

Sports Beat

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"I missed a lot of easy baskets," said Jordan, who made 12 of 23 from the field. "I had more turnovers than I wanted, but I'm young and I'll learn from my mistakes."

Sunday's glimpse of Jordan showed that he is nearly impossible to contain in the middle of the floor. He doesn't look all that graceful, mainly because dribbling slows him down.

"I like the versatility of this team," Albeck noted. "When we give Michael the ball in the middle of the floor, it puts enormous pressure on the defense."

Except for a three-pointer at the end of the first period and a handful of effortless jumpers, most of Jordan's points came on drives through the Bucks' defense.

Because of Jordan's presence, there was little panic to be discovered in the Bulls, who went 38-44 last season and were eliminated by the Bucks in the first round of the playoffs.

"When I coached at Cleveland, we played exhibitions like we were in the playoffs," Albeck said. "We went 7-1 and

started the season something like 2-10. Everyone is 0-0 when the real season starts Friday."

The Bulls, who host Cleveland Friday and Detroit Saturday to open the regular season, do have problems. They need help at point guard and their center situation is dismal at best.

But power forward Charles Oakley, the Virginia Union alum, has helped the Bulls hide some of their shortcomings under the basket. The 6-9½, 243-pound Oakley missed Sunday's game. However, he was coming off his best effort of the preseason in a 113-91 loss to the Washington Bullets at Hampton, Va., Saturday night. In that game, the Bulls' No. 1 choice in the June draft had a team-high 10 rebounds while scoring nine points.

"I didn't play him today because he was run down," Albeck said of the NCAA Division II Player of the Year. "He's going to be OK. He's a physical player and a good rebounder. Every club needs someone like him. He's been running in concrete, so to speak. He played the whole last quarter last night and I

think he deserved a rest."

His teammates have accepted Oakley in large part because of his personality. The Cleveland native is a blue-collar guy who likes to mix it up under the basket.

"Because of his personality, he is well-liked," Albeck said. "He has a great temperament for pro ball."

It appears Oakley will not have much of an impact early in the season. But Albeck will work him in slowly, at first using him as an enforcer off the bench.

Chicago fans are looking forward to watching Oakley, whose bruising style of play will remind them of the Bulls under Dick Motta. His teams featured Jerry Sloan and Norm Van Lier falling on the floor whenever possible.

Oakley was out, not down Sunday.

"What I do this season depends on how hard I work," he said. "There will be a period of adjustment. But I'm still high on this season."

In all likelihood, the Bulls will fly as high as Jordan does.

Local Sports

From Page B2

Demons 6; Titans 12, Cowboys 8; Vikings 36, Indians 0; Raiders 6, Falcons 0; Grayhounds won by forfeit over Dolphins. Midgets: Demons 42, Wildcats 8; Cowboys 16, Titans 8; Vikings 6, Indians 2; Grayhounds 32, Raiders 0.

Bantams: Vikings 20, Wildcats 0; Lewisville won by forfeit over Kernersville.

14th Street Ball

A four-letter word rises above the squeaking of sneakers on the tile floor of 14th Street Recreation Center and the gasping of teen-age basketball players.

"Technical," Hansel Hentz says indifferently.

The offending player looks incredulous, as if to say "I didn't do it."

But he walks to the other end of the floor with his teammates while an opponent makes a free throw.

Hentz operates an after-school basketball program on Mondays and Wednesdays at the 14th Street Center. The program gives neighborhood youth the opportunity to fine-tune their games.

"This is an intramural program," said Hentz, an assistant director at the East Winston recreation center. "These kids play down here all year long, but this gives them an opportunity to play organized ball."

Hentz has the youngsters from various county schools play by some rules that he hopes will bring discipline to their games.

"The intent is to keep the kids in shape until high school season starts," said Hentz, also the director of the Winston-Salem Summer League. "So we emphasize running the floor. I don't want to see any four-on-threes. If all five (offensive) players aren't in the frontcourt when a basket scores, it doesn't count."

"In rec ball, these kids play halfcourt most of the time. They have little idea how to play fullcourt. You don't run the floor, you won't keep up. All these kids can run and this gives them a chance to learn how to run the floor."

Hentz occasionally will call for an outlet pass. If it is not executed and a basket scores, the point (games are to 11 by ones) do not count.

The former Anderson and Fayetteville State football player also stresses court decorum.

"Look, you can't back talk your coach or curse in high school ball," said Hentz, who also played basketball at Anderson. "So we play an automatic technical if you you curse or back talk."

Hentz said he has players from Carver, Glenn, West, Mount Tabor and East participating in the twice-weekly pickup games.

West's Dwayne Morgan and Tracy "Stretch" Jones have been the standouts.

"Morgan has really improved his game," Hentz said. "I think it's probably helped him as much as anybody."

Middle School Program

Program Director Luther Burden says the Winston Lake Family YMCA Middle School Basketball League offers youngsters more than just an opportunity to play hoops.

"This program will try to give instruction on the techniques and skills of basketball," Burden said last Saturday, the opening week of the program. "We want to go beyond that, however. We want this to be an educational experience, to teach them to have respect in school, at home and for the people in charge of looking after them. We hope it's a moral and an educational experience, too."

Burden, a former basketball player for the University of Utah, the (American Basketball Association) Virginia Squares and (National Basketball Association) New York Knicks, said he expects to start with four teams. Each team will carry eight players.

"The cutoff point will be 11," he added. "Beyond that number, we would make a new team."

The league will play on Saturdays from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m.

"The more I see out here the better, but if the group is small, the individuals will receive more attention," Burden noted. "I won't turn anybody away."

"Basically, this will be

preparation so they can go out on their own and do what they want, whether it's play varsity ball (at the high school level) or not. This will help prepare them to be gentlemen on their own."

For more information, contact Burden at the Winston Lake Y (724-9205).

Winston Lake Golf

The Winston Lake Golf Association held a welcome party for new pro Ernest Morris last Thursday. Morris came to Winston Lake from Tanglewood, where he had been an assistant.

If you would like to have a result or note published, call David Bulla at 723-8448 or send your information to P.O. Box 3154, Winston-Salem, N.C., 27102. Information received after 5:30 p.m. Monday will be held for publication the following week.

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