

Cavendish edges Greipel to win Stage 3

BY JULIEN PRETOT
REUTERS

ANGERS, France — Mark Cavendish joined France great Bernard Hinault in second place of the all-time TOUR DE FRANCE France stage winners when he beat Andre Greipel on Monday for his second victory in this year's race.

The Briton, riding for the Dimension Data team, beat German Greipel by less than

a tire's length to snatch his 28th career Tour win at the end of a 223.5-kilometer ride from Granville.

Belgian Eddy Merckx, like Hinault a five-time Tour winner, still tops the list of stage wins with 34.

World champion Slovakian Peter Sagan (Tinkoff) retained the overall leader's yellow jersey after taking fourth place to stay in the hunt for a sixth green jersey for the points classification.

"It was a long day, I'm happy we did not suffer any

crash today," said Sagan, whose teammate Alberto Contador, one of the favorites for the title who fell twice in the opening two stages, enjoyed a quiet day in the saddle.

"I'm in one piece, that's nice."

Sagan leads France's Julian Alaphilippe (Etixx-Quick Step) and Spaniard Alejandro Valverde (Movistar) by eight and 10 seconds respectively with defending champion Chris Froome (Team Sky) of Britain in fifth

place, 14 seconds off the pace. Armindo Fonseca (Fortuneo-Vital Concept) was the first attacker of the day and he built an 11-minute lead over a peloton that rode at a snail's pace.

He was later joined by fellow Frenchman Thomas Vockler (Direct Energie), but their effort was doomed and the peloton, led by Marcel Kittel's Etixx-Quick Step's team, launched its effort.

German Kittel, however, was unable to sustain the pace in the final straight, a

slightly uphill 30-meter dash to the line.

Frenchman Bryan Coquard (Direct Energie) was third.

Cavendish, who looked beaten with 50 meters left after Greipel's second acceleration, threw his bike well to add to his victory in the opening stage on Saturday.

"I've won by more, I've won by less," said Cavendish, the most successful sprinter in Tour history.

"Normally, I know when I won or I lose. When I crossed

the line, I kind of knew I got it today but anything can happen," he added.

"I knew I had to come from behind. I wanted to be behind Greipel to launch my sprint. He took me by surprise but I'm happy I did it. My teammates were phenomenal."

Tuesday's fourth stage, the longest of this year's Tour with 237.5 kilometers from Saumur to Limoges, will give another chance for the sprinters to shine before the race hits the mountains.

Durant

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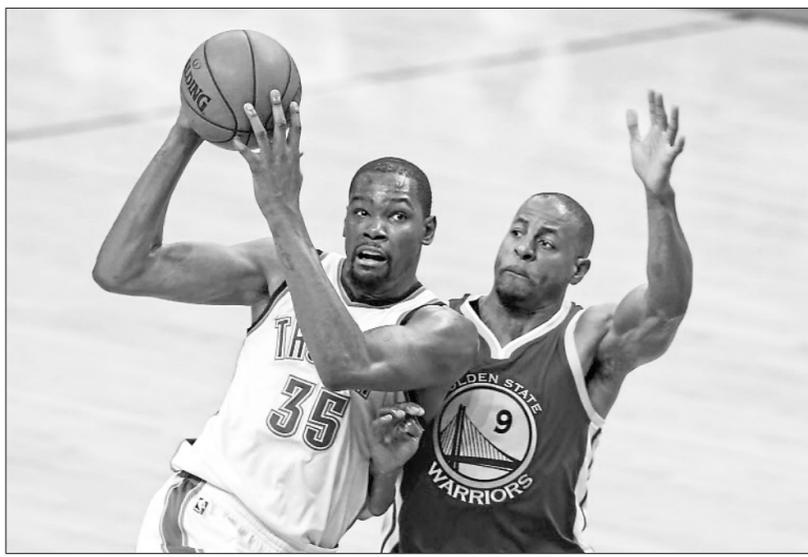
and went Friday, followed by the Spurs and Celtics Saturday — who were aided by a lobbying effort from Tom Brday — and the Heat and then Thunder once again Sunday.

Durant then settled in to make his decision. Once he did — agreeing to a two-year max contract with a player option in the second year — Warriors General Manager Bob Myers had to go to work to create enough cap space to allow Durant to come play in Oakland. Andrew Bogut will have to be traded, while the rights to restricted free agents Harrison Barnes and Festus Ezeli must be relinquished.

That won't leave the Warriors with much "Strength in Numbers" — their motto as they won an NBA-record 73 games during the regular season and came within one win of a second straight championship last month — but it will provide them with an overwhelming strength in star power. Between Durant, two-time reigning league MVP Stephen Curry, Klay Thompson and Draymond Green, the Warriors have accumulated a level of star talent that dwarfs even what the Miami Heat were able to put together by combining LeBron James, Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh in 2010.

Add in 2015 NBA Finals MVP Andre Iguodala and backup point guard Shaun Livingston, and the Warriors have an incredible six players at the top of its roster. Golden State will have plenty of work to do to fill out the rest of its roster — the Warriors have only one center, rookie Damian James, on the roster, with only other true big in 2015 first rounder Kevon Looney, who had surgery on both hips over the past 12 months.

But while Golden State won't have much flexibility to



Oklahoma City Thunder forward Kevin Durant (left) drives to the basket against Golden State Warriors forward Andre Iguodala during the second half of Game 4 of the Western Conference finals in May.

add more, with only the \$2.9 million room exception and minimum contracts left to fill the team out around its top six, that's a problem all 30 NBA teams would happily sign up for having to try and solve.

Ever since Durant lost a hard-fought series in seven games to the Warriors in the Western Conference finals — with the Warriors escaping from a 3-1 deficit to win the series and advance to the finals — it was widely expected the former Montrose Christian star would decide to stay in Oklahoma City on a one year deal with a player option for a second, allowing him to have one more shot at a championship with the Thunder next season before heading into free agency alongside fellow superstar Russell Westbrook.

As this weekend progressed, however, word began to circulate around the NBA that the Warriors were gaining more and more traction as Durant's meetings progressed — including a phone call be-

tween Durant and Warriors executive and Hall of Famer Jerry West on Saturday. In the end, those rumblings proved to be accurate, and they shook the foundation of the league when Durant officially agreed to sign with the Warriors, announcing his decision on the Players' Tribune.

The fact Golden State now fields a team with four all-stars is just one of many consequences of the NBA's new television contract, which led to the league's salary cap jumping from \$70 million to \$94.1 million this summer. That, combined with Curry still heading into the final year of a below-market contract worth just over \$12 million next season, allowed Durant to sign there without the Warriors having to sacrifice any of their top four players — Curry, Thompson, Green or Iguodala — to do so.

It remains unclear what the ramifications will be for the league moving forward. The most obvious question revolves around Westbrook.

He already was expected by many to leave the Thunder when his contract expired; will General Manager Sam Presti now look to move him this summer in order to recoup some assets for him? The Thunder already made a similar move in sending Serge Ibaka to Orlando in a draft night trade for guard Victor Oladipo, the draft rights to Domantas Sabonis and forward Ersan Ilyasova.

With Durant now off the market, the rest of free agency will begin to take shape. Future Hall of Famers James, Wade, Dirk Nowitzki and Manu Ginobili all remain unrestricted free agents, but all four of them are virtual locks to return to the Cavaliers, Miami Heat, Dallas Mavericks and Spurs, respectively.

But the reverberations from Durant's decision will last long past this holiday weekend. The NBA has changed forever, and the balance of power — which already was tilted toward the West Coast — has firmly shifted to the Bay Area.

2 Maine runners advance to final of 5,000m race

Harris fails at bid in 800m contest

North Yarmouth native Ben True and former Bangor High School running standout Riley Masters each advanced to the final of the 5,000-meter run after

OLYMPIC TRIALS

qualifying in the same semifinal heat during the U.S. Olympic Track and Field Trials Monday night in Eugene, Oregon.

True finished third in the semifinal heat to earn a berth as the top six in each heat qualify for Saturday's final in a 16-man field. Four positions also are awarded to the four fastest times outside of the top six in each heat, and Masters advanced with the second fastest time of those four.

After the heats in the 5,000 were held, the 800-meter finals were held, and former Lewisiston High star Isaiah Harris turned in a strong effort but finished sixth in the nine-man field with a time of 1 minute, 46.47 seconds, failing to earn one of the three top finishes

for a berth on the U.S. Olympic team.

In the first 5,000 heat, True consistently stayed in the lead pack of the 12-man field, frequently in the third position, during a strategic race and turned in a time of 13:48.11.

Masters finished seventh in 13:49.75, narrowly missing the sixth place that went to Diego Estrada (13:48.71).

Masters put on a hard sprint for the final 200 meters and passed several runners, but it wasn't enough to catch Estrada.

Masters and True ran shoulder-to-shoulder during an early lap in the race.

William Kincaid won the heat with a 13:47.86 clocking, and Ryan Hill finished second in 13:47.89. Also advancing to the final were Jeff See (13:48.28) and Shadrack Kipchirchir (13:48.58).

In the 800 final, Harris surged into the third-place spot on the first lap and held it until the final 100 meters when he was passed by three runners.

Clayton Murphy finished first with a time of 1:44.76 and will be joined on the U.S. team by Boris Berian (1:44.92) and Charles Jock (1:45.48).



True



Masters



Harris

NASCAR

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The restart wouldn't matter. Kyle Busch had nothing on Keselowski and couldn't even get close enough for a get-out-of-the-way love tap.

Brother Kurt Busch, however, did go bump in the night on the last lap. That's because Logano was moving up the race track trying to get position, even though he had no chance of winning.

"I think that he made an aggressive mistake," said Busch, who wound up 23rd. "You can't go from fifth to first. There's just no shot at it. And it's a shame that we ended up spun around and wrecked."

"Stupid is as stupid does!!!" (hashtag)22" tweeted Tony Gibson, Busch's crew chief, referencing Logano.

Cyber-revenge may allevi-

ate some frustration but does nothing to change the circumstances:

Keselowski has now won three races this season and is rekindling the magic of his 2012 championship run. Logano, who finished fourth Saturday, only has one victory. But he sits in fourth place in the points standings, firmly securing another Chase berth. The guy to catch at the moment: Keselowski, with a series-high three victories (along with Kyle Busch).

"They're young, they're aggressive, they win races," Penske said. "They work well with the sponsors, and they're high-integrity guys, so move on from there."

It's understandable that some drivers and fans are peeved. But racing should always be about finishing first, and not making anyone's BFF list a barbeque. Every sport needs heroes

and villains. In particular, that applies to NASCAR these days, with the intimidating ways of Dale Earnhardt long gone from everybody's rear-view mirror.

If anyone has an issue with Keselowski and Logano smoking the competition, well, then catch them if you can.

"Three wins at the midpoint in the season," Keselowski said after the race. "If we're going back to numbers, it gives us a good shot of winning. Six wins was the best season we've ever had. Not that that's where I want to stop or that it's a guarantee, either way."

"But it's still a good place to be in. Joey Logano and I were talking the other day, a Team Penske car has won the most races, I think, is it three out of the last four seasons? So that's something we're proud of, and we'd like to keep it going. Every win counts."

This one at Daytona was

special. It was his first career Cup victory here after his dominating runs he's had at the other restrictor-plate playpen, Talladega Superspeedway. Keselowski, a driver who always keeps tab on historic reverence for himself and others in the sport, quickly took note:

"Let me see if I can get them all right," he said. "This is the 250th start, Year 50 for Team Penske, 100th Cup win for Team Penske, my 20th win and we finished first. I like that number the best."

Here's a few more: It was Keselowski's 11th top-10 finish of 2016 and his seventh in the top-5, including his fourth top-5 finish in the last five races.

Expect Keselowski and Logano to keep crunching numbers as the season rolls on. It may add up to a lot of trouble for anyone chasing them.

No one seems to be inclined to apologize for hurt feelings along the way.

Maine youth team to play tourney in Cooperstown

The Maine Moose, a youth baseball team from the Hampden area, will be heading to the home of the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York, in August to compete in the American Youth Baseball Hall of Fame Invitational Tournament.

The Maine team has players ages 11-12 who will play during the week of Aug. 27 at Cooperstown Dreams Park, a complex which consists of 22 lighted fields. The Moose are guaranteed seven games, weather permitting, and will earn a seed to play in a single-elimination championship tourney.

The team will visit the Baseball Hall of Fame, trade pins and stories with players from across the United States and have their team records and photographs

displayed in Cooperstown's American Youth Baseball Hall of Fame.

The Moose applied for a berth in the invitational tourney and were one of 104 teams randomly selected to compete in the Aug. 27 tourney. Weekly tournaments are held at Cooperstown from June 4 to Sept. 2, when more than 1,300 teams will compete.

The Moose players are from Hampden, Newburgh, Winterport, Carmel and Hermon.

The players are Sam Knott, Max Polo, Connor Adams, Logan Scripture, Libby Hughes, Wyatt Gogan, Jaykob Wildman, Jacob Lorenzo, Cameron Hale, Ethan Phelps and Ryan Adams.

Their coaches are Matt Polo, Amy Knott and Ray Knott and their umpire is Dennis Farnham Jr.

Red Sox

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Betts also hit what looked like a home run but it was deemed foul and the call stood (inconclusive) upon review.

Leon, who had 39 hits and a .187 career batting average in 209 major league at-bats heading into the season, is 20-for-40 and has forced the team's hand roster-wise. Fellow catcher Ryan Hanigan returns from the disabled list Tuesday and Christian Vazquez has been optioned to Triple-A.

The Red Sox had 13 extra-base hits (nine doubles), tying the Rangers' record for extra-base hits allowed in a game. Texas also yielded 13 in a 17-5 loss in Boston on June 4, 1913. Porcello, who is 4-0 with

five no-decisions in his last nine starts, gave up five hits in the first inning and 12 overall but still improved to 7-0 in eight starts at Fenway Park this season. He hasn't lost since May 17.

"Pors has been extremely comfortable at home here," Farrell said. "I thought today again, even though there were a high number of hits a lot of them came on the ground ... this ballpark played extremely small today."

Nick Martinez (1-2) was pelted with six runs on 11 hits in 4 1/3 innings for Texas.

"Momentum starts with the starting pitching," Texas manager Jeff Banister said. "Put four runs on the board early, we couldn't keep them from scoring. It was a tough day for Nick Martinez. This is a very disciplined group of hitters. They're not going to

chase when they're ahead in the count.

"Look, 13 extra-base hits today that our pitchers gave up, very challenging day. We got to be better than that."

Holt, who is 5-for-13 with three extra base hits since returning from a concussion, hit a go-ahead two-run homer in a four-run third inning and also cut down a run at the plate from left field.

Pedroia, who bounced into his major league-leading 16th double play, led off the seventh with his 500th career extra-base hit.

Rougned Odor, who had been in a slump, had a two-run single in the first inning for Texas and hit his 16th homer of the season leading off the eighth against Koji Uehara. He joined teammates Adrian Beltre and Ian Desmond with three hits in the game.

NOTES: Rangers 1B Mitch Moreland missed his second straight start with right calf soreness. Banister said he hopes to have Moreland, who was announced as a pinch hitter but then pulled after a pitching change, back for Wednesday night's series finale. Moreland is just 5-for-27 in his last 10 games and batting .211 in his last 15. ... Farrell said RHP Sean O'Sullivan will start again Friday night after Sunday's solid start — with floundering RHP Clay Buchholz going back to the bullpen, his second such demotion this season. ... Red Sox LHP David Price, shelled in a recent outing at Texas and 0-1 with 10 runs and 21 hits allowed in 8 2/3 innings over his last two starts, faces A.J. Griffin in the second game of the series on Tuesday night.

Fort Kent driver finishes second in Saturday race

BY LARRY MAHONEY
BDN STAFF

Fort Kent's Austin Theriault posted his best finish of the season in the K and N Pro Series East auto racing circuit on Saturday night as he wound up second behind Justin Haley in the NAPA 150 at the Columbus Motor Speedway in Ohio.

The 22-year-old Theriault, who is in his first season in the series, qualified third.

It was his third top-five finish over the last four races, and he solidified his hold on fifth place in the points standings and moved closer to fourth place Spencer Davis.

Theriault has 278 points through eight races, 17 behind Davis and 56 behind points leader Haley, and he has four top-fives and five top-10 finishes in his Hattori Racing Enterprises Toyota.

There are six races remaining with the next one being the United Site Services 70 at New Hampshire Motor Speedway in Loudon on July 16.

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