



AND THEY SAID IT WAS A WOMEN'S DOWNHILL TRACK

The comments were enthusiastic on the new Santa Caterina Valfurva track, on its debut in a World Cup race - The fastest of the first training was the German Ferstl - Third place for Innerhofer, who's now in bed with flu - Jansrud was in the shadow during the training - The race will be on Sunday

SANTA CATERINA VALFURVA, DECEMBER 26TH - These are the translations of the first impressions from the parterre of the Deborah Compagnoni slope at the end of the first training session of the Santa Caterina DH which will take place on Sunday, half an hour before noon. The fastest of all was a surprise, the German Josef Ferstl who will turn 26 on Monday. His best World Cup result is the 9th DH place in Garmisch in February 2013. He probably hadn't bombproof skis on his feet.

CHRISTOF INNERHOFER, third overall time with +0,34 from Ferstl, and the best of the "Azzurri". "It 'a difficult track to face, there is little light and it never ends. But I love it to pieces. Perhaps because my back didn't bother me, even the cold left me in peace and I was very comfortable especially in the first part of the track, which is very well prepared and quite frozen." The problem is that in the early afternoon the fever got back, actually only a few lines, but enough to keep him in bed and maybe skip tomorrow's training.

KJETIL JANSRUD, the World Cup leader, four first places in this season and two second places in six fast races. Today he was in the shade but raised again before the finish line: "The track is very good, very technical and difficult from top to bottom. In fact, even at the bottom, just like in Bormio, you can't catch your breath because it's important to keep speed even in the wood. It 's really cool."

DOMINIK PARIS, it's a roaring start of the season for him: three podiums, never worse than a fifth place (in the Beaver Creek's super-G) in the six speed events so far. He's pessimistic as usual: "It doesn't suit me, I don't like it, maybe because I made mistakes before the last intermediate time (in the Fank area) and I almost stopped. I thought I saw a deer, just like happened time ago to Kristian Ghedina. Obviously I'm joking".

DIDIER DEFAGO, fifth in the first training behind Matthias Mayer and before the Swiss compatriot Mauro Caviezel. He's obviously very satisfied: "They told me "This is an easy track, almost a girl's DH track". But they were completely wrong. It's much more aggressive than Stelvio, which isn't easy at all. In short, it is an interesting track, especially in the upper part where it looks like a fast super-G."

STEVEN NYMAN, only the Mormon preacher from Utah and Hannes Reichelt were able to beat the Norwegian phenomenon Jansrud in DH or Super-G this year. He succeeded in the Val Gardena DH last week. "There are so many curves on the Compagnoni track that from mid race I almost forgot them all! So I had to rely on instinct which is thankfully strong. Otherwise it would have been very hard"

HANNES REICHELT, he is a dangerous client for everyone. "It's a very demanding track, as well as different from any other World Cup slopes. Pity it's in shade, the visibility is quite poor and you have to ski according to your feelings. In my opinion it turns too much." You wouldn't say that, as in the first minute, when the track is sinuous, he was clearly the fastest of all.



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