

**Diesel/UCI Mountain Bike  
World Cup - 1999**



**Bromont, CAN - dh#7 - 7-8 August 1999 - Report / Rapport  
Vouilloz Back in Control**

On a rainy Sunday in Quebec, **Nicolas Vouilloz (FRA)** reasserted his hold on the men's category of the Diesel/UCI Downhill World Cup. His compatriot, **Anne-Caroline Chausson (FRA)** continued her dominance of the women's field. Both riders won on a course that was considered one of the most technically demanding of the year, and made tougher by the wettest conditions imaginable.

Overnight, the rain, which had abated for the Swatch Dual on Saturday, came back with a vengeance, turning the dirt into soupy mud. Paradoxically, this made the rock sections more feasible, by washing away mud and enabling tires to grip better.

**Steve Peat (GBR)**, the winner one week ago in Round 6 at Mont-Ste-Anne, was poised to take over the series lead if he won at Bromont. For the likable Briton there was everything to race for. He threw down the gauntlet in the men's seeding run with a time of 4:24.85 - 9 seconds faster than second fastest **Cedric Gracia (FRA)**, and 15 ahead of series leader **Nicolas Vouilloz (FRA)**.



Nicolas Vouilloz

The scene was set for a thrilling race. Early in the afternoon the women had ridden through light drizzle, and so did the first half of the men's field. **Michael Ronning (AUS)** was the first rider to break five minutes, with a time of 4'59.07". His time stood up for seven riders before **Pau Misser (ESP)** knocked 4" off. Misser occupied the special Hot Seat of fastest rider for what seemed like an age, and when the deluge of rain came halfway through the men's field, some observers thought that Misser might pull off an upset win. Conversely, the downpour actually assisted the later riders, by washing clean the muddy rock sections.

World Championships bronze medallist, **Gerwin Peters (NED)** dropped the leading time to 4'45.94", then **Guillaume Koch (FRA)** lowered the mark to 4'42.29", before **Eric Carter** blew everyone away with a time of 4'37.50".

Carter's run was immediately after the worst of the downpour, which he claimed was "*...the next best thing to it being dry. Everything was cleaned off, and much easier to ride.*"



The course conditions began to decline after their rainy peak, and Carter's time started to look untouchable. Many of the top seeded riders crashed or just got bogged down in the mud as it started to congeal. It wasn't until **Mickael Pascal (FRA)**, fourth from last, came roaring through the intermediate time trap 1.5" faster than Carter, that it began to look like the USA rider might get beaten. Pascal clipped just over 2" from Carter's time, but barely had time to sit in the Hot Seat before news came in that Vouilloz was 3.5 seconds faster at the intermediate checkpoint.

The world champion continued to gain time, and almost lost control in a couple of spots as he raced through the last rocky section of the course towards the final jump approaching the finish line. At the end of his run, Vouilloz had knocked a massive 5" from Pascal's time. However, his time was still 4" slower than Peat's semi-final time, set that morning. The air was almost electric with an expectant tension.

Gracia was the next rider down, and his time, while respectable, was behind Carter. Then it was Peat's turn. Expectation quickly turned to disappointment and an audible groan went across the finish area as it was announced that he was over 10" down at the intermediate check. It was all over, and the great Vouilloz had successfully defended his leader's jersey for another week.

Afterwards, a bitterly disappointed Peat explained *"I put my front wheel in a hole at the top of the course. That didn't lose me much (time), but I had to put my hand down. After that, (with) the mud on my bars and gloves, I couldn't control the bike."* He would crash again further down on his way to finishing in 16th place.

Vouilloz revealed after the race that it was his strategy not to race last in the final. *"I didn't want to be first (ranked) on this course, the pressure was too great. I had a couple of mistakes, but I had a good run."* Known for his meticulous preparation, Vouilloz said that he had taken even more care than usual for this race. *"I studied very, very hard for this race. I did many runs and checked the course thoroughly. Plus, this course was very technical and to my liking."*



<i>place</i>	<i>bib</i>	<i>name</i>	<i>nom</i>	<i>nat</i>	<i>UCIcode</i>	<i>t</i>	<i>t+</i>
1	1	VOUILLOZ	NICOLAS	FRA	FRA19760208	4:30.42	0.00
2	4	PASCAL	MICKAEL	FRA	FRA19791011	4:35.29	4.87
3	15	CARTER	ERIC	USA	USA19700306	4:37.50	7.08
4	6	GRACIA	CÉDRIC	FRA	FRA19780323	4:38.11	7.69
5	14	KOCH	GUILLAUME	FRA	FRA19730605	4:42.29	11.87
6	17	ERIKSSON	KRISTIAN	SWE	SWE19761026	4:42.37	11.95
7	24	CARRICK ANDERSON	CRAWFORD	GBR	GBR19700526	4:43.41	12.99
8	26	BERCHTOLD	MARKOLF ERASMU	BRA	BRA19800209	4:44.04	13.62
9	16	WARNER	ROBERT	GBR	GBR19700916	4:44.51	14.09
10	20	KOVARIK	CHRISTOPHER	AUS	AUS19780301	4:44.80	14.38
11	7	VAZQUEZ	DAVID	ESP	ESP19790210	4:44.95	14.53
12	3	PETERS	GERWIN	NED	NED19770409	4:45.94	15.52
13	5	PALMER	SHAUN	USA	USA19681114	4:47.27	16.85
14	34	RENNIE	NATHAN	AUS	AUS19810531	4:47.42	17.00
15	22	LUNDMAN	JAN	SWE	SWE19780312	4:48.42	18.00
16	2	PEAT	STEVE	GBR	GBR19740617	4:50.04	19.62
17	9	VOREIS	KIRT	USA	USA19740531	4:51.95	21.53
18	48	MARCH	SHAUMS	USA	USA19740216	4:54.36	23.94
19	62	ZANCHI	BRUNO	ITA	ITA19731110	4:55.06	24.64
20	31	MISSE	PAU	ESP	ESP19760807	4:55.95	25.53
21	65	MOSELEY	ED	GBR	GBR19770421	4:57.13	26.71
22	81	STEFFEN	ANDREAS	SUI	SUI19750923	4:57.27	26.85
23	47	SIGFRID	JASON	USA	USA19730223	4:57.89	27.47
24	21	HERIN	CORRADO	ITA	ITA19660804	4:58.53	28.11
25	28	RONNING	MICHAEL	AUS	AUS19750623	4:59.07	28.65
26	43	LONGDEN	WILL	GBR	GBR19741123	4:59.18	28.76
27	23	KLAUSMANN	MARKUS	GER	GER19770808	5:02.94	32.52
28	38	POLC	FILIP	SVK	SVK19820410	5:03.12	32.70
29	37	RANKIN	NATHAN	NZL	NZL19790430	5:03.23	32.81
30	11	ENGSTRÖM	JOHAN	SWE	SWE19770802	5:03.76	33.34
31	45	HOUSEMAN	GARY	USA	USA19800903	5:04.34	33.92
32	41	SHANDRO	ANDREW	CAN	CAN19710520	5:04.72	34.30
33	27	OULEGO MORENO	IVAN	ESP	ESP19760604	5:05.62	35.20
34	108	HEWITT	ROB	CAN	CAN19781120	5:05.98	35.56
35	140	RANDO	JARED	AUS	AUS19810622	5:06.53	36.11
36	44	O'DRISCOLL	CHRIS	USA	USA19730308	5:06.94	36.52
37	19	KING	MIKE	USA	USA19690630	5:07.22	36.80
38	88	WESTMAN	TOBIAS	SWE	SWE19790622	5:07.43	37.01
39	73	WADDELL	JOHN	AUS	AUS19800902	5:08.07	37.65
40	123	ONYSCHUK	CHAD	CAN	CAN19750601	5:08.33	37.91
41	104	COLL	JIMMY	CAN	CAN19721115	5:08.62	38.20
42	84	HOUSEMAN	RICHARD	USA	USA19780320	5:08.71	38.29
43	89	O'BRIEN	GLYNN	IRL	IRL19770906	5:09.47	39.05
44	96	WILDHABER	RENÉ	SUI	SUI19761023	5:09.56	39.14

45	106	ANTELME	OLIVIER	FRA	FRA19800722	5:09.68	39.26
46	39	BALAUD	WILLIAM	FRA	FRA19770217	5:10.28	39.86
47	10	DE BEVER	BAS	NED	NED19680416	5:11.52	41.10
48	12	MCCARROLL	SEAN	AUS	AUS19771105	5:13.35	42.93
49	55	ROJO	CESAR	ESP	ESP19810417	5:13.79	43.37
50	78	OCHIN	OLIVIER	FRA	FRA19770404	5:13.97	43.55
51	92	TOMAC	JOHN	USA	USA19671103	5:14.38	43.96
52	75	SNIDER	TODD	USA	USA19760713	5:14.82	44.40
53	80	WATSON	DAVID	CAN	CAN19760523	5:16.06	45.64
54	46	TSCHUGG	GUIDO	GER	GER19760514	5:16.69	46.27
55	93	CSEFF	ERIC	CAN	CAN19780122	5:17.28	46.86
56	35	SHARPLES	SCOTT	AUS	AUS19671023	5:20.02	49.60
57	49	CALUORI	CLAUDIO	SUI	SUI19770916	5:21.12	50.70
58	114	MENARD	DOMINICK	CAN	CAN19790425	5:21.96	51.54
59	50	JOSEPH	MICHEL	SUI	SUI19761109	5:22.51	52.09
60	32	BAILEY	COLIN	USA	USA19790809	5:25.61	55.19
61	69	SANTANA	JACOBO	ESP	ESP19720717	5:25.95	55.53
62	101	ARCHER	JEFFREY	SUI	SUI19790209	5:28.07	57.65
63	90	BÜELER	ANDY	SUI	SUI19780609	5:32.95	1:02.53
64	128	BAGO MORE	JORDI	ESP	ESP19780424	5:34.11	1:03.69
65	51	TINSTMAN	PHILIP	USA	USA19740816	5:35.54	1:05.12
66	91	WHITE	RYAN	USA	USA19810613	5:40.53	1:10.11
67	30	MISSE	TOMAS	ESP	ESP19740930	6:01.02	1:30.60
68	61	PURDY	JEREMY	USA	USA19691126	6:31.67	2:01.25
69	77	DELDYCKE	MICKAEL	FRA	FRA19800826	7:13.09	2:42.67

dnf 116 YBARRA SCOTT USA USA19781028 DNF