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ECR lead for 'Tony'

DURING only the seventh week of the year, Opel notched up its fourth international rally victory, with Italy's 'Tony' Fassina taking the 30th Costa Brava Rally and moving into the joint lead of this year's European Rally Championship alongside Stig Blomqvist. 'Tony' beat Spain's Eugenio Ortiz, driving a Renault 5 Turbo, into second place after Spain's own hero, Antonio Zanini retired his Sunbeam Lotus with a broken oil pipe. The Fiat driver, Zanussi led after the first of 39 stages, but was then hauled in by 'Tony' to hold the lead for the rest of the 1310 km three day event.

day event.

1, Tony / Rudy (Opel Ascona 400) 6h 21m 40s; 2, E. Ortiz / G. Barrerar (Renault 5 Turbo) 6h 24m 22s; 3, A. Zanussi / A. Bernacchini (Fiat 131 Abarth) 6h 31m 50s; 4, S. Servia / J. Sabater (Ford Fiesta) 6h 33m 29s; 5, B. Kruppa / P. Mystkowski (Renault 5 Turbo) 6h 46m 21s.