



dance

After placing second for four years, Ann and Skip Millier were expected to win the Dance Championship at last. But this time Colleen O'Connor and Jim Millns, recent transfers to Colorado Springs, jumped from last year's fourth place to take the title, leaving the Milliers second for a fifth consecutive year. An interesting contrast of free dances, not only between these two couples but also including Bronze medalists Michelle Ford and Glenn Patterson, led to much discussion of the basic dance elements.

Colleen and Jim established command in the compulsory dances and increased

their lead in the Original Set-Pattern Tango. Meanwhile, a tight contest for third place was developing between Ford and Patterson and last year's third-placers, Jane Pankey and Richard Horne. Michelle and Glenn moved ahead, however, with their mood-setting Tango.

In Saturday night's finals, the last competition on the slate, Michelle and Glenn did more to increase the popularity of dance than any other couple in recent years. Their—or rather, her—sensuous and sexy interpretation of “Mood Indigo” turned a lot of heads, raised a lot of eyebrows and opened a lot of mouths. Even

parents started looking for dance lessons after that. Then, in complete contrast, their music changed to the cornpone rhythm of "Turkey in the Straw," and Glenn took the spotlight with a deep, back knee bend, much favored by ice show comedians. The judges rated them second in the free dance.

Colleen and Jim took the ice just before the Milliers. Their flow and deep edges were classic, clearly showing the influence of their coaches—former World champions all—Diane Towler and Bernard Ford in England and Doreen Denny MacSalka in Colorado Springs. A highlight of their performance was the final section to "Charicka," a Czechoslovakian folk dance. With a solid job in a full range of rhythms, they gained the championship.

Expressing different moods in free dance: champions Colleen O'Connor & Jim Millns (opposite page) and Bronze medalists Michelle Ford & Glenn Patterson (below). Photos: David Leonardi.

Then the Milliers came out to present a free dance that had triggered much discussion during practice sessions. Choreographed to music by Neil Diamond, Ann and Skip's program marked a departure from the traditional dance style. Their elegant, balletic beginning, which drew all eyes to Ann, was very moving. They achieved long lines and had superb moves, but many spectators asked, "Is this dancing?" Such marvelously athletic moves as a side spiral and back splits down the ice gave their program an aura of exhibition free dancing verging on pair skating. Apparently, the judges reached this conclusion, too, because they ranked Ann and Skip fourth in the free dance, giving them second place overall.

In Silver Dance, Jennifer and David Young, the runners-up last year, were never challenged for the title. Their Original Set-Pattern performance in the final round showed a mastery of the deep edges and soft knee action characteristic of the required foxtrot rhythm.





DANCE CHAMPIONSHIP

JUDGES: A—Dr. Gordon Brown, Ann Arbor, Mich.; B—Mrs. Dora May Coy, Lakebay, Wash.; C—Mrs. Nancy Meiss, Cincinnati, Ohio; D—Jerome Ross, New York, N.Y.; E—Mrs. Edith Shoemaker, San Francisco, Calif.; F—Ritter Shumway, Rochester, N.Y.; G—Mrs. Ida Tateoka, Riverton, Utah. REFEREE: Benjamin Wright, Belmont, Mass. COMPULSORY DANCES: Group III—Argentine Tango, Starlight Waltz, Rhumba, Original Set-Pattern.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	M
1. (1) (1) Colleen O'Connor & Jim Millns, City of Colorado Springs, Colo.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7/1
2. (2) (4) Ann & Skip Millier, Philadelphia SC & HS	2	3	3	2	3	4	2	6/3 TO 19
3. (3) (2) Michelle Ford, SC of Phoenix, & Glenn Patterson, Arctic Blades FSC	3	2	2	3	2	5	3	6/3 TO 20
4. (4) (5) Jane Pankey & Richard Horne, SC of Wilmington	4	4	4	5	4	3	5	5/4
5. (5) (3) Judi Genovesi, SC of Hartford, & Kent Weigle, Charter Oak FSC	5	5	5	4	5	2	4	7/5
6. (6) (7) Susan Kelley & Andrew Stroukoff, SC of Boston	6	7	6	6	7	6	7	4/6
7. (7) (6) Karen Raile, Portland ISC, & Curt Finley, Glacier Falls FSC	7	6	7	7	6	7	6	7/7
8. (8) (8) Christine Linney, SC of New York, & Bruce Bowland, SC of Wilmington	9	8	8	8	8	8	9	5/8
9. (9) (9) Liz Blatherwick, Genesee FSC, & Robert Kaine, ISC of Indianapolis	8	9	9	9	10	10	10	4/9
10. (10) (10) Myra & David Chrien, Cleveland SC	11	10	10	10	9	9	8	6/10
11. (11) (11) Kathy Russell, All Year FSC, & Paul Steiner, Denver FSC	10	11	11	11	11	11	11	7/11

SILVER DANCE

JUDGES: A—Dr. Gordon Brown, Ann Arbor, Mich.; B—Mrs. Dora May Coy, Lakebay, Wash.; C—Jerome Ross, New York, N.Y.; D—Mrs. Edith Shoemaker, San Francisco, Calif.; E—Ritter Shumway, Rochester, N.Y. REFEREE: Benjamin Wright, Belmont, Mass. COMPULSORY DANCES: Group I—American Waltz, Foxtrot, Tango, Paso Doble.

	A	B	C	D	E	M
1. (1) (1) Jennifer & David Young, SC of Hartford	1	1	1	1	1	5/1
2. (2) (2) Deborah Mansfield & Fred Maynard, Charter Oak FSC	8	2	2	2	2	4/2
3. (3) (3) Carolyn Fortuna & Robert Mock, Ice & Blades Club of Washington	2	3	3	3	3	5/3
4. (5) (4) JoAnn Schneider, Arctic Blades FSC, & Richard Griffin, Denver FSC	3	6	5	4	7	3/5 TOM 12
5. (6) (5) Peggy Sten, Bowling Green SC, & Chris Kearney, Ice & Blades of Washington	5	4	6	7	4	3/5 TO 26
6. (4) (7) Candy Anderson, SC of Wilmington, & Ronald Radke, Chicago FSC	4	7	4	8	5	3/5 TO 28
7. (7) (6) Heidi Broback & Jene Rene Basle, Lakewood WC	6	5	9	5	6	4/6
8. (8) (8) Vicki Scheurn, Los Angeles FSC, & Roger Fortin, Glacier Falls FSC	9	8	8	6	10	3/8 TO 41
9. (9) (9) Helen Zinn & Richard Murphy, City of East Lansing, Mich.	7	10	7	10	8	3/8 TO 42
10. (10) (10) Gail & Stephen Heitert, San Diego FSC	10	9	10	9	9	3/9

Placements in the Dance and Silver Dance Championships are reported as follows: the first number in parentheses records each couple's placement in the compulsory dances (including the Original Set-Pattern Dance required in the senior event); the final number in parentheses records placement in the final round only—Free Dance in the Dance Championship and the Original Set-Pattern Dance in the Silver Dance Championship.

Ann & Skip Millier (opposite page) introduced a new concept of free dancing. Their innovations were applauded from the spectators' viewpoint but raised many questions as to their applicability in competition. (Right) The Silver Dance champions—Jennifer & David Young. Photos: David Leonardi.

