



66th Rallye Sanremo, the nice Friday of Campedelli

SANREMO (13 April) –Simone Campedelli and Tania Canton, Ford Fiesta R5, won the first day of 66th Rallye Sanremo that finished past 2am on Saturday after tackling six special stages, starting with the Porto Sole Super Special Stage finishing with the two night stages including the Mini Ronde Vignai-Bignone 29.12 km long.

Careful, determined and precise, Campedelli signed the second time in the first two special stages, accusing minimal detachments first from Giandomenico Basso-Lorenzo Granai, Škoda Fabia R5, then from Craig Breen Paul Nagle, Škoda Fabia R5 on Vignai.

From then on the driver from Cesena increased his pace winning the remaining four stages of the day with quite good differences compared to the previous stages and taking the lead since SS three, the Monte Bignone SS, improving on San Romolo and in the Mini Ronde in the night and on the repetition of San Romolo. This brought him to close in the lead 20"8 ahead of Craig Breen –Nagle. Second the Irish Breen, careful and prudent in the Mini Ronde, to then demonstrate that attending the special stages of the World Rally Championship serves and then winning the Vignai special, lying in the wake of Campedelli for the entire stage ending the day with a gap of 20 "8 from the driver fro Cesena and 6" 7 over Basso.

Third place for Giandomenico Basso, who gave a show in Porto Sole, then chasing Campedelli and Breen in the subsequent special tests in which he found a good rhythm even if the technical choices were not perfect, finding a stroke in the final test of San Romolo. Fourth place for Luca Rossetti-Eleonora Mori, Citroën C3 R5, who hit something in the super special stage and not satisfied with the set up of the car on the first pass, but who improved on the Mini Ronde where they finished third overall getting closer to Basso, who gained time towards the final of the day, now the gap between the two Italian Rally Champions is 8"1.

Also Andrea Crugnola, with Pietro Ometto on the right seat, found difficulties with the Volkswagen Polo R5 in a rally that never gave him great satisfaction, while confirming to be the most interesting young driver, finishing fifth overall the first day with an excellent performance in the final test of San Romolo which he finished in second place.

Behind Crugnola the battle was between the young French driver Jean Baptiste Franceschi, co-driven by Florian Haut-Labourdette, who in the very last stage of the day passed Michelini – Perna by only one tenth of a second, promising a great battle on the Special stages of tomorrow in the two Škoda Fabia.

A puncture in the Mini Ronde makes Stefano Albertini and Danilo Fappani, Škoda Fabia R5 lose eight minutes, who after the first four stages where fourth overall and first in the ranking of the Italian Tarmac Rally Championship. Among the retired crews Marcello Razzini co-driven by Gianmaria Marcomini who lost a wheel on the SS Monte Bignone.



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