Venue: Mt Snow, Vermont, USA- XC#6- 21/22 June 1997

Rune Hoydahl (NOR, Giant) lifted himself out of the slump that had affected him in the first half of the season, to win the sixth round of the Grundig/UCI Mountain Bike World Cup, at Mount Snow, Vermont, USA. This was Hoydahl's third consecutive win on the Mount Snow course and the seventh World Cup round win of his career.

At the end of the race, Hoydahl claimed that Pallhuber should have won if not for a puncture in the final two kilometres. "Hubert attacked and got away from me on the final climb. He was descending really well today and there was no way I was going to win," said the gracious Hoydahl.



Pallhuber's climbing speed on the final lap was almost unprecedented

Mountain biking, however, is all about getting bike and body to the finish in one piece. Hoydahl had deliberately inflated his tyres to an unusually high pressure in order to guard against punctures on the rocks and roots of the descent. In doing so he sacrificed some cornering potential, which the skilled descender could have used to open a gap ahead of Pallhuber. Such an eventuality would have brought back memories of the World Cup race here last year, when Hoydahl and Pallhuber had a race-long battle, which Hoydahl finally won by taking time from the Italian on the descent.



Martinez bided his time and made a lst lap effort

Pallhuber: "You saw I could win it, but for the flat - still, that's mountain biking," he said to journalists at the finish.

Pallhuber started fast, left everybody but Hoydahl behind and then rode steadily until the final lap, where he left Hoydahl after repeated attacks on the main climb. Behind these two an interesting battle took place among the field of riders, which was in good shape following a five week break in the World Cup circuit. *Miguel Martinez* (FRA, Sunn-Nike) finally triumphed in this to take third place, almost a minute and a half behind Pallhuber (who stopped to repair his puncture), and twenty seven seconds ahead of his rival, *Cadel Evans* (AUS, DBR). Evans retained the Under 23 leader's jersey, but will not be in the running to reclaim the Blue World Cup leader's jersey from *Christophe Dupouey* (FRA, Sunn-Nike) until next race, when results start to be thrown out.

The World Cup is decided by the best six results of the series, plus the result in the final. Dupouey had a bad race and struggled to finish 17th. "I'm looking forward to Mont-Sainte-Anne, it's a better course for me," said the relieved World Cup leader. But then, a lot of riders are looking forward to Mont-Sainte-Anne, and a lot of them have very good form.



Rune Hoydahl chasing Pallhuber on the fourth lap

Paul Skilbeck

Next race. Mont-Sainte-Anne, Quebec, Canada, June 28-29.

Course: 8.85km, 411m climbing each lap.

Spectators: 9,000;

Weather: hot, humid, sunny. Laps/distance, men: 4.25/37.6km. Average speed: Men (approx.) 16.6kph



Hoydahl about to spray the press with champagne

Men's XC Results

Pos	Bib	Name	First Name	Nat	Team	WCPTS	Time
1	5	HÖYDAHL	RUNE	NOR	GIANT	100	2:15:46.22
2	7	PALLHUBER	HUBERT	ITA	DIAMONDBACK/TISS	93	2:17:50.78
3	4	MARTINEZ	MIGUEL	FRA	SUNN-NIKE	87	2:19:12.44
4	3	EVANS	CADEL	AUS	DIAMONDBACK	82	2:19:40.06
5	15	MOLDAY	KIRK	CAN	MARIN	78	2:20:00.95
6	19	KRISTENSEN	LENNIE	DEN	GIANT	75	2:20:17.06
7	12	BRENES	ANDRES	CRC	RITCHEY	72	2:20:41.85
8	8	RASMUSSEN	MICHAEL	DEN	TREK-VOLKSWAGEN	70	2:22:31.05
9	31	DJERNIS	HENRIK	DEN	AMERICAN EAGLE	68	2:22:42.38
10	21	LARSEN	TOM	NOR	NORWAY NAT	66	2:23:07.72
11	14	FRISCHKNECHT	THOMAS	SUI	RITCHEY	65	2:23:23.52
12	38	WABEL	BEAT	SUI	PROFLEX/MASTERCA	64	2:23:34.89
13	16	BRENTJENS	BART	NED	MT DEW/SPECIALIZ	63	2:23:40.83
14	47	JUAREZ	DAVID 'TINKER'	USA	VOLVO/CANNONDALE	62	2:23:44.53
15	6	BAKER	DAVID	GBR	TEAM GT	61	2:23:57.41
16	53	GREEN	ROLAND	CAN	KONA FACTORY	60	2:24:06.81
17	1	DUPOUEY	CHRISTOPHE	FRA	SUNN-NIKE	59	2:24:38.26
18	177	LARSEN	STEVE	USA	SCHWINN/TOYOTA R	58	2:24:57.46
19	11	CHIOTTI	JEROME	FRA	TEAM GT FRANCE	57	2:26:50.06
20	24	BISHOP	ANDY	USA	GARY FISHER	56	2:27:10.03
21	27	ACQUAROLI	DARIO	ITA	BIANCHI MARTINI	55	2:27:15.51
22	2	DUBAU	LUDOVIC	FRA	SUNN-NIKE	54	2:27:27.71
23	40	MYRAH	DON	USA	TREK/VOLKSWAGEN	53	2:28:03.97
24	30	VOLLET	GRÉGORY	FRA	GIANT	52	2:28:18.99
25	69	PAULISSEN	ROEL	BEL	AMERICAN EAGLE	51	2:28:26.70

26	157	SCHWEDLER	JENS	GER	GIANT	50	2:28:32.90
27	29	CLARKE	BARRIE	GBR	TEAM RALEIGH	49	2:28:34.60
28	212	ARIAS SANCHEZ	JHON RAMIRO	COL	TREK - CEMDE	48	2:28:36.52
29	25	CRAIG	NICK	GBR	DIAMONDBACK	47	2:28:42.88
30	93	PRICE	DARYL	USA	TREK/VOLKSWAGEN	46	2:28:55.20
31	26	OSTERGAARD	JAN ERIK	DEN	CORRATEC-IKO	45	2:29:03.69
32	116	WELLS	TODD	USA	MT DEW/SPECIALIZ	44	2:29:49.41
33	13	CIONI	DARIO	ITA	MAPEI-KONA	43	2:30:13.61
34	65	LANDIS	FLOYD	USA	TWP	42	2:30:35.53
35	17	TCHERKASSOV	PAVEL	RUS	DIAMONDBACK/TISS	41	2:30:52.23
36	191	SWENSON	CARL	USA	PROFLEX/MASTERCA	40	2:30:57.68
37	80	GOULD	TIM	GBR	SCHWINN/TOYOTA R	39	2:31:22.57
38	67	STAUDER	ROLAND	ITA	RAINER BIKE TEAM	38	2:31:26.12
39	106	SWENSON	PETER	USA	POLO SPORT	37	2:32:06.60
40	57	HANISCH	MARC	GER	HERCULES	36	2:32:54.72
41	141	MCGRATH	SEAMUS	CAN	KONA FACTORY	35	2:33:06.35
42	41	VAN DEN ABEELE	PETER	BEL	PROFLEX/MASTERCA	34	2:33:18.65
43	18	HESTLER	ANDREAS	CAN	ROCKY MOUNTAIN	33	2:33:28.79
44	95	HOCHSTRASSER	THOMAS	SUI	TISSOT-WHEELER	32	2:33:46.49
45	94	BALCELLS	ALBERT	ESP	BUFF-OF3 SHAD	31	2:34:06.41
46	10	ARNOULD	DOMINIQUE	FRA	PROFLEX/MASTERCA	30	2:34:16.84
47	46	VAN DOOREN	BAS	NED	VSB BATAVUS	29	2:34:18.74
48	200	AUSTAD	HAAKON	NOR	NORWAY NAT/GIANT	28	2:34:47.06
49	77	WEBBER	PETER	USA	GARY FISHER	27	2:34:51.42
50	158	HOWE	MARK	USA	POLO SPORT	26	2:34:56.20
51	85	JULIEN	FABRICE	FRA	HARO	25	2:35:13.77
52	81	LARSSON	TOMMY	SWE	CRESCENT	24	2:35:28.84
53	54	JUNGÄKER	ERIK	SWE	SCOTT INTL	23	2:36:16.70

54	68	GROVER	NEIL	CAN	ROCKY MOUNTAIN	22	2:36:43.57
55	92	GULLICKSON	MARC	USA	TEAM GT	21	2:36:57.76
56	42	PERSSON	ROGER	SWE	CRESCENT	20	2:37:24.86
57	55	BONNAND	CYRILLE	FRA	VOLVO/CANNONDALE	19	2:37:29.91
58	204	CESAL	MARK	USA	PRO DYNAMIX	18	2:37:50.84
59	122	TILFORD	STEVE	USA	MT DEW/SPECIALIZ	17	2:38:34.45
60	155	STARK	KEITH	CAN	NORCO	16	2:38:41.53
61	216	BAKER	ALDON	RSA	MAXXIS-OUTLAND	15	2:38:44.71
62	189	GERKEN	MATT	USA	COOLMAX DEVO	14	2:39:45.68
63	167	GREWAL	RANJEET	USA	MERCEDES BENZ/AM	13	2:40:01.54
64	86	WIENS	DAVID	USA	KONA FACTORY	12	2:40:01.79
65	221	TOULOUSE	MATHIEU	CAN	BROMONT AVP	11	2:40:42.96
66	190	JONES	ERIC	USA	PLYMOUTH/ELLSWOR	10	2:42:14.76
67	51	WIEJAK	JAN	POL	HARO/LKS PRIM KO	9	2:42:48.61
68	214	HORGAN KOBELSKI	JEREMY	USA	COOL MAX DEVO	8	2:43:05.65
69	152	TAVELLA	IGOR	ITA	S.C ALTA BADIA	7	2:43:58.23
70	89	DAN	TAKUMA	JPN	SCOTT-JAPAN	6	2:44:59.91
71	213	LLOYD	NATHAN	USA	BIANCHI MARTINI	5	2:46:05.36
72	196	PARADIS	SEBASTIEN	CAN	TEAM DEKERF	4	2:47:52.03
73	208	СОВНАМ	PAUL	CAN	SILENT SPORTS	3	2:48:23.45
74	207	WEEKES	CHANDLER	USA	CANE CREEK	2	2:48:28.23
75	218	DESCHEPPER	SAMMY	BEL	BALANCE	1	2:50:01.48
76	195	BRADY	CRAIG	IRL		0	2:51:04.32
77	202	SHRIVER	ZACH	USA	COOL MAX DEVO	0	2:51:12.25
78	220	ARIAS ACOSTA	JUAN CARLOS	COL	GIANT KOSTA AZUL	0	2:51:54.69
79	201	NIELSEN	FRODE	NOR	NORWAY NATL TEAM	0	2:53:23.83
80	206	BLANCO	GABRIEL	ARG	MARIN	0	2:56:57.43
81	210	BARRY	PAUL	RSA	MERCEDES BENZ/AM	0	2:59:36.62

82	222	LAFONTAINE	BRUNO	CAN	TEAM KONA	0	3:01:21.44
at -1							
0	224	BLAIS	JEAN-FRANCOIS	CAN	NEW COURT DEVINC	0	- 1 LAP
0	186	DE BELIN	MATT	AUS		0	- 1 LAP
dnf							
	43	KLUGE	MIKE	GER	FOCUS	0	DNF
	37	HUMMELSIEP	DENNIS	GER	TEAM H + H	0	DNF
	188	SEYMOUR	ROBIN	IRL	ROCKY MOUNTAIN	0	DNF
	175	FOORD	GARY	GBR	SCOTT INTL	0	DNF
	39	AGERGAARD	JESPER	DEN	H + H	0	DNF
	60	VAN DE VEN	JOHAN	NED	VSB BATAVUS	0	DNF
	181	ARNTZ	MARCEL	NED	PROFLEX/MASTERCA	0	DNF
	34	WYSSEIER	RETO	SUI	SCOTT INTL	0	DNF
	134	GREWAL	RISHI	USA	KLEIN	0	DNF
	215	PARKIN	JOE	USA	NAUTILUS/BARACUD	0	DNF
	48	ROWNEY	PAUL	AUS	GIANT/AIS	0	DNF
	183	HALL	JEFF	USA	BREEZER/NEXUS	0	DNF
	103	KILLEN	JIMI	USA	DIAMONDBACK	0	DNF
	179	BROWN	TRAVIS	USA	TREK/VOLKSWAGEN	0	DNF
	187	BICKNELL	JEFF	USA	NAUTILUS/BARACUD	0	DNF
	223	ROBERT	JEAN-FRANCOIS	CAN	NEW COURT DEVINC	0	DNF
	192	WALKER	ADAM	CAN	NORCO	0	DNF
	178	BENNETT	TIM	AUS	BARRACUDA	0	DNF
	105	RANDOLPH	GREG	USA	TEAM GT	0	DNF
	209	SCHULTZ	NATHAN	USA	SCHWINN/TOYOTA R	0	DNF
	135	NIJBOER	ERWIN	NED	AMERICAN EAGLE	0	DNF
	9	HERISSET	CHRISTOPHE	FRA	SUNN-NIKE	0	DNF
	180	HILL	DEAN	NZL	DIAMONDBACK	0	DNF

22	MEIRHAEGHE	FILIP	BEL	RECORDBANK	0	DNF
126	PIRAZZOLI	MIRKO	ITA	PRO DYNAMIX BUD	0	DNF
211	OCAMPO	FEDERICO	COL	BANCAFE	0	DNF
45	SHEPPARD	CHRIS	CAN	HARO	0	DNF
217	DE KNEGT	GERBEN	NET	AMERICAN EAGLE	0	DNF
219	HERNANDEZ LADINO	EDWARD NELSON	COL	SPECIALIZED-COLO	0	DNF