

Petacchi wins to take overall lead

VALDOBBIADENE (Italy): Alessandro Petacchi won his second straight stage in the Giro d'Italia on Monday to take the overall lead.

The Italian beat Tyler Farrar of the United States and Francesco Gavazzi of Italy in a sprint finish to end the third leg, taking the pink jersey from Briton Mark Cavendish.

A crash in the final kilometres divided the main pack, and Cavendish was caught behind, finishing 1min 25sec after the leaders.

There was some controversy over whether Petacchi's LPR Team should have waited for Cavendish to catch up so he could contest the sprint also, out of respect for the pink jersey.

"I just found out now that he crashed," Petacchi said.

Two American riders with the Garmin-Slipstream squad - Christian Vande Velde and David Zabriskie - fell on a downhill section at the 140-km mark. Zabriskie got back on his bike, but Vande Velde was taken to hospital with two broken ribs.

Lance Armstrong, who is competing in his first Giro, finished in the main pack. He crossed 50th with the same time as Petacchi, moving the seven-time Tour de France winner up from 10th to fifth overall, 31 seconds behind Petacchi.

"I just tried to stay out of trouble again," said Armstrong, who suggested that cycling officials may have to rethink how they set up races with bikes going faster now.

"In less than a second, your career can change - your life can change. I've seen somebody die. I've seen somebody lose a career and I've seen somebody lose a season."

ASSOCIATED PRESS



Ronaldo (right) says he will stay, but will he? As for Tevez, it looks like he will bid farewell to Old Trafford. PHOTO: AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Ronaldo may face his Utd successor

LONDON: Cristiano Ronaldo could come face to face tonight with the man who has been earmarked to replace him at Manchester United.

Speculation is rife that a £20 million (\$44.5 million) deal has already been agreed for Wigan's Antonio Valencia should Ronaldo fulfil his Real Madrid ambitions at the end of the season.

But the mouth-watering head-to-head between the two wingers may be scuppered if manager Alex Ferguson leaves the World Player of the Year out for his petulant reaction to being substituted against Manchester City last Sunday. Ferguson may want to rest him for the much tougher tie against Arsenal on Saturday.

Victory against a Wigan side with just one point from their last five matches would leave United needing only to avoid defeat against the Gunners to lift the trophy with a game still to play.

Ferguson, though, is aiming to finish the season with three more victories.

"He tells us we need to win every game," United defender Patrice Evra said. "In March, we lost to Liverpool and Fulham and that was the first time since I arrived that we'd lost two League games in a row. I've never felt pain like that before and I don't want to again."

United have played Wigan eight times since the end of 2005 and won every time - by an aggregate score of 24-3. On their last visit to the JJB Stadium, United left with the League trophy after a 2-0 win clinched the title on last season's final day.

Still, Wigan midfielder Olivier Kapo remains optimistic.

"United are top of the League, but to me the best team is Liverpool. They play the most beautiful attacking football," he said. "I cannot wait to play United. As long as they do not make life hell for us, we will be fine."

Wigan will be without Egypt striker Amr Zaki because of a knee injury while former England goalkeeper Chris Kirkland is also struggling with a back injury, with Richard Kingson on standby.

The Ghana international is determined to prove himself, after being axed by Birmingham last season and branded "a complete waste of space" by club owner David Sullivan.

Ferguson, meanwhile, will give late fitness tests to centre-backs Rio Ferdinand, who missed the derby match with a calf strain, and Jonny Evans, who limped out of the win over City with a hamstring problem.

John O'Shea will play in central defence if both are ruled out. Paul Scholes, Michael Carrick and Wayne Rooney are among those set to return.

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Wigan v Manchester United
Live, Ch27, tomorrow, 2.55am (S'pore time)



Rio Ferdinand has been suffering from injury, but he has a chance of playing in the Wigan match today. PHOTO: AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

TWO FOR THE ROAD

Deal to sell Ronaldo has reportedly been done

Tevez will leave as United won't pay the asking price

LONDON: One petulant hissy fit later, and Cristiano Ronaldo's end-of-season move to Real Madrid is back on again.

The Times reported that the Manchester United winger, whose reaction to his substitution against Manchester City on Sunday raised eyebrows, has told teammates that he intends to stay for another year, leaving them to worry over disillusioned teammate Carlos Tevez.

But the Spanish press were having none of it. The respected El Pais newspaper claimed yesterday that United and Real have already agreed a secret world-record £71.5 million (\$159 million) fee for the 24-year-old winger.

Reports in Portuguese paper Record also add that Ronaldo has accepted a deal.

The total value of the transfer would be in excess of £89 million when taking in to account a big cut for Ronaldo's agent Jorge Mendes. The player could expect to pick up £12.5 million a year - a whopping £240,000 a week.

The only stumbling block is whether the new Real president will accept the deal. Florentino Perez, the man who masterminded Real's Galacticos era, is expected to win the election on June 14.

He is keen on Ronaldo but sees AC Milan's Kaka as a cheaper option that will free up cash for other targets, reported The Daily Mail. Still, the entire Ronaldo saga has left some Real players unhappy.

"With the economic crisis, it is peculiar that in football we talk of these astronomical figures," said goalkeeper Iker Casillas.

If Ronaldo does decide to leave, some will wonder how many of his current

The Carlos Tevez dilemma

Who owns him?

A group of investors at Media Sports Investments, a company founded by Kia Joorabchian, a British-Iranian businessman.

How much do they want for Tevez?

At least £22 million (\$48.8 million). The profit will be shared by Joorabchian and his investors. Tevez cost them £12 million from Boca Juniors.

Who's interested?

Tevez's agent says there has been interest from England (Liverpool, Chelsea, Manchester City), Spain (Real Madrid, Barcelona) and Italy (AC Milan, Juventus), but none from United. Tevez says he wants to stay in England.

Another loan?

Third-party ownership has been ruled illegal by the Premier League. So United cannot negotiate another short-term deal for him.

teammates will implore him to stay. But their respect for Tevez remains unfazed, and a handful of them have floated the idea of a collective plea to the United board to sign the Argentine striker.

But the reality, which appeared to be

lost on him as he celebrated his goal against City by cupping his ears to the directors' box, is that he is a victim of his own circumstances at Old Trafford. In an ideal world, United manager Alex Ferguson would retain Tevez's services after his two-year lease arrangement expires on June 30.

But a permanent transfer has been rendered almost impossible, first by his uniquely complicated situation - with a £22 million transfer fee due to the companies that own his "economic rights", in addition to his wages and the £10 million lease fee that has already been paid.

And second, by his difficulties in accepting the squad rotation system.

In the absence of an offer from United, which he has accused of making him feel unwanted, Tevez is prepared to consider joining City as well as Chelsea, Inter Milan or Real, all of which are free to negotiate with his adviser, Kia Joorabchian, with no objection from Old Trafford.

But Liverpool have become favourites. Reds manager Rafael Benitez is eager for a striker to ease Fernando Torres' scoring burden. The Spaniard's hamstring problems have caused him to miss a large chunk of the season.

Benitez is confident that Tevez could be tempted to Anfield by the presence of Javier Mascherano, the Argentina captain, who is also a client of Joorabchian.

The agent said yesterday: "What Tevez wants to do is to go to a club which have real ambitions to be champions of England, champions of Europe, champions of everywhere."

"Obviously, he would have to go to a rival in order to achieve that target."

SPORTSWORLD

Super Reds crush Young Lions 5-0

SUPER Reds FC thrashed the Young Lions 5-0 in an S-League football match at the Jalan Besar Stadium last night.

Defender Choi Dong Soo scored a penalty in the 37th minute and added another goal in the 70th. The other goals came from Park Kang Jin (24th), Park Han Seok (49th) and Kim Tae Young (63rd).

Young Lions skipper Obadin Aikhena was sent off (89th) after two yellow cards. The result sees the Korean side move up two places to fifth on 15 points while the Young Lions are eighth on 11.

S'pore shooters bag 6 more medals

SINGAPORE'S shooters took their total medal haul to 12 after another fruitful day of competition yesterday at the ongoing Arafura Games in Darwin, Australia.

They won six medals yesterday - four golds and two silvers in the 10m air rifle men's and women's junior individual and team events.

On Sunday, they had bagged three golds, two silvers, and a bronze.

League	Home Team	Away Team	Match Kick-off (Singapore date/time)
S-League	Home United	Tampines	Wed, 13/05/09 7.45pm
Italian Cup	Lazio	Sampdoria	Thu, 14/05/09 2.45am
Spanish Cup	Bilbao	Barcelona	Thu, 14/05/09 4.00am
S-League	SAF FC	Bal Khalsa	Thu, 14/05/09 7.45pm

E Premier and German League matches are also on sale. For more details, please check Singapore Pools website.

LOTTERY

1010 Draw No. 2431/2009
Thursday, 14 May 2009

Group 1 Prize
\$1,500,000

Group 1 Prize for Draw No. 2430/2009
Group 1 Prize: \$666,190
* No Winner

Draw Venue: Singapore Pools (Private) Limited
1 Selegie Road, Pools #01-01 Singapore 188106

NEW LOANSHARK SCORE STRATEGY!

O\$P\$ Splashed on cars

the new paper

Yale® THE COMPLETE WAREHOUSE EQUIPMENT

Waldo / Auto Stacker / Order Picking / Reach Truck / Clean Forklift / LPG Forklift

STOCKY Pallet Rack, Pallet Container, Merchandiser, Pallet Tower, Metal Shelving, Ladder, Trolley, etc.

MYSTAR BOLTLESS RACK Heavy Duty Boltless Rack, Heavy Duty Boltless Rack, etc.

LONGSPAN SHELVING SYSTEM Heavy Duty Shelving System, etc.

YK TOH MARKETING (S) PTE LTD
41, Kallie Batek Road 2, #01-01, Singapore 341785
Tel: 6746 8622 Fax: 6746 8722
www.yktoh.com

Contactless Medical Thermometer For Accurate Body Temperature

Be Adequately Prepared with **ThermoFlash®**

NO-CONTACT Body Temperature Screening

- ✓ Contactless Absolute Hygiene & Comfort
- ✓ Fast One Second Reading (Clear Queues)
- ✓ Affordable No Probe Covers Required
- ✓ Heavy-Duty 4X Longer Lifespan
- ✓ Easy-to-Use Point and Activate (No Contact)
- ✓ Accurate Medically Certified ± 0.2°C
- ✓ Suitability For All Ages including Newborns

Official Representative: **COBS PTE LTD**
196 Pandan Loop #06-25 Pantech Business Hub Singapore 128384

For sales or enquiry, please call or email:
94509260(Ivan) 94523159(Wendy)
90675701(Irving) 67605824(Office/Lynn)
ivan@cobs.com.sg irving@cobs.com.sg
lynn@cobs.com.sg wendy@cobs.com.sg

FIND THE ONES THAT FIT!

Recruit the right people through **CATS RECRUIT**.
Call 1800 289 8622 or email recruit@sph.com.sg to advertise.

CATS RECRUIT