

## **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

## ***Women's XC Results***

Pos	Bib	Name	First Name	Nat	Team	WCPTS	UCIcode	Time
1	1	PEZZO	PAOLA	ITA	GARY FISHER-ROSO	75	ITA19690108	1:44:51.25
2	2	SYDOR	ALISON	CAN	VOLVO/CANNONDALE	70	CAN19660909	1:46:10.49
3	15	FULLANA	MARGARITA	ESP	LIBERTO MEGAMO A	66	ESP19720409	1:47:00.43
4	11	LEBOUCHER	LAURENCE	FRA	PEUGEOT LA POSTE	62	FRA19720222	1:47:29.50
5	4	MATTHES	RUTHIE	USA	POWERBAR	58	USA19651111	1:47:54.84
6	5	DUNLAP	ALISON	USA	TEAM GT	55	USA19690727	1:48:48.93
7	12	FÜRST	SILVIA	SUI	MT DEW/SPECIALIZ	52	SUI19610508	1:50:04.03
8	3	DAUCOURT	CHANTAL	SUI	TREK/VOLKSWAGEN	49	SUI19660623	1:50:54.73
9	7	TOMLINSON	LESLEY	CAN	KONA FACTORY	46	CAN19591226	1:51:21.49
10	29	DAHLE	GUNN-RITA	NOR	AMERICAN EAGLE	43	NOR19730210	1:52:34.02
11	8	STROPPARO	ANNABELLA	ITA	VOLVO-CANNONDALE	40	ITA19680704	1:52:34.63
12	52	EGLIN-HOSOTTE	SOPHIE	FRA	PEUGEOT LA POSTE	39	FRA19660930	1:53:31.41
13	17	ZU PUTLITZ	HEDDA	GER	TEAM H+H	38	GER19650904	1:55:54.87
14	10	REDDEN	CHRISTINA	CAN	RITCHEY	37	CAN19660316	1:56:01.66
15	22	EPIFANOVA	ALLA	RUS	BUDVAR	36	RUS19761202	1:56:32.12
16	30	BRUNGER	TRACY	GBR	PROFLEX/MASTERCA	35	GBR19700608	1:56:33.07
17	14	GRIGSON	MARY	AUS	GIANT/AIS	34	AUS19710603	1:56:33.80
18	27	GASSMANN	DANIELA	SUI	TISSOT-WHEELER	33	SUI19640723	1:57:42.54
19	6	DE NEGRI	NADIA	ITA	BIANCHI MARTINI	32	ITA19720406	1:58:38.76
20	51	SINCLAIR	PATRICIA	CAN	KONA FACTORY	31	CAN19690202	1:58:52.44
21	35	JONSSON	ANNICA	SWE	CRESCENT	30	SWE19701227	1:59:24.08
22	20	TEMPORELLI	SANDRA	FRA	PEUGEOT LA POSTE	29	FRA19690125	1:59:41.44
23	82	LINDBERG	MADELEINE	SWE	NATL TEAM SWEDEN	28	SWE19720302	2:00:03.06
24	70	FIAT	NATHALIE	FRA	KONA	27	FRA19641104	2:00:28.99
25	28	MARUNDE	REGINA	GER	GT GERMANY	26	GER19680826	2:00:52.26

26	25	SPITZ	SABINE	GER	TEAM KONA-EMS	25	GER19711227	2:01:13.23
27	45	GEYSEN	HANNEKE	AUS	RAW NRG	24	AUS19770730	2:01:57.60
28	18	MCQUAID	MELANIE	CAN	ROCKY MOUNTAIN	23	CAN19730517	2:02:23.10
29	19	TANIKAWA	KANAKO	JPN	A&F;	22	JPN19700524	2:02:41.17
30	78	CLARET	DANIELE	FRA	SPECIALIZED	21	FRA19690624	2:03:52.43
31	154	MOLL	RUTH	ESP	SCOTT	20	ESP19740520	2:05:24.00
32	9	RÖSCH	NORA	GER	PROFLEX/MASTERCA	19	GER19750708	2:05:53.07
33	71	JÜNGST	BIRGIT	GER		18	GER19671001	2:06:41.42
34	36	NAKAGOME	YUKARI	JPN	MIYATA	17	JPN19651030	2:09:15.43
35	101	MARQUESTAUT	SYLVIE	FRA		16	FRA19680224	2:09:25.36
36	74	CARRE	ODILE	FRA	PARIS O. C.	15	FRA19710316	2:09:55.89
37	158	MUNOZ CARRETE	CARIZA	MEX		14	MEX19701115	2:10:32.89
38	33	MICHELS-SMITH	ANDREA	GER	KHS GERMANY	13	GER19711116	2:11:41.94
39	134	DU PLESSIS	SUSAN	AUS		12	AUS19631014	2:12:13.15
40	151	FRANKE	DELLYS	AUS	GIANT-AUS	11	AUS19761002	2:12:33.33
41	120	WEISS	BARBARA	GER	TEAM STEVENS	10	GER19780522	2:14:26.56
42	129	HALL	JOANNE	AUS		9	AUS19710922	2:22:17.21
-1 lap								
43	135	BRACKX	ANNICK	BEL	TREK USA	8	BEL19610508	-1 LAP
dnf								
0	13	ALEXANDER	CAROLINE	GBR	RITCHEY	0	GBR19680303	DNF
0	68	GREEN	ERICA	RSA		0	RSA19700925	DNF
0	73	VAN WERSCH	LOES	NED	VSF BATAVUS	0	NED19670807	DNF
0	40	DORLAND	CORINE	NED	VSF BATAVUS	0	NED19730630	DNF
0	42	BRAUMANN	BIRGIT	AUT	CYCLOPIA TREK	0	AUT19730405	DNF
0	67	GRETHEN	ANTJE	GER	SUNN-NIKE	0	GER19650929	DNF
0	104	GARCIA	NADÉGE	FRA	EGOBIKE	0	FRA19770418	DNF
0	47	COPNALL	JENNY	GBR	BIKEPARK/RALEIGH	0	GBR19751119	DNF

0	65	OHRSTIG	EMELIE	SWE	GT-SWEDEN/NATL S	0	SWE19780227	DNF
0	111	ROWNTREE	ISLA	GBR	BLACK COUNTRY WH	0	GBR19690413	DNF
0	16	ROVIRA	SILVIA	ESP	SPECIALIZED-SPAI	0	ESP1967 1215	DNF
dns								
0	32	JACQUES	TAMMY	USA	SCHWINN/TOYOTA R	0	USA19651203	DNS