

Sagan delivers after team's hard work to win Giro stage 10

AFP | Milan

Slovakia's Peter Sagan finished off the job done by his Bora-Hansgrohe team as he claimed victory in the 10th stage of the Giro d'Italia yesterday.

The triple world champion outsprinted Colombian Fernando Gaviria at the end of a 139-km ride from LAquila to Foligno after his team's acceleration on a climb had shaken off some of the top contenders for the final sprint.

Italian Davide Cimolai finished in third place.

Colombian Egan Bernal, who took the overall lead on Sunday, retained the Maglia Rosa with a 14-second lead over his main rival Remco Evenepoel after both went toe-to-toe for bonus seconds at the intermediate sprint.

Bora-Hansgrohe accelerated on the short ascent to Valico



Peter Sagan crosses the finish line

della Somma, a move that resulted in Belgian Tim Merlier, Italian Giacomo Nizzolo and Dutchman Dylan Groenewegen being dropped.

Bernal and Evenepoel battled it out for bonus seconds at the intermediate sprint with the Colombian's Ineos-Grenadiers team mate Jhonatan Narvaez getting in the mix to deny the Belgian prospect first place.

Narvaez collected three bonus seconds with Evenepoel taking two and Bernal salvaging one.

All-time Liverpool great Ian Rush visits Bahrain

● **Legendary football icon makes trip to the Kingdom on the invitation of Riffa Club board member Shaikh Ahmed bin Isa Al Khalifa**

TDT | Manama

Legendary football icon Ian Rush MBE was in Bahrain recently on the invitation of Riffa Club board member Shaikh Ahmed bin Isa Al Khalifa.

During his stay, the former Wales international forward and all-time leading goal scorer at English club Liverpool visited various locations across the Kingdom. These included the British Club in Adliya and Rashid Equestrian Horseracing Club in Riffa to attend a horseracing meeting, to name a few.

Saad Wadia, Rush's manager from Avalon Sports Group, said: "Ian Rush was very grateful for Shaikh Ahmed's warm welcome to the Kingdom of Bahrain."

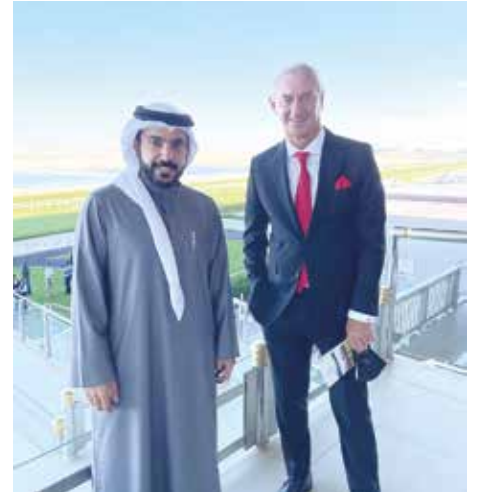
"It was a great opportunity to learn about the Kingdom and was pleasantly surprised



Shaikh Ahmed bin Isa Al Khalifa with Ian Rush in Manama

to see Liverpool fans who have been supporting the football club since the 70's and 80's."

Rush enjoyed an illustrious senior career. At club level, he laced up his boots for Liverpool from 1980 to 1987 and from 1988 to 1996. He scored a total of 346 goals in all competitions at the club, earning him the tag of being one of Liverpool's greatest



Shaikh Ahmed bin Isa Al Khalifa with Ian Rush at Rashid Equestrian and Horseracing Club

players.

Rush also competed for Italian giants Juventus, and English sides Leeds United and Newcastle United, among other clubs. He made 73 appearances for the Welsh national team and scored 28 goals.

Shaikh Ahmed is also the ex-director of Bahrain's under-23 Olympic team, and is a huge Liverpool fan.

Bahrain1Racing keep up winning ways

Two-time defending Pro Mod World Champion Stevie "Fast" Jackson powers to his first victory of the season at NHRA Four-Wide Nationals in Charlotte

● **Bahrain1Racing make it back-to-back victories in E3 Spark Plugs NHRA Pro Mod Drag Racing Series**

TDT | Manama

Bahrain1Racing continued their winning ways in the National Hot Rod Association's (NHRA) 2021 season in the US this weekend, as two-time defending World Champion Stevie "Fast" Jackson took home a victory in Pro Mod category at the NGK NTK NHRA Four-Wide Nationals at zMAX Dragway in Charlotte.

After losing on a holeshot in the final round of the previous meeting of the E3 Spark Plugs NHRA Pro Mod Drag Racing Series in Atlanta earlier this month, Jackson made up for it



The blown Bahrain1Racing Camaro driven by Stevie Jackson in Charlotte over the weekend

in this event to keep the Bahrain flag flying high in the world's most competitive drag racing championship.

With the result, Jackson picked up his first victory of the season and the 11th in his stand-out career.

Bahrain1Racing is owned by His Majesty the King's personal

representative, His Highness Shaikh Abdulla bin Hamad Al Khalifa.

Jackson posted an impressive 5.685-seconds time at 253.75mph in his blown Bahrain1Racing Camaro, racing past a final-round quad that also included Brandon Snider, Mike Castellana and Jeffrey Barker.



Our Bahrain1Racing team has shifted this thing into high gear, and the rest of the season is going to be a shootout

STEVIE JACKSON

Castellana broke before staging, while Barker ran into trouble early in the run. Snider went 5.717s at 250.97mph, but Jackson had the lead early and never relinquished it en route to a satis-

YOU KNOW WHAT

In the NGK NTK NHRA Four-Wide Nationals, each run in Qualifying and Eliminations features cars in four lanes racing against one another, instead of the standard two-car head-to-head

fyng victory.

Following his win, Jackson was quoted as saying on nhra.com: "This was an emotional weekend for our team. Lane four almost killed me in 2018 and to conquer the four-wide in lane four [this year] with all of our

amazing fans here to support us was amazing.

"Our Bahrain1Racing team has shifted this thing into high gear, and the rest of the season is going to be a shootout."

The victory also handed Jackson his first four-wide victory after appearing in the final round at both 2019 and 2018. Jackson crashed just past the finish line in 2018, giving the standout plenty of redemption with his victory on Sunday.

After qualifying fourth, Jackson won his first-round quad and finished second in the next round to advance to the final round, going 5.696s at 253.28mph in the semifinal quad.

The E3 Spark Plugs NHRA Pro Mod Drag Racing Series returns to action June 24 to 27 as part of the Summit Racing Equipment NHRA Nationals, to be held at Summit Racing Equipment Motorsports Park in Norwalk, Ohio.

Bahrain team named for Arab Futsal Cup foray

● **Bahrainis to depart for Cairo today to compete in tournament, which kicks off Thursday**

● **Nationals to go against hosts Egypt, Kuwait and Mauritania in group stage**

TDT | Manama

Bahrain have named a 16-player squad that will be travelling to Cairo today to compete in the fifth Arab Futsal Cup 2021, which kicks off on Thursday.

The Bahrain Football Asso-



Head coach Lino Gomes directs players during training

ciation (BFA) confirmed the roster yesterday that is to be coached by Brazilian tactician Lino Gomes.

The players include Sayed Fadel Radhi, Sayed Mohammed Hamid, Youssef Janahi, Ahmed Abduljaleel, Ahmed Abdulnabi, Ahmed Antar, Ali Al Alwani, Ali Hussain, Ammar Hassan, Falah Abbas, Jassam Anan, Mirza Al Nuaimi, Mohammed Abdulla, Muhammad Al Sindi, Saleh Ahmed and Salman Al Mulla.

The team have been training locally at the Khalifa Sports City arena in Isa Town in preparation for the tournament.

Bahrain have been drawn in Group A alongside hosts Egypt, Kuwait and Mauritania for the first stage of action. Group B

consists of Morocco, the UAE, Saudi Arabia and Comoros.

The Bahrainis kick off their campaign on Thursday against their Kuwaiti counterparts. Egypt and Mauritania face off in the group's other game that night.

All four teams are back on the playing court on May 22, when Bahrain play Mauritania and Egypt go against Kuwait.

The final Group A games are then scheduled for May 24, when the Bahrainis play their Egyptian counterparts and Mauritania take on Kuwait.

The top two teams from each group at the end of this phase move on to the last four, which is scheduled for May 27. The final will then be held on May 29.

Swiatek enters WTA top 10 after Rome win

Reuters | Rome

Iga Swiatek's victory at the Rome Open saw the Pole enter the top 10 for the first time in her career when the new WTA rankings were published yesterday.

The 19-year-old, who will head to Roland Garros in a fortnight as defending French Open champion, beat Karolina Pliskova 6-0, 6-0 in the final in Rome at the weekend to climb six places to ninth, leapfrogging her Czech opponent who slips to tenth.