

## Diesel/UCI Mountain Bike World Cup - 1999

### Squaw Valley, CA, USA - dh #5 - - 10-11 July 1999 - Report / Rapport

#### Women - More Chausson Magic

**Anne-Caroline Chausson**, 22, from Dijon in *France*, produced a high altitude performance in the head and dust today that shows she is now able to consistently produce her best performances in races other than the World Championships and those outside Europe.

In the past, Chausson has exhibited a tendency to crack under the extended pressure of World Cup racing. But by posting a time of 4'58.03" and winning with a margin of more than 13 seconds, the young French star seems to have taken a big psychological step forward. Chausson finished ahead of *GT* team-mates **Mercedes Gonzalez** (*ESP*) and **Katja Repo** (*FIN*).

*"It is important for my sponsor for me to win in the USA,"* Chausson told journalists at the finish. She was so tired at the end that she had to be helped off her bike. Then she sat down at that point and from there told the story of her race.



Anne-Caroline Chausson

*"I was really fast at the start, and then I heard about Missy Giove's crash, and that I was 7" faster (this is the first race in which Chausson has received in-race information), so I felt really confident. But then 2" later I crashed! Then I got tired and I lost my confidence."* After a further crash, Chausson arrived at the finish to discover her massive winning margin - which just goes to show how tough it must have been for the others.



About 15" earlier, Gonzalez, who was celebrating her 36th birthday anniversary and plans to retire and the end of the season, had taken the lead with a time of 5'11.19". *"I felt fatigued like I used to in moto-cross,"* said Gonzalez, a former professional motorcycle racer. Her run was far from normal, as she explained: *"At the first big drop-off, all the photographers sang Happy Birthday, and that set the mood. From then on I just went for it... Not bad for a veteran, eh?"*

Gonzalez finished only 0.17" faster than Repo, who she knows from the moto-cross circuit.

Chausson's main series rival, and winner at Big Bear last week, **Missy Giove (USA)** had a frustrating run. After finishing second in the semi-final, with a time of 5'00.56", 14.62" slower than Chausson, she then had two big crashes in the final and finished sixth with a time of 5'18.21". Chausson's lead in the World Cup now stands at a somewhat unassailable 380 points. She has now won four of the five races in the series so far, and a total of 16 in her career. She has entered six world championships and won all of them.

### Men - Vouilloz Defeats the Newcomer

**Christopher Kovarik**, 21, from Brisbane, *Australia*, riding in only his second World Cup downhill race, improved his time from 4'28" in the semi-final to 4'04" in the final. This time was almost good enough to win the race. **Nicolas Vouilloz (FRA)**, the last rider down the mountain beat him by a mere 1.43".

Vouilloz was impressed, to say the least. *"When I heard I had to beat 4'04", I thought at first that maybe there had been a mistake with the timing, but they never make mistakes, so I knew it would be hard."* He had not expected to improve significantly on his semi-final time of 4'08.52". This result brings Vouilloz's total of world cup round wins to 10.

As for Kovarik, some say his result was a fluke while others are convinced that here is a potential new star. In his own words, *"I've got a way to go,"* summed up the taciturn Aussie. Although delighted by his result, he seemed unfazed by it all. Sitting coolly in the Hot Seat - which is occupied by the current fastest rider - he quietly answered questions from journalists. *"I was just hoping to beat my semi-final position of 17th. I had no idea that I could go this fast... I rode consistently, I was conservative in places,"* explained the rider who has competed in mountain bike events on the Australian circuit for the past three years. Kovarik expresses a preference for rough, technical courses, which will be interesting with Mont-Sainte-Anne and Bromont approaching.

World Cup leader, **Steve Peat (GBR)**, was slowed in his run by a puncture, which he sustained in the first 600m of racing. Finishing with a time of 4'12.43," Peat was still good enough for sixth place. This puts him back into second place overall, 100 points behind Vouilloz.

**David Vazquez (ESP)** claimed third place with a time of 4'08.89".

The World Cup circuit now adjourns for three weeks, resuming at Mont-Sainte-Anne, Canada on 31 July.



Nicolas Vouilloz





place	name	nom	nat	UCIcode	t	+t
1	VOUILLOZ	NICOLAS	FRA	FRA19760208	4:03.09	0.00
2	KOVARIK	CHRISTOPHER	AUS	AUS19780301	4:04.52	1.43
3	VAZQUEZ	DAVID	ESP	ESP19790210	4:08.89	5.80
4	PETERS	GERWIN	NED	NED19770409	4:10.98	7.89
5	DE BEVER	BAS	NED	NED19680416	4:12.25	9.16
6	PEAT	STEVE	GBR	GBR19740617	4:12.43	9.34
7	ROCKWELL	MYLES	USA	USA19720822	4:15.21	12.12
8	PASCAL	MICKAEL	FRA	FRA19791011	4:16.19	13.10
9	ENGSTRÖM	JOHAN	SWE	SWE19770802	4:16.29	13.20
10	RONNING	MICHAEL	AUS	AUS19750623	4:16.39	13.30
11	VOREIS	KIRT	USA	USA19740531	4:16.98	13.89
12	KING	MIKE	USA	USA19690630	4:17.34	14.25
13	PALMER	SHAUN	USA	USA19681114	4:18.06	14.97
14	GRACIA	CÉDRIC	FRA	FRA19780323	4:18.35	15.26
15	MCCARROLL	SEAN	AUS	AUS19771105	4:18.73	15.64
16	LONGDEN	WILL	GBR	GBR19741123	4:19.07	15.98
17	BERCHTOLD	MARKOLF ERASMU	BRA	BRA19800209	4:19.12	16.03
18	CARRICK ANDERSON	CRAWFORD	GBR	GBR19700526	4:21.22	18.13
19	BAILEY	COLIN	USA	USA19790809	4:21.51	18.42
20	BENEKE	JÜRGEN	GER	GER19720223	4:22.06	18.97
21	KIRKCALDIE	JOHN	NZL	NZL19760430	4:22.70	19.61
22	MINNAAR	GREG	RSA	RSA19811113	4:23.01	19.92
23	MARCH	SHAUMS	USA	USA19740216	4:23.70	20.61
24	RENNIE	NATHAN	AUS	AUS19810531	4:24.42	21.33
25	LUNDMAN	JAN	SWE	SWE19780312	4:25.24	22.15
26	HERIN	CORRADO	ITA	ITA19660804	4:25.65	22.56
27	POLC	FILIP	SVK	SVK19820410	4:25.89	22.80
28	MISSER	PAU	ESP	ESP19760807	4:26.24	23.15
29	PURDY	JEREMY	USA	USA19691126	4:26.49	23.40
30	SIGFRID	JASON	USA	USA19730223	4:26.87	23.78
31	SNIDER	TODD	USA	USA19760713	4:27.41	24.32
32	SHANDRO	ANDREW	CAN	CAN19710520	4:27.65	24.56
33	SHARPLES	SCOTT	AUS	AUS19671023	4:28.19	25.10
34	HOUSEMAN	GARY	USA	USA19800903	4:29.14	26.05
35	O'DRISCOLL	CHRIS	USA	USA19730308	4:29.24	26.15



36	BALAUD	WILLIAM	FRA	FRA19770217	4:30.80	27.71
37	LAWRENCE	RANDY	USA	USA19671008	4:32.73	29.64
38	JOSEPH	MICHEL	SUI	SUI19761109	4:32.92	29.83
39	RANDO	JARED	AUS	AUS19810622	4:33.02	29.93
40	STEFFEN	ANDREAS	SUI	SUI19750923	4:33.35	30.26
41	LAGNEAU	CYRIL	FRA	FRA19760719	4:33.51	30.42
42	CARTER	ERIC	USA	USA19700306	4:33.59	30.50
43	PAGE	NIGEL	GBR	GBR19720201	4:34.11	31.02
44	LOPES	BRIAN	USA	USA19710909	4:34.14	31.05
45	PIZARRO	FRANCISCO	CHI	CHI19800705	4:34.80	31.71
46	TINSTMAN	PHILIP	USA	USA19740816	4:36.61	33.52
47	ZANCHI	BRUNO	ITA	ITA19731110	4:36.82	33.73
48	SEARS	ROB	USA	USA19700729	4:36.92	33.83
49	O'BRIEN	GLYN	IRL	IRL19770906	4:37.31	34.22
50	WHITE	RYAN	USA	USA00000000	4:39.53	36.44
51	PORTER	TREVOR	CAN	CAN19720629	4:39.96	36.87
52	HOUSEMAN	RICHARD	USA	USA19780320	4:40.10	37.01
53	LAWLOR	JOHN	IRL	IRL19790605	4:41.85	38.76
54	YBARRA	SCOTT	USA	USA19781028	4:44.86	41.77
55	GEALL	STEVE	GBR	GBR19700506	4:47.90	44.81
56	BEAUMONT	SCOTT	GBR	GBR19780602	4:48.26	45.17
57	PONTING	TIM	GBR	GBR19721010	4:50.10	47.01
58	VICK	IRA	USA	USA19731120	4:50.26	47.17
59	LAWWILL	JOE	USA	USA19700506	4:52.13	49.04
60	RANKIN	NATHAN	NZL	NZL19790430	4:55.26	52.17
61	WATSON	DAVID	CAN	CAN19760523	4:56.83	53.74
62	BISHOP	AIDEN	GBR	GBR19760201	4:58.30	55.21
63	OULEGO MORENO	IVAN	ESP	ESP19760604	5:00.86	57.77
64	SAIZ	OSCAR	ESP	ESP19730828	5:03.24	1:00.15
65	JANY	STÉPHANE	FRA	FRA19730717	5:13.68	1:10.59
66	CSEFF	ERIC	CAN	CAN19780122	5:15.71	1:12.62
67	WARNER	ROBERT	GBR	GBR19700916	5:21.10	1:18.01
68	ONYSCHUK	CHAD	CAN	CAN19750601	6:15.17	2:12.08
0	AMOUR	KARIM	FRA	FRA19750118	DNF	
0	CALUORI	CLAUDIO	SUI	SUI19770916	DSQ	