



Metro/Sports

Great finish, season for Woods

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Ben Hogan so thoroughly dominated professional golf in 1953 that when he returned home from the British Open after winning his third major championship, he was treated to a ticker-tape parade.

For Tiger Woods, they might as well save the confetti.

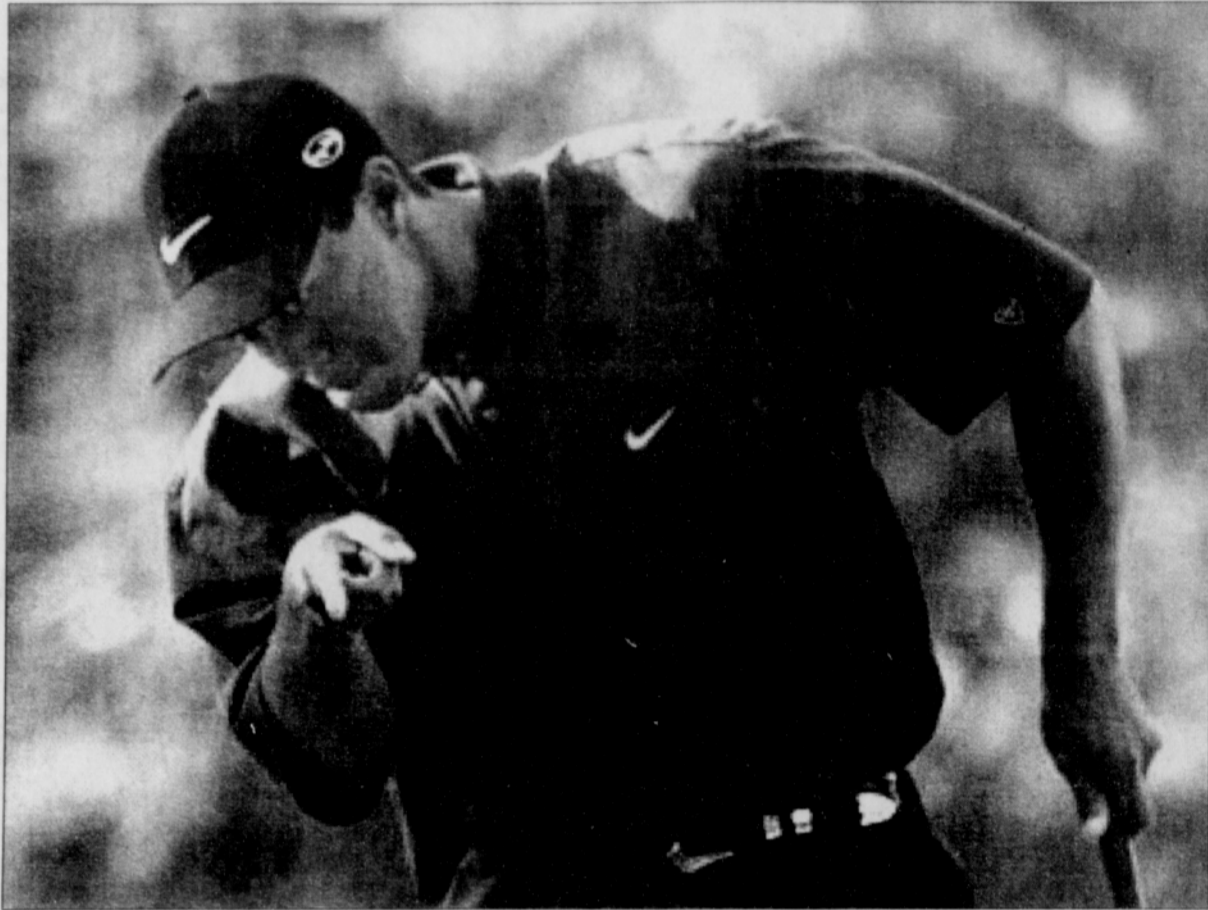
He not only matched Hogan's feat of three majors in one season, he set a new benchmark of domination by winning his fourth out of the last five, winning the PGA Championship on Sunday in a thrill-a-minute playoff over Bob May.

Is it the greatest season ever in golf? "Three major championships and the season is not over for Tiger," Tom Watson said. "It would rank right up with the best."

Bobby Jones won the Grand Slam in 1930, but that was at a time in which the "majors" were defined as the U.S. Open and Amateur and the British Open and Amateur. Jones never turned professional.

Hogan turned in what is generally regarded as the greatest single-season feat in golf in 1953. He was 41, his legs still weak from a car accident four years earlier that nearly killed him, when he won five of the six tournaments he played.

He won the Masters, U.S. Open and British Open, the only majors he entered. Hogan couldn't play the PGA Championship that year



Tiger Woods points to his ball as it drops for birdie on the first hole of a three-hole playoff against Bob May at the PGA Championship on Sunday, Aug. 20, 2000 at the Valhalla Golf Club in Louisville, Ky. May made par on the hole.

because it was held the same week as British Open qualifying, and Hogan's legs could not have carried him for over 200 holes of the match-play format. "Ben Hogan... he has won so many tournaments it's scary —

especially after the car accident, to come back and play as well as he did," Woods said. "He was incredible. He played at a level that not too many players could ever attain." History will determine that, because Woods

is just getting warmed up. "I remember Hogan in his heyday," said Peter Thomson, a five-time British Open champion. "He was equally awesome, very nearly unbeatable. The two compare favorably."

Jefferson's 'other' guard now 'the' guard

ASSOCIATED PRESS

UCLA, Kansas, Arizona and Duke. Sounds like a heck of a Final Four, doesn't it?

For Jefferson High School point guard Aaron Miles, the schools are his final four — his options, as he decides where he will continue his basketball career a year from now.

Miles, who was a starting guard for the Democrats as a junior last season when they won the Class 4A basketball title, has become one of the hottest prospects in the nation. The 6-foot Miles is rated No. 4 in the nation among point guards by FoxSports.com, and after a summer of impressive showings at national camps and tournaments, he has his choice of the aforementioned schools.

"It's kind of a surprise," Miles said. "Starting this summer, I was a little low in the rankings, so I knew I had to play hard to move up."

And he did. Earlier this summer, Miles was invited to the National Basketball Players Association camp in Washington. The camp features the top 80 high school players in the nation, and Miles won the most valuable player award at the camp, joining past winners such as Kobe Bryant and Allen Iverson. "I've tried to put all biases

aside," said

Troy Berry, the Lincoln High School coach who coached Miles on the Portland Elite Basketball Organization's Legends team the last two summers. "But he is the best player in the nation at point guard. He can score when he wants, but he gets everyone involved with his passing. When you can dominate a game with the pass the way Aaron does, it really says a lot about a player's basketball IQ."

Miles toured the nation this summer playing for the Legends team — a group of the top high school players in Oregon — and more colleges started showing interest in him. Kansas coach Roy Williams, UCLA coach Steve Lavin and Arizona coach Lute Olson all made appearances at the team's games. Kentucky and North Carolina jumped on the bandwagon later in the summer, but by then, Miles had narrowed his choices.

"Everywhere I went, people were watching me," Miles said.

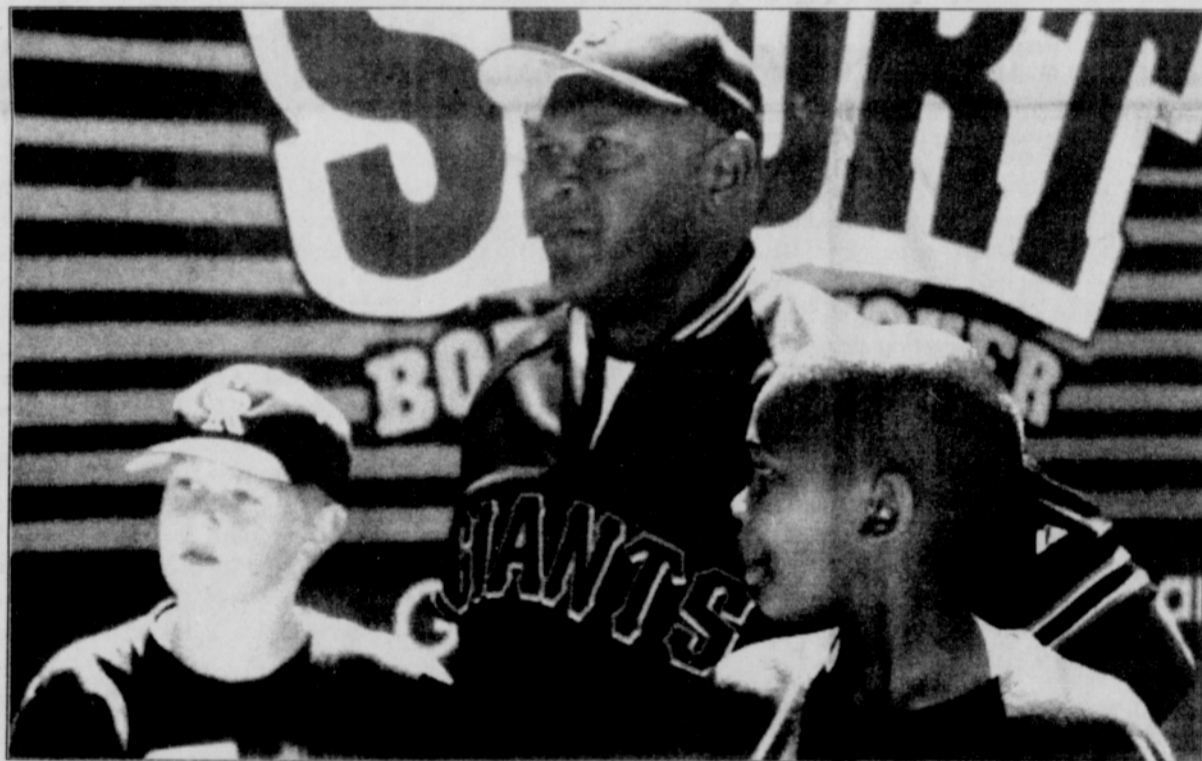
Miles, who has a 3.5 grade-point average and scored 1,020 on the SAT, said he plans to sign a letter of intent with Kansas, UCLA, Arizona or Duke in November, after he makes visits to two or three schools in October. Duke recently signed a point guard, so one of the other schools could have the edge.

Vida Blue makes rare visit to Portland

Vida Blue made a rare visit to

Portland's new PGE Park Sunday August 13 to play host to a world class baseball clinic for Portland youth of all ages.

Kyle Kuch left, and Michael Harper Jr. right, pay close attention to the details provided by Vida's watchful eye.



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