



BMC Racing rider Richie Porte of Australia pulls ahead of the competition during stage five

# Porte pedals to victory

there,” Porte said. “But I’m happy with where I’m at at the moment, I put some good time into the other guys and I think it’ll make tomorrow a little bit more relaxed.”

Porte conceded his eyes were on the Tour de France later this year. The 151.5-kilometre fifth stage began in the wine-growing town of McLaren Vale and took in three laps through the vineyards and around Aldinga Beach before a circuit that took in two climbs of Willunga Hill.

**Adelaide**

Tasmania’s Richie Porte won the iconic Willunga Hill stage of the Tour Down Under for the fourth year in a row yesterday with a superb attack from two kilometres out.

Porte’s bold move two-thirds of the way up the second climb of Willunga Hill left the more fancied Colombian climbers Sergio Henao and Esteban Chaves in his wake.

The Australian, whose BMC Racing team believes he is a real contender for the Tour de France, crossed the finish line 20 seconds ahead of fellow countryman Nathan Haas and Chaves.

He now leads the General Classification by 48 seconds from Orica-Scott’s Chaves and is virtually assured of winning the season-opening UCI World Tour race on the streets of Adelaide today.

“That street circuit in Adelaide is not easy, anything can happen

climb of Willunga Hill. Clarke soon dropped off the pace but the other three made it over the top two minutes clear, allowing De Gendt to pick up the King of the Mountain points.

The peloton began to reel in the leaders and with seven kilometres to go they were caught, signalling the start of the attacks as a number of teams tried to bring their climbers to the front.

Henao, Chaves and Porte joined a small group of seven who broke clear of the peloton but with two kilometres to go Porte attacked and neither of the Colombians could keep up with him.

Australian Nathan Haas, who was dropped early in the climb, battled back and stole second place with Chaves third.

- Stage Five**
- 1. Richie Porte (AUS/BMC Racing) 3hr 40min 13sec
  - 2. Nathan Haas (AUS/Dimension Data) at 20 seconds
  - 3. Esteban Chaves (COL/Orica-Scott) same time
  - 4. Diego Ulissi (ITA/UAE Abu Dhabi) s.t.
  - 5. Jay McCarthy (AUS/Bora-hansgrohe) s.t.

- General Classification**
- 1. Richie Porte (AUS/BMC Racing) 18hr 0min 21sec
  - 2. Esteban Chaves (COL/Orica-Scott) at 48 seconds
  - 3. Nathan Haas (AUS/Dimension Data) +51
  - 4. Jay McCarthy (AUS/Bora-Hansgrohe) +54
  - 5. Diego Ulissi (ITA/UAE Abu Dhabi) +59

- King of the Mountain**
- 1. Richie Porte (AUS/BMC Racing) 32pts
  - 2. Thomas De Gendt (BEL/Lotto Soudal) 32pts
  - 3. Esteban Chaves (COL/Orica-Scott) 22pts

- Sprint**
- 1. Caleb Ewan (AUS/Orica-Scott) 45pts
  - 2. Nathan Haas (AUS/Team Dimension Data) 39pts
  - 3. Danny van Poppel (NED/Team Sky) 39pts

Visconti after the race. Continue the day before, it was another strong performance for the 26-year-old Czech Republic ex MTB rider.

“I tried to be always in the front, and thank you for our team because everybody pushed before the first climb, and me and Visco we were in the front. Visco tried with the break, I controlled behind BMC, then I was all the time in the front.

“But the last climb was very hard. We started around 30 or 25. We passed some riders, I keep the tempo for Visconti all climb. I was happy for my performance in the end.”

Sunday’s final stage is a 90-kilometre race through an Adelaide street circuit.



Cink and Visconti, BAHRAIN MERIDA

**Merida in top 20**

Bahraini duo of Giovanni Visconti and Ondrej Cink fared well in the Hill stage finishing in 17th and 18th spots, respectively at the TDU stage 5.

“I tried to do the race a little bit harder, because I know if I arrive in the final with the big group, I cannot compete now. So I tried to my legs condition. I’m happy. I worked very well. I’m not ready to win now, for sure, but I’m near for the first stand, it makes me happy,” said

just over three minutes on the early circuits but that was cut by a minute at the bottom of the first

# Leipzig down Ten-man Frankfurt

**Berlin**

Goalkeeper Lukas Hradecky was sent off just 125 seconds into Eintracht Frankfurt’s 3-0 defeat yesterday as second-placed RB Leipzig trimmed Bayern Munich’s lead in the Bundesliga.

The match at Leipzig’s Red Bull Arena had barely begun when Hradecky dropped to the turf to gather a loose ball just outside his area and was shown a straight red card for handling the ball.

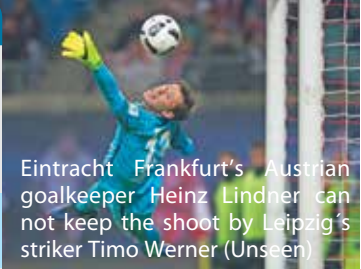
It left visitors Frankfurt with 10

**German Bundesliga results:**

|               |   |                     |   |
|---------------|---|---------------------|---|
| Schalke       | 1 | Ingolstadt          | 0 |
| Wolfsburg     | 1 | Hamburg             | 0 |
| Augsburg      | 0 | Hoffenheim          | 2 |
| Werder Bremen | 1 | Borussia Dortmund   | 2 |
| Darmstadt     | 0 | Borussia            | 0 |
| RB Leipzig    | 3 | Eintracht Frankfurt | 0 |

**Playing Sunday**

|                  |   |  |
|------------------|---|--|
| Bayer Leverkusen | v | Hertha Berlin (1430), Mainz v Cologne (1630) |
|------------------|---|--|



Eintracht Frankfurt's Austrian goalkeeper Heinz Lindner can not keep the shoot by Leipzig's striker Timo Werner (Unseen)

men for the next 87 minutes as Leipzig netted through defender Marvin Compper and top-scorer

Timo Werner before Frankfurt defender Jesus Vallejo’s second-half own goal.

*MoI beats Batelco*

Manama Ministry of the Interior defeated Batelco 6-2 in the second round of matches in the Bahrain Industrial



Emad Al Jahromi Bowling League at the Fun Land Bowling Centre in Manama.

Top scoring for the Ministry of the Interior was Ahmed Al Malki (236) high game and (623) high series and for Batelco it was Mohammed Sultan (299) for the high game of the week and (641) series.

In another match, GPIC beat Tatweer 6-2 with GPIC guest player Ahmed Fareed (244) series and (613) series top scoring and for Tatweer it was Medel Villanueva (254) and (669) series.

**Other results** (bowler, game, series):

Banagas (Raed Ahmad, 243, 619) bt Electricity and Water Authority (Emad Al Jahromi, 254, 689 high series of week) 6-2.

Pioneers (Mohammed Falah, 222, Hussain Al Qaseer, 568) bt Bapco (Ali Al Helo, 268, 640) 6-2.

**Third round schedule:**

Batelco vs Pioneers, Banagas vs Gulf Air, Ministry of the Interior vs GPIC, Electricity and Water Authority vs Bapco. Bye: Tatweer.

## Comfortable win for Titans CC

Titans CC recorded a comfortable 50-run win over LuLu CC in the latest matches of the Sprite sponsored BCL Diamond Knockout League at the Busaiteen Grounds in Muharraq. Batting first, Titans scored 171 for seven in 20 overs with the main scorers being opener Saleem (45), Ibrar (34 off 17 deliveries) and Wasim (25) with Jithesh (two for 38) the best of the bowlers and in reply, LuLu CC were restricted to 121 for seven in 20 overs with Pradeep (36) and Suneer (29) top scoring, while Mohan (two for 17) was the best of the bowlers. In another match, Bassali Focus Tiger edged out BMMI by 18 runs in a low scoring encounter, as Bassali were dismissed for 94 with Bilal (24) the main scorer and Noman (three for nine) and Khalil (three for 10) the best of the bowlers, while BMMI were dismissed for 76 with the only resistance from Tayyab (12) and Waleed (three for eight) the pick of the bowlers.

**Other results:**

|                              |   |        |   |
|------------------------------|---|--------|---|
| <b>Africa Cup of Nations</b> |   |        |   |
| Ghana                        | 1 | Mali   | 0 |
| Egypt                        | 1 | Uganda | 0 |

|                         |   |            |        |
|-------------------------|---|------------|--------|
| <b>Italian Serie A:</b> |   |            |        |
| Chievo                  | v | Fiorentina | (1700) |
| AC Milan                | v | Napoli     | (1945) |

|                                |   |                                       |   |
|--------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| <b>French Ligue 1 results:</b> |   |                                       |   |
| Nantes                         | 0 | Paris Saint-Germain                   | 2 |
| Bordeaux                       | 1 | Toulouse                              | 0 |
| Dijon                          | 0 | Lille                                 | 0 |
| Guingamp                       | 1 | Rennes, Metz v Montpellier            | 1 |
| Caen                           | v | Nancy - postponed due to frozen pitch |   |

|               |   |           |        |
|---------------|---|-----------|--------|
| <b>Today</b>  |   |           |        |
| Monaco        | v | Lorient   | (1400) |
| Saint-Etienne | v | Angers    | (1600) |
| Lyon          | v | Marseille | (2000) |