

Sports

Morant's triple-double powers Grizzlies, Suns win 9th straight

Nuggets improve to 3-0 on a six-game road trip

LOS ANGELES: Ja Morant lit a fire under Memphis' offense delivering a triple-double as the red-hot Grizzlies rolled over the Utah Jazz 119-109 on Friday night. Morant finished with 30 points, 10 rebounds and 10 assists for the Grizzlies, who have won 15 of their last 18 contests. The third-year point guard is averaging 35.4 points, 8.4 rebounds and 8.8 assists over his past five games.

"I think the win was more important, but I guess the triple-double was needed to get the win," said Morant, who was named an all-star starter on Thursday. "All in all, it was a good night." He was coming off one of his best games of the season on Wednesday, when he scored a season-high 41 points in a win over San Antonio. He shot just under 50 percent from the field (10-of-22) after having shot 50 percent or better six

times this month. Brandon Clarke finished with 22 points for the Grizzlies. Jaren Jackson Jr chipped in 18 points, and Desmond Bane added 17.

Stopping Morant proved to be an almost impossible task for the Jazz who were missing Rudy Gobert and Donovan Mitchell. Mitchell missed his sixth straight game because of a concussion. Gobert missed his third consecutive contest because of a calf strain. Danuel House scored a season-high 21 points to lead the Jazz, who have lost four straight games. Mike Conley added 15 points and six assists, and Jordan Clarkson and Bojan Bogdanovic chipped in 13 points apiece.

"We're playing with a much more urgent mindset," Conley said. "Playing harder. Guys are giving everything we've got with who we've got out there. At some point, we're going to break through. Things are going to start falling our way.

"We feel like we are getting closer and closer to being back to who we are." In Arizona, Chris Paul collected 21 points, 14 assists and 10 rebounds as the Phoenix Suns won their ninth straight game by holding on to beat the Minnesota Timberwolves 134-124.

Devin Booker led all scorers with 29 points to go along with nine assists for the Suns. Cameron Johnson made five three-pointers en route to a 23-point performance. Anthony Edwards scored 27 points and dished out 10 assists for the Timberwolves, who lost for the second time in as many nights. Karl-Anthony Towns finished with 23 points and nine rebounds, and Malik Beasley came off the bench to score 26 points. Minnesota were behind by 12 points in the third quarter but cut the deficit to four points, 112-108, with just under seven minutes left in regulation.

Jokic shines

The Suns answered with a 14-5 run to go up by 13 with 4:11 left and never looked back. Meanwhile, Nikola Jokic had a triple-double as the Denver Nuggets won their fourth game in a row by defeating the New Orleans Pelicans 116-105. Jokic finished with 29 points, 13 rebounds and 10 assists as the Nuggets improved to 3-0 on a six-game road trip. Aaron Gordon scored 20 points, Bryn Forbes added 14, Monte Morris had 13, Austin Rivers 12 and Zeke Nnaji 11 for Denver, who have won nine of its last 12 games. In Charlotte, Miles Bridges scored 26 points and Ish Smith had 22 points as the Charlotte Hornets held off the shorthanded Los Angeles Lakers 117-114. The Lakers played without LeBron James, who missed a game for the second night in a row with a sore knee, and Anthony Davis. — AFP



Kuwait 'Special Olympics'

Abdelatif Sharaa

KUWAIT: Kuwait Special Olympics organized the unified sports festival for girls with the participation of 24 mentally disabled from Kuwait Tumouh Club. 20 none disabled basketball players from Arabi Club, Kuwait football national team, Salmiya girls secondary school and American military played at the Boulevard Mall play grounds.

The festival was held in the presence of the National Director of Kuwait Special Olympics

and the boss of Al-Tumouh Sports Club Rihab Bourisli, her Deputy Huda Al-Khaldi, Secretary Sadeeqa Al-Ansari, chair person of Woman Committee at the KOC, Fatima Hayat and Sheikhha Suhaila Al-Sabah. Rehab Bourisli was pleased with the success of the festival in providing positive environment.

She said the festival is within an integrated program for sports, adding that the next stage will witness an expansion - to include the largest number of sports possible for the disabled for both genders. Meanwhile, the chair person of Woman Committee at the Kuwait Olympic Committee (KOC) lauded the organizational and technical level of the festival and its message as well as the positive atmosphere that prevailed. Hayat appreciated the initiative of the Special Olympics and Tumouh Club.

Day, Zalatoris share Torrey Pines lead

LOS ANGELES: Two-time winner Jason Day birdied the last three holes in a five-under par 67 on Friday for a share of the third-round lead alongside Will Zalatoris in the US PGA Tour Farmers Insurance Open. Former world number one Day, the 2015 PGA Champion who won at Torrey Pines in 2015 and 2018, will be chasing his first tour title since a victory at Quail Hollow in May of 2018 when he tees it up in the final group. Zalatoris, who is seeking his first tour victory, fired an eagle and five birdies in an impressive seven-under par 65 to join Day on 14-under 202.

World number one Jon Rahm of Spain, who started the day in a three-way tie for the lead, was a stroke back after an even-par 72, tied on 203 with England's Aaron Rai, who shot a 68.

Justin Thomas, who shared the overnight lead, carded a 73 and headed a group on 204 that also included Cameron Tringale (72) and South Korean Im Sung-jae (68). Australia's Day, who has dropped to 129th in the world after a tough 2021 season marred by continuing back trouble, said he believes he's headed in the right direction.

"It's been a long two-and-a-bit years not really being in contention or having a good shot at winning a tournament, but I think overall I'm pretty pleased with how things are progressing swing-wise, body-wise," Day said. Day was two-under on the front nine with birdies at the fourth and ninth. He bounced back from his lone bogey of the day at the 12th with a birdie at 13 then stormed home with birdies at 16, 17 and 18. He launched that run with a 28-foot birdie putt at the 16th, then stuck his approach at 17 within three feet of the pin.

At the par-five 18th he blasted out of the back greenside bunker to 11 feet and made the putt. "Actually, to be honest, that back pot is a pretty difficult bunker shot, but it was nice to be able to get that up and down," he said. Zalatoris, who finished runner-up to Hideki Matsuyama at last

year's Masters, kickstarted his round with a "pretty awesome" chip in for eagle at the second hole. He rolled in a nine-foot birdie at the fourth and a 14-footer at the eighth to launch a run of three straight birdies.

Rahm stumbles

An outstanding chip at 11 left him a tap-in to save par, and at the 13th he missed a three-foot birdie putt, but he got to 14-under with a nine-foot birdie at the 14th. "Out here you can get a little wobble here or there," he said, adding that his birdie at 14 "kind of righted the ship a little bit because I was pretty frustrated hitting two perfect shots into 13 and walking off with par."

Rahm got off to a promising start with a birdie at the second hole, and after seeing a string of birdie chances go begging he rolled in a 38-footer at the ninth. He stumbled with a double-bogey at the 10th and a bogey at 12 before clawing back a shot with his last birdie of the day at 15. "I played great," said Rahm, who won the US Open on the same Torrey Pines course last June. "I feel like I played a lot better than the score shows." — AFP



Canada ready for World Cup 'battle' with the US

LOS ANGELES: Canada coach John Herdman has told his team to prepare for battle as they take on the United States in a pivotal CONCACAF World Cup qualifier today. The Canadians have emerged as the surprise package of Central America, North America and the Caribbean's qualifying competition, unbeaten in nine matches and leading the eight-team final round with 19 points.

A victory over the second-placed United States in Hamilton, Ontario today would put clear daylight between Canada and the chasing pack. With only four games remaining after today, victory could leave 'Les Rouges' firmly on course for their first trip to the World Cup in 36 years. Today's game takes place at the compact Tim Hortons Field in Hamilton. Due to local COVID-19 regulations, capacity for the game has been halved to around 12,000, but Herdman hopes the smaller crowd will nevertheless create a hostile environment for the visitors.

"It's going to feel tight and compact. We want the US to feel that," he said. "It's a battle. It's two teams that are desperate for three points and will do anything for it," said Herdman, the 46-year-old Englishman who took over as Canada's men's coach in 2018 after managing the women's side for seven years. For so long the whipping boys of CONCACAF's World Cup qualifying - prior to this campaign, Canada had not reached the final round of regional qualifiers since 1998 - Herdman has forged a close-knit group who are anything but pushovers.

They served notice of their capability in November with a 2-1 win over Mexico, and on Thursday grabbed a 2-0 win on the road over Honduras. Herdman believes the win over Honduras on Thursday embodied his team's spirit. "To get a 2-0 on the road was important for the team, to get our first win on the road, as well," he said. "More than anything, it was just about three points - that's all it comes down to. We bent a little bit, but we didn't break. I think that's the story of the identity of this team," Herdman said.

"It's a special story that's unfolding. It seems like every (player) is able to contribute on the journey," he added. "We'll keep relying on that mettle, that camaraderie, that brotherhood and we'll fight, that's what it will be in any game against the US. You've got to bring the battle, it's a cup final at home." The US meanwhile arrive in Canada after an unconvincing 1-0 home win over El Salvador in Columbus on Thursday. A victory over the Canadians today would give coach Gregg Berhalter's side valuable breathing space, however.

While they remain well-placed to qualify, the USA still must travel to Mexico and Costa Rica in March, traditionally awkward away games against two teams who are desperate for points. Mexico, who needed two late goals to overcome Jamaica 2-1 on Thursday in Kingston, host Costa Rica in a vital clash at the Azteca Stadium in Mexico City today. Panama, who are fourth in the standings behind Mexico, face a home game with Jamaica while Honduras host El Salvador in today's other game. — AFP

Classifieds

Hospitals & Clinics

Sabah Hospital	24812000	Kaizen center	25716707
Amiri Hospital	22450005	Rawda	22517733
Maternity Hospital	24843100	Adaliya	22517144
Mubarak Al-Kabir Hospital	25312700	Khalidiya	24848075
Chest Hospital	24849400	Kaifan	24849807
Farwaniya Hospital	24892010	Shamiya	24848913
Adan Hospital	23940620	Shuwaikh	24814507
Ibn Sina Hospital	24840300	Abdullah Salem	22549134
Al-Razi Hospital	24846000	Nuzha	22526804
Physiotherapy Hospital	24874330/9	Industrial Shuwaikh	24814764
		Qadsiya	22515088
		Dasmah	22532265
		Bneid Al-Gar	22531908

Clinics

Kuwait Times
THE FIRST DAILY IN KUWAIT

STAY CONNECTED

- Read Kuwait Times now on your phone for **FREE**
- Send Subscribe to **+965 944 88888**
- Enjoy the first daily paper in Kuwait on your phone

P.O. Box 1301 Safat, 13014 Kuwait
Tel: 24833199 - 24833358 - 24835616 / 7 Fax: 24835620 - 24835621
E: info@kuwaittimes.net

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Asad Uddin holder of Indian Passport No. T2416263 and Civil ID No. 287052008849 adding my name from Asad Uddin to Mohammed Asad Uddin S/o Mohammed Moulana hereinafter in all my dealings and documents I will be known by the name Mohammed Asad Uddin. (C 0978)

Rajaraman Sundarraj Son of Sundarraj and Janaki bearing an Indian passport number: Z5185102 and having an address No- 4A-1 Moongikollai street, Kumbakonam (po) Tanjore Dt., Tamilnadu n 612001 n had embraced Islam and changed the name as RAJA MOHAMMED is duly authenticated by Al-IFTA and Islamic Research sector

Al-IFTA dept. Ministry of Awaqaf and Islamic Affairs Kuwait, under reference no. F2091979. (C 1416) 27-1-2022

I, Kapil Mohan holder of passport number V9364954, do declare adding surname George along with given name Kapil Mohan. Full name to be Kapil Mohan George. (C1415)

I, Ramachandran Rajesh Mappilatharayil, Mappilatharayil House, Thiruvanchoor P.O, Kottayam, holder of Indian Passport No n P0378133 issued at Kuwait, do hereby change of my name as Rajesh Mappilatharayil Ramachandran with immediate effect. (C1414)

I have changed my name from Steven Jaorawala to Mustaali Muzaffar Hussain as per affidavit. (C1413) 26-1-2022