

# Felline wins rainy Romandie prologue



Italy's Fabio Felline, of Trek-Segafredo team, is kissed by hostesses after winning the 4.8 km prologue of the Tour of Romandy UCI protour cycling race

## Aigle

Italy's Fabio Felline won yesterday's opening prologue at the Tour de Romandie as race favourites Chris Froome of Britain and American Tejay Van Garderen struggled in the rain.

Trek rider Felline, 27, covered the 4.8km in 5min 57sec finishing two seconds ahead of Britain's Alex Dowsett (Movistar) with Australian Alexander Edmondson (Orica) seven seconds off the leader.

Three-time Tour de France champion Froome -- a two-time winner of the Swiss race -- opted to start among the early riders to avoid the rain but his tactics backfired on a slippery surface.

The Sky rider lost 29 seconds to the winner, with BMC's Van Garderen conceding 34sec.

The Swiss race is designed to prepare riders for July's Tour de France with Wednesday's stage to Champéry over a mountainous route with wintery conditions forecast.

## Results (opening 4.8km prologue):

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Fabio Felline (ITA, Trek) 5min 57sec,         | 7. Vasil Kiriyenka (BLR, Sky) 10,        |
| 2. Alex Dowsett (GBR, Movistar) at 2sec,         | 8. Tom Bohli (SUI, BMC) s.t.,            |
| 3. Alexander Edmondson (AUS, Orica) 7,           | 9. Johan Le Bon (FRA, FDJ) 11,           |
| 4. Maximilian Schachmann (GER, Quick-Step) 8,    | 10. Christoph Pfingsten (GER, Bora) s.t. |
| 5. Victor Campenaerts (BEL, Lotto-NL) same time, | <b>Selected others</b>                   |
| 6. Primoz Roglic (SLO, Lotto-NL) 9,              | 78. Chris Froome (GBR, Sky) 29,          |
|  | 108. Richie Porte (AUS, BMC) 33,         |
|  | 113. Tejay Van Garderen (USA, BMC) 34    |

# Gasquet falls, Thiem through

## Barcelona

Richard Gasquet's return to court from appendix surgery was short-lived at the Barcelona Open on Tuesday as the Frenchman lost 4-6, 6-3, 7-6 (7/3) to Japan's Yuichi Sugita.

The world number 91 lost in qualifying and was only handed a place in the main draw after

compatriot Kei Nishikori's late withdrawal with a wrist injury.

But despite blowing three match points when serving for the match at 6-5 in the third set, Sugita regained his composure to edge a final set tie-break to make the third round.

Dominic Thiem is safely into the last 16 as the third highest

seed left in the draw brushed aside Britain's Kyle Edmund 6-1, 6-4.

Australia's Bernard Tomic will be Andy Murray's opponent when the world number one gets his tournament underway on Wednesday after seeing off big-serving German Dustin Brown 7-5, 4-6, 6-2.

Another German had a better day though as 20-year-old eighth seed Alexander Zverev saw off clay court specialist Nicolas Almagro 7-6 (7/4), 4-6, 6-4.

Rafael Nadal also begins his quest for a 10th title in Barcelona on Wednesday against Renzo Olivo or Rogerio Dutra Silva.

# Football

Scores as of closing

## Premier League:



Chelsea 4 Southampton 2

## English Championship:

Wolves 0 Huddersfield 1

## German Cup semi-final:

Borussia 1 Frankfurt 1

## Spanish La Liga:



Sporting Gijon 1 Espanyol 1  
Granada 0 Malaga 2  
Atletico Madrid 0 Villarreal 1

## Russian Premier League:



Spartak Moscow 1 Ural Yekaterinburg 0  
Rostov 1 Ufa 0

# ASIAN CRICKET

# Bahrain lose out to Saudi

Aidan Payne/DTNN  
aidan@dt.bt

## Manama

Bahrain were beaten by six wickets against one of the favourites Saudi Arabia yesterday in its second match and the third round of round-robin matches of the International Cricket Council (ICC) 2017 World Cricket League (WCL) Asia Region Division One in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

The national team were bowled out for a disappointing 78 in 20 overs with just opener Janaka Chaturanga (18 off 33 deliveries, 3x4), Tahir Dahir (12 off 20, 1x6) and Awad

## Other scores:

- 1) Bhutan 58/0 in 5.1 overs (Jigme Singye (38no) bt China 56/10 in 20.3 overs (Zhang Yue Fei, 14, Ye Weiji 13; Jigme Singye 8/24) by 10 wickets.
- 2) Qatar 160/10 in 45.2 overs (Tamoor Sajjad 32, Khurram Shahzad 26, Mohammed Rizlan 24, Nouman Sarwar 22, Qalandar Khan 20; Nopphan Senamontree 3/35, Kamron Senamontree 2/22, Wanchana Uisuk 2/34) bt Thailand 100/10 in 36.4 overs (Daniel Jacobs 50no; Awais Malik 4/17, Mohammed Nadeem 2/25) by 60 runs.

Khan (10 off 10, 2x4) the only Bahrain batsmen to reach double figures.

Saudi Arabia's Imran Arif and man of the match mpooned up the Bahrain tail with amazing figures of four

for four in three overs, while Ibrarul Haq (four for 36) in seven overs also impressed.

Saudi Arabia in reply reached the target in scoring 79 for four in 20.1 overs thanks to good knocks by Hammad

## Standings (after three rounds): (played-won-lost-points):

- |             |            |
|-------------|------------|
| 1) Qatar    | (3-3-0-6), |
| 2) Saudi    | (2-2-0-4), |
| 3) Kuwait   | (2-1-1-2), |
| 4) Bahrain  | (2-1-1-2), |
| 5) Thailand | (3-1-2-2), |
| 6) Bhutan   | (3-1-2-2), |
| 7) China    | (3-0-3-0). |

## Today's schedule:

- 1) Bahrain vs Qatar,
- 2) Saudi Arabia vs Kuwait,
- 3) Thailand vs China.

Saeed (27 off 43, 4x6, 1x6) and Mohammed Abbassi (21 not out off 29, 2x4, 2x6), while Bahrain's wickettakers were claimed by Jabbar

Amjad (two for 14) in six overs, Janaka Chaturanga (one for six) in two overs and Mohammed Iqbal Noor (one for 10) in five overs.

Bahrain prepared for this championship with five friendly matches in Sri Lanka,

winning three and losing two and getting acclimatised and getting used to turf wickets.

Under head coach Rexie Arunvasagam and manager Syed Rizwan Shah, the squad comprises comprises the captain, Azeem Ul Haq, Tahir Dar, Babar Ali, Junaid Niazi, Gamini Perrera, Imran Butt, Janaka Chaturanga, Mohammed Ismail, Amir Gondal, Mohammed Sameer Fayaz, Mohammed Iqbal, Awad Khan, Bilal Mansoor, Jabbar Amjad,

The teams competing in the tournament are hosts Thailand, Bhutan, Bahrain, China, Kuwait, Qatar and

Saudi Arabia, with the winner of the qualifier progressing to the ICC WCL Division 5 which will be staged in September 2017. Five regional qualifiers will play alongside two teams relegated from Division 4 and one team from Division 5.

This round of matches for Asia sees the seven teams play each other in a league with matches played on three grounds in the city of Chiang Mai in Northern Thailand. Each team will play a total of six matches spread over a 10 day period concluding on May 1 at Prem Tinsulanonda International School, Chiangmai Gymkhana and Royal Chiangmai Golf Club.