

## Sunn-Un Unstoppable at Kaprun

*Vouilloz and Chausson repeat downhill wins for second consecutive week.*

It was a total domination. Close finishing times at Kaprun's Grundig/UCI World Cup were seen only among the runners-up. Once again, the star riders *Nicolas Vouilloz (FRA, Sunn-Un)* and *Anne-Caroline Chausson (FRA, Sunn-Un)* were simply too good for their rivals. This duo, whose race jerseys vary between blue (Sunn- Un), rainbow (World Championship) and orange (points leaders), decided on metallic skinsuits today to cheat the wind and get even further ahead. These wins today virtually seal the World Cup titles for the French riders.

With the exception of the men's fastest qualifier, *Bas DeBever (NED, Be-One)*, today's runs were mostly free of crash and mechanical incident - a marked contrast to last week's troubled event. De Bever made his run last, but as is the pattern for leader Vouilloz, arrived in the finish arena with the race already decided.

## WOMEN

While Chausson's run was polished, her perennial rival, **Missy Giove**, had a couple of near crashes. *"I made mistakes,"* said the disappointed Giove at the finish. *"I almost had to stop at one point after I almost crashed, and I pretty much blew it in the three fireroad turns."* Giove now needs to win the Arai City finals - with Chausson 22nd or worse - to win the World Cup.

Second at Kaprun was *Nolvonn LeCaer (FRA, GT)*, parlaying a strong ride last week. *"The top was so slow,"* recalled LeCaer, and added: *"I'm very happy with today because there was a lot of pedalling."* LeCaer, who is viewed as a technique rather than a strength rider, is now ranked third overall.

Chausson was visibly pleased to have one more race behind her, one more win under her belt as she moves closer to the goal that has eluded her for so long. *"I had a very good run with no big mistakes,"* she said. *"I didn't go too fast on the top to conserve power, because at the bottom it's more technical."*

Asked why she is so dominant this season, she said *"Compared to last year I race with more power, and in my head I am very strong right now."* In this state of mind it is hard to see her losing a race anywhere before the season's end.

## MEN

Nicolas Vouilloz doesn't like to qualify in the top spot, and last week sat before the finish line for several seconds during qualifying before rolling across the timing lights. He again rode the last section of Kaprun's course slowly, evidenced by his slow pace captured by the Swatch speed trap near the finish.

The finals were a very different story. It was pure speed as the world's best downhill rider gave no quarter when he flew down the course. Until that point the lead had been occupied mostly by two men: **Scott Sharples (AUS, Trek Volkswagen)** and then **David Vazquez (ESP, Volvo-Cannondale)**, who finished the day in third and second respectively. Although the slightly built Vouilloz was 20 seconds faster than De Bever's qualifying mark of the day before, the course was also faster on Sunday than it had been 24 hours earlier. So Vouilloz anxiously watched the television monitor as the powerful Dutchman, five times a bmx world champion, made his descent. But when the camera showed De Bever's tyre puncture on a rock and flap loosely on its rim, Vouilloz knew instantly that he had won the race.

*"On the top it was very slippery, so I think I rode that well,"* said Vouilloz. *"After that I pedalled, and made maybe one or two mistakes. At the flat part the French manager told me 'less 4 seconds' so I thought it's cool and tried to give all at the end."* Asked about his prospects against Vazquez going into the finals, Vouilloz said, *"Well, we can lose easily and David rode well today... he finished second. So we have one week off and we'll see what will happen. But it should be David or me."*

*By Ari Cheren*

<i>place</i>	<i>pre</i>	<i>UCIcode</i>	<i>name/nom</i>	<i>nat</i>	<i>team</i>	<i>t1</i>	<i>t</i>	<i>t+</i>
<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>FRA19771008</b>	<b>CHAUSSON Anne-caroline</b>	<b>FRA</b>	<b>SUNN</b>	<b>2:17.03</b>	<b>5:13.46</b>	
<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>FRA19780223</b>	<b>LE CAER Nolvenn</b>	<b>FRA</b>	<b>TEAM GT</b>	<b>2:25.10</b>	<b>5:26.62</b>	<b>13.15</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>USA19720120</b>	<b>GIOVE Missy</b>	<b>USA</b>	<b>VOLVO/CANNONDALE</b>	<b>2:25.95</b>	<b>5:26.70</b>	<b>13.24</b>
4	5	USA19630731	SONIER Kim	USA	VOLVO CANNONDALE	2:24.94	5:28.53	15.06
5	14	SUI19770322	SANER Marielle	SUI	HOT CHILI	2:29.92	5:29.24	15.78
6	6	ESP19630711	GONZALEZ Mercedes	ESP	TEAM GT	2:25.84	5:31.24	17.78
7	13	ITA19660724	BONAZZI Giovanna	ITA	SINTESI VERLICCHI	2:28.33	5:32.84	19.37
8	17	GBR19790412	MOSELEY Tracy	GBR	VOLVO CANNONDALE	2:28.28	5:35.29	21.82
9	18	GER19661011	STIEFL Regina	GER	FIAT-ROTWILD	2:29.97	5:36.09	22.63
10	32	SWE19740824	LINDGREN Malin	SWE	SCOTT INTL	2:29.46	5:37.27	23.81
11	7	USA19650624	STREB Marla	USA	YETI	2:35.69	5:37.74	24.28
12	20	AUS19750915	MILLER Katrina	AUS	JAMIS/MANITOU/AR	2:30.81	5:39.56	26.09
13	23	USA19761128	LLANES Tara	USA	MT DEW/SPECIALIZ	2:32.78	5:40.09	26.62
14	11	SUI19800725	JORGENSEN Sari	SUI	YETI	2:32.49	5:40.81	27.34
15	19	SUI19700401	KASPER Brigitta	SUI	VOLVO/CANNONDALE	2:36.65	5:44.35	30.88
16	9	USA19680508	BRUTSAERT Elke	USA	SCHWINN/TOYOTA	2:26.11	5:45.14	31.67
17	26	GER19801208	RÜBEL-TÖDT Johanna	GER	VW/NUTZ/GT	2:36.58	5:45.43	31.97
18	21	SUI19790825	STIEGER Sarah	SUI	FIAT ROTWILD	2:34.45	5:46.45	32.99
19	10	FIN19730304	REPO Katja	FIN	SINTESI VERLICCHI	2:36.79	5:47.24	33.77
20	15	USA19690419	SHER Lisa	USA	ROTEC-WHITE BROS	2:38.60	5:48.84	35.38
21	41	GER19750419	WINTERHALDER Petra	GER	K2-LION	2:38.84	5:51.19	37.72
22	31	CZE19780621	KURANDOVA Helena	CZE	KANGAROO/DIRT	2:37.32	5:52.39	38.93
23	40	AUT19670106	MÖSER Florentina	AUT	LIETZ SPORT	2:40.26	5:52.96	39.49
24	57	SUI19810719	WALKER Sandra	SUI	BIKE IMPORT	2:39.25	6:02.07	48.6
25	39	GER19770705	JÜLLICH Maren	GER	WHEELER/BERGMANN	2:48.90	6:09.35	55.88