

Silves, POR- 18-19.4.98- XC#2-

Evans Clinches Algarve Thriller

Cadel Evans (AUS, Volvo-Cannondale) came into round two of the '98 world cup with '6' on his numberplate and a yen for a smaller figure by the next event. In a thrilling climax to the race, Evans (21) escaped from a fast-moving train of four riders to take his third world cup win in two seasons.



World Cup leader, **Rune Hoydahl** (NOR, Giant), who was favourite to win on this technical and fast-moving course, controlled second place for much of the race. When Evans went off the front, however, he surprised Hoydahl, who had temporarily let **Dario Cioni** (ITA, Mapei-Kona) take the Australian's wheel. Hoydahl went on to take second, and comfortably held off '96 world champion **Jerome Chiotti** (FRA, GT) in third. Cioni produced his usual early season form with a powerful performance for eventual fourth while **Christophe Dupouey** (FRA, Sunn) rode a less consistent ride over the rolling hills to round out the top five.

What made this race special was the sight of four men, riding minutes ahead of the pack, yet inseparable until the sixth-lap shootout. This was classic spring action, in which riders, lacking late-season confidence play a more cautious game.



The field broke up early when Cioni jumped away in the parade lap, which preceded seven full circuits of this testing course. He was the only parade lap leader to maintain his speed and continue up front all afternoon. Riding fast but conservatively, Cioni slowed to

On lap five Evans' effort paid off. The lead group attained a momentum quite separate from the rest of the race and a big gap appeared behind them. Cioni, who had taken a rest on being caught, had recovered and was driving the pace at every opportunity. "Our group got quite a gap quickly," Evans later commented. "Everyone was pushing the pace."

Martinez, **Bart Brentjens** (NED, Mt.Dew/Specialized) and **Lennie Kristensen** (DEN, Giant) dropped out, making up some of the 54 men who didn't finish today's hot-paced event.

On the sixth lap, Evans started to get ideas about winning the race. He realized he had to build a big lead on the climb to protect himself against any late-race attacks by the capable descender Hoydahl. Evans flew up the main hill, going - as he put it - "flat out."

Hoydahl was caught by surprise and missed the move. He gave a determined chase, but was still 4 seconds adrift by the end of the lap. When the climbs of the final lap began, Hoydahl realized that today Evans was the stronger rider, and from there onwards rode to protect the Grundig Blue Jersey.

On a triumphal roll, Evans accumulated nearly 30 seconds lead over Hoydahl, who was the only one to put up any serious resistance. His lap six attack had devastated his rivals. Early on the last lap, Chiotti and Cioni were more than a minute behind, and losing ground rapidly.

Waiting at the finish line beneath a steep switchback descent, the crowd soon realized Evans had risen to the occasion today as he effortlessly rode the last section and entered the stadium area before Hoydahl was even down the final drop. With his carefully timed attack and then a succession of killer punches, there were shades of Vail and Wellington '97 about this win by Evans. When Evans is on, he doesn't mess around.

Confirming that he had made his move on lap six's climbs, Evans commented "You've got to go flat out on the climbs as well as the descents. I was confident today - I rode the climbs a few days ago and thought 'maybe I can win this one' - sometimes you have a feeling. This course must have suited me; I guess if you win, it suits you!" Borrowing a mobile phone to call his mother in Australia - even though it was 3 a.m., Evans relayed the message back to his homeland, where a former national road coach has identified him as Australia's best Tour de France hope.

allow a small chase group to catch him rather than try to stay away on his own.

But the 23 years-old Italian found himself riding solo again when **Miguel Martinez** (FRA, Sunn) quickly lost the lead group, as did early front-runner **Andres Brenes** (CRC, Ritchey).

The cast of riders who would ultimately dominate was set by the end of the first lap. Not far into lap two, Cioni had 25 seconds' lead on Chiotti, and in the third lap still had a gap on Hoydahl, Dupouey, Chiotti and Evans, who one hour into the race had formed an alliance to bridge up to the young pretender.

But it was a flimsy pact with no agreement beyond catching the leader. On the fourth lap Cioni was netted and the lead group exploded. A stream of riders blazed past the thousands of spectators in a cloud of dust and cheers. Chiotti passed three riders and took the lead. Hoydahl rode in second, Cioni was back to third and Evans, sensing a main move, made a big effort to catch the express train before it picked up too much speed. Dupouey dropped three positions and was a minute back by now, while Ritchey riders Brenes and **Thomas Frischknecht** (SUI) rode together three minutes behind.



"Yeah, Cadel attacked and Dario couldn't follow," summed up silver medalist Hoydahl. "I tried to close the gap to Evans late in the race but I saw that he was too strong today and knew I had no chance. This race was really good for me though, and I'm happy to retain the leader's jersey." Hoydahl has 193 points, 18 points of Evans in the

overall, with Frischknecht in third.

Ari Cheren



place	bib	UCIcode	name/nom	team	Nat	time/temps	+
1	6	AUS19770214	EVANS Cadel *	VOLVO CANNONDALE	AUS	2:22:53.27	
2	1	NOR19691210	HÖYDAHL Rune	GIANT	NOR	2:23:21.03	27.75
3	16	FRA19720118	CHIOTTI Jerome	TEAM GT FRANCE	FRA	2:24:43.89	1:50.62
4	19	ITA19741202	CIONI Dario	MAPEI-KONA	ITA	2:25:52.74	2:59.47
5	81	FRA19680808	DUPOUEY Christophe	SUNN	FRA	2:27:07.59	4:14.32
6	9	FRA19750321	VOLLET Grégory	GIANT	FRA	2:28:10.89	5:17.62
7	3	SUI19700217	FRISCHKNECHT Thomas	RITCHEY	SUI	2:29:53.26	6:59.98
8	10	USA19610304	JUAREZ David 'Tinker'	VOLVO CANNONDALE	USA	2:30:40.40	7:47.12

9	101	SUI19721112	STÖCKLI Lukas	SCHÖTZ-UNIVEGA	SUI	2:30:51.13	7:57.86
10	29	CAN19730419	SHEPPARD Chris	CATERA/PURE ENER	CAN	2:31:04.94	8:11.67
11	47	NED19730825	VAN DOOREN Bas	BE-ONE	NED	2:31:12.56	8:19.29
12	14	RUS19720513	TCHERKASSOV Pavel	DIAMONDBACK	RUS	2:31:20.08	8:26.81
13	99	ITA19770721	FRUET Martino *	CARRARO	ITA	2:31:24.05	8:30.78
14	59	NED19650626	TOLHOEK Patrick	BE-ONE	NED	2:31:53.59	9:00.32
15	82	FRA19731117	DUBAU Ludovic	SUNN	FRA	2:32:07.21	9:13.94
16	25	ESP19780824	HERMIDA José Antonio *	SCOTT INTL	ESP	2:32:11.61	9:18.34
17	46	USA19700313	LARSEN Steve	SCHWINN/TOYOTA	USA	2:32:35.71	9:42.44
18	80	ITA19650917	PALLHUBER Hubert	DIAMONDBACK	ITA	2:32:49.32	9:56.04
19	56	FRA19660712	MANIN Christophe	AMERICAN EAGLE	FRA	2:32:55.74	10:02.47
20	7	GBR19690403	CRAIG Nick	DIAMONDBACK	GBR	2:33:09.47	10:16.19
21	12	CRC19641218	BRENES Andres	RITCHEY	CRC	2:33:37.05	10:43.78
22	8	SUI19760413	SAUSER Christoph *	DIAMONDBACK	SUI	2:33:38.65	10:45.38
23	27	CAN19740729	GREEN Roland	MAPEI-KONA	CAN	2:33:58.95	11:05.67
24	45	SUI19760713	HOCHSTRASSER Thomas *	SCOTT INTL	SUI	2:34:07.20	11:13.93
25	39	DEN19610220	OSTERGAARD Jan Erik	IKO/CORRATEC	DEN	2:34:36.04	11:42.76
26	5	BEL19710305	MEIRHAEGHE Filip	MT DEW/SPECIALIZ	BEL	2:34:57.68	12:04.41
27	93	DEN19750218	AGERGAARD Jesper	BE-ONE	DEN	2:35:01.46	12:08.18
28	121	ESP19700929	GARCIA Luis	LIBERTO MEGAMO A	ESP	2:35:14.62	12:21.35
29	75	FRA19740808	DIETSCH Thomas	BE-ONE	FRA	2:35:26.54	12:33.27
30	33	SUI19740621	HELLER Marcel	SCHÖTZ-UNIVEGA	SUI	2:35:32.91	12:39.64
31	50	GBR19640530	GOULD Tim	SCHWINN/TOYOTA	GBR	2:36:18.51	13:25.24
32	100	ESP19681117	GARRO Juan Carlos	LIBERTO MEGAMO A	ESP	2:36:46.64	13:53.37
33	44	AUS19751114	FLEMMING Josh	A.I.S./GT	AUS	2:36:50.91	13:57.64
34	36	GER19680328	BERNER Ralph	THE GREENERY/HAW	GER	2:36:51.61	13:58.34
35	52	BEL19760427	PAULISSEN Roel *	AMERICAN EAGLE	BEL	2:37:07.27	14:14.00
36	35	USA19680209	GULLICKSON Marc	TEAM GT	USA	2:37:22.99	14:29.71
37	23	NOR19780305	AUSTAD Haakon *	GIANT	NOR	2:37:35.29	14:42.01
38	55	DEN19660422	DJERNIS Henrik	AMERICAN EAGLE	DEN	2:37:48.44	14:55.17
39	42	CAN19760305	MCGRATH Seamus *	HARO	CAN	2:38:03.11	15:09.84
40	57	SWE19770427	JUNGÄKER Erik *	SCOTT INTL	SWE	2:38:24.44	15:31.16
41	30	CZE19731201	KORINEK Radim	CESKA SPORITELNA	CZE	2:39:15.13	16:21.85
42	94	GER19620925	KLUGE Mike	FOCUS	GER	2:39:42.38	16:49.10
43	112	GBR19731104	LASENBY Paul	MARIN/MERCEDES	GBR	2:39:42.63	16:49.36
44	60	CZE19671019	KANKOVSKY Martin	CESKA SPORITELNA	CZE	2:39:51.15	16:57.88
45	54	GER19750517	KURSCHAT Wolfram	GT GERMANY	GER	2:40:12.35	17:19.07
46	48	NZL19780620	LEUCHS Kashi *	VOLVO CANNONDALE	NZL	2:40:15.79	17:22.52
47	129	ESP19730719	FERNANDEZ Igor	ORBEA ZEUS VENET	ESP	2:40:25.49	17:32.21
48	20	GBR19661211	CLARKE Barry	RALEIGH	GBR	2:40:49.81	17:56.54
49	131	ESP19690404	DE PORTUGAL Guillermo	CORONAS	ESP	2:41:08.46	18:15.19

50	170	SUI19740817	BINKERT Markus	PARKPRE	SUI	2:42:18.83	19:25.56
51	126	ITA19680808	DEHO Marzio	BIANCHI MARTINI	ITA	2:42:29.22	19:35.95
52	53	GBR19740706	CUTHBERTSON Ian	RALEIGH	GBR	2:42:37.51	19:44.24
53	190	ITA1972000	STAUDER Roland	RAINER BIKE TEAM	ITA	2:42:55.07	20:01.80
54	49	SWE19760212	MALMSTEN Johan *	GT SWEDEN	SWE	2:43:18.55	20:25.27
55	90	SUI19721016	WYSSEIER Reto	SCOTT ELVIA	SUI	2:43:31.07	20:37.80
56	124	ITA19771017	BUI Marco *	CARRARO	ITA	2:43:58.19	21:04.92
57	116	GER19690806	HOLLERBACH Martin	TEAM H + H	GER	2:44:13.28	21:20.00
58	92	FRA19660806	SAVIGNONI Jean-christoph	VOLVO CANNONDALE	FRA	2:44:17.72	21:24.45
59	132	ESP19690124	OLABERRIA Andoni	ORBEA ZEUS VENET	ESP	2:46:15.33	23:22.05
60	72	GBR19760607	BECKINGSALE Oliver *	GREAT BRITAIN	GBR	- 1 lap	
61	155	ARG1979000	BLANCO Gabriel *	CANNONDALE JD	ARG	- 2 lap	
62	165	FRA19681110	BAILLY Franck	EGS	FRA	- 2 lap	
63	188	BEL19761101	HANKART David *	ADAM SMOL	BEL	- 2 lap	
64	135	SWE19710409	KULLGREN Dan	NATL TEAM SWEDEN	SWE	- 2 lap	
65	123	GER19770729	REIN Axel *	TEAM H + H	GER	- 2 lap	
66	119	SUI19770918	FLEURY Patrik *	SCHÖTZ-UNIVEGA	SUI	- 2 lap	
67	136	GBR19780305	BAXTER Elliot *	RALEIGH	GBR	- 2 lap	
68	184	POR19690206	HENRIQUES Jorge	GIANT-RACEBIKE	POR	- 2 lap	
69	179	ESP19770907	ORTIZ Antonio *	MARIN TISSOT	ESP	- 2 lap	
70	117	NED19751211	DE KNEGT Gerben	DUTCH NATIONAL T	NED	- 2 lap	
71	161	SWE19680508	WICKHOLM Anders	NATIONAL TEAM	SWE	- 2 lap	
72	156	SWE1976000	ERIKSSON Kim *	CANNONDALE JD	SWE	- 2 lap	
73	172	POR19731024	FAISCO Antonio	SETOBAL TREK/SET	POR	- 2 lap	
74	175	BEL19790218	TREVISAN Patrick *	LUGANO	BEL	- 2 lap	
75	176	ESP19751216	GOMEZ Juan Angel	LESACRO	ESP	- 2 lap	
76	145	USA19780811	HORGAN KOBELSKI Jeremy *	COOL MAX DEVO	USA	- 2 lap	
77	150	POR19760820	SEMEDO Tiago *	SETOBAL TREK/SET	POR	- 3 lap	
78	187	POR19770807	GALINHA Marco *	TEAM GT	POR	- 3 lap	
79	189	POR19730715	BARROS Sérgio	VELOPROF/LA LEE-	POR	- 3 lap	
80	173	POR19620531	MARQUES Joao Paulo	SETOBAL TREK/SET	POR	- 3 lap	
81	162	POR19731130	FIGUEIREDO Ricardo		POR	- 3 lap	
82	177	POR19740722	BRANDAO Frederico	BTTRILHOS CHAPST	POR	- 3 lap	
83	180	GBR19730722	PARKINSON Nigel	ROYCE	GBR	- 3 lap	
84	195	POR19790514	AGOSTINHO Luis *		POR	- 3 lap	
85	192	POR19780602	VELOSO Andre *	CA LEIRA/LISC. U	POR	- 3 lap	
86	160	FRA19770629	RIGLET Jérôme *	EGS	FRA	- 4 lap	
87	182	POR19781010	SANTOS Pedro *	AJ SAMBRASENSE	POR	- 4 lap	

88	178	POR19730807	FERREIRA Artur	BTTRILHOS CHAPST	POR	- 4 lap
89	181	POR19751109	FONSECA Mario	SINTESI	POR	- 4 lap
	2	FRA19760117	MARTINEZ Miguel *	SUNN	FRA	DNF
	11	DEN19680516	KRISTENSEN Lennie	GIANT	DEN	DNF
				VOLVO		
	13	CAN19700512	HESTLER Andreas	CANNONDALE	CAN	DNF
	18	ITA19700324	FONTANA Alessandro	FULL-DYNAMIX	ITA	DNF
	21	FRA19661119	ARNOULD Dominique	K2 BIKE	FRA	DNF
	26	USA19650526	BISHOP Andy	GARY FISHER	USA	DNF
	31	SWE19740601	PERSSON Roger	CRESCENT	SWE	DNF
	32	FRA19720501	MARTINEZ Raphael	DIAMONDBACK	FRA	DNF
	37	SUI19670523	WABEL Beat	K2 BIKE	SUI	DNF
	38	FRA19730616	CEARD Claude	BIANCHI ATLAS	FRA	DNF
	40	SUI19770213	KALBERER Thomas *	RITCHEY	SUI	DNF
	43	ESP19670723	LEZAUN Roberto	LOINAZ SC	ESP	DNF
	58	GBR19710411	POMFRET Steven	GREAT BRITAIN	GBR	DNF
	61	FRA19781126	RAVANEL Cédric *	EGS	FRA	DNF
	62	GER19750820	HUMMELSIEP Dennis	TEAM H + H	GER	DNF
	65	DEN19700411	PETERSEN Jorgen Bo	IKO/CORRATEC	DEN	DNF
	89	ITA19681106	BRAMATI Luca	SELLE ITALIA COL	ITA	DNF
	91	FRA19701216	ORCEL David	SUNN	FRA	DNF
	95	BEL19620920	HEYLEN Benny	VSB-BATAVUS	BEL	DNF
	96	GER19700904	BRESSER Carsten	K2/BUTTERFINGER	GER	DNF
	102	FRA19770629	POULY Peter *	SUNN	FRA	DNF
	104	ITA19740521	CHECUZ Alessandro	SCOTT INTERNATIO	ITA	DNF
	105	ITA19711113	SARGENTI Massimo	LE RUN BIKING	ITA	DNF
	107	ITA19610727	VANDELLI Claudio	MAPEI-KONA	ITA	DNF
	108	GBR19700914	FOORD Gary	SCOTT INTL	GBR	DNF
	109	CZE19770913	JEZEK Vaclav *	AUTHOR EXPANDIA	CZE	DNF
	110	CZE19770524	HEJDUK Stanislav *	AUTHOR EXPANDIA	CZE	DNF
	111	SWE19750603	TAVELL Philip	NATIONAL TEAM SW	SWE	DNF
			NOTARIO Francisco			
	113	ESP19751009	Javi	CORONAS	ESP	DNF
	114	GBR19731017	STURGEON Carl	RALEIGH	GBR	DNF
	118	FRA19750616	MOREL Christophe	SINTESI	FRA	DNF
	120	FRA19650902	JULIEN Fabrice	ORBEA	FRA	DNF
	125	ESP19760317	MARQUEZ José *	CORONAS	ESP	DNF
	127	FRA19760315	MICHEL Yannick *	GT FRANCE	FRA	DNF
	130	ESP19781023	GISPERT Marti *	BUFF	ESP	DNF
	134	GBR19681214	JEREMIAH Ian	RST/GOLD TECH	GBR	DNF
	137	BEL19750321	GALLE David	LUGANO	BEL	DNF
	140	ITA19760415	TAVELLA Igor *	USTARIA POSTA PE	ITA	DNF
			TRUJILLO Juan Pedro			
	141	ESP19760610	*	P.C. CORDOBESA	ESP	DNF
	148	GBR19750429	GARDNER Sam	RST/GOLD TECH	GBR	DNF

149	ESP19690720	OCAÑA Fernando	CORONAS	ESP	DNF
			VOLVO		
159	ITA19641118	DI BASCO Alessio	CANNONDALE	ITA	DNF
163	POR19710407	PEREIRA Paulo	MARIN BICIMAX	POR	DNF
166	SWE19740707	ANDERSSON Mikael		SWE	DNF
167	SWE19781012	LINDEN Per-ola *		SWE	DNF
			IKO/CORRATEC		
168	GER19740609	HALBAUER Heiko	GERMANY	GER	DNF
171	SUI19750716	SCHNYDER Rainer	CILO BASSANO TCS	SUI	DNF
174	POR19811014	ALMEIDA José *		POR	DNF
183	POR19651219	SERRAS Alçino	COBERMETAL BTTER	POR	DNF
185	POR19790316	FILIFE Ricardo *	ROTWILO T. NATUR	POR	DNF
186	POR19790206	JACINTO Luis *	ROTWILO T. NATUR	POR	DNF
191	POR19770518	DIAS Pedro *	CA LEIRIA/LISC U	POR	DNF
193	POR19790615	BRITO Sergio *	BICIGAL/VOLVO CA	POR	DNF
194	POR19740413	BRITO Miguel	BICIGAL/VOLVO CA	POR	DNF
15	NED19681010	BRENTJENS Bart	MT DEW/SPECIALIZ	NED	DNS
164	POR19720128	PINHO Nuno	GIANT/SET SC VOU	POR	DNS
		EVALDSSON			
169	SWE19750516	Jimmy *		SWE	DNS