

Tour of the Alps

Leon Sanchez clinches stage 4

Lienz, Austria

Luis Leon Sanchez claimed victory on stage 4 of the Tour of the Alps as Astana, once again, exploited a numerical advantage in the group of favourites.

The Spaniard was one of five sky blue jerseys in the select group of 15 that formed on the late climb of the Bannberg and, after a fast descent, he attacked with two kilometres remaining to take a solo win - Astana's third from four stages.

George Bennett struck out in pursuit and finished in second place six seconds later, with his LottoNL-Jumbo teammate Koen Bouwman leading the rest of the group home a further five seconds back.

Thibaut Pinot (Groupama-FDJ) finished in fourth place and retained his overall lead.

Bahrain-Merida's Domenico Pozzovivo, Miguel Angel Lopez (Astana), Chris Froome (Team Sky), Fabio Aru (UAE Team Emirates) - along with the rest of the top 10 - were all in the group. There were no significant changes to the general classification, though

Sanchez did leapfrog Bennett into sixth.

The penultimate stage of the Tour of the Alps once again provided a thrilling tussle between the overall favourites, many of them putting the final touches to their form ahead of next month's Giro d'Italia.

The standout feature on the 134.3km stage from Klausen to Lienz was the Bannberg, a 7km second-category climb that topped out 10km from the line. (*Cyclingnews*)



Luis Leon Sanchez celebrates

Result

Stage 4: Chiusa/Klausen to Lienz, 134.3km

- 1 Luis León Sanchez (Spa) Astana Pro Team, at 3hrs 19min 59secs
- 2 George Bennett (NZI) LottoNL-Jumbo, at 6s
- 3 Koen Bouwman (Ned) LottoNL-Jumbo, at 11s
- 4 Thibaut Pinot (Fra) Groupama-FDJ
- 5 Fabio Aru (Ita) UAE Team Emirates
- 6 Domenico Pozzovivo (Ita) Bahrain-Merida
- 7 Miguel Angel Lopez (Col) Astana Pro Team
- 8 Nicola Conci (Ita) Trek-Segafredo
- 9 Pello Bilbao (Spa) Astana Pro Team
- 10 Chris Froome (GBR) Team Sky, all same time

General classification:

- 1 Thibaut Pinot (Fra) Groupama-FDJ, in 12hrs 29min 00secs
- 2 Domenico Pozzovivo (Ita) Bahrain-Merida, at 15s
- 3 Miguel Angel Lopez (Col) Astana Pro Team, st
- 4 Chris Froome (GBR) Team Sky, at 16s
- 5 Fabio Aru (Ita) UAE Team Emirates, at 50s (*Cyclingweekly*)

London Marathon 2018

The Queen will officially start the race from a podium at Windsor Castle, with the sound relayed to Greenwich to set 40,000 runners on their way

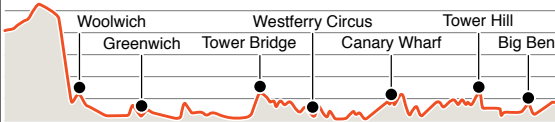
Tower Bridge: Among most recognisable landmarks on marathon route, situated roughly halfway



MEN COURSE RECORDS WOMEN

Eliud Kipchoge, KEN, 2016, 2:03:05 Paula Radcliffe, GBR, 2003, 2:15:25*

PROFILE (50m)



Miles	5	10	15	20	26.2
Kilometres	10	15	20	25	30

Source: Virgin Money London Marathon

Pictures: Getty Images



Kenya's Daniel Wanjiru and Mary Keitany, winners of men's and women's elite races in 2017, compete again this year

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Max mistakes remind Horner

London

Max Verstappen's mistakes remind his team boss Christian Horner of when four-time world champion Sebastian Vettel was first racing for the Red Bull Formula 1 team.

Verstappen tipped now-Ferrari driver Vettel into a spin in the closing stages of last weekend's Chinese Grand Prix, one week after clashing with the Mercedes of Lewis Hamilton in Bahrain.

Vettel stepped up to the Red Bull senior team in 2009 and went on to win four F1 titles, but his first championship-winning season featured some high-profile errors.

He wiped out team-mate Mark Webber in Turkey and



Max Verstappen (file pic)

McLaren's Jenson Button in Belgium in 2010 and Horner said Verstappen - now in his second full year with the Red Bull senior team - was going through the same learning process.

Verstappen and Hamilton disagreed over their Bahrain collision but in China Verstappen was

swift to accept blame and apologise to Vettel, who praised the 20-year-old's approach.

"Just talking with him after the race, he's put his hand up, he apologised to Sebastian, he did that immediately as they got out of their cars," said Horner. (*Autosport*)

Kawauchi to turn pro after Boston win



Yuki Kawauchi in action

Tokyo

Boston Marathon winner Yuki Kawauchi has told reporters in his native Japan that he plans to turn professional within a year.

Kawauchi said he wanted to commit to the marathon on a full-time basis, according to Kyodo News.

"The number one reason is that I want to compete at the global level," Kawauchi told reporters at Narita Airport on his return from the U.S. yesterday.

"I haven't improved my personal best time in five years. I need to change my environment."

Kawauchi currently competes

as an amateur, fitting in training without a coach or sponsor in any free time around his school administration job.

Kyodo added that the Saitama government did not allow Kawauchi to accept any sponsorship deals.

Kawauchi, who has won five consecutive marathons, including four in 2018 alone, said the \$150,000 prize money he received for winning in Boston would allow him to commit fully to the marathon.

"It really helps that my financial worries are gone," he said. (*Reuters*)