

CYCLING / TOUR OF AL ZUBARAH

Mirza clinches second stage, Lagab retains yellow

'Today our main task was to defend the young rider's jersey and we succeeded in that'

By Yash Mudgal
Doha

Defending champion Yousef Mohamed Mirza clinched stage two of the Tour of Al Zubarah with a slick finish at Madinat Al Shamal yesterday.

The 26-year-old rider of Team Giant topped the 116.8km stage, which began at Al Shamal Sports Club, ahead of Martin Weiss of Austria National Team and grabbed the white jersey (points leader).

David Per of Adria Mobil team finished third and retained the Blue Jersey for best young rider.

UAE's Mirza clocked a time of 2 hours 45 minutes and 19 seconds, while Weiss finished four seconds behind him at Madinat Al Shamal.

The 19-year-old Slovenia rider David Azzedine Lagab, who retained the yellow jersey, 37 seconds slower than the winner.

As expected it was another windy day at the start of the race and the decisive split of the peloton with 10 riders, took place in the last 13 km of the stage.

"Today our main task was to defend the young rider's jersey and we succeeded in that. I am very pleased with my third place today. It was a tough race, but I had some strength left for the finish of the stage. I think if luck was on my side I would have finished better," David said.

Algerian National Team rider Lagab maintained his 19 seconds lead over Kristijan Fajt to retain yellow jersey of the leader. Carbon Wheels rider Roman van Uden, the winner of the individual time trial, is in seventh spot, more than one minute 47 seconds adrift of Lagab.

Roglic Primoz, who finished 10th, significantly contributed to the success of Team Adria Mobil.

Qatari riders haven't done well in the three days, going down the points table following indifferent performances. Abdullah Afif is in 34th spot. Abdelrehaman Jarbous finished 21st yesterday for an overall position for 47 where as his team-mate Moosa Said is in 52nd place overall.

In the team classification after yesterday's stage, Adria Mobil maintained its top position ahead of Algerian National Team with a total timing of 16:49:00. Austrian National Team is in third spot, while Carbon Wheels is at seventh position and Qatar National Team is at the 11th spot.

The 122.6km third and final stage of the tour will run from Lekhwiya Sports Club to Al Zubarah today.

STAGE TWO RESULTS
1. Yousef Mohamed Mirza (TGG) 2:45:22
2. Weiss Martin (AUT) 2:45:22



Stage Two winner and points leader Yousef Mohamed Mirza of Team Giant, Yellow Jersey owner Azzedine Lagab of Algerian National Team and Adria Mobil's Per David, in Blue Jersey, on the podium after the second stage of the Tour of Al Zubarah yesterday. (Below) Mirza (right) sprints to the victory ahead of Austrian National Team's Martin Weiss yesterday. PICTURES: Anas Khalid

- 3. Per David (ADR) 2:45:22
- 4. Azzedine Lagab (ALG) 2:45:22
- 5. Mario Scholbi (AUT) 2:45:22
- 6. Kristijan Fajt (ADR) 2:45:22
- 7. Gabor Kasa (TKT) 2:45:22
- 8. Nebojsa Jovanovic (TKT) 2:45:22
- 9. Wauter Sybrandt (SIG) 2:45:22
- 10. Primoz Roglic (ADR) 2:45:33

- GENERAL CLASSIFICATION**
- 1. Azzedine Lagab (ALG) 5:35:51
 - 2. Kristijan Fajt (ADR) 5:36:10
 - 3. Martin Weiss (AUT) 5:36:21
 - 4. David Per (ADR) 5:36:23
 - 5. Mario Scholbi (AUT) 5:36:25
 - 6. Wauter Sybrandt (SIG) 5:36:34
 - 7. Roman van Uden (CAR) 5:37:38
 - 8. Rogina Radoslav (ADR) 5:37:51
 - 9. Abdennour Yahmi (ALG) 5:37:52
 - 10. Abderramane Mansouri (ALG) 5:37:54

JERSEY OWNERS
Yellow: Azzedine Lagab of Algerian National Team
White: Yousef Mohamed Mirza of Giant Team
Blue: Per David of Adria Mobil



QATAR STARS LEAGUE

Romarinho's hat-trick steers Jaish to a win

By Sports Reporter
Doha

Romarinho scored a hat-trick, including two goals in the last ten minutes of the match, as El Jaish beat Umm Salal 3-1 in the Qatar Stars League yesterday.

In their last match, against Al Wakrah, Jaish had gone down to a Sebastian Saez double but the Brazilian striker gave Jaish a reason to cheer yesterday.

In another match, Lee Jung-Soo's 92nd minute strike ensured that Al Sadd, who were beaten 1-3 by Al Shahaniya in their last match on Sunday, beat Al Kharaitiyat 3-2 yesterday.

Rodrigo Tabata scored a brace, with his first giving Sadd a 1-0 lead. After Kharaitiyat's Abdulaziz Rashid al-Ansari equalised 12 minutes into the second half, Tabata found the net in the 82nd minute giving Sadd a slim lead.

Hassan Abdel Fattah, who had scored a double against Al Shamal in Monday's 3-3 draw, equalised in the 89th minute for Kharaitiyat.

South Korean Lee, with some assistance from team-mate Nadir Belhadj, found the left corner of the net to seal the deal for Sadd.

With the win, Sadd ensured they are tied with Lekhwiya on points at the top. Both the teams have 36 points from 15 matches.

Lekhwiya, however, with a 4-2 win over Al Khor yesterday, ensured they have edged further ahead on goal difference.

Khor must have fancied themselves when forward William Gonior scored in the 18th minute. Lekhwiya, however, slowly clawed back into the game, first with an equaliser by Ismail Mohamed in the 37th minute and then by adding two more in the second half. And then there was also an own goal by Khor defender Mohamed Jomaa al-Alawi in the 76th minute.

Vladimir Weiss gave Lekhwiya a 3-1 lead in the 81st minute before Khaled Muftah added to Khor's misery moments from time.

In the 66th minute, Hilal Mohamed scored Khor's second. Al Shahaniya slumped to a 0-1 defeat after an impressive 3-1 win over Sadd on Sunday. Salliya's Issam Jemaa scored late in the 86th minute to give his team their fifth victory in the last seven games.



Al Sadd's Rodrigo Tabata (centre) vies for the ball with Al Kharaitiyat's Mohamed Yasser Mohammadi during their Qatar Stars League match yesterday. PICTURE: Othman al-Samaracee