



'I pulled it out somehow,' Miller said.
'Zach put the heat on and was beating me by ten or seven points. I told him I liked a good gunfight; thank you for putting the heat on. I love you but I hate you.

'Leaving it for the third ride was definitely difficult; it put a bit of extra pressure on myself but being able to get that bounce and timing it right with the wave just felt amazing.'

Miller would contest the C1 final on Thursday and said his confidence in that canoe gave him confidence in the open canoe.

'I was just kind of born into a C1 so I don't feel the need to practise too much in it,' he said.

'I feel that if I can do it in a C1 I can do it in a canoe. It's all just about throwing it, timing, and, hopefully, the wave is on your side.'

Zwanenburg retained the silver medal he won last year while Germany's reigning world champion, Philip Josef, finished third.

The men's kayak final was shaping up to be a hard fought contest with Tom Dolle pipping reigning world champion Dane Jackson by a single point in the first round of heats. Dolle said he was glad to find some form after a slow start to the championships.

'It felt so good. I had a little bit of a hard time this morning and yesterday; it feels so good to get the feeling back in the kayak,' Dolle said.

'It was definitely a mind thing; it's hard to let it all go whenever you need it. It was tough yesterday but here we go again. I'm back in the game.'

Another American, Mason Hargrove, qualified third fastest on his home wave.

'I'm happy to get the prelims over. I definitely had some nerves going into my first ride which made me rush a little bit,' Hargrove said.

'I think local knowledge will help a little bit, helping me know what the wave is doing depending on the level, and having all my family and friends here; it's amazing having so much support here.'

Dolle and Hargrove were chasing their first senior world championship medal while Jackson was chasing his fifth title and his third in succession. Canada's Nick Troutman, a world champion from 2009, qualified fourth.

'I'm feeling pretty good, always feeling pretty good. I'm just having a lot of fun; it's a little bit of a secret sauce that many people don't realize. The more fun you have, the better you do,' Troutman said.

Germany's Tim Rees became the first man to successfully defend a junior freestyle world title and Makinley Kate Hargrove thrilled her home town crowd with her first world crown on Friday.

Rees was a class above the rest of the junior field, posting a winning score more than 400 points clear of the next best finalist. In a history making final Onni Eronen won Finland's first ever world championship medal by coming second and Great Britain's Timmy Hill snatched bronze with his final ride.



The German said it felt special to be the first person in a quality field of paddlers to win back to back titles.

'It feels pretty great to break a record; there are some pretty big names in the game who didn't make it so it feels pretty great to be the first person to do it,' Rees said.

'I was pretty happy with my performance overall in the competition. I think I could still have gone a bit higher but I'm happy with my result.'

Rees took the big decision to relocate to Canada for three months to prepare for the world championships.

'I knew that at the beginning of the season I was quite far behind in waveboating because we don't have any waves in Germany but I'm pretty stoked that I could catch all the other athletes,' Rees said.

'I came to Canada. I could barely airscrew. I could barely PanAm and, to throw all those tricks in one ride, I'm pretty happy with it.'

The 16 year old Hargrove took bronze at last year's world championships but in front of her home crowd the teenager always looked in control in the junior women's final.

'I'm super excited to come out here in my home town and show people what my home wave has to offer,' Hargrove said.

'It definitely made me a little nervous but before the competition I was just smiling with my friends. I was so excited to have everyone here. I was unsure what I could do and what the wave would offer and what I was feeling today. I honestly just went out there and tried my best.'

Onni Eronen said he wasn't aware he had won his country's first world championship medal until after his men's junior competition.

'I've been told after my ride several times now that I am the first Finnish medallist ever,' Eronen said.

'It feels amazing, finally bringing Finland to the world stage. It feels incredible for me to be such a special part of history. I hope there's going to be several more joining me in the history books as Finnish medallists.'

Ottlie Robinson-Shaw meant business in the women's kayak and posted the highest qualifying score in the women's kayak quarter finals. The defending world champion finished with 1,070 points, 400 points clear of 2019 world champion Hitomi and 2015 junior world champion Sage Donnelly from the United States.

Donnelly said she was happy to make the semi finals after a busy season off the water.

'The goal was to make it through to the semi finals so I'm stoked with that. I didn't get the whole ride I wanted to but I'm stoked because I haven't been able to train much and I definitely haven't been able to train at this water level pretty much at all,' Donnelly said.

'For the lack of training I'm stoked with how I'm doing and I hope to just keep improving. I have my own photography business now and I'm shooting weddings and portraits so I've been working on growing that for the past couple of years.

'I've been doing a lot of creaking, just not a ton of freestyle.

It was a similar story in the men's quarter finals with four time world champion Dane Jackson finishing more than 400 points clear of local hope Mason Hargrove.

Tom Dolle was third while Ireland's David McClure, chasing Ireland's first ever world championship medal, was fourth.

'Pretty happy, pretty rough, I wasn't too sure but it worked pretty well,' McClure said.

'My prep wasn't as good as some; we didn't get much time on the wave so the prep could be a lot better but it's still pretty good. I did a lot of work.

'I think I'm an underdog so I've just got to go out and do my best and see what happens. The support here is really good; there's a lot of people supporting me.'

ICF

K1WJ: 1 M Hargrove, USA, 251.67. 2 S Gilfillan, Canada, 231.67. 3 E Knight, USA, 136.67.

K1W: 1 S Donnelly, USA, 445.00. 2 O Robinson-Shaw, GB, 410.00. 3 E Jackson, GB, 381.67.

5 H Walsh, GB, 173.33.

K1MJ: 1 T Rees, Deutschland, 963.33. 2 O Eronen, Suomi, 533.33. 3 T Hill, GB, 498.33.

K1M: 1 D Jackson, USA, 1,363.33. 2 N Troutman, Canada, 1,213.33. 3 T Dolle, France, 818.33.

4 A Ward, GB, 733.33.

K1SqW: 1 R Wall, USA, 1,800.00. 2 O Robinson-Shaw, GB, 1,600.00.

3 T McConchie, GB, 1,200.00. 5 L Al-Riyami, GB, 303.67.

K1SqM: 1 T Sibley, USA, 2,993.33. 2 A Grizzell, USA, 1,960.00. 3 C Wright, USA, 1,280.00.

4 D Rogers, GB, 1,193.33.

C1W: 1 O Robinson-Shaw, GB, 175.00. 2 Z Tula, Polska, 78.33. 3 T McConchie, GB, 65.00.

5 J Fantastic, GB, 5.00.

C1M: 1 S Chapelle, USA, 858.33. 2 D Jackson, USA, 850.00. 3 L Miller, USA, 803.33.

OCl: 1 L Miller, USA, 133.33. 2 Z Zwanenburg, Canada, 81.67. 3 P Josef, Deutschland, 40.00.