

Women's Events

Women's 500m Time Trial

Next event, next record broken! The Women's 500m Time Trial saw first Yonghua JIANG (CHN) break the Olympic record in a time of 34.112 seconds with the 2004 world champion Anna MEARES (AUS) last rider out. MEARES, whose previous best was 34.342, bolted out of the blocks with the fastest first lap, and maintained that momentum to break the world record in a time of 33.952, and become her country's first female Olympic Track Cycling champion. JIANG won the silver with 2002 and 2003 world champion Natallia TSYLINSKAYA third in 34.167.

Women's Points Race

SLYUSAREVA showed she is the greatest Female Points Racer when, after a slow start, she won three of the last five sprints in scoring a total of 20 points. Belem GUERRERO MENDEZ (MEX) won silver upon scoring two points on the final sprint to score 14 points, ahead of Maria Luisa CALLE WILLIAMS (COL) on 12 points. A doping disqualification initially gave MIRABELLA the bronze, a decision that was overturned in October 2005.

Women's Individual Pursuit

Of the many highlights of the Track Cycling programme, the standout would be the Women's Individual Pursuit, where the world record was decimated. In qualifying Katie MACTIER (AUS) broke Sarah ULMER's (NZL) world record in a time of 3:29.945, yet MACTIER's new record lasted only five minutes. ULMER, the 2004 world champion, rode next, and reclaimed her world record, dropping 3.555 seconds off MACTIER's mark to ride in 3:26.400. The New Zealander was not finished when -in the gold medal race- she lowered her one-day-old world record by 1.863 seconds to ride 3:24.537, beating the Australian, who rode a personal best of 3:27.650. Defending Olympic champion Leontien ZIJLAARD-van MOORSEL (NED) won bronze against Katherine BATES (AUS) in a personal best of 3:27.037.

Women's Sprint

Lori-Ann MUENZER (CAN) won the Women's Sprint against Tamilla ABASSOVA (RUS) 2-0, and became her country's first ever Olympic Cycling gold medallist. Anna MEARES (AUS) added a bronze medal to her Olympic gold medal from day one, when she defeated reigning world champion Svetlana GRANKOVSKAYA (RUS) 2-0 in the bronze medal ride-off.

| Women's 500m Time Trial | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----|--------|
| | Name | NOC | Time |
| Gold | MEARES Anna | AUS | 33.952 |
| Silver | JIANG Yonghua | CHN | 34.112 |
| Bronze | TSYLINSKAYA Natallia | BLR | 34.167 |
| 4th | KRUPECKAITE Simona | LTU | 34.317 |
| 5th | HIJGENAAR Yvonne | NED | 34.532 |
| 6th | PENDLETON Victoria | GBR | 34.626 |
| 7th | MUENZER Lori-Ann | CAN | 34.628 |
| 8th | CONTRERAS REYES Nancy | MEX | 34.783 |

| Women's Points Race | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|-----|--------|
| | Name | NOC | Points |
| Gold | SLYUSAREVA Olga | RUS | 20 |
| Silver | GUERRERO MENDEZ Belem | MEX | 14 |
| Bronze | CALLE WILLIAMS Maria Luisa | COL | 12 |
| 4th | MIRABELLA Erin | USA | 9 |
| 5th | CARRARA Vera | ITA | 8 |
| 6th | ULMER Sarah | NZL | 8 |
| 7th | PASCUAL Gema | ESP | 7 |
| 8th | BATES Katherine | AUS | 7 |

| Women's Individual Pursuit | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----|
| | Name | NOC |
| Gold | ULMER Sarah | NZL |
| Silver | MACTIER Katie | AUS |
| Bronze | ZIJLAARD-van MOORSEL Leontien | NED |
| 4th | BATES Katherine | AUS |
| 5th | THUERIG Karin | SUI |
| 6th | SLYUSAREVA Olga | RUS |
| 7th | CHALYKH Elena | RUS |
| 8th | DAVIES Emma | GBR |

| Women's Sprint | | |
|----------------|-----------------------|-----|
| | Name | NOC |
| Gold | MUENZER Lori-Ann | CAN |
| Silver | ABASSOVA Tamilla | RUS |
| Bronze | MEARES Anna | AUS |
| 4th | GRANKOVSKAYA Svetlana | RUS |
| 5th | TSYLINSKAYA Natallia | BLR |
| 6th | MEINKE Katrin | GER |
| 7th | KRUPECKAITE Simona | LTU |

Right page:

New Zealander Sarah Ulmer celebrates on the podium after winning the gold medal of the women's individual pursuit finals, in a world record time of 3:24.537. © AFP/D. Meyer