

# Bromont, CAN- 5-6.9.98- XC#8- Final

## Sydor and Dahle Win at Bromont

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### World Cup title goes to Alison Sydor. Gunn-Rita Dahle wins final event.

**Alison Sydor** (CAN, Volvo-Cannondale) completed her season-long quest at the world cup finals in Bromont, finishing the Grundig/UCI series in first place overall. **Gunn-Rita Dahle** (NOR, American Eagle) won the eighth round having sat on Sydor's wheel for much of the race before passing for the win in the last lap. With perfect weather and superb track conditions, seven thousand spectators watched the nail-biting finale to a season in which so many women have come into form.

Sydor needed only third or better to win the overall Grundig/UCI world cup title. Dahle had already tasted success earlier this season in Germany and wanted to win another round to prove her return to fitness. Fortunately for these two outstanding athletes, Bromont's round eight provided Sydor what she needed and Dahle what she wanted as - in Sydor's words - *"we both won."*

Sydor languished last season in the shadow of **Paola Pezzo's** (ITA, Gary Fisher) bright star and with persistent injuries. She came into '98 looking to exorcise those memories with a dominant world cup series. Arriving back in her home country for the final round of action, the Canadian star knew what she needed to do; finish third or better no matter what.

**Laurence Leboucher** (FRA, Peugeot LaPoste), number-two in the overall standings, looked to upset the champion while aware of her own shortcomings on technical courses. Third-ranked Pezzo and fourth ranked Dahle - with mathematically slim chances of the overall - were, nonetheless, eager to assert themselves in this last event before the supremely important World Championships. With all eyes on an outstanding field on Saturday at noon, scenarios and expectations all played themselves out under the cool green canopy of Bromont, Quebec.

Sydor went off fast in her usual style today, the spectre of a flat tire entering her mind *"about every five seconds."* Her plan was simply to stay ahead of Leboucher while riding gently enough over the roots and rocks of this course to prevent a season-ending flat. Dahle was the consummate tactician, riding purposefully on Sydor's wheel.. If Sydor faltered, flatted or crashed, or finished out of the top ten Dahle could conceivably win the overall title.

Sydor rode hard and fast off the front allowing Dahle to pace herself and wait until the right moment to pass, using her technical advantage to win. *"My plan was just to play follow the leaders - and if I was able to - attack in the third lap and go full speed in the last lap,"* Dahle said. *"I was able to, and I succeeded!"*

Sydor had little problem obliging Dahle's tactic, using the motivation of head-to-head racing to move away from Leboucher and secure the overall. While she would obviously have preferred another win in her home country - especially after an emotional victory in Canmore - she was riding for the title and looking to capture the crystal Waterford globe trophy by any means necessary.

*"I made a decision today to ride for the title and even though I would have liked to win at the finals, I was going to ride tactically"* Sydor said. *"When Gunn-Rita started to bomb down the descents, I had to make a choice and would have had to take some risks to stay with her. I knew Laurence was safely behind me, and second place points was sufficient for me today."*

Dahle was the only rider able to match Sydor's speed, riding right on her wheel for the first three of four laps before tapping into her superior descending skills to finally pass the Canadian. The close of lap three belonged to Dahle who then, in the final lap, added a full minute gap and the ever-important confidence needed for the pending World Championships. *"It's important to win the last one of the season, because that's the one they remember,"* she said.

Leboucher, meanwhile, wilted in third place after the first lap, dropping 20 seconds on the two leading women in lap two and losing a full minute in lap three. While Sydor and Dahle battled up front and upped the pace, Leboucher simply held on to finish third, 2:35 her final deficit.

*"It was not possible to win today,"* Leboucher conceded. *"It's not a good race for me, this type of course. It's too technical for me to get first place, but I think third is good, no?"*

By **Ari Cheren**

## Women/Femmes

<i>place</i>	<i>bib</i>	<i>name/nom</i>		<i>nat</i>	<i>points</i>	<i>UCIcode</i>	<i>time</i>
1	4	DAHLE	GUNN-RITA	NOR	75	NOR19730210	1:51:08.75
2	1	SYDOR	ALISON	CAN	70	CAN19660909	1:52:41.80
3	2	LEBOUCHER	LAURENCE	FRA	66	FRA19720222	1:53:44.16
4	6	FULLANA	MARGARITA	ESP	62	ESP19720409	1:55:24.18
5	3	PEZZO	PAOLA	ITA	58	ITA19690108	1:55:48.42
6	5	DAUCOURT	CHANTAL	SUI	55	SUI19660623	1:56:44.74
7	7	DUNLAP	ALISON	USA	52	USA19690727	1:58:01.69
8	9	GRIGSON	MARY	AUS	49	AUS19710603	1:58:25.86
9	10	EPIFANOVA	ALLA	RUS	46	RUS19761202	1:59:32.87
10	18	STROPPARO	ANNABELLA	ITA	43	ITA19680704	2:00:27.09
11	14	ZU PUTTLITZ	HEDDA	GER	40	GER19650904	2:01:08.70
12	13	TEMPORELLI	SANDRA	FRA	39	FRA19690125	2:01:16.21
13	11	ALEXANDER	CAROLINE	GBR	38	GBR19680303	2:01:26.76
14	33	HEARN	MARY	USA	37	USA19690225	2:01:27.06
15	25	BLATTER	BARBARA	SUI	36	SUI19701222	2:02:20.54
16	16	TOMLINSON	LESLEY	CAN	35	CAN19591226	2:02:30.39
17	20	FLORIT-JUAREZ	JIMENA	ARG	34	ARG19720518	2:02:45.83
18	22	MATTHES	RUTHIE	USA	33	USA19651111	2:03:47.96
19	66	MARSHMAN	RENE	USA	32	USA19640928	2:04:40.65
20	27	DORION	MELANIE	CAN	31	CAN19761119	2:05:04.08
21	39	BRAINARD	GOLDEN	USA	30	USA19680919	2:07:01.38
22	29	MCQUAID	MELANIE	CAN	29	CAN19730517	2:07:40.16
23	38	RICHARDSON	CARMEN	USA	28	USA19670219	2:08:29.02
24	34	MARUNDE	REGINA	GER	27	GER19680826	2:09:24.27
25	41	LAROY	LORY	BEL	26	BEL19641010	2:10:00.90
26	24	SPITZ	SABINE	GER	25	GER19711227	2:10:31.10
27	26	JONSSON	ANNICA	SWE	24	SWE19701227	2:11:04.49
28	64	PIPPIN	NIKI	USA	23	USA19631220	2:11:06.21
29	132	GEYSEN	HANNEKE	AUS	22	AUS19770730	2:11:29.33
30	23	PALMER-KOMAR	SUSAN	CAN	21	CAN19670127	2:11:49.88
31	43	REEVES	GRETCHEN	USA	20	USA19710927	2:11:56.40
32	17	FÜRST	SILVIA	SUI	19	SUI19610508	2:12:27.58
33	63	SINCLAIR	PATRICIA	CAN	18	CAN19690202	2:12:48.57
34	31	CLARET	DANIÉLE	FRA	17	FRA19690624	2:12:59.08
35	101	MCGILVARY	LISA	CAN	16	CAN19730219	2:13:58.07
36	32	KOBAYASHI	KANAKO	JPN	15	JPN19700524	2:14:14.35
37	35	ROVIRA	SILVIA	ESP	14	ESP19671215	2:14:17.79
38	12	DE NEGRI	NADIA	ITA	13	ITA19720406	2:14:22.82
39	93	GREENE	LESLIE	CAN	12	CAN19660715	2:15:47.74
40	42	QUICK	RHONDA	USA	11	USA19650705	2:16:56.97
41	137	FRANKE	DELLYS	AUS	10	AUS19761002	2:17:20.55
42	19	MICHELS-SMITH	ANDREA	GER	9	GER19711114	2:18:32.17
43	133	WANG	ZEXIU	CHN	8	CHN19720713	2:18:47.58

44	52	TROMBLEY	ANN	USA	7 USA19631122	2:19:16.18
45	45	DURYEA	KATHY	USA	6 USA19631221	2:19:23.89
46	125	NAKAGOME	YUKARI	JPN	5 JPN19651030	2:19:53.55
47	47	NAMBU	HIROKO	JPN	4 JPN19681008	2:21:31.55
48	130	MOTE	ANGELA	NZL	3 NZL19720505	2:23:25.29
49	126	HEALY	ANNA	CAN	2 CAN19740118	-1 LAP
50	131	PURCELL	JODY	AUS	1 AUS19710905	-1 LAP
51	135	MA	YANPING	CHN	0 CHN19770205	-1 LAP
52	136	CRAMP	TANIA	AUS	0 AUS19730626	-1 LAP
53	134	YU	QUANLAN	CHN	0 CHN19780113	-1 LAP
dnf						
0	8	REDDEN	CHRISTINA	CAN	0 CAN19660316	DNF
0	69	RÖSCH	NORA	GER	0 GER19750708	DNF
0	15	JACQUES	TAMMY	USA	0 USA19650312	DNF
0	21	BRUNGER	TRACY	GBR	0 GBR19700608	DNF