

BROUGHT TO YOU BY

BMX NEWS
digital dirt **COM**

BMXnow
.com

VintageBMX.com

Faith
BICYCLE DIRT RIDING

BMX NEWS
digital dirt **COM**

**NO GUTS,
NO GLORY!**



**WILLERS SURVIVES
SX GAUNTLET**

PAPENDAL SX
KIWIS SWEEP UP
IN HOLLAND

PAPENDAL SX

The Papendal SX was one of the most highly anticipated events in the series' history. Videos of the Dutchies practicing on the track had spread across the internet and nobody knew if they were playing headgames or if the track was really that gnar. Me and three mates popped over from England on the ferry to see what all the fuss was about. The track is set in a beautiful park setting which houses the Dutch Olympic training facility as well as a full hotel and events center. Our first glimpse of the track let us know that it was no joke; one of those that, if not respected, would bite you in the butt. The weather was decent, but the wind was causing some havok. Thirty or so of the men on the start list wouldn't even see the time trials; like the UK's Marcus Bloomfield who had to have two plates and some screws put into his wrist; season over. Of the remaining men many had problems either over the berm jump, the trail style second straight, the box jump, or the super deep third straight; and to miss the box jump was automatic DNQ. The women seemed to have less trouble and it was **Romana Labounkova** from the Czech Republic that stepped out of the shadow of her countrywomen (Hladikova and Horakova) and onto the Time Trial Superfinal win. For the men it was the local favorites of Jelle van Gorkom and Raymond van der Biezen who took top honors in the Superfinal. Unfortunately for **van der Biezen**, a gnarly wreck in the third straight saw him taken off on a stretcher. This race also saw the return of Mike Day and it saw **Donny Robinson** back in the mix, as well. All through qualifying it was **Sarah Walker** who was the standout





Lukas Tamme, Sebastian Kartfjord, Toon Jacobs, Roger Rindernecht, Jose Diaz, Morten Therkildsen, Corben Sharrah, and Nic Long launch the first straight doubles.

PAPENDAL SX



Colombia's Carlos Oquendo is in, but the box jump has to go.

PAPENDAL SX

SX Finals

1. Marc Willers
2. Jelle van Gorkom
3. Joris Daudet
4. Tory Nyhaug
5. Edzus Treimanis
6. Josh Callan
7. Brian Kirkham
8. Sam Willoughby

1. Sarah Walker
2. Romana Labounkova
3. Caroline Buchanan
4. Magalie Pottier
5. Marianna Pajon
6. Arielle Martin
7. Aneta Hladikova
8. Jana Horakova

Superfinal

1. Jelle van Gorkom
2. Raymond van der Biezen
3. Joris Daudet
4. Sam Willoughby
5. Corben Sharrah

1. Romana Labounkova
2. Sarah Walker
3. Magalie Pottier
4. Marianna Pajon
5. Arielle Martin



and all eight girls from the Superfinal were the same girls in the SX main. The track proved to be too much for all but one of the French women; **Magalie Pottier**; who seemed to ride smart and out of danger. The men's final saw three first time main makers; Canada's **Tory Nyhaug**, Australia's Josh Callan, and Latvia's **Edzus Treimanis**; who is looking to prove that he should be in London next to Strombergs. In the final **Sam Willoughby** gave it his all in an effort to beat a hard charging Marc Willers, but he ended up on the ground in the first berm for his efforts. When the dust settled it was a New Zealand sweep of the finals which saw a huge smile on Kiwi coach Ken Cools' face. After two rounds it will be France's Joris Daudet and Sarah Walker on top of the SX standings. The next stop is London in August and I hope we see a tweaked version of this track.

