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## David montgomery practice participation

\*Lions conducted a walkthrough on Wednesday. Practice participation designations for that day are based on estimations. Lions running back David Montgomery (knee) had full participation in the walk-through Tuesday as he attempts to return from an injury that initially was expected to end his season.He missed the final three games but did not require surgery, and the Lions did not place him on injured reserve.Montgomery is expected to play Saturday night."It'll mean a lot," Campbell said, via Erik Schlitt of prideofdetroit.com. "He's a big part of us. He's a huge part of us, and to me, he's a bell cow. He's a tone-setter. He's a catalyst. So, there's a place for him. There's a place for him here, so there'll be a place for him in this game. So, it's going to be good to get him back."Montgomery scored 12 rushing touchdowns and had 775 rushing yards. He also caught 36 passes for 341 yards in the regular season. Cornerback Terrion Arnold (foot) also was listed as a full participant. His injury looked worse than it turned out to be as he was carted off the field in Week 18. He has a foot contusion that will not keep him off the field.In 16 games as a rookie, Arnold recorded 60 total tackles with 10 passes defended and one fumble recovery. He was on the field for 91 percent of defensive snaps in games played.Right guard Kevin Zeitler (hamstring), defensive lineman Pat O'Connor (calf) and cornerback Ennis Rakestraw (hamstring/illness) did not practice.Zeitler and O'Connor were injured in the Week 18 game against the Vikings.Rakestraw is two weeks into his 21-day practice window as he seeks to return from injured reserve. • After picking up 15 wins in the regular season on their way to the NFC's No. 1 seed, the Detroit Lions were able to forego the wild-card round and skip straight to the divisional round.An offense with Pro Bowl talent across the board was the driving force behind Detroit's success throughout the season. In fact, the Lions held the league's No. 1 scoring offense this season, averaging 33.2 points per game, the highest mark of any team since the 2019 Ravens during Lamar Jackson's first MVP campaign.Many would describe the Detroit offense as overwhelming, with that reputation largely being built up by their dominant running back tandem of Jahmyr Gibbs and David Montgomery. Also known as "Sonic and Knuckles", this duo makes up the most talented and versatile backfield in the NFL.Over the last few weeks, it's been a one-man show, though. Montgomery has been dealing with a knee injury, leaving Gibbs to carry the load by himself. However, there's some optimism that Montgomery will be able to return for Detroit's playoff push.SN'S PLAYOFFS HQ: Live NFL scores | Full NFL schedule | Updated NFL brackets David Montgomery playing this week? Injury update for Detroit RBAfter leaving the game in Week 15 with a knee injury, it was revealed that Montgomery was dealing with an MCL issue. Initially, it was feared that the injury would require surgery and Montgomery would be lost for the season.The Lions opted to get multiple opinions on Montgomery's knee which provided new hope for a potential return during the playoffs. Montgomery avoided the IR but has been unable to take the field since Week 15.Heading into the divisional round, head coach Dan Campbell expressed optimism in regards to Montgomery's availability.More Lions injuries: Campbell said he expects to have David Montgomery for the Lions' first playoff game. He said Lions got positive news on Terrion Arnold and Kevin Zeitler, so so positive on Pat O'Connor.Also said Derrick Barnes and Carlton Davis won't be back for Super Bowl.— Dave Birkett (@davebirkett) January 7, 2025Further optimism is warranted after Montgomery practiced in full both Tuesday and Wednesday to begin the week.#Lions RB David Montgomery (knee) was listed as a full participant in practice again today and remains on track for a remarkable return Saturday vs. Washington.— Tom Pelissero (@TomPelissero) January 15, 2025Given his full practice participation, all signs are pointing towards Montgomery taking the field on Saturday evening alongside Gibbs and the Detroit offense.Montgomery is off the injury report and is expected to play on Saturday night. David Montgomery officially is off the Lions' injury report and good to go Saturday night. pic.twitter.com/11NbCdyUXF— Adam Scheffer (@AdamScheffer) January 16, 2025Lions RB Depth ChartLions RB Depth ChartRankName1Jahmyr Gibbs2David Montgomery3Craig ReynoldsIf Montgomery is unable to play, expect to see Gibbs take the vast majority of the work in Saturday's must-win game. Third-stringer Craig Reynolds would likely come on to spell Gibbs here and there, but Gibbs would likely be a one-man wrecking crew in Montgomery's absence.MORE NFL PLAYOFFS: A juggernaut Detroit Lions offense appears to be getting stronger.The Lions listed David Montgomery as a full participant in an estimated practice report on Tuesday, just weeks after he was believed to be lost for the season with a knee injury.AdvertisementAdvertisementThe Lions conducted a walk-through rather than a full practice Tuesday. But Montgomery's designation is further indication that Detroit's 1-2 running punch of Montgomery and Jahmyr Gibbs will be at full strength for Saturday's divisional-round tilt against the Washington Commanders.It's great news for the Lions, who remained elite even in the three-plus games since Montgomery injured his knee in Week 15 against the Bills. Detroit scored 31 points or more in each of its last four games as Gibbs averaged 150.3 yards from scrimmage and tallied eight touchdowns in a featured role in Montgomery's absence.But Detroit's offense is even more dynamic with Montgomery in the mix, a daunting prospect for the Commanders and anybody else the Lions might face this postseason. His return was unfathomable in Week 15.Amid reports that Montgomery had torn his MCL, head coach Dan Campbell told reporters that Montgomery required season-ending knee surgery. Since then, Montgomery sought and received medical opinions that recommended rehab rather than season-ending surgery on his MCL injury.AdvertisementAdvertisementCampbell has since said that he expects Montgomery to return for the playoffs, and now Montgomery's back in the practice mix.Montgomery's designation wasn't the only good news for the Lions on their practice report. Rookie starting cornerback Terrion Arnold was also listed as a full participant after suffering a foot injury in Detroit's season finale against the Minnesota Vikings.Right guard Kevin Zeitler, however, was listed as a non-participant, and his status remains in doubt for Saturday due to a hamstring injury sustained against the Vikings.