



SS10 : LA MOTTE-CHALANÇON / SAINT-NAZAIRE-LE-DÉSERT 1

Date :	25.01.2025		
Day :	3	Flash N° :	14
Weather and road conditions :	5°C, Dry road, sometimes dirty with some damp portions.	Distance :	27,00 km

SS10: A first for Munster!

Day 3 of the 93rd Rallye Monte-Carlo got off to a surprise start with Grégoire Munster, M-Sport Ford's top driver this season, setting his first ever best time in a WRC stage. It came on SS10, between La Motte-Chalançon and Saint-Nazaire-le-Désert (27km), when he was the first to pass on a dry, cleaner road than for his main rivals, as the sun rose over the Drôme mountains.

Munster was first on the road because of a major power failure last night on the road section to Gap Service Park, which cost him a 10-minute penalty in the overall classification. When this happened, Grégoire in 6th place overall, at the end of a very satisfying rallying day.

'Congratulations to Grégoire. He was fast yesterday and he's on the right track. But there were big differences in the road conditions between his run and mine,' said Sébastien Ogier, a good sport but a realist. As leader, and because of the reverse starting order, it was a much dirtier road than Munster, with dirt coming off the ropes, that the eight-time world champion encountered. Hence the small gap in performance at the end: just 8 tenths, over 27 km, but that in no way detracts from the merits of the driver from Benelux.

'It was really tricky, there was a bit of everything: some wet sections with muddy ropes, then a much faster and wider road. It's a challenge for sure, and I was happy to be the first on the road for this one. Of course I'm disappointed about yesterday, but the team did a good job and managed the night well to allow us to be here again today, so it's a good way to learn,' said Munster at the stop. He then waited quietly in his cockpit to see if his rivals were doing better than him. Until deliverance and a great moment of emotion, alongside his team-mate Louis Louka. Damn dust in the eye.



It was Grégoire Munster's first ever WRC stage win, but not the first for a driver with a Luxembourg driving licence. Grégoire has dual nationality, Belgian (through his father, a former rally driver) and Luxembourgish (through his mother). And just 48 years ago, at the 1977 Monte-Carlo Rally, two drivers from the Grand Duchy shone: Alain Beauchef, who won the first special stage between Les Chanets and La Vilette in a 2000 Ford Escort RS. Then, at the end of the same edition, Nicolas Koob (Porsche 911 Carrera RS) in SS26, between Roquestéron and Bouyon. To complete the picture, the winner that year was Italian legend Sandro Munari, whose mythical Lancia Stratos graces the official poster of the 2025 Rallye Monte-Carlo Historique (January 29-February 4).

In the overall classification of this 93rd edition, not much has changed. Ogier still leads. Just behind him, Elfyn Evans (Toyota) and Adrien Fourmaux (Hyundai), battling for 2nd place (1.6 seconds apart), set the same time, to the nearest tenth, on SS10. Thierry Neuville (Hyundai), meanwhile, lost another minute after his electronics were completely reset at the start of the stage. When it doesn't work, it doesn't work.

Quotes

13. MUNSTER-LOUKA

5 Z215 WRC7 soft

"It's a really tricky one, a bit of everything. Some wet section with some muddy cuts, a much faster and wider road. It is a tricky one for sure, happy to be first on the road for this one. For sure, disappointment for yesterday but the team did a good job and managed to do a great job at night to allow us to be here again today, it's good learning. The tyre overheating is all part of the experience."

55. MCERLEAN-TREACY

4 Z215 WRC7 soft, 2 Z215 WRC9 supersoft

"I don't think I've ever seen a clean road in WRC in my life, the conditions are changing quite a lot. It is nice to get a good run out there. This thing is crazy."

1. NEUVILLE-WYDAEGHE

4 Z215 WRC7 soft, 2 Z215 WRC9 supersoft

"I had to do a reset. From the launch, the car went and then I lost the power like in Japan, we thought the trouble was gone. In the situation we were in we said to do a reset and we were fine since. [About what happened] I have no idea. No alarm, nothing. Now it is working."



5. PAJARI-SALMINEN

4 Z215 WRC7 soft, 2 Z215 WRC9 supersoft

"Quite okay [run] actually, still a lot to improve but still quite fine and what I see from the time, I guess it is not too bad actually. We just try to go this way and see what it brings."

18. KATSUTA-JOHNSTON

4 Z215 WRC7 soft, 2 Z215 WRC9 supersoft

"Getting polluted, it is quite slippery under the braking. Otherwise, okay, except that [he has a cough]."

8. TÄNAK-JÄRVEOJA

3 Z215 WRC7 soft, 3 Z215 WRC9 supersoft

"Nothing happened, it is just a bit of a struggle with the pollution. Still struggle with the car when it gets tricky."

69. ROVANPERÄ-HALTTUNEN

4 Z215 WRC7 soft, 2 Z215 WRC9 supersoft

[No quote]

16. FOURMAUX-CORIA

3 Z215 WRC7 soft, 3 Z215 WRC9 supersoft

"We'll see. At the end of the stage, it gets really greasy. The conditions get worse and worse. I had a clean stage, it was quite demanding for us, the cars and for the tyres. Interesting. There was one [Toyota] behind and two in front so we need to stay somewhere."

33. EVANS-MARTIN

4 Z215 WRC7 soft, 2 Z215 WRC9 supersoft

"Quite a lot more dirty and pollution than expected, it is dragging out from all the cuts, so not as straightforward as I maybe would have thought. I'm not looking anywhere [on the standings], I am just looking at me."

17. OGIER-LANDAIS

4 Z215 WRC7 soft, 2 Z215 WRC9 supersoft

"Congrats to him [Grégoire Munster], obviously massive road condition difference. Well done, he did already some good times yesterday. He is on the right path. It's a good start for us, I am happy."



Classifications SS10

POS	DRIVER	STAGE TIME	DIFF PREV	DIFF 1st	CAR No.	CO-DRIVER	TEAM/CAR
1	<u>Grégoire MUNSTER</u>	16:28.6	-	-	#13	<u>Louis LOUKA</u>	Puma Rally1
2	<u>Sébastien OGIER</u>	16:29.4	+0.8	+0.8	#17	<u>Vincent LANDAIS</u>	GR Yaris Rally1
3	<u>Kalle ROVANPERÄ</u>	16:30.4	+1.0	+1.8	#69	<u>Jonne HALTTUNEN</u>	GR Yaris Rally1
4	<u>Elfyn EVANS</u>	16:33.6	+3.2	+5.0	#33	<u>Scott MARTIN</u>	GR Yaris Rally1
5	<u>Adrien FOURMAUX</u>	16:33.6	-	+5.0	#16	<u>Alexandre CORIA</u>	i20 N Rally1
6	<u>Ott TÄNAK</u>	16:38.7	+5.1	+10.1	#8	<u>Martin JÄRVEOJA</u>	i20 N Rally1
7	<u>Sami PAJARI</u>	16:39.5	+0.8	+10.9	#5	<u>Marko SALMINEN</u>	GR Yaris Rally1
8	<u>Joshua MCERLEAN</u>	16:56.9	+17.4	+28.3	#55	<u>Eoin TREACY</u>	Puma Rally1
9	<u>Thierry NEUVILLE</u>	17:29.9	+33.0	+1:01.3	#1	<u>Martijn WYDAEGHE</u>	i20 N Rally1

After SS10

POS	DRIVER	TOTAL TIME	DIFF PREV	DIFF 1st	CAR No.	CO-DRIVER	TEAM/CAR
1	<u>Sébastien OGIER</u>	1:43:30.0	-	-	#17	<u>Vincent LANDAIS</u>	GR Yaris Rally1
2	<u>Elfyn EVANS</u>	1:43:46.8	+16.8	+16.8	#33	<u>Scott MARTIN</u>	GR Yaris Rally1
3	<u>Adrien FOURMAUX</u>	1:43:48.4	+1.6	+18.4	#16	<u>Alexandre CORIA</u>	i20 N Rally1
4	<u>Kalle ROVANPERÄ</u>	1:44:09.5	+21.1	+39.5	#69	<u>Jonne HALTTUNEN</u>	GR Yaris Rally1
5	<u>Ott TÄNAK</u>	1:44:26.6	+17.1	+56.6	#8	<u>Martin JÄRVEOJA</u>	i20 N Rally1
6	<u>Sami PAJARI</u>	1:47:13.0	+2:46.4	+3:43.0	#5	<u>Marko SALMINEN</u>	GR Yaris Rally1
7	<u>Thierry NEUVILLE</u>	1:48:29.1	+1:16.1	+4:59.1	#1	<u>Martijn WYDAEGHE</u>	i20 N Rally1
8	<u>Joshua MCERLEAN</u>	1:49:48.5	+1:19.4	+6:18.5	#55	<u>Eoin TREACY</u>	Puma Rally1
9	<u>Grégoire MUNSTER</u>	1:54:44.3	+4:55.8	+11:14.3	#13	<u>Louis LOUKA</u>	Puma Rally1