

Tissot/UCI Mountain Bike World Cup - 2000 - Coupe du Monde MTB

XC #5 - Sarentino, ITA - 13-14.5.2000

Fullana and Martinez Take Italian Fifth Round

The style in which they won couldn't have been more different, but **Marga Fullana** (ESP, *Subaru-Specialized*) and **Miguel Martinez** (FRA, *Full Dynamix*) have one thing very much in common - they both won Sunday's Round Five of the Tissot-UCI Mountain Bike World Cup Cross-Country series in dominating performances.

The crowd - an estimated 14,000 people - were enthusiastic and the weather perfect in the South Tyrol region of Northern Italy, welcoming the cross-country series to this country back for the first time since 1995, and for the series' 90th cross-country event. Racing for five laps in the women's event and seven in the men's, large fields of competitors attacked Sarentino's technical yet scenic course at full speed in this last XC world cup before June's World Championships.

Marga Fullana (ESP, *Subaru-Specialized*) said she didn't know how her race would go when she first woke up this morning, as she kept one eye on the weather and another on her tyre selection - so critical in races like this where mud, rocks and roots are such a factor. But the weather - which had been full of rain right up until early Sunday morning - cleared up with clear blue skies and sun for the women's 10:30 a.m. start.

Then, soon after the start, Fullana knew she was in form after she put a 30-second gap on **Paola Pezzo** (ITA, *Gary Fisher Saab*) and **Alison Sydor** (CAN, *Volvo-Cannondale*) in the first half-lap.

By the second of the five-lap race, Fullana was a minute and a half clear of Pezzo, with **Barbara Blatter** (SUI, *Scott USA*) now taking over the third position. Sydor fell to 4th in this lap, while **Caroline Alexander** (GBR) rode in 5th - series leader **Alison Dunlap** (USA, *Team GT*) nearly two minutes back in 6th position.

Lap three saw Fullana's lead increase yet another minute, to 2:30, while Blatter, Sydor and Dunlap (now in 4th) were separated by exactly 30 seconds after Pezzo abandoned the race. Alexander rode another 15 seconds back at 3:30, with **Ruthie Matthes** (USA, *Trek Volkswagen*) moving into the 6th position at 4:15 - 30 seconds behind Alexander.

Fullana kept up her increasingly fast pace through the final two laps as well, beating the field by 3:26 in the 4th lap and finally 5:15 by race's end. Blatter, who never fell below second position after the first lap, continued her strong season by finishing second, with Sydor posting her best finish in this European series at third.



Marga Fullana - ESP

Dunlap, by virtue of her strong finish against third-ranked Blatter, remains top-ranked and retains the blue Tissot leader's jersey for the second week. Number-two ranked Mary Grigson (AUS, Gary Fisher/Saab) did not start Sunday's race.

Quoted:

Marga Fullana, 1st Place:

"Today the plan was to see how hard I could go, because I was angry after crashing in last week's race, and also after having my bike stolen yesterday. So today was a demonstration of that anger - to say that you can take my bike or do whatever you want, but I'm strong and I'm going to win. These world cup races are to test myself, because my goals this season are the World Championship and the Olympics."

Barbara Blatter, 2nd Place:

"I'm happy with second place today, that's good for me and I'm surprised to do so well two weeks in a row. I didn't feel so good today in my legs, but I liked the downhill sections of the course and I think that helped me. But the climbs were too steep for me, and that hurt my performance."

Alison Sydor, 3rd Place:

"It was a tight battle between Barbara, Alison and me today - I was hoping that if I did the descents fast enough maybe I could catch Blatter in the final lap, but I was also concerned with Dunlap. Today was hard as heck but I'm happy - after a couple bad weeks in a row you wonder what's up, so it was good to ride up front - it's good preparation for Worlds."

Ari Cheren



Dunlap | Blatter | Fullana | Sydor | Alexander

<i>rank</i>	<i>bib</i>	<i>UCIcode</i>	<i>name</i>	<i>team</i>	<i>time</i>	<i>gap</i>
1	5	ESP19720409	FULLANA Marga	SUBARU-SPECIALIZED	01:53:47	
2	3	SUI19701222	BLATTER Barbara	SCOTT USA	01:59:02	05:15
3	4	CAN19660909	SYDOR Alison	VOLVO CANNONDALE	01:59:44	05:57
4	1	USA19690727	DUNLAP Alison	TEAM GT	02:00:34	06:47
5	50	GBR19680303	ALEXANDER Caroline	GREAT BRITAIN	02:01:22	07:35
6	13	USA19651111	MATTHES Ruthie	TREK/VOLKSWAGEN	02:01:26	07:39
7	15	USA19631122	TROMBLEY Ann	KOULIUS ZAARD	02:03:35	09:48
8	10	FRA19691106	VILLENEUVE Sophie	EGOBIKE CAMELBACK	02:03:59	10:12
9	6	NED19730630	DORLAND Corine	BE-ONE TEAM	02:04:22	10:35
10	9	SUI19660623	DAUCOURT Chantal	TREK/VOLKSWAGEN	02:04:27	10:40
11	33	ESP19730917	PUIGROS MIRANDA Janet	ROTOR EDR	02:04:51	11:04
12	38	ESP19671215	ROVIRA PLANAS Silvia	MACARIO GT	02:05:46	11:59
13	14	RUS19761202	EPIFANOVA Alla	VOLVO CANNONDALE	02:06:21	12:34
14	30	GER19680826	MARUNDE Regina	FOCUS	02:06:49	13:02
15	18	GER19711221	SPITZ Sabine	MERIDA	02:07:22	13:35
16	25	ITA19680704	STROPPARO Annabella	VOLVO CANNONDALE	02:08:03	14:16
17	20	ARG19720518	FLORIT Jimena	RLX POLO SPORT	02:08:19	14:32
18	35	RUS19771110	IAGOUPOVA Irina	RUSSIA NAT. MERIDA KASTYA	02:08:46	14:59
19	23	GBR19650112	ROBINSON Louise	STOURBRIDGE CC	02:08:54	15:07
20	36	SUI19740909	RUSCA Maroussia		02:09:26	15:39
21	19	SUI19691014	HENZI Petra	FISCHER K2	02:10:36	16:49
22	41	ITA19650914	TOVAGLIERI Giuliana	TEAM SPREAFICO	02:11:23	17:36
23	59	POL19810216	SZAFRANIEC Anna	POLAND	02:12:06	18:19
24	28	BEL19641010	LAROY Lory	BE-ONE TEAM	02:12:48	19:01
25	42	AUS19761002	FRANKE Dellys	MERIDA AUSTRALIA	02:13:34	19:47
26	26	AUS19761216	BAYLIS Anna	CANNONDALE AUSTRALIA	02:13:47	20:00
27	47	ITA19721024	SALA Veronica	TEAM COLNAGO	02:13:59	20:12
28	62	RSA19651227	KOTZE Hannele	TREK/GINZING/VW	- 1 lap	
29	37	NZL19690329	PARKER Sadie	Giant Helly/Hansen	- 1 lap	
30	31	GBR19700608	BRUNGER Tracy	GREAT BRITAIN	- 1 lap	
31	29	USA19661005	AUGUSTIN Audrey	KOULIUS ZAARD	- 1 lap	
32	49	NED19750429	SOLLAART Tessa		- 1 lap	
33	87	GER19670901	JUNGST Birgit		- 1 lap	
34	63	SUI19811130	FLÜCKIGER Lea	TEAM GT	- 1 lap	
35	53	USA19670101	HALL Gina	KOULIUS ZAARD	- 1 lap	
36	80	FRA19810205	HANSEN Severine	VTT DU GALABAN	- 1 lap	
37	67	AUT19670410	EMBACHER Hildegard	RADSPORTVEREIN	- 1 lap	
38	24	AUS19770730	GEYSEN Hanneke	BE-ONE/AIS	- 1 lap	
39	32	USA19650705	QUICK Rhonda		- 1 lap	
40	58	SUI19790205	MORF Sonja		- 1 lap	
41	61	AUT19750708	JUNGMAIER Bärbel	CYCLOPIA TREK TEAM	- 1 lap	
42	60	USA19690807	MASON Lanie	CANE CREEK	- 2 laps	
43	43	RSA19700925	GREEN Erica	TEAM GT	- 2 laps	
44	74	CZE19770616	BUBLOVA Ilona	CZE	- 2 laps	
45	57	CHN19770205	MA Yan Ping	CHINESE NATL TEAM	- 2 laps	

46	70	USA19621003	EGGERTSEN Teresa	MICRO/SUPREME/X-MEN	- 2 laps	
47	54	ITA19711019	MARSILIO Claudia	RACER TEAM	- 2 laps	
48	65	AUT19730405	BRAUMANN Birgit	FIAT-ROTWILD	- 2 laps	
49	89	GER19720321	SCHWING Katrine	TEAM STORCK	- 2 laps	
50	68	IRL19770825	OWENS Tarja		- 2 laps	
51	84	GER19790110	ELSNER Ana Barbara	RALPHDENK RACING TEAM	- 2 laps	
52	86	GER19730317	RAHNER Carolin	FIAT ROTWILD	- 2 laps	
53	83	SVK19760204	STEVKOVA Janka	OKRUZNAG	- 2 laps	
54	88	FRA19800805	GUIRRONET Sandrine	BIANCHI RAC	- 2 laps	
55	73	CHN19791008	WANG Wenxia	CHINESE NATL TEAM	- 3 laps	
56	71	CHN19780113	YU Quanlan	CHINESE NATL TEAM	- 3 laps	
57	77	AUS19700514	TOPMAN Lucy	MERCEDES BENZ	- 3 laps	
58	72	NED19810625	LAUNSPACH Merel		- 3 laps	
	7	ITA19690108	PEZZO Paola	GARY FISHER/SAAB	DNF	
	8	FRA19720222	LEBOUCHER Laurence	TEAM GT	DNF	
	12	FRA19690125	TEMPORELLI Sandra	E.S.C. MEAUX	DNF	
	16	NED19730125	VINK Elsbeth	SUBARU-SPECIALIZED	DNF	
	17	GER19650904	ZU PUTLITZ Hedda	BE-ONE TEAM	DNF	
	21	USA19641117	KAIN Shari	RLX POLO SPORT	DNF	
	44	SWE19780409	ÖSTERGREN Marla		DNF	
	51	ITA19720406	DE NEGRI Nadia	BIANCHI ALBACOM	DNF	
	55	DEN19770410	BRUHN Nadine	KOLDING	DNF	
	56	USA19640728	MARSHMAN Rene	MOOTS	DNF	
	75	AUS19681016	ROBINSON Kellie	STEGBAR PILKINGTON	DNF	
	76	ITA19690217	BALDUZZI Elisa	TEAM COLNAGO	DNF	
	81	FRA19791016	MARCOUYRE Helene	VELL CASTRES	DNF	
	85	GER19720512	WEISS Helga	ROTHAUS-STORCK-TEAM	DNF	