

## MTB: an innovative World Cup

The 2004 UCI Mountain Bike World Cup, the calendar of which has just been ratified by the Management Committee, has an extremely attractive programme. Four of the eight sites selected will hold series competitions for the first time: they are Sestrières (Italy), where the downhill (DH) and 4-Cross (4X) events will be contested, Schladming (Austria), Calgary (Canada) and Livigno (Italy, host of the 2005 World Championships), which will also include cross-country (XC). In addition, as in the past, Madrid (Spain) and Houffalize (Belgium) will hold XC events, while Fort William (Great Britain) and Mont Sainte Anne (Canada) will host the 3 disciplines.

## 2003 UCI MTB World Championships: a growing TV audience

Almost 10 million television viewers (i.e. 19% more than in 2002) watched the 2003 UCI MTB World Championships in Lugano (Switzerland). The event created a lot of interest in European countries, in particular Germany (2.9 million viewers), Spain (2.5 million), France (1.2 million) and Great Britain (almost 1 million).

11 countries broadcast the UCI MTB World Championships.

## 2003 UCI Track World Cup Classics: public interest continues to grow

The 2003 UCI Track World Cup Classics was avidly watched by more than 11 million television viewers, a significant increase compared to the previous year. 21 television channels broadcast the event in 75 countries over five continents.

Large numbers of spectators visited the velodromes in Moscow, Aguascalientes, Cape Town and Sydney, with a total of more than 20,000 tickets sold.

The Sydney and Aguascalientes velodromes were sold out on several nights.

## Mario Pescante visits the UCI

Dr. Mario Pescante, the Italian Secretary of State responsible for sport, a member of the I.O.C. and President of the European Olympic Committees, yesterday met the UCI President, Mr. Hein Verbruggen, at the World Cycling Centre.

During his visit, Dr. Pescante expressed his admiration for the solidarity and training programmes conducted within our Federation.

## News on the anti-doping fight:

### The UCI and International Federations of team sports meet the WADA

Dr. Mario Zorzoli, the UCI Doctor, will travel to Basel (Switzerland) on the 7<sup>th</sup> of November 2003 to take part in a seminar involving the World Anti-doping Agency (WADA) and the International Federations of team sports. Representatives from the International Federations of football (FIFA), ice-hockey (IIHF), volleyball (FIVB), basketball (FIBA) and handball (IHF) will inform the WADA of the problems encountered when applying the Anti-doping Code and discuss the medical issues related to the Code.

### The following riders have been sanctioned for doping offences:

**Alberto LODDO**, sanctioned by the **Federazione Ciclistica Italiana**, disqualification of the Volta ao Algarve 2003, suspension of 1 month from 13 April 2003 to 13 May 2003 and fine of CHF 2'000.-. **Enrico CASSANI**, sanctioned by the **Federazione Ciclistica Italiana**, disqualification of Tirreno-Adriatico 2003 and Milano-Sanremo 2003, suspension of 1 year from 11 July 2003 to 11 July 2004 and fine of CHF 2'000.-. **Giampaolo CARUSO**, sanctioned by the **Federazione Ciclistica Italiana**, disqualification of Jacob's Creek Tour Down Under 2003, suspension of 6 months from 29 April 2003 to 29 October 2003 and fine of CHF 2'000.-. **Giairo ERMETTI**, sanctioned by the **Federazione Ciclistica Italiana**, disqualification of GP Palio del Recioto 2003, suspension of 1 month from 30 July 2003 to 30 August 2003 and fine of CHF 500.-.