

## **Venue: Annecy, FRA- XC#10- Final- 6-7 September 1997**

Sunn-Nike teammates **Christophe**

**Dupouey** and **Miguel Martinez** shared the glory at a thrilling final to the 1997 Grundig/UCI world cup at Annecy, France, September 6 and 7. In Saturday's final, **Paola Pezzo** (ITA, Gary Fisher) cruised to a relaxed win and claimed one of the few titles she has not won so far in what is becoming one of mountain biking's most brilliant careers.

The men's final was the most exciting thus far in the history of world cup racing. Starting the day three riders were in contention: Martinez, **Cadel Evans** (AUS, DBR) and Dupouey. Dupouey attacked at the start of the seven lap race and was soon joined by the maverick Italian, **Luca Bramati**. These two forged a lead over the rocky single track climbs and descents that mark this as one of the most technically challenging courses on the '97 circuit. Bramati departed at the start of the second lap when his re-inflation cannister malfunctioned after a puncture. Dupouey continued on his own and nobody was strong enough to catch him.

In the second lap, Martinez was worried by nerves and lost ground to Evans. For about half an hour the 20 year old Australian was leading the world cup overall: Dupouey was leading the race, Evans was second and Martinez was back in sixth. But it didn't stay that way for long.

*"I felt like a bull in an arena, that all the public were after me. I'm not on form and I could see the World Cup slipping away from me. I knew I had to get back Evans and that's what I did."*

Martinez came back to Evans, but so did Olympic champion **Bart Brentjens** (NED, Mountain Dew/Specialized) and **Dominique Arnould** (FRA, Proflex/MasterCard). Belgian rider **Filip Meirhaeghe** (RecordBank) was already with the Australian. *"Evans and Martinez were looking at each other and I seemed to be in the middle. I didn't want to be with either of them, it was so tense,"* he said as attack and counter attack were made.

Starting the sixth lap Evans punctured and Martinez seized his chance. With only two laps remaining Evans realised it was all over. *"What can you do?"* He said. By the end of the race he had sustained a second flat. Towards the end of the race 1995 European champion, **Jean-Christophe Savignoni** (FRA, Look) moved up to Martinez and Meirhaeghe, while Brentjens and Arnould dropped back.

The last climb was an agonising affair with a trio trying to get what results they could. In the end Savignoni took second and Meirhaeghe third. But fourth place was enough to assure Martinez of the World Cup. At the age of 21 he is the youngest rider to win this trophy. It goes without saying that he also won the Under-23 World Cup.

*"It has not sunk in yet, I expect it will do so when I step onto the podium,"* said Martinez about his win. He seemed a little shell-shocked after his nerve racking race. Dupouey's win lifted him to second overall in the series ahead of Evans who was third overall.

The women's final was relatively processional. Pezzo only needed 18th in the final to win the series, but instead she took the line victory - her eighth this season and her sixth in succession. *"It is the realisation of a dream,"* she commented with a smile at the post race interview. Second place went to a resurgent **Alison Sydor** (CAN, Volvo-Cannondale), who was second in the series also. Third place in the series was won by **Chantal Daucourt** (SUI, Trek Volkswagen).

### **Paul Skilbeck**

**Crowd size:** 10,000.  
**Course Length:** 7.5km;  
**Climbing:** 306m;  
**Speeds: Men:** 19.7kph; **Women:** 17.6kph

**Men's XC Results:**

Pos	Bib	Name	First Name	Nat	Team	WCPTS	UCIcode	Time
1	3	DUPOUEY	CHRISTOPHE	FRA	SUNN-NIKE	100	FRA19680808	2:33:23.16
2	92	SAVIGNONI	JEAN-CHRISTOPH	FRA	LOOK MTN BIKES	93	FRA19660806	2:33:47.07
3	21	MEIRHAEGHE	FILIP	BEL	RECORDBANK	87	BEL19710305	2:34:10.18
4	1	MARTINEZ	MIGUEL	FRA	SUNN-NIKE	82	FRA19760117	2:34:21.92
5	9	MOLDAY	KIRK	CAN	MARIN	78	CAN19720916	2:34:57.20
6	8	RASMUSSEN	MICHAEL	DEN	TREK-VOLKSWAGEN	75	DEN19740601	2:35:16.43
7	14	BRENTJENS	BART	NED	MT DEW/SPECIALIZ	72	NED19681010	2:35:30.11
8	12	ARNOULD	DOMINIQUE	FRA	PROFLEX/MASTERCA	70	FRA19661119	2:35:46.77
9	4	DUBAU	LUDOVIC	FRA	SUNN-NIKE	68	FRA19731117	2:36:18.18
10	32	VAN DEN ABEELE	PETER	BEL	PROFLEX/MASTERCA	66	BEL19660501	2:36:49.38
11	5	PALLHUBER	HUBERT	ITA	DIAMONDBACK/TISS	65	ITA19650917	2:37:31.15
12	53	ORCEL	DAVID	FRA	SUNN-NIKE	64	FRA19701215	2:39:04.99
13	124	LEZAUN	ROBERTO	ESP	ORBEA ZEUS	63	ESP19670723	2:39:16.77
14	16	TCHERKASSOV	PAVEL	RUS	DIAMONDBACK/TISS	62	RUS19720513	2:39:32.11
15	25	DJERNIS	HENRIK	DEN	AMERICAN EAGLE	61	DEN19660422	2:39:46.90
16	31	VOLLET	GRÉGORY	FRA	GIANT	60	FRA19750321	2:41:56.34
17	22	HESTLER	ANDREAS	CAN	ROCKY MOUNTAIN	59	CAN19700512	2:43:05.31
18	23	OSTERGAARD	JAN ERIK	DEN	CORRATEC-IKO	58	DEN19610220	2:43:17.79
19	2	EVANS	CADEL	AUS	DIAMONDBACK	57	AUS19770214	2:43:36.51
20	30	ROWNEY	PAUL	AUS	GIANT/ZUUZ	56	AUS19701202	2:43:46.88
21	181	GARRO	JUAN CARLOS	SPA	LIBERTO MEGAMO A	55	ESP19681117	2:43:50.53
22	44	HERMIDA	JOSÉ ANTONIO	ESP	SCOTT INTL	54	ESP19780824	2:43:53.79
23	27	JUAREZ	DAVID 'TINKER'	USA	VOLVO/CANNONDALE	53	USA19610304	2:44:02.29
24	46	HOCHSTRASSER	THOMAS	SUI	TISSOT-WHEELER	52	SUI19760713	2:44:41.02
25	20	CIONI	DARIO	ITA	MAPEI-KONA	51	ITA19741202	2:45:03.41
26	29	GREEN	ROLAND	CAN	KONA FACTORY	50	CAN19740729	2:45:15.89

27	113	MCGRATH	SEAMUS	CAN	KONA FACTORY	49	CAN19760305	2:45:16.69
28	107	LARSEN	STEVE	USA	SCHWINN/TOYOTA R	48	USA19700313	2:45:24.15
29	10	BRENES	ANDRES	CRC	RITCHEY	47	CRC19641218	2:45:43.84
30	28	CRAIG	NICK	GBR	DIAMONDBACK	46	GBR19690403	2:45:44.53
31	13	LARSEN	TOM	NOR	AMERICAN EAGLE/N	45	NOR19720422	2:46:00.38
32	19	BISHOP	ANDY	USA	GARY FISHER	44	USA19650526	2:46:13.91
33	7	HÖYDAHL	RUNE	NOR	GIANT	43	NOR19691210	2:46:39.57
34	40	SHEPPARD	CHRIS	CAN	HARO	42	CAN19730419	2:46:40.27
35	209	JEAN	MICHEL	FRA	MBK	41	FRA19671005	2:46:46.10
36	34	GOULD	TIM	GBR	SCHWINN/TOYOTA R	40	GBR19640530	2:46:47.47
37	56	JUNGÄKER	ERIK	SWE	SCOTT INTL	39	SWE19770427	2:46:55.74
38	59	DIETSCH	THOMAS	FRA	CYCLES LAPIERRE	38	FRA19740808	2:47:00.09
39	60	GROVER	NEIL	CAN	ROCKY MOUNTAIN	37	CAN19770331	2:47:09.04
40	11	BAKER	DAVID	GBR	TEAM GT	36	GBR19651230	2:47:17.70
41	24	CLARKE	BARRIE	GBR	TEAM RALEIGH	35	GBR19661211	2:47:38.97
42	75	GRONBECH	MICHAEL	DEN	CORRATEC-IKO	34	DEN19740819	2:49:38.93
43	72	CERTAIN	LAURENT	FRA	CYCLES LAPIERRE	33	FRA19740202	2:49:59.49
44	78	ROLANDEZ	DAVID	FRA	CYCLES LAPIERRE	32	FRA19750518	2:50:10.19
45	207	FUMIC	LADO	GER	ROCKY MTN/ FIT 4	31	GER19760520	2:50:12.65
46	171	DEBOU	ERICK	FRA	MBK	30	FRA19690420	2:50:34.37
47	47	VAN DOOREN	BAS	NED	VSB BATAVUS	29	NED19730825	2:51:52.77
48	82	AUSTAD	HAAKON	NOR	NORWAY NAT/GIANT	28	NOR19780305	2:53:37.10
49	195	MICHEL	YANNICK	FRA	GT FRANCE	27	FRA19760315	2:54:42.47
50	39	AGERGAARD	JESPER	DEN	H + H	26	DEN19750218	2:55:59.57
51	112	NIJBOER	ERWIN	NED	AMERICAN EAGLE	25	NED19640502	2:56:26.37
52	110	MADRIGAL	ZIRANDA	MEX	TURBO	24	MEX19770523	2:57:24.67
53	174	CEARD	CLAUDE	FRA	JOSE ALVAREZ	23	FRA19730316	2:59:55.02
-1 lap								

54	244	TANZEN	BRENT	AUS	GIANT-AUS	22	AUS19711118	-1 LAP
55	253	SUZUKI	RAITA	JPN	BRIDGESTONE	21	JPN19720811	-1 LAP
56	241	WYSMYK	PIOTR	POL	LKS OPTEX	20	POL00000000	-1 LAP
57	258	MCCARNEY	CRAIG	AUS	DIAMONDBACK RACI	19	AUS19751030	-1 LAP
58	218	FLEMING	JOSH	AUS	YETI	18	AUS19751114	-1 LAP
59	250	REDENBACH	PAUL	AUS	VIC MTB	17	AUS19780411	-1 LAP
60	36	ACQUAROLI	DARIO	ITA	BIANCHI MARTINI	16	ITA19750310	-1 LAP
61	249	BARRIGA	SALVADOR	MEX	TURBO	15	MEX19770729	-1 LAP
62	84	PAYNE	GARRY	AUS	DIAMONDBACK AUS	14	AUS19741201	-1 LAP
63	263	CHRISTIANSEN	CHRISTIAN B.	DEN	ROSHILDE MTB-KLU	13	DEN19760403	-1 LAP
-2 laps								
64	256	KARCZYNSKI	MARCIN	POL	SKKG SANOK	12	POL19780706	-2 LAPS
65	96	GIL	DARIUSZ	POL	AUTHOR POM	11	POL19730514	-2 LAPS
66	248	WALLACE	MATT	AUS	WHEELER	10	AUS19720707	-2 LAPS
67	262	NIXON	CHRIS	RSA		9	RSA19680927	-2 LAPS
68	138	MOTE	LAURENCE	NZL	GIANT NZL	8	NZL19740807	-2 LAPS
69	130	DEBELIN	MATT	AUS		7	AUS19730727	-2 LAPS
-3 laps								
70	49	PERSSON	ROGER	SWE	CRESCENT	6	SWE19740601	-3 LAPS
71	229	RUDDOCK	GEDDON	RSA		5	RSA19750911	-3 LAPS
72	240	VINCENT	SHANE	NZL	AVANTI	4	NZL19740131	-3 LAPS
-4 laps								
73	259	MADDIGAN	FRASER	NZL	SCOTT	3	NZL19751225	-4 LAPS
74	178	KELLY	PAUL	NZL		2	NZL19760813	-4 LAPS
dnf								
0	67	GERRITSEN	MARCEL	NED	MT DEW/SPECIALIZ	0	NED19670106	DNF
0	35	KLUGE	MIKE	GER	FOCUS	0	GER19620925	DNF
0	90	GALINSKI	MAREK	POL	LKS OPTEX OPOCZN	0	POL19740801	DNF

0	65	HANISCH	MARC	GER	HERCULES	0	GER19740627	DNF
0	122	GUY	MATT	GBR	GIANT	0	GBR19750424	DNF
0	111	FOORD	GARY	GBR	SCOTT INTL	0	GBR19700914	DNF
0	114	NOEL	DENIS	FRA	SPECIALIZED	0	FRA19611111	DNF
0	95	JULIEN	FABRICE	FRA	HARO	0	FRA19650902	DNF
0	199	BAKER	ALDON	RSA	MAXXIS-OUTLAND	0	RSA19690523	DNF
0	33	PAULISSEN	ROEL	BEL	AMERICAN EAGLE	0	BEL19760427	DNF
0	15	FRISCHKNECHT	THOMAS	SUI	RITCHEY	0	SUI19700217	DNF
0	61	HELLER	MARCEL	SUI	SCHÖTZ-UNIVEGA	0	SUI19740621	DNF
0	68	STÖCKLI	LUKAS	SUI	GT-SWISS	0	SUI19721112	DNF
0	26	WABEL	BEAT	SUI	PROFLEX/MASTERCA	0	SUI19670523	DNF
0	48	WYSSEIER	RETO	SUI	SCOTT INTL	0	SUI19721016	DNF
0	69	POSPICHAL	KURT	AUT	GT - AUSTRIA	0	AUT19690816	DNF
0	54	BRAMATI	LUCA	ITA	SELLE ITALIA COL	0	ITA19681106	DNF
0	100	TAVELL	PHILIP	SWE	NATIONAL TEAM SW	0	SWE19750603	DNF
0	177	ACHARD	ERIC	FRA	SCOTT-FRANCE	0	FRA19690104	DNF
0	226	REIN	AXEL	GER	H+H	0	GER19770729	DNF
0	77	SAUSER	CHRISTOPHE	SUI	PARKPRE FORD WIN	0	SUI19760413	DNF
0	50	MANIN	CHRISTOPHE	FRA	MBK	0	FRA19660712	DNF
0	104	BROWN	TRAVIS	USA	TREK/VOLKSWAGEN	0	USA19690807	DNF
0	45	BONNAND	CYRILLE	FRA	VOLVO/CANNONDALE	0	FRA19690104	DNF
0	194	REYNAUD	MICKAÉL	FRA	MT DEW/SPECIALIZ	0	FRA19780615	DNF
0	118	BENNETT	TIM	AUS	BARRACUDA	0	AUS19780925	DNF
0	238	BODNAR	GRZEGORZ	POL	BASZTA BYTOW	0	POL19780331	DNF
0	17	HERISSET	CHRISTOPHE	FRA	SUNN-NIKE	0	FRA19720910	DNF
0	86	LEUCHS	KASHI	NZL	VOLVO/CANNONDALE	0	NZL19780620	DNF
0	41	DELION	GILLES	FRA	CYCLES LAPIERRE	0	FRA19660805	DNF
0	261	FINKE	BERND	RSA		0	RSA19781006	DNF

0	254	ABARCA	RODOLFO	MEX	TURBO	0	MEX19710604	DNF
0	134	DE KNEGT	GERBEN	NED	AMERICAN EAGLE	0	NED19751211	DNF
0	208	HATZ	GOTTFRIED	AUT	BIANCHI CONTI KR	0	AUT19680225	DNF
0	63	HEYLEN	BENNY	BEL	VSB-BATAVUS	0	BEL19620920	DNF