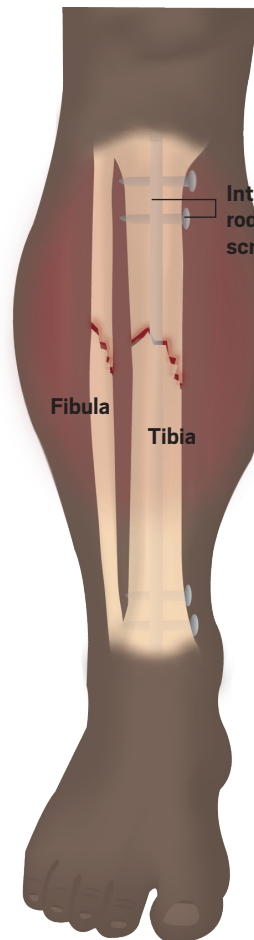


## INTRAMEDULLARY ROD SURGERY FOR A TIBIA FRACTURE



Newell's fracture was compound. Both the tibia and the fibula broke completely in half. Newell said doctors told him it was a straight break, meaning it was a solid break with no chips or separated pieces.

For a typical intramedullary surgery like Newell's, a drill is used to place a long rod through the tibia's intramedullary canal. Then screws are locked into the sides of the bone to secure the rod in place. In Newell's case, he also fractured the fibula, the smaller bone. The fibula was able to heal itself without a rod.

The rod will remain in Newell's leg permanently, but his bone recovered fairly quickly. About eight months after his surgery, Newell was able to play again.

SOURCES: [emedicine.medscape.com](http://emedicine.medscape.com), [doereport.com](http://doereport.com)

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