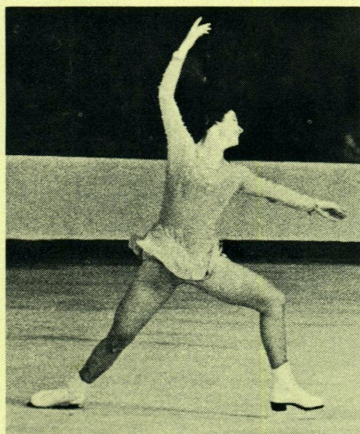


The Time: January 26-29, 1966

The Place: St. Moritz ISC, Berkeley, California

In The Balance: U. S. Championship Titles and Places on the World Team

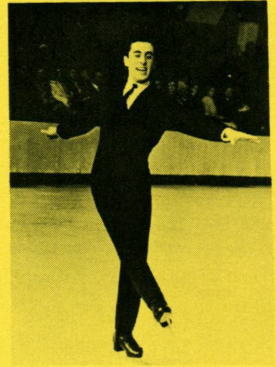


L to R, top to bottom — Albertina Noyes; Lescinski & Rodenbaugh; Peggy Fleming (Howard Erker, *Oakland Tribune*, photo). Opposite page: Atov Wilson; Wagelein & Berens; Gary Visconti; Fortune & Sveum; Billy Chapel. SKATING's official photographer: William Udel.

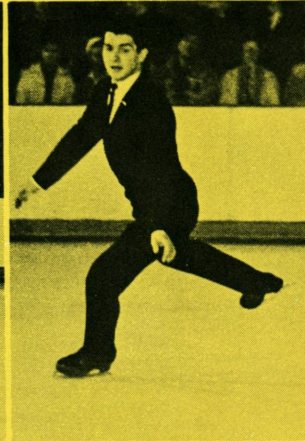
IN BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA USA

BY ANN UDELL





The 1964 and '65 United States Ladies Champion and World Bronze Medalist Peggy Fleming was to defend her title. Lorna Dyer and John Carrell, the 1965 North American Dance Champions and World Bronze Medalists, were making a bid for the U.S. Dance title to be defended by Kristin Fortune and Dennis Sveum. With the retirement of the Josephs, the Senior Pair title was open for favorites Cynthia and Ronald Kauffman, challenged by the 1965 Junior Pair Champions Page Paulsen and Larry Dusich. The duel for the Men's title was to continue, with World Silver Medalist Scott Allen attempting to recapture his crown from U. S. and North American Champion Gary Visconti.



The ice was ready — the officials and judges took their places — the skaters waited — the drama began. . . .

SCOTT ALLEN took an early lead on the Senior Men's figures with three first places. His moment of truth came, and he was ready. He skated with great confidence and brought off all his doubles, a triple salchow and triple loop, reverse spread eagles, and retained his pace to the end. GARY VISCONTI had a fall at the beginning of his program, but skated with such *joie de vivre* that, even though he omitted his triples and some of his doubles, the overall performance was quite exciting, and he received very high marks for free style. TIM WOOD's Russian splits were as high as ever, but he had three falls and was unable to hold his third place in figures over BILL CHAPEL, who received the ovation of the evening. Billy fell on one of his double axels but skated with great showmanship and flash, performing original moves, variation on the mazurka and a double flying camel. Billy moved into third place, with Gary Visconti second and Scott Allen regaining the title he held in 1964.

Defending Senior Ladies Champion PEGGY FLEMING won every figure and received five ordinals. It was a personal victory for her to win the paragraph loop. She skated with assurance and control and received very high marks for the paragraph bracket. Peggy Fleming is a true champion. Her flawless program was performed with deceptive ease and grace. She executed a spread eagle/double axel/spread eagle; double axel to double salchow to jump sitspin; and the best layback spin in the competition. Her musicality and technical skill are unsurpassed. She received unanimous first place and remains United States Ladies Champion.

SHARON BATES, the 1965 Junior Ladies Champion, free skated exceptionally well with strength and control. Her double jumps were clean and high, pulling her up to fourth place and World Team alternate. PAMELA SCHNEIDER projects well; she skated with vitality and retained her third place after figures. TINA NOYES did the unusual combinations of double axel/double loop; one-foot axel/one-foot double salchow/double salchow; axels in both directions; and a unique variation on the Bauer spread eagle. She skated with power, speed and good form, and to say her program was "athletic" is not to imply she lacked grace. She finished a unanimous second.

The Senior Pair compulsory programs were an indication of things to come.

In free style, the performance of PAGE PAULSEN & LARRY DUSICH displayed their well-developed sense of rhythm and timing, especially in the *Swan Lake* ballet portion, and full extension on their lifts. SUSAN BERENS & ROY WAGELEIN skated with exuberance and performed some exciting twist lifts. The superiority of CYNTHIA & RONALD KAUFFMAN was decisively demonstrated. These two presented free and athletic movement without sacrificing unison and control, grace and beauty without sacrificing strength and speed. During the beautiful "mirror" sequence, the audience was absolutely silent, breaking into applause and cheers at the thrilling split-double-twist to the knee.

The supremacy of the defending Dance Champions KRISTIN FORTUNE & DENNIS SVEUM was demonstrated from the first dance of the initial round. They were a unanimous first, followed by LORNA DYER & JOHN CARRELL. The large field of twelve couples narrowed to eight for the Free Dance final round. SANDRA SCHWOMEYER & JIM PENNINGTON presented a well-skated program, finishing fourth and World Team alternates. SUSAN & STANLEY URBAN's free dance solidified the third place they earned in the compulsory dances. Dyer & Carrell skated with great vitality, unison and rhythm to four tempos. Fortune & Sveum also utilized four tempos — waltz, blues, foxtrot and polka. They combined perfect accord and technique with grace and elegance to retain their Dance Championship title.

Junior Men's figures gave John Misha Petkevich a slim lead. Young GORDON MCKELLEN's program was very exciting with axels in both directions, delayed axel and Russian split flip. In an exceptionally smooth, fast performance, JOHNNY MOORE included a combination single loop/one-and-a-half loop/double loop. BARRY MUNN's good style and jumps did not help him retain his third place in figures, and the dynamic, well-interpreted program of JAMES DISBROW placed him second over PATRICK LALOR, who did not step into all his double jumps and seemed to lack style. The triumph went to JOHN PETKEVICH, whose thrilling program and engaging manner received an ovation. His is the rare quality of establishing an instant rapport with the audience. John recovered quickly from a fall early in his program to perform all the double jumps, Russian split flip, variations on the axel, and an original jump which he calls a

"Bourkey," a variation of the stag jump. Five first places for free style brought him the Junior Men's Championship.

Only one ordinal separated first place Junior Lady GAIL NEWBERRY from second place JANET LYNN after figures. The 1965 Novice Ladies Champion JULIE HOLMES was in eighth place after figures, but pulled up to fifth in a sparkling free skating program. ARDITH PAUL's performance contained some dramatic, well-interpreted moves, but she missed her double lutz and was not strong enough to hold her place against the jet-powered WENDY JONES, who moved into third with a program full of fast jumps and even faster spins. Gail Newberry fell twice on double axels and finished second with tiny, twelve-year-old Janet Lynn becoming Junior Ladies Champion. Janet performed all her jumps well, including axels in both directions, triple loop, triple salchow, good spins and an exquisite ballet sequence skated with a feeling and maturity that belied her years.

The Junior Pair third place team of JoJo STARBUCK & KENNETH SHELLEY skated with zip and had a new spread eagle/lift/spread eagle move as well as a difficult sequence of back loops performed individually. Second place went to SANDI SWEITZER & JERRY ENTWISTLE, who had good height on their lifts, soft landings and beautiful form. The new Junior Pair Champions BETTY LEWIS & RICHARD GILBERT skated an effortless program with fine unison and precision, including variations on the camel spin and controlled lifts.

The Silver Dance initial round put DOLLY RODENBAUGH & TOM LESCINSKI in first place. They have a flowing, lilt-ing, soft style with good lean and are very well matched. The American waltzes were danced with lack of expression. The tangos were skated without the proper hip-to-hip position, except for the teams of Rodenbaugh & Lescinski and JEAN BOMBERG & MONROE MEIER. The final placements were unchanged and Dolly Rodenbaugh and Tom Lescinski became the new Silver Dance Champions.

The Novice Men's free skating was disappointing with most performances marred by falls, lack of control and poor form. ATOY WILSON's unfortunate fall on the flying sitspin at the beginning of his program prevented him from skating his best, but he won the title with a program which included a good double loop/double loop and delayed axel. TORREY SUN's exciting program of fast, light footwork into jumps done with great style earned him

the highest free skating marks. Although he opened strongly, KENNETH SHELLEY missed his double lutz and seemed to lose pace. However, he recovered for a successful flying sitspin finale, placing him second over DOUG BERNDT, whose program was carefully skated despite a fall.

Novice Ladies figures put CAROL NEWBERRY in a slight lead with only one first place mark over DAWN GLAB and SHARON DAVISSON. LISE GANTZ skated a well-paced program, missing her double lutz, but completing an axel to spin combination of camel/sit/camel, and an excellent lay-back. Although CHRISTY ITO's jumps were not landed cleanly, her musical interpretation was delightful. Sharon Davison executed some difficult combinations: two single loops to double loop, and three walleys to axel. However, third place went to PATTY GRAZIER, who skated through intricate footwork with real speed but fell on two of her double jumps. Carol Newberry, trying to hold her figure lead, omitted some of her difficult moves, and the victory went to twelve-year-old Dawn Glab, who skated confidently. Her spin combination of camel/jump-sit/lay-back and her layback, holding the free foot to the head, were unusual.

The applause and the tracings fade, but not to be forgotten is the classic beauty of Peggy Fleming, the charm of Gary Visconti and the magic moments when the audience skated with the Kauffmans.

RESULTS

BEDELL H. HARNED TROPHY	
For Club Winning Most Points	
Arctic Blades FSC	34
The SC of New York	32
Broadmoor SC	30
Los Angeles FSC	29½
The SC of Boston	26
Detroit SC	24
Great Falls FSC	15
Wagon Wheel FSC	15
Pittsburgh FSC	13
Denver FSC	12
Seattle SC	12
Troy FSC	12
The WC of Indianapolis	10
Buffalo SC	9
Hershey FSC	9
Philadelphia SC & HS	9
Pickwick Center FSC	8
St. Moritz ISC	8
Walnut Creek WC	6
Blade & Edge Club	4½
City of Lakes FSC	4
Essex SC of New Jersey	4
Louisville FSC	4
Genesee FSC	3