

Tour de France

Wayward beach umbrella a threat on calm Tour day

By **ANDREW DAMPF & JOHN LEICESTER**
Associated Press

TROYES, France — On long, mostly flat sultry stages like Thursday's, all Chris Froome and the other leaders in the Tour de France want to do is take it easy.

Let the sprinters have their day in the sun and prepare for the next mountain stages this weekend.

Until a beach umbrella floats across the pack.

That was the only incident of note amid hours-long stretches of uneventful cycling during Stage 6, which was won with ease by German sprinter Marcel Kittel.

"There was a bit of wind and the parasol took off and ended up in the road," said Froome, who had to veer out of the way. "That's the Tour."

Otherwise, Froome said, he spent the day chatting with other riders and admiring the views as the peloton rode into champagne country and through Colombey-les-Deux-Eglises, the hometown of France's wartime hero and former president, Gen. Charles de Gaulle.

"That's the most relaxing day in the Tour I've ever



AP Photo/Peter Dejong

The pack is pictured through the wheels of the spare bicycles on the roof of the team cars during the sixth stage of the Tour de France cycling race over 216 kilometers (134 miles) with start in Vesoul and finish in Troyes, France, Thursday, July 6, 2017.

had," Froome said after five hours in the saddle. "I actually quite enjoy these long days."

At the conclusion of the mostly flat 216-kilometer (134-mile) leg from Vesoul to Troyes — the race's second-longest stage — Kittel had little trouble in the sprint finish, with Peter Sagan and Mark Cavendish both no longer in the race.

As the other contenders

bunched together on the right side of the road, Kittel burst forward around them on the left and easily created a comfortable gap allowing him to celebrate as he crossed the line.

It was Kittel's second victory in this year's race and 11th overall in his Tour career.

"I was really confident in my team," Kittel said. "I was also really confident in

myself today. There was just a moment when I broke free and started to go ahead."

Stage 4 winner Arnaud Demare finished second and Andre Greipel was third.

Sagan, the world champion, was disqualified for elbowing Cavendish to the ground two days ago. The fall resulted in Cavendish, who has 30 Tour wins, abandoning the race with a broken shoulder.

Kittel said the absence of Cavendish and Sagan has altered the racing in that their teams are no longer battling out the sprint finishes.

He was repeatedly asked after his win about their absence.

"It's a bit sad that it's all about this decision," he said. "The level that we have here for the sprints is still very, very high."

A three-man breakaway

rode out front for most of the stage. Perrig Quemeneur, Frederik Backaert and Vegard Stake Laengen were caught by the peloton with 3 kilometers to go.

Froome remained 12 seconds ahead of Sky teammate Geraint Thomas and 14 seconds ahead of Fabio Aru of Italy.

Richie Porte in fifth place overall and other riders eyeing victory in Paris on July 23 were simply pleased to get the long, hot stage over without incident.

"It was such a long day. Probably, you know, could have had the same result with half the distance but it's a nice one to get done," Porte said.

On such days, Porte said, "there's nothing to gain but there's so much to lose. ... It was quite a frantic finish."

The Tour remains in Troyes for the start of Stage 7 on Friday, a 213.5-kilometer (133-mile) leg that again sets up well for sprinters with a finish in the Burgundy wine town of Nuits-Saint-Georges.

Friday is "another long day and I think the aim of that is just to sap the energy a bit," Porte said. "They sure are long days."

Golf

Love shoots 63, trails Munoz by two strokes at Greenbrier Classic



Rick Barbero/The Register-Herald via AP

Davis Love III chips in for birdie on the 17th hole during the first round of the Greenbrier Classic golf tournament, Thursday in White Sulphur Springs, W.Va.

Associated Press

WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, W.Va. — Davis Love III can still get some solid work done in a PGA Tour event.

Heading into the World Golf Hall of Fame in September, the 53-year-old Love shot a 7-under 63 on Thursday in the Greenbrier Classic, leaving him two strokes behind first-round leader Sebastian Munoz.

Love is looking for his first win since the 2015 Wyndham Championship, which made him the third-oldest winner in PGA Tour history. He would be the oldest if he wins in West Virginia.

Slowed this year by a bad back and a broken collarbone sustained in a January snowboarding accident in Sun Valley, Idaho, Love took advantage of a course softened by overnight rain for his best round of the season. He birdied four of his first five holes in the morning round on Old White, the course that was reconstructed after

deadly floods forced the cancellation of last year's tournament.

His son, Davis Love IV, also is in the field, receiving a sponsor exemption. It's the second time they are playing the same tournament; the other was the RSM Classic two years ago. The elder Love served as his son's caddie in the U.S. Open last month.

"I've been working real hard the last couple of weeks on trying to fix my swing to kind of swing around a stiff back and a stiff hip," the elder Love said. "I've given up on hitting it a long way. I'm just saying I've got to hit it straight, and this is the perfect golf course for me to get it in the fairway. A lot of hard work is kind of starting to pay off."

Munoz, a 24-year-old Colombian, was boosted by five birdies on the back nine for a 61.

Defending champion Danny Lee was at 64 along with David Lingmerth, Ben Martin, rookie Xander Schauffele, and Canadians

Graham DeLaet and Nick Taylor.

Players were allowed to lift and clean their golf balls in the fairway because of the wet conditions. It took a full year after the June 2016 floods that killed 23 statewide to get Old White back to playing conditions.

"To get anything back in order out there would've been an incredible feat," Love said. "But what they did with the renovation, to take really, really good golf course with a lot of history and make it even better, the redesign is incredible. The players are just raving about it."

Munoz is looking for his first top 10. His best finish is a tie for 27th at the Texas Open.

The PGA Tour rookie was 6 under through 10 holes. He missed a short birdie putt on the par-5 12th and bogeyed the par-4 13th after his approach shot found the greenside rough. He then took charge with birdies on the next four holes.

Phil Mickelson shot 67 in his first tournament since

parting ways with his caddie of 25 years, Jim "Bones" Mackay. Mickelson's brother, Tim Mickelson, is his caddie for the rest of the year.

"I think any time you have a change of environment it brings about a new energy," Phil Mickelson said. "But more than that, Tim is one my favorite people to be around. We really had a lot of fun together today."

Mickelson missed the cut in his three other Greenbrier Classic appearances and he hit some erratic shots Thursday, including striking a fan in the head on his approach to the par-4 11th.

Lingmerth is looking to atone for a collapse last week in the Quicken Loans Invitational. The Swede led after each of the first three rounds but shot 3 over in each round on the weekend to tie for fifth, along with Martin.

"I'm not going to dwell on it too much," Lingmerth said. "A nice little start today. I didn't really have my best stuff. I never really got into trouble. I gave myself a couple of opportunities."

SCOREBOARD

Baseball

AMERICAN LEAGUE				
East Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Boston	49	37	.570	—
New York	44	39	.530	3½
Tampa Bay	45	42	.517	4½
Baltimore	40	45	.471	8½
Toronto	40	45	.471	8½
Central Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Cleveland	45	39	.536	—
Kansas City	44	40	.524	1
Minnesota	44	41	.517	1½
Detroit	38	46	.452	7
Chicago	37	47	.440	8
West Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Houston	58	28	.674	—
Los Angeles	44	45	.494	15½
Texas	41	44	.482	16½
Seattle	41	46	.471	17½
Oakland	38	48	.442	20

Thursday's Games

Detroit 6, San Francisco 2
Toronto 7, Houston 4
Cleveland 11, San Diego 2
Tampa Bay 4, Boston 1
Minnesota 6, Baltimore 4
Oakland 7, Seattle 4

Friday's Games

Milwaukee (Guerra 1-3) at N.Y. Yankees (Montgomery 6-4), 4:05 p.m.
Houston (Morton 5-3) at Toronto (Sanchez 0-1), 4:07 p.m.
Boston (Pomeranz 8-4) at Tampa Bay (Dorizzi 5-3), 4:10 p.m.
Detroit (Zimmermann 5-6) at Cleveland (Carrasco 9-3), 4:10 p.m.
L.A. Angels (Nolasco 4-9) at Texas (Hamels 3-0), 5:05 p.m.
Baltimore (Gausman 5-7) at Minnesota (Jorge 1-0), 5:10 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Holland 5-8) at Colorado (Marquez 5-4), 5:40 p.m.
Kansas City (Hammel 4-7) at L.A. Dodgers (Maeda 6-4), 7:10 p.m.
Oakland (Manaea 7-4) at Seattle (Paxton 6-3), 7:10 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Washington	50	35	.588	—
Atlanta	41	43	.488	8½
New York	38	45	.458	11
Oakland	48	45	.452	11½
Philadelphia	28	56	.333	21½
Central Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Milwaukee	48	40	.545	—
Chicago	42	43	.494	4½
St. Louis	41	44	.482	5½
Pittsburgh	40	46	.465	7
Cincinnati	37	48	.435	9
West Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Los Angeles	58	29	.667	—
Arizona	52	34	.605	5
Colorado	50	38	.568	8
San Diego	36	49	.424	21
San Francisco	34	53	.391	24

Thursday's Games

Detroit 6, San Francisco 2
St. Louis 4, Miami 3
Milwaukee 11, Chicago Cubs 2
Cincinnati 6, Colorado 3
Pittsburgh 6, Philadelphia 3
Cleveland 11, San Diego 2
Atlanta 5, Washington 2
L.A. Dodgers 5, Arizona 4
Friday's Games
Pittsburgh (Williams 3-3) at Chicago Cubs

(Butler 4-3), 11:20 a.m.
San Diego (Richard 5-8) at Philadelphia (Pivetta 2-4), 3:35 p.m.
Atlanta (Dickey 6-5) at Washington (Scherzer 10-5), 4:05 p.m.
Milwaukee (Guerra 1-3) at N.Y. Yankees (Montgomery 6-4), 4:05 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (deGrom 8-3) at St. Louis (Martinez 6-7), 5:15 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Holland 5-8) at Colorado (Marquez 5-4), 5:40 p.m.
Cincinnati (Adriaman 5-5) at Arizona (Greinke 10-4), 6:40 p.m.
Kansas City (Hammel 4-7) at L.A. Dodgers (Maeda 6-4), 7:10 p.m.
Miami (Straily 6-4) at San Francisco (Moore 3-8), 7:15 p.m.

MLB

Northwest League				
North Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Vancouver (Blue Jays)	15	7	.682	—
Tri-City (Padres)	13	9	.591	2
Everett (Mariners)	9	12	.428	5½
Spokane (Rangers)	8	14	.364	7
South Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Hillsboro (D-backs)	12	10	.545	—
Eugene (Cubs)	11	11	.500	1
Boise (Rockies)	11	11	.500	1
Salem-Keizer (Giants)	8	13	.381	3½

Thursday's Games

Vancouver 4, Boise 1
Spokane 2, Hillsboro 1
Salem-Keizer at Everett, late finish
Tri-City 4, Eugene 3
Friday's Games
Vancouver at Boise, 6:15 p.m.
Hillsboro at Spokane, 6:30 p.m.
Salem-Keizer at Everett, 7:05 p.m.
Tri-City at Eugene, 7:05 p.m.

Soccer

EASTERN CONFERENCE						
W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA	
Toronto FC	11	3	5	38	34	19
Chicago	11	3	5	38	37	19
NYC FC	10	6	3	33	36	24
Atl. United FC9	7	3	30	39	27	
Orlando City	8	7	5	29	22	29
Columbus	9	10	1	28	30	32
New York	8	8	2	26	20	25
Philadelphia	6	7	5	23	26	22
Montreal	5	6	21	27	29	
Los Angeles	6	8	4	22	28	32
Real Salt Lake	12	2	20	23	40	
Colorado	6	11	1	19	19	27
Minn. United	5	11	3	18	25	42

Thursday's Games

Philadelphia 2, Sporting K.C. 2
July 7-July 18
No games scheduled

Basketball

WNBA EASTERN CONFERENCE				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Washington	11	7	.611	—

Connecticut 9 7 5.63 1
New York 7 7 5.00 2
Indiana 7 8 4.67 2½
Atlanta 6 8 4.29 3
Chicago 3 12 2.00 6½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

W	L	Pct	GB	
Minnesota	13	1	.929	—
Los Angeles	12	4	.750	2
Phoenix	8	6	.571	5
Dallas	9	9	.500	6
Seattle	7	9	.437	7
San Antonio	11	15	.423	13

Thursday's Games

Minnesota 88, Los Angeles 77
New York 79, Seattle 70
Friday's Games
Indiana at Atlanta, 4:30 p.m.
Phoenix at San Antonio, 5 p.m.

Tennis

Wednesday
At The All England Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club
London

Second Round — How Seeds Fared

Men
Novak Djokovic (2), Serbia, def. Adam Pavlasek, Czech Republic, 6-2, 6-2, 6-1.
Roger Federer (3), Switzerland, def. Dusan Lajovic, Serbia, 7-6 (0), 6-3, 6-2.
Milos Raonic (6), Canada, def. Mikhail Youzhny, Russia, 3-6, 7-6 (7), 6-4, 7-5.
Dominic Thiem (8), Austria, def. Gilles Simon, France, 5-7, 6-4, 6-2, 6-4.
Alexander Zverev (10), Germany, def. Frances Tiafoe, United States, 6-3, 6-4, 6-3.
Tomas Berdych (11), Czech Republic, def. Ryan Harrison, United States, 6-4, 6-3, 6-7 (8), 6-3.
Grigor Dimitrov (13), Bulgaria, def. Marcos Baghdatis, Cyprus, 6-3, 6-2, 6-1.
Gael Monfils (15), France, def. Kyle Edmund, Britain, 7-6 (1), 6-4, 6-4.
Jack Sock (17), United States, lost to Sebastian Ofner, Austria, 6-3, 6-4, 3-6, 2-6, 6-2.
John Isner (23), United States, lost to Dudi Sela, Israel, 6-7 (5), 7-6 (5), 5-7, 7-6 (5), 6-3.
Albert Ramos-Vinolas (25), Spain, def. Andrey Rublev, Russia, 7-5, 6-7 (6), 4-6, 6-3, 6-4.
Mischa Zverev (27), Germany, def. Mikhail Kukushkin, Kazakhstan, 6-1, 6-2, 2-6, 3-6, 6-4.
Juan Martin del Potro (29), Argentina, lost to Ernests Gulbis, Latvia, 6-4, 6-4, 7-6 (3), 6-4.
Paolo Lorenzi (32), Italy, lost to Jared Donaldson, United States, 6-4, 7-6 (0), 6-7 (0), 6-2.
Women
Angelique Kerber (1), Germany, def. Kirsten Flipkens, Belgium, 7-5, 7-5.
Karolina Pliskova (3), Czech Republic, lost to Magdalena Rybarikova, Slovakia, 3-6, 7-5, 6-2.
Caroline Wozniacki (5), Denmark, def. Tsvetana Pironkova, Bulgaria, 6-3, 6-4.
Svetlana Kuznetsova (7), Russia, def. Ekaterina Makarova, Russia, 6-0, 7-5.
Agnieszka Radwanska (9), Poland, def. Christina McHale, United States, 5-7, 7-6 (7), 6-3.
Kristina Mladenovic (12), France, lost to Alison Riske, United States, 2-6, 6-4, 6-4.
Garbine Muguruza (14), Spain, def. Yanina Wickmayer, Belgium, 6-2, 6-4.
Timea Bacsinszky (19), Switzerland, def. Kristina Kucova, Slovakia, 6-1, 6-0.
CoCo Vandeweghe (24), United States, def. Tatjana Maria, Germany, 6-4, 6-2.
Daria Kasatkina (29), Russia, lost to Anett Kontaveit, Estonia, 6-3, 6-2.

Lucie Safarova (32), Czech Republic, lost to Shelby Rogers, United States, 6-7 (4), 6-4, 6-3.

Cycling

Thursday
At Troyes, France

Sixth Stage

A 134.2-mile mostly flat ride from Vesoul to Troyes
1. Marcel Kittel, Germany, Quick-Step Floors, 5:05:34.
2. Arnaud Demare, France, FDJ, same time.
3. Andre Greipel, Germany, Lotto Soudal, same time.
4. Alexander Kristoff, Norway, Katusha Alpecin, same time.
5. Nacer Bouhanni, France, Cofidis, same time.
6. Dylan Groenewegen, Netherlands, LottoNL-Jumbo, same time.
7. Michael Matthews, Australia, Sunweb, same time.
8. Daniel McLay, Britain, Fortuneo-Oscaro, same time.
9. Rudiger Selig, Germany, Bora-Hansgrohe, same time.
10. John Degenkolb, Germany, Trek-Segafredo, same time.
11. Dion Smith, New Zealand, Wanty-Group Gobert, same time.
12. Adrien Part, France, Direct Energie, same time.
13. Edvald Boasson Hagen, Norway, Dimension Data, same time.
14. Marco Haller, Austria, Katusha Alpecin, same time.
15. Rick Zabel, Germany, Katusha Alpecin, same time.
16. Taylor Phinney, United States, Cannondale Drapac, same time.
17. Michael Schar, Switzerland, BMC Racing, same time.
18. Pieter Vanspeybrouck, Belgium, Wanty-Group Gobert, same time.
19. Jay McCarthy, Australia, Bora-Hansgrohe, same time.
20. Rafal Majka, Poland, Bora-Hansgrohe, same time.
Also
24. Richie Porte, Australia, BMC Racing, same time.
32. Romain Bardet, France, AG2R La Mondiale, same time.
44. Nairo Quintana, Colombia, Movistar, same time.
46. Alberto Contador, Spain, Trek-Segafredo, same time.
47. Andrew Talansky, United States, Cannondale Drapac, same time.
51. Geraint Thomas, Britain, Sky, same time.
56. Chris Froome, Britain, Sky, same time.
135. Nate Brown, United States, Cannondale Drapac, :52 behind.

Overall Standings

(After five stages)
1. Chris Froome, Britain, Sky, 23:44:33.
2. Geraint Thomas, Britain, Sky, :12.
3. Fabio Aru, Italy, Astana, :14.
4. Richie Porte, Ireland, Quick-Step Floors, :25.
5. Richie Porte, Australia, BMC Racing, :39.
6. Simon Yates, Britain, Orica-Sky, :43.
7. Romain Bardet, France, AG2R La Mondiale, :47.
8. Alberto Contador, Spain, Trek-Segafredo, :52.
9. Nairo Quintana, Colombia, Movistar, :54.
10. Rafal Majka, Poland, Bora-Hansgrohe, 1:01.

11. Rigoberto Uran, Colombia, Cannondale Drapac, same time.
12. Pierre-Roger Latour, France, AG2R La Mondiale, 1:07.
13. Louis Meintjes, South Africa, UAE Team Emirates, 1:24.
14. Emanuel Buchmann, Germany, Bora-Hansgrohe, 1:29.
15. Jakob Fuglsang, Denmark, Astana, 1:33.
16. Mikel Landa, Spain, Sky, 1:47.
17. Tim Wellens, Belgium, Lotto Soudal, 1:51.
18. Michal Kwiatkowski, Poland, Sky, 1:56.
19. Andrew Talansky, United States, Cannondale Drapac, 1:57.
20. Serge Pauwels, Belgium, Dimension Data, 2:00.
Also
144. Nate Brown, United States, Cannondale Drapac, 20:50.
155. Taylor Phinney,