

Diesel/UCI Mountain Bike World Cup - 1999



Bromont, CAN - dh#7 - 7-8 August 1999 - Report / Rapport

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.

Women – Chausson at Her Grimy Best

Giovanna Bonazzi (ITA), the two-times world champion set the early fast time in the women's field, at 6:13.01. Yet she knew that it would not last, and just a few riders later **Elke Brutsaert (USA)** knocked over 6.5" off Bonazzi's time to take the lead. Spectators were then treated to the unusual sight of Chausson racing in the middle of the pack, instead of her customary last spot. The world champion had crashed and flattened during the seeding run, forcing her to ride early in the final.

Chausson's major concern was being held up by the rider in front - **Kim Huard (CAN)**, but the Canadian sportingly prevented any controversy. Chausson recounted that, *"I told her (Huard) that I would yell 'hup hup' as I came up behind. She (Huard) was great, and moved right out of my way, not slowing me down at all."* Afterwards, Huard stated *"It is not my place to stay in the way of the World Champion."*

Chausson rode superbly, floating through the rocky sections that created problems for so many other riders. She came rocketing across the finish line with 5'25.19", a time 15" faster than **Missy Giove's (USA)** top qualifying run.

And then came the wait in the Hot Seat. As rider after rider came down, it became apparent that no one would get close to Chausson's mark. Numerous riders managed nudge below the six-minute mark, but only barely. **Marla Streb (USA)**, the third last rider down, went closer, with a 5:45.44 run. Then **Katja Repo (FIN)**, the next rider in, continued the best season of her career by dipping under Streb's time with a 5:43.90, which gave her second place – her best world cup race result.

If anyone were to beat Chausson today, it would have been her arch-rival Giove. Well, maybe it was the pressure, or maybe it was the shoulder injury that required the American rider to tape herself up. Whatever the reason, it was apparent from the intermediate time check that Chausson had scored another victory. Giove crashed on the upper slopes of the course and finished with a fourth-place time, of 5'46".





<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	CHAUSSON	ANNE-CAROLINE	FRA	FRA19771008	5:25.19	0.00
2	3	REPO	KATJA	FIN	FIN19730304	5:43.90	18.71
3	7	STREB	MARLA	USA	USA19650624	5:45.44	20.25
4	2	GIOVE	MISSY	USA	USA19720102	5:46.08	20.89
5	15	STIEGER	SARAH	SUI	SUI19790825	5:55.03	29.84
6	4	DONOVAN	LEIGH	USA	USA19711112	5:55.83	30.64
7	14	MORTIMER	HELEN	GBR	GBR19760801	5:58.35	33.16
8	8	SANER	MARIELLE	SUI	SUI19770322	5:58.73	33.54
9	9	SHER	LISA	USA	USA19690419	5:59.78	34.59
10	19	MOSELEY	TRACY	GBR	GBR19790412	6:04.16	38.97
11	6	BRUTSAERT	ELKE	USA	USA19680508	6:06.34	41.15
12	5	GONZALEZ	MERCEDES	ESP	ESP19630711	6:09.59	44.40
13	12	BONAZZI	GIOVANNA	ITA	ITA19660724	6:13.01	47.82
14	11	LINDGREN	MALIN	SWE	SWE19740824	6:19.69	54.50
15	10	JÖRGENSEN	SARI	SUI	SUI19800725	6:31.21	1:06.02
16	37	ALLEN	SYLVIE	CAN	CAN19730808	6:33.71	1:08.52
17	40	BLANCHER	LORRANIE	CAN	CAN19751029	6:39.09	1:13.90
18	43	HUARD	KIM	CAN	CAN19790713	7:11.27	1:46.08
19	36	DAHLAGER	GALE	USA	USA19690531	7:12.94	1:47.75
20	38	MEADE	TERA	CAN	CAN19740317	7:36.64	2:11.45
21	50	GIRARD	ANNIE	CAN	CAN19741113	7:43.80	2:18.61
22	39	GAMBIN	CECILE	CAN	CAN19660713	7:54.24	2:29.05
23	47	ASHTON	JEN	CAN	CAN19720715	9:28.61	4:03.42
dnf	51	BUHL	MELISSA	USA	USA19820125	DNS	