

The South Bend Table Tennis Express: *is Celebrating...*

Vol. X December 31, 2010



Welcome to the voice of the past, present and future of the South Bend Table Tennis Club. Happy Holidays to all. To follow is some sad news concerning club member Forest Milbourn, an article written by one of South Bend's former Junior National Champion's, Gordan Barclay, and a little of this and that from the club. The E-mal list has expanded for this issue. Please let me know if you wish to be taken off this list. A quick reminder, that Thursday night league, at Stanley Clark starts play at 6:45pm and you must register by 6:30. Weekly results are promptly posted to the club's website by long time Webmaster Arnold Smith. Come and join in the fun, you won't be alone for normally at least 40 players participate. Comments are always welcome...

BREAKING NEWS:

THE 47TH ST. JOE VALLEY OPEN

Will be moving back to Indiana University at South Bend. Tournament date is March 12-13, 2011.

Mark your calendar. Don't miss this one !!!

Attention:

**INTERESTED IN SEEING YOUR NAME
OR BUSINESS AS LEAD SPONSOR OF
THE ST. JOSEPH VALLEY OPEN ?**

47th John Smith – St. Joseph Valley Open

47th General Motors – St. Joseph Valley Open

Maybe a Memorial or Tribute to a friend..

E-MAIL ME FOR DETAILS. WE ARE A 501-3-C ORGANIZATION

Sad news to report, longtime South Bend Club member Forest Milbourn passed away Nov. 30, 2010, at the age of 72. I met Forest, and his good friend Bill Maxwell, for the first time in the late 70's, in Grand Rapids, Michigan. This was to be my first attended USTTA tournament. I was sitting and waiting for my next match, when an older gentleman sitting next to me asked, "where you from?" Upon explaining I was from Mishawaka Indiana, Bill started to fill me in about the history of table tennis in South Bend. (Mishawaka and South Bend are connecting cities) Bill, at the time was a paramedic, and was attending this event solely to provide his skills in administering pain relief to Forest in combating a 20 year absence from our sport. He told me of all the National Champions South Bend produced at the old YMCA club, including Forest. (nick named "Butch" too many of his friends) As the day progressed, myself, along with Dan Rush and Jason Denman learned about the tradition and excellence of that John Varga coached and dominated South Bend YMCA Table Tennis Club. Forest, as we found out, was a detective on the South Bend Police Dept. (eventually retiring after 42 years). Many of those years were dedicated to being, an undercover narcotics operative. These assignments provided all of us with many hours of intriguing adventure stories regarding the undercover world.

Butch helped revive the South Bend table tennis scene, by providing access to local facilities, including the FOP, Newman Ctr., and Clay Middle School. He eventually became Midwest tournament director for the USTTA and proceeded to attend many events in a six state area. On one particular adventure, to the Indiana State Championships, Forest was playing with his longtime companion, Hock blade, in one of the rating events. He had a habit of, when becoming off balanced from a reaching forehand shot, and his opponent quick counter drive to his backhand side, that ever present Hock blade would appear to attempt a behind the back return swat. I witnessed this unsuccessful action many times over the years, but on this particular occasion it connected with positive results. His shocked opponent weakly returned the unbelievable counter stab, that Forest then proceeded to hammer for a forehand winner. This was the most incredible shot sequence I had, and probably will ever witness. Forest looked at me and winked, almost saying that there was a time, back at that "old club" when this was how it was done. I'm sure Varga was smiling with approval. The Sample Street Business Complex eventually would house the South Bend Club and Forest coincidentally had his private detective business officed there. Security was always provided when Forest was around. On one particular day a rather shady individual was causing havoc in the area and he ventured into the complex looking for trouble. "Lex Luther" eventually found himself pinned against a wall with a 38 upside his head with a direction of "don't move." Needless to say he ended up at the county jail for an extended visit Always the adventure when Forest was around.

Forest was born on June 28, 1938, in Mishawaka, IN. to Forest E. and Louella B. Milbourn. On July 13, 1963, in South Bend, he married the former Susan L. Scott. He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Susan L. Milbourn of South Bend, IN; daughter, Cindy S. Marino of South Bend and five grand children. His son Scott C. Milbourn, preceded him in death on June 24, 2009. Forest graduated from Riley High School and the Police Academy.

Forest put a lot of effort into our club, especially in the early years. He was a constant at the St. Joe Valley Open's and was always ready to umpire a match or settle any conflicts that came about. We all lost a good friend. Rest well Butch, we will miss you.....



Forest (upper left) with Jason, Dan & Brad at exhibition in the old downtown mall. Top middle is famous gymnast Kurt Thomas, former Olympian...

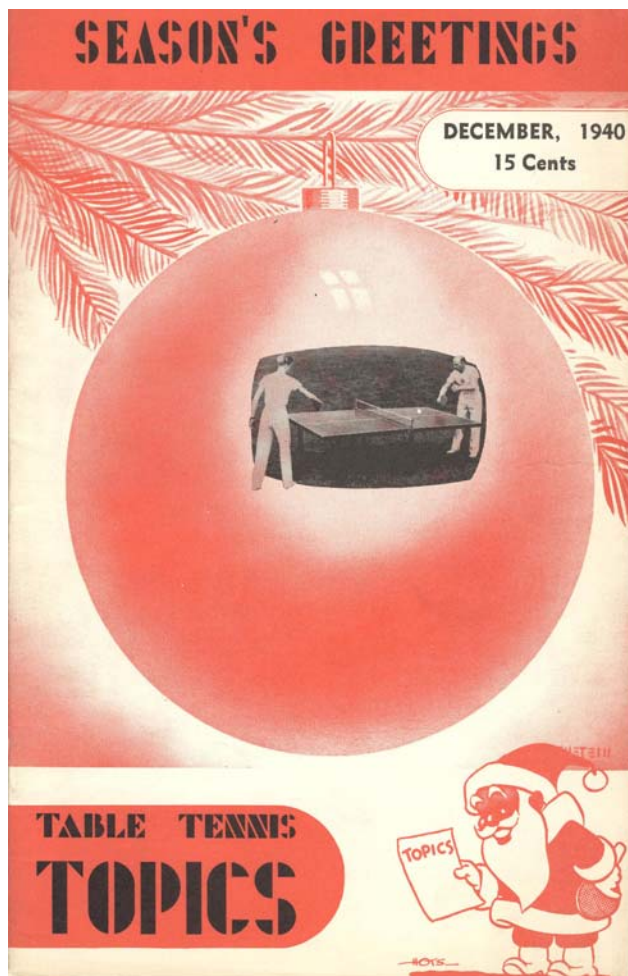


From R-L, Forest, Bill Early (former South Bend National Champion) and club coach/artist Paul George. Having a laugh at team league at the new YMCA on Riverside 94'



Forest and Liz Hornyak (wife of club founder Bill) Captured at the Sample St Club in front of Bill and Liz's wall portrait. (painted by Paul George)

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Holiday greetings from 1940 Table Tennis Topics

Club Results *The 7th South Shore Sports Open: Nov. 13-14, 2010*

This year's event pulled in 243 entrants, which was the most we've ever had. The Nate Wasserman Junior Championships had over 40 participants including many of the top players in the country. Hopefully this surge in attendance will carry over to the St. Joe Valley. To follow are this years results....

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| <u>Open:</u> F. Yamazoto def. S. Dubina 4-3 | <u>Open Dbls:</u> P. Rocha/Yamazoto def. Seemiller/Cochran |
| <u>Hardbat:</u> Y. Dookram def. D. Seemiller Jr. | <u>Over-40</u> Jeff. Xaio def. Ralph Bockoven 3-0 |
| <u>O-50</u> Francisco Mendez def. Byung Bae 3-0 | <u>U-2450</u> Joe Cochran def. Cory Eider 3-1 |
| <u>U-2300</u> Justin Nguyen def. Grant Li 3-1 | <u>U-2200</u> Jeff Xiao def. Olawole Ayangade 3-1 |
| <u>U-2100</u> Andrew Louvier def. Jason Miller 3-0 | <u>U-2000</u> Yong Xue def. Jeff Hildebrand |
| <u>U-1875</u> Ken Oh def. Scott Harris 3-2 | <u>U-1750</u> Jacek Wisniewski def. Joe McGrath 3-2 |
| <u>U-1500</u> David Lee def. Mark Hoffman 3-0 | <u>U-1350</u> Ronald Cassidy def. Benjamin Kubesh 3-2 |
| <u>U-1200</u> Benjamin Modic def. Leo Vargas 3-0 | <u>U-1000</u> Sung Kim def. Robert Gragg 3-0 |
| <u>U-800</u> Michael Fallon def. Darren Chang 3-0 | |

Nate Wasserman Championships

U-18 Boys Yahao Zhang def. Grant Li 3-1

U-18 Girls Ariel Hsing def. Danielle Mitroi 3-0

U-15 Boys Justin Nguyen def. Nathan Hsu 3-1

U-15 Girls Ariel Hsing def. Sonjay Henry 3-0

U-13 Boys Calvin Chan def. Brian Gao 3-2

U-13 Girls Danielle Mitroi def. Sonjay Henry 3-1

***This** newsletter is a relatively new venture for the club. Our E list is old and will be an ongoing construction project. If you know of anyone who would be interested in being added to the E list let me know. The South Bend TTC has been around a very long time and hopefully will continue to flourish for many years to come...*

Communication is the key to club growth. This newsletter will inform you as to the club's happenings and hopefully create some interest in our future. If you have comments, old club memories or interesting table tennis stories you wish to share, please forward them on to me. Thank you for your interest.

***Yours for the Game;**
South Bend Table Tennis Club*