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## FAIRWELL

### Bulls' Guard Michael Jordan Retires From Basketball

By BRIAN MURPHY  
Sports Editor

CHICAGO — Michael Jordan said goodbye again. The Chicago Bulls superstar ended months of speculation by officially announcing his retirement from basketball Wednesday for the second time.

"I played it the best I could," Jordan said in front of a media onslaught and a barrage of camera flashes. "I tried to be the best basketball player I could be."

The best player he could be was arguably the greatest player ever. Jordan carried the Bulls to six NBA titles in his last six full NBA seasons.

Jordan retired previously in October 1993, after winning three consecutive NBA crowns. He played minor-league baseball for a year in the Chicago White Sox organization before returning to basketball late in the 1994-95 season.

But Jordan said this time retirement is for real. "It's not really 100 percent, but it's close," he said. "You can take that for what it's worth, but I'm very secure in my decision."

Jordan sat at a table on the floor of the United Center, a stadium opened prior to the 1994-95 season based largely on the money Jordan's presence brought to the Bulls. At the table sat Bulls chairman Jerry Reinsdorf, Jordan's wife Juanita and NBA Commissioner David Stern.

Reinsdorf, whom Jordan had public debates with over the composition and coach of the team, spoke after Jordan finished his statement. Reinsdorf presented Jordan with his sixth NBA championship ring — the one Jordan clinched by scoring four points and stripping Utah forward Karl Malone of the ball in the final minute of Game 6 in last season's NBA Finals.

Reinsdorf also unveiled Jordan's jersey in the rafters above the United Center.

"Today is a day I hoped would never come," Reinsdorf said. "It is the toughest day in the history of the Chicago Bulls, the NBA and the city of Chicago."

"He was simply the best player ever to put on a uniform." Stern, on the other hand, tried to put a positive spin on a move that will not help his efforts to rebuild fan support for the NBA following a six-month lockout.

"The greatest basketball player in the history of the game is getting to retire with the same grace that he played the game," Stern said.

For his part, Jordan seemed upbeat, talking easily with the media. He said he considered announcing his decision by merely saying, "I'm gone," but felt he owed the fans more than that.

The decision, he said, came down to the simple fact that he



DTH/DAVID SANDLER

Former Chicago Bulls star Michael Jordan laughs with his wife, Juanita, at Wednesday's press conference in which Jordan announced his retirement from the NBA.

## Retirement Should Equal Relaxation for Jordan

Michael Jordan's cousin says the retirement will allow Jordan to spend more time with family.

By T. NOLAN HAYES  
Assistant Sports Editor

Michael Jordan's retirement from basketball on Wednesday means many things to a lot of different people.

Children have to say a sad goodbye to their hero. NBA commissioner David Stern loses the world's best salesman. The Chicago Bulls have to find a way to win without the game's greatest player.

But what does retirement mean to Jordan himself?

Second helpings at the dinner table, according to his cousin Kenny Newkirk.

"Finally he gets to rest," said Newkirk, who knew of Jordan's intentions since the summer. "Now he can sit back at family reunions and eat as much as he wants. He can work on getting a stomach."

Newkirk's sentiments about Jordan deserving a respite were echoed by North Carolina men's basketball coach Bill Guthridge, who was an assistant during Jordan's three years at UNC. "We're happy for Michael," Guthridge said. "He certainly deserves to retire. He's done an unbelievable job as an ambassador for this university."

Jordan also did a fairly decent job promoting basketball. He helped turn the NBA into the worldwide attraction it is right now, becoming one of the most famous people on the planet.

His competitiveness and pure talent left anyone who met him in awe and caused many people to question his decision to leave when he was still on top of the basketball world.

"It's easy for us sportscasters to say, 'Mike, how can you do it?'" said Stuart Scott, an anchor on ESPN's SportCenter and a 1987 UNC graduate. "But it's not about us. It's about Mike and his family."

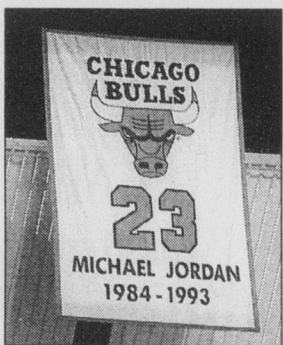
And Jordan aims to spend much more time on the golf course and with his family —

his wife, Juanita, and three children — now that he won't have to contend with NBA double-teams. "Juanita is fully for (the decision to retire)," Newkirk said. "She gets to have him at home a lot, and plus he gets to be with the kids a lot more."

At his press conference Wednesday, Jordan said he was already thoroughly enjoying the one-on-one battles he gets to witness on a daily basis between his two young sons, Marcus and Jeffrey. Jordan engaged in similar combat throughout his own childhood when he took on his older brother Larry on a dirt court in Wilmington.

Jordan used to get beaten and beaten up

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## Trial of President to Open With Arguments in Senate

The House made a formal request this week to call Monica Lewinsky as a witness in the Senate trial.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Bracing for opening arguments in his impeachment trial, President Clinton said Wednesday he will tend studiously to "the business of the people" while his fate is settled in historic Senate proceedings. House prosecutors said Monica Lewinsky had recently rejected their request for a pre-trial interview.

With the first formal presentation of evidence set for Thursday, Judiciary

Committee Republicans said they had sought permission earlier in the week to talk with the woman at the center of the sex-and-cover-up scandal. Her attorneys "declined to make her available," said a committee spokesman, Paul J. McNulty.

Legal sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity, disclosed that a similar request was made to at least one other potential witness, Kathleen Willey.



Chief Justice William Rehnquist will preside over the impeachment trial that opens today in the Senate.

Apart from Clinton's remarks Wednesday, his legal team dispatched a formal trial brief to the Senate arguing that neither "fact or law" warranted his removal from office.

"The vote the American people rendered ... is hanging in the balance," the brief said.

"They have their job to do in the Senate, and I have mine," the president told reporters in his first public utterance in three weeks on an issue that has tarnished his presidency for posterity. "I trust that the right thing will be done."

A two-thirds vote of the Senate is required to convict him and remove him from office.

The trial is to resume at 1 p.m., with

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## Student Announces Plans To Run for RHA President

Sophomore Jermain Reeves says he wants to improve the environment of UNC residence halls.

By LINDSAY KIM  
Staff Writer

One student declared plans to run for Residence Hall Association president at an interest meeting for candidates held Wednesday night.

Sophomore Jermain Reeves was the only candidate that attended the meeting with RHA President David Jernigan. "This gives me something to get involved with to try to help other students and to somehow better life on this campus," Reeves said.

He said he had no experience with RHA, but was involved with the Race

Relations and Greek Affairs Committees of student government.

Reeves, who has lived in Morrison Residence Hall for two years, said he wanted to improve the environment of UNC residence halls.

"Living conditions are not what I thought they would be because they're really not up to par, especially with the money people are paying to come here," he said.

Jernigan said he knew of one other candidate interested in running for RHA president, but would not divulge the name.

"People are really in the early stages of this," Jernigan said.

"Unfortunately people are also getting a late start."

Elections Board Chairwoman Heather Faulk, Assistant Director of

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## INSIDE Thursday

### Terrapin Trouble

Fifth-ranked Maryland used a second-half surge to turn a close game into a 89-76 victory over the No. 9 Tar Heels at the Smith Center. See Page 10.



### Calling All Donations

Chapel Hill and Carrboro police are collecting cellular phones for needy people so they can dial 911 in emergencies. See Page 4.

### Today's Weather

Mostly Cloudy, Upper 50s;  
Friday: Cloudy, Upper 40s.

*This is the perfect time to walk away from the game. I'm at peace with that.*

Michael Jordan