

Adi scores game-winning goal in finale with Timbers

The Associated Press

Fanendo Adi tapped in a short-range goal during the 80th minute of his final match for Portland, and the Timbers extended their MLS unbeaten streak to 14 matches by beating the Houston Dynamo 2-1 on Saturday night in Portland.

Adi, coming off the bench earlier in the second half, finished a close-in shot that had rebounded off two teammates.

Adi, with the Timbers since 2014, is second on Portland's career list with 54 goals. The Timbers confirmed after the match this was Adi's final game with Portland, but didn't disclose details of a trade.

"It's been amazing five years. I came as a young boy, but now I'm a grown man. There comes a time in life where you move on, but the Portland Timbers are always going to be a family to me," Adi said.

Adi, who hadn't suited up the previous two games, entered the match in the 75th minute.

"I told my wife before the game, Adi is going to come in and score, and it's going to be a perfect day. You can sense it. You can feel it. He was ready. In the right moment he came in and gave us the victory," Portland coach Giovanni Savarese said.

Sebastian Blanco scored a first-half goal for Portland (9-3-7). The Timbers moved into third place in the West with 34 points.

Portland won for the ninth time during its unbeaten streak. The Timbers haven't lost since April 8, when they dropped a 3-2 decision to Orlando City.

Romell Quioto provided the lone goal for Houston (7-8-6). The Dynamo have won just once in 10 road games this season.

The Timbers outshot Houston 19-5.

"We tried to hold on, but we didn't keep the ball and when you don't keep the ball and you don't stop the players — and they have very talented players — they punished us," Houston coach Wilmer Cabrera said.

Tied at 1-1, Portland set up the game winner when Blanco fired a pass into the middle. The ball was first shot by Andy Polo, then again off a rebound by Diego Valeri. Adi was in position for the second rebound, finishing a 5-yard shot to put the Timbers in front.

"I tried not to cry, but today the tears were almost falling down," Adi said.

Portland controlled the second half, outshooting Houston 10-2.

"I thought in the second half we pushed forward. We had more numbers in good areas to make sure we pushed them back," Savarese said.

The Timbers took a 1-0 lead during the seventh minute on Blanco's goal. Alvas Powell set up Blanco with a long cross, and the Portland midfielder finished with a 10-yard left-footed blast to the far post.

Houston countered five minutes later when Portland's defense broke down. Alberth Ellis stole a ball just outside the box, and quickly crossed the ball. Timbers goalie Jeff Attinella appeared to have the ball stopped, but hesitated, and Quioto capitalized with an easy tap-in.

Midfielder Diego Chara returned to action for Portland after missing a game due to yellow card accumulation, but the Timbers were without forward Samuel Armenteros (back). Armenteros, tied for Timbers' lead in goals with seven, has scored four goals in his past four games.

Thomas claims Tour title

By Andrew Dampf and Ciaran Fahey
The Associated Press

The spits and the jeers. The eggs thrown at team cars. The attempts to unbalance riders while riding up the most grueling climbs.

Geraint Thomas never flinched at whatever fans — or his rivals — threw at him or Team Sky.

The Welsh rider was the steadiest rider from the start, the strongest in the Alps and the Pyrenees. On Sunday he concluded his transformation from a support rider into a champion of cycling's biggest race by claiming his first Tour de France title.

"With the boys, that's the main thing for the whole three weeks, we stuck together through some tough times, stayed strong," Thomas said. "Everything just clicked this race."

Thomas successfully defended his lead of 1 minute, 51 seconds over second-placed Tom Dumoulin in the mostly ceremonial final stage.

Four-time champion Chris Froome, Thomas's teammate, finished third, 2:24 behind. Froome rode next to Thomas as they crossed the line and applauded.

Thomas was a support rider during Froome's four victories but he emerged as Sky's strongest rider in this race when Froome crashed

early on and couldn't keep up in the mountains.

Sky — and consequently Thomas — became a target for many fans due to an asthma drug case involving Froome, stemming from last year's Spanish Vuelta. Even though Froome was cleared of doping days before the start of the Tour, that didn't stop some fans from abusing the British team's riders throughout the three-week race.

"When there is negativity like that, it brings us as a team closer together," Froome said. "It feels like it's us against the rest of the world. ... You can choose to let it get to you or you can choose to let it motivate you, and we let it motivate us."

Thomas stormed into the lead by winning back-to-back mountain stages in the Alps, including the iconic climb up Alpe d'Huez, then defended his advantage in the Pyrenees.

During the podium ceremony, Thomas draped the flag of Wales over his shoulders, then ended his victory speech with a mic drop.

"All I can say is that I do it the right way," Thomas said when asked about concerns of alleged doping within Sky. "We train super hard and there's nothing I can say that will prove it. I've just got to keep doing what I'm doing. It will stand the test of time."

An all-around rider who began his career on the track, the 32-year-old Thomas helped Britain to gold medals in team pursuit at the 2008 and 2012 Olympics before turning his full attention to road racing.

"I have my own goals and I kept doing what I'm doing and kept focused on that. ... Obviously it's not nice to hear (the jeers) but I do what I do and focus on myself," Thomas said. "It's easy to get wrapped up in or get angry or depressed but I stay in my own world."

Riding a yellow bicycle to match his yellow jersey, Thomas shared glasses of champagne with his teammates during the casual ride into Paris before buckling down to keep up with the other leaders on the jarring cobblestones of the Champs-Elysees.

"It's going to take a while to sink in," Thomas said. "Normally that stage is really hard but today I just seemed to float around it. I had goose bumps going around there. The support from the Welsh, British flags. ... To ride around wearing this (yellow jersey) is a dream."

Norwegian rider Alexander Kristoff with UAE Team Emirates won the last stage in a sprint finish, narrowly beating John Degenkolb and Arnaud Demare.

RODEO

Continued from Page 7A
seconds on two head, earning \$2,979 each. The second-place team was Aaron Tsinigine, of Tuba City, Arizona, and Trey Yates, of Pueblo, Colorado, finishing in 12.3 seconds. Lane Karney and Monty Joe Petska, of Turlock, California, were third in 13.1 seconds. Fourth-place finishers Dan Williams Jr., of Standish, California, and Brushton Minton, of Witter Springs, California, finished in 13.6 seconds. Fifth were Jeff Flenniken, of Caldwell, Idaho, and Jake Minor, of Ellensburg, Washington, in 14.0 seconds, and sixth was the team of Kolton Schmidt of Barrhead, of Alberta, Canada, and Cole Davison, of College Station, Texas, finishing in 14.4.

Ty Harris, of San Angelo, Texas, held a decided lead in tie-down roping, finishing in 18.8 seconds on two head and earning \$1,566. Jordan Ketscher, of Reedley, California, was second in the average with 21.3 seconds. Jake Pratt of, Ellensburg, Washington, was third in 21.8 seconds, followed by Caleb McMillan, of Soap Lake, Washington, in 22.1 for fourth place. Blair Burk, of Duncan, Oklahoma, took fifth in 22.6 seconds, and Cooper Mills, from St. John, Washington, was sixth in 25.3 seconds.

Fred Brown, of Colbert, Washington, won the average in steer roping with 49.7 seconds on three head, earning \$1,529. Hudson Wallace, of Huntsville, Texas, was second with a combined time of 65.4 seconds. Chad Mathis, of Kearney, Missouri, came in third with 67.5 seconds, and J. Tom Fisher, of Andrews, Texas, was fourth with a combined time of 24.5 seconds on two head.

The all-around cowboy award of \$2,382 went to Caleb McMillan, who competed in bull riding, tie-down roping, steer wrestling and steer roping.

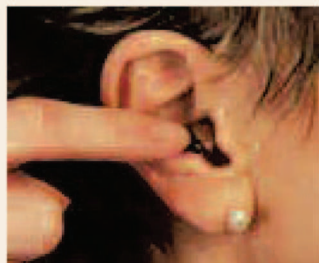
The Harley Tucker Award went to Roger Nonella, of Klamath Falls. This award is given to the top point earner of four rodeos: Eastern Oregon Livestock Show, St. Paul, Elgin Stampede and Chief Joseph Days.

Total payoff for the 2018 Chief Joseph Days Rodeo was \$122,192.

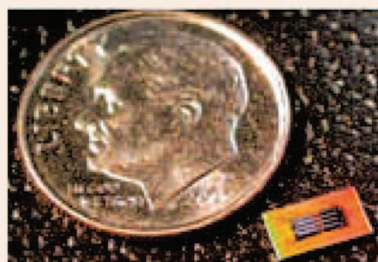
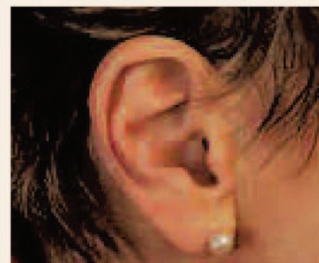
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