

## DH#1: MARIBOR, SLO – 9-10.6.2001

### Peat and Chausson Win Downhill Opener

**Steve Peat** (GBR, Team GT) and **Anne-Caroline Chausson** (FRA, Volvo-Cannondale) opened the 2001 world cup downhill season with wins in the men's and women's finals - signaling a close season among the top competitors. Conditions were perfect for racing Sunday, as sunny blue skies and warm temperatures greeted an enormous crowd of spectators, along with loud music and plenty of champagne for the winners.

Maribor's course was shortened this year, producing closer racing and faster times. The track is 2km in length, with an average slope of 20% - one of the steepest on the circuit. Top speeds were reported as 90 km/h.

Where the women's race was decided by a second, the men's race was even closer - as the top two riders were only .44 of a second apart. **Steve Peat** (GBR, Team GT) came out on top for the first time here in Maribor, beating his rival **Nicolas Vouilloz** (FRA, Vouilloz Racing Team) in an exciting men's final where the lead changed more than five times.



**Steve Peat** - GBR

Peat grabbed the early momentum of the season with his win, looking to improve his current #2 ranking in the world cup. He had posted a disappointing qualifier run at fifth-fastest, but improved his time significantly in the final to produce a 2:54 - which proved to be unbeatable by any other racers.

*"I always wanted to win at Maribor" said Peat after his win. "I was a bit ill this morning, but got some rest and did OK. The last two years here Nico had a bit of luck on his side, and I guess I had some luck this year."*

Vouilloz had the second-fastest qualifying time, and crossed the finish while Peat was occupying the hotseat. *"I tried to push it - and had a clean run,"* said Vouilloz. *"I make a small mistake, and I think this course was a bit short for me - I don't have the power that some of the bigger riders have."*

Upon realising he hadn't beaten his time, he shook Peat's hand - the riders starting the season with their healthy rivalry intact. *"I beat him for two years here, so I can understand why he wanted to win this year,"* said Vouilloz. *"I know that when I win it's close, and when he wins it will be close too. Steve's still the man to beat."*

**Fabien Barel** (FRA, Team GT) had the fastest qualifying time, but a problem in the final technical section prevented him from achieving better than 3rd for the day. **Chris Kovarik** (AUS, Intense Cycles) also posted an outstanding time, sitting in the hotseat until Peat displaced him - as he finished 4th. **Mickaël Pascal** (FRA, Be-One Team) rounded out the podium in 5th place.



Rk	#	UCI Code	Surname	Firstname	Team	Time	Gap
1	2	GBR19740617	PEAT	Steve	TEAM GT	2:54.30	+0.0
2	1	FRA19760208	VOUILLOZ	Nicolas	VOUILLOZ RACING TEAM	2:54.74	+0.43
3	6	FRA19800726	BAREL	Fabien	TEAM GT	2:58.01	+3.70
4	53	AUS19780301	KOVARIK	Chris	INTENSE CYCLES	2:58.43	+4.12
5	5	FRA19791011	PASCAL	Mickael	BE-ONE TEAM	2:59.17	+4.87
6	98	AUS19831121	HANNAH	Mick	GLOBAL RACING TEAM	3:00.33	+6.02
7	9	RSA19811113	MINNAAR	Greg	GLOBAL RACING TEAM	3:01.51	+7.20
8	7	NED19680416	DE BEVER	Bas	BE-ONE TEAM	3:01.91	+7.60
9	31	AUS19750623	RONNING	Michael	INTENSE CYCLES	3:02.42	+8.12
10	24	ESP19810417	ROJO VIDAL	Cesar	GLOBAL RACING TEAM	3:02.71	+8.41
11	4	FRA19780323	GRACIA	Cedric	VOLVO CANNONDALE	3:03.02	+8.71
12	10	ESP19730828	SAIZ CASTANE	Oscar	BE-ONE TEAM	3:03.48	+9.18
13	13	AUS19810631	RENNIE	Nathan	YETI- PEARL IZUMI	3:03.71	+9.41
14	60	SVK19820410	POLC	Filip	AUTHOR RB SKODA AUTO	3:04.04	+9.74
15	54	GBR19700916	WARNER	Rob	GIANT TOYOTA	3:04.20	+9.89
16	19	USA19720819	ROCKWELL	Myles	GIANT BICYCLES	3:04.85	+10.54
17	15	AUS19771105	MCCARROLL	Sean	GLOBAL RACING TEAM	3:04.97	+10.66
18	14	ITA19660804	HERIN	Corrado	TEAM SINTESI	3:05.16	+10.85
19	16	ESP19760807	MISSE VILASECA	Pau	SPAIN	3:05.62	+11.31
20	28	FRA19800826	DELDYCKE	Mickael	SCHWINN MTB TEAM	3:06.04	+11.74
21	26	GER19770808	KLAUSMANN	Marcus	HOT CHIL MK RACING	3:06.25	+11.94
22	25	SUI19770916	CALUORI	Claudio	SWITZERLAND	3:06.36	+12.05
23	23	GBR19700526	CARRICK-ANDERSON	Crawford	GIANT BICYCLES	3:06.66	+12.35
24	17	ESP19740930	MISSE VILASECA	Tomas	SPAIN	3:07.35	+13.04
25	67	NOR19800605	EVENSEN	Tommy	STORO MTB/N	3:07.72	+13.41
26	11	USA19700306	CARTER	Eric	MONGOOSE HYUNDAI	3:07.77	+13.46
27	30	GBR19720201	PAGE	Nigel	INTENSE	3:08.20	+13.90

<b>28</b>	46	USA19780320	HOUSEMAN	Rich	TOMAC	3:08.52	+ 14.21
<b>29</b>	40	FRA19760719	LAGNEAU	Cyril	TAILLEFER BICYCLES	3:08.75	+ 14.45
<b>30</b>	186	NED19800318	THOLEN	Gert		3:09.23	+ 14.93
<b>31</b>	33	CZE19780529	MAROSI	Michal	AUTHOR - RB SKODA AUTO	3:09.54	+ 15.23
<b>32</b>	57	CZE19780316	HYNCICA	Vlastimil	GRAFOBAL - SEMTEX	3:09.85	+ 15.55
<b>33</b>	77	FRA19810616	SERY	Jacky	FRANCE	3:10.08	+ 15.78
<b>34</b>	29	GBR19741120	LONGDEN	Will	TEAM MBUK	3:10.30	+ 15.99
<b>35</b>	35	GBR19721010	PONTING	Tim	GIANT TOYOTA	3:10.61	+ 16.30
<b>36</b>	45	FRA19820124	POOMANS	Julien	VOUILLOZ RACING TEAM	3:11.19	+ 16.89
<b>37</b>	184	LAT19800702	SKOLISH	Zigmars		3:12.12	+ 17.81
<b>38</b>	82	FRA19750110	AMOUR	Karim	DIAMONDBACK	3:12.16	+ 17.86
<b>39</b>	41	USA19800930	HOUSEMAN	Gary	TOMAC	3:12.42	+ 18.11
<b>40</b>	55	SUI19761023	WILDHABER	Rene	SWITZERLAND	3:12.50	+ 18.19
<b>41</b>	134	GBR19801009	BARLOW	Richard	ANIMAL ORANGE ROYAL RACING	3:12.98	+ 18.67
<b>42</b>	102	FRA19800722	ANTELME	Olivier	TOMAC	3:13.41	+ 19.10
<b>43</b>	117	CZE19770622	JOCH	Petr	ROCK MACHINE	3:13.84	+ 19.53
<b>44</b>	52	NED19720125	VAN DER HATERD	Wilfred	TEAM BEONE	3:13.99	+ 19.69
<b>45</b>	89	GBR19820815	JARMAN	Rob	HALFORDS BIKEHUT SCHWINN	3:14.09	+ 19.78
<b>46</b>	137	GBR19810228	CHEETHAM	Jon	HALFORDS BIKEHUT SCHWINN	3:14.09	+ 19.78
<b>47</b>	56	ESP19790604	OULEGO MORENO	Ivan	MAXXIS-MSC	3:14.12	+ 19.81
<b>48</b>	83	ESP19771229	SANCHEZ	Himar	MAXXIS-MSC	3:14.14	+ 19.84
<b>49</b>	198	GER19771207	BOETTNER	Jens	SOCAL/NICOLAI	3:14.73	+ 20.43
<b>50</b>	84	GBR19810310	WARDELL	Dave	TEAM MBUK	3:14.86	+ 20.56
<b>51</b>	172	GBR19820720	HARPER	Dan	ANCILLOTTI ZEAL	3:15.19	+ 20.88
<b>52</b>	148	FRA19770404	OCHIN	Olivier	FRANCE	3:15.23	+ 20.92
<b>53</b>	125	SUI19750923	STEFFEN	Andreas	SWITZERLAND	3:15.27	+ 20.96
<b>54</b>	36	FRA19810320	PAROLIN	Franck	SCOTT USA	3:15.67	+ 21.36
<b>55</b>	65	GBR19780602	BEAUMONT	Scott	TEAM KONA FORD FOCUS	3:16.32	+ 22.02

<b>56</b>	129	NOR19800807	JOHNSEN	Espen	BERGEN MTB/N	3:16.40	+ 22.09
<b>57</b>	177	FRA19760819	ORRE	Raymond	FRANCE	3:16.65	+ 22.35
<b>58</b>	136	GER19781003	SCHNEIDER	Frank	SOCAL - NICOLAI	3:16.76	+ 22.45
<b>59</b>	152	GBR19750414	WILSON	Shaun	DIRT MAGAZINE	3:16.77	+ 22.47
<b>60</b>	92	SWE19781017	POSSMAN	Johan	SWEDEN	3:16.97	+ 22.66
<b>61</b>	106	ESP19810629	ECHEVARRIA	Javier	SPAIN	3:17.00	+ 22.69
<b>62</b>	104	GER19790209	WAGENKNECHT	Andre	MTBDOWNHILL MAGAZINE	3:17.16	+ 22.85
<b>63</b>	173	FRA19721004	FICHANT	Stephane	FRANCE	3:17.80	+ 23.49
<b>64</b>	94	SUI19810120	MERMOUD	Damien	SWITZERLAND	3:17.89	+ 23.58
<b>65</b>	97	AUT19750422	GOLLES	Michael	BANK AUSTRIA NATIONALTEAM	3:18.03	+ 23.72
<b>66</b>	133	ESP19781012	BARTOLO	Pau	SPECIALIZED	3:18.08	+ 23.78
<b>67</b>	114	ESP19820930	GUARDIA PASCUAL	Berna	KASTLE CAIXA GALICIA	3:18.51	+ 24.21
<b>68</b>	48	CZE19810925	VAGNER	Adam	ROCK MACHINE	3:18.52	+ 24.21
<b>69</b>	195	SWE19801406	SYLWAN	Ragnar		3:18.73	+ 24.42
<b>70</b>	59	CZE19780109	SIMCIK	Daniel	MERIDA DH HLOHOVEC	3:19.27	+ 24.96
<b>71</b>	192	FIN19780924	VESIKKO	Jani	RIDE FREE	3:23.75	+ 29.44
<b>72</b>	188	IRL19790605	LAWLOR	John	BULL FROG RACING	3:23.76	+ 29.45
<b>73</b>	193	FIN19820321	MALINEN	Visa	FPL RACING	3:24.03	+ 29.73
<b>74</b>	200	GER19801021	GOINY	Nathaniel	STEPPENWOLF	3:24.08	+ 29.77
<b>75</b>	166	SVK19820516	KOZAR	Milan	ADRENALIN CK PARTNERS	3:26.65	+ 32.34
<b>76</b>	78	GBR19741030	FARMER	Matt	DIAMONDBACK	3:27.07	+ 32.76
<b>77</b>	63	JPN19701123	TSUKAMOTO	Takasi	MX MONGOOSE	3:27.73	+ 33.42
<b>78</b>	34	BRA19800209	BERCHTOLD	Markolf	GLOBAL RACING TEAM	3:29.82	+ 35.51
	12	USA19740531	VOREIS	Kirt	HARO/LEE DUNGAREES	DSQ	
	3	ESP19790210	VAZQUEZ LOPEZ	David	GIANT BICYCLES	DNS	