

SPORTS

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Ewan wins bunch sprint in Toulouse

● Aussie rookie Caleb Ewan wins Tour de France stage 11 as Julian Alaphilippe stays in yellow

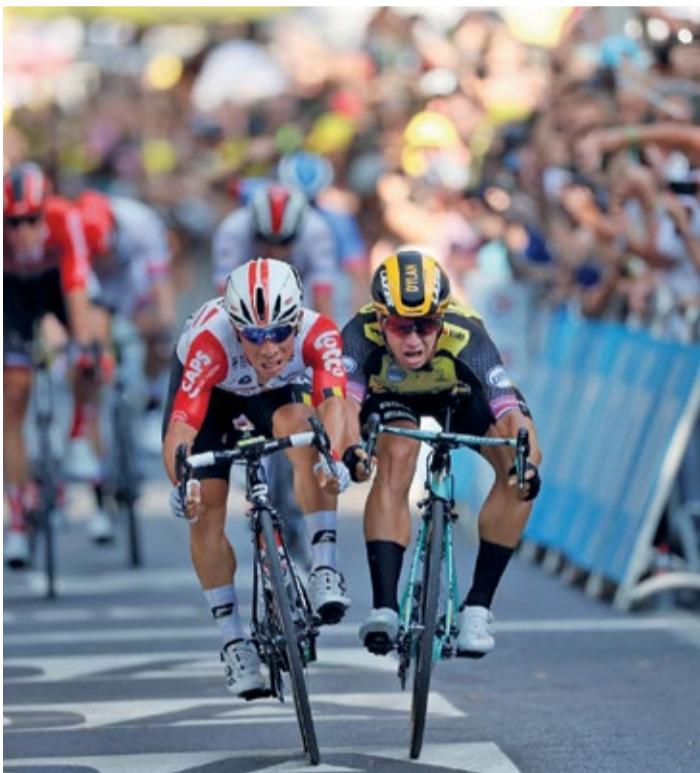
● Ewan pips Groenewegen in mass sprint to win in Toulouse

● Alaphilippe retains his overall Tour de France lead

AFP | Toulouse, France

Australian Caleb Ewan picked up his first Tour de France stage win in a mass sprint at Toulouse yesterday as Frenchman Julian Alaphilippe kept the overall lead.

With defending champion Geraint Thomas and his Ineos teammate Egan Bernal also finishing in the pack, there was no change in the overall top three after a 167km run from Albi to Toulouse, marked by a fall that forced Nairo Quintana into a successful race to catch up.



Caleb Ewan crosses the finish line

Ewan timed his explosive burst to perfection, catching and overtaking Dutch sprinter Dylan Groenewegen right on the line after a long home straight. Elia Viviani was third on a finish designed for the pure sprinters.

"It took me half the Tour de France to get my win, but I got it in the end," said Ewan.

"I let him go, caught his wheel and just had him on the line," explained, the stocky 25-year-old.

In his first season with the Lotto-Soudal team, Ewan has now won stages on all three Grand Tours after three wins on the Giro and one on the Vuelta.

It was a narrow win with the photo-finish, which takes thousands of shots a second from both sides at the finish line, showing a marginal victory.

Sprint points leader Peter Sagan of Slovakia kept his green jersey after finishing fourth behind Ewan.

"I congratulate him, he's too fast for me on that kind of course, said the 30-year-old Sagan.

Colombian Bernal kept hold of the under-25's white jersey and said Ineos would remain calm in their quest for the yellow jersey.

"We won't be attacking just yet, but I feel good going into the mountains" said Bernal, on his second Tour.

There are two major mountains on the menu on stage 12 with yellow jersey Alaphilippe vowing to defend his lead.

"It won't be easy tomorrow, there will be attacks, and it will be a big day on the Tour, but I'm up for it," said the 27-year-old former soldier ahead of the first day in the Pyrenees.



Shaikh Abdul Aziz Bin Mubarak Al Khalifa, Vice President of the Bahrain Tennis Federation and Khamis Mohammed Al-Muqla, President of the Bahrain Tennis Club during their visit to The Queen's tennis and racquet club on Monday. They were received by the CEO of "Queens" Club Andrew Stewart, who took them on a comprehensive tour of the stadiums and facilities of the club, located in the heart of London. During the tour the CEO introduced the history of this British club, founded in 1886 as a sports complex for a number of sports, before becoming a tennis and racquet club

Newcastle thrashed by Wolves as fans bemoan Bruce appointment

AFP | Nanjing, China

The scale of the task facing new head coach Steve Bruce was brutally laid bare as Newcastle United were thrashed 4-0 by Premier League rivals Wolverhampton Wanderers in China yesterday.

Former Manchester United defender Bruce, whose appointment was confirmed just hours before kick-off, will jet over to take charge of Newcastle's next friendly, in Shanghai on Saturday.

It was only a low-key exhibition match, but the heavy defeat to Nuno Espirito Santo's Wolves in Nanjing was more evidence that Newcastle are likely to be battling relegation this season.

Newcastle have risked stoking the anger of their frustrated fans by hiring former Sunderland boss Bruce, who has sealed a three-year contract to succeed the hugely popular Rafael Benitez.

There were even chants against hated club owner Mike Ashley during the Wolves loss.

Federico Fernandez, the Newcastle defender, called on fans angry with Bruce's arrival to get behind the new man.

"We are looking forward to working with him, he is a man of great experience, we are thinking positive," said the Argentine.

"I understand the fans' situation," he said, addressing supporters' negative reaction to the 58-year-old Bruce, a lifelong



Diogo Jota (L) of Wolverhampton Wanderers in action during Premier League Asia Trophy between Newcastle United and Wolverhampton Wanderers

Newcastle fan.

"For us, we want to work, we

want to do better as a team... to show the fans and everyone that

Eubank family to attend Brave CF London event

TDT | Manama

Boxing royalty is supporting BRAVE Combat Federation's vision for the development of mixed martial arts in Europe and beyond. BRAVE CF has announced that both Chris Eubank Jr. and his father Chris Eubank Sr. will also be in attendance to witness a historic evening at the Copper Box Arena, inside the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park on July 25th.

BRAVE 24: London will be an invite-only show, designed to connect the highest level of influencers, celebrities, businessmen and politicians to the sport of MMA, as BRAVE Combat Federations seeks to elevate the sport to another level in terms of building a new global ecosystem, focused on the sports industry instead of the events industry.

At 29 years of age, Chris Eubank Jr. is the current IBO Super-Middleweight champion, having regained the title against fellow Brit James DeGale in February of this year. Before that, Eubanks Jr. won the interim WBA Middleweight title as well as the British Middleweight title.

The current champ is also the son of a legend of the sport. Chris Eubank Sr., one of the



Chris Eubank Jr. and his father Chris Eubank Sr.

best boxers of his generations, held world titles in two different weight classes, winning the Middleweight and Super-Middleweight belts for WBO. He was undefeated for the first ten years of his career and remained without a loss at Middleweight.

Both father and son will enjoy an unforgettable gala night, with the most luxurious MMA experience ever, as American Bubba Jenkins defends his BRAVE Combat Federation world Featherweight title against former Lightweight world champion Lucas "Mineiro" Martins in the main event.

Brave president interested in negotiating Lobov vs Khan

TDT | Manama

BRAVE Combat Federation president Mohammed Shahid will look to put together a fight between Artem Lobov and Amir Khan.

The duo has gone back and forth in the past through social media, and Lobov's coach John Kavanagh has recently called on BRAVE CF to make the fight happen in their landmark event in Bahrain this November, which has sparked worldwide interest in social media.

Shahid has heard the outcry of fans for the fight to take place inside the BRAVE CF Arena and will look to start ne-

gotiations during BRAVE 24: London, a historic, invite-only event which takes place on July 25th, at Copper Box Arena.

"I love how you have these two great fighters in their peak are still looking for a challenge. I will definitely look into it, and I want to make it happen for our fans, for BRAVE Nation. I'm looking forward to an amazing night for mixed martial arts on July 25th and will sit down with Artem to talk about it. Unfortunately, Amir Khan will not be able to attend. We just talked and he has urgent matters to attend to on that date, but we'll be back on that front soon".

Bruce might be a local boy, but his two-year spell as coach of Newcastle's fierce rivals Sunderland and a mediocre record as a Premier League manager are major black marks for an already infuriated fan base.

Bruce, who has won four promotions from the second tier of English football, has suffered relegation from the Premier League twice.

His highest finish was 10th with Birmingham in 2003-04 and Sunderland in 2010-11.

Bruce has his work cut out at Newcastle, who have lost their leading forwards from last season -- Salomon Rondon and Ayooze Perez -- and are the only Premier League club yet to make a summer signing.

we can compete."

In a statement, Bruce, who resigned from Championship side Sheffield Wednesday to join Newcastle, called it "a very special moment for me and my family".

"This is my boyhood club and it was my dad's club."