



Media Release
Saturday, 12 October 2013

Flying Frenchman Bouhanni blasts to stage win in Beijing

Nacer Bouhanni (FDJ) has blasted to victory on stage two of the 2013 Tour of Beijing.

The flying Frenchman was too fast for **Roberto Ferrari** (Lampre-Merida) and **Mitch Docker** (Orica GreenEdge) in the sprint in Yanqing.

The win on Saturday gives the 23-year-old both his 10th victory of the season and the overall lead in the final UCI WorldTour event of the year. Stage one winner **Thor Hushovd** (BMC) finished safely in the bunch in 27th place behind Bouhanni, with the pair on equal time on general classification.

“It was difficult but I had a good team around me to help me get back after each climb and **Dominque Rollin** was very helpful in the final,” said Bouhanni, who does not expect to hold on to the overall with more climbing on the agenda tomorrow.

“The victory at Paris-Nice was certainly a big victory, I got the yellow jersey but this one is a good victory,” he continued. “Any victory is good to take.”

The longest stage of the Tour, it was an aggressive start to the 201.5km day in Huairou Studio City, with plenty of attacks animating the opening 500 metres of racing once the flag dropped.

Former third overall in the Giro d’Italia, **Thomas De Gendt** (Vacansoleil-DCM) was the first man in clear air off the front, and was soon joined by **Massimo Graziato** (Lampre-Merida), **Chad Beyer** (Champion System), **Olivier Kaisen** (Lotto Belisol) and **Maxime Bouet** (AG2R-La Mondiale).

With no chase from the peloton, the quintet was free to set the benchmarks for the stage, the bunch seemingly content to let the group ride until the lumpy terrain evened out with just under 50km remaining.

In the shadows of The Great Wall of China, which punctuated the early kilometres of racing with its majesty along the granite peaks on Beijing’s outskirts, the peloton

allowed the escape group to build a lead of just under five minutes with two KOMs in the first 30km.

De Gendt's climbing prowess, so disappointingly missing this season, was on show on Saturday, with the Belgian pushed all the way by the American Beyer. De Gendt took maximum points on the first two climbs. With Vacansoleil-DCM closing operations following the Tour of Beijing, the Dutch team is on a mission this week. On yesterday's opening stage, it was **Willem Wauters** in the break, today it was De Gent's turn.

"It's been a tough year for us and now it's our last stage race so we want to give it our best and hopefully we can still win a stage or keep a jersey," he explained at the finish.

"From the beginning I knew it was very hard to beat the sprinter's team so my main objective was to get the mountains jersey."

De Gendt and Beyer worked well together, the pair coming to an arrangement on the road whereby the latter was allowed to take an extra second when it came to the third and final sprint of the day.

"He asked me if he could have the one second at the intermediate sprint and I said no problems, he gave me the points on the last climb so we still like each other," De Gendt explained with a smile.

With the gap down to 2:30 following the last climb of the day, and the pressure from the BMC-led peloton slowly building, cracks began to appear in the breakaway with the KOM jersey safely in De Gendt's hands. Kaisen and Bouet opening a gap of just over a minute on their companions. Graziato was dropped altogether, with several members of the team struggling in the cars, and day one escapee **Davide Vigano** forced to abandon.

The break's day was finally brought to an end with 191kms of racing complete, leaving the sprinter's teams to fight it out for the victory. Argos-Shimano led the charge for the line with two kilometres to go, while Omega Pharma – Quick-Step had set up camp on the other side of the road. While the two European-based squads looked at each other, it was the Australian champion, **Luke Durbridge** who shot through the centre of the bunch for Orica GreenEdge to begin their lead-out. **Cameron Meyer** was then on his own with no teammate able to follow his wheel, FDJ hit the front with Ferrari unable to come around the wheel of Bouhanni.

Stage Three – Yanqing – Qianjiadian Chio Yang Temple

The 2013 Tour of Beijing continues Sunday with the 176km third stage the first true test of the event with the Si Hai climb, the first of three Cat. 1's in the race and one of seven climbs tomorrow, set to put some real pressure on the overall contenders. At 7.4km in length and 5.1% gradient, it's not super-long but the first significant time gaps should appear. The race will also pass through The Great Wall at the start of the Si Hai climb.

RESULTS

For full results, including all classifications, [click here](#).

Stage 2: 201.5km – Huairou Studio City to Yanqing

Pos	Nom Prénom	Team	Nat	Split
1.	<u>BOUHANNI Nacer</u>	FDJ	FRA	04:59:49
2.	FERRARI Roberto	LAM	ITA	00:00:00
3.	DOCKER Mitchell	OGE	AUS	
4.	BRESCHERL Matti	TST	DEN	
5.	PETACCHI Alessandro	OPQ	ITA	
6.	<u>MARKUS Barry</u>	VCD	NED	
7.	VANGENECHTEN Jonas	LTB	BEL	
8.	VON HOFF Steele	GRS	AUS	
9.	MEZGEC Luka	ARG	SLO	
10.	<u>VIVIANI Elia</u>	CAN	ITA	

General Classification

Pos	Nom Prénom	Team	Nat	Time	Split
1.	<u>BOUHANNI Nacer</u>	FDJ	FRA	9h20'13"	00"
2.	HUSHOVD Thor	BMC	NOR	9h20'13"	00"
3.	BOUET Maxime	ALM	FRA	9h20'14"	01"
4.	<u>WAUTERS Willem</u>	VCD	BEL	9h20'16"	03"
5.	MEZGEC Luka	ARG	SLO	9h20'17"	04"
6.	<u>FERRARI Roberto</u>	LAM	ITA	9h20'17"	04"
7.	BEYER Chad	CSS	USA	9h20'18"	05"
8.	MAES Nikolas	OPQ	BEL	9h20'19"	06"
9.	DOCKER Mitchell	OGE	AUS	9h20'19"	06"
10.	KAISEN Olivier	LTB	BEL	9h20'20"	07"

Points Classification

Pos	Nom Prénom	Eq.	Nat	Points
1.	<u>BOUHANNI Nacer</u>	FDJ	FRA	23pts
2.	PETACCHI Alessandro	OPQ	ITA	23pts
3.	MEZGEC Luka	ARG	SLO	21pts
4.	FERRARI Roberto	LAM	ITA	20pts
5.	VANGENECHTEN Jonas	LTB	BEL	16pts

Mountain Classification

Pos	Nom Prénom	Eq.	Nat	Points
1.	DE GENDT Thomas	VCD	BEL	25pts
2.	BEYER Chad	CSS	USA	17pts
3.	KAISEN Olivier	LTB	BEL	16pts
4.	BOUET Maxime	ALM	FRA	9pts

Young Rider Classification

Pos	Nom Prénom	Eq.	Nat	Time	Split
1.	BOUHANNI Nacer	FDJ	FRA	9h20'13"	00"
2.	WAUTERS Willem	VCD	BEL	9h20'16"	03"
3.	MEZGEC Luka	ARG	SLO	9h20'17"	04"
4.	SELIG Rüdiger	KAT	GER	9h20'23	10"
5.	MATTHEWS Michael	OGE	AUS	9h20'23	10"

2013 Tour of Beijing Stages:

Stage One – Friday, 11th October
190.5km – Shunyi to Huairou Studio City

Stage Two – Saturday 12th October
201.5km – Huairou Studio City to Yanqing

Stage Three – Sunday 13th October
176km – Yanqing to Qiandajian

Stage Four – Monday, 14th October
150.5km – Yanqing to Mentougou Miafeng Mountain

Stage Five – Tuesday, 15th October
117km – Tian an men Square to Bird's Nest Piazza



