

RACE SUMMARY

HERO MOTOSPORTS REGISTERS A STAGE WIN AT ABU DHABI DESERT CHALLENGE

ROSS BRANCH MAKES A TERRIFIC COMEBACK TO BAG THE STAGE

Hero MotoSports Team Rally, the motorsport team of the world's largest manufacturer of motorcycles and scooters - Hero MotoCorp, emerged winners of the second stage of the Abu Dhabi Desert Challenge 2022. Ross Branch, who crashed and could not finish Stage 1, delivered an

outstanding performance to win Stage 2 of the rally. His fellow riders

Franco Caimi and Joaquim Rodrigues too delivered good results,

finishing the stage in the fifth and seventh positions respectively. The newest member of the team – Ross, is still familiarizing himself with the Hero 450 Rally bike. Even though the crash on the previous day made him quite weak physically, his undeterred passion and commitment to the sport was visibly on record throughout Stage 2. His terrific comeback is a

Franco and JRod faced severe weariness throughout the stage, but their strong resolve to push to the finish puts them at the eighth and ninth positions in the overall Rally GP class rankings.

strong boost to the morale and overall confidence of the team.

The second stage of the rally, and also the longest special of this edition, proved to be the toughest challenge for the riders so far. Riding over 316kms of special sections and another 137kms in transit, the riders found the bright sun and the extreme heat of the terrain exceptionally exhausting.



COMING UP

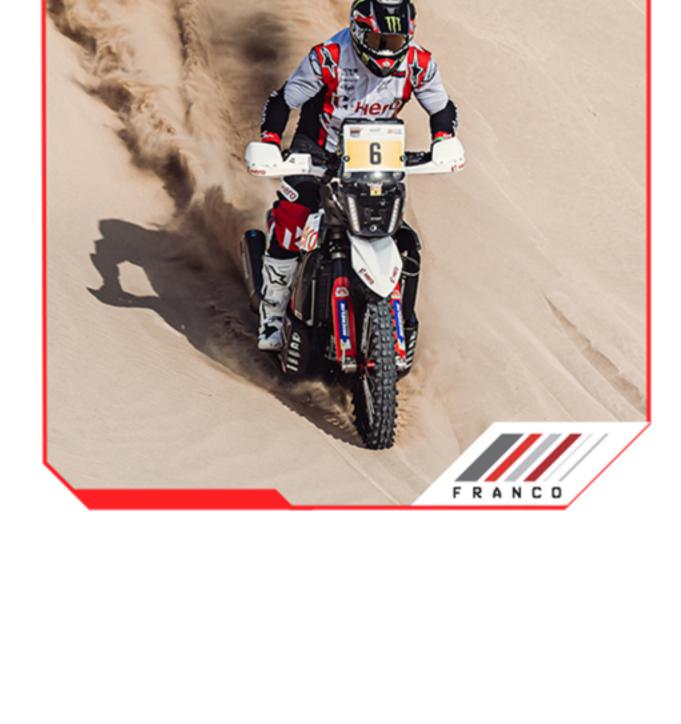
Stage 3 will take the riders on a 255km loop in the desert around Qasr-Al-Sarab. It will also be the second day of the marathon stage, which the riders will complete without any assistance from the team.

ROSS BRANCH

"Today was really hard – I started the morning with a lot of pain from the crash yesterday, and by the time I reached refuel, I didn't really feel like going on! However, I was learning a lot about the bike today - about braking, hard reacts to the dunes, shifting gears through the dunes, jumping off dunes in the most comfortable manner – and that was fun. A better understanding of my new bike brought back a lot of confidence to



result for some time, and I'm happy we're here with a win!"



"I'm extremely happy to be here at the end of stage 2. The goal is always to get into a good rhythm and get to

FRANCO CAIMI

the finish line, and we accomplished that well today. I'm so proud of the amazing job that the team has been doing to keep us running. The stages in the desert are demanding, and I have to put a lot of energy to finish each stage safe. The result today is very encouraging, and I will focus on recovering to continue the fight tomorrow."

"It was a really difficult stage for me today – it was very fast, and the sun was too bright, we couldn't see anything! I couldn't find my rhythm at all in the

3.

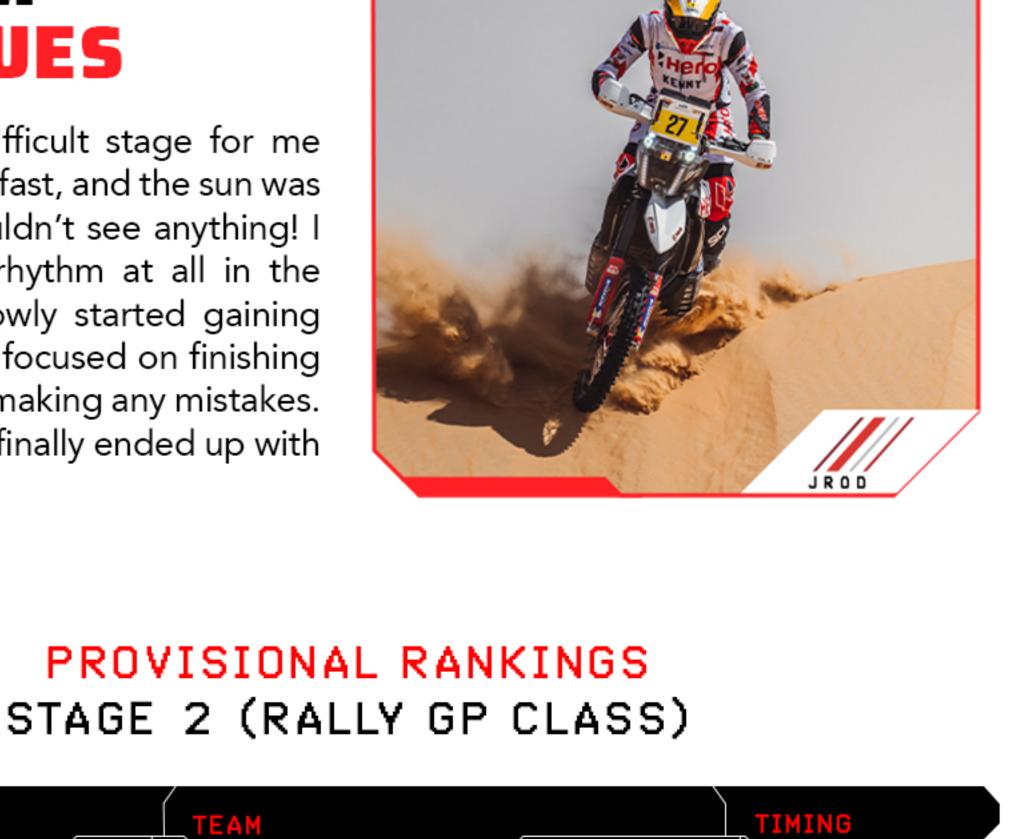
2.

RICKY BRABEC

RODRIGUES

JOAQUIM

beginning, but slowly started gaining my pace and then focused on finishing the stage without making any mistakes. I'm happy that we finally ended up with a good result."



4H 10M 28S

+ 398

+ 41S

+ 4M 23S

HERO MOTOSPORTS TEAM RALLY ROSS BRANCH LUCIANO BENAVIDES HUSQVARNA FACTORY RACING **KEVIN BENAVIDES** RED BULL KTM FACTORY TEAM

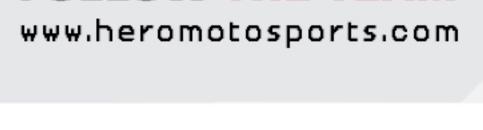
TEAM

4	6.	FRANCO CAIMI PABLO QUINTANILLA JOAQUIM RODRIGUES	HERO MOTOSPORTS TEAM RALLY MONSTER ENERGY HONDA TEAM HERO MOTOSPORTS TEAM RALLY	+ 1M 34S + 3M 52S + 4M 02S	
PROVISIONAL OVERALL STANDINGS AFTER STAGE 2 (RALLY GP CLASS)					
	POS.	NAME KEVIN BENAVIDES	RED BULL KTM FACTORY TEAM	TIMING 7H 52M 48S)

MONSTER ENERGY HONDA TEAM

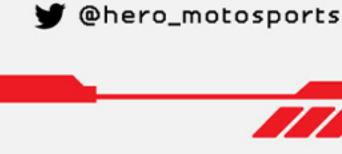


Team Rally Regards,



FOLLOW THE TEAM

Hero MotoSports



HeroMotoSports

@Heromotosports

































