

## DH/DL#5: ARAI, JAP – 28-29.7.2001

### France Continues to Dominate Downhill

**Anne-Caroline Chausson** (FRA, Volvo-Cannondale) continued her perfect downhill season with win number-five in Japan this weekend, maintaining her overall lead with superb racing on the Tissot-UCI Mountain Bike World Cup. **Nicolas Vouilloz** (FRA, Vouilloz Racing Team) also won in Japan - his first world cup victory of the season as he works hard to overcome his #2 ranking in the overall and secure another overall title.



Sean McCarroll, AUS

The Arai Mountain & Snow Park in Japan took centre stage this weekend, as record crowds of 30,000 lined the 3km downhill course in unseasonably hot and dry weather. The course, shortened by 600 metres this year, was faster than ever as riders pushed their limits in the ever-increasingly competitive world cup circuit.

**Nicolas Vouilloz** (FRA, Vouilloz Racing Team) celebrated his return to the winner's circle Sunday afternoon, putting together a dominant run that was reminiscent of seasons past where he earned the nickname "*the Alien*." After earning 50 points as the fastest qualifier in the morning, Vouilloz went on to crush the field by nearly six and a half seconds as he works to regain the number-one overall position - currently held by **Fabien Barel** (FRA, Team GT) who finished 11th after crashing.



Nicolas Vouilloz, FRA

*"I really tried hard to win today, and it was a great race, like old times"* said a jubilant Vouilloz after his third-straight win in Arai. *"I'm always happy to win in Japan, and when I arrived here I was relaxed and treated like a star. I've been waiting all season for this, and want to thank my father and my team staff."*

**Sean McCarroll** (AUS, Global Racing Team) earned second place in the finals, the young Aussie posting his career's-best finish for his new team, after qualifying 8th-fastest. *"It's awesome to be in the winner's circle"* he said. When asked what made the difference today he replied *"You've just got to pin it - I wasn't using my brakes in places, and rode more aggressive."*

**Michael Ronning** (AUS, Intense) finished third for his career's best, after qualifying 14th-fastest and occupying the hotseat until bumped by McCarroll. *"I just went for it,"* he said from the Tissot hotseat. *"I thought I was going to crash I was going so hard, I couldn't believe the speed!"* **Greg Minnaar** (RSA, Global Racing Team) finished 4th - matching his career's best as he is ranked 4th overall. Third-ranked **Mickael Pascal** (FRA, Be-One Team) rounded out the podium in 5th place.



Rk	#	UCI Code	Surname	Firstname	Team	Time	Gap
1	2	FRA19760208	VOUILLOZ	Nicolas	VOUILLOZ RACING	4:19.18	+0.0
2	13	AUS19771105	MCCARROLL	Sean	GLOBAL RACING	4:25.65	+6.47
3	15	AUS19750623	RONNING	Michael	INTENSE	4:27.73	+8.55
4	7	RSA19811113	MINNAAR	Greg	GLOBAL RACING	4:28.14	+8.96
5	4	FRA19791011	PASCAL	Mickael	BE-ONE	4:28.20	+9.02
6	10	FRA19780323	GRACIA	Cedric	VOLVO CANNONDALE	4:28.49	+9.31
7	14	AUS19810531	RENNIE	Nathan	YETI-PEARL IZUMI	4:29.35	+ 10.17
8	9	ESP19730828	SAIZ CASTANE	Oscar	BE-ONE	4:30.77	+ 11.59
9	11	USA19700306	CARTER	Eric	MONGOSE HYUNDAI	4:30.93	+ 11.75
10	25	USA19780320	HOUSEMAN	Rich	TOMAC	4:31.25	+ 12.07
11	1	FRA19800726	BAREL	Fabien	TEAM GT	4:32.39	+ 13.21
12	21	SUI19770916	CALUORI	Claudio	TOMAC	4:32.68	+ 13.50
13	5	AUS19831121	HANNAH	Mick	GLOBAL RACING	4:32.91	+ 13.73
14	22	ESP19740930	MISSER VILASECA	Tomas	SPAIN	4:33.87	+ 14.69
15	18	USA19720819	ROCKWELL	Myles	GIANT	4:34.10	+ 14.92
16	88	ESP19771229	SANCHEZ	Himar	MAXXIS-MSC	4:36.61	+ 17.43
17	30	CZE19780529	MAROSI	Michal	AUTHOR - RB SKODA AUTO	4:36.80	+ 17.62
18	49	USA19740531	VOREIS	Kirt	HARO/LEE DUNGAREES	4:37.37	+ 18.19
19	35	USA19800903	HOUSEMAN	Gary	TOMAC	4:38.80	+ 19.62
20	26	SVK19820410	POLC	Filip	AUTHOR RB SKODA AUTO	4:39.67	+ 20.49
21	3	AUS19780301	KOVARIK	Chris	INTENSE	4:42.75	+ 23.57
22	44	JPN19770105	UCHIJIMA	Ryo	AF SANTA CRUZ	4:46.35	+ 27.17
23	64	GBR19810817	DONOGHUE	Neil	HALFORDS BIKEHUT/SCHWINN	4:47.21	+ 28.03
24	93	JPN19761015	ADACHI	Yasushi	TEAM TMX	4:49.13	+ 29.95
25	86	JPN19701123	TSUKAMOTO	Takasi	MX MONGOOSE	4:49.19	+ 30.01
26	90	JPN19800422	IDEGAWA	Naoki	GLOBAL RACING	4:49.42	+ 30.24
27	83	CAN19760523	WATSON	David	DIRTWORKS	4:51.30	+ 32.12
28	84	GBR19780602	BEAUMONT	Scott	TEAM KONA FORD FOCUS	4:52.22	+ 33.04
29	110	USA19700506	LAWWILL	Joe	TREK - FOX SHOX	4:52.40	+ 33.22
30	53	GBR19810815	JARMAN	Robert	HALFORDS BIKEHUT/SCHWINN	4:52.97	+ 33.79
31	92	JPN19760302	MARUYAMA	Hiroki	TEAM SCOTT	4:54.09	+ 34.91
32	111	JPN19831221	TAKAHASHI	Tadashi	MX/SPEED GAME	4:54.66	+ 35.48
33	100	ESP19780424	BAGO	Jordi	ORANGE ESPANA	4:55.15	+ 35.97
34	85	JPN19770605	TAKEMOTO	Masashi	ANCHOR	4:55.32	+ 36.14
35	98	JPN19740605	MIYAKE	Kazuyuki	SINTESI FUJIYA	4:57.49	+ 38.31
36	96	JPN19750316	OSHIMA	Reji	GIANT JAPAN	4:59.22	+ 40.04
37	78	GBR19810228	CHEETHAM	Jonathan	HALFORDS BIKEHUT/SCHWINN	4:59.80	+ 40.62
38	95	JPN19720720	YANAGIHARA	Yasuhiro	WWW YANS COM	5:00.31	+ 41.13
39	82	JPN19721221	NABESHIMA	Kenichi	ANCHOR	5:02.40	+ 43.22
40	91	JPN19761223	KANEKO	Daisaku	GLOBAL RACING	5:03.96	+ 44.78

<b>41</b>	109	JPN19710618	SAKAGUCHI	Shizuyoshi	TEAM SCOTT	5:07.99	+ 48.81
<b>42</b>	103	ECU19810312	WADA	Ryohei	ECUADOR	5:08.14	+ 48.96
<b>43</b>	107	JPN19770830	KAWAI	Akinobu	MOM&POP	5:08.43	+ 49.25
<b>44</b>	104	JPN19720929	AZUMA	Yuuichirou	M 2 FRS	5:15.50	+ 56.32
<b>45</b>	102	JPN19740314	TADA	Nobuyuki	SCHWINN HID	5:17.18	+ 58.00
<b>46</b>	101	JPN19760807	IWATE	Makoto	DIRTWORKS MYX	5:19.00	+ 59.82
<b>47</b>	106	JPN19800326	KANOUE	Shinichirou	TEAM GT JAPAN	5:58.27	+1:39.09
<b>48</b>	105	JPN19790827	KANEKO	Shingo	SAM BIKE	11:00.59	+6:41.41
	16	ESP19810417	ROJO	Cesar	GLOBAL RACING	DNS	