crown—with Sally Green—and he mixed doubles title—with Alvin Nordham—in her spare time.



Time
Betty Henry . . . South Bend has a title contender.

Indianapolis Paddlers Win 5 Titles Here

Indianapolis' crack table tennis performers again proved they are "tops" 'round these parts when they captured all five titles of the Southern Open Tournament that came to a close Sunday night at the Columbia Hall ballroom.

To the surprise of no one, Sally Green, the United States' feminine singles queen, retained her Southern crown, but to the surprise of most everyone the lass from the Indiana metropolis had to play at top form to defeat Louisville's Mrs. Martha Kelsall Kiefer in the final. Miss Green lost the third game, 13-21, but won the first two, 21-19, 21-6, and squeezed past the fourth, 22-20, to clinch the title.

In an All-Indianapolis men's singles final, Jimmy Shroust bested Sterling Mitchell in a thrilling bout, 21-17, 18-21, 21-12, 13-21, 21-18. Charles Tichenor of Indianapolis annexed the boys' singles crown by defeating Major Willis, 21-12, 21-14, 21-16.

Miss Green teamed with Mitchell to take the mixed doubles title, beating Mrs. Kiefer and Graham Roth, 21-13, 21-16, 21-14, in the final. Mitchell then paired with Tichenor to beat Louisville's Owsley Harper and Cincinnati's Jim Ratliff, 18-21, 21-12, 21-12, 21-17, in the men's doubles final.

Semi-final results:

WOMEN'S SINGLES.

Green beat Mary Renner 21-12, 21-16, 21-13, and Kiefer beat Louise Funk 21-9, 21-9, 21-8.

MEN'S SINGLES.

Shroust beat Bernard Hock 14-21, 21-19, 21-12, 21-14, and Mitchell beat Harper 21-16, 21-17, 16-21, 21-15.

MEN'S DOUBLES.

Tichenor and Mitchell beat Willis and Kenneth Orr 21-16, 21-15, 21-14, and Harper and Ratliff beat George Jackson and Dixon Thurman 21-18, 25-23, 21-12.

MIXED DOUBLES.

Kiefer and Roth beat Funk and Tichenor 21-14, 21-11, 21-13, and Green and Mitchell beat Renner and Harper 21-15, 21-13, 21-17.



Sally Green
Kept Her Title.

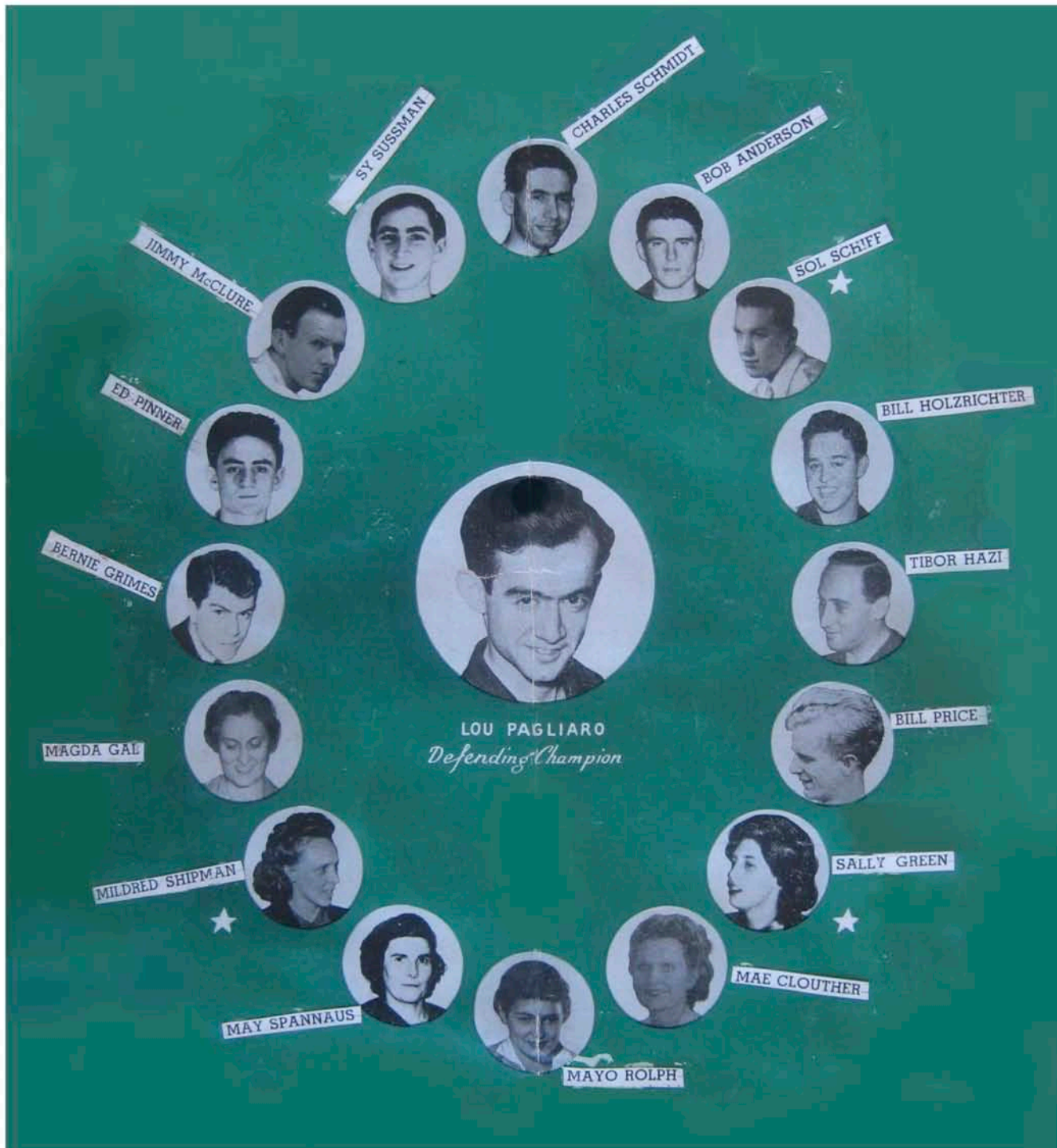
Local Stars Will Defend Laurels at Tomlinson Hall This Week End



Charles Tichenor (left), boys' champion; Jimmy McClure (center), men's champion, with trophies they won last year, and Sally Green (right), coholder of the women's doubles crown, will be the Hoosier capital's leading representatives in the national table tennis tournament which will be held at Tomlinson Hall next Friday, Saturday and Sunday. (Star Staff Photo.)



Sally's friend Betty Henry in 1941



1941 Tournament poster



Sally in 1941 when she was a Sophomore at Butler University in Indianapolis.



Sally Green, Indianapolis, 1940 champ, won. Gals wear slacks. Why not shorts?



Mme. Magda Gal Hazi of Hungary holds doubles title with her husband.
Photos by Hugh Broderick, PM Staff

Sally Nears the Title Again



NEW YORK, April 4 (U. P.).—Sally Green, 18-year-old Indianapolis music student, clashes with Helen Germaine, the national public parks tennis champion, in the women's singles finals of the national table tennis championship tournament tonight.

In the mixed doubles Pinner and Helene (Tiny) Moss, St. Paul, meet Hazi and his wife, Mrs. Magda Gal Hazi, in the semi-finals. The other mixed doubles semi-final pits Bellak and Mrs. Reba K. Monnes, New York, against Bill Holzrichter, Chicago, and Mary Baumbach, Indianapolis.

Sally Green looks across the net at you.

Rhythm in Her Shots, Too



Sally Green, Indianapolis music student, defends women's national table tennis championship in New York.

an Jose

April 7, 1941

THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR

SATURDAY MORNING, APRIL 5, 1941.

SALLY GREEN DEFENDS DIADEM

New York, April 4.—(AP)—Sally Green, 18-year-old Indianapolis music student, retained her national women's table tennis championship tonight by defeating Helen Germaine of New York, 21-16, 21-17, 21-9, in a match that lasted less than 15 minutes.

The Butler University student won the title last year right in front of her neighbors in Indianapolis and yesterday she gained a place in the final round of the current tournament by defeating Mrs. Reba Monness of New York.

Sally is probably the hardest-hitting woman player in the business. That's only natural when you consider that outside of tournaments, she plays mainly against men. Her father, Fred Green, is her coach, although he himself would rather play lawn tennis and hasn't been playing the table game for very much longer than his daughter.

Lou Pagliaro of New York became the first American player ever to win the men's singles title two years in succession when he defeated another New Yorker, Ed Pinner, 21-18, 12-11, 22-20. Pinner led almost all the way in the third game until Pagliaro tied the score at 18-18 after a string of five successive points.

The men's doubles title was won by the New York combination of Ed Pinner and Sy Sussman, who scored at 21-15, 22-24, 14-21, 21-17, 21-17 over the defending champions, Sol Schiff of New York and Jimmy McClure of Indianapolis.



SALLY GREEN.

Leah Thall of Columbus, O., and Mary Baumbach of South Bend, Ind., captured the women's doubles crown in another five-game struggle, defeating Mrs. Magda Gal Hazi of Hungary and Mrs. Henrietta Wright of Philadelphia, Pa., 21-16, 13-21, 21-16, 11-21, 23-21.

The men's semi-final victors were Lou Pagliaro of New York, the defending singles champion, and Ed Pinner, also of New York. Their victims were two Hun-

garians, Pagliaro eliminating Tibor Hazi, 14-21, 21-14, 21-18, 14-21, 21-18, and Pinner accounting for Lazlo Bellak, 18-21, 21-14, 21-15, 21-15.

The junior championship was taken by Carl Manley of Chicago, who defeated Alan Levy of St. Louis, 18-21, 21-16, 26-28, 21-13, 22-20. Lloyd Shepardson of Newton Square, Mass., won the veterans' tournament when he triumphed at 22-20, 21-18, 21-19 over Al Nachsin of Philadelphia. Ben Dattel of New York won over John Tatom of Omaha, 21-18, 21-19, 21-17, in the consolation tournament.

The 1942 championships will be held in Detroit, it was announced tonight by the United States Table Tennis Association. St. Louis was chosen as the alternate city.

THE IDEA IS TO KEEP YOUR EYE ON THE BALL



Carolyn Wilson of Evanston (left) and Sally Green of Chicago don't hurt the appearance of this table tennis equipment at all. They aren't mere decorations, tho. Carolyn is the former District of Columbia women's champion, and Sally is a five time winner of the women's national title.

Not a Professional in 12,000,000

By H. H. BARCUS

Table tennis is one sport in which the matter of professionalism never becomes an issue to be decided in council chambers. The reason for this is that there is no such thing as a pro in the game.

Unlike lawn tennis, which bars a player for even opposing a paid player, table tennis permits its members to teach, exhibit in night clubs or manufacture equipment under their own names without their eligibility being questioned.



LOUIS PAGLIARO

Many of the contestants in the national championships, that opened last night in the General Motors ballroom, do all of the things that would professionalize them in fields with less liberal rules.

NONE IN 12 MILLION

"There are 12,000,000 table tennis players in the United States and there isn't a pro among them," declared Wes Bishop, historian of the United States Table Tennis Association.

Both of the defending singles champions, 18-year-old Sally Green, of Indianapolis, and 22-year-old Louis Pagliaro, of New York, came through their opening matches, as did all other favored entrants.

Miss Green, sophomore student in musical education at Jordon Conservatory of Music and Butler University, drew a bye in the first round and then defeated Jane Weber, Chicago, 21-9, 21-15, 21-12. Pagliaro, an office clerk, warmed up his game as he won from Fred Fassnacht, Chicago, 21-16, 23-21, 21-13.

VERSATILE ATHLETE

Miss Green probably is the most versatile athlete among the tournament's 180 players. She has won medals in lawn tennis as well as in free style and back-stroke swimming and fancy diving, giving up active participation in these sports after receiving her first table tennis lesson from her father five years ago. Sally gained her first title, a mixed doubles event, not long after. She was a quarter-finalist in her first national tournament, a finalist in the second and won the next two.

The diminutive Pagliaro, who

stands only 5 feet 1½ and weighs 115 pounds at his best, is a veteran despite his youth, having been playing for 11 years. He was taught the game while a member of a boys' club on New York's lower east side, winning his first championship when 13 years old. This is Pagliaro's eighth national and he hopes it will bring him his third singles crown.

Besides the champion, other ranking women players who won their early matches were: Leah

See PADDLERS—Page 14



SALLY GREEN

Pagliari's father, who died a few years ago, was a baker for a biscuit company and had no background of sports; he regarded a table, any kind of table, solely as a place to eat a meal. He never saw his son play table tennis. The boy involuntarily began the work of developing the muscles in his legs at a very early age. Uncommonly short, he was considered fair game by a group of large bullies who swarmed over the neighborhood. Young Pagliaro developed an impregnable defence against them. Upon sighting a raiding party, he would set his stubby legs in motion and strike out for other territory. He became very fast on his feet. Occasionally, during one of these hunts, he was able to run around the block at lightning speed and, with a handful of rocks, open fire on the pack from the rear.

One day, when he was eight, Pagliaro, while passing through Tompkins Square park at a slow jog, noticed the Tompkins Square Park Boys' club. He circled the block a few times and then inquired into the nature and purpose of the organization. This proved to be the turning point in his life. As the upshot of his investigation, he joined the club and began to participate in its various activities. Today, Pagliaro is lavish in his praise of the Tompkins Square Park Boys' club. "It took me off the streets," he says. "If it hadn't been for the club, I would probably be in jail now. Some of my best friends are in jail." One of the club's major recreations was table tennis, and he began to spend practically all of his spare time at the ping-pong table.

In 1935, when Pagliaro was 16, and four feet high, he won the club championship.

Pagliaro dominated ping-pong at the club for several years and then decided to make a sortie up Broadway to the courts where the expert players hang out. In one of these he ran across Sol Schiff, who was then U.S. national champion. "We played a match and he busted me right over the head," says Pagliaro. "He was so good he tied me up in a knot. I swung like I was beating a rug. I found out I didn't have no defence, and naturally my offence wouldn't work without I could hit the ball."

As a result of coming to these and similar conclusions, Pagliaro decided to go into seclusion. Whenever he could, he shut himself in his room at home and resumed practising against a wall, coming out only occasionally to test his progress with an opponent on a table. He would smash the ball so hard that it buzzed through the air like a hornet.

alternate, since all of his teammates had a rather well-founded notion that he could beat them. The competition was for the Swaythling Cup, a trophy which in ping-pong corresponds to the Davis Cup. As the sixth man on a five-man team, Pagliaro did not get to play as much as he would have liked, but he distinguished himself whenever he appeared.

Shortly after Pagliaro returned from Europe, he began to win tournaments all over the east. In print he is now referred to as "Dynamite Louie," "Little Dynamite," "the Terrible Midget," and "Bullet Lou."

As a champion, Pagliaro finds that his life is not radically altered. He still lives on New York's East Side,



Sally Green, Pagliaro's leading female opponent, is seen as she defended her title at Manhattan Centre, N.Y.

in a flat at 514 East 14th St., but he is now the head of his own family. Two and a half years ago he married an East Side neighbor, Miss Josephine Modica, and they have a baby girl, Paulette, 17 months old. Mrs. Pagliaro has never learned the game and seldom sees her husband play.

Table-tennis folk are exasperated whenever they hear an outsider say something like: "I suppose a real tennis player could give you fellows an awful beating at this game, couldn't he?" Although many people still wonder

—Photo by New York Daily News
about this, the question was cleared up for a sizable group one evening not long ago in a game room on the roof of the Century Apartments, at 25 Central Park W., New York. An acquaintance of Pagliaro's took him up there to meet Frank Shields, the tennis player, who fancies himself as a ping-pong player. Shields had disposed of two or three opponents and the audience was delighted with the brilliance and variety of his strokes. Inevitably, of course, somebody insisted upon a match between him and Pagliaro. At the outset, Shields was unable to hit the ball at all. Then Pagliaro volunteered to play sitting in an armchair. Things went a little better for Shields, but Pagliaro, comfortably seated, won all the games.

The Detroit News

SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 1942—THE HOME NEWSPAPER

Spectators of the Moment in Table-Tennis Tournament



Looking in on the National table-tennis tournament at the General Motors auditorium you would see a gathering like this looking in on opponents practicing in the special "warm-up" room.

Above are (left to right): Grace Janowiec, of Minneapolis; Mrs. Mae Couther, of Boston, ranked No. 6 nationally; Helen Grant, of Minneapolis, and Helen Baldwin, of Des Moines, ranked No. 11.



Sally in 1943

Pagliario and Green Three Times Nationals Winners

SALLY Green, of Indianapolis, and Lou Pagliaro, of New York, broke all USTTA records by winning this year's National Championships at Detroit, April 10th, 11th and 12th. This makes the third successive year that Lou and Sally have held the National Titles in their respective fields. Their wins established a record which will undoubtedly stand for many years to come.

Paggy retained the title by defeating Charles Burns, of Detroit, in three straight games, 21-13, 22-20, 21-17, after Burns had downed New York's Ed Pinner, 21-13, 27-25, 21-7. Paggy had previously defeated Massachusetts' Les Lowry in three cautious games by the scores of 21-13, 21-16, 21-19.

Sally Green proved superior to Mrs. Mae Clouter, of Arlington, Mass. by defeating her 22-20, 21-18, 21-13. Mrs. Clouter got her chance at the finals by eliminating Gladys Day, of Toledo, 21-13, 21-6, 21-9, while Sally entered the finals by defeating Helen Baldwin, of Des Moines, 21-14, 22-20, 21-19.

In the Men's Doubles, New York's Pinner and Sussman, the defending champions, again held their title by defeating Pagliaro and Jacobson, 21-7, 21-19, 19-21, 21-13. Paggy and Jacobson eliminated Lowry and Pazzi in three hard fought games, 21-16, 22-20, 22-20. Pinner and Sussman won over McClure and Bellak in a five game semi-finals that brought the spectators to their feet. The scores were 21-18, 21-16, 18-21, 3-21, 21-16.

Leah Thall and Bill Holzrichter won the Mixed Doubles championship by defeating Mae Clouter and Les Lowry in a five game battle, 20-2, 18-21, 21-14, 21-13, 22-20. Clouter and Lowry defeated Baldwin



Sally Green, National Women's Champion

and Nordhem, 21-15, 22-20, 21-15; in the semis, while Thall and Holzrichter downed Green and Mitchell, 21-19, 21-13, 21-11.

The Women's Doubles Finals were won by Massachusetts' Mae Clouter and Mildred Shahian over Columbus' Leah Thall and Indianapolis' Sally Green, 21-19, 23-21, 22-20. Clouter and Shahian won over Keifer and Baldwin in the semis, 21-6, 21-15, 21-16. In the other bracket, Thall and Green downed Moss and Janowicz, 18-21, 22-20, 21-13, 21-19.

The Veterans' Title went to Marlin Tucker, of Chicago, who defeated Bill Gunn, of Mamaroneck, N. Y., 21-11, 21-17, 12-21, 21-16. In the semis of this event Tucker defeated O. W. Pasche, of Grand Blanc, Michigan, 21-13, 21-13, 21-12, after Gunn had defeated Tex Lloyd, of Rochester, N. Y., 21-12, 21-11, 21-9.

Table Tennis Queen Pours It On — With Both Hands



Sally Green . . . swings left-handed, too.

BY PVT. DALE BURGESS
Wide World Features

INDIANAPOLIS: Sally Green, undisputed queen of American table tennis, is working on something new to harass the other girls.

She's turning ambidextrous. The trim 19-year-old brunette, only three times winner of the women's national singles title, has practiced until she's about as good with one hand as the other. So, next season, she plans to make every other stroke with her left hand.

This should throw the other girls into complete confusion. Sally already has made the others nervous with her terrific forehand drive that whangs the ball right past them. Her habit of talking to herself doesn't help her opponents, either.

"Oh, Sally, oh, Sally," she wails if she makes a bad shot. "That's it, Sally! that's the stuff," she tells herself after a neat play.

Jimmy McClure, who has been national singles champion twice and has held the world and national doubles titles three times each, credits hard practice for Sally's snappy and accurate forehand.

"Most of the younger women players won't practice," he says. "Sally works at it and she plays all the time against boys. Most of the better women players are older—up to 40 years old—but the opposite is true of men."

Good Swimmer, Too
Sally is a sophomore in music at Butler university, majoring in piano and voice. Probably two hours of table tennis a day is fun after running scales. She's naturally athletic, in spite of her ambition to be a music teacher,

and she won several free style and backstroke events in local swimming events when she was in her early 'teens.

Sally's father, Fred, has played table tennis for years and she has grown up with the game. She has played in tournaments seven years.

The women's game used to be almost entirely defensive, but Sally liked the aggressive style and concentrated on her forehand drive. She decided it had to be accurate as well as quick and set up a "shooting gallery."

Real Sharp-Shooting

Packs of cigarettes used to be small enough targets but hitting them didn't satisfy her. She took ten cigarettes, glued a penny to an end of each to make it stand, then lined them up on the table three inches apart. She learned to knock them over in order with the light ball, starting alternately at the right and the left.

She got so good she practically ruined the local tournament so far as women entrants were concerned. The Indianapolis girls won't play her in front of an audience because she "makes us look silly." Usually she's the only local girl entered in a tournament here, against hopefuls from South Bend and elsewhere out in the state.

Men don't mind getting licked if they think they're learning something, McClure says, but women hate to be beaten too badly.

One problem has arisen in connection with Sally's new two-handed game. She has won all her tournaments playing with the fingers of her left hand crossed. She can't do that and hold the paddle in her left hand, too.

The QUEEN'S WORK

She's the Champion!

Leo P. Wobido, S. J.

"SHE'S a little champ, if ever there was one!" was the unanimous bedside verdict the experts turned in as they breathlessly watched six-week-old, four-pound Sally Green start the first of her long string of sensational rallies to win the toughest battle against the toughest odds she has ever had to face—her fight to live.

"She's the champion!" came over the loud speakers seventeen years later when the same sensational Sally came from behind again and bulletted the "money" shot past champion Ruth Brewer to win her first national table title at Indianapolis.

These two epic rallies and several others since have established Miss Sally Green, holder of the Women's National Table Tennis Championship for four consecutive years, as one of sportsdom's greatest "money players"—that rare phenomenon who can repeatedly come from behind, gradually turn the tide, then suddenly blitz through to victory bringing the whole house up on its feet.

Like many another true champ—the great Glenn Cunningham and the late Lou Gehrig among them—Sally Green took up painstaking, systematic exercises to try to overcome a childhood infirmity.

That major abdominal operation in her infancy was followed by another on her cranium, which affected her entire neural and muscular hookup, leaving her at the age of eight a helpless little invalid. For therapeutic purposes, she took up swimming at eleven. Three years later she was the holder of a dozen medals and trophies.

WHEN Sally's father moved the family from St. Louis to Indianapolis, he installed a tennis table in the children's basement playroom, and here she learned to "paddle" a new way. A year later she entered a tournament play at the Hoosier Athletic Club merely for the sake of interest. There two years later she won the national women's title, triplicating the feat in New York, Detroit, and St. Louis in the three successive years.

A recurrence of her childhood malady in 1940 affected her upper right arm, threatening to end all playing altogether. But the indomitable young lady cheerfully took to using the paddle with her left hand. Her prize-winning right arm, however, responded to the expert treatments from a nationally famous muscle specialist. As a result, she now baffles competition still more by lightninglike switching the paddle from one hand to the other and striking unerringly with either hand.

The desperate battle she has had to put up against her physical handicaps accounts for her having completely revolutionized the style of women's play. Traditionally, the lady table-tennis player's forte is strictly defense. Now the crop of brilliant youngsters dominating the field all adopt Sally's free-swinging, hard-hitting, offensive game.

FOR all Miss Green's Pavlovialike footwork, marvelous muscular co-ordination, amazing speed and stamina, the sheer power and sharpness of her strokes, and her huge repertoire of deceptive flicks, the

secret of her success, she admits, is precision marksmanship. "Strike the ball accurately," she advises beginners, "and make it hit the table precisely where you want it to hit."

For practicing precision shots, Sally uses cigarettes! Placing them upright in a row across the opposite end of the table about three inches apart, she then proceeds to make the little celluloid ball knock them down in order—with rarely a miss!

"As in every sport, practice and practice and more practice is necessary to make a top player," is another obvious counsel to youthful enthusiasts. "Most young women won't practice, yet practice for me is just a lot of fun." Like Helen Wills and Alice Marble, her counterparts on the outside courts, Sally plays almost altogether against men, never accepting from them any handicap of any kind.

"Get a paddle that you like and can swing easily," is her final admonition, "and trim the handle to fit the contours of your hand, so that there is not the slightest chance of paddle position changing during play."

Her only eccentricity, she confesses, is audibly talking to herself during those "clutch" situations. You can hear her reprimanding herself whenever she mishandles a shot, "Keep that up, young lady, and you'll be charged gate admission." Or again, on making a particularly neat shot, she'll give herself a word of commendation, "That's more like it, Miss Green, and it's about time!" The practice seems silly, she admits, but she claims it oftentimes has a galvanizing effect on her play.

"My biggest moment?" "Six full seasons of national tournament play have brought a host of exciting matches; but the greatest thrill that ever came to me in table tennis was in the play-off match for my first championship. As I whizzed that last ball through Ruth Brewer's left-handed defense, my heart jumped, skipped a few times, fluttered awhile—then all but stopped! Ruth is such a fine, seasoned, finished player."

There's truly something different about Catholic champions—notably women champions. About Sally Green there is no suggestion whatever of the "lady athlete". There is none of that bulldog fighting spirit so characteristic of the sweating muscle molls who began competing with men in sprinting, jumping, weight-throwing, and channel-swimming during the goofy twenties.

Until the time came for her to be intro-

duced at the finals of the 1943 Nationals in St. Louis, Miss Green could not have been singled out from the hundreds of ordinary women spectators in the galleries.

Although she can always be counted on to turn in a brilliant exhibition of skill, Sally hasn't a shred of exhibitionism in her. Whether in the playing, banquet, school, or parish hall, she's always the modest, perfectly poised Miss. Decidedly a homebody, she's at home with everybody everywhere. Her personally-designed playing togs are more feminine than a high school girl's uniform. She's feminine even to her failing for mushroom omelettes and malted milks during tournament play. If you want another adjective, "nifty" perhaps best describes her—nifty all around.

IN addition to playing both lawn and table tennis for exercise, she also swims, hikes, and rides horseback. A studious senior at Butler University and the Jordan Conservatory of Music, Sally is preparing to be a high school music director.

Her French ancestry gives her her grace and dark brown sparkling eyes. The Irish side contributes her ready wit, varied interests, sunny disposition, and fighting heart.

Few spectators, if any, watching the dynamic Hoosier lassie defend her title this month will realize the continuous courageous struggle she has made over the years to overcome her early childhood disabilities. This is the most amazing thing about the twenty-year-old queen of American Table Tennis—the little handicapped girl who took advantage of her disadvantage to become a champ!

This part is just incidental but a bit interesting. Do you know that seven historic cities claimed the ancient Greek poet, blind but hard-hitting Homer, after he was dead? Likewise, that three illustrious Italian city-states contended for centuries for the venerated ashes of his medieval runner-up, free-swinging Dante? Now, by a curious coincidence, two storied American "river towns"—St. Louis and Indianapolis—both lay claim to the undisputed champion of another kind of rhythmical perfection. And no wonder—

She's the champion!





Sally at her desk (rear of photo) at Underwood Elliott Fisher Co. where she was a District Manager in 1944.

2 Champs Repeat

Pagliaro and Sally Green Retain Table Tennis Titles For 3d Straight Year



LOUIS PAGLIARO

SALLY GREEN

By MARGARET RUSSELL

The table tennis champions still reign.

Sally Green of Indianapolis and Louis Pagliaro of New York successfully defended their titles in the blue-ribbon tournament completed last night in the ballroom of the General Motors Building, and became the first men's and women's singles champions ever to win three successive years together.

The feat has been equaled in women's singles by Ruth Hughes Aarons, who won in 1935, 1936 and 1937, but never before has the men's champion been able to do this.

Chuck Burns, two times Michigan state champion, furnished the big news of the tournament. He became the first Detroit to reach the finals of the national. And he did it the hard way.

BEATS 3 STARS

After disposing of two unknowns in the early rounds, Burns was called upon to play Tibor Hazi, fourth ranking player in the country; Jimmy McClure, two times winner in the tournament, and Ed Pinner, who runnerup last year, and they went down in that order in set games. Burns had his cut shot working to perfection.

But with Pagliaro it was different. This 22-year-old, five-foot, 118-pound boy from the East blitzed his way to the title. He returned every thing he could and some that the audience of over 1,000 thought he couldn't. Pagliaro won because he is the greatest

clutch player in the game. The tougher the going the better he likes it. The score was 21-13, 22-20, 21-17.

Sally Green, 18-year-old musical student at Jordan Conservatory of Music and Butler University, returned her title by defeating Mrs. Mae Clouther of Arlington, Mass., 22-20, 21-18, 21-13.

The champion used to play with a great change of pace but lately she has changed this and is concentrating almost strictly on forehand drives. They were working to such perfection that in the second game Sally scored four points with drives to Mrs. Clouther's backhand that landed in the area of a defense stamp.

OTHER CHAMPIONS

Ed Pinner and Sy Sussman of New York successfully defended their men's doubles title against Pagliaro and Jimmie J. Jacobson, 21-7, 21-19, 19-21, 21-13. In mixed doubles, the new champions are Leah Thall of Columbus and Billy Holtzrichter of Chicago, who defeated Mrs. Clouther and Leslie Lowry of Somerville, Mass., 20-22, 18-21, 21-14, 21-13, 22-20. Mildred Shahian of Boston and Mrs. Clouther won the women's doubles over Leah Thall and Sally Green, 21-19, 23-21, 22-20.

Marlin E. Tucker of Chicago took the veteran's singles crown from Bill Gunn of New York, 21-11, 21-17, 12-21, 12-16. Melvin Nichols of St. Louis won the boy's singles from Daniel Cory of Chicago, 11-21, 14-21, 21-11, 21-12, 21-19.

LOCAL GIRL RETAINS TABLE TENNIS TITLE

Detroit, Mich., April 12.—(AP)—Louis Pagliaro of New York and Sally Green of Indianapolis still are the king and queen of table tennis.

Pagliaro became a three-time winner of the men's singles crown by defeating Charles Burns of Detroit, 21-12, 22-20, 21-17, in the finals of the national tournament here tonight, while Miss Green took the women's title for the third straight year by downing Mrs. Mae Clouther of Arlington, Mass., 22-20, 21-18, 21-13.

Miss Green gained another shot at premier laurels by conquering Helen Baldwin of Des Moines, Ia., in the semi-finals, 21-14, 22-20, 21-19.

Cop Men's Doubles Title.

Ed Pinner and Cy Sussman defeated Pagliaro and Jim Jacobsen 21-7, 21-19, 19-21, 21-13, in an all-New York city men's doubles final.

Other champions crowned today were Mildred Shahian of Boston and Mrs. Clouther, who defeated Leah Thall of Columbus and Miss Green in the women's doubles finals, 21-19, 23-21, 22-20, and Miss Thall and Bill Holtzrichter of Chicago, who beat Mrs. Clouther and Les Lowry of Somerville, Mass., in the mixed doubles finals, 20-22, 19-21, 21-14, 21-13, 22-20.

Miss Thall and Miss Green reached the finals of women's doubles by taking the measure of Helen Moss and Grace Hanowieg of Minneapolis, 18-21, 22-20, 21-13, 21-19, and Miss Thall and Ho-



SALLY GREEN.

richter entered the mixed doubles finals at the expense of Miss Green and Sterling Mitchell, also of Indianapolis, 21-19, 21-13, 21-11.

Melvin Nichols, 14-year-old high school sophomore from St. Louis, won the boys' title by defeating Daniel Cory of Chicago, 11-21, 14-21, 21-11, 21-12, 21-19, and Marbles Tucker of Chicago won the veterans' singles crown from Bill Gunn of New York, 21-11, 21-17, 12-21, 21-16.

ESTABLISHES RECORD.

Sally Green's victory in the national table tennis tournament at Detroit last night marked the first time in the history of the event that one contestant has taken the women's top award three years in a row, and news of her triumph was as thrilling as ever to her mother, Mrs. Fred P. Green, who resides at 727 East Kessler boulevard.

"I just had a call and Sally won again," Mrs. Green told a representative of The Star shortly before the press dispatch was received from the Michigan metropolis. "I don't know what the score was, but that doesn't make a lot of difference now. This was only Sally's third tournament test of the season. I surely am happy she was able to repeat."

Miss Green, 19-year-old sophomore at Butler University and the Arthur Jordan Conservatory of Music, went through the national with the loss of only one game, to Helen Moss of Minneapolis. Her father made the trip with Sally and witnessed her sensational performance.

Sally Green Wins Fifth National Table Tennis Title

"In Stride" After Overcoming Series of Handicaps

By AL ROCHE.

This is a little story about a girl who has lived in a land of plenty. She has had everything indulgent parents, shaping her life with foresight and wisdom, deemed it best to provide.

Education, with a musical background, came first, then the things that all young ladies would like, such as a beautiful home with a recreation room, nice clothes, dates, dances, trips to the mountains and, last but not least, numerous triumphant appearances as a top-flight performer in Sportland.

Along the road to womanhood she has made it a point to let the plaudits of admirers fade with the passing of time, keeping her many blessings uppermost in mind. Today true to the early wishes of her mother and dad, who are her "pals," she is the personification of graciousness and charm and a champion in every sense of the word.

Feat Is Unparalleled.

Our heroine is Sally Green, a smiling, brown-eyed Irish girl in her 20th year, who, one week ago tonight, at St. Louis, stroked her way to the United States women's singles table tennis championship for the fifth consecutive year—a feat unparalleled in the history of the sport.

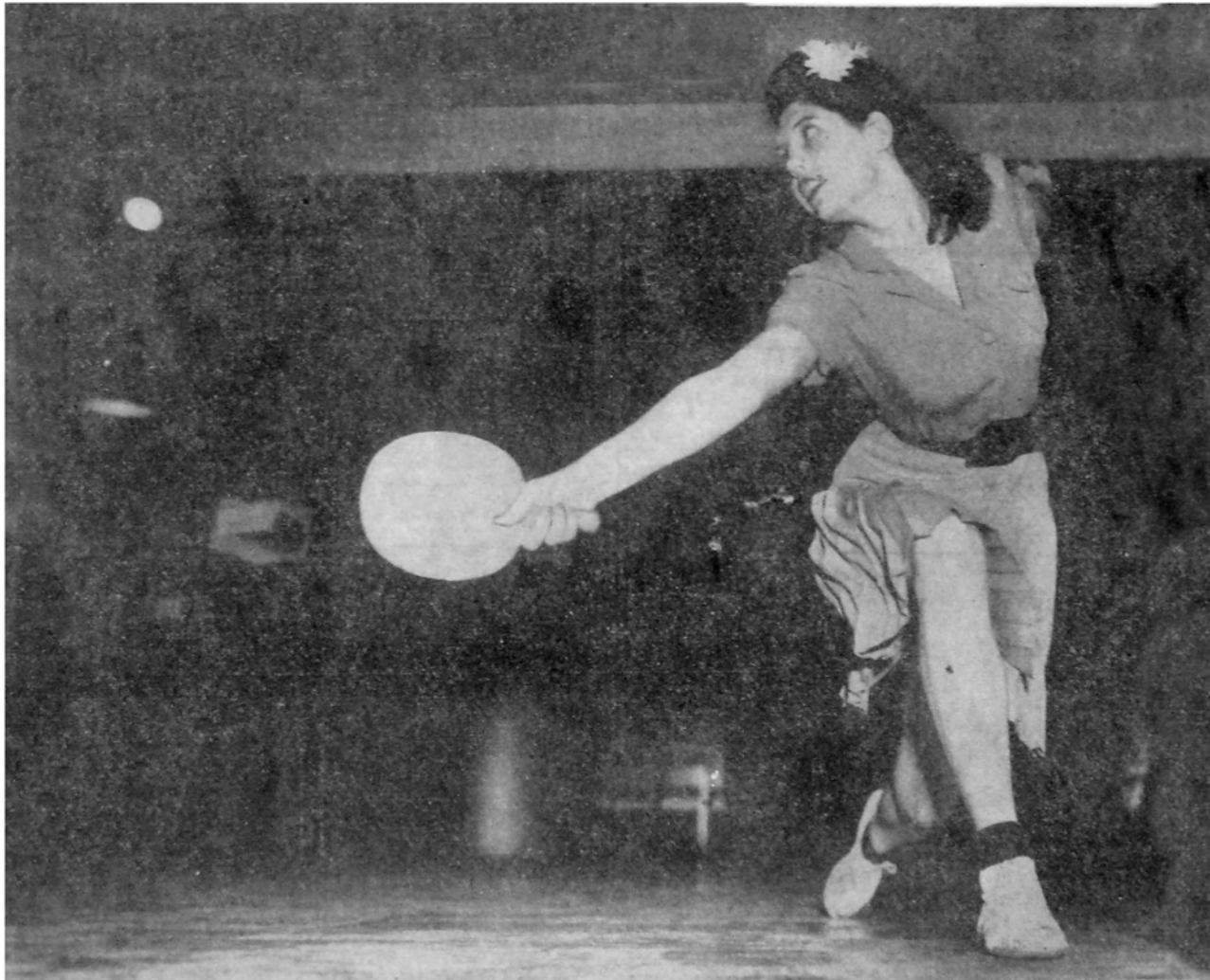
Little to-do was made of her record accomplishment upon her return to her home town, but we decided not to have it that way, so we're going to turn back the clock and learn more of the career of this talented paddle-wielder who developed a "killer" instinct at the tender age of 16 and has reigned as queen of the courts ever since.

Lest the start of our story throw you off, everything has not been easy come, easy go for Sally. Far from it. With all her good fortune, she has had to hurdle one serious obstacle after another and, to this day, she still is battling an ailment that on more than one occasion has threatened to put her on the sidelines.

Undergoes 2 Operations.

When she was only 6 weeks old





SALLY GREEN—SHE'S CHICAGO'S TABLE TENNIS QUEEN

Five times U.S. singles champion and present Western Women's singles champion, she's ready for the winter campaign.

PHOTO BY CHARLES GEKLER, CHICAGO SUN STAFF.

*I "seed" Sally,
She "seed" me,
I lost, she won,
Curtis Hedberg*

THE CHICAGO SUN
SPORTS

THURSDAY, NOV. 29, 1945 ★★★★★ PAGE 21

SPORTS

Defending Table-Tennis Champs Hold Their Own in Manhattan Three-Day Spree of Clicking Balls

Don't call table tennis a sissy game without trying it, or the boys will brain you with their paddles. Don't call them paddles, either. They're "racquets" or "bats," i.e., the weapons of the game, not the players. But plenty of people are batty about table tennis, also known as Ping-Pong in its trade-marked version; it has more than 10,000,000 devotees in the nation, of whom 6,000 are members of the United States Table Tennis Association. Last week, at Manhattan Center, New York City, this august body held its eleventh national

open tournament, attracting 124 competitors from twenty states.

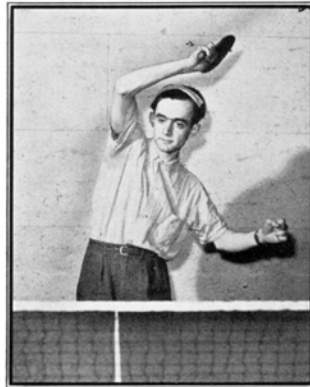
For three solid afternoons and evenings—April 2, 3, and 4—the grand ballroom of the Center rattled with the click-click of hard-driven celluloid balls as the contestants at seven tables went to work on each other. Meanwhile, the gallery, numbering at times 1,400, strained their eyeballs trying to follow the white streaks of the speeding spheres.

Despite the seriousness of the occasion, and the concentration of the players would

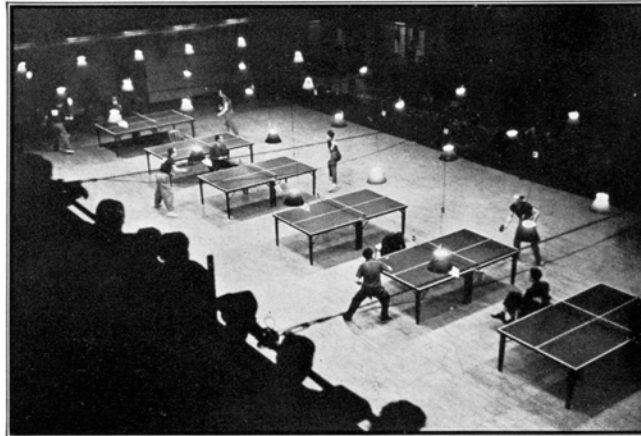
have done credit to occupants of the sacred center court at Forest Hills, there was a holiday atmosphere at the tourney, for most of the contestants were young and having a good time. This is true of all table-tennis affairs because it's a youngsters' game, requiring the lightning reflexes that begin to fade early in life. The average top-flight player's prime is from 19 to 24, and the veterans' class begins with doddering old men of 35.

The defending men's champion in last week's swingfest was Lou Pagliaro, a 5-foot-2, 115-pound graduate of the Boys Club of New York. "Paggy" is 21, married, and has a daughter. Agile as a squirrel and built along the same general lines, he thinks his shortness helps his game because his eyes are close to the level of the table. A professional, Pagliaro gives lessons for \$2 an hour and is opening his own table-tennis center on upper Broadway this week. He wears his wife's ring in tournament play because he thinks it brings him luck. Last week Pagliaro didn't need much luck, for he turned back all opposition easily and drubbed Ed Pinner, a 17-year-old New Yorker, in the finals—21-18, 21-11, 22-20.

The other champ—Sally Green, a pretty, dark-haired miss of 18—also defended her title successfully. Now a freshman at Butler University in her home-town Indianapolis, Ind., Sally began playing table tennis at 13 to loosen up a back she had sprained while diving. With her father, an excellent player, coaching her, she developed an aggressive, masculine-type game by competing against boys. Sally always keeps the first and second fingers of her left hand crossed as she plays, and most of her fellow table tennisists think she does it for luck. Nothing could be farther from the truth, Sally declares; it's just a habit. She tried to break it two years ago, but it threw her off her game. Last Friday night, with her fingers crossed as tightly as though they had been glued together, she beat Helen Germaine of New York in the finals 21-16, 21-17, 21-9.



Lou Pagliaro perspired, and Sally Green kept her fingers crossed . . .



Newsweek by Pat Terry

. . . during the national table-tennis tournament in New York

Sally and Table Tennis Legend Lou Pagliaro were featured in this 1941 issue of Newsweek magazine.

Sport Squibs

MASTER GOLFER: Blistering the fairway with an opening six-under-par round of 66 at the eighth annual Masters' golf tournament in Augusta, Ga., blond 39-year-old Craig Wood, Mamaroneck, N. Y., pro veteran, steadied to more average scores of 71, 71, and 72, and won the climax tourney of the citrus circuit April 6.

BADMINTON: At Cleveland, April 3-5, 20-year-old Dave Freeman demonstrated his stranglehold on the sport by winning his third straight national title, easily downing Carl Loveday of Montclair, N. J., 15-6, 15-8 in the final. With a home-town Pasadena partner, Chet Goss, Freeman also took the doubles. Left-handed Thelma Kingsbury, three-time English champion,



Sally posing in her USA team jacket in 1942.



Sally in 1944, the year she won the last of her 5 consecutive Women's Singles titles.



Sally with her 5th consecutive U.S. Women's Singles trophy.



**June 1944 Graduation
photo from Indianapolis'
Butler University with
Degrees in Education
Administration and a
Bachelors from the
Arthur Jordan
Conservatory of Music.**

Schiff and Cartland

. . . in their book speak of Green's forehand as "a quick and vicious stroke," patterned after some of the best men players. (Sally played for the league-leading Riviera Club in the Indianapolis Men's League.) But although Topics columnist Reba Kirson (later Monness) praises Sally as being "the trickiest player" at the U.S. Open, she still could not take a game in the final from Fuller, who, as Schiff and Cartland say, not only has "an excellent defense" [Sally had problems hitting Emily's backhand chop], but forehand and backhand drives [that] are very sound and capable of making many points even against masculine opposition." And though Sally was from nearby Indianapolis, Hammond wrote, "Never before has a crowd been for the defending champion playing against a younger girl from the spectators' section of the country – an unusual compliment to

the poise and charm of the Easterner." Green did get some measure of revenge against Fuller, though. After two uncertain matches – a -15, 18, 17 quarter's win over Helen Germaine/Reba Kirson and a -19, 7, 17, -14, 14 semi's win over Brewer/Matilda Plaskow – Sally and Mildred Wilkinson won the Women's Doubles from Emily and Magda Hazi in straight games. "Sally is inspiring for she is a fighter and a hitter," said Mildred. "She is a perfect partner. Her strokes are quick and she moves like lightning." A view corroborated no doubt by Sally's early swimming and diving prowess. When she'd hurt her back diving that seemingly unmomentous day, her father, Fred, a tennis player after whom she fashioned her much admired forehand, said that table tennis would loosen her up. It sure did. sure did.



1940s Sally forehand

Table Tennis TOPICS

APRIL 1945



The 64 Dollar Question . . . "How long can Sally win?"

(See Page 2)



Vol 12 - No. 7

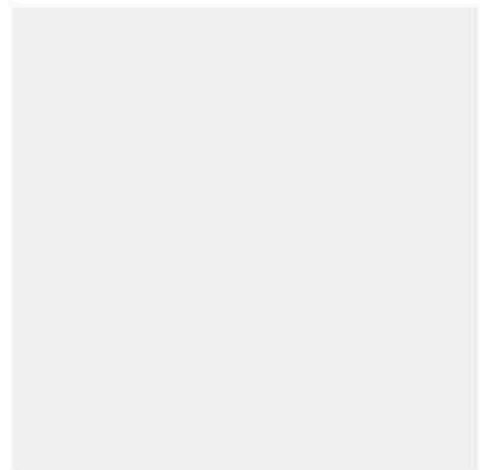
15 Cents



Sally photos from April, 1945
Table Tennis Topics

Strokes of Genius . . .





Sally demonstrating stroke fundamentals in the rec room of her home in Indianapolis.

Women umpires at this National's

. . . were such "a pleasing novelty" that "some spectators watched them, not the matches." The more understandable then that, to further the looked-forward-to compatibility of the "Mixed Splash Party" and "Midnight Buffet" Sat. evening from 11:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., the Saturday Mixed Doubles event drew 70 players. In the eighth's, Green and Downs stayed in contention by unsteadily rising above the steady Cartland/Plaskow duo. Then, about to play the quarter's, did they know that Bellak had earlier said to his partner Kirson, "We win the Mixed or I kill you"? Well, Bellak/Kirson didn't win 'cause Sally and Roger crossed them up. And, regardless of whether Laci so much as laid a hand on her, Reba said she couldn't play afterwards for a month. Another close match – a 5-game win over Muchow and Henry – and the Indianapolis teenagers were in the final against Wilkinson and Al Nordheim. Now, though, with "both pairs using the same tactics – topspinning or driving whenever possible and otherwise placing the ball back to the body of the person who hit it" – the Chicago team won in three close games. Al "can play doubles like an inspired fiend," Mildred enthused. He "can hit shots that are absolutely uncanny."

So, three 1939 U.S. Open finals for Green . . . plus the Wilkinson Cup for the second year in a row. Future's lookin' good – especially since '38 and '39 Champion Fuller's retiring to pursue a singing career. Sally, thought now to be Emily's at-the-ready successor, sings too – with an all-girl orchestra. Disguised, she'll be out in Colorado this summer – in a working cattle ranch. But no one will try to keep her name a secret. On her return, ask around the pool at the Riviera Country Club what people think of Sally Green, what her limitations are, what promise she has. Chances are they'll point to the sky.

Sally opened the '39-40 season with two October wins – at the Hamilton, Ohio Miami Valley and the Indianapolis Central Indiana. In both she didn't have to do much more than go through the motions to beat U.S. #15 Norma Hieronymus Studer. However, Norma's Columbus, Ohio clubmate, Leah Thall (later Neuberger), whom Sally likewise was having little trouble with in Singles and Doubles matches, would soon be a far more formidable opponent. U.S. #21 last season, U.S. #8 by this season's end.



**Sally in the 1947 U.S.
Open Program**

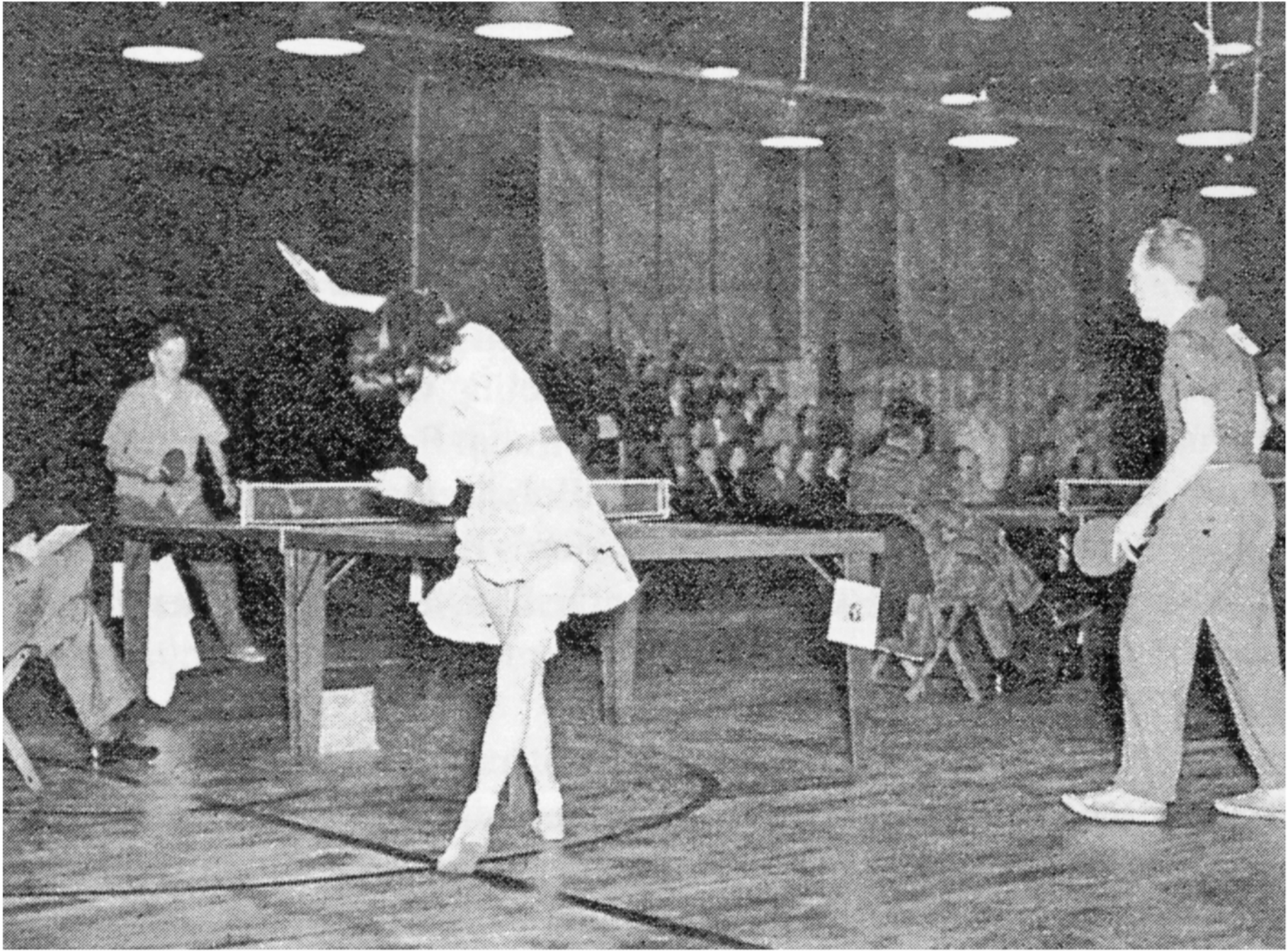
Another local-area opponent . . .

. . . Sally would routinely beat this season, at least when she played and won in Louisville – at the Southern Open, the Falls Cities, and the Miami Valley – was U.S. # 25 Martha Kiefer, Kentucky's best. Helen Baldwin, U.S. #11, in real life a publishing-house stenographer from Des Moines, was tougher – at the January 13-14 Tri-State (Illinois, Iowa, Missouri) Open at Burlington, Sally dropped a game to her. This tournament was smoothly run by Elks Club members who – helped by one of their own, a magician who made table tennis balls disappear – "entertained players and guests at the Burlington Country Club and in their homes so that those who had to remain because of snow-blocked roads actually enjoyed their enforced stay of 36 hours."

From the beginning of the season, all the women players, Sally included, had been looking forward to, as USTTA Women's Chair Violet Smolens put it, "the biggest women's event in table tennis history" – an East vs. West intersectional for a trophy

donated by retired U.S. Champion Fuller. No more "many and loud squawks about national rankings, due mainly to bad breaks in the draw at the Nationals," said Smolens. (The National's always did count for too much in the Rankings.) No more "insufficient data" problems in trying to "compare the records of Eastern and Western girls." No more a somewhat arbitrary selection for the "Women's Corbillon Cup team." (That is, when and if the World Championships resume, for the War has canceled them.)

The 10 best Eastern women were to be selected to play a round robin among themselves (at Philadelphia, November 12); likewise the 10 best Western women (at Indianapolis, November 11-12). Those 5 from the East and those 5 from the West with the best records would then come together (at Cleveland, February 17-18) to play a complete round robin, the winner of which would keep the Fuller traveling trophy for a year.



Sally and Sol Schiff on their way to winning the 1949 U.S. Open Mixed Doubles title.
Sports World, May, 1949

At the 1940

. . . Indianapolis National's, Henry, the East-West winner, was seeded #1, and Green, last year's 3-time finalist, #2. Betty was lucky to survive her deuce-in-the-5th quarter's match with Thall, after Leah had outlasted Baumbach in 5. The USTTA Close Law against chiseling was not applied in the 5th game of the Henry-Thall match, as called for, "because while it was a pooping match of the worst degree, it violated neither of the requirements of being uninteresting to the spectators, or upsetting the schedule of other matches"--though it did work a "hardship on Miss Thall" (presumably because she was a better attacker than Henry). At any event, Henry then lost in the semi's to Brewer in straight games . . . and (World semifinalist, U.S. #3 – that was enough) retired.

Green, though she was twice forced to 19 in the quarter's by Clouter, didn't drop a game until the final when Brewer, down 2-0, insisted on stubbornly carrying the match into the 4th. USTTA Public Relations Chair George Koehnke had hyped a "Beauty Queen" photo contest in the pages of Topics for this

National's and a 19-year-old Northwestern co-ed, Mildred Bjone won. "George Petty, the famous creator of the 'Esquire' Petty Gal," was the judge. Mildred received train fare, was put up in a hotel suite, and given the use of a private car. In her role as Queen, she wore "earrings, a necklace, and a bracelet made of table tennis balls," and was 'crowned by Governor Townsend of Indiana." Even better, she was invited by "interested spectator" Guy Lombardo "to make a personal appearance with his 'Lady Esther' orchestra at the Lyric Theater, where her beauty drew enthusiastic applause."

Would our 1940 National Champion, also newly crowned and the recipient of a wired bouquet from last year's retired Champion Fuller, have been tempted to trade places with the unknown, feted Bjone, give up her win, the glorious tournament moment? So Sally wasn't treated to such niceties--would you expect her to be green with envy? Surely her rewards would be long lasting?

NATIONAL



L. TO R. — TAMMA HOTZE, ARLYN SHAPIRO, CAROL NYDAM, SHARON KOEHNKE, MILDRED SHAHIAN, ELMER F. CINNATER, LEAH NEUBERGER, PEGGY ICHKOFF, SALLY PROUTY AND PATTY McLINN.

CHAMPS



L. TO R. — DOUG CARTLAND, BILL HOLZRICHTER, MARTY REISMAN, ALEXANDER HAYDAY, TIBOR HAZI, HARRY HOTZE, HARRY HIRSCHKOWITZ, PAUL JACKSON, JACK SANDERS, BILL PRICE, CECIL WOODWORTH AND BILL GUNN.

ST. LOUIS 1951



ACTION IN MIXED DOUBLES FINAL. L. TO R. — D. MILES, S. PROUTY, L. NEUBERGER AND D. CARTLAND. LATTER DUO CAPTURED CROWN.



L. TO R. — RONALD LIECHTY, CARL DENTICE, TOM BREUNIG, AL HOLTMANN, JIM TANCILL

topics...

THE MAGAZINE FOR TABLE TENNIS FAN

"HAT TRICK" FOR LEAH
Leah was also the tournament's only "hat trick" artist. Besides her singles triumph, she teamed with Doug Cartland to take the mixed doubles from the team of Mrs. Sally Green Prouty and Dick Miles, and paired with Mildred Shahian to cop the women's doubles. Their victim was the aforementioned Ichkoff - Prouty duo.

MAY, 1951

Vol. 18, No. 8

Whole No. 144

This 'n That...

By Helene Cinnater

***Sally Green Prouty said in the last Nat's that she would try for



November 1952 Team Championships

WEST

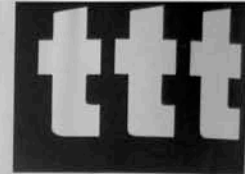
1. Mrs. Peggy Ichkoff - (Capt.) Chicago
2. Mrs. Sally Prouty - Chicago
3. Mildred Shahian - St. Louis
4. Sharon Koehnke - Glen Ellen, Illinois

EAST

1. Mrs. Leah Neuberger - (Capt.) N.Y.C.
2. Pauline Robinson - New York City
3. Jean Gere - Fanwood, New Jersey
4. Lona Flam - New York City

TABLE TENNIS TOPICS

- How table tennis helps visual training . . . page 3
- The clothing rule in pictures . . . page 4
- Ranking women . . . Part 2 . . . page 6
- Late news on the Nationals . . . page 11



the magazine of table tennis ★ March 1953

Cover picture . . .

Judy Gere Perry and Bernard Baker are both great fans of table tennis. They would rather play it than eat when they are hungry. Judy is a five-time winner of our National Championships . . . now is the Captain Perry. Bernard Baker is a member of the U. S. formerly lived in Poland and Germany. He was included in the National Team Championships, won the recent Western Open and St. Joe Valley tournaments.



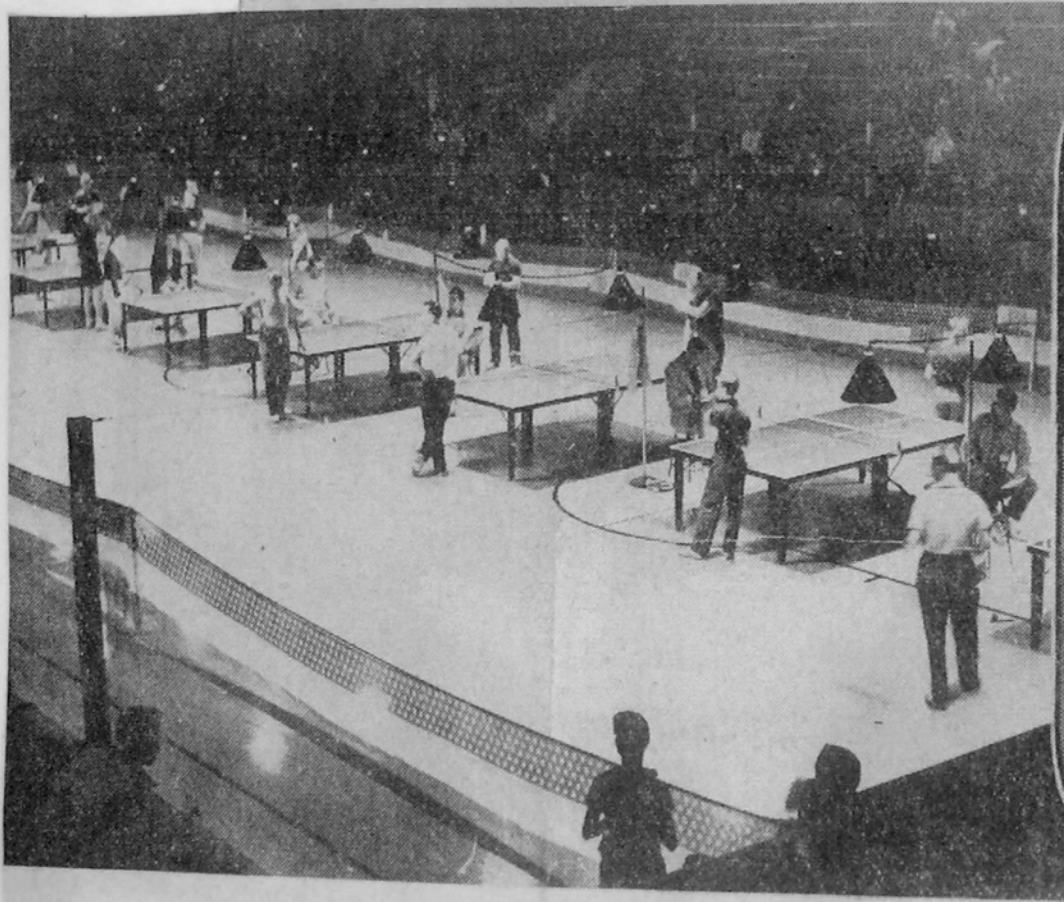


1952, July 28. Sally playing Women's Doubles during Aquatennial Table Tennis Tournament in Minneapolis.

THE KANSAS CITY STAR, SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 1953.

Table Tennis Stars Competing in U..S. Open

(Kansas City Star Photographs by Ed Garich.)



PLAYERS AWAIT START OF MATCHES AT MASON-HALPIN FIELD HOUSE—This is an over-all view of the tournament setup at Rockhurst's Mason-Halpin field house. Seven of the eight tables being used for the national championship tourney are shown in the picture. The players are awaiting the start of the day's play. Only one table will be used tonight when the championship matches are played.



FORMER WOMEN'S CHAMPIONS
—Peggy McLean Folke (left) of New York City is one of the former champions competing here. She won the national title in 1948. Also trying a comeback is Sally Green Prouty, Winnetka, Ill., who won five titles from 1940 through 1944. An outstanding women's field entered the tourney.



Sol and I played as a team, not as 2 singles players. We inspired and motivated each other. To me, Sol was the greatest mixed doubles partner any player could wish for and it was a privilege to have him as my partner. He is not only a talented player but a wonderful human being.

Sally Green Prouty

Sally and Sol Schiff -- 1954 U.S. Open Mixed Doubles winners.



Captain George Schein leads U.S. Team on Opening Day ceremony at 1955 Utrecht World's: (l-r) Leah Neuberger, Pauline Somael, Sally Prouty, Dick Miles, Erwin Klein, Johnny Somael, Harry Hirshkowitz, Bernie Bukiet, Bobby Gusikoff.



Team dining during the 1955 Utrecht World's: (l-r) Team Captain George Schein, Sally Green Prouty, unknown guest, Pauline Somael, Bobby Gusikoff, Johnny Somael, Erwin Klein, Leah Neuberger, Bernie Bukiet, Harry Hirshkowitz, Dick Miles.



Team dining during the 1955 Utrecht World's: (l-r) 1955: Bill Gunn, Marianne Bessinger, unknown guest, Pauline Somael, Jojn Somael, unknown guest. Seated in front, Sally Prouty, George Schein.



1955 U.S. Army tour



1955 Armed Forces poster

Shore Woman Beats Disability to Become Table Tennis Star

WILMETTE
Life

Illinois JAN 3 1957

Tenacity on her own part and patient coaching of her father helped a Wilmette woman overcome physical disability to win national fame as a player.

Still active in table tennis circles, Mrs. Carlton Prouty, 921 Columbus Street, five times won the national women's singles and was runner-up in 1953-1954. These and other wins have netted her over 200 trophies.

Mrs. Prouty, the former Sally Green, started playing table tennis in Indianapolis at the age of 11, and at 17 won her first national title.

Telling of how she started to play – partly as a therapeutic thing to overcome a muscular ailment which had almost invalidated her at the age of 8 – she said:

Dad Still Her Coach

"Daddy got the table but no one would play with me so I decided to learn to play so well they would. And when I learned to play well, dad went right along and has been my coach ever since."

Mrs. Prouty, who before starting table tennis, had won a number of swimming trophies, had to battle her muscular disability even after she started table tennis. In 1940 her upper arm became affected – which would have stopped a less determined player. But she learned to use her left hand and went on to win championships.

Now a housewife and mother of two sons, Warren (Murphy), 4, and Carlton Frederick, 8, Mrs. Prouty is still active in her field.

Competes in Europe

In 1955 she went abroad with the United States Table Tennis team. She competed in the British Open in London, the German Open in Kiel, and the world championship at Utrecht. The trip so included a tour through Germany where the team played exhibition matches for the Army.

She also has received "papers of availability" this year for the six-week trip the United States team is planning to make,



Shore Woman Has Many Trophies

Mrs. Carlton Prouty of Wilmette, the former Sally Green, looks over the large scrapbook made by her father to hold items about her career as a table tennis player. At her right is one of her many trophies, now made into a lamp.

starting in February.

Besides playing "for fun" on the table she and her husband have installed in the basement of their new home, Mrs. Prouty now also does some exhibition work for clubs and on television. For some of the exhibitions she has played with Coleman Clark of Kenilworth.

Meet Through Game

The Proutys, who moved to Wilmette last month from Winnetka, met through table tennis. "My husband was runner-up one year in the national men's doubles but he just plays for fun now," she said.

Though table tennis still plays a major part of her life, it is only one of Mrs. Prouty's many activities and interests.

Music is another major one. "I started music at the age of 4," she said and play the piano, organ, and accordion and sings".

Part of her study was at Butler University but she also attended Arthur Jordan Conservatory of Music.

She also helps out her husband in his business and recently has found time to take up a new sport, bowling, and devotes one evening a week to it.

Shares Credit

Much of the credit for her success in table tennis, Mrs. Prouty feels, is due to her father, F. P. Green of Wilmette.

"His excellent and patient coaching – sometimes we took one shot only for study for three months at a time – are really responsible for any honors I've won," she said. "I don't believe anyone who gets on top in any field can take all the credit – it is always a two-way thing," she concluded.

TABLE TENNIS



■ Sally Prouty, 81, holds her case full of table tennis, bowling and swimming medals at her home in Fort Myers on Saturday. At left is her 1940 U.S. Open Women's Table Tennis Championship in singles, which she won when she was 17. It was the first of five U.S. Open trophies she would win.

Prouty paddled competition

Local resident captured five U.S. table tennis titles in a row in 1940s

BY DAVE KEMPTON
Special to The News-Press

Lee County residents know 81-year-old Sally Prouty as the pianist who plays for patients at HealthPark Medical Center.

Table tennis historians remember her as Sally Green, a Hall-of-Fame player from another era, the winner of five consecutive U.S. Open Women's Table Tennis Championships.

One banner headline from the front page of the Sunday, April 9, 1944, edition of The Indianapolis Star quickly sums up Prouty's achievements: "Sally Green Wins Fifth National Table Tennis Title 'In Stride' After Overcoming Series of Handicaps."

Carlton Prouty, who celebrated his 57th wedding anniversary to Sally last Friday at their Winkler Road residence, may chuckle at the "In Stride" comment.

Sally Prouty does nothing in stride. "She was wicked with a paddle in her hand," said Carlton Prouty, 89, a Chicago native who first noticed her name in a listing of national champions at a table tennis club in New York City near the end of World War II.

"I was on leave with the Air Force

and played myself. I noticed this name Green was listed five straight times and was told she was from the Midwest. I was intrigued, but we never met until a few years later at a table tennis tournament in Chicago." Carlton Prouty was impressed by his future wife's aggressive style of play.

"She was a great offensive player, playing defensively was not part of her game," he said.

That mindset carries over to her music. Shelly Prouty majored in music at what was then Butler University's Arthur Jordan Conservatory of Music in her native Indianapolis, Ind.

Prouty was a high-school music teacher before retiring in 1984. Now she plays as a volunteer at the hospital and has logged nearly 1,000 hours performing for patients.

"I even played an hour of special music for a German patient recently who passed away two days later," Prouty said.

Athletics have always been the cornerstone for the Proutys' relationship, including tennis, bowling and golf.

"Our common interests in sports is one thing that has kept us together all these years," Prouty said.

She will intently watch the Athens Games on television in a month, when table tennis is highlighted, like many Olympic sports, for the first time in four years. The sport was

"She was a great offensive player. Playing defensively was not part of her game."

■ Carlton Prouty.
Describing his wife, Sally, a five-time United States Women's Table Tennis titlist

added in 1988.

"Table tennis today is so different. The rackets are made of what is called pebble rubber," she said. "The good players usually are from the Far East or Europe. I never got to play out of the U.S., except for an exhibition trip to Europe in 1955."

Prouty was projected as a possible Olympian in her younger days — for the U.S. swimming and diving team. She suffered a career-ending back injury when a diving platform broke and hit her in the back during a meet in Indianapolis in 1934, at age 14.

Prouty started playing table tennis with her father, Fred Green, and tagged along with him to national tournaments.

"I watched Ruth Arens win the national tournament when I was 14 and said to myself, 'If I can't beat her, I'll quit in three years,'" Prouty said.

Exactly three years later, at age 17 in 1940, she won her first women's title in Indianapolis. Prouty followed with national wins in New York and Detroit, and twice in St. Louis.

Prouty had a unique way to practice,

making sure she would hit her target.

"Wanting to be precise, I used pennies and cigarettes. I placed the cigarettes upright on pennies at the opposite end of the table about three inches apart," said Prouty, who practiced five hours a day. "Then I would knock them down, from right to left or reverse, in order. I seldom missed."

"I learned to use different strategies, watching the backhand or forehand shot of an opponent before a match. My paddle had grooves built in so my hand would fit perfectly."

Prouty also won three doubles and four mixed doubles national titles in the mid-1940s before meeting Carlton in Chicago at a table tennis tournament.

"Like other sports, table tennis had become a young person's game and I knew I was past my prime," Prouty said.

She never taught the game and today seldom picks up a paddle.

"I never wanted to teach the game as a recreational sport," Prouty said. "I looked at it from very competitive nature and, of course, most folks did not."

Sally's, Love of Sports,
Love of the Outdoors,
Love of Music,
Love of Life

Sally in the Buena Vista Mountains in the '30s

. . . enjoying the mountain air and
one of her favorite pastimes --
horseback riding.



A Determined Athlete, Sally Competed in . . .



. . . swimming in the 1940s.
Bowling in the 1960's

... and tennis



July, 1960 Sally with her tennis students at Winnetka Park District where she taught tennis for 5 years.

... and
she
loves
music

Sally at her piano in 2007.



... and in 2008. Photo by Dean

Carlton Prouty

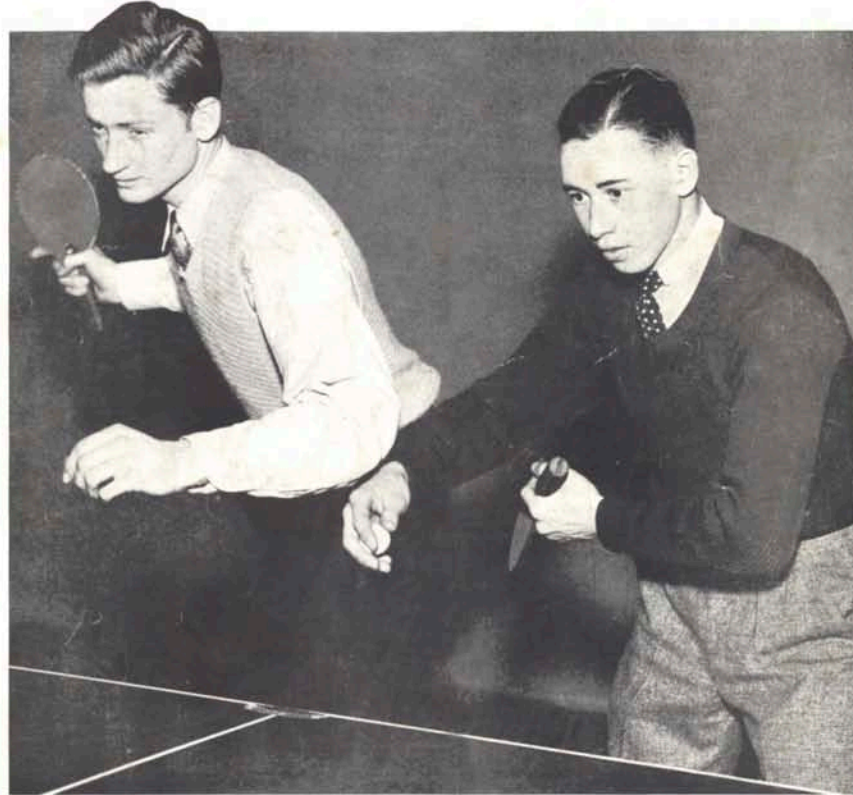
An American Singles and Doubles
Champion of the 1930s.

JANUARY
1934

15
cents

American

Ping-Pong



Carlton Prouty and Billy Condy
Well-Known Chicago Doubles Team

19-year-old Carlton was featured, along with his doubles partner, Billy Condy, in the January, 1934 issue of the American Ping Pong Association magazine.

National Intercity Team Championship

FEBRUARY
1934

15
cents

American

Ping-Pong



The Chicago Team

William Condy

Carlton Prouty

Robert Ratcliffe

Jerry Lavin

Coleman Clark

Carlton (second from left) was also on the cover of this issue along with Billy Condy, Robert Ratcliffe, Jerry Lavin and Coleman Clark

CHICAGO WINS
National Intercity Team Championship

The Science of Doubles

by
CARLTON PROUTY

by One Who Knows

DOUBLES play has been growing tremendously in popularity during the last few years; however, I think that the possibilities lying in doubles have just begun to be realized, and that, from now on, interest will rank equal with that in singles. In some ways doubles is more interesting than singles. In singles strategy is necessarily a one-man operation; in doubles every point is dependent upon the perfect cooperation of two men. A smoothly working doubles pair is one of the prettiest sights in ping-pong.

In doubles, there are several important differences in rules. One is the rule calling for alternate hitting, preventing the historical "sleeper" doubles play; another is the service in which the server may step through the imaginary extended side lines of the table in making a service; and still another is the rule demanding that service be in courts. The "sleeper" play originated before the rule was passed providing for alternate hitting and consisted of having one player take a walk while his partner played the entire game. It can be easily seen that in the early development of the game a doubles team had little chance against a singles player.

Footwork Important

Were I asked what point in doubles I considered most important my answer would be footwork. While in singles a player can be severely handicapped by some weakness, in doubles this can often be overcome by perfect footwork. Lack of footwork, on the other hand, often makes weaknesses more glaring. All of us at some time or other have seen two unsuited players in a doubles match, bumping into each other and being continually caught out of position. Ninety per cent of the trouble lies in footwork. Now, just how can this trouble be overcome?

Two Systems in Use

There are at present two main systems of footwork in ping-pong doubles; one, the shuttle, and the other the echelon system. The shuttle system, so-called because of its resemblance to the movement of a shuttle on a loom, is one in which the players move in from either side in preparation for or executing a stroke. The partners move sideways and have no hesitation about crossing each other's paths. This system is most appropriate for two players neither of whom has a definite weakness. Coleman Clark and Digory McEwan use this style to good advantage. Neither of these two players has a particular weakness and both are perfectly willing to take the ball forehand or backhand.

The echelon system which Bill Condy and

Carlton Prouty with Billy Condy of Wilmette (Ill.) are one of the best known doubles teams in the country and were ranked number four nationally last year. They are one of the smoothest playing teams in the country.

myself use is one in which the strong strokes of each is most favorably employed. This system consists of having each player always step into action from his weakest side. For example, two right-handed players with strong forehands should always attempt to get in such a position that they can step into play from the left side of the table. In this way backhands are protected and the players utilize their strongest strokes. This system entails perfect footwork and a large degree of speed on the part of the players, making the play fast and interesting. After striking the ball each player immediately, steps back and over to his weakest side in preparation for another shot. This style is not made for or slow or lazy players; speed is essential.

Southpaw Bill a Help

As Bill is left-handed, when we play, he comes into action from the right, his forehand being very powerful, and I attempt to enter play from the left, also when receiving, Bill stands at the right so that after the return I cover the table with my forehand and he does likewise with his forehand.

In the play itself there are various methods employed. For two average players a block placement game is most effective and has served to upset many a good doubles team by not allowing it to get set. It takes two players who have played together continuously to beat a placement game; it cannot be done unless each player knows exactly what his partner is going to do and when he is going to do it. I consider a placement game by far the most difficult game to beat in doubles. It is much easier to use the shuttle system of footwork in this style of play than the echelon.

Chops Effective

A type of game which is very difficult for most teams to play is a chop game. The majority of players do not have strong chops both backhand and forehand; hence a chop game is generally used only in connection with the echelon footwork system. Footwork should fit the game, not the game fit the footwork. This chop game is

the best defensive style in doubles.

Bill and myself use a combination block and chop game; he blocks and I chop. Coming into action as we do, each from his weakest side, I think that we have found the best way for us to play.

Service Important

Generally speaking, serves in doubles are used for the same purpose as in singles, with possibly a trifle less effectiveness. This discrepancy in effectiveness is caused more by carelessness than by lack of opportunity. Although the serving space is slightly cramped in doubles there nevertheless are numerous places to serve the ball beside just in center. One must be more careful with fingerspins in doubles than in singles; a returned fingerspin often has enough spin on it to baffle one's own partner not just the opponents. As in singles these serves are used, not for the purpose of acing the opponent, but to put the ball in such a position where, from the part prescribed club rules and conditions can tell where the ball will be returned.

A word about drives. These are generally considered less important in doubles than in singles. I think that, although this has proven true in the past, it should not continue to be so in the future. The only reason why drives have not become just as important in doubles as in singles is because we haven't more than two or three recognized teams in the country. It takes time for two players to analyze each other's game to the extent that they can work up into driving positions. It is my opinion that every ball hit should be with the intention of working the ball into position for a drive. One of the best strokes for leading up to drives is the overspin, especially since a strong overspin can be given to any ball no matter how low. An overspin following a chop often gives a high set-up.

Altogether, I think that real interest in ping-pong doubles has just begun to circulate; heretofore partners have been chosen haphazardly, resulting in ragged playing. It must be remembered that in doubles poor players have a much better chance than in singles. Two average players working together, used to playing with each other, can so cover up their flaws that often they are able to beat a team composed of two stars against whom they would have no chance in singles. It is my suggestion that every singles player secure a permanent partner and work out a system of play conformable to each other's games. Doubles play has just begun in ping-pong and all teams can get in on the ground floor with an equal chance.

Condy Plays Brilliantly to Win Suburban (Chicago) Title

If any one is still of the opinion that Billy Condy is mainly spin serve player and that there are weaknesses in the rest of his game they should have been in the gymnasium of the Lowell School in Oak Park (Ill.) during the playing of his semi-final match against the very hard hitting University of Michigan star, Bob Bonney. Bonney playing with a sand-paper bat which considerably reduced the effect of spin was chased all over the gymnasium floor in one of the most beautiful exhibitions of placements and drives ever seen at a ping-pong match. To beat Bonney 21-2 is something which has never happened before and you'll have no trouble in getting plenty of money down that it will never happen again but, nevertheless, that was the score by which Billy won his second game in his semi-final match against Bonney.

To give all credit to Bonney it is only fair to state that in his quarter final match against Haensel after winning the first game at 22-20, he came back and won his second game at 21-1.

National Champ Wins

"Jay" Purves, national woman's champion, walked off with the honors in the women's division, defeating Virginia Booth in straight games. Miss Purves showed a lot of improvement in her play and it's going to take plenty of ping-pong to take away her title next April down in Cleveland. Carroll Herr of Wilmette carried "Jay" to five games in the semi-finals in a really fine match.

Paired with Coleman Clark, Miss Purves ran away with the mixed doubles title, defeating Farr and Miss Westcott in the finals.

Prouty and Condy, one of the really great doubles combinations in the country, defeated McKinley and Swain after a real five-game battle.

K. Haensel took the boys' title and Miss Westcott was named the best of the girls.

The tournament was ably run by the Oak Park-River Forest Ping-Pong Club and Charlie Higgins and "Chuck" McGuire were the moving spirits.

RESULTS

Men's Singles—Semi-Finals

W. Condy defeated R. Bonney, 21-18, 21-2, 21-19.

C. Prouty defeated D. McEwan, 21-16, 19-21, 28-26, 21-16.

Men's Singles—Finals

W. Condy defeated C. Prouty, 21-18, 19-21, 21-17, 21-17.

Men's Doubles—Finals

C. Prouty and W. Condy defeated R. McKinley and J. Swain, 18-21, 21-17, 18-21, 21-17, 21-16.

Women's Singles—Finals

J. Purves defeated V. Booth, 21-11, 21-14, 21-18.

Mixed Doubles—Finals

C. Clark and J. Purves defeated T. Farr and Miss Westcott, 21-13, 21-8, 21-13.

Boys' Singles—Finals

K. Haensel defeated J. Denninger, 19-21, 23-21, 25-23, 21-15.

Girls' Singles—Finals

M. Westcott defeated J. Hammond, 21-7, 21-6, 21-13.

Basement Players

(Continued from page 11)

members" secured excellent equipment in the form of a regulation table, rackets, balls and floodlights for the ceiling. The aesthetic element was introduced by the ladies, who supplied drapes, curtains and chair covers. A coat of flat green paint on the wood and brick walls completed the process of creating a comfortable and practical ping-pong room.

Although the club has been in existence little over a year, "we point with pride" to the forward strides that have been made. The active membership has increased from eight to eighteen; a number of victories have been chalked up over visiting commercial league teams; a few of the members have entered district and national tournament competition; the ladies have become interested, and now one evening each week is devoted exclusively to the fairer sex (with prospects of demands for an increased time allotment in the future).

Rankings for members of the group determined by individual play under

Carlton was runner-up in Men's Singles and Winner of the Doubles with his partner Billy Condy in this Chicago tournament.

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McClure Wins Western Helen Ovenden Repeats

FIRST it was the Indianapolis Open, then Ohio State, followed by the Intercity and then the Western. Gentlemen, that is quite a record for a young man just breaking into big league ping-pong. Of course it is Jimmy McClure of Indianapolis of whom we speak and he has well earned the title of best player in the West.

Fighting and scrapping his way thru the classiest field to ever face the barrier in a Western, Jimmy showed that he was what is needed to make a champion.

In his semi-final battle with the lanky, hard hitting Carlton Prouty of Chicago, which will go down in history as one of the most thrilling fights ever staged and with the score tied at two games a piece, Jimmy turned his trousers up another rung and sailed through the final game to win at 21-9. Prouty, playing the greatest game of his career, took the first game at 24-22 largely through a series of smashes to McClure's forehand, mixed some beautifully executed drop shots which brought Jimmy up to the table in a hurry. After fighting neck and neck throughout the second game McClure finally pulled it out at 21-19. The next game was another thriller which Prouty won at 22-20. At the rest period with Prouty leading two to one, Jimmy seemed to go into a huddle with himself and the fourth game he changed from a cautious defense style to a wide open smashing



contest and Prouty began to miss his drives. In the fifth and deciding game McClure got off to a big lead and nothing Prouty could do could stop the tornado. Yes, brothers, it was a truly great battle and all credit to Jimmy for winning and to Carlton Prouty for his great attempt to stop the favorite.

There were many other swell matches in all divisions. Vernon Tietjen took a game from McClure in a fourth round and played a heady game, but finally lost in four games. Coleman Clark defeated the greatly improved Radunsky of St. Louis in a four game match and Furhman of Hamilton, Ohio, sprung considerable of a surprise by taking Chicago's ace, Billy Condy, 18-21, 21-8, 21-14, 21-18. Carl Tietjen of St. Louis won a thrilling five game match from the hard hitting Jerry Jacobs of Indianapolis, 19-21, 21-9, 18-21, 21-7, 23-21.

Young Jack Tindahl, the coming youngster from St. Louis, played a thrilling five game match with Ernie Trobaugh of St. Louis, losing out in the final and fifth game, 24-22. This Tindahl lad is going places in a big way next year. Just a little more seasoning is all he needs.

Robert Ratcliffe of Chicago who is still mentioned as the most improved player this year defeated Joyce Portnoy of St. Louis, who is the California State champion, in three straight games and then went on to defeat Jerry Lavin of Chicago, in a tough four game struggle. In his semi-final match Ratcliffe played great ping-pong to down Carl Tietjen. Perhaps this particular match brought out more good head work than any other played.

Never before has there been just interest shown in the women's divi-

sion and practically all of the stars in the West were on hand expecting to upset Helen Ovenden, winner of last year's Western. St. Louis fans were backing Mrs. Ethel Baer Schneider against the field, while Chicagoans were betting on either Jay Purves, present National champion or Flossie Basler, Chicago District and Illinois State titleholder. No, I did not overlook mentioning Miss Ovenden, for both Miss Basler and Miss Purves had beaten Miss Ovenden rather easily in early season tournaments.

The first surprise of the day came when Mrs. Schneider took over Miss Purves in three straight games. Playing her usual defensive style of play with very quick half volley returns, Mrs. Schneider returned everything that Miss Purves attempted and won 21-12, 22-20, 21-10.

While this match was under way Miss Ovenden was putting on the first of a series of what was to prove to be one of the greatest comebacks of the game, defeating Flossie Basler of Chicago, in three straight games. Whether it was the St. Louis climate or the blizzard, nobody will know but Helen won and became the Chicago hope to retain her title. However, there were few who thought that Miss Ovenden's type of game could cope with Mrs. Schneider's style but they did not figure that Helen has a head on her shoulders and that she was capable of using it. Deliberately changing her whole style of attack, Helen simply lobbed her way to the championship. Dropping four or five slow high balls over the net, Helen would suddenly shoot a fast one to one of the corners which frequently scored.

The last and fifth game was a real
(Continued on next page)

Carlton received rave reviews for his performance in this 1934 APPA Western Open.

Here's Carlton . . .

Early in his life, Carlton was an accomplished table tennis player but his ultimate goal was to become a lawyer, in part, because his father was an attorney with his own firm. With this in mind, Carlton skipped a grade in Grade School and graduated from High School in 3 years.

At age 16, Carlton entered Northwestern University. He planned to sail through and then go to Law School. His father's untimely death in December, 1931 caused Carlton to lose all interest in a Law career. He instead, majored in International Relations.

1931 was Depression time. Carlton helped himself financially by performing table tennis exhibitions. This garnered up to \$10.00 per exhibition and proved very helpful in maintaining his financial stability.

While at Northwestern, Carlton connected with a moth-proofing firm which resulted in his hiring a phone-man in Evanston, Illinois to make 20-30 calls per day to set up appointments for service. Combined with his table tennis exhibitions, this arrangement

helped to create a more stable situation money-wise.

After Northwestern, Carlton became a member of a firm that managed buildings and hotels. This lasted until January, 1941. Carlton was quite sure that war was imminent. He volunteered for Air Cadet training but was turned down. One eye wasn't good enough. They were being very careful at that time.

Carlton was drafted on April 18, 1941 as a private in the Signal Corp. Shortly there was an assembly of 200 to 300 recruits at Ft. Sheridan, Illinois. The Captain called attention and then asked who could type. No one was much faster than 20-25 words per minute. Carlton then raised his hand. The Captain said: "Oh, a Johnny Come Lately." "How fast can you type?" "75 Words per minute" Carlton replied. Then the Captain asked: "Education?" "Northwestern" Carlton said. "Follow me" replied the Captain. Carlton soon became Company Clerk and after several weeks of Basic Training, the Battalion went South on maneuvers for 4-5 months. Carlton could not be promoted on maneuvers so he was an "Acting Gadget Corporal."



Carlton and Sally were married on July 9, 1947.



Here they are in 2008 after 61 years of marriage.

Back to Ft. Sheridan, Carlton had been scheduled to go to Greenland but Pearl Harbor delayed this until April 1942. He then sailed to Greenland where he was promoted to Sergeant Major of the Command.

After 5 months in Greenland, Carlton was assigned to OCS (Officer Candidate School) in New Jersey and upon graduation, he became a 2nd Lieutenant. He was then assigned to Drew Field in Tampa, Florida. After several months there, he became head of a company destined for overseas.

Meanwhile, an inspection revealed that Carlton had done an extra special job in training his Company and he was asked to join the Inspection Group. When Carlton realized that his Company was about to depart, his Colonel told him that there was a "Captaincy" in the job. (As a Company head, 1st Lieutenant is as far as you can advance.) So he took the job!

In 1944, Carlton was transferred to Washington DC

and he left the service in January, 1946. Carlton then decided on a career in insurance and real estate as a career. He spent a few months in the oil business. After a short period of time he became a real estate and insurance broker. He joined a building firm that specialized in building fine and beautiful luxury homes. This led to a great interest in land development. Carlton spent 40 years in the area of construction, land and development management and sales.

Carlton's table tennis doubles partner, Billy Condy came out of the service ahead of Carlton. Billy was a B-17 pilot in WWII. His father knew the Fred Green family when they moved from Chicago to Indianapolis.

Billy called Carlton and suggested that they go to the table tennis club and meet some of their old friends and play a game or two. Billy's dad, Lou, overheard this conversation and called Sally. Quite a while before this, about two years or so, Lou had told Sally that he knew the man she would marry.



Captain Prouty in 1944.

He said he didn't care if she was engaged or walking up the aisle – Carlton and Sally would marry!

After Billy and Carlton made their date to go to the club, Lou called Sally and asked her if she would be going to the club to practice the next night. She said she intended to be there. Lou said: “be sure to be there because you will meet the man I told you that you would marry! Carlton Prouty is home from the service and will be at the club tomorrow evening!”

Imagine my surprise when the next evening Carlton was greeted at the club by a lovely girl who seemed to know all about him. He thought only Eastern countries had committed marriages without male knowledge!

Needless to say, Sally became a huge part of Carlton's life – both personal and business-wise.

Time flew by and Carlton and Sally became engaged to be married.

About the 1st of May, 1947, Carlton's mother was

hospitalized with very little chance of surviving. Carlton and Sally visited her and announced that they were going to be married on July 9, 1947. Mother Prouty immediately demanded all of the details and shooed them out of the room. She called the dress-maker, the beauty shop and friends. She then recovered on that very day. And, fortunately for them, she was able to prolong her life until 1962. According to Sally, no greater mother-in-law ever existed!

On July 9, 1947, Carlton and Sally were married in a beautiful candlelight evening ceremony at Sally's home in Chicago. This was the beginning of one of the most enduring marriages in all of the table tennis world. As of this writing, sixty-one wonderful and eventful years have passed and they wish that they could have sixty-one years more.

With the passing of time, they were blessed with two sons. The oldest son is Carlton F. Prouty and the younger son is Warren H. Prouty, a.k.a. Murphy. Sally was a stay-at-home mom until their youngest son started kindergarten.

Carlton in 1960





Carlton
Shirley Lund
Mabel Smith
Sally
Murphy - 3 mo
Mr. Smith

A proud Prouty family in 1948

Sally volunteered to be a teacher's helper for the first week of school. That was the starting point that led to a 14-year teaching career that embraced teaching all eight grades plus teaching gym to the boys 3rd to 8th grade at one time.

Sally said: "teaching has been a great part of my life. A great amount of my time has been spent teaching swimming, diving, tennis, bowling, piano and organ on a professional basis. Another fun occupation that I truly enjoyed was playing either piano or organ in small nightclubs."


While Sally was teaching, Carlton was busy with his career in insurance, real estate, building office buildings and creating a sub-division in suburban Chicago. The sub-division consisted of beautiful up-scale homes in a gorgeous location. Sally worked as Carlton's sales secretary. That involved holding "Open House" appointments together. The Prouty team has always been, and still is, a very smooth functioning operation. It is still working very well as of this writing. Then, in the 1970s, Sally was given the opportunity to work for a delightful family with seven lively children. Her new job embraced all of her very favorite activities

– sports, music and tutoring.


When Sally started this endeavor, their youngest child was but a babe in arms and it lasted until the children outgrew her many years later. Along the way, she experienced many challenges and she is so grateful for the warm friendships and life-long memories that this encounter has afforded her.

In the late 1970s, Carlton, Sally and the children became typical "snowbirds". Three months in Florida became six months in Florida after a few years. The long drive, the dislike of cold weather and the lure of warm, ice-free winters made the decision to leave the children and grandchildren a bit easier. It took them a couple of years to decide to leave Illinois.

After they finally made the difficult break, their lives became filled with swimming, golf and making new friends. Ft. Myers, Florida became their choice of residence due to the fact that Sally's high school classmate and dear friend lived in that City. With the move accomplished, another phase of their lives began.




HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY!




Someone we know is turning 80.
Her name is Sally and she's quite a lady.
With a ping pong paddle in her hand,
She beat the best players in the land.

Along came someone extraordinary.
Mr. Wonderful she would marry.
Two lucky boys then did appear -
C.F. and Murphy, sons so dear.




Off to St. Joe's school she went.
A teaching career was time well spent.
She made kindergarten so much fun
That Chris would marry the teacher's son.




Carrie, Carl, Casey and Cait
Were the first grandchildren – it was fate.
Their Grandma Prouty is the best
In the north, south, east and west.

Piano and organ she likes to play.
She could tickle the ivories night and day.
Her needlepoint is beyond compare.
One person so talented – it's just not fair!



To Grandma and Mom we want to say
We hope this is a special day.
We send you 80 hugs and kisses
And lots of happy birthday wishes!



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LOVE, ALL OF US PROUTYS

Sally is grateful for this beautiful tribute by her lovely and talented daughter-in-law Christine Marie Prouty.

Sally's Petit Point



Life's Dinner Menu is Served . . .

. . . . At A Table For Two

hors d'oeuvres

I was born in St. Louis, Missouri on December 23, 1922. My first major challenge in life was to survive a life-threatening surgery to correct an abdominal condition at the age of 6 weeks. At age 3, I began playing piano by ear and have played it all my life. Starting at age 6, I entertained at family house parties and sing-alongs. At age 4, I started swimming, dancing and elocution classes. As a pre-

teen, I swam for the Riviera Club in Indianapolis and trained as a swimmer and diver for the purpose of participating in the Olympic Games. Our team coach was an influential and inspirational man named Bud Sawin who eventually became an Olympic swimming coach. At age 11, a diving accident ended my Olympic dreams. After 1 year I was able to swim but was never again able to compete.

entrée

In 1933, at the end of my 11th year, I started to play table tennis. At first, my reason for taking up the game was to improve my coordination and reflexes. My father, Fred, took on the responsibility of helping me to recover. My desire to greatly improve and to compete in the sport of table tennis became evident to me and others in a very short time.

Having an innate drive for perfection, I was self-driven to excel to the best of my ability. This trait can be both a blessing and a curse. It promotes both endless frustration on the one hand and the heights of exhilaration on the other. Even in my octogenarian years, this urge has never abated.

Après le dîner

Which part of a meal is the best? There are some that would say “dessert”. . . and I would certainly agree!

In 2001, while playing the piano in the unbelievably beautiful atrium of our local Health Park Medical Center, a lovely lady came over to me and asked me to call her in the morning. When I called she asked me to provide piano entertainment for the residents of an assisted living home. As a result, another

fantastic phase of my life began.

In a very short period of time, a new career began for me – an 80+ year old, almost-to-be great grandmother!

At the time of this writing, Carlton and I have formed yet another of our working partnerships. Like all of those in the past, this one has also been a great success.

Après le dîner (cont.)

I play the piano and, because of the extensive repertoire I've developed over the years, I'm able to play many of the songs requested by our audiences – thereby bringing back to them the beautiful memories they love to recall. By playing these requests, I also have the assurance that I'm playing the music my audience wants to hear.

As I said, this business is a partnership. And my partner is neither passive nor silent! He is a dancer and the ladies love him! Many of the folks in our audience are in wheel chairs and not all of them are able to get up and dance. Well, my dancer takes good care of that! He takes the ladies by both hands and they sway in time to the music. The rest of the audience claps in time to the music. “Mr. Wonderful” is what everyone calls Carlton, my partner. People

often ask me what his real name happens to be! Aside from dancing, this great partner carries all of my music and does all of the driving. What a guy at 94 years young!

This “Dessert” phase has turned out to be the most rewarding phase of my public life. To hear my audiences sing, to see them smile and be happy makes each day special.

As a fellow traveler on the senior side of the coin, it is such a great privilege to be involved in this kind of work. If you have a talent, share it with others! It is practically a sin not to share it. Giving of yourself is the most important part of life. It is extremely heartwarming to be able to make other people happy.

Après le dîner (cont.)

My goal, even before I was a teen-ager, was to become a United States Table Tennis Champion. I won the title in 1940 at age 17 and continued to defend it for the next four years. Rather than retire after winning the title for five consecutive years, I only relinquished it by being defeated in 1945. I did not easily hand this great honor to anyone else. They had to earn it! When that time came, and the new champion was crowned, she received my heartfelt congratulations for a job well done!

As I reflect on my career in many fields, I recall the tedious hours of practice and youthful impatience, the anxiety of competition

and periods of frustration and disappointment. By being able to overcome these obstacles, I reached most of the goals I set for myself. No one gets to the top alone! I'm so thankful to those whose dedication to me helped me to the top. I could not have done it without them!

Although my father Fred is now gone, I still hear the same encouraging voice today that I heard, and heeded, since childhood. That voice of love and support has been there for me through all of the many crisis in my life. And what does dad's voice tell me? "Sally, it is better to be a 'has been' than a 'never was.'"

Sally Green Prouty

**Sally Green Prouty
Career Highlights (1936-1956)**

| Date | Location | Women's Singles | Women's Doubles | Mixed Doubles |
|--|--------------------------|---|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| February 6-7, 1936 Northern Indiana Open | Huntingdon, Indiana | | | Sally Green/Jerry Jacobs |
| December 19- 20, 1936 Indiana State Championships | Kokomo, Indiana | Sally Green (def Betty Henry) | | |
| February 6-7, 1937 Northern Indiana Open | Huntingdon, Indiana | Sally Green (def Mary Mason) | | |
| February 13- 14, 1937 Missouri Valley Open | Kansas City, Missouri | Sally Green (def W.L. (Helen) Van Dusen) | | |
| March 20-21, 1937 Lake Cities Open | Toledo, OH | Sally Green (def Betty Henry) | | |
| February 5-6, 1938 Ohio Open | Columbus, OH | Sally Green (def Jean Everling) | | Sally Green/Garrett Nash |
| February 12- 13, 1938 Central States Open | Huntingdon, IN | Sally Green (def Helen Ovendon) | | |
| February 19- 20, 1938 Central States | Evanston, IL | Sally Green (def Helen Ovendon) | | |

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|---|------------------|---|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| March 12-13, 1938 Lake Cities Open | Toledo, OH | Sally Green (def Betty Henry) | | |
| March, 1938 Wilkinson Cup | | Winner, Sally Green | | |
| March 22-24, 1938, (USTTA Nationals) | Philadelphia, PA | Emily Fuller (def Sally Green in quarters) | | |
| October 22-23, 1938 (Miami Valley Open) | Hamilton, OH | Sally Green (def Norma Hieronymus) | | |
| November 26-27, 1938 (Southern Open) | Louisville, KY | Sally Green | | Sally Green/Roger Downs |
| December 3-4, 1938 (Indiana Open) | Indianapolis, IN | Sally Green (def Mildred Wilkinson) | | Sally Green/Roger Downs |
| February 11, 1939 (Indiana Central States Open) | Indianapolis, IN | Sally Green (def Betty Henry) | | |
| March 24-26, 1939 (USTTA Nationals) | Toledo, OH | Emily Fuller (def Sally Green in final) | Sally Green/Mildred Wilkinson | |
| October 7, 1939 (Miami Valley Open) | Hamilton, OH | Sally Green (def Norma Hieronymus Studer) | | |
| October 21, 1939 (Indiana Central States Open) | Indianapolis, IN | Sally Green (def Norma Hieronymus Studer) | | |

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|---|------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| January 13, 1940 (Tri-State Open) | Burlington, IN | Sally Green (def Helen Baldwin) | | |
| April 5-7, 1940 (USTTA Nationals) | Indianapolis, IN | Sally Green (def Ruth Brewer) | Sally Green/Mildred Wilkinson | |
| April 2-5, 1941 (U.S. Open) | New York City | Sally Green (def Helen Germaine) | | |
| April 10-12, 1942 (U.S. Open) | Detroit, MI | Sally Green (def Mae Clouther) | | |
| February 6-7, 1943 (Western Open) | Toledo, Ohio | Sally Green (def Leah Thall) | | |
| March 31-April 2, 1943 (U.S. Open) | St. Louis, MO | Sally Green (def Mae Clouther) | Leah Thall/Mae Clouther | Leah Thall/Bill Holtzrichter |
| March 31-April 2, 1944 (U.S. Open) | St. Louis, MO | Sally Green (def Leah Thal) | | Sally Green/Les Lowry |
| February 24-25, 1945 (Western Open) | Chicago, IL | Sally Green (def Leah Thal) | Millie Shipman/Sally Green | |
| April 13-15, 1945 (U.S. Nationals) | Detroit, MI | | Millie Shipman/Sally Green | |
| October 6-7, 1945 (Chicago Membership Tournament) | Chicago, IL | | | Sally Green/Berne Abelew |

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|--|----------------------|--|--|-------------------------------------|
| November, 1945 (Chicago District Open) | Chicago, IL | Sally Green (def Mayo Barrett) | | |
| April 2-4, 1948 (U.S. Open) | Columbus, OH | | | Sally Green Prouty/ Sol Schiff |
| April 1-4 1949 (U.S. Open) | New York City | | | Sally Green Prouty/ Sol Schiff |
| March 31-April 2, 1950 (U.S. Open) | St. Louis, MO | | | Sally Green Prouty/ Johnny Leach |
| March 19-21, 1954 (U.S. Open) | Cleveland, OH | Mildred Shahian (def Sally Green Prouty) | | Sally Green Prouty/ Sol Schiff |
| February 19-20, 1956 (Western Open) | Milwaukee, Wisconsin | Mildred Shahian (def Sally Green Prouty) | | |



**Co-author Dean Johnson
and Sally, December 2008.**