



Diesel/UCI Mountain Bike World Cup - 1999

Maribor, SLO - dh #2 - - 29-30 May 1999 - Report / Rapport

Peat and Chausson Hold Fast

Thanks to Annie Robillard for information used in this report. Ms Robillard is the UCI Press Chief for the Diesel/UCI Mountain Bike World Cup.

Steve Peat (GBR) and Anne Caroline

Chausson (FRA) held firm as Diesel/UCI Downhill World Cup leaders. But the day belonged to **Nicolas Vouilloz (FRA)**, whose stunning time clinched first place in the men's event.

Another dry, sunny day made perfect racing conditions at the round two of the eight-round Diesel/UCI Downhill World Cup. Over the days leading to Sunday's round two final at Maribor, in the Pohorje mountains of Slovenia, riders' times kept on getting faster and faster.



Men

Among the men, two athletes emerged as a cut above the rest: Nicolas Vouilloz and Steve Peat. On Sunday morning's semi-final Peat had an off ride and placed 13th with a time of 4'35". Vouilloz returned a 4'21", an impressive five seconds faster than '97 World Cup champion **Corrado Herin (ITA)**.

These times compared with 4'27" for Vouilloz and 4'31" for Peat, who were the fastest two in Saturday's timed training runs.



The course conditions seemed to improve. After his run, *Dutchman Bas de Bever* commented that the course was "*very grippy now.*" In the final, his compatriot, **Gerwin Peeters** was sitting in the Hot Seat of the fastest rider so far, with a 4'21" when Peat came through the finish gate in 4'12", a time that had the 3,000 spectators in the finish area gasping in awe.

Peat's pre-race preparation summoned memories of the 1993 world championships, won by **Mike King (USA)**. Like King had done on that day in Metabief, France, Peat had treated himself to a 90 minute '*power nap*' before starting his race.

As the twelve fastest semi-final riders arrived after Peat - each falling a long way short of his record, it seemed to be all over. Indeed, nobody was able to best Peeters' time. But then came Vouilloz, the last rider down the 2.8km track with its average 20% gradient. His split times - shown on television screens at the finish - revealed that he was in hot contention.

When the diminutive Frenchman, who in seven downhill world championship starts has never finished lower than first, crossed the line his time was 3.46" better than Peat's. It was a day of superlatives.

The second place earned by Peat keeps him in the series leader's jersey, although Vouilloz only 30 points behind is within striking distance.



Women

In the semi-final it appeared that **Missy Giove** (USA) might be able to do something to break the stranglehold of Anne-Caroline Chausson (FRA). Her time of 5'08" was 4.5' faster than the world champion, and 10' ahead of *Finnish* star **Katja Repo**.

But when it came to the crunch Chausson, wearing a cryptic series of numbers on her helmet, did it again, putting in a brilliant ride of 4'58" to show that she was unbeatable on this course.

For Giove it was a brave, but frustrating run. High on the course she suffered a flat tyre and decided to continue on her bare rim to salvage what points she could for the series competition. In view of this, her time of 5'22" to claim 10th place was a great result, one that may yet prove crucial as the series wears on.



Anne-Caroline Chausson - FRA

Leigh Donovan recovered from a disappointing 8th place at Les Gets last weekend to finish 2nd today with an impressive time of 5'06, and Repo was third with 5'12".

Chausson, with 500 series points, now has a huge lead of 200 over second placed Repo on 300.

The next race in the series is on the notorious rocky course at Nevegal, Italy, on 5-6 June.



place	name	nom	nat	team	t	t+	points
1	CHAUSSON	Anne-Caroline	FRA	VOLVO/CANNONDALE	4:58.75		250
2	DONOVAN	Leigh	USA	INTENSE CYCLES	5:06.05	07.30	200
3	REPO	Katja	FIN	FINLAND	5:12.26	13.51	170
4	BRUTSAERT	Elke	USA	SCHWINN/TOYOTA	5:12.47	13.72	150
5	SHER	Lisa	USA	FOES/AZONIC	5:16.04	17.29	130
6	GONZALEZ	Mercedes	ESP	TEAM GT	5:16.67	17.92	95
7	SANER	Marielle	SUI	HOT CHILI	5:20.37	21.62	90
8	MORTIMER	Helen	GBR	MBUK SPECIALIZED FOX	5:21.41	22.66	85
9	LINDGREN	Malin	SWE	SCOTT ONE LIFE LIVE IT	5:21.93	23.18	80
10	GIOVE	Missy	USA	FOES/AZONIC	5:22.09	23.34	75
11	LE CAER	Nolvenn	FRA	TEAM GT	5:23.48	24.73	71
12	GUY	Emma	GBR	TEAM RALEIGH	5:26.96	28.21	67
13	STIEGER	Sarah	SUI	FIAT ROTWILD	5:28.85	30.10	63
14	JÖRGENSEN	Sari	SUI	TEAM TOMAC INTERNAT.	5:31.99	33.24	59
15	MILLER	Katrina	AUS	JAMIS/MANITOU/ARNETT	5:32.97	34.22	55
16	KOBES	Britta	GER	WHEELER	5:34.29	35.54	52
17	LLANES	Tara	USA	MT DEW/SPECIALIZED	5:38.88	40.13	49
18	WINTERHALDER	Petra	GER	CYCLE-CRAFT-LION SIGG	5:50.33	51.58	46
19	JÜLLICH	Maren	GER	MONGOOSE	5:50.71	51.96	43
20	HASSELBECK	Stefanie	GER	DIAMOND/STEPPENWOLF	5:58.80	1:00.05	40
21	WALKER	Sandra	SUI		5:59.02	1:00.27	37
22	KURANDOVA	Helena	CZE	KANGAROO/DIRT	5:59.41	1:00.66	34
23	BEERTEN	Anneke	NED	BE-ONE	6:00.00	1:01.25	32
24	BONAZZI	Giovanna	ITA	DH RACING KASTLE	6:00.60	1:01.85	30
25	CROXON	Adele	GBR	ANIMAL/ORANGE	6:01.12	1:02.37	28
26	FAGERSTRÖM	Sofia	SWE	BE-ONE	6:10.25	1:11.50	
27	MASUDA	Mami	JPN	MX/HARO	6:17.65	1:18.90	
28	MÖSER	Florentina	AUT	BANK AUSTRIA NATION	6:56.27	1:57.52	
	BOER	Julia	HUN	POSTAS MATAV SE	DNS		
	KISS	Dalma	HUN	MAGELLAN TEAM	DNS		