



PRESSEMITTEILUNG

Kristoff wins turbulent 2nd stage of the Deutschland Tour in Göttingen

Alexander Kristoff (UAE Team Emirates) has won an eventful 2nd stage of the Deutschland Tour from Marburg to Göttingen. On the hilly stage over 202 kilometers the Norwegian won the final sprint of a decimated peloton ahead of Sonny Colbrelli (Bahrain-Merida) and Yves Lampaert (Deceuninck-Quick Step). With his victory Kristoff took over the red jersey of the overall leader from Pascal Ackermann (Bora-hansgrohe).

"I had already lost contact during the stage, but I came back and felt better and better in the final. In the finish sprint, I was just boxed in, but I was able to find a gap and pass Colbrelli. Yesterday I felt good, but of course the victory is better," said Kristoff at the finish. The day before he had just missed the stage win as the runner-up behind Ackermann.

Ackermann, on the other hand, lost the connection during the stage and reached the finish line clearly behind. "We tried everything, but we didn't have a chance against the climbers. The beginning was extremely fast, but we had to go with them, and in the end that was just a bit too much," said Ackermann.

The dominant rider of the stage was Remco Evenepoel (Deceuninck-Quick Step), who led as a soloist for over 100 kilometers. "The day was not easy; the track was very demanding. I was also thinking about winning, but on the last climb they caught me too early, so I couldn't ride with them anymore. But in the end, it was a good training day," said the 19-year-old Belgian.

After the start in Marburg a fast start on slightly undulating terrain led to a 25-man group after about 25 kilometers. The group included Vincenzo Nibali (Bahrain-Merida), Julian Alaphilippe (Deceuninck-Quick Step), Simon Geschke (CCC) as well as Emanuel Buchmann and the overall leader Ackermann of Bora-hansgrohe, but after 80 kilometers the group got caught. In between, the Italian Davide Villella (Astana) won the first mountain classification to Burg Waldeck and took the lead in this classification. The first two racing hours were completed with an average of 46 km/h.

Afterwards Evenepoel dominated the stage: He got away as a soloist after 94 kilometers and quickly gained a lead of more than three minutes. At first Bora-hansgrohe organized the chase, but at high speed the main peloton was later divided into two groups - Alaphilippe and Ackermann also lost contact.

Evenepoel won the second mountain classification on the Herzberger Landstraße as well as the two sprint classifications in Rosdorf and at the first crossing of the finish line in Göttingen. But on the second crossing of the final hill the field caught the Belgian. On the last eight kilometers the U23 World Champion Marc Hirschi (Team Sunweb) and Alexey Lutsenko (Astana) went on the attack - but without success. The decision was made in the sprint of the smaller field.



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The Deutschland Tour will be continued tomorrow with the 3rd stage over 189 kilometers from Göttingen to Eisenach.