

# COLNAGO WEEKLY

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## CONTI GETS JUST REWARD AS ITALIAN PICKS UP THE PINK JERSEY

UAE Team Emirates triumph as Pogačar crowned youngest even winner at Tour of California

Team Novo Nordisk Scores Historic Top 10 at Tour of California Closer

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TEAM

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## Conti gets just reward as Italian picks up the Pink Jersey

UAE Team Emirates' Valerio Conti put in an historic performance on Stage six of the Giro d'Italia as he claimed a second placed finish – a result that rockets the Italian to the top of the General Classification (GC) standings and into the pink jersey.

Conti was part of the 12-man breakaway who made their move early on the 238km route from Cassino to San Giovanni Rotondo, and the youngster helped dictate the pace for much of the day, with the breakaway having a solid lead on the peloton for the majority of the race. As the leading group approached the final climb, riders were looking on in anticipation of who would make the first attempt to pull away; and it came in the form of Fausto Masnada (Androni Giocattoli – Sidermec), but he was quickly caught by UAE Team Emirates' Conti. The pair were in magnificent form and gained 35 seconds on the chasing group and over 7 minutes on the peloton with less than 20km to go. Conti covered the climb with his Italian compatriot, showing great stamina and mental strength on what was an extremely long day at the saddle. The duo battled on and gained an even larger time advantage on the peloton as they came into the closing kilometre.

The result is also UAE Team Emirates' fourth podium finish in as many days after Fernando Gaviria and Diego Ulissi.

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## UAE Team Emirates triumph as Pogacar crowned youngest even winner at Tour of California

Twenty year old Tadej Pogacar has added his name to the roll of honour at the Tour of California, becoming the youngest ever winner in the races history. The young gun from UAE Team Emirates celebrated his success in the World Tour race after having successfully defended the lead on the 141km final stage from Santa Clarita to Pasadena, having become leader of the race 24 hours before after his win on Mt.Baldy.

In the final general classification standings, Pogacar led by 16 on Sergio Higuita (EF Education First) and 17 on Kasper Asgreen (Deceuninck-Quick-Step). This is the first year competing in the World Tour for Pogacar, who already this season boasts a stage and the general classification at the Volta ao Algarve. The Slovenian can now add a stage win and his success in the overall standing in California.

Pogacar : "Today was amazing, and it has been all week: I'd particularly like to thank all the teammates and the staff. My team worked very hard every day and this yellow jersey is not just for me but for the whole of UAE Team Emirates. The Mt. Baldy stage was the key moment for me at this Tour of California, but this victory took the whole week to build up to. It's the most beautiful victory of my career, and now I'm just going to focus on building and progressing as a rider.



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## Team Novo Nordisk Scores Historic Top 10 at Tour of California Closer

Team Novo Nordisk's Andrea Peron sprinted to eighth place on the final stage of the Amgen Tour of California. The top 10 is the world's first all-diabetes professional cycling team's best result at a World Tour event in its seven-year history.

"When we came into the final laps, my teammates were fantastic. They were really focused and wanted a top result as much as me," explained Peron. "I took the last corner on the wheel of [Peter] Sagan and tried to do my best. It was a big target for the team to do a Top 10 at a World Tour race and I'm happy I could achieve it."

The seven-day race concluded with a shortish 126-kilometer stage that started in Santa Clarita and finished in Pasadena. Despite including only one categorized climb, the peloton still had to overcome plenty of elevation. The hard profile discarded several of the pure sprinters who were hoping to contest the stage win. As the peloton entered the final circuit in Pasadena, the last remaining survivors of the eleven-man breakaway were swiftly caught.

Throughout Saturday's race, Team Novo Nordisk's strategy was to keep Peron protected for the finish. As the race entered the final lap, the team's lead-out delivered and placed the Italian in solid position heading into the sprint.

The 30-year-old Peron expertly navigated a chaotic finish, avoided a late race crash and surged to eighth place. Hungarian Peter Kusztor, who was recently diagnosed with type 1 diabetes, finished in a respectable 18th place on the day and concluded as Team Novo Nordisk's best place rider overall in 38th position.

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