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# WIND ENGINEERING

#### WIND ENGINEERING

**Definition:** Wind Engineering is best defined as (Cermak 1975): *"The rational treatment of interactions between wind in the atmospheric boundary layer and man and his works on the surface of Earth." (Cermak,1975).* 

**Topics:** very wide range of topics:



Architectural Institute of Japan (Tominaga et al. 2008)



University of Auckland, New Zealand (Storey et al. 2012)



Eindhoven University of Technology, The Netherlands (Blocken et al. 2012)



#### WIND ENGINEERING

**Definition:** Wind Engineering is best defined as (Cermak 1975): *"The rational treatment of interactions between wind in the atmospheric boundary layer and man and his works on the surface of Earth." (Cermak,1975).* 

**Methods:** field measurements, wind tunnel testing, CFD (= computational fluid dynamics)



"One thing I have learned in a long life: that all our science, measured against reality, is primitive and childlike - and yet it is the most precious thing we have." (Albert Einstein 1879 – 1955)



"Scientists study the world as it is, engineers create the world that never has been." (Theodore von Kármán 1881-1963)



"A man who dares to waste one hour of time has not discovered the value of life." (Charles Darwin 1809-1882)



*"The root of the matter is that the greatest stimulus of scientific discovery are its practical applications." (Lewis Fry Richardson 1908)* 



# **BRIEF INTRO**

## **PERSONAL BACKGROUND**

Born: 1974, Hasselt, Belgium

MSc: 1998, Civil Engineering, KU Leuven

PhD: 2004, Civil Engineering / Building Physics, KU Leuven

**Postdoc**: FWO-Flanders, Concordia University, Montreal

**Expertise**: Urban Physics, Wind Engineering, Sports Aerodynamics

#### Main affiliation:

Unit Building Physics & Services Department of the Built Environment **Eindhoven University of Technology** 

#### **Secondary affiliation**:

Building Physics Section Department of Civil Engineering **KU Leuven** 

#### Hobbies

Sports (and others)

# **RESEARCH ACTIVITIES**

#### Wind Energy



#### Safety



#### **Smart Systems for Heli Landing**



#### Wind Energy



# Indoor Air Quality

#### Wind Conditions in Harbors













**2005**: Collaboration with prof. **Peter Hespel**, KU Leuven, for **Flemish Cycling Union**.

**2011**: Personal (hobby) work in cycling aerodynamics, evenings & weekends

2013: MOOC "Sports & Building Aerodynamics"

MOOC = <u>Massive</u> <u>Open</u> <u>O</u>nline <u>C</u>ourse



Em. Prof.dr.ir. Hans van Duijn Former Rector Magnificus of TU/e

- **2005**: Collaboration with prof. **Peter Hespel**, KU Leuven, for **Flemish Cycling Union**.
- **2011**: Personal (hobby) work in cycling aerodynamics, evenings & weekends
- 2013: MOOC "Sports & Building Aerodynamics"
- **2015**: Official course "Sports & Building Aerodynamics" at TU Eindhoven
- **2016**: Official ATHENS course "Sports, Building & City Aerodynamics" at KUL Start collaboration with Paralympics Ireland
- **2017**: Inauguration TU Eindhoven wind tunnel facility Start collaboration with LottoNL-Jumbo, later Jumbo-Visma Start collaboration with H5 handcyclist Tim de Vries











You Tube movie: Wind Tunnel

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VEDn\_IUJQfs

Top view of two high-rise buildings, left in a converging and right in a diverging arrangement. The wind direction is as indicated. Which configuration yields the highest wind speed in the passage?





A cyclist is drafting close behind a motorcycle. How much does the cyclist's aerodynamic resistance (drag) decrease?



A. 10%B. 25%C. 50%D. 75%



A motorcycle is riding next to a cyclist. Distance in between is 1.3 m. How does the cyclist's aerodynamic resistance change due to the presence of the motorcycle?



- A. Increases with 15%
- **B.** Increases with 5%
- **C.** Remains the same
- **D. Decreases with 5%**
- E. Decreases with 15%

A cyclist is riding in front of a motorcycle. How does the cyclist aerodynamic resistance (drag) change due to the presence of the motorcycle?



A. Increases with 15%
B. Increases with 5%
C. Remains the same
D. Decreases with 5%
E. Decreases with 15%

Different professional cyclists use very different hill descent positions indicating there is no consensus on which is best. Which hill descent position is most aerodynamic?



#### Team time trial: Which cyclist has the lowest air resistance?

Six cyclists (same body geometry) are riding behind each other in a team time trial in zero-wind conditions. Which position has the lowest aerodynamic resistance?

- A) Position 2
- B) Position 3
- C) Position 4
- **D)** Position 5
- E) Position 6





#### **Peloton: Which cyclist has the lowest air resistance?**





#### **Peloton: Which cyclist has the lowest air resistance?**



#### What is the effect of the so-called speed gel?





#### **Cyclist will go:**

A. Faster B. Equally fast C. Slower



#### What is fastest?

- A) 400 m lap without wind
- B) 400 m lap with 200 m head wind and 200 m tail wind of the same magnitude



# EXAMPLE RESEARCH PROJECTS

Types of (research) projects in building aerodynamics:

- **1. Not for specific companies/cities/design offices**
- 2. For specific companies/cities/design offices

Types of (research) projects in sports aerodynamics:

- 1. Not for specific teams/individuals/organizations
- 2. For specific teams/individuals
# BUILDING AERODYNAMICS

Top view of two high-rise buildings, left in a converging and right in a diverging arrangement. The wind direction is as indicated. Which configuration yields the highest wind speed in the passage?



The Venturi effect between buildings: fact or fiction?



#### The Venturi effect between buildings: fact or fiction?

Venturi effect: *increase of fluid speed due to a decrease of the flow section* (*Giovanni Battista Venturi 1799*)

#### Confined versus open flow



→ Is the Venturi effect present in the non-confined flows in urban physics / wind engineering?

#### The Venturi effect between buildings: fact or fiction?

Venturi effect: *increase of fluid speed due to a decrease of the flow section* (*Giovanni Battista Venturi 1799*)



Special thanks to Sandra Johnson and her colleagues from the **Niels Bohr Library** of the American Institute of Physics for copying this precious (and fragile) book for me.



Giovanni Battista Venturi (1746 - 1822)



**Conditions for the occurrence of the Venturi effect (Gandemer 1975):** 

- 1) H > 15 m
- 2)  $L_1 + L_2 > 100 \text{ m}$
- 3) Exposed site

"Maximum flow through the passage when passage width is 2 or 3 times the height"

Wind-tunnel measurements for converging and diverging arrangements:



#### Wind-tunnel measurements for converging and diverging arrangements

Atmospheric boundary layer wind tunnel at the Building Aerodynamics Laboratory, Concordia University, Montreal (Dr. Ted Stathopoulos)



**CFD simulations** for **converging** and **diverging** arrangements

- ANSYS Fluent CFD code
- Steady RANS with realizable k-ε model (Shih et al. 1995)
- Standard wall functions with sand-grain-based roughness modification
- Equivalent sand-grain roughness  $k_s$  and roughness constant  $C_s$  based on aerodynamic roughness length  $y_0$  and equation  $k_s = 9.793y_0/C_s$ .
- SIMPLE for pressure velocity-coupling
- Second order discretization schemes
- Pressure interpolation: second order

For other computational details, see: Blocken B, Moonen P, Stathopoulos T, Carmeliet J. 2008. A numerical study on the existence of the Venturi-effect in passages between perpendicular buildings. **Journal of Engineering Mechanics – ASCE** 134(12): 1021-1028.

**CFD simulations** for **converging** and **diverging** arrangements



→ Counter-intuitive result: wind-blocking effect: upstream wind-speed slow-down "Subsonic upstream disturbance in the wind-flow pattern"



This work was published, received very positive reviews and quite a good number of citations.

Blocken B, Stathopoulos T, Carmeliet J. 2008. A numerical study on the existence of the Venturi-effect in passages between perpendicular buildings. *Journal of Engineering Mechanics - ASCE* 134(12): 1021-1028.

Blocken B, Stathopoulos T, Carmeliet J. 2008. Wind environmental conditions in passages between two long narrow perpendicular buildings. **Journal of Aerospace Engineering - ASCE** 21(4): 280-287.

Blocken B, Carmeliet J, Stathopoulos T. 2007. CFD evaluation of the wind speed conditions in passages between buildings – effect of wall-function roughness modifications on the atmospheric boundary layer flow. Journal of Wind Engineering and Industrial Aerodynamics 95(9-11): 941-962.

# Who cares?



















#### **Hypothesis**

The Bahrain WTC design would have yielded **higher wind energy** output if the buildings were positioned in **diverging rather than converging** arrangement.

In other words: from wind energy point of view, the towers should have been turned 180° around.



#### Investigation

→ Detailed study by wind-tunnel testing and Computational Fluid Dynamics simulations.







Е

20+

#### Wind turbine power curve



Reference: Shaun K, Smith RF, 2008. Harnessing energy in tall buildings: Bahrain World Trace Center and Beyond. CTBUH Technical paper.

**CFD simulations: yearly wind energy output** 



**Conclusion**: Bahrain WTC has a good design, but it can be improved significantly.

# A FOLLOWING MOTORCYCLE

#### Accidents

Date	Race	Rider	Motorcycle	Consequences
2015/08/01	Clasica San Sebastian (Spain)	Greg Van Avermaet (Belgium)	TV motorcycle	Broken frame and back wheel, race lost



#### Accidents

Date	Race	Rider	Motorcycle	Consequences
2016/05/28	Tour of Belgium	Stig Broeckx (Belgium)	/	Coma



Out of respect for the rider, his team and his family, we do not show pictures and movies of the crash.

Since 12 December 2016, Stig is out of coma!

Sporza.be

**Research hypothesis:** Following motorcycles provide an aerodynamic benefit to the cyclist.



Source: www.zimbio.com



Dimensions in mm

#### Wind-tunnel tests



#### Wind-tunnel tests:

- Scale: ¼
- Cyclist model on force balance
- Wind speed U = 54 km/h x 4 = 216 km/h, turbulence intensity TI = 0.2%

#### Wind-tunnel tests



#### Wind-tunnel tests:

- Scale: ¼
- Cyclist model on force balance
- Wind speed U = 54 km/h x 4 = 216 km/h, turbulence intensity TI = 0.2%

# Wind-tunnel tests

- Dimensions in mm
- Elevated platform to reduce boundary layer height
- Cyclist full-scale height and weight: 183 cm & 72 kg
- Frontal area: 0.34 m<sup>2</sup>, blockage ratio: 3.5 %
- Wheels fixed / Separation distances: d = 0.25, 0.5, 1, 1.5, 2, 2.5 m
- Boundary-layer height (model-scale): 6 cm



• Maximum blockage ratio: 1.6%

#### **Computational grids**





#### **Solver settings**

- ANSYS Fluent 15
- **3D steady RANS** equations (and LES for visualization)
- Standard k-ε model (*Jones and Launder 1972*)
- Pressure-velocity coupling: SIMPLEC algorithm
- Pressure interpolation: second order
- Second-order discretization schemes for both the convection terms and the viscous terms of the governing equations
- Gradients computed with the Green-Gauss cell-based method
- Convergence with scaled residuals of 10<sup>-4</sup> for continuity, 10<sup>-7</sup> for momentum, 10<sup>-5</sup> for turbulent kinetic energy and 10<sup>-5</sup> for turbulence dissipation rate
#### Wind speed contours



#### **Pressure coefficient contours**



Measured and simulated drag force (full-scale equivalent)





For a typical time trial distance of 50 km:

- d = 0.5 m: 108.7 s
  d = 1 m: 64.2 s
  d = 2.5 m: 20.1 s
- d = 2.5 m 20.15
- d = 5 m: 5.6 s
  d = 10 m: 1.0 s

It is highly unlikely that a motorcycle will follow the cyclist at this distance for the total duration of the time trial (unless bad intentions would be in play). Therefore, it is more practically relevant to consider benefits obtained over shorter distances within a long time trial. If the motorcycle only follows the cyclist for only 1 km (2%):

- d = 0.25 m: 2.98 s
- d = 0.5 m: 2.17 s
- d = 1 m: 1.28 s
- d = 2.5 m: 0.40 s
- d = 5 m: 0.11 s
- d = 10 m: 0.02 s



### **OPEN ACCESS PUBLICATION: Elsevier Science Direct**

J. Wind Eng. Ind. Aerodyn. 155 (2016) 1-10



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Journal of Wind Engineering and Industrial Aerodynamics

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/jweia

### Aerodynamic benefit for a cyclist by a following motorcycle



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<sup>c</sup> Department of Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering, University of Liège, Allée de la Découverte, 9 Quartier Polytech 1, B52/3, B-4000 Liège, Belgium

# **BUILDING, CITY & SPORTS AERODYNAMICS**

### Types of (research) projects in sports aerodynamics:

- 1. Not for specific teams/individuals
- 2. For specific teams/individuals

# RESEARCH SUPPORT IN PRACTICE

# **CYCLING TEAM TIME TRIALS**

2018 Tour de France: Winner Team Time Trial with BMC Cycling Team → Belgian rider Greg van Avermaet 8 days in yellow jersey



(©UCI 2018)



# **CYCLING TEAM TIME TRIALS**

#### **Optimization of team time trials:** <u>40320 different sequences!</u>

CFD simulation of Tour de France 2019 TTT for Team Jumbo-Visma



# **CYCLING TEAM TIME TRIALS**

### 2019 Tour de France: Winner Team Time Trial with Jumbo-Visma Cycling Team







(©UCI 2019)

### **CYCLING TIME TRIALS & TEAM TIME TRIALS**

#### 2019 Winner of La Vuelta, Spain: Primoz Roglic



### PARACYCLING

### 2017, 2018, 2019 World Champion in H5 Paracycling: Tim de Vries



# **CYCLING WORLD HOUR RECORD**

#### **2019 Victor Campenaerts**



(©sporza.be)

### **CAR AERODYNAMICS**

### 2019 World Champion in Challenger Class: KU Leuven Agoria Solar Team





### **CAR AERODYNAMICS**

### 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019 World Champion in Cruiser Class: Eindhoven Solar Team



### **SPEED SKI AERODYNAMICS**

### **2019 Belgian Record Joost Vandendries**



### **MARATHON RECORD**

### **INEOS 1:59 Challenge: Eliud Kipchoge**





You Tube movie: Primoz meets Primoz:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2gWtpsBprk0

**9 ANSWERS** 

Top view of two high-rise buildings, left in a converging and right in a diverging arrangement. The wind direction is as indicated. Which configuration yields the highest wind speed in the passage?





#### → Counter-intuitive result

#### **Navier-Stokes equations**

$$\rho \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \rho \operatorname{div} \left( u \, \vec{v} \right) = G_x - \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} + \mu \, \nabla^2 u$$

$$\rho \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + \rho \operatorname{div} (v \vec{v}) = G_{y} - \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} + \mu \nabla^{2} v$$

$$\rho \frac{\partial w}{\partial t} + \rho \operatorname{div} (w \vec{v}) = G_z - \frac{\partial p}{\partial z} + \mu \nabla^2 w$$

Elliptical character for subsonic flow

where u, v, w = p = $G_x, G_y, G_z =$  instantaneous fluid velocity components (m/s) instantaneous pressure (Pa) body forces in x, y and z direction (N/m³)



A cyclist is drafting close behind a motorcycle. How much does the cyclist's aerodynamic resistance (drag) decrease?



A. 10%
B. 25%
C. 50%
D. 75%



A motorcycle is riding next to a cyclist. Distance in between is 1.3 m. How does the cyclist's aerodynamic resistance change due to the presence of the motorcycle?



- A. Increases with 15%
- **B.** Increases with 5%
- **C.** Remains the same
- **D. Decreases with 5%**
- E. Decreases with 15%

A cyclist is riding in front of a motorcycle. How does the cyclist aerodynamic resistance (drag) change due to the presence of the motorcycle?



A. Increases with 15%
B. Increases with 5%
C. Remains the same
D. Decreases with 5%
E. Decreases with 15%



Different professional cyclists use very different hill descent positions indicating there is no consensus on which is best. Which hill descent position is most aerodynamic?





Which cyclist hill descent position is really superior? Froome, Pantani, Nibali or Sagan? The scientific answer. Part 2.

### **CFD simulations:** More geometries



### **CFD simulations:** More geometries



### **CFD simulations:** More geometries





Home

About

Photos

YouTube

Videos

Twitter

Posts

Community



Interesting study by TU Eindhoven, KU Leuven, Université de Liège and ANSYS, Inc. on the aerodynamic performance of different hill descent positions. It seems mine isn't that bad... I am practicing it around Lake Tahoe ahead of the Amgen Tour of California (photo by Chris Auld / RIDE 100%) Visit California



LINKEDIN.COM

#### Which cyclist hill descent position is really superior? Froom...

Executive summary The fact that different professional cyclists use very dif...


Following

V

@BertBlocken It seems @chrisfroome has changed to (close to) a 'top tube 4' bicycle position during the Finestre downhill (stage 19, '@giroditalia )? Watch this: bit.ly/2kuSk9S. Has he been studying your scientific work bit.ly/2tMfri9 ?







# **QUESTION 6**

Team time trial: Which cyclist has the lowest air resistance?

Six cyclists (same body geometry) are riding behind each other in a team time trial in zero-wind conditions. Which position has the lowest aerodynamic resistance?

A) Position 2
B) Position 3
C) Position 4
D) Position 5
E) Position 6









### **Peloton: Which cyclist has the lowest air resistance?**



## **Drag in cycling pelotons**



## THE PELOTON PROJECT A Record CFD Simulation on a 2,990,438,554 Cells Grid



## THE PELOTON PROJECT A Record CFD Simulation on a 2,990,438,554 Cells Grid



## **QUESTION 8**

#### What is the effect of the so-called speed gel?





## **Cyclist will go:**

A. FasterB. Equally fastC. Slower



#### What is fastest?

- A) 400 m lap without wind
- B) 400 m lap with 200 m head wind and 200 m tail wind of the same magnitude



## **QUESTION 9**

Wind effects on running (e.g. 100 m sprint) (Mureika 2001)

$$f_d = \frac{1}{2} \rho \left( 1 - \frac{1}{4} \exp[-\sigma t^2] \right) \frac{AC_d}{M} [\boldsymbol{u(t)} - \boldsymbol{u_w}]^2$$

Example: u(t) = 10 m/sTailwind:  $u_w = 2 \text{ m/s} \rightarrow [u(t)-u_w]^2 = 8^2 = 64$ Headwind:  $u_w = -2 \text{ m/s} \rightarrow [u(t)-u_w]^2 = 12^2 = 144$ 

## **QUESTION 9**

#### Wind effects on running (e.g. 100 m sprint) (Mureika 2001)



#### Wind assistance

#### IAAF rules (now: World Athletics)

At the 1936 Congress of the IAAF it was agreed that for **official recognition** of records, the assisting wind velocity must be **2 m/s or less**.

#### **Consequences:**

- Head wind can hamper exceptional performances
- Top "legal" performances are often achieved with tail wind (below 2 m/s)
- Equipment malfunctioning can contaminate record tables



Simplification of mathematical-physical model (Pritchard 1993, Mureika 2001)

$$t_0 \approx t_w \left[ 1.03 - 0.03 \left( 1 - u_w \frac{t_w}{100} \right)^2 \right]$$

#### **Some examples**

Top "legal" performances are often achieved with tail wind (below 2 m/s)

Rank	Competitor	Mark (s)	Wind (m/s)	Venue	Corr.	Corr. rank
		t <sub>w</sub> (s)			t <sub>0</sub> (s)	
1	Usain BOLT	9.58	0.9	Berlin	9.63	1
2	Usain BOLT	9.63	1.5	London	9.71	4
3	Usain BOLT	9.69	0.0	Beijing	9.69	3
3	Tyson GAY	9 69	20	Shanghai	9 79	7
3	Yohan BLAKE	9.69	-0.1	Lausanne	9.68	2
4	Tyson GAY	9.71	0.9	Berlin	9.76	6
5	Usain BOLT	9.72	1.7	New York City	9.81	8
5	Asafa POWELL	9.72	0.2	Lausanne	9.73	5
6	Asafa POWELL	9.74	1.7	Rieti	9.83	9

#### Some examples

#### Equipment malfunctioning can contaminate record tables

Rank	Competitor	Mark (s)
		t <sub>w</sub> (s)
1	Florence GRIFFITH-JOYNER	10.49
2	Florence GRIFFITH-JOYNER	10.61
3	Florence GRIFFITH-JOYNER	10.62
4	Carmelita JETER	10.64
5	Marion JONES	10.65 A
6	Carmelita JETER	10.67
7	Florence GRIFFITH-JOYNER	10.70
7	Marion JONES	10.70
7	Carmelita JETER	10.70



#### **Some examples**

#### Equipment malfunctioning can contaminate record tables

Rank	Competitor	Mark (s)	Wind (m/s)	Venue	Corr.
		t <sub>w</sub> (s)			t₀ (s)
1	Florence GRIFFITH-JOYNER	10.49	0.0	Indianapolis	10.49
2	FIORENCE GRIFFITH-JUYNER	10.61	1.2	Indianapolis	10.69
3	Florence GRIFFITH-JOYNER	10.62	1.0	Seoul	10.68
4	Carmelita JETER	10.64	1.2	Shanghai	10.72
5	Marion JONES	10.65 A	1.1	Johannesburg	10.72 A
6	Carmelita JETER	10.67	-0.1	Thessaloniki	10.66
7	Florence GRIFFITH-JOYNER	10.70	1.6	Indianapolis	10.80
7	Marion JONES	10.70	-0.1	Sevilla	10.69
7	Carmelita JETER	10.70	2.0	Eugene	10.82

#### Some examples

Equipment malfunctioning can contaminate record tables

- → Common belief that the current WR by the late Florence Griffith-Joyner was strongly wind-assisted due to equipment malfunctioning.
- → Achieved at 1988 U.S. Olympic Trials in Indianapolis
  - $\rightarrow$  10.60 s in the heats (wind-assisted)
  - $\rightarrow$  **10.49 s** in quarterfinals (0.0 m/s measured!)
  - $\rightarrow$  10.70 s in semifinals (wind-assisted)
  - $\rightarrow$  10.61 in final

#### Some examples

Equipment malfunctioning can contaminate record tables

#### $\rightarrow$ Concerns:

- → 0.0 m/s as a reading on a very windy day immediately raised suspicion
- → Triple jump in the same stadium next to the runway: only 3 of the 46 measurable jumps were wind-legal (i.e. u<sub>w</sub> <= 2 m/s).</p>
- → Triple jump wind-indicator gave +4.3 m/s just before the first of the three 100 m quarterfinals
- → Second quarterfinal also had a measured 0.0 m/s
- → Third quarterfinal had +5.0 m/s

#### **Some examples**

Equipment malfunctioning can contaminate record tables

→ Based on the study of wind effects on 100 m sprint times, Nick Linthorne\* demonstrated that the actual wind reading for this first quarterfinal was incorrect, and should have been +5.5 (+/- 0.5) m/s.

Rank	Competitor	Mark (s)	Wind (m/s)	Venue	Corr.	Corr. rank
		t <sub>w</sub> (s)			t <sub>0</sub> (s)	
1	Florence GRIFFITH-JOYNER	10.49	5.5	Indianapolis	10.75	5
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3	Florence GRIFFITH-JOYNER	10.62	1.0	Seoul	10.68	2
4	Carmelita JETER	10.64	1.2	Shanghai	10.72	4
5	Marion JONES	10.65 A	1.1	Johannesburg	10.72 A	4
6	Carmelita JETER	10.67	-0.1	Thessaloniki	10.66	1
7	Florence GRIFFITH-JOYNER	10.70	1.6	Indianapolis	10.80	6
7	Marion JONES	10.70	-0.1	Sevilla	10.69	3
7	Carmelita JETER	10.70	2.0	Eugene	10.82	7

#### **Some examples**

Equipment malfunctioning can contaminate record tables



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# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT APOLOGY ADVERTISEMENT

## **Tweede seizoen "Wereldrecord" op Canvas:**





Op maandag, **21u20**:

- 1. Verspringen (Mike Powell)
- 2. Zevenkamp (Jackie Joyner-Kersee)
- 3. Alpe d'Huez (Marco Pantani)
- 4. Schansspringen (Stefan Kraft)
- 5. Gymnastiek (Nadia Comaneci)
- 6. Speerwerpen (Jan Zelezny)
- 7. 400 meter (Wayde van Niekerk)

#### Terug te zien op "VRT NU"





**KU LEUVEN**