

Six men and five women constituted a United States team which worked as a squad. They were to ski as individuals but were representatives of the United States. Training was conducted in the United States but the "1965 missed Americans" did compete in the traditional European races early in 1966. Immediately after the Vail Christmas camp, on January 1, 1966, they left for three weeks of competition in Germany and other Alpine countries. The European trip reflected the value of the training program. It reaffirmed the necessity for getting stronger and tougher. The year of isolation from the more aggressive Europeans tended to hold back the inexperienced youth when they were faced with hard competitive spirit. Progress was evident and the skier's pride in self and the nation was undeniable. Sandy Shellworth finished third in the Grindelwald Giant Slalom, only to break her leg while taking a casual run after the race. She had also had a 23rd in the Downhill at Grindelwald and a 22nd in the Giant Slalom at Oberstaufen. Wendy Allen had a 4th, 7th, and an 11th in three slalom races that she entered. Lee Hall also added to the hopes that the squad would gain depth, with a 14th in the Slalom and a 30th in the Downhill at Badgastein, as well as, a 19th and 20th in the Slalom and Downhill at Grindelwald. Cathy Allen placed 22 in the Slalom at Oberstaufen. Robin Morning took 15th in the Giant Slalom at Grindelwald and 29th in the Downhill at Badgastein.

In the states, the more familiar names showed up at the top of the race result sheets and the number of entries increased. Jean Saubert, Karen Korfanta, Suzanne Chaffee, Joan Hannah, and Penny McCoy had kept busy. Jean Saubert elected to stay at home and continue graduate studies at the University of Utah. She had, however, drawn the best placing for Americans in the 1966 International Ski Federation seeding lists which were based on her performance in 1965. With four other racers she was in the first group in the slalom; she was in the sixth group in the giant slalom, and tenth in the downhill.

Divisions, recognizing the prestige factor and the advantages of working together, were to develop similar programs. The United States Eastern Amateur Ski Association initiated an Eastern Team in the 1966-1967 season and a \$50,000 Alpine Program budget, as well as a \$24,908 Nordic Program budget for 1966-1967.

Although not a FIS or Olympic event, the World University Winter Games drew attention. In 1949, Willy Schaeffler, Denver University ski coach, had urged that the United States send a team to this event. It had also been suggested that a far-reaching college program be favored over international racing. In 1966 a small team of men and women did attend; twenty nations and eighty-one men and women were present. The Games were held in Sestriere, Italy in February. Representing the United States' women were Jean Saubert and Karen Korfanta of the University of Utah; five men from the United States participated.

Results of 1966 World University Games

Name	Slalom	Downhill	Giant Slalom
Karen Korfanta	Disq.	5	7
Jean Saubert	Disq.	2	3

Neither of the ladies were eligible for the combined title since they missed gates in the Slalom. Annie Famose, of France, led with two gold medals.

In April and March the United States once again hosted major international events. For the first time, under a special one-year trial, the United States Alpine championships were open to foreign competitors. Therefore, the first stop on the twenty-one day tour was Stowe, Vermont. Next came the American

International Team Races at Sun Valley, Idaho. This was the second time the American International Team Race - A Memorial for Bud Werner - had been run. Scheduled as the only inter-nation team race, men's and women's points were totaled and there was only one winner declared. Three men and three women constituted a team; the remainder of the squads were allowed to post-run. In addition to Austria and France, Canada and Switzerland were invited to participate in the tribute.

1966 American International Team Races

Name	Standing of U. S. Women		
	Downhill	Giant Slalom	Slalom
Wendy Allen	16	5	4
Joan Hannah	7	11	11

Team Standings

Country	Points
France	206
Austria	198
Switzerland	106
Canada	89
United States	85

After the American International Team Races, a special Harriman Cup race was run before the teams moved to Heavenly Valley in California for the newly established High Sierra Cup Race. These races were the last important competitions before the International Ski Federation Championships in Portillo, Chile, August 4-14, 1966.

August seemed like an inopportune time to hold the FIS. The most difficult decision concerned the naming of the team. It was decided to name the squads after the High Sierra Cup Race, April 3, rather than calling in all members of the squad and picking the team during the summer. Another decision was whether to send veterans or the younger members of the National A Squad. The women named represented both.

Cathy Allen, Wendy Allen, Suzanne Chaffee, Joan Hannah, Penny McCoy, and Jean Saubert were selected to represent the United States at the 1966 FIS. All of the young ladies had been coached by Dave McCoy of Mammoth Mountain and United States Ski Team coaches. Jean had also received coaching under Marvin Melville. They ranged in age from sixteen to twenty-six. The average was twenty-one. Jean Saubert, with great ski talent, was expected to be the consistent member of the group but it was recognized that certainty was not evident in women's events. Wendy Allen, recent winner of the Sally Deaver Award for her performance in the United States slalom championships, also presented a fine record in competition.

The "soon expected" year round ski program flourished with summer racing camps in four western ski areas of the United States and one in Canada; two more are definitely planned for 1967. The United States International Ski Federation Team trained following a well organized plan.