



Chelsea's and Leicester's players during the English Premier League soccer match between Leicester City and Chelsea at the King Power Stadium in Leicester, England, Jan 19. Leicester City won the match 2-0. (AP) - See Page 14

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'I look forward to begin training'

Woods has 5th back surgery, to 'miss' Torrey Pines and Riviera

WASHINGTON, Jan 20, (AP) - Tiger Woods has suffered a setback with his back, disclosing Tuesday that he recently had a fifth surgery that will keep him from starting the year until after the West Coast Swing on the PGA Tour.

Woods will not play next week in the Farmers Insurance Open at Torrey Pines, which he has won seven times, most recently in 2013. He also won the US Open in 2008 at Torrey Pines, which hosts the US Open again in June.

He also will miss the Genesis Invitational on Feb 18-21 at Riviera, where he serves as tournament host.

In a statement from his TGR Foundation, which Woods also tweeted, he did not say when he had the microdiscectomy surgery though Rory McIlroy, speaking Wednesday at a news conference ahead of the Abu Dhabi Championship, said it took place on Dec 23 and that Woods was "back on his feet the next day."

It was to remove a pressurized disc fragment that was giving him nerve

pain during the PNC Championship last month that he played with 11-year-old son Charlie.

Doctors said the operation was a success and predicted a full recovery, according to the statement.

"I look forward to begin training and am focused on getting back out on tour," Woods said.

The year Woods last won at Torrey Pines is when back problems began to surface. He had his first microdiscectomy right before the 2014 Masters, and then he had two more in September and October of 2015.

The fourth surgery in April 2017 was a major one, to fuse his lower spine. Woods' return was successful, leading to a victory in the 2018 Tour Championship - his first in five years - and he capped it off by winning the Masters in 2019, his 15th major and his first in 11 years.

GOLF

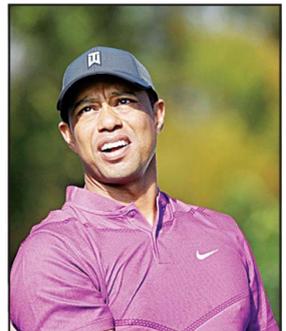
When he won the Zozo Championship in Japan in the fall of 2019, he tied Sam Snead's career victory record with No. 82, and the record seemed to be only a matter of time. But he was never in serious contention all of last year and missed a full month with a minor back issue before golf was shut down by the COVID-19 pandemic.

When he returned in July, he didn't finish better than a tie for 37th at the PGA Championship in seven tournaments he played. In six of those events where he made the cut, he finished a combined 107 shots out of the lead.

He turned 45 at the end of last year, and his surgery count is now up to 10 - five on his left knee, five on his back.

Woods said after he tied for 38th in his Masters title defense that he has days that are harder than others.

"My body just has moments where it just doesn't work like it used to," he said in November. "No matter how hard I try, things just don't work the way they used to, and no matter how much I push and ask of this body, it just doesn't work at times."



This Dec 19, 2020 file photo, shows Tiger Woods watching his tee shot on the first hole during the first round of the PNC Championship golf tournament, in Orlando, Fla. Woods announced on Jan 19, he had a fifth back surgery and will miss tournaments in San Diego and Los Angeles. (AP)

Nuggets rout Thunder



New Orleans Pelicans forward Zion Williamson (1) lays the ball up as Utah Jazz center Rudy Gobert (left), and others defend during the first half of an NBA basketball game on Jan 19, in Salt Lake City. (AP)

Rahane was always thinking of win in 4th Test vs Australia

Jazz continue good run

Shakib returns as Bangladesh defeat WI

DHAKA, Bangladesh, Jan 20, (AP) - Shakib Al Hasan claimed 4-8 on his return to international cricket as Bangladesh made a winning start to the three-match ODI series by beating West Indies by six wickets in the opening game on Wednesday.

All-rounder Shakib was back after being given a two-year ban by the International Cricket Council in October 2019, with one year suspended, for failing to report approaches from a bookmaker.

Thanks to his wily left-arm spin, Bangladesh bowled the tourists out for 122 in 32.3 overs before reaching 125-4 with 97 balls to spare in reply.

Debutant Hasan Mahmud and fellow fast bowler Mustafizur Rahman also played key roles for the home team, taking 3-28 and 2-20 respectively.

Rain held the players up for about an hour after Bangladesh captain Tamim Iqbal won the toss and asked West Indies, featuring six ODI debutants, to bat.

Shakib, in his first game for Bangladesh since the 2019 World Cup, bowled seven overs in a row and ripped through the middle order as West Indies lost three wickets for 11 runs.

CRICKET

Debutant Kyle Mayers and Rovman Powell, who hit two sixes, provided some resistance with a partnership of 59 for the sixth wicket.

Mahmud picked up his first wicket by having Powell caught behind for 28 and followed up by trapping Raymon Reifer lbw for naught with his next ball.

Mayers top-scored with 40 before being undone by a Mehidi Hasan delivery that spun sharply.

Tamim, captaining the side for the first time after being appointed last March, then gave Bangladesh a flying start to its reply by hitting 44 before being stumped off West Indies captain Jason Mohammed.

Leg-spinner Akeal Hosen also clean bowled Tamim's fellow opener Liton Das for 14 to claim his first wicket on his debut. But Mushfiqur Rahim, who finished 19 not out, ensured victory with a reverse-swept boundary past third man. Hosen finished with 3-26 from his 10 overs.

It was Bangladesh's first match



Indian players celebrate after defeating Australia by three wickets on the final day of the fourth cricket Test at the Gabba, Brisbane, Australia, Jan 19. India won the fourth Test series 2-1. (AP)

after a nine-month layoff due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The series is part of the ICC World Cup Super League which will determine which teams qualify for the 2023 World Cup in India.

A host of West Indies players, including ODI captain Keiron Pollard and Test captain Jason Holder, have skipped the tour. The squad was also affected when fast bowler Romario Shepherd and leg-spinner Hayden Walsh Jr., tested positive for COVID-19.

The teams play the remaining ODIs on Friday and Monday, followed by two Test matches in February.

Also:

BRISBANE: Against all odds, interim captain Ajinkya Rahane managed to lead an injury-affected India to victory in the fourth cricket Test and retain the Border-Gavaskar Trophy.

India were forced to make four changes for the series finale after salvaging a draw in Sydney, and a draw in Brisbane would have been good enough to retain the trophy.

Turns out Rahane had a plan for victory all along. "We knew if we wanted to win the Test and series then five bowlers would be the key," Rahane said after India's three-wicket win on Tuesday. "That's why we opted for five

bowlers. Washington Sundar got that balance for us. Mohammed Siraj had played two Test matches, (Navdeep Saini) one, (Shardul) Thakur one, Natarajan also on debut. All credit to them."

India's bowling attack was derailed by the loss of Jasprit Bumrah and Ravichandran Ashwin, who could easily have been chosen as man of the series ahead of Pat Cummins if he played the final Test.

But debutants Sundar and Thangarasu Natarajan played key roles at the Gabba, while recalled paceman Thakur starred with bat and ball, top-scoring for India in the first innings with 67 runs and taking seven match wickets.

Rahane also praised Rishabh Pant's match-winning total of 89 not out. Pant's promotion to No. 5 in the order was a clear signal of India's intention to complete a venue-record chase of 328, rather than bat for a draw. "Rishabh was brilliant," Rahane said. "I don't know how to describe this victory. I'm just proud of all the boys, each and every individual showed character."

A captain's century from Rahane for an eight-wicket win at the Melbourne Cricket Ground, after the visitors lost by eight wickets in the day-night Test at Adelaide, started the series comeback.

India lost regular captain Virat Kohli, who returned to India for the Jan. 11 birth of his daughter, and Mohammed Shami with a broken right arm, after being bowled out for 36 in Adelaide, India's lowest ever total.

"After Adelaide, we didn't discuss anything about what happened in Adelaide," Rahane said. "We decided we would fight very hard, we just wanted to give our best and not think about the result. We just wanted to express ourselves as a team." Next up for India is a four-Test home series against England beginning Feb. 5 in Chennai, when Kohli, who has been named in India's squad for the series, will return to the captaincy.

Kohli took great pleasure in congratulating Rahane and the team from his home in India.

"WHAT A WIN!!! Yessssss," Kohli tweeted. "To everyone who doubted us after Adelaide, stand up and take notice. Exemplary performance but the grit and determination was the standout for us the whole way. Well done to all the boys and the management. Enjoy this historic feat lads."

DENVER, Jan 20, (AP) - Nikola Jokic had 27 points and 12 rebounds before calling it an early night as the Denver Nuggets routed the Oklahoma City Thunder 119-101 on Tuesday.

Clean shaven and sporting a new buzz cut, Jokic also had six assists before taking a seat on the bench with the other starters for the fourth quarter.

Reserve Monte Morris added 15 points and Paul Millsap finished with 13 points and 12 rebounds. The Nuggets have won six straight over the Thunder at home.

Luguentz Dort kept the Thunder close early by scoring 15 of his 20 points in the first half.

BASKETBALL

The Nuggets began to pull away in the second quarter and stretched it to 26 in the third before Jokic and his fellow starters became spectators.

It was a much-needed confidence boost for the struggling Nuggets (7-7), who advanced to the Western Conference finals inside the NBA bubble last season. So much so that former Nuggets coach George Karl posted on social media leading up to the game: "It's early in the season to say this but the Nuggets game against the Thunder is a 'must win' for Denver."

Nuggets guard Facundo Campazzo had the highlight play of the first half, throwing a backward, between-the-

NBA Results/Standings

WASHINGTON, Jan 20, (AP) - NBA results and standings on Tuesday.

Denver	119	Oklahoma City	101	Utah	118	New Orleans	102		
Eastern Conference				Western Conference					
Atlantic Division				Southwest Division					
	W	L	Pct	GB		W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	8	4	.667	-	San Antonio	8	6	.571	-
Philadelphia	9	5	.643	-	Memphis	7	6	.538	-1/2
Brocklyn	9	6	.600	-1/2	Dallas	6	7	.462	1-1/2
New York	7	8	.467	2-1/2	New Orleans	5	8	.385	2-1/2
Toronto	5	8	.385	3-1/2	Houston	4	8	.333	3
Southeast Division				Northwest Division					
	W	L	Pct	GB		W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	6	7	.462	-	Utah	10	4	.714	-
Orlando	6	8	.429	-1/2	Portland	8	6	.571	2
Charlotte	6	8	.429	-1/2	Denver	7	7	.500	3
Miami	5	7	.417	-1/2	Oklahoma City	6	7	.462	3-1/2
Washington	3	8	.273	2	Minnesota	3	9	.250	6
Central Division				Pacific Division					
	W	L	Pct	GB		W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	9	5	.643	-	LA Lakers	11	4	.733	-
Indiana	8	5	.615	-1/2	LA Clippers	10	4	.714	-1/2
Cleveland	6	7	.462	2-1/2	Phoenix	7	5	.583	2-1/2
Chicago	6	8	.429	3	Golden State	7	6	.538	3
Detroit	3	10	.231	5-1/2	Sacramento	5	9	.357	5-1/2

legs pass to Morris for a layup.

The Thunder played for the first time since an OT win over Chicago last Friday. Their game against Philadelphia on Sunday was postponed because the 76ers did not have the league-required eight available players to proceed because of contact tracing.

Jazz 118, Pelicans 102

In Salt Lake City, Donovan Mitchell had 28 points and seven rebounds, and the Utah Jazz beat the New Orleans Pelicans 118-102 for their sixth straight victory.

Mitchell also made four of Utah's

21 3-pointers. Jordan Clarkson added 18 points, six rebounds, and six assists, and reserve Joe Ingles scored 15 points. Rudy Gobert had 13 points, 18 rebounds, and three blocks.

Zion Williamson scored 32 points for New Orleans, and Brandon Ingram had 15. The Pelicans trailed the entire second half after allowing the Jazz to make more than 20 3-pointers for the fourth time in six games.

Williamson gave the Pelicans an early lift in the first half. He converted all five of his first-quarter field goal attempts and capped a 7-0 run with a layup that put New Orleans up 20-18.

Mitchell matched his efficiency. He powered the Jazz offense in the first quarter, scoring 15 points while going 6 for 7 from the field. He converted a three-point play to punctuate an 11-2 run that gave Utah a 29-22 lead.

Mitchell also had a key stretch in the second quarter. He scored and threw a one-handed wraparound pass as he was falling out of bounds out to Bojan Bogdanovic to set up another basket. The two plays bumped Utah back in front 55-49 before halftime.

The Jazz carried that momentum into the third quarter. Utah made 3-pointers on four straight possessions to extend its lead to 73-55. Utah made eight total 3-pointers during the quarter. Clarkson and Ingles scored the final two on back-to-back possessions to push the Jazz lead to 91-69 heading into the fourth quarter.



Denver Nuggets center Nikola Jokic, left, drives to the rim past Oklahoma City Thunder forward Isaiah Roby in the first half of an NBA basketball game, Jan 19, in Denver. (AP)