



Tissot/UCI Mountain Bike World Cup - 2000 - Coupe du Monde MTB XC #1 - NAPA VALLEY, CALIFORNIA, USA - 25/26 MARCH

Mountain Bike World Cup Begins With Australian Win in Napa

Mary Grigson takes season's first victory Sunday morning.

*Napa Valley, Calif. – USA (March 24, 2000) – Australian **Mary Grigson**, riding for her new sponsor *Gary Fisher/Saab*, won her first-ever world cup mountain bike race Sunday with a dominant performance in the opening round of the *Tissot-UCI Mountain Bike World Cup*.*

The first professionals to race on this brand-new course at Domaine Chandon in California's famous Napa Valley wine country, the women's field rolled off to their start at 10:30 a.m. PST for two parade loops followed by five full laps. Each lap is 6km (4 mi.) in length, giving the 73 competitors more than 30km and nearly two hours of racing.



Grigson, whose previous best result came last season when she finished second at round number two in Sydney, completely dominated the field by attacking early in the race and dropping a seven-woman group for her solo win. Grigson finished the day 1:55 ahead of second-place **Alison Dunlap** (*USA, Team GT*) and 2:10 ahead of third place **Alison Sydor** (*CAN, Volvo-Cannondale*).

Racing began with Grigson inside of a lead group, as the women spent their two parade loops getting the best possible position for the narrow singletrack section 1km into the lap. Racers, concerned about this course's lack of passing opportunities, made an extra effort to go out hard and early – rather than get stuck in the singletrack section.

Weather was perfect for racing Sunday, as both men and women contested the elite pro events on one day, rather than the two-day format of last season. Skies were clear and sunny with warm temperatures and dry, dusty track conditions. The new course at Domaine Chandon is rocky and rough, with sharp rocks underneath the dusty surface.

Joining Grigson in the lead group was Dunlap and Sydor, plus Olympic gold Medallist **Paola Pezzo** (*ITA, Gary Fisher Saab*), current World Champion **Marga Fullana** (*ESP, Subaru-Specialized*), '98 World Champion **Laurence Leboucher** (*FRA, GT*), teammate **Chrissy Redden** (*CAN, Gary Fisher/Saab*) and up-and-coming **Barbara Blatter** (*SUI, Scott USA*).

Sydor overtook the lead in lap three, pulling the group for a lap until Fullana briefly assumed the lead before retiring with a flat rear tire in the 4th lap. At that point Grigson sensed an opportunity to attack, and did just that – to the surprise of the five remaining chasers.



By the end of lap four, Grigson had a minute's lead on the field, and by the fifth and final lap the Australian was 1:25 in the clear. At this point the **American Alison Dunlap (USA, Team GT)** counter-attacked and tried to reel in Grigson, launching off a solo effort which yielded a 35 second cushion over Sydor, Pezzo, Redden and Blatter.

By the finish Grigson had increased her lead to 1:55, as Dunlap held off Sydor for 2nd, Pezzo and teammate Redden finished 4th and 5th and Leboucher passed Blatter for 6th place.

Quotes:

Mary Grigson: *"I had an awesome day, great teammates and a great bike. I had a rough season in Australia which frustrated me, so I think that frustration paid off here. I worked with Redden, then attacked on the climb – but I didn't expect to get so much of a lead."*

Alison Dunlap: *"I'm thrilled with my result today. It was tough out there, it was hard to see and breathe. It was especially tough knowing that there was a group behind me. I attacked with two laps to go, and held off Sydor."*

Ari Cheren

	#	UCIcode	name / nom		nat	tt / gs	t	t+
1	7	AUS19730603	GRIGSON	Mary	AUS	GARY FISHER/SAAB	1:56:17	
2	4	USA19690727	DUNLAP	Alison	USA	TEAM GT	1:58:12	1:55
3	1	CAN19660909	SYDOR	Alison	CAN	VOLVO/CANNONDALE	1:58:27	2:10
4	11	ITA19690108	PEZZO	Paola	ITA	GARY FISHER/SAAB	1:58:46	2:29
5	8	CAN19660316	REDDEN	Christina	CAN	GARY FISHER/SAAB	1:58:51	2:34
6	15	FRA19720222	LEBOUCHER	Laurence	FRA	TEAM GT	1:59:23	3:06
7	10	SUI19701222	BLATTER	Barbara	SUI	SCOTT USA	1:59:48	3:31
8	24	NED19730630	DORLAND	Corine	NED	BE-ONE TEAM	2:00:19	4:02
9	22	FRA19690125	TEMPORELLI	Sandra	FRA	LOOK/LA POSTE	2:01:06	4:49
10	2	NOR19730210	DAHLE	Gunn-rita	NOR	DBS WC-TEAM	2:01:15	4:58
11	17	SUI19660623	DAUCOURT	Chantal	SUI	TREK/VOLKSWAGEN	2:02:07	5:50
12	12	USA19651111	MATTHES	Ruthie	USA	TREK/VOLKSWAGEN	2:02:17	6:00
13	13	GER19650904	ZU PUTLITZ	Hedda	GER	BE-ONE TEAM	2:03:22	7:05
14	25	GER19711221	SPITZ	Sabine	GER	MERIDA	2:03:24	7:07
15	14	ARG19720518	FLORIT	Jimena	ARG	RLX POLO SPORT	2:03:48	7:31
16	29	USA19631122	TROMBLEY	Ann	USA	KOULIUS ZAARD	2:04:19	8:02
17	16	CAN19591226	TOMLINSON	Lesley	CAN	RLX POLO SPORT	2:05:05	8:48
18	23	GBR19700608	BRUNGER	Tracy	GBR	GREAT BRITAIN	2:05:49	9:32
19	19	CAN19761119	DORION	Melanie	CAN	TEAM FORD-DEVINCI	2:06:29	10:12
20	33	USA19641117	KAIN	Shari	USA	RLX POLO SPORT	2:06:31	10:14
21	39	SUI19691014	HENZI	Petra	SUI	FISCHER-K2	2:06:45	10:28
22	34	CAN19690205	SINCLAIR	Patricia	CAN	MARIN	2:06:46	10:29
23	38	USA19750506	LLOYD	Rachel	USA	VOODOO	2:06:47	10:30
24	26	SWE19701227	JONSSON	Annica	SWE	CYCLEPRO	2:07:08	10:51
25	45	USA19661005	AUGUSTIN	Audrey	USA	KOULIUS ZAARD	2:07:09	10:52
26	9	RUS19761202	EPIFANOVA	Alla	RUS	VOLVO/CANNONDALE	2:07:29	11:12
27	47	USA19680128	SMITH	Kimberley	USA	SOBE HEADSHOK	2:07:30	11:13
28	53	USA19690529	VANLANDINGHAM	Shonny	USA	SOBE HEADSHOK	2:07:41	11:24
29	40	JPN19681008	NAMBU	Hiroko	JPN	TREK JAPAN	2:07:58	11:41
30	32	FRA19691106	VILLENEUVE	Sophie	FRA	EGOBIKE/CAMELBACK	2:08:05	11:48
31	3	ITA19680704	STROPPARO	Annabella	ITA	VOLVO/CANNONDALE	2:08:48	12:31
32	42	USA19710927	REEVES	Gretchen	USA	CANE CREEK	2:09:02	12:45
33	30	JPN19651030	NAKAGOME	Yukari	JPN	MIYATA SUBARU	2:09:31	13:14
34	36	GBR19650112	ROBINSON	Louise	GBR	STOURBRIDGE CC	2:09:39	13:22
35	20	AUS19770730	GEYSEN	Hanneke	AUS	BE-ONE/AIS	2:10:07	13:50
36	43	USA19650705	QUICK	Rhonda	USA	JAMBAJUICE	2:10:37	14:20
37	65	USA19771212	KOERBER	Willow	USA	CANE CREEK	2:10:37	14:20
38	54	AUS19761002	FRANKE	Dellys	AUS	MERIDA AUSTRALIA	2:11:15	14:58
39	31	NED19730125	VINK	Elsbeth	NED	SUBARU-SPECIALIZED	2:11:38	15:21
40	21	JPN19700524	KOBAYASHI	Kanako	JPN	A&F	2:12:15	15:58
41	50	AUS19761216	BAYLIS	Anna	AUS	CANNONDALE AUSTRALIA	2:13:27	17:10
42	56	USA19681108	ELLIS	Sara	USA	MOOTS/KORE	2:13:58	17:41
43	63	DEN19770410	BRUHN	Nadine	DEN	KOLDING	2:14:37	18:20
44	27	RSA19700925	GREEN	Erica	RSA	GT	2:15:02	18:45
45	62	RUS19771110	IAGOUPOVA	Irina	RUS	RUSSIA MERIDA	2:15:24	19:07
46	37	CAN19750129	CHORNEY	Amber	CAN	TEAM FORD-DEVINCI	2:15:45	19:28
47	67	USA19631220	PIPPIN	Nikki	USA	KAULIUS ZAARD	2:16:17	20:00
48	28	NZL19690329	PARKER	Sadie	NZL	HELLY HANSON/GIANT/M	2:16:29	20:12
49	46	USA19670101	HALL	Gina	USA	KOULIUS ZAARD	2:16:45	20:28
50	75	BEL19641010	LAROY	Lory	BEL	EQUIPE NAT. Belgique	2:18:10	21:53
51	44	USA19670219	RICHARDSON	Carmen	USA	SOBE HEADSHOK	2:19:16	22:59
52	66	USA19700220	DRUMM	Helene	USA	DBC	- 1 lap	
53	60	GBR19760625	THOMAS	Sue	GBR	SCOTT UK	- 1 lap	
54	71	USA19690409	EMMERMAN	Julie	USA	GARY FISHER	- 1 lap	
55	68	GER19730317	RAHNER	Carolin	GER	FIAT-ROTWILD	- 1 lap	
56	73	USA19690407	DALTON	Janie	USA	MISSING LINK TREK	- 1 lap	

57	52	GER19750626	HELMKE	Katrin	GER	STEVENS RACING	- 1 lap	
58	61	GER19720321	SCHWING	Katrin	GER	STORCK	- 1 lap	
59	57	CAN19771024	PREMONT	Marie-helene	CAN	ORYX	- 1 lap	
60	55	GBR19760402	PICKETT	Rachel	GBR	HELLY HANSON/GIANT/M	- 1 lap	
61	70	USA19740117	STROH	Weatherly	USA	SCHWINN TOYOTA RAV 4	- 2 laps	
62	41	USA19621003	EGGERTSEN	Teresa	USA	MICRO/SUPREME/X-MEN	- 2 laps	
63	74	MEX19690208	CISNEROS	Gloria	MEX	FAIRLINKS.COM	- 2 laps	
64	76	USA19710624	MCCONNELOUG	Mary	USA	BLIZZARD BROTHERS	- 3 laps	
	6	ESP19720409	FULLANA RIERA	Margarita	ESP	SUBARU-SPECIALIZED	DNF	
	35	GER19670901	JÜNGST	Birgit	GER	SCOTT-POLAR-RACING-T	DNF	
	48	SUI19640723	GASSMANN	Daniela	SUI		DNF	
	49	USA19690807	MASON	Lanie	USA	CANE CREEK	DNF	
	51	GER19680826	MARUNDE	Regina	GER	FOCUS	DNF	
	58	USA19650624	STREB	Marla	USA	YETI	DNF	
	59	GER19720512	WEISS	Helga	GER	ROTHAUS-STORCK	DNF	
	64	USA19640925	KEANE	Michelle	USA	AEGIS	DNF	
	69	USA19720329	SIMENSTAD	Hilary	USA	SCHWINN HOMEGROWN	DNF	