



Diesel/UCI Mountain Bike World Cup - 1999

Plymouth, GBR - xc#5 - 15-16 May 1999 - Report / Rapport - men / hommes

Van Dooren's Day ... At Last!

After knocking at the door of a world cup race win for more than a year, *Dutch* rider **Bas Van Dooren** finally savoured the sweet taste of success after a long solo ride at Plymouth on 16 May.

Only one week ago at [St Wendel](#), Bas Van Dooren, 25, (NED), stated that he was confident of getting his first world cup win sometime, it was simply a matter of waiting for his day. Well, round 5 of the 1999 Diesel-UCI World Cup was Van Dooren's Day.

It was a convincing win, and with a big margin by men's standards: 1'28". The race was tactical, with the two male super powers, **Miguel Martinez** (FRA) and **Cadel Evans** (AUS) at the heart of the action. After an enthralling struggle, **Christophe Sauser** (SUI) took second place and **Filip Meirhaeghe** (BEL) was third.



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Evans started the race as the World Cup series leader, and Martinez was determined to take the coveted jersey from him today. All the Frenchman had to do was finish in the top five, two places ahead of his Australian rival.

When Van Dooren drifted off the front of the leading group on the first lap, Martinez allowed the minor players **Dominique Arnould** (FRA) and **Thomas Hochstrasse** (SUI) to give chase, while the big names at the front held their fire.

By the time the alarm was sounded Van Dooren was more than a minute clear of the nine-man chase group, which contained most of the biggest names in the sport.

Notable absentees in this group were the winner at St Wendel last week, Meirhaeghe, and Thomas Frischknecht (SUI). Meirhaeghe was riding like the wind a long way back in the field after a puncture on lap one, while Frischknecht had lost six minutes repairing a damaged drive mechanism.



Miguel Martinez

Hochstrasse dropped off the pace and Arnould spent laps two and three alone in-between Van Dooren and the powerful combine behind before he was reeled in on the fourth lap. Yet his effort had made an effect, for by the time it engulfed him, the chase group had dwindled to four: **Roel Paulissen** (BEL), Martinez, Evans and Sauser.



Also on the fourth lap, with about one and a half laps of the 10.5km circuit remaining, Christophe Sauser (SUI) launched himself from the front of the chase group in pursuit of Van Dooren, but by the end of the lap he was 1'19" behind the leader, only 18" closer than at the end of the third. But Van Dooren was unassailable. For Martinez, this was alright, and it was still OK to have Sauser ahead too. He was focussed on Cadel Evans.

Perhaps the most significant event of the fourth lap was that Meirhaeghe propelled himself into the top ten for the first time in the race. A buzz of expectation went around the 12,000 spectators present. Surely he must catch the Martinez and Evans group, 25" ahead?

The fifth lap was where the race nearly went wrong for Van Dooren, but he held it together. The Dutchman's handlebars came loose - he thought in one of the water crossings - and he was compelled to ride with more caution on the steep descents of the Newnham Park course. But his lead was comfortable and his climbing was swift, and at the finish Sauser was 1'28" behind.

The arrival of Meirhaeghe at the Martinez-Evans group presented an opportunity that was both perfect yet difficult for Martinez to control. Here was a rider who, on the day, was clearly stronger than Evans, but to get his two-place cushion and thus the world cup leader's jersey, Martinez would have to beat both of them.

The Belgian did not slow down, he just kept up his rhythm and blew the group apart. Evans and Paulissen were gone almost immediately. Martinez tried desperately to hang on so he could deliver the killer punch at the line, but as at St Wendel Meirhaeghe was just too strong.

At the finish, the gap between Martinez and Meirhaeghe, or between Martinez and the leader's jersey, was only seven seconds.

The gap between first and second place in the World Cup series has closed a further 20 points and Martinez now trails Evans by only 16 points. This year every result from the eight-race series counts towards the final score. There will now be a five-week gap before the sixth round, which is at Big Bear Lake, California, on 26/27 June.

QUOTES

Bas Van Dooren, 25, (NED), 1st

"I did not mean to attack on lap one. But I saw I was alone in the front and I just tried to save my energy and keep my rhythm. On lap four I pushed really hard to open as big a gap as I could, then on lap five my handlebars came loose, because of the water crossing, and I was afraid that I would be caught."

Christophe Sauser, 23 (SUI), 2nd - *The best result of his career to date*

"I do not really like this course, it is either too fast or too slow for me... I am looking forward to the (seven-weeks) break in the world cup schedule."

Filip Meirhaeghe, 28, (BEL), 3rd

"I am gaining experience still, I am a bit calmer and a bit faster. When you get excited after a flat on the first lap you just lose time... Late in the race I heard how well I was doing and I got really motivated."

Cadel Evans, 23, (AUS), 5th

"I felt like a marked man... Everyone was watching me then before I knew it there was a two-minute gap (to Van Dooren)."



Bas Van Dooren

place	name	nom	nat	team	t	t+
1	VAN DOOREN	Bas	NED	BE-ONE	2:23:45.00	
2	SAUSER	Christoph	SUI	VOLVO/CANNONDALE	2:25:13.44	1:28.44
3	MEIRHAEGHE	Filip	BEL	MT DEW/SPECIALIZED	2:26:03.61	2:18.61
4	MARTINEZ	Miguel	FRA	FULL DYNAMIX	2:26:10.56	2:25.56
5	EVANS	Cadel*	AUS	VOLVO/CANNONDALE	2:26:30.40	2:45.40
6	PAULISSEN	Roel	BEL	AMERICAN EAGLE	2:26:56.98	3:11.98
7	DUPOUEY	Christophe	FRA	TEAM SUNN	2:27:21.13	3:36.13
8	ARNOULD	Dominique	FRA	GIANT MOUNTAIN BIKE	2:27:27.68	3:42.68
9	ACQUAROLI	Dario	ITA	ATB BIANCHI MARTINI	2:27:56.62	4:11.62
10	LEZAUN	Roberto	ESP	ORBEA ZEUS VENETO	2:28:18.52	4:33.52
11	BUI	Marco*	ITA	FULL DYNAMIX	2:28:23.11	4:38.11
12	BRENTJENS	Bart	NED	MT.DEW SPECIALIZED	2:28:23.58	4:38.58
13	KURSCHAT	Wolfram	GER	VW HULZFAHRZEUGE GT	2:28:28.96	4:43.96
14	HOCHSTRASSER	Thomas	SUI	SCOTT ONE LIFE	2:28:43.07	4:58.07
15	AGERGAARD	Jesper	DEN	BE-ONE	2:29:02.67	5:17.67
16	HERMIDA	José Antonio*	ESP	SCOTT ONE LIFE	2:29:06.44	5:21.44
17	PALLHUBER	Hubert	ITA	DIAMONDBACK	2:30:09.07	6:24.07
18	VOLLET	Grégory	FRA	ATB BIANCHI MARTINI	2:30:40.24	6:55.24
19	CEARD	Claude	FRA	ATB BIANCHI	2:30:48.48	7:03.48
20	FUMIC	Lado	GER	LFR	2:30:49.55	7:04.55
21	TOLHOEK	Patrick	NED	BE-ONE	2:30:49.78	7:04.78
22	TCHERKASSOV	Pavel	RUS	DIAMONDBACK	2:31:24.16	7:39.16
23	VAN DEN ABEELE	Peter	BEL	AMERICAN EAGLE	2:31:26.74	7:41.74
24	JULIEN	Fabrice	FRA	ORBEA-ZEUS-VENETO	2:31:29.71	7:44.71
25	CLARKE	Barrie	GBR	RALEIGH	2:31:34.41	7:49.41
26	DUBAU	Ludovic	FRA	TEAM SUNN	2:31:42.28	7:57.28
27	DIETSCH	Thomas	FRA	MBK	2:32:13.37	8:28.37
28	BINKERT	Markus	SUI	PARKPRE	2:32:31.15	8:46.15
29	LASENBY	Paul	GBR	MERCEDES BENZ-MARIN	2:32:41.43	8:56.43
30	FRISCHKNECHT	Thomas	SUI	RITCHEY-YAHOO!	2:33:05.18	9:20.18
31	WABEL	Beat	SUI	K2 PROFLEX	2:33:17.95	9:32.95
32	HESTLER	Andreas	CAN	RLX POLO SPORT	2:33:38.13	9:53.13

33	VACHETTE	Yohann*	FRA	GIANT MOUNTAIN BIKE	2:33:41.97	9:56.97
34	GALLE	David	BEL	ZURICH ORBEA	2:34:09.85	10:24.85
35	HELLER	Marcel	SUI	UNIVEGA-DESCENTE-SCH	2:34:10.46	10:25.46
36	KOWAL	Mariusz*	POL	POLAND	2:34:17.95	10:32.95
37	DE KNEGT	Gerben	NED	GIANT MOUNTAIN BIKE	2:34:28.49	10:43.49
38	WOODS	Rob	AUS	A.I.S.	2:35:01.51	11:16.51
39	GARRO	Juan Carlos	ESP	MEGANAO	2:35:28.35	11:43.35
40	FRUET	Martino*	ITA	CARRARO MTB TEAM	2:35:38.57	11:53.57
41	AUSTAD	Hakon*	NOR	DBS WORLD CUP TEAM	2:35:40.06	11:55.06
42	MAIGNAN	Olivier*	FRA	MBK	2:35:53.18	12:08.18
43	DE BERTOLIS	Massimo	ITA	DIAMOND BACK	2:36:07.74	12:22.74
44	NICKE	Thomas*	GER	SCHWALBE RACING TEAM	2:36:23.28	12:38.28
45	SWENSON	Carl	USA	CATERA	2:37:39.53	13:54.53
46	TAVELL	Philip	SWE	TEAM CYCLEPRO CK	2:37:50.84	14:05.84
47	FRECH	Frederic	FRA	SCOTT LA CLUZAS	2:38:02.80	14:17.80
48	HANISCH	Marc	GER	TEAM BIANCHI GERMANY	2:38:29.82	14:44.82
49	TREVISAN	Patrick*	BEL	ZURICH ORBEA	2:38:33.32	14:48.32
50	KORINEK	Radim	CZE	CESKA SPORITELNA MTB	2:38:42.34	14:57.34
51	ORTIZ	Antonio*	ESP	CORONAS-BH	2:38:56.59	15:11.59
52	STRANCAR	Primož	SLO	LEE COUGAN STOP TEAM	2:39:02.92	15:17.92
53	GROVER	Neil*	CAN	ROCKY MOUNTAIN	2:39:06.22	15:21.22
54	GALINSKI	Marek	POL	POLAND OPTEX	2:39:08.61	15:23.61
55	BECKINGSALE	Oliver	GBR	GREAT BRITAIN	2:39:08.91	15:23.91
56	BARLAUP	Hallvar	NOR	TRONDHJEMS VK	2:39:27.39	15:42.39
57	WEICHERT	Marc-timo	GER	SCHWALBE RACING TEAM	2:40:07.90	16:22.90
58	ZORN	Siegfried	AUT	BANK-AUSTRIA-NAT.	2:40:48.91	17:03.91
59	GORDON	Craig	AUS	SINTESI	2:40:49.23	17:04.23
60	BAILLY	Franck	FRA	EGS	2:40:51.98	17:06.98
61	TOULOUSE	Mathieu	CAN	TEAM FORD DEVINCI	2:40:59.05	17:14.05
62	MENDE	Matthias*	GER	STEVENS-JEANTEX	2:41:20.91	17:35.91
63	VAN MIL	Ruud*	NED	DUTCH NATIONAL TEAM	2:41:31.28	17:46.28
64	DE VRIES	Micha*	NED	DUTCH NATIONAL TEAM	2:41:47.71	18:02.71
65	DILGER	Andreas*	GER	BSE TEAM	2:42:01.92	18:16.92
66	STORMO	Fredrik*	NOR	DRAMMEN CK	2:42:28.50	18:43.50
67	STURGEON	Carl	GBR	RALEIGH	2:42:56.79	19:11.79
68	ANE	Hugues	FRA	EGOBIKE / CAMELBAK	2:43:05.87	19:20.87
69	RUGEL	Joachim*	GER	BSE-TEAM	2:44:22.17	20:37.17
70	NIELSEN	Klaus	DEN	ROSKILDE MTB	2:44:51.37	21:06.37
71	HILBE	Christian	AUT	BANK-AUSTRIA-NAT.	2:45:03.88	21:18.88
72	TJALLINGII	Maarten*	NED	TREK/STAPPENBELT	2:45:18.58	21:33.58
73	WÖLK	Timo*	GER	STEVENS-JEANTEX	2:45:40.73	21:55.73
74	WALLACE	Matt	AUS	A.I.S.	2:46:06.88	22:21.88
75	SEYMOUR	Robin	IRL		2:46:26.91	22:41.91
76	GOMEZ	Juan Manuel	ESP	SCHWINN	2:46:34.66	22:49.66
77	GOLCER	Jure*	SLO	UNI TEAM AXLEY BUD	2:46:42.17	22:57.17

78	YOUNG	Chris	GBR MARIE CURIE/PACE TV	2:47:22.70 23:37.70
79	OLDHAM	Paul*	GBR HOPE TECHNOLOGY	2:47:42.46 23:57.46
80	KARCZYNSKI	Marcin*	POL POLAND HAWK	2:47:42.70 23:57.70
81	KIRCHER	Robert*	AUT BANK AUSTRIA	2:48:39.05 24:54.05
82	ESCHENBACH	Florian*	GER MAPEI/KONA	2:48:51.73 25:06.73
83	GERKEN	Matt*	USA TEAM GT	2:50:26.56 26:41.56
84	NORFOLK	Jamie	GBR HELLY HANSEN/GIANT	2:50:28.10 26:43.10
85	WALKER	Adam	CAN GENERAL MOTORS-ROCKY	2:51:10.15 27:25.15
86	WILKINSON	Ian*	GBR PACE RACING	2:51:14.21 27:29.21
87	DANGELMAIER	Claudius*	GER BSE TEAM	2:52:06.24 28:21.24
88	O'CALLAHAN	William*	GBR GT HONDA	2:53:11.98 29:26.98
89	TRUJILLO	Juan Pedro	ESP SCHWINN	2:53:25.80 29:40.80
90	FRIEDE	Jaromir	CZE CESKA SPORITELNA MTB	2:54:04.37 30:19.37
91	THACKERY	Richard	GBR PACE RACING PACE SAT	2:54:40.79 30:55.79
92	GÖLZ	Marc*	GER BSE TEAM	- 1 lap
93	MARTIN	Alastair	IRL ROCKY MOUNTAIN/BIKE	- 1 lap
94	KRASOV	Kyrylo	UKR	- 1 lap
95	BEETHAM	Geoff	GBR CYCLEFORCE	- 1 lap
96	JAMIESON	Duncan*	GBR DNA TITANIUM	- 1 lap
97	BOWERS	Stuart	GBR HARGROVES CYCLES	- 1 lap
98	BOLSTAD	Jörn Espen	NOR G-SPORT MTB TEAM	- 2 laps
99	TSURKAN	Vitaliy*	UKR UKRAINIAN NATION	- 2 laps
100	BRADY	Craig	IRL	- 2 laps
101	GILISSEN	Dion	NED	- 2 laps
102	TARAN	Valentin	UKR UKRAINIAN NATIONAL	- 2 laps
	HÖYDAHL	Rune	NOR GIANT MOUNTAIN BIKE	DNF
	CIONI	Dario	ITA MAPEI KONA	DNF
	MCGRATH	Seamus	CAN HARO	DNF
	RASMUSSEN	Michael	DEN GARY FISHER SAAB	DNF
	HERRISSET	Christophe	FRA TEAM SUNN	DNF
	GARCIA	Luis	ESP MEGANO	DNF
	MARQUEZ	José	ESP MTB MARBELLA	DNF
	ROWNEY	Paul	AUS HARO	DNF
	BRAMATI	Luca	ITA MT DEW/SPECIALIZED	DNF
	LEUCHS	Kashi*	NZL SOBI/HEADSHOCK	DNF
	PERRY	Gael	FRA ORBEA ZURICH	DNF
	ZOLI	Jader	ITA DIAMONDBACK	DNF
	CUTHBERTSON	Ian	GBR GREAT BRITIAN	DNF
	CRAIG	Nick	GBR GREAT BRITIAN	DNF
	BRESSER	Carsten	GER LION-XENOFIT	DNF
	ORCEL	David	FRA ATB BIANCHI	DNF
	POULY	Peter*	FRA SUNN	DNF

OSTERGAARD	Jan Erik	DEN IKO/CORRATEC	DNF
DJERNIS	Henrik	DEN AMERICAN EAGLE	DNF
STÖCKLI	Lukas	SUI UNIVEGA-DESCENTE-SHO	DNF
BONNE	Thomas*	DEN DEN BLÄ KURÉR	DNF
PERSSON	Roger	SWE CRESCENT	DNF
BRENES	Andres	CRC RITCHEY-YAHOO!	DNF
SCHWEDLER	Jens	GER STEVENS-JEANTEX	DNF
KESSIAKOFF	Fredrik*	SWE	DNF
DELAMARRE	Jean-francois	FRA EGOBIKE / CAMELBAK	DNF
STAUDER	Roland	ITA RAINER BIKE	DNF
DEMANGEON	Guillaume	FRA	DNF
PETERSEN	Jorgen Bo	DEN IKO/CORRATEC	DNF
PRESSLAUER	Peter*	AUT MTB WM KAPRUN 2002	DNF
POMFRET	Steven	GBR GREAT BRITIAN	DNF
GOULD	Tim	GBR GREAT BRITIAN	DNF
WEEVERS	Jan	NED GIANT MOUNTAIN BIKE	DNF
GIL	Dariusz	POL POLAND HAWK	DNF
KNAUBERT	Matthias	AUT BANK AUSTRIA	DNF
HIERLWIMMER	Thomas*	GER RITCHEY-YAHOO!	DNF
BAXTER	Elliot*	GBR RALEIGH	DNF
RAVANEL	Cédric*	FRA EGS	DNF
BARNECHOW	Christian	DEN ROSKILDE MTB	DNF
DALE	Ben	GBR CLIMB ON BIKES	DNF
BLUNT	Stuart	GBR CORRIDORI	DNF
PARKINSON	Nigel	GBR HEADSHOK CANNONDALE	DNF
PLATT	Karl*	GER MAPEI-KONA	DNF
NESTLE	Tobias	GER FOCUS	DNF
NIELSEN	Frode	NOR FOLLO SKIN	DNF
MODIN	Fredrik*	SWE TEAM CYCLERO CK	DNF
KOMAC	Urban*	SLO UNI TEAM STOP	DNF
OKHVATENKO	Andrei*	UKR UKRAINIAN NATIONAL	DNF
SOURY	Gerald	FRA EGOBIKE / CAMELBAK	DNF
ROSENBRIER	Jonathon*	GBR KHS/AXO	DNF
CARLSEN	Allan	DEN DEN BLÄ KURÉR	DNS