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**MIS
SPENT
SUM
MERS**



RESULTS

MEN

POS	NAME	NAT	FINISH
1	LOIC BRUNI	FRA	2:58.839
2	DANNY HART	GBR	2:59.243
3	TROY BROSNAN	AUS	2:59.603
4	CHARLIE HARRISON	USA	2:59.767
5	MATT WALKER	GBR	3:00.449

WOMEN

1	TAHNEE SEAGRAVE	GBR	3:25.888
2	RACHEL ATHERTON	GBR	3:26.743
3	TRACEY HANNAH	AUS	3:28.526
4	MARINE CABIROU	FRA	3:29.430
5	MONIKA HRASNIK	SLO	3:30.213

JUNIOR MEN

1	THIBAUT DAPRELA	FRA	3:05.557
2	ETHAN SHANDRO	CAN	3:08.598
3	KYE A' HERN	AUS	3:09.823
4	LUCAS CRUZ	CAN	3:11.811
5	GONCALO BANDEIRA	POR	3:13.846

JUNIOR WOMEN

1	VALENTINA HOLL	AUT	3:35.775
2	ANNA NEWKIRK	USA	3:45.718
3	MILLE JOHNSET	NOR	3:45.885
4	LAURYNE CHAPPAZ	FRA	4:10.125
5	O. JOHANSSON JONES	SWE	4:15.406

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Made with love by Misspent Summers
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Front cover: Tahnée Seagrave by Sven Martin.

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supporters, readers and grafters who make
this book possible.

REBOOT

WORDS: JAMES MCKNIGHT

NOTE: FOR FULL LENGTH TEXT,
SEE HURLY BURLY 2019

Nearly a decade after its last appearance on the World Cup circuit, Maribor was set to host the opening round of what would be a historic season of racing. Here, on a pleasant slope somewhere near the edge of Slovenia, all hell was about to break out.

Juniors set the clock ticking on the 2019 DH World Cup season with the first important qualifying runs of the year. Despite threats from the skies above, the course stayed at its optimum for both the junior men and women categories. It came as no surprise to see Vali Höll and Thibaut Daprela at the top of the score sheets after this session.

Höll began her title campaign with a perfect stride, although it was no walk in the park; Anna Newkirk and Mille Johnset followed not far behind in second and third respectively. Daprela, on the other hand, was being hounded by new-kid-on-the-block Ethan Shandro, who was nipping at the young Frenchman's heels, with Kye A'Hern in third.

It was near the end of the junior session that things started to look ominous. As the elite women hit the mountain, the clouds darkened and began to produce course-slickening pellets of water. With the track now running fast on a racing line, its soil packed down hard, the rain sat on top and turned the surface >>



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appreciated Hrastnik's ride nonetheless. As soon as Seagrave burst onto the course, it was clear she intended to destroy the competition. Seagrave was sensational and pinpoint-accurate in her riding. The three-time 2018 race winner couldn't have done anything better. Seagrave swiped the hotseat.

Rachel Atherton, riding in the World Champion's stripes, laid down a clean and fast run, tucking and off the brakes where it mattered. Atherton and Seagrave played yo-yo in the timing. But it simply wasn't enough overall to topple Seagrave on possibly the best form of her life. Hannah, setting off last, secured third.

By the time Loic Bruni started his run the hot seat had swapped hands several times and was currently occupied by a smiling Danny Hart. Hart's run had been a display of absolute class; a flashback to his unstoppable form of 2016. Riding another mullet setup, Hart slapped turns and hopped holes in his trademark style to set a time

that would be unmatched by all but one man.

Bruni rode his race run with typical precision, hitting all his marks and holding speed across the course's lower off-camber section. It was a superb ride that was enough to knock Hart into second, and Bruni's time of 2:58.839 would stand unbeaten by the close of racing.

Troy Brosnan had a good go at beating the two frontrunners, rallying down the course for the first of many podiums in 2019. Young guns Charlie Harrison and Matt Walker put in strong performances, finishing a commendable fourth and fifth respectively. Man-down-of-the-match had to go to Loris Vergier, who fell victim to 'Sam's Corner' (named after Sam Hill's infamous crash here), smashing into a tree and going head-over-heels but somehow springing straight back up to his feet.

Neither Bruni nor Seagrave had won a season opener before. They were in unfamiliar yet undoubtedly welcome territory leaving Slovenia. **HB**

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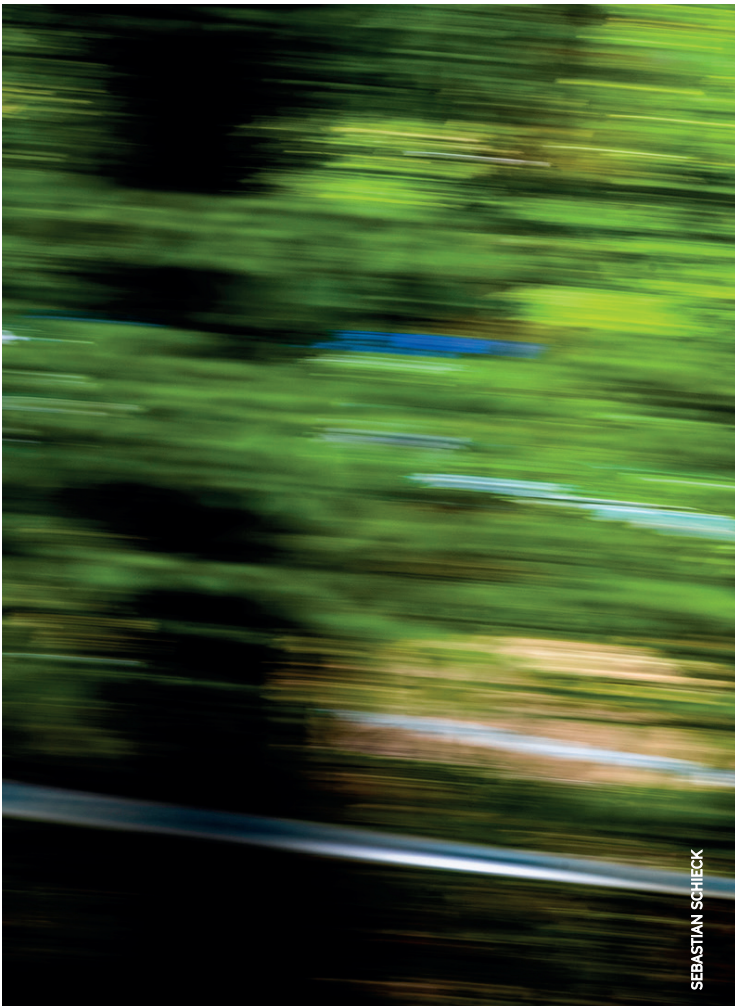
SVEN MARTIN



SVEN MARTIN



BORIS BEYER



SEBASTIAN SCHIECK



SEBASTIAN SCHIECK

FINALS DAY PROMISED
A SPRINKLING OF
WATER. THANKFULLY
THE FORECAST GOT IT
WRONG... IN THE
RIGHT KIND OF WAY



SEBASTIAN SCHIECK



SEBASTIAN SCHIECK



SEBASTIAN SCHIECK



ice-rink slick. The women handled these changing conditions in style, setting a scorching pace. Tahnée Seagrave and Rachel Atherton pushed to the limits, but Tracey Hannah laid out her plans for the year. The experienced Aussie hit it out the ballpark, winning by a clear margin and donning the leader's jersey (which was issued directly after qualifying) for the first time in the year.

A new starting order for 2019 saw the top-60-ranked men set off in reverse order (60th-1st), then the rest of the entrants qualifying after that, in ascending order (60th-lowest-ranked). As the rain poured down, this meant the conditions became progressively worse for the top-60. Greg Minnaar, after looking rapid and game throughout practice, didn't even make it into the top-60 qualifying positions — but Finn Iles, Aaron Gwin and Mark Wallace mastered the grime to take the top-three in that order.

For finals the course dried perfectly throughout the morning's early B practice and

junior races, making for probably the fastest conditions of the week by the time the elites got on-track. Along with the added speed came thousands of spectators, hardcore fans of downhill and interested local inhabitants.

With the course still in its drying stages, juniors set off into similarly tricky-to-read conditions as their elders had faced in qualifying. The times were a little slower, but the results remained consistent. Höll and Daprela took dominant wins in their categories. Newkirk and Johnset took second and third in junior women's; the junior men's results were also a mimic of qualifying with Shandro and A'Hern second and third.

By the time the elites had finished their short practice session, the track was tip-top — if riddled with holes — and ready for an epic battle.

Marine Cabirou set the pace early on and would hold the hot seat for the majority of the race. Local hero Monika Hrastrnik couldn't quite better her time. The crowds ►►



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