

## **UCI News of 4th March 2005**

### **Official launch of the UCI ProTour in Paris**

On 5th March 2005 the UCI ProTour will be officially launched in Paris, the day before Paris-Nice (6th –13th March), first race in the UCI ProTour calendar. The event will bring together representatives of UCI ProTeams, organisers of races in the series, media, Mr Vittorio Adorni, Chairman of the Professional Cycling Council (PCC) as well as several members from this organisation, Mr Hein Verbruggen, UCI President, Mr Henri Sérandour, President of the French National Olympic Committee (CNOSF) and Mr Gilles Le Roc'h, President of the International Association of Cycling Journalists (AIJC). This event will officially launch the UCI ProTour season, one day before the start of the much awaited 2005 season.

### **Welcome to [www.uciprotour.com](http://www.uciprotour.com), the new UCI ProTour website !**

The official site of the UCI ProTour, [www.uciprotour.com](http://www.uciprotour.com), launched in October 2004, will have a new image at the beginning of the season (Paris-Nice, 6th-13th March 2005). It will reveal its new format and new contents from Saturday evening. All year round you will be able to find all necessary information such as information on races, numerous photos, composition of teams, results and especially rankings.

It should be noted that this is the only website whose reliability can be guaranteed by the UCI. As soon it is made official, information such as, for example, the composition of UCI ProTeams, will be put online.

[www.uciprotour.com](http://www.uciprotour.com) will therefore become the reference site which no specialist will be able to do without.

### **2004 UCI Mountain Bike World Cup: its growth confirmed by figures**

At the beginning of the 90s, Mountain Biking experienced an incredible media boom. Last year the discipline experienced a second similar episode. Figures for the UCI 2004 Mountain Bike World Cup are unprecedented : 132 million TV viewers watched the World Cup, and 205 hours of coverage was shown in 153 countries ! The number of countries and broadcasting time doubled compared to the previous season.

This resounding success with the media and public proves that the efforts taken by the UCI to improve TV production and coverage of Mountain Biking have indeed paid off.

### **[www.ucigoldenbike.com](http://www.ucigoldenbike.com): the website for the UCI Golden Bike series has been updated**

This year the UCI Golden Bike series includes 8 cycling for all events in as many countries. It will begin on 13th March with the Cape Argus Pick'n Pay Tour (South Africa) and will offer its participants, for the first time this year, numerous exclusive advantages. The first offer available will enable visitors to go on training programmes at reduced rates. Other offers will be proposed subsequently. All information on UCI Golden Bike series events and all their new features can be accessed on [www.ucigoldenbike.com](http://www.ucigoldenbike.com).

## **UEFA staff : from the football pitch to the World Cycling Centre track**

On 4th March, a delegation of around forty staff from UEFA (Union of European Football Associations) visited the World Cycling Centre to attend, along with UCI staff, an initiation session to track cycling.

All groups interested, and not only those from sports organisations are welcome at the World Cycling Centre where all the necessary equipment for practising track cycling can be made available to them.

Further information available on [www.cmc-wcc.com](http://www.cmc-wcc.com).

## **Preparation course for Italian Juniors at the World Cycling Centre**

The national Juniors from the Italian Cycling Federation (FCI) will be staying in Aigle from 6th to 15th March at the World Cycling Centre. This course is part of the preparation programme for the 2005 UCI Junior Track World Championships, that will take place from 7th to 14th August in Vienna, Austria.

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

**Gabriel MARTIN ALLUE** (ESP), tested positive with triamcinolone acetonide during the Volta a Lleida (ESP) on 9 June 2004, sanctioned by REAL FEDERACION ESPAÑOLA DE CICLISMO, fine of 601€ (art. 64 AER). **Eugenio PINEDA** (ESP), tested positive with bétaméthasone and triamcinolone acetonide during the race X Clasica Internacional "Txuma"(ESP) on 22 May 2004, sanctioned by REAL FEDERACION ESPAÑOLA DE CICLISMO, fine of 601€ (art. 64 AER). **Tony Alexis LINARES AGUERO** (VEN), tested positive with Nicéthamide and possession of EPO during the Tour de la Guadeloupe (FRA) on 10 August 2004, sanctioned by FEDERATION VENEZOLANA DE CICLISMO, suspension of 4 years from 28<sup>th</sup> September 2004 to 27<sup>th</sup> September 2008, disqualification of the race. **Wade BOOTES** (AUS), tested positive with amphetamine and metamphetamine during the UCI MTB World Cup, Mont Ste-Anne (CAN), on 26 June 2004, sanctioned by AUSTRALIAN CYCLING FEDERATION, suspension of 6 months from 1<sup>st</sup> August 2004 to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2005, disqualification of the race.