

Venue: Wellington, New Zealand- XC#2- 12/13 April 1997

Youth overwhelmed experience in a thrilling race on a scenic course at the second round of the Grundig/UCI mountain bike world cup.

After making a courageous lap five attack, the young Australian rider, **Cadel Evans** (DiamondBack), pushed home his advantage to win by a minute and a half. Evans (20), from Melbourne, Australia, is the youngest rider to win a cross country mountain bike world cup event.

"It was kind of demotivating when I was out on my own at the end of the race. I've worked so hard and so long for this, I couldn't believe I was actually about to win a world cup event," said the Australian Champion. After his result today, Evans takes over the overall lead of the world cup in both Elite and Under 23 categories.

Early in the six lap race, held on the Mt Victoria course overlooking the city of Wellington, **Dario Cioni** (ITA, Mapei Kona) and **Miguel Martinez** (FRA, Sunn-Nike) made an adventurous attack and forged an early lead.



Cadel Evans at [Napa- XC#1](#)

Martinez was slightly the stronger of the two, but on lap two he suffered a double puncture on the rocks and withdrew from the race. This left Cioni alone with a lead of around 25 seconds over the three-man chasing group, which included **Jerome Chiotti** (FRA, GT), **Christophe Dupouey** (FRA, Sunn-Nike) and Cadel Evans.

Cioni applied further pressure and extended his lead to almost a minute on lap three, but on lap four he started to flag, and after the main climb on the fifth, Evans, Dupouey and Chiotti were hard on his heels. Evans didn't wait to find out what was going to happen to him, alone with two Frenchmen, one the World Champion, the other last year's World Cup Champion. *"I was feeling a bit nervous about being done over by these two, and I felt pretty good, so I decided to attack rather than leave it until the end,"* said Evans.

Chiotti knew by the second lap that if Evans attacked he would be in trouble, so when the attack came, he did not try to respond. Dupouey made an effort to hang on, but Evans was more than a match.

The established riders had better watch out. The young ones - Evans, Cioni (23) and Martinez (21) made the race today. It is going to be a tough and unpredictable season.

Next race: [St Wendel](#), Germany, 26-27th April.

Paul Skilbeck

Course: 8.4km, 350m climbing each lap.

Surface: rocks, roots, sandy clay; medium technical.

Spectators: 8,500 Weeked's total: 14,500;

Weather: Overcast, rain falling on final lap.

Laps/Distance: 6/50.4km.

Average speed: Men - 21kp/h; Women - 17.7kp/h

Men's XC Results

Pos	Bib	Name	First Name	Nat	Team	Points	Time
1	6	EVANS	CADEL	AUS	DIAMONDBACK	100	2:24:16.00
2	10	DUPOUEY	CHRISTOPHE	FRA	SUNN-NIKE	93	2:25:52.00
3	3	CHIOTTI	JEROME	FRA	TEAM GT	87	2:26:32.00
4	5	DUBAU	LUDOVIC	FRA	SUNN-NIKE	82	2:27:21.00
5	12	MOLDAY	KIRK	CAN	MARIN	78	2:27:51.00
6	79	CIONI	DARIO	ITA	MAPEI-KONA	75	2:29:55.00
7	88	ACQUAROLI	DARIO	ITA	BIANCHI MARTINI	72	2:30:45.00
8	20	HERISSET	CHRISTOPHE	FRA	SUNN-NIKE	70	2:31:14.00
9	9	BAKER	DAVID	GBR	TEAM GT	68	2:31:52.00
10	29	JUAREZ	DAVID 'TINKER'	USA	VOLVO/CANNONDALE	66	2:32:15.00
11	1	BRAMATI	LUCA	ITA	SELLE ITALIA COL	65	2:32:27.00
12	45	MYRAH	DON	USA	TREK/VOLKSWAGEN	64	2:33:30.00
13	91	ORCEL	DAVID	FRA	SUNN-NIKE	63	2:33:38.00
14	11	TCHERKASSOV	PAVEL	RUS	DIAMONDBACK/TISS	62	2:33:53.00
15	82	BISHOP	ANDY	USA	GARY FISHER	61	2:35:09.00
16	71	AGERGAARD	JESPER	DEN	TEAM H+H	60	2:35:56.00
17	2	HÖYDAHL	RUNE	NOR	GIANT	59	2:36:19.00
18	16	PALLHUBER	HUBERT	ITA	DIAMONDBACK/TISS	58	2:36:48.00
19	80	LAWN	CRAIG	NZL	SPECIALIZED NZL	57	2:36:59.00
20	19	ROWNEY	PAUL	AUS	GIANT/AIS	56	2:38:22.00
21	43	VOLLET	GRÉGORY	FRA	GIANT	55	2:39:03.00
22	60	GRONBECH	MICHAEL	DEN	IKO-CORRATEC	54	2:39:10.00
23	52	ARNOULD	DOMINIQUE	FRA	PROFLEX/MASTERCA	53	2:39:45.00
24	84	GREGORY	JOHN	AUS	TIS/GIANT	52	2:41:05.00
25	31	FONTANA	ALESSANDRO	ITA	DIAMONDBACK/TISS	51	2:41:35.00

26	93	PAYNE	GARRY	AUS	DIAMONDBACK AUS	50	2:41:43.00
27	37	RASMUSSEN	MICHAEL	DEN	TREK-VOLKSWAGEN	49	2:41:44.00
28	111	HUMMELSIEP	DENNIS	GER	TEAM H + H	48	2:43:35.00
29	18	HESTLER	ANDREAS	CAN	ROCKY MOUNTAIN	47	2:45:01.00
30	99	GULLICKSON	MARC	USA	TEAM GT	46	2:45:33.00
31	42	JUNGÄKER	ERIK	SWE	SCOTT INTL	45	2:46:19.00
32	68	BONNAND	CYRILLE	FRA	VOLVO/CANNONDALE	44	2:47:50.00
33	74	BALCELLS	ALBERT	ESP	BUFF-OF3 SHAD	43	2:49:05.00
34	64	OSTERGAARD	JAN ERIK	DEN	IKO-CORRATEC	42	2:51:49.00
35	96	STOCKWELL	LUKE	AUS	BARRACUDA	41	2:51:50.00
at -1 lap							
36	85	LEUCHS	KASHI	NZL	DIAMONDBACK NZL	40	2:25:10.00
37	106	PALMER	CHRIS	NZL		39	2:25:11.00
38	67	DAN	TAKUMA	JPN	SCOTT-JAPAN	38	2:25:12.00
39	115	STOCKWELL	JAY	AUS	LIFECYCLE	37	2:25:13.00
40	118	RANDOLPH	GREG	USA	TEAM GT	36	2:25:19.00
41	101	MOTE	LAURENCE	NZL	GIANT NZL	35	2:25:20.00
42	90	LUNDBERG	MARTIN	SWE	TREK SWEDEN	34	2:25:21.00
43	98	BAIN	KARL	NZL	TREK	33	2:27:10.00
44	87	HENDERSON	DARRYN	NZL	GIANT NZL	32	2:28:10.00
45	121	SULLIVAN	MARCUS	NZL		31	2:28:11.00
46	100	MEO	ANDREW	NZL	GIANT NZL	30	2:28:12.00
47	105	UNSWORTH	CRAIG	NZL	FREESTYLE BRIDGE	29	2:28:13.00
48	122	POWELL	BEN	NZL		28	2:28:15.00
49	116	BOX	PETER	NZL	EXAGYM	27	2:28:17.00
50	112	HISCOCK	WAYNE	NZL	AVANTI	26	2:28:18.00
51	107	MAYNE	MIKE	NZL	MUD CYCLES	25	2:28:19.00
52	120	SHAPLEY	BRYCE	NZL	KEY CYCLES	24	2:28:21.00

53	102	PALMER	CHARLIE	NZL		23	2:28:22.00
54	117	KELLY	PAUL	NZL		22	2:28:23.00
55	113	BLAIR	NICK	NZL	CYCLE SERVICES	21	2:30:10.00
dnf							
0	4	MARTINEZ	MIGUEL	FRA	SUNN-NIKE	0	
0	7	KRISTENSEN	LENNIE	DEN	GIANT	0	
0	48	VAN DEN ABEELE	PETER	BEL	PROFLEX/MASTERCA	0	
0	104	GRIFFITH JONES	GWILYM	NZL		0	
0	55	GREWAL	RISHI	USA	KLEIN	0	
0	108	HILL	DEAN	NZL	PROFLEX NZL	0	
0	86	FELLINGHAM	CLIFF	NZL	DIAMONDBACK NZL	0	
0	97	VINCENT	SHANE	NZL	AVANTI	0	
0	119	GIOAI	DANILO	ITA	TM CECINI SPORT	0	
0	94	BENNETT	TIM	AUS	BARRACUDA	0	
0	89	ERIKSSON	KIM	SWE	CANNONDALE JDT	0	
0	15	KLUGE	MIKE	GER	FOCUS	0	