

Sports

Over 70 players participate in handicap sports tournament



Ford faces 'huge' Sri Lanka rebuilding task



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2016

MCILROY INSPIRED BY 'UNREAL' DJOKOVIC



INDIANAPOLIS: Kyrie Irving #2 of the Cleveland Cavaliers handles the ball against George Hill #3 of the Indiana Pacers in the second half of the game at Bankers Life Fieldhouse on Monday in Indianapolis, Indiana. The Cavaliers defeated the Pacers 111-106 in overtime. — AFP

CAVALIERS RALLY TO BEAT PACERS IN OT

INDIANAPOLIS: Kyrie Irving scored 25 points and LeBron James had 24 points, 12 rebounds and six assists to lead the Cleveland Cavaliers past the Indiana Pacers 111-106 in overtime on Monday night. James only scored seven points after half-time, but it was enough to give the Cavaliers their fifth straight win under new coach Tyrone Lue - and their first win in Indy in six years. George Hill matched his season-high with 23 points, while Myles Turner had 14 points and 10 rebounds for Indiana. The Pacers controlled most of the second half, but James' layup with 1:16 left in regulation gave Cleveland a 94-93 lead. Then, with the game tied at 96 and the shot clock off, Indiana's Monta Ellis nearly dribbled out the clock before missing a midrange jumper at the buzzer. Irving's 13-footer with 3:01 left gave the Cavs a 103-100 lead and they never trailed again.

THUNDER 114, WIZARDS 98
Russell Westbrook had his seventh triple-double of the season and Oklahoma City beat Washington. Westbrook had 17 points, 13 rebounds and 11 assists and got the best of his matchup with Washington point guard John Wall. It was the 26th triple-double of Westbrook's career, and he has two straight and four in his past 10 games. Kevin Durant scored 28 points and Serge Ibaka added 19 points and 10 rebounds for the Thunder, who have won 11 of 12. Bradley Beal came off the bench to score 18 points, Wall had 17 points and eight assists and Marcin Gortat scored 17 points for the Wizards, who have lost four of five. Wizards coach Randy Wittman missed the game following his brother's death last Friday.

GRIZZLIES 110, PELICANS 95
Zach Randolph had 22 points and 12 rebounds and Memphis beat New Orleans for its 10th victory in 12 games. Jeff Green scored 24 points for Memphis, and Vince Carter added 13, including a pair of back-breaking 3s in the last three minutes. Anthony Davis had 23 points and nine rebounds for the Pelicans, who lost for just the third time in 10 games, with two of those losses coming against Memphis. New Orleans led 86-84 after Ryan Anderson's free throw with 7:02 left, but the Grizzlies responded with a pivotal 10-0 run to take the lead for good, closing the game on a 26-9 run.

SPURS 107, MAGIC 92
LaMarcus Aldridge scored a season-high 28 points and San Antonio beat Orlando to remain undefeated at home. Aldridge shot 9 for 13 from the field in leading San Antonio to its 26th straight home victory to open the season. Patty Mills

matched a season-high with 22 points, going 3 for 4 on 3-pointers. San Antonio found its defensive footing late in the third quarter, using a steal by Mills and blocks by Kawhi Leonard to separate from Orlando. The Spurs outscored the Magic 24-8 to overcome a 70-69 deficit with 1 1/2 minutes left in the third quarter. Nikola Vucevic led Orlando with 20 points and 10 rebounds. Victor Oladipo added 19 points and Aaron Gordon had 12 points and 16 rebounds.

NUGGETS 112, RAPTORS 93
Nikola Jokic had 27 points and 14 rebounds, and Denver ended Toronto's 11-game winning streak. Jokic's totals were season highs for the rookie. He had 23 points and 12 rebounds against San Antonio on Nov. 28. Will Barton scored 20 points and Randy Foye had 16 for the Nuggets, who swept the season series. They won in Toronto on Dec. 3 to stop an eight-game losing streak. The Raptors entered with the NBA's longest current winning streak but couldn't duplicate the success they had in January. They led by one midway through the second quarter but trailed by double digits for most of the second half. DeMar DeRozan led Toronto with 24 points. His All-Star backcourt mate, Kyle Lowry, scored just nine and went 1 for 6 from the foul line.

JAZZ 105, BULLS 96, OT
Gordon Hayward had 27 points and 12 rebounds, Rodney Hood added 19 points and Utah beat Chicago. Rudy Gobert had 16 points and 12 rebounds to help Utah win its third straight. Jimmy Butler scored 26 points and Pau Gasol added 19 points and eight rebounds to lead Chicago. Derrick Rose chipped in 14 for the Bulls, who lost for the third time in four games. Chicago and Utah traded baskets throughout the fourth quarter. Rose's 3-pointer with 18.5 seconds left put Chicago ahead 93-90. Hayward made 1 of 2 free throws, but the Jazz grabbed the rebound and Hayward drove for the tying layup with 4.8 seconds left in regulation. In the extra period, Hayward made back-to-back pull-up jumpers and followed with a dunk to give Utah the lead for good at 102-95 with 59.9 seconds remaining.

KINGS 111, BUCKS 104
Rudy Gay had 32 points, nine rebounds and six assists and Sacramento snapped a five-game losing streak by beating Milwaukee. Sacramento won minus All-Star center DeMarcus Cousins, who sprained his left ankle in Saturday's loss at Memphis. The Kings are 2-7 this season without Cousins, with both wins coming against the Bucks. The Kings took the lead for good early in the final period on two free throws by Marco Belinelli, who scored 10 points in the fourth quarter. Gay had nine as Sacramento outscored Milwaukee 37-30. Greg Monroe had 24 points and 12 rebounds for the Bucks, who have dropped three straight and five of six. Michael Carter-Williams had 18 points and a season-high 13 assists.

HAWKS 112, MAVERICKS 97
Jeff Teague scored a season-high 32 points, Kyle Korver added 16 points and Atlanta beat Dallas to snap a three-game skid. Teague went 12 for 15 from the field with a career-high five 3-pointers, and reserve guard Dennis Schroder finished with 14 points. Atlanta entered the game having lost five of six to drop to fifth place in the Eastern Conference. Deron Williams, coming off a 27-point performance in Dallas' home win Sunday over Phoenix, left the game early in the second quarter with a bruised hip. Chandler Parsons had 19 points and 11 rebounds, and Dirk Nowitzki scored 18 points for the Mavericks.

PISTONS 105, NETS 100
Andre Drummond had 21 points and 18 rebounds, Reggie Jackson scored 19 points and Detroit beat Brooklyn. Drummond fell just shy of an NBA-high sixth 20-point, 20-rebound game of the season but delivered the tiebreaking basket on a dunk with 1:30 remaining. Jackson added a couple of clutch baskets as the Pistons avoided a third straight loss. They had fallen to Cleveland and Toronto, the East's top two teams, but were just good enough to get by the Nets, one of the worst. Brook Lopez scored 27 points for the Nets, who have lost four in a row. Andrea Bargnani added 18 points off the bench. — AP

NBA Results/Standings

Atlanta 112, Dallas 97; San Antonio 107, Orlando 92; Brooklyn 100, Detroit 105; Sacramento 111, Milwaukee 104; Denver 112, Toronto 93; Utah 105, Chicago 96 (OT); New Orleans 95, Memphis 110; Oklahoma City 114, Washington 98; Indiana 106, Cleveland 111 (OT).

Eastern Conference					Western Conference				
Atlantic Division					Northwest Division				
W	L	PCT	GB	Oklahoma City	37	13	.740	—	
Toronto	32	16	.667	Portland	23	26	.469	13.5	
Boston	27	22	.551	Utah	22	25	.468	13.5	
New York	23	27	.460	Denver	19	30	.388	17.5	
Brooklyn	12	37	.245	Minnesota	14	35	.286	22.5	
Philadelphia	7	41	.146	25	Pacific Division				
					Golden State	44	4	.917	—
					LA Clippers	32	16	.667	12
					Sacramento	21	27	.438	23
					Phoenix	14	35	.286	30.5
					LA Lakers	9	41	.180	36
					Southwest Division				
					Miami	27	21	.563	—
					San Antonio	40	8	.833	—
					Atlanta	28	22	.560	1
					Memphis	29	20	.592	11.5
					Charlotte	23	25	.479	4
					Dallas	28	23	.549	13.5
					Washington	21	25	.457	5
					Houston	25	25	.500	16
					Orlando	21	26	.447	5.5
					New Orleans	18	29	.383	21.5

NEYMAR APPEARS IN COURT OVER BARCELONA TRANSFER

MADRID: Brazil striker Neymar appeared before a judge yesterday to testify in an investigation into alleged irregularities regarding his transfer to Barcelona.

Neymar's father, who acts as his agent, was also going to be questioned by judge Jose de la Mata at the National Court in Madrid. Current Barcelona president Josep Bartomeu and predecessor Sandro Rosell denied any wrongdoing when they testified on Monday.

The court is looking into a complaint made by a Brazilian investment group which claims it was financially harmed when Barcelona and Neymar allegedly withheld the real amount of the player's transfer fee from Brazilian club Santos in 2013.

Investment group DIS was entitled to 40 percent of Neymar's transfer from Santos, but claims it received a smaller compensation than it should have because part of the transfer fee was concealed.

Neymar, wearing jeans and a jacket, arrived with his father and other members of his staff. They made it to the court in central Madrid just before the 5 p.m. scheduled time (1600 GMT) for their testimonies.

Santos' representatives also were in court on Monday and said the club was deceived by Barcelona and Neymar. Representatives from Barcelona told the judge that all legal protocols and regulations were met in Neymar's transfer. Rosell resigned in 2014 because of the allegations

involving the Brazilian player's transfer.

Barcelona maintains that the deal cost the club 57.1 million euros (then \$74 million). Santos officially received a payment of 17.1 million euros (\$18.5 million), with the remaining 40 million euros (\$55.5 million) going to a company owned by Neymar's father, Neymar Santos. But investigations in Spain later showed that Barcelona spent nearly 83.3 million euros (\$90 million) to acquire the Brazilian.

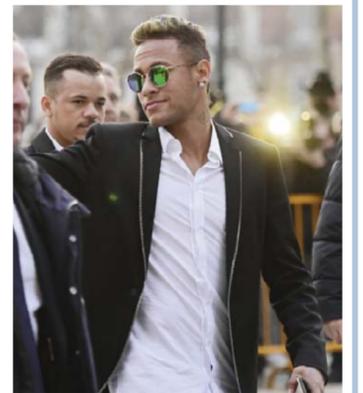
Neymar has also been facing problems with Brazil's tax office, which last year froze assets related to the player valued at about 189 million Brazilian reais (\$47 million) because of allegations of tax evasion. He has vehemently denied any wrongdoing in Brazil and Spain. In an interview with Brazilian media on Sunday, he defended his father and contested the evidence being presented against them.

The 23-year-old striker helped Barcelona win a rare treble of Champions League, Spanish league and Copa del Rey titles last season. He was also one of three finalists for the Ballon d'Or award won by teammate Lionel Messi. It was the first time he made it to the final shortlist.

Messi is another Barcelona player set to appear in court in the next few months. The Argentine forward and his father will go on trial May 31-June 3 for allegedly defrauding Spain's tax office of 4.1 million euros (\$4.4 million) in unpaid taxes from 2007-09. They have been charged with

three counts of tax fraud and could be sentenced to nearly two years in prison if found guilty.

Barcelona defender Javier Mascherano recently avoided jail time after making a deal with prosecutors and the attorney's office after not properly paying taxes in Spain. — AP



MADRID: Barcelona's Brazilian forward Neymar (R) flashes the Victory sign as he leaves Spain's national court in Madrid yesterday. — AFP

REQUIRED HEAVY & LIGHT DRIVERS

- Having not less than 5 years experience.
- Transferable residence.
- Knowing all areas in Kuwait.

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