

The UCI signs a contract with the helmet manufacturer Giro

On the 4th of February 2004, the UCI signed a 2-year contract with the helmet manufacturer Giro. The agreement is for the supply of equipment to young talented riders taking training and coaching programmes at the World Cycling Centre.

The National Federations of Tunisia and San-Marino visit the UCI

On the 17th of February 2004, the President of the Tunisian Cycling Federation, Mr. Mohamed Jamel Louafi, and the organiser of the Tour of Tunisia, Mr. Riadh Azaiez, will visit the World Cycling Centre. Here, they will meet the UCI Road Sports Coordinator, Mr. Philippe Chevallier, in order to discuss the sporting and organisational aspects of the Tunisian tour.

At the beginning of February, Mr. Verbruggen also welcomed a delegation from the San-Marino Cycling Federation, led by its President, Mr. Clelio Galassi.

Hein Verbruggen to meet Tony Rominger

On the 17th of February 2004, Mr. Tony Rominger, the former road rider and now working for IMG Suisse, will meet the UCI President, Mr. Hein Verbruggen. They plan to discuss the changes resulting from the reform of road cycling which will come into force in January 2005.

The UCI in Japan

Lucien Bailly, the Development and Solidarity Manager of the UCI, has been in Osaka (Japan) since the 8th of February, meeting with representatives of the Organisational Committee for the Tour of Japan, including Mr. Keizo Kobayashi, the European representative for the event. Their work has included a joint examination of the different stages of the course.

The WCC track: a training venue for the best Italian track riders

Italian pursuit specialists spent the first week of February at the WCC in order to put the finishing touches to their preparation for the 1st heat of the UCI Track World Cup in Moscow.

The Swiss Association of Cycling for the Disabled prepares for the Olympics in Aigle

Every week some ten disabled Swiss riders train on the WCC track in preparation for the 2004 Athens Paralympic Games, where the track cycling competitions will take place from the 18th to 20th of September.

2004 UCI Track World Cup "Classics": 1st heat in Moscow

Moscow will be the opening event in the 2004 UCI Track World Cup "Classics" on the 13th of February 2004. The other three heats in the series will take place:

- from 12.03 to 14.03.04 in Aguascalientes (Mexico)
- from 09.04 to 11.04.04 in Manchester (Great Britain)
- and from 26.05 to 30.05.04 in Melbourne (Australia).

The competitions in the series will be broadcast to Japan, Australia, Mexico, and on several European television channels - particularly in Italy, Russia, Switzerland, Belgium and Spain - as well as on Eurosport.

The WCC track group in Moscow

Eleven trainees from the WCC, including the double 2003 Sprint World Champion, Guo Shuang (CHN), the winner of the 2003 UCI Sprint World Cup, Daniela Larreal (VEN) and the winner of the UCI "B" World Championships, the Korean Hee Chun Yang, will be putting their talents to the test on the track of the Krylatskoye velodrome.

The following riders have been sanctioned for doping offences:

Basil RIBEIRO, doctor, sanctioned by the **Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS)**, suspension of 1 year from 21 August 2003 to 20 August 2004 and fine of CHF 3'000.-.

Tatiana STIAJKINA, sanctioned by **Federation Ukrainienne de Cyclisme**, fine of CHF 300.-.

Francisco PEREZ SANCHEZ, sanctioned by **Federación Española de Ciclismo**, disqualification of Tour de Romandie (SUI), 29 April 2003 and 3 May 2003, suspension of 1 year and 6 months from 18 October 2003 to 17 April 2005 and fine of CHF 2'000.-.

Hennie MOREL, sanctioned by the **Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS)**, disqualification of the Ronde van Zuid-Oost-Vlaanderen (BEL), 25.08.2002, and suspension of 7 months with 3,5 months of deferment for a period of 3 years starting on 15 July 2003 until 31 January 2004.

