

DH#3 : Mont-Sainte-Anne, CAN : 29-30.06.2002

Chausson and Peat Tame Mont Sainte-Anne Downhill

Anne-Caroline Chausson (FRA, Volvo-Cannondale) and **Steve Peat** (GBR, Orange England) are two of downhill racing's very best and most consistent finishers. And they proved it again today, showing that they have the well-rounded skills needed to tame the long and demanding track here at Mont Sainte-Anne, Quebec when they won round #3 of the **Tissot-UCI Mountain Bike World Cup downhill**.

With warm conditions drying a course made muddy from previous days' rains, the third stop of the Downhill World Cup was held on Saturday, at this weekend's triple event in Canada. And with a difficult new tree section added to the top of this famous 3.1 km course, conditions were even more challenging for the 27 women and 80 men who contested a track full of rocks, roots and high speeds.

MEN: The men's finals saw more mixing up of the seeding run results, after #4-ranked **Cedric Gracia** (FRA, Volvo-Cannondale) posted the fastest qualifying time by beating **Greg Minnaar** (RSA, Global Racing Team) by .35 seconds and **Steve Peat** (GBR, Orange England) by 2.7. But while he would earn the 50 points that go along with being the fastest qualifier, his insurmountable speed would escape him in the finals, as Peat won round three and Gracia finished second - while Minnaar ended his day in 3rd.

Australian **Nathan Rankin** (Foes Azonic) made a strong statement early in the finals when he earned the hotseat and then stayed in it up until being finally bumped when 7th-seeded **Oscar Saiz** (ESP, Maxxis MSC) posted a time of 5:19.

But Saiz's teammate **Claudio Calouri** (SUI, Maxxis MSC) was next up, and posted a 5:18 to immediately take over the hotseat, after posting his career's best run. Now only five riders remained. 5th-seeded **Kirt Voreis** (USA, Haro/Lee Dungarees) could



Steve Peat, GBR



Cedric Gracia, FRA

manage no better than a 5:38 after he hit a tree on course, and neither could 4th-seeded **Mickael Pascal** (FRA, Be-One Team) who posted a time of 5:22 - good for an eventual 8th place.

Third-seeded Peat flew down the mountain to post a 5:09 - which shattered Calouri's time and beat Peat's own seeding run by 9 seconds. Minnaar came next, but could only make it down in 5:18, which put him into second position at the time.

Then top-seeded Gracia took to the mountain - riding above his limit and on the edge of control. He couldn't find the speed that had carried him through the semi-finals though, and finished in 5:13... good enough for 2nd place but not enough to beat Peat, who took his first win of the season.

"It went really good for me today," beamed a happy Peat afterward. "It's such a psychological course, so I prepared by warming up good, then getting a nap before the finals - I knew it was going to be hard."

Peat had extra work this year, as so much of this course was changed since he last raced on it in 2000 (and won here in 1999) *"It's like a new course for me, because I didn't ride here last year and they've made all these changes,"* he said. *"In practice I got blisters on my hands because it's so rough, so I saved it for the finals."*

His strategy worked, as he beat Gracia by 3.8 seconds on a brutal and technical course, one that seemed to actually get slower as the day wore on.

"I was faster in qualifying that I thought I would be, but in the finals I expected a better time, like a 5:10," said Gracia afterward. *"But everyone seemed to be going a bit slower in the finals, and then when I went I saw why. All my lines were destroyed. I made a couple mistakes, because I was riding over my limit - I heard that little bell in my head going off."*

Gracia's little warning bells kept him alert though, and he stayed fast enough to earn second place for the second time this season. But right behind him was Minnaar, who was just under 5 seconds slower than Gracia - and 8.6 seconds slower than Peat.



Greg Minaar, RSA



Steve Peat, GBR

Minnaar said "I had a good run, and did really well in the top wooded section - I shot right through there. I had a stumble in the second-to-last woods. I caught a log and it stopped me. But my foot stayed on the frame and I got going quick. It's a hard course mentally, and has tough tree sections technically."

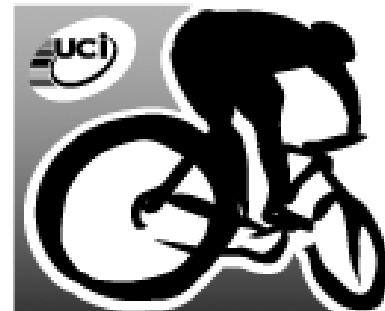
Series-leader Chris Kovarik (AUS, Intense Cycles) agreed, as he was slowed by a sore thumb after crashing hard in training Friday. "I couldn't hang on," said Kovarik after posting a 5:22, which gave him 9th for the day - but enough points to remain in the leader's jersey. Previously #2-ranked Nicolas Vouilloz (FRA, Vouilloz Racing Team) was not competing this week, as he recovers from surgery on his little finger. The nine-time World Champion will be out until this year's World's in Kaprun.

Words: Ari Cheren

Images: Mark Dawson www.fattirefotos.com



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MOUNTAINBIKE WORLD CUP 2002

Mont Sainte Anne, CAN
June 29th, 2002

Downhill Final Results

Men

Rank	Bib	Code	Surname	Nat	Team	Inter	Speed	Time	Gap	Pts
1.	3	GBR19740617	PEAT Steve	GBR		3:39.65		5:09.67		200
Course length : 3100 m / 1.93 Mile - Average Speed : 36.04 Km/h / 22.39 Mph										
2.	4	FRA19780323	GRACIA Cedric	FRA	VOLVO-CANNOND	3:43.91		5:13.55	+3.88	160
3.	14	RSA19811113	MINNAAR Greg	RSA	GLOBAL RACING	3:48.16		5:18.27	+8.60	140
4.	23	SUI19770916	CALUORI Claudio	SUI	MAXXIS-MSC	3:47.99		5:18.59	+8.92	125
5.	12	ESP19730828	SAIZ Oscar	ESP	MAXXIS-MSC	3:45.64		5:19.03	+9.36	110
6.	86	NZL19790430	RANKIN Nathan	NZL		3:49.81		5:20.83	+11.16	95
7.	19	AUS19771105	MCCARROLL Sean	AUS	GLOBAL RACING	3:49.77		5:21.00	+11.33	90
8.	6	FRA19791011	PASCAL Mickael	FRA	TEAM BE ONE	3:49.91		5:22.15	+12.48	85
9.	1	AUS19780301	KOVARIK Christopher	AUS		3:51.07		5:22.75	+13.08	80
10.	94	USA19790118	LEDUC Todd	USA		3:50.66		5:23.46	+13.79	75
11.	7	AUS19831121	HANNAH Mick	AUS	HAROLEEDUNGAR	3:52.85		5:23.80	+14.13	71
12.	11	ESP19790210	VAZQUEZ LOPEZ David	ESP	GIANT GLOBAL	3:51.35		5:23.88	+14.21	67
13.	37	FRA19840107	CAMELLINI Julien	FRA	VOUILLOZ RACI	3:52.03		5:24.18	+14.51	63
14.	15	NZL19760430	KIRKCALDIE John	NZL		3:52.96		5:24.67	+15.00	59
15.	81	USA19700306	CARTER Eric	USA	MONGOOSEHYUND	3:54.29		5:25.57	+15.90	55
16.	115	AUS19821216	GRAVES Jared	AUS		3:53.46		5:25.73	+16.06	52
17.	22	ESP19820930	GUARDIA PASCUAL Bernat	ESP	MAXXIS-MSC	3:52.86		5:25.79	+16.12	49
18.	8	AUS19810531	RENNIE Nathan	AUS		3:52.47		5:25.92	+16.25	46
19.	28	BRA19800209	BERCHTOLD Markolf	BRA	GLOBAL RACING	3:53.51		5:26.28	+16.61	43
20.	32	CZE19780529	MAROSI Michal	CZE		3:52.83		5:26.61	+16.94	40
21.	24	FRA19760719	LAGNEAU Cyril	FRA	MAXXIS-MSC	3:52.59		5:27.04	+17.37	37
22.	25	GBR19700916	WARNER Rob	GBR	GIANT GLOBAL	3:56.36		5:28.68	+19.01	34
23.	108	AUS19850721	HILL Samuel	AUS		3:54.12		5:28.82	+19.15	32
24.	82	USA19720819	ROCKWELL Myles	USA		3:55.69		5:29.38	+19.71	30
25.	97	CAN19800531	ADAMS Dustin	CAN		3:57.38		5:29.87	+20.20	28
26.	21	GBR19700526	CARRICK-ANDERSON C.	GBR		3:56.81		5:31.89	+22.22	25
27.	10	ESP19810417	ROJO Cesar	ESP	GLOBAL RACING	3:59.28		5:31.90	+22.23	24

Speed in Km/h - DNS=Did Not Start - DNF = Did Not Finish - DSQ = Disqualified

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Rank	Bib	Code	Surname	Nat	Team	Inter	Speed	Time	Gap	Pts
28.	54	SUI19810120	MERMOUD Damien	SUI		3:57.06		5:32.02	+ 22.35	23
29.	83	AUS19810622	RANDO Jared	AUS		3:57.91		5:33.12	+ 23.45	22
30.	109	CAN19760629	JONES Michael	CAN		3:59.57		5:35.14	+ 25.47	21
31.	46	GER19760514	TSCHUGG Guido	GER		4:02.13		5:36.03	+ 26.36	20
32.	107	CAN19820317	LAURIN Mathieu	CAN		3:59.47		5:36.05	+ 26.38	19
33.	85	AUS19800920	WADDELL John	AUS		3:57.62		5:36.86	+ 27.19	18
34.	93	AUS19830119	CORY Benjamin	AUS		3:58.76		5:37.00	+ 27.33	17
35.	26	GBR19820125	ATHERTON Daniel	GBR		4:00.65		5:37.27	+ 27.60	16
36.	17	USA19740531	VOREIS Kirt	USA	HAROLEEDUNGAR	4:06.74		5:38.35	+ 28.68	15
37.	61	CAN19720629	PORTER Trevor	CAN		4:03.16		5:38.49	+ 28.82	14
38.	20	NED19680416	DE BEVER Bas	NED	TEAM BE ONE	3:57.84		5:39.53	+ 29.86	13
39.	87	USA19790809	BAILEY Colin	USA		3:54.82		5:40.04	+ 30.37	12
40.	105	CAN19790626	LYON Brant	CAN		4:03.98		5:40.56	+ 30.89	11
41.	65	SVK19820410	POLC Filip	SVK		4:01.87		5:41.56	+ 31.89	10
42.	36	GBR19810310	WARDELL Dave	GBR		4:03.63		5:42.38	+ 32.71	9
43.	111	AUS19820912	ATKINSON Bryn	AUS		4:07.44		5:42.47	+ 32.80	8
44.	141	AUS19760809	GEARING Rohan	AUS		4:01.56		5:42.59	+ 32.92	7
45.	43	GBR19780602	BEAUMONT Scott	GBR		4:04.18		5:43.04	+ 33.37	6
46.	44	AUS19810316	BOYER Ricky	AUS		4:06.71		5:43.56	+ 33.89	5
47.	16	FRA19820124	POOMANS Julien	FRA		4:08.97		5:44.39	+ 34.72	4
48.	68	JPN19800422	IDEGAWA Naoki	JPN	GLOBAL RACING	4:07.20		5:44.40	+ 34.73	3
49.	5	FRA19800726	BAREL Fabien	FRA	MAXXIS-MSC	4:06.22		5:45.64	+ 35.97	2
50.	113	AUS19850330	MCLAUGHLIN David	AUS		4:02.86		5:45.94	+ 36.27	1
51.	30	GBR19840925	BEAUMONT Mark	GBR		4:11.64		5:47.67	+ 38.00	
52.	99	IRL19790505	YOONG Andrew	IRL		4:12.57		5:50.42	+ 40.75	
53.	33	GBR19741123	LONGDEN Will	GBR		4:04.27		5:50.63	+ 40.96	
54.	117	CAN19770705	MARKON Olivier	CAN		4:12.38		5:51.55	+ 41.88	
55.	116	USA19820109	WHITSELL Jesse	USA		4:11.13		5:51.93	+ 42.26	
56.	129	USA19711101	TRIBUS Lars	USA		4:13.35		5:52.13	+ 42.46	
57.	118	CAN19790320	MAILHOT Stephane	CAN		4:11.80		5:53.34	+ 43.67	
58.	106	USA19760220	BOSCH Todd	USA		4:14.54		5:53.69	+ 44.02	
59.	103	CAN19750601	ONYSCHUK Chad	CAN		4:09.61		5:54.36	+ 44.69	
60.	102	CAN19830822	LUNN Jordie	CAN		4:16.44		5:54.78	+ 45.11	
61.	95	CAN19711121	MAY Leon	CAN		4:03.14		5:54.93	+ 45.26	

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62.	125	CAN19820622	ELLER Brian	CAN		4:13.68		5:54.99	+ 45.32	
63.	136	CAN19831014	DONAIIS Hugo	CAN		4:13.56		5:56.37	+ 46.70	
64.	124	ESP19800812	MARIAS SORRIBES Ferran	ESP	MAXXIS-MSC	4:13.60		5:56.88	+ 47.21	
65.	110	IRL19831021	CORRY William	IRL		4:13.42		5:56.90	+ 47.23	
66.	121	USA19830414	KLAASSEN VAN OORSCHOT	USA		4:19.99		5:57.90	+ 48.23	
67.	127	USA19740816	TINTSMAN Phil	USA		4:15.26		5:58.15	+ 48.48	
68.	98	JPN19770605	TAKEMOTO Masashi	JPN		4:20.59		6:02.98	+ 53.31	
69.	101	JPN19721221	NABESHIMA Kenichi	JPN		4:23.92		6:04.33	+ 54.66	
70.	140	AUS19840117	HAVUKAINEN Justin	AUS		4:22.59		6:04.79	+ 55.12	
71.	58	IRL19830503	ROSS Colin	IRL		4:13.50		6:05.07	+ 55.40	
72.	131	NZL19811207	DODDS James	NZL		4:25.91		6:06.54	+ 56.87	
73.	120	CAN19771229	MARCOTTE Vincent	CAN		4:28.28		6:08.60	+ 58.93	
74.	142	AUS19840229	STROM Luke	AUS		4:28.08		6:10.73	+1:01.06	
75.	112	JPN19740605	MIYAKE Kazuyuki	JPN		4:30.01		6:13.60	+1:03.93	
76.	114	USA19730705	EBBETT Kyle	USA		4:37.39		6:21.25	+1:11.58	
77.	104	USA19840901	BEYTAGH Gerrit	USA		4:41.79		6:33.98	+1:24.31	
78.	126	GER19830421	AUERSWALD Daniel	GER		4:52.11		6:44.46	+1:34.79	
79.	92	GER19781003	SCHNEIDER Frank	GER		4:07.72		8:03.47	+2:53.80	
	128	NZL19830513	HADEN Glenn	NZL				DNF		

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