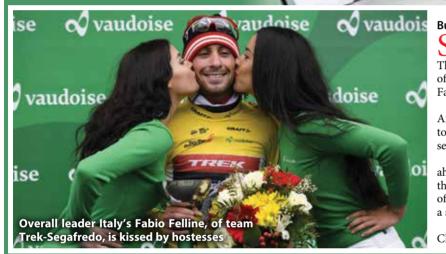
SPORTS

Swiss Stefan Kueng (L) sprints to win ahead of Ukrainian Andriy Grivko



Bulle

witzerland's Stefan Kung battled Swintery conditions to claim Thursday's shortened second stage of the Tour de Romandie as Italian Fabio Felline remained in the lead.

BMC rider Kung beat Ukrainian Andrey Grivko in a sprint finish to win stage two of the race for the second time in three years.

Kung and Grivko finished just ahead of the chasing peloton after the pair were the two lone survivors of a four-man breakaway that held a six-minute lead at one point.

Originally due to begin in Champery and cover just over

160km, the stage instead began in Aigle and was reduced to 136.5km with a potentially treacherous descent removed due to chilly temperatures and "light snowfall".

Felline, who won Tuesday's prologue, stayed eight seconds clear of German Maximilian Schachmann and Jesus Herrada of Spain.

Twice former champion Chris Froome is 36th but only 29 seconds off the lead ahead of Friday's flat 187km stage around Payerne in western Switzerland.

The race ends on Sunday with an 18.3km individual time-trial.

Results from 136.5km second stage:

- 1. Stefan Kung (SUI, BMC) 3hr 33 min 15sec.
- 2. Andrey Grivko (UKE, Astana) same time,
- 3. Sonny Colbrelli (ITA, Bahrain) 0:20, 4. Alexander Edmondson (AUS, Orica) s.t.
- 5. Ben Swift (GBR, UAE) s.t.,
- 6. Fabio Felline (ITA, Trek), s.t.,
- 7. Tosh Van Der Sande (BEL, Lotto), s.t.,
- 8. Jarlinson Pantano (COL, Trek) s.t.,
- 9. Diego Ulissi (ITA, UAE) s.t.,
- 10. Max Richeze
- (ARG, Quick-Step) s.t.

Overall standings

- 1. Fabio Felline (ITA, Trek), 4hr 39min
- 07 sec. 2. Maximilian Schachmann (GER, Quick-Step) at 0:08,
- 3. Jesus Herrada (ESP. Movistar) s.t.,
- 4. Primoz Roalic
- (SLO, Lotto-NL) 0:09,
- 5. Ion Izagirre (ESP, Bahrain) 0:12, 6. Bob Jungels (LUX, Quick-Step) s.t.,
- 7. Jose Goncalves
- (POR, Katusha) 0:13, 8. Ruben Fernandez
- (ESP, Movistar) s.t.,
- 9. Michael Albasini (SUI, Orica) 0:14, 10. Jonathan Castroviejo (ESP,
- Movistar) s.t.

Selected others

36. Chris Froome (GBR, Sky) 0:29, 46. Richie Porte (AUS, BMC) 0:33, 49. Tejay Van Garderen (USA, BMC) 0:34.

Seven Cups races today Manama

Seven Cups races are scheduled today with BD20,500 in prize money up for grabs starting from 3pm and concluding at 5.30pm in the 25th and final race meeting of the season at the Rashid Equestrian and Horse Racing Club in Sakhir.

The richest race is the sixth at 5.05pm for The Owners Cup for locally bred three years and upwards over 2,000 metres and worth BD6,000.

Other races are Shaikh Hamad bin Abdulla bin Isa Al Khalifa Cup (3pm), Shaikh Mohammed bin Abdulla bin Isa Al Khaliffa Cup (3.25pm), Al Rouda Cup (3.50pm), Shaikh Isa bin Abdulla bin Isa Al Khalifa Cup (4.15pm), Zaid bin Theeb Group Industry and Trade Cup (4.40pm) and the Shaikh Abdulla bin Isa Al Khalifa - Chairman of the Rashid Equestrian and Horse Racing Club Cup (5.30pm).

Bowling and golf victories hailed



Askar with members of the Bahrain the golf junior team

Manama

Bahrain's national bowling and golf teams were hailed after outstanding results at their respective regional competitions recently.

The bowlers took two medals at the First Arab Junior Championships in Cairo, Egypt with Osama Abdulrahman taking the singles event gold medal, while compatriot Omar Rashid bagged the bronze after fierce competition at the International Bowling Centre.

Askar welcomes the Bahrain bowling team at the reception

In the GCC Junior Golf Championship in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, the golf team captured three medals, including two in the singles and one in the team event.

The nationals bagged the team event gold medal, while Ali Al Kuwari and Eid Adel took the silver and bronze medals, respectively in the singles section.

Supreme Council for Youth and Sports deputy general secretary and Bahrain Olympic Committee (BOC) general secretary Abdulrahman Askar was among



top officials congratulating and welcoming the teams at a reception ceremony at the committee premises in Seef.

Also present at the reception were BOC member and Women's Sport Committee chairwoman Shaikha Hayat bint Abdulaziz Al Khalifa, Bahrain Bowling Association president Ahmed Al Nuaimi, Bahrain Golf Association board members along with other associations board members and representatives of the BOC.

Cyclists ride 'for peace' in MidEast tour Eilat

A group of cyclists have embarked on a multi-day tour in Jordan, Israel and the Palestinian territories as part of an effort to promote peace in the Middle East.

Around a dozen riders are part of the five-day event, intended to promote and preview the main race set for March 2018, which will follow a similar course but will also include part of Egypt.

The tour began on Monday in the Jordanian capital Amman, with the cvclists set to reach Jerusalem on Friday after having crossed southern Israel and part of the occupied West Bank.

"I believe that sport worldwide has a very strong voice, a very positive voice, and a very direct voice, and let's say a simple voice," said Gerhard Schoenbacher, the Austrian director of the tour.

"It's not as complicated as politics and religion." The aim of next year's main event is to encourage peace initiatives in the region, according to organisers.

'We fight each other in the race, but after the race you're friends again, and in the race you're good colleagues," said Dutch rider Annemiek van Vleuten.

"So I think maybe that atmosphere. it's good maybe to bring it to the Middle East," she said.