McIlroy opens World Tour Championship with 69

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — Rory McIlroy started the strongest of the Race to Dubai title contenders at the season-ending World Tour Championship on Thursday, shooting 3-under 69 to lie in third place and two strokes off first-round leader Joost Luiten.

McIlroy is seeking to claim the year-long award — crowning the best No. 1 player on the European tour that season — for a record-tying eighth time, and for the fifth straight year. He is guaranteed to do so with a victory at Jumeirah Golf Estates this week.

The world No. 2 is second in the Race to Dubai standings behind Eugenio Chacarra, who shot 72 and was already three strokes behind McIlroy.

They were in the final pairing on Thursday and McIlroy underlined his first-round superiority on the par-5 No. 18 with a 254-yard approach to 13 feet that set up a tap-in birdie, while Chacarra laid up from the rough and had to settle for par.

"Anything in the 60s today I felt was a good score," McIlroy said, a nod to the tricky conditions at the Earth course because of crosswinds and punishing thick rough lining the fairways and around the greens. "And sort of held it together nicely when I needed to."

Chacarra, playing his first year on the tour, acknowledged he was at a disadvantage against McIlroy and others who "have played this course a million more times."

"I know I need to do a couple of things better to be able to have a chance on Sunday, and that's what I'm going to focus on," the Spaniard said. "If I fix those, a little strategy-wise, and I can putt a little better, I think I'm going to have a chance on Sunday."

Patrick Reed, third in the Race to Dubai standings and the other realistic title contender, failed to turn around his recent slump in form and shot 75. After dropping a shot at No. 14 for his fourth bogey of the day, the American appeared to toss his putter toward his bag in frustration as he headed to the next tee.



Fatima Shbair | AP Photo

Rory McIlroy of Northern Ireland plays a shot on the 15th hole during the first round of the World Tour Golf Championship at Jumeirah Golf Estates in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, on Thursday.

Jon Rahm, the champion in Abu Dhabi last week who needs to win again and hope for Chacarra and McIlroy to finish way down the leaderboard, opened with 71.

PGA TOUR CARDS UP FOR GRABS

Luiten handled the tough conditions the best. He went out in 31 after five birdies in his front nine and was even par coming home, with a 6-foot birdie putt at the par-5 18th wrapping up a round of 67.

With so many points on offer this week, a win also would come with a huge reward for any outsider like Luiten. That's because up for grabs this week are 10 places on next season's PGA Tour available to European tour members who are not otherwise exempt.

Luiten isn't currently one of those 10. He was a stroke clear of Jakob Skov Olesen, who is among those in line for a PGA Tour card.

Victor Perez, Gregorio De Leo, Freddy Schott and Francesco Laporta were alongside McIlroy a further shot back after their 69s.

KANEKO EARNS ROOKIE AWARD

Kota Kaneko has become the second Japanese player to win the rookie of the year award on the European tour, at the end of a season when he won the Austrian Alpine Open and finished runner-up at the Soudal Open in a two-week stretch in May.

"The first person was Ryo Hisatsune, (who) is a good friend of mine, same age, and I know him really well," the 24-year-old Kaneko said. "So I'm really happy to be in the same category with him."

Kaneko also had four other top-20 finishes to qualify as one of the leading 50 available players for the World Tour Championship, where he shot 74 in the first round.

Ex-Cleveland Guardians catcher Naylor testifies he about gamblers bet

BY LARRY NEUMEISTER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Catcher Bo Naylor, a former teammate of Cleveland Guardians pitchers Emmanuel Clase and Luis Ortiz, testified Thursday at their New York sports betting trial that he didn't know gamblers could place bets on individual pitches until the criminal case arose.

Naylor, called as a defense witness out of turn because he is heading to his wedding, made the revelation under cross-examination by Assistant U.S. Attorney James Simmons, who asked if he knew such bets occurred at the time of 2025 baseball game recordings shown to a Brooklyn jury.

"I didn't know that before," he said. "I didn't know that until the situation."

"You didn't know people bet tens of thousands of dollars on pitches?" the prosecutor asked him, though Naylor was stopped from answering when an objection by defense lawyers was sustained.

The testimony reflected how quickly sports-betting possibilities have blossomed in recent years. Legal sports betting has spread to 39 states in a steady expansion since the U.S. Supreme Court cleared the way for it in 2018.

Betting on whether a pitch will be a ball or strike is a form of prop betting, a popular type of wager often focused on individual players — like achieving a certain number of strikeouts in baseball, or points and rebounds in basketball or surpassing a particular passing yardage in football.

Naylor, who was traded by Cleveland to the Milwaukee Brewers in August just weeks before his new team won the World Series, was shown dozens of clips of pitches thrown by Clase and Ortiz in 2025 when he was questioned first by defense lawyers for the pitchers.

The lawyers elicited from Naylor that catchers notify pitchers what pitches they should throw and where they should aim them before each pitch.

Naylor said catchers and pitchers develop a strategy during pregame meetings of how to best pitch to each opponent to get an out based on an analysis of the weak spots in the hitting habits of each batter.

He also acknowledged that pitchers, even the best ones, cannot be sure that each pitch will go where it is aimed.

Clase, a three-time All-Star and two-time American League Reliever of the Year, had "pretty good command" of his pitches, Naylor said.

Clase, 28, and Ortiz, 27, pleaded not guilty to conspiracy charges after they were filed a year ago. Prosecutors said the players accepted several thousand dollars in payments so sports gamblers could place bets on individual pitches, enabling the gamblers to pocket at least $460,000.

Prosecutors said Clase, who had completed the fourth season of a $20 million, five-year contract, began providing information about his pitches to bettors in 2023 and recruited Ortiz into the scheme in 2025. Ortiz earned $782,600 starting for the Guardians during the 2025 season.

Both are free on bail and are on nondisciplinary leave from the club without pay while facing prosecution.

Naylor, who studied Spanish so he could communicate better with Spanish-speaking teammates, acknowledged when he was being questioned by the prosecutor that he was not close friends with Clase or Ortiz.

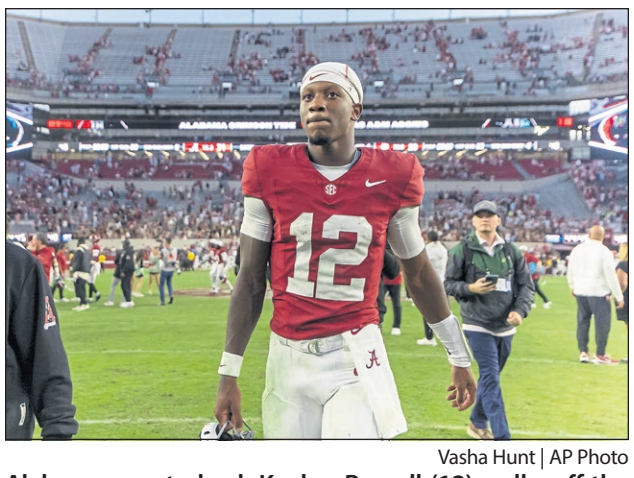
Simmons also elicited from Naylor that he had frequently seen Clase on his cellular phone in the locker room.

Prosecutors have alleged that Clase sometimes broke Major League Baseball rules by communicating with gamblers during games.

Naylor also acknowledged that pitchers ultimately have the final say as to what pitch gets thrown because pitchers can wave off the catcher's call in favor of a different pitch.

At one point during his testimony, Naylor was asked by Clase's defense attorney, Michael Ferrara, if he had heard that Clase was into cockfighting with people he knew from the Dominican Republic, where he grew up.

Naylor said he had based on "rumors I heard around the clubhouse."



Vasha Hunt | AP Photo

Alabama quarterback Keelon Russell (12) walks off the field after an NCAA college football game against Texas A&M, Saturday, Oct. 24, in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

SEC Week 11: Texas heads into Death Valley as LSU fights

BY MAURA CAREY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Things to watch this week in the Southeastern Conference:

Game of the week

No. 8 Texas (7-2, 4-2 SEC, No. 6 CFP) at No. 24 LSU (6-3, 3-3, No. 21 CFP), Saturday, 7:30 p.m. ET (ABC)

An LSU team desperate for a win hosts a Texas team with momentum.

LSU is coming off a 31-13 home loss to Alabama. A three-loss playoff team isn't out of the question, but a win over a top-10 team would certainly help.

Texas is comfortably in the playoff picture in the College Football Playoff committee's most recent rankings following a 34-20 win over Missouri. Arch Manning had one of his best games on Saturday, throwing for 297 yards and three touchdowns. But the pressure goes up this weekend for Manning, who will need to be on the run from an LSU pass rush that ranks third nationally in sacks (36) this season.

LSU, looking to avoid back-to-back home losses for the first time since 2016, is a 4-point favorite.

The undercard

Missouri (6-3, 3-3, No. 22 CFP) at No. 1 Georgia (8-1, 6-1, No. 1 CFP), Saturday, 3:30 p.m. ET (ABC, Disney+)

Georgia used its 42-7 Week 10 rout of Ole Miss to jump to No. 1 status in the AP Top 25 and CFP rankings, and looks like the most complete team in the country right now.

Things tend to go well for Mizzou when it can get a rushing attack with Jamal Roberts going, but that's been easier said than done in losses to Ole Miss and Texas — two of the three times he was held under 70 rushing yards this season. Ahmad Hardy is also back for the Tigers after recovering from a gunshot wound, though the 2025 standout has seen limited snaps since returning.

Georgia has been efficient in stopping the run, holding opponents to the fewest rushing yards per game (83.8) in the conference.

The top-ranked Bulldogs are a 14-point favorite.

IMPACT PLAYERS

- Georgia receiver Talyn Taylor comes off a breakout performance, catching four passes for 130 yards and three touchdowns in the win over Ole Miss.
- Tennessee linebacker Arion Carter made 13 tackles, 10 solo, and finished with two sacks and four tackles for loss in the 34-6 win over Kentucky.

Black Sheep ANTIQUES

Moving Sale
Dr. Vaughn Sanders
2129 South Stratford Drive
Owensboro, KY 42301

Thursday, Nov. 12, 9am-4pm
Friday, Nov. 13, 9am-4pm
Saturday, Nov. 14, 9am-2pm

Dr. Sanders has decided to sell his lovely home. He was quite the extensive traveler and has lots of unique and unusual items, along with nice furnishings, household decor and garage tools and miscellaneous. Items included in this sale: two beautiful dining room table and chairs sets, Chippendale mahogany lighted breakfront, very nice breakfast set with chairs, nice blue leather sofa, blue leather club chair with ottoman, blue leather wing back recliner, camelback upholstered loveseat, pair of upholstered wingback, chairs, beautiful grandfather, clock with bonnet top, cherry slant front secretary, mahogany lingerie chest, Lane cedar chest with bombay front, mahogany tiered corner table with tooled leather top, Duncan Phyfe piecrust table, cherry console/sofa table, white iron daybed, pair of French Provencial end tables, French Provencial armchair with woven cane back, two bow-front mahogany chests, multiple televisions, antique steamer/travelers trunk, Demilune table, stepback cabinet with open shelving, electric recliner, upholstered coffee table-style ottoman, various styles of coffee tables, mid-century-modern console stereo, very nice multiple piece wall unit perfect for a desk/office or entertainment center, gentleman's armoire with drawers and hanging bar, multiple side/end tables, lamps, Persian rugs, jewelry chest, multiple military trunks, various military insignia, including dog tags, uniform buttons, pins & patches, spurs, costume jewelry, vintage hats, Designer sunglasses (Fendi, Kate Spade, Laura Bogetti, TURA, Cazal, etc.), purses (Aigner, Talbots, etc.),
Star Wars figures - new inbox, Micro Machines - new in box, 10-speed bicycle, dollhouse furniture, outdoor poly wicker patio chaise, side chair and coffee table, Revere Ware copper pots & pans, tons of kitchenwares, gadgets & small appliances, landscaping stones, hand tools, lawn & garden tools. There is just too much to mention in the sale, and we are still finding great things!

To view photographs of items visit estatesales.org or you can always call Donna at 270-903-7859 with questions.

Cash or check with proper ID, 3% fee will be added to card purchases. We also accept Venmo. All sales are final and all items purchased are as-is. No returns or refunds. KY sales tax of 6% charged, unless a resale exemption certificate is presented. We are not responsible for accidents.

YOU MUST bring help to move large items as we DO NOT have staff to assist. All items must be removed by 2pm on Saturday.

GARAGE SALE

WEST-Hayden Bdg Rd, 4855
Estate Sale - Part 2
Nov 13th & 14th
8AM-4PM
Reduced prices, new household items, clothing, and furniture have been added.

EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted.
Dairy Farm full time position.
House provided.
Brandenburg/Mauckport area. Call 812-732-4769.

LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
INVITATION TO BID

Bid No. 2627-24: One (1) New Class A Fire Engine (Fire-Yelvington)
Bid No. 2627-25: Bituminous Asphalt Hot Mix & Pavement Milling (Annual)
Bid No. 2627-26: Two (2) New Class A Fire Engines (Fire Rescue)

Daviess County Fiscal Court is seeking a qualified vendor to provide the item(s)/service(s) listed above. Bid specifications are on file at the Daviess County Courthouse, 212 St. Ann Street: Room 202, Owensboro, KY 42303 in the Purchasing Department or online at www.daviessky.org. Bids must be mailed or delivered to Daviess County Fiscal Court on or before 2:00 PM, local time on Thursday, December 3, 2026. The bids shall be opened and publicly read at this time. Daviess County Fiscal Court reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any irregularities in said bids.

LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
INVITATION TO BID

Bid No. 1-2026 - New AWD SUV

Daviess County Property Valuation Office is seeking a qualified vendor to supply a New AWD SUVs for the Daviess County Property Valuation Office. Bid specifications are on file at the Daviess County Courthouse, 212 St. Ann Street: Room 102, Owensboro, KY 42303 or can be requested by E-mail: customerservice@daviesskypva.org. Bids must be mailed, e-mailed or delivered to The Daviess County Property Valuation Office on or before 2:00 PM, local time on Wednesday, November 18, 2026 The bids shall be opened and publicly read at this time. Daviess County Property Valuation Office reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any irregularities in said bids.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Public Sale:
At Home Self Storage intends to enforce its lien on certain self-service storage Leased Spaces in default listed below on the 14th of November, 2026 at 9:00 AM on storagetreasures.com with the sale to conclude no earlier than 5:00 p.m. on the 24th of November, 2026.
Space: G4 Occupant Name: Amber Boggs
This public sale will result in the goods being sold to the highest bidder. The winning bidder must pay by cash or credit card at the time he/she is declared the winning bidder. Certain terms and conditions apply; see the Manager for additional details.

LEGAL NOTICE

SHERIFF'S TAX NOTICE

2026 Real Estate and Tangible Property taxes are now payable in accordance with the following schedule:

2% Discount	if paid by	12-10-2026
Face Value	if paid by	01-10-2027
5% Penalty	if paid by	02-10-2027
21% Penalty	if paid after	04-25-2027

2026 paper bills have been mailed as of this notice. Payments made after 4-25-2027 are subject to additional penalties and must be paid through the Daviess County Clerk's Office. Credit/Debit card payments require an added fee paid to the card processor. Due dates that fall on a weekend or holiday are payable on the next business day. Additional information, and to view & pay your bill anytime, can be found on our website: DCSOKY.GOV. Our tax line office number is 270.685.6133.

Daviess County Sheriff
212 Saint Ann Street
Owensboro, Kentucky 42303