



## CYRIL DESPRES DOMINATES FIRST DAY OF THE RED BULL ROMANIACS 2005!



Cyril Despres (Photo: Herwig Peuker)

It was a heated battle with thousands of spectators lining up alongside the spectacular prologue track through downtown Sibiu, and the riders really did their very best to keep the crowd on their feet. The 1,2 km long track featured really tough obstacles which made for breathtaking action throughout the 15 minutes race distance. The riders had to handle huge wooden poles as well as a jump over some wrecked cars and a steep uphill section over the 15 meter high medieval town wall.

Cyril Despres was truly a class of his own. Even though he crashed hard on a warm-up lap this morning and hurt his leg, the French KTM factory pilot rode a perfect race without any mistakes. Cyril took the lead immediately after the start and stayed on first position until race promoter Martin Freinademetz waved the checkers.

„It was a simply perfect race for me and I really tried not to make any mistakes but ride smoothly and keep the momentum. My leg hurt a little bit but the enthusiastic crowd made me forget the pain pretty soon. It's an amazing feeling to ride in front of so many people and I am very happy to be here again in Romania.“, said the French rider.



Darryl Curtis (Photo: Gary Freeman)

The battle for second place was fought by South African Darryl Curtis and German Gerhard Forster. Both riders battled hard for the whole race distance and offered really exciting shoulder-to-shoulder action lap after lap. Finally it was KTM/Trade Solution Holdings rider Darryl Curtis who took second place. „I tried to race really smoothly and carefully. The prologue was absolutely amazing, we could hear the people shouting and cheering for us all along the racetrack.“ said the sympathetic South African about his debut race at the Red Bull Romaniacs.

Fourth place was taken by a very strong Erich Brandauer from Austria, who closed in on Curtis and Forster in the last few laps of the race but couldn't make the podium in the end.

## GIRL POWER: LISI MUCHA & HANNES BLAUENSTEINER WIN THE TEAM CLASS!



Lisi Mucha & Hannes Blauensteiner  
(Photo: Herwig Peuker)

Gentlemen, you better open your throttles wide - here comes the fast lady from Austria! Prior to the Pro-Class, the teams hit the prologue track to officially open this year's Red Bull Romaniacs. With a solid performance, amazing speed and a lot of endurance, Lisi Mucha - the only female rider at this and teammate Hannes Blauensteiner from Austria secured a clear win over their fellow competitors. Hannes Blauensteiner was definitely the fastest rider of the team class today, closely followed by Romanian Emanuel Gyenes from Team Egly Racing 1. Unfortunately Gyenes teampartner Laszlo Olah (ROM) crashed hard on his first lap and dislocated his shoulder, destroying any hopes for a podium finish for the Romanian youngsters.

Team OMMA (Peter Nesuta, Patrick Killmeyer) from Austria finished a strong second, while third place in the team class was taken by Team Schiedel/Husqvarna Mairhofer (Andreas Hölzl, Gerhard Treitler) from Austria.



## THE RALLYE HEADS INTO THE MOUNTAINS ON RACE DAY TWO



The prologue track offered spectacular obstacles (Photo: Herwig Peuker)

The ranking of the prologue race is also crucial for the starting grid of tomorrow's stage - so it's Cyril Despres who heads first into the Fagaras mountains on Monday morning, followed by Darryl Curtis and Gerhard Forster. The teams will start right after the Pro-Class has left the start in Sibiu.

The track of stage one will be extremely rough and technically demanding. It's 180 km race distance for the Pro-Class, while the team riders have to handle 150 km through the Romanian wilderness with more than 17.000 meters of elevation changes throughout the day.

The riders leave Sibiu early to face their first true challenge of the Rallye - the beautiful and wild Fagaras mountains! After climbing up to the peak of the amazing mountains, it's all about going downhill again on steep and rocky single trails. While all riders have to handle massive elevation changes during this day's stage, the Pro-Class is allowed to get even a little more mountaineering action than the teams...

After leaving the mountains, the racetrack heads into the astounding Sadu valley, where it's again all about going up and down narrow single trails through the forests. In the afternoon, a river crossing in the town of Sadu offers the possibility for all riders to cool down a little, before the rallye heads back through green meadows to the finish at Sibiu.

Sibiu (ROM), July 31st 2005



Lisi Mucha  
(Photo: Herwig Peuker)



The Pro-Class had their fun at the prologue track  
(Photo: Herwig Peuker)



Cyril Despres has definitely some trial roots  
(Photo: Herwig Peuker)