

Temple Tops the Brits in Tignes

Almost 100 of the Worlds Top Freestyle skiers competed in the opening event of the Suzuki Freestyle World Cup in Tignes this weekend. The moguls event took place on the Grande Motte glacier, setting the scene for this Olympic season. Many of the competitors had already met the tough Olympic qualification standards and the two previous men's champions were both present.

Sam Temple (29, Oxford) was in good form taking 38th place and an important step on his return to form after injury and illness dogged his preparation over the last couple of years. Sam had a neat run down the 240 metre course in a time of 29 seconds and a score of 21.87 but it was not enough to get him into the final 16. With just over 2 months to the Olympics Sam is training hard as Britain's male mogul hope in Salt Lake City.

The other two British Team members competing in Tignes, Simon Bates (24, Edinburgh) and Laura Donaldson (29, Glasgow) did not fare as well as Sam. They are both trying to make Olympic qualification but a score of 18.93 for Bates and 16.25 for Donaldson were not enough to get them a ticket to Salt Lake yet.

Joanne Bromfield (19, Salt Lake City), GBR's female mogul Olympic hope, was not in Tignes but is training on her home slope - the Olympic course, and will be starting her winter competitive season in Snowbird USA next weekend.

Johann Gregoire (FRA) took the mens event on his home slope with a score of 26.24 (out of 30), with Stephan Rochon (CAN - 25.64 points) just making it into 2nd place ahead of Jeremy Bloom (USA - 25.54 points). The 1998 Olympic Champion Jonny Mosely (USA) was pushed back to 9th place with a score of 24.63, although Jean-Luc Brassard (CAN) gold medalist at the 94 games just missed the podium with a score of 25.43 placing him 5th.

Kari Traa (NOR) continues to dominate female mogul skiing and with yet another 1st place must be a favourite for the gold in Salt Lake.

Note to editors:

SUZUKI WORLD CUP - TIGNES FRA, 1ST DECEMBER 2001

MEN'S MOGULS - 60 competitors

1 ST	J Gregoire	FRA	26.24
2 nd	S Rochon	CAN	25.64
3 rd	J Bloom	USA	25.54
38 th	S Temple	GBR	21.87
49 th	S Bates	GBR	18.93

WOMEN'S MOGULS - 39 competitors

1 st	K Traa	NOR	26.27
2 nd	H Hardaway	USA	25.64
3 rd	A Uemura	JPN	25.59
36 th	L Donaldson	GBR	16.25