



Jean Pepper

(1903 - ?)

Dominant Amateur on Local and State Scene

Between 1934 and 1942 there was no one in the local women's game to compare to **Jean Pepper**. She dominated the Kansas City Women's Match Play Championship winning in 1934, '36 and '37, then winning three in-a-row from 1939 -'41.



She was twice runner-up during those years, losing to Kansas City Golf Hall of Famers Opal Hill (4&2) in 1938 and Marian Gault (2&1) in 1942. Pepper had defeated Gault in the previous year's final match by a margin of 7&5.

In four of her championship runs, the final match became a battle of medalist vs. the number two seed to decide the title.

Her 1939 championship contested at the old Blue Hills Country Club was decided by the unheard of margin of 13 & 12 over Mrs. L. M. Jacobsen.

Ms. Pepper, the spouse of the golf course superintendent at Oakwood, went on a run at the Missouri Women's Amateur as well, earning medalist honors in 1939 and '40 on her way to three consecutive championships from '39 to '41. In the 1939 championship at Norwood Hills in St. Louis, her qualifying score of 74 set tournament and course records at the time. The margins in her championship finals were 9&7, 5&4 and 3&2 respectively. Her career match play record was a stunning 22 wins and 3 losses.

To say Mrs. Pepper was a dominant force, particularly in match play, is an understatement. In the years before World War II and into the war years, she was virtually untouchable.