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Sports

PORTLAND TIMBERS SOCCER

Adi's late goal lifts Portland to 2-1 victory over Houston

PORTLAND, (AP) — 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.

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.

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

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.

TOUR DE FRANCE

Thomas wins Tour

By Andrew DampfAP Sports Writer

ESPELETTE, France — No longer merely a support rider for Chris Froome, Geraint Thomas is going to Paris in the yellow jersey.

The Welshman with Team Sky effectively sealed his first Tour de France title by protecting his lead in the time trial on the penultimate stage on Saturday.

Thomas took an advantage of 1 minute, 51 seconds over Tom Dumoulin into the mostly ceremonial finish on the Champs-Elysees on Sunday.

"It's just overwhelming," Thomas said. "I didn't think about it all race, and now suddenly I won the Tour."

Dumoulin won the 20th stage by one second ahead of four-time champion Froome, who leapfrogged Primoz Roglic into third place overall.

Thomas finished third in the stage, 14 seconds behind. But that was more than enough with an advantage of more than two minutes at the start of the day.

"The strongest guy has won this Tour de France," Froome said. "Tomorrow, to stand up on the podium with G, it's going to be a really proud moment for me."

Thomas, known as "G," was a support rider during Froome's title rides but he became Sky's undisputed leader when Froome cracked in the grueling 17th stage through the Pyrenees.

Thomas and Froome have been together since their days on the small Barloworld team a decade ago.

"Because we've been teammates and friends for so long, it made it easier to communicate honestly," Froome said. "It was clear as soon as we hit the Alps that Geraint was in better physical condition than me. It was pretty simple, really."

Wearing an all-yellow skin suit on a bike in the red, white and blue colors of the British flag, Thomas was the last rider to start.

In a few drops of rain,
Thomas was quick to regain
control when his wheel
appeared to lock up coming
around a tricky, tight corner
early on. Still, he was first at
the two checkpoints before
slowing in the final kilome-

ters.
"I felt strong. I felt really good, actually. I heard I was up and maybe I was pushing it a bit hard on some of those corners," Thomas said. "Nico (Portal, Sky sports director) told me to relax, take it easy and just make sure I won the Tour. And that's what I did."

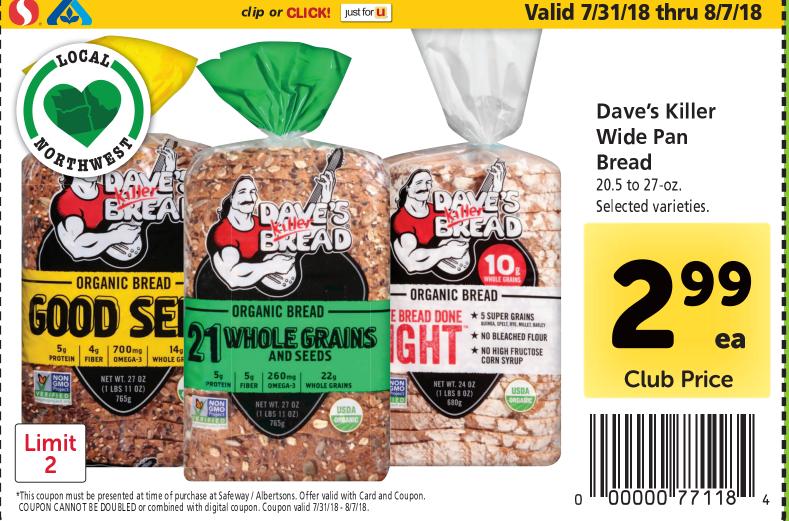
At the finish, Thomas let out a loud scream and held his arms out wide in celebration. He embraced his wife, Sara Elen, as soon as he got off his bike.



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