

Report / Rapport: Cross-country - Hommes - Elite - Men - 11.6.2000

Sierra Nevada, ESP - Cross Country - Elite Men Results - Distance : 42800 m

# Spain's Marga Fullana and France's Miguel Martinez Win Senior Cross-Country

The final day of competition at the 11th World Mountain Bike Championships ended a long week of racing with a crescendo, when two of the sport's fastest and most successful competitors won a tough cross-country event in Sierra Nevada, Spain. Current World Champion **Margarita Fullana** (ESP) and three-time rainbow jersey winner **Miguel Martinez** (FRA) controlled their races from start to finish, in two races on Sunday.

Shortly after the womens' race finished on Sunday afternoon, 99 men lined up for nearly five laps and 42.8 kilometres of competition in the hot afternoon sun, with the added challenge of over 2,000 metres elevation. The men's race would claim many competitors with its sharp rocks and technical demands, and only those who could ride both fast and conservatively would end the day on the first page of the results.

Racing got underway at 1:30 p.m. and, after the short start loop and some twisting singletrack in the woods, Miguel Martinez (FRA, Full Dynamix) led the charge down the first rocky descent in a cloud of dust. Behind him, **Christophe Dupouey** (FRA) and **Bas Van Dooren** (NED) followed closely, but both would soon be forced to retire from the race from flat tyres, two of the earliest casualties of the rough course. The first to DNF however, was defending World Champion, **Michael Rasmussen** (DEN).



Miguel Martinez - FRA

**Marco Bui** (*ITA*) - who won last year's U-23 rainbow jersey - was soon able to move up into second position behind Martinez, while five position back one of the sport's strongest North Americans, **Roland Green** (*CAN*) began to move up the rankings. Green's previous best result came this season in the world cup's first round in Napa Valley, USA.

Coming through the feed zone on the first full lap, Martinez had already assumed a lead of 43 seconds, over trade teammate Bui, while Green moved up seven positions into third position. 1997 World Champion **Hubert Pallhuber** (*ITA*), '99 World Cup Champion **Cadel Evans** (*AUS*) and current Olympic Gold Medallist **Bart Brentjens** (*NED*) were next in line, but the tough course was not through claiming victims.

Bui crashed hard in second lap and broke his collarbone, and was transported to the hospital - putting Green into second position with an outstanding ride which surprised even the race leader. Pallhuber was in third at this point, with *Spanish* Champion **Jose Marquez** in 4th position. Bart Brentjens (NED) was chasing in 5th position, but soon passed Marquez in the third lap.

In the final lap the results would be set, as Martinez continued to increase his lead from a minute and a half in the third lap to 2:45 going into the final lap. Brentjens solidified his podium position by putting more time

on Marquez, while **Ludovic Dubau** (FRA) - who had been riding in 9th position - moved up to 5th position as Evans and Pallhuber fell back.

Martinez put another six seconds on the field in the final small loop, crossing the line after two hours, seventeen minutes - nearly three minutes ahead of Green and nearly five minutes in front of Brentjens. Marquez held on for 4th and Dubau was 5th.

This is Martinez's fourth rainbow jersey, as he won the '95 Junior Cross-Country, and the Espoir (U-23) jersey in both 1997 and 1998.

## Quoted: Miguel Martinez, 1st Place:

"This is the happiest moment of my life, to win the elite World Championship. My father and grandfather are Spanish, so today as I raced I felt a bit Spanish also. Last year I didn't have a good result, and thought about putting away my bike, so to win this year is even more special."

"Winning the Junior World Championship is for the parents, but to win the senior gold medal is for the athlete - it's a dream come true for a professional. Although I'm ranked first in the world, I didn't really think I could win an elite World Championship - so many racers concentrate only on it and I want to be a consistent rider and win everything; world cup and Olympics."

#### Roland Green, 2nd Place:

"This is for sure the best ride of my career. After the first lap I passed two riders with flats, and I think my bike made a big difference today. Top three, I couldn't believe it while I was racing. I had the form in Napa, but get allergies early in the season, so now it's better for me - and the altitude helps also."

# Bart Brentjens, 3rd Place:

"Martinez was the best today, and I think his size helped him on this course. I though I could do well today, I'm in shape for the Olympics and was mentally strong as well. I had fun being with the national team, it's less pressure than Specialized which is so professional. My coach told me today that second place is first loser, so I guess I'm second loser. But that motivates me more."

## Ari Cheren



Rank	Bib	UCI Code	Surname	Firstname	Nat	Time	Gap
1	2	FRA19760117	MARTINEZ	Miguel	FRA	2:17:38.00	
2	18	CAN19740729	GREEN	Roland	CAN	2:20:30.00	2:52.00
3	4	NED19681010	BRENTJENS	Bart	NED	2:22:29.00	4:51.00
4	69	ESP19760317	MARQUEZ	Jose	ESP	2:23:52.00	6:14.00
5	21	FRA19731117	DUBAU	Ludovic	FRA	2:23:58.00	6:20.00
6	15	NED19650626	TOLHOEK	Patrick	NED	2:24:15.00	6:37.00
7	16	FRA19750321	VOLLET	Gregory	FRA	2:25:19.00	7:41.00
8	26	ITA19650917	PALLHUBER	Hubert	ITA	2:25:34.00	7:56.00
9	9	BEL19710305	MEIRHAEGHE	Filip	BEL	2:26:04.00	8:26.00
10	24	NOR19720422	LARSEN	Tom	NOR	2:26:23.00	8:45.00
11	37	ITA19681106	BRAMATI	Luca	ITA	2:27:05.00	9:27.00
12	12	GER19760520	FUMIC	Lado	GER	2:27:23.00	9:45.00
13	10	AUS19770214	EVANS	Cadel	AUS	2:27:52.00	10:14.00
14	6	SUI19700217	FRISCHKNECHT	Thomas	SUI	2:28:22.00	10:44.00
15	54	ITA19741202	CIONI	Dario	ITA	2:28:28.00	10:50.00
16	36	RUS19720513	TCHERKASSOV	Pavel	RUS	2:28:41.00	11:03.00
17	96	USA19721212	RANDOLPH	Greg	USA	2:28:53.00	11:15.00
18	13	AUS19680305	WOODS	Rob	AUS	2:29:15.00	11:37.00
19	64	GER19740627	HANISCH	Marc	GER	2:29:43.00	12:05.00
20	32	CAN19760503	MCGRATH	Seamus	CAN	2:30:20.00	12:42.00
21	30	AUS19710207	GORDON	Craig	AUS	2:30:52.00	13:14.00
22	35	CAN19770414	KABUSH	Geoff	CAN	2:31:42.00	14:04.00
23	51	USA19700313	LARSEN	Steve	USA	2:31:57.00	14:19.00
24	17	AUS19701202	ROWNEY	Paul	AUS	2:32:01.00	14:23.00
25	31	POL19740801	GALINSKI	Marek	POL	2:32:04.00	14:26.00
26	22	FRA19661119	ARNOULD	Dominique	FRA	2:32:24.00	14:46.00
27	40	CAN19730419	SHEPPARD	Chris	CAN	2:32:53.00	15:15.00
28	44	MEX19770523	MADRIGAL	Ziranda	MEX	2:33:12.00	15:34.00
29	72	USA19680209	GULLICKSON	Marc	USA	2:33:24.00	15:46.00
30	28	SUI19740621	HELLER	Marcel	SUI	2:33:32.00	15:54.00
31	52	SLO19720916	STRANCAR	Primoz	SLO	2:33:40.00	16:02.00
32	74	ITA19740429	PIRAZZOLI	Mirko	ITA	2:33:51.00	16:13.00
33	20	ESP19670723	LEZAUN	Roberto	ESP	2:34:10.00	16:32.00
34	61	IRL19710406	SEYMOURE	Robin	IRL	2:34:17.00	16:39.00
35	59	CRC19641218	BRENES	Andres	CRC	2:34:21.00	16:43.00
36	41	FRA19720910	HERISSET	Christophe	FRA	2:34:27.00	16:49.00
37	57	GBR19760607	BECKINGSALE	Oliver	GBR	2:35:17.00	17:39.00
38	46	CAN19740128	TOURVILLE	Eric	CAN	2:35:23.00	17:45.00
39	48	SLO19771207	GOLCER	Jure	SLO	2:35:40.00	18:02.00
40	90	ESP19730521	LEON	Alberto	ESP	2:35:52.00	18:14.00
41	76	SVK19760625	KONDIS	Lubos	SVK	2:36:02.00	18:24.00
42	88	COL19720630	GARAVITO	Diego	COL	2:36:10.00	18:32.00
43	34	DEN19660422	DJERNIS	Henrik	DEN	2:37:02.00	19:24.00
44	92	SVK19740114	BARENYI	Milan	SVK	2:38:10.00	20:32.00
45	79	NOR19770103	STORMO	Frederik	NOR	2:38:56.00	21:18.00
46	77	NED19770522	VAN MIL	Ruud	NED	2:39:11.00	21:33.00
47	87	CZE19770322	SPESNY	Milan	CZE	2:39:52.00	22:14.00
48	97	NED19730823	SMEETS	Roger	NED	2:39:58.00	22:20.00
49	42	AUS19751114	FLEMING	Josh	AUS	2:40:09.00	22:31.00
50	11	BEL19760427	PAULISSEN	Roel	BEL	2:40:21.00	22:43.00
51	121	SLO19690515	JAUK	Marjan	SLO	2:41:31.00	23:53.00
52	98	SUI19750414	WEBER	Christian	SUI	2:41:47.00	24:09.00
53	95	BRA19720207	RAVELLI	Marcio	BRA	2:42:08.00	24:30.00
54	49	CAN19720918	WEDGE	Peter	CAN	2:43:10.00	25:32.00
55	133	MEX19750109	AMANDO	Zacharias	MEX	2:43:54.00	26:16.00
56	68	CZE19680606	STICHA	Pavel	CZE	2:44:26.00	26:48.00
57	101	NAM19710714	HEYMANS	Mannie	NAM	2:45:04.00	27:26.00

58	81	BEL19750321	GALLE	David	BEL	2:45:14.00	27:36.00
59	29	BEL19660501	VAN DEN ABEELE	Peter	BEL	2:45:28.00	27:50.00
60	63	GBR19731104	LASENBY	Paul	GBR	2:46:44.00	29:06.00
61	73	DEN19770522	BONNE	Thomas	DEN	2:47:11.00	29:33.00
62	94	GER19760824	SAHM	Stefan	GER	2:48:48.00	31:10.00
63	129	COL19730506	CESAR	Grajales	COL	2:52:15.00	34:37.00
64	114	SLO19750319	PISTOR	Matej	SLO	- 1 lap	
65	106	JPN19760521	SAKAEDA	Tomio	JPN	- 1 lap	
66	127	CHI19760119	TOLEDO	Esteban	CHI	- 1 lap	
67	105	RSA19730827	DIRKS	Gerard	RSA	- 1 lap	
68	116	RSA19770813	PIENAAR	Fritz	RSA	- 1 lap	
69	125	IRL19740517	MCNAMARA	Philip	IRL	- 1 lap	
70	123	GRE19721116	MARKAKIS	Andreas	GRE	2 10	
70 71	123	GRE19640406	GINIS		GRE	- 2 laps	
71 72	131	UZB19700520	ILIN	Georgios Nikolav	UZB	- 2 laps	
12	131	OZB19700320	ILIN	NIKOIAV	UZB	- 2 laps	
	1	DEN19740601	RASMUSSEN	Michael	DEN	DNF	
	3	NED19730825	VAN DOOREN	Bas	NED	DNF	
	5	SUI19760413	SAUSER	Christophe	SUI	DNF	
	7	SUI19760713	HOCHSTRASSER	Thomas	SUI	DNF	
	8	FRA19680808	DUPOUEY	Christophe	FRA	DNF	
	19	ITA19771017	BUI	Marco	ITA	DNF	
	23	DEN19750218	AGERGAARD	Jesper	DEN	DNF	
	33	GER19700904	BRESSER	Carsten	GER	DNF	
	38	SUI19670523	WABEL	Beat	SUI	DNF	
	39	USA19610304	JUAREZ	Tinker	USA	DNF	
	50	ITA19750310	ACQUAROLI	Dario	ITA	DNF	
	56	CZE19731201	KORINEK	Radim	CZE	DNF	
	67	ESP19690404	DE PORTUGAL	Guillermo	ESP	DNF	
	70	ESP19690124	OLABERRIA A.	Andoni	ESP	DNF	
	75	USA19720916	MOLDAY	Kirk	USA	DNF	
	78	ESP19681117	GARRO	Juan Carlos	ESP	DNF	
	83	NED19760514	PETERS	Bas	NED	DNF	
	93	POL19730514	GIL	Dariusz	POL	DNF	
	100	JPN19770302 ARG19771116	SAITO DI LORENZO	Tomohiro Ignacio	JPN ARG	DNF DNF	
	107	JPN19771227	GOTO	Shinaaku	JPN	DNF	
	109	AUT19760923	BAUER	Siegfried	AUT	DNF	
	112	IRL19710818	MCCAULEY	Richard	IRL	DNF	
	115	SLO19760703	HABE	Ales	SLO	DNF	
	119	JPN19720811	SUZUKI	Raita	JPN	DNF	
	126	BRA19740527	SANTOS	Ivandir	BRA	DNF	
	25	ITA19770721	FRUET	Martino	ITA	DNS	
	60	GBR19661211	CLARKE	Barrie	GBR	DNS	