

History of the Chicago Bulls 1984 – 2019

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Preface

The Bulls were not the 1st pro basketball team to play in this city. In fact, another NBA team, still in existence, played in the Windy City back in the early 1960s. The **Chicago Zephyrs** (later **Packers**) even featured the NBA Rookie of the Year (**Walt Bellamy**) but the team was unable to draw significant crowds at the Chicago Stadium before moving on to Baltimore. They are known today as the Washington Wizards.

From 1926-31, Chicago Bears owner **George Halas** owned and coached the **Chicago Bruins** of the American Basketball League. Halas re-formed the Bruins again in 1939, now a member of the National Basketball League, then sold his team off to the **Studebaker Flyers** after 3 unsuccessful seasons.

Two years later, the **Chicago American Gears** assembled. Despite winning the 1947 NBL championship and featured DePaul's 6'10" All-American, **George Mikan**, the club disbanded in 1950.

The **Chicago Stags** (1946-1950) of the Basketball Association of American included guards Max Zaslofsky and University of Illinois' Andy Philip but Chicago Stadium crowds were too small to support the team.

In 1961-62, The **Chicago Majors** were one of 8 teams in the short-lived **American Basketball League**. Led by former U of Illinois star, Andy Phillip, club finished 39-44 and lost in the conference semi-finals. Squad included former NY Knicks guard Nat "Sweetwater" Clifton. The Majors and the ABL folded the following year.

By the mid-1960s, the league was medium-cool when considering another start-up team from Chicago, but the NBA's top brass saw the need for another big-market team. The city of Chicago did not exactly embrace the **Bulls**, only 4,200 (estimated) paid to watch their 1st home game at the **International Amphitheater** (Halsted & 42nd Street). Coached by **John "Red" Kerr**, the club did make the playoffs but were swept in 3 games by the St. Louis Hawks.

Dick Motta, the club's 2nd coach, led the team to 4 straight 50+ win seasons and two Conference Finals but no NBA championship. Motta's core of players included Jerry Sloan, Norm Van Lier, Chet Walker, Bob Love, and Tom Boerwinkle. But from 1975-1984, Motta and several other coaches could only guide the team to 2 playoff appearances - even after acquiring 7'2" ABA star Artis Gilmore in the 1976 dispersal draft.

In the early 1980s, the **NBA was in crisis mode**. Even though the league had marquee players like Abdul-Jabbar Julius Erving (Dr. J), Larry Bird and Magic Johnson, there were no major TV contracts, many teams were operating in the red (see League, 1980 and 1981) and it was disclosed that drug use among players was on the rise.

The **1984-85 season** was a pivotal one for both the Bulls and the NBA. The team drafted **Michael Jordan** (University of North Carolina) and by April were under new, more stable management. Before he began wearing his famous **23** jersey, Jordan was on the **US Olympic team that won the gold medal** in Los Angeles. Cable and TV contract money began rolling in and teams were finally gaining profits. Professional basketball's rise was finally taking shape. Thanks to the Bulls and Michael Jordan, the team and league were no longer under the nation's radar.

Dear Friends:

Your e-book on the **History of the Chicago Bulls** begins in 1984, and advances, year by year to current. Each year/season includes the following: standings, draft choices, Club news, accounts of specific regular season games and playoff series, League notes, noteworthy games, league-leaders, list of rookies and stars in their final year, and year-end awards. Follow Jordan, Pippen, Rodman, Gordon, Noah, Rose, Butler, and LaVine throughout the years.

Who were the Bulls' biggest enemy in the late 1980s; how rough was it after Jordan left? Time to find out! This book will stir memories of past games, playoff games championships, players, and villains! How incredible was Jordan? Well...take a look!

Brian

Free e-books: **Pre-NBA 1893-1948** and **Pre-NBA 1948-1966** can be found on my **pro-basketball-journal.com** site.

Acknowledgments & How to Use This Book

Acknowledgments & Dedication:

Support and encouragement came from several sources. One person I have to acknowledge and hereby dedicate this book to is my younger (and taller) brother, David, a solid Bulls' fan who only occasionally let me win one-on-one.

Primary sources:

The Official NBA Basketball Encyclopedia (Edited by Zander Hollander and Alex Sachare), **Total Basketball, the Ultimate Basketball Encyclopedia** (Contributors: Ken Shouler, Bob Ryan, Sam Smith, Leonard Koppelt, Bob Bellotti), and **The History of the NBA** (Peter C. Bjarkman)

Internet sites: bullsuniverse.com and basketball-reference.com

How to use this book:

Contents are intended to be a quick and easy read. Individual games are described in 1-2 lines.

Example:

3/22: **Beat NY Knicks** 101-89 (Rose 31 & 12A; Noah 14). Butler added 22 points. Bulls committed only 4 turnovers.

Explanation: Derrick Rose scored 31 points and added 12 assists; Joakim Noah recorded 14 rebounds.

Teams highlighted in red were either new to the NBA, changed their name, or had moved from another city.

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Eastern Conference

Atlantic

Boston	63-19
Philadelphia	58-24
New Jersey	42-40
Washington	40-42
New York	24-48

Central

Milwaukee	59-23
Detroit	46-36
Chicago	38-44
Cleveland	36-46
Atlanta	34-48
Indiana	22-60

Midwest

Denver	52-30
Houston	48-34
Dallas	44-38
Utah	41-41
San Antonio	41-41
Kansas City	31-51

Western Conference

Pacific

LA Lakers	62-20
Portland	42-40
Phoenix	36-46
Seattle	31-51
LA Clippers	31-51
Golden State	22-60

Offense: 108.7 (15th) **Defense:** 109.6 (11th)

Home: 26-15 **Best:** LA Lakers & Milwaukee (36-5) **Worst:** Indiana (16-25)
Away: 12-29 **Best:** Boston (28-13) **Worst:** Golden State and New York (5-36)
Best: 4-2 vs. New York, 3-2 vs. Washington, 2-0 vs. Dallas, Seattle, LA Clippers, and Kansas City.
Worst: 0-5 vs. Philadelphia, 2-4 vs. Boston, New Jersey, Cleveland, and Indiana; 0-2 vs Utah and Houston, and 1-1 vs LA Lakers

Club:

- Attendance: 487,370 (11,877/game).
Bulls starters were now introduced with use of spotlights and **Sirius** (Alan Parsons Project) playing overhead.
- **Drafting Michael Jordan:** Although the Bulls needed a big man, **Portland and Houston** engaged in a pre-draft coin flip for two top collegiate centers, **Hakeem Olajuwon**, and **Sam Bowie**. Had Portland won the toss, many believed they would have chosen Olajuwon and Houston would then have chosen Jordan. Philadelphia and LA Clippers were interested in trading for Jordan.
- **Jordan's 1st cover** of *Sports Illustrated* as a Chicago Bull ("A Star is Born"). Jordan on cover of *Sporting News* (10/29).
- F David Greenwood was a holdout and was replaced by **Steve Johnson**.
- Club changed practice locations from Chicago's **Angel Guardian gym** to their Deerfield Multiplex.
 - **Internal troubles:** Ennis Whatley, Quintin Dailey, Orlando Woolridge, and Wes Matthews all struggled with alcohol/drug abuse. Dailey required drug rehab twice.
 - Club began 7-2 then lost 4 in row. Streaks: -5 and 3 of -4; +5 and 2 of +4.
- **Jordan** soon signed historic **\$2.5M contract with Nike**, and his sale of **Air Jordans** was set for 1985. Since Converse was the official NBA shoe sponsor, the league fined Jordan for violating its dress policy. Jordan didn't budge, and Nike paid the \$5,000 fine every time he wore his brand of Nike shoes on the court. Jordan also signed with the *Coca-Cola* Company.

4/13: A group led by **Jerry Reinsdorf** paid \$16M (64%) to own a controlling share of the Bulls.
 - GM **Rod Thorn** was fired in February; Coach **Kevin Loughery** was fired in April.
 - **Jerry Krause** was named new GM in late March and stated that he'd make his own choice for a coach.

Draft: 1st: **Michael Jordan** (#3 overall, UNC) - through 1998 with Bulls. Naismith College Player of the Year.
 2nd: **Ben Coleman** (Maryland). Traded to Portland for Mike Smrek. Coleman played for 4 NBA teams.
Also drafted: Track & Field great Carl Lewis (Houston) in 10th round. NFL's Dallas Cowboys also drafted Lewis.
Add: Caldwell Jones (42G), Wes Matthews for 1 season; C Chris Engler and Charles Jones.
Injuries: Greenwood (foot)

Jordan: 13 seasons with Bulls. 10X All-NBA 1st Team, 9X All-Defense 1st Team; 5X MVP, 6X Finals MVP, and 12X All-Star.
 - Franchise player led Bulls into Eastern Conference Finals and 6 NBA championships.
 - 2X Olympic gold-medal winner: 1984 in Los Angeles, and member of the 1992 "Dream Team" in Barcelona, Spain.

Club records: First in points (29,277), minutes, assists (5,012), rebounds (5,845), games (930), steals (2,306), FT and FT attempts. Scored 40+ points 197 times (42 times in playoffs/finals; 17 times vs. Cleveland); 50 points 39 times (8 in playoffs).

Playoff scoring average: 33.4 – highest in NBA history. Scored 30+ points **NBA-record** 109 times.

Career scoring average: 30.1, tying him with Chamberlain. Led NBA in scoring 10 times.

Average per game: 31.5 points, 6.3 rebounds, and 5.4 assists.

Hall of Fame in 2009 and as member of the 1992 Olympic "Dream Team" (2010)

Season:

- 10/26: **Beat Washington** 109-93 (Woolridge 38/9). Jordan's first game: 16 points, 7 assists, 6 rebounds and 4 blocks.
- 10/27: **Lost to Milwaukee** 108-106 (Woolridge 29, Jordan 21; Greenwood 10)
- 10/29: **Beat Milwaukee** 116-110 (Jordan 37 & Woolridge 30/12). Jordan scored **club-record** 22 points in 4th Q (old: Bob Love).
- 10/30: **Beat Kansas City** 109-104 (Jordan 25/4/5; C Jones 8).
- 11/7 **Beat Detroit** 122-118 (Dailey 29, Jordan 25; C Jones 11). Isiah Thomas scored 35 points for the Pistons.
- 11/8: **Beat NY Knicks** 121-106 (Jordan 33/8). Knicks' Bernard King scored 34 points.
- 11/10: **Beat Indiana** 118-116 (Woolridge 37, Jordan 27/9 assists; Corzine 13) on Jordan's 12' jumper with 0:04 left.
- 11/13: **Beat San Antonio** 120-117 (Jordan 45/10). Bulls' record at 7-2.
Jordan's club rookie record for points lasted less than 3 months.
- 11/15: **Lost to Boston** 125-105 (Jordan 27). *Season's greatest margin of defeat* (-20; 1st of 2).
- 11/23: **Beat Seattle** 113-94 (Greenwood 29, Jordan 23; Wheatley added 15 assists). Bulls led 34-14 after the 1st Q.
- 11/27: **Lost to Golden State** 109-103 (Woolridge 20; Greenwood 8). Warriors held Jordan to 13 points.
- 12/2: **Beat LA Lakers** 113-112 (Dailey 28, Jordan 20; Greenwood 13).
Lakers were led by Kareem Abdul-Jabbar (32 points) & Magic Johnson (16 assists).
- 12/7: **Beat NY Knicks** 95-93 (Woolridge 23, Dailey 22, Jordan 21; Johnson 10) – Jordan hit 18' shot with 0:05 left.
- 12/11: **Lost to Detroit** 108-101 (Jordan 27/8; C Jones 11). Bulls were out-scored 35-22 in 4th Q.
- 12/14: **Lost to NJ Nets** 111-109 (Jordan 34/8/8). Bulls were out-scored 33-23 in 4th Q.
- 12/15: **Lost to Philadelphia** 114-102 (Woolridge 30. Jordan was held to 14 points. Sizemore's Moses Malone scored 28 points.
- 12/20: **Beat Atlanta** 132-129 in 2OT (Jordan 34/8/7; Johnson 16 rebounds). Hawks' Doc Rivers scored 30 points.
- 12/22: **Beat Boston** 110-85 (Jordan 32/12/8). *Season's greatest margin of victory* (+25).
- 12/27: **Beat Cleveland** 112-108 (Jordan 45/7/11).
- 1/ 2: **Lost to Atlanta** 121-107 (Woolridge 25, Jordan 25/7; Greenwood 10). Hawks' Dominique Wilkins scored 35 points.
- 1/ 5: **Lost to NY Knicks** 119-113 at Madison Square Garden (Jordan 42; Corzine 12 rebounds).
Knicks' Bernard King scored 34 points.
- 1/12: **Lost to Cleveland** 101-98 (Jordan 24/12). World B. Free scored 32 points for the Cavaliers.
- 1/14: **Beat Denver** 122-113 (Jordan 35/14 and 15 assists).
- 1/19: **Lost to Indiana** 110-107 (Jordan 38/12). Herb Williams scored 24 points for Pacers.
- 1/22: **Beat Portland** 123-115 (Woolridge 29, Jordan 29/12).
- 1/26: **Beat Atlanta** 117-104 (Jordan 45/8/10; Johnson 13 rebounds). Hawks' Dominique Wilkins scored 30 points.
- 1/30: **Lost to Washington** 106-95 (Jordan 38/7/8; Green 10 rebounds). Bullets out-scored Bulls 33-16 in 4th Q.
Gus Williams scored 29 points for the Bullets.
- 2/1: **Lost to Philadelphia** 121-110 (Jordan 31/6; Green 14). Charles Barkley: 15/14 for the Sixers.
- 2/5: **Lost to Boston** 110-106 (Jordan 41/12/7). Kevin McHale scored 29 points and Larry Bird 24 points for the Celtics.
- 2/12: **Beat Detroit** 139-126 in OT (Jordan 49/15). Jordan broke own club record for points by rookie.
Bulls scored 15 straight points in OT. More incentive: Jordan was angered at Thomas for All-Star Game snub.
- 2/17: **Lost to Milwaukee** 125-105 (Jordan 26). *Greatest margin of defeat* (-20; 2nd of 2).
- 2/19: **Lost to LA Lakers** 127-117 (Woolridge 30/19; Jordan 16/8 assists). Lakers' Kareem Abdul-Jabbar scored 27.
- 2/23: **Beat Golden State** 140-125 (Jordan 38; Greenwood 10; Whatley 21 assists;). Bulls shot 79% (33-42) in 1st half.
- 2/26: **Lost to Cleveland** 123-118 in OT (Jordan 28/9; Greenwood 16).
- 3/6: **Beat Boston** 107-104 (Jordan 33/7). Jordan hit crucial 3-point shot at buzzer.
- 3/9: **Lost to Utah** 111-105 (Jordan 28; Woolridge 16). Darrell Griffith scored 40 for the Jazz.
- 3/12: **Beat Detroit** 111-110 (Jordan 32/8). Bill Laimbeer: 21/12 for the Pistons.
- 3/15: **Beat Phoenix** 103-97 (Jordan 27/9/14).
- 3/17: **Beat Milwaukee** 119-117 in OT (Jordan 32/11/16).
Club came from 22 points behind, out-scoring the Bucks 37-21 in 4th Q.
- 3/19: **Lost to Houston** 106-100 (Jordan 31).
- 3/23: **Beat Dallas** 107-97 (Jordan 20/10 assists). Mark Aguirre scored 32 for the Mavs.
- 3/24: **Lost to Utah** 110-92 (Jordan 26). Jazz's Adrian Dantley scored 29 points.
- 3/26: **Beat Indiana** 120-119 (Jordan 38/9) Jordan made 2 FTs with 0:05 remaining.
- 3/30: **Lost to Philadelphia** 122-117 (Jordan 38). Moses Malone: 31/14 for the Sixers.

4/2: **Beat NJ Nets** 108-94 (Jordan 31/9 assists; Green 12).
 4/3: **Beat Washington** 100-91 (Woolridge 25, Jordan 25; Greenwood 9).

4/5: **Lost to Philadelphia** 116-113 (Jordan 40; Green 10). Moses Malone: 27/19 for Philadelphia.
 4/12: **Lost to Atlanta** 119-108 (Jordan 28; Greenwood 14). Bulls were out-scored 65-33 in 2nd half.
 Dominique Wilkins scored 31 for Hawks.
 4/13: **Lost to NJ Nets** 123-113 (Woolridge 33; Jordan 29/9 assists).

All-Star Game: West beat East 140-129. MVP: Ralph Sampson (Houston). Bulls' Michael Jordan (7 points) was allegedly shut out by Eastern Conference teammates that included Pistons' Isiah Thomas.
 Reasons given: others might have taken exception to Jordan wearing *Nike* brand warm-ups and shoes during the Slam Dunk Contest, displaying himself and his personal endorsements.

Jordan made the All-Rookie Team and the All NBA's 2nd Team

Player	Games	Scoring	Rebounds	Assists
Michael Jordan	82	28.2	6.5	5.9
Orlando Woolridge	70	22.9	5.6	1.8
Steve Johnson	74	10.0	5.9	1.0
Dave Corzine	82	8.5	5.1	1.7
David Greenwood	61	6.1	6.4	1.3
Wes Matthews	78	5.7	1.0	4.5
Sidney Green	49	5.5	3.6	0.6
Jawann Oldham	63	3.4	3.7	0.5
Caldwell Jones	42	3.4	5.0	0.8
Quintin Dailey	35	16.0	2.6	2.4

Jordan established club record for points in a season (2,313). Old record: Bob Love (2,043) in 1970-71.

Playoffs: **Milwaukee Bucks** featured Terry Cummings, Sidney Moncrief, Paul Pressey, and future Bull Craig Hodges.

4/19: **Lost 109-100** away (Dailey 25; Jordan 23/10 assists; Greenwood 13).
 Sidney Moncrief scored 30 for Milwaukee; Terry Cummings added 22.
 4/21: **Lost 122-115** away (Jordan 30/12 assists; Oldham 9). Terry Cummings scored 30 for Milwaukee.
 4/24: **Won 109-107** at home (Jordan 35/8) Jordan hit crucial shot with 0:22 left. Cummings scored 32 for Milwaukee.
 4/25: **Lost 105-97** at home (Jordan 29; Corzine 9). Terry Cummings: 29/12 for the Bucks.

Playoff stats:	Scoring	Rebounding	Assists
Michael Jordan	29.3	5.8	8.5
Orlando Woolridge	20.5	3.3	2.0
Sidney Green	10.0	5.0	
Quintin Dailey	15.3	3.3	2.8
David Greenwood	9.5	7.8	1.3
Wes Matthews	7.3	1.5	3.0
Dave Corzine	8.3	5.5	1.0
Jawann Oldham	3.5	5.5	1.0

League:

- **Basketball Hall of Fame** moved to Springfield, Massachusetts.
- **San Diego** franchise moved to Los Angeles (**LA Clippers**).
- **George Karl** began coaching career (Cleveland).
- The **US Men's Olympic basketball team** beat Spain 96-65 to win the gold medal. Coached by Bobby Knight, the team featured Michael Jordan, Patrick Ewing, Wayman Tisdale, Sam Perkins, Chris Mullen, Steve Alford, and Vern Fleming.

Changing Places: Terry Cummings (Milwaukee), Gus Williams (WA), Fat Lever (Denver), Kiki Vandeweghe (Portland), Ricky Pierce, Marques Johnson & Junior Bridgeman (LA Clippers), Jerome Whitehead (Golden State), Calvin Natt (Denver) and Rick Mahorn (Detroit)

Noteworthy games:

11/14: **Philadelphia** lost to Detroit 137-133 in OT. Sixers' **Moses Malone** scored 51 points.
 11/17: **Golden State** beat NJ Nets 131-114. Warriors' F **Purvis Short** scored 59 points.
 12/25: **NY Knicks** lost to NJ Nets 120-114. Knicks' **Bernard King** scored 60 points.
 1/1: **Utah** lost to Indiana 119-117. Jazz's **Mark Eaton** blocked 11 shots.

- 2/4: **San Antonio** beat Golden State 114-109 in OT. Spurs' **Artis Gilmore** blocked 10 shots.
- 2/13: **Detroit** beat Dallas 124-119. Pistons' **Isiah Thomas** handed out 25 assists.
Second time in a week Thomas recorded 25 assists.
- 2/26: **Utah** beat Dallas 103-96. Jazz's **Mark Eaton** blocked 12 of the club's 16 shots.
- 3/3: **Boston** beat Detroit 138-129. Celtics' **Kevin McHale** scored 56 points.
- 3/6: **San Antonio** beat Indiana 108-102. Spurs' **Johnny Moore** collected 10 steals.
- 3/9: **Denver** beat Indiana 126-116. Nuggets' **Lafayette Lever** collected 10 steals.
- 3/12: **Boston** beat Atlanta 126-115. Celtics' **Larry Bird** scored 60 points.
- 4/10: **Detroit** beat Indiana 116-114. Piston G **Isiah Thomas** committed 11 turnovers.

Streaks: **Milwaukee** won 11 in a row; **Boston** and LA each won 10 straight twice. Lakers finished the season going 30-4. **Golden State** lost 16 straight (0-15 in January); **Indiana** and **New York** each lost 12 straight.

- Utah's **Mark Eaton's** 456 blocked shots is NBA record (5.56/game). Old record: Lakers' Elmore Smith, 393.
- **LA Lakers** shot NBA record 54.5% from field – breaking the 53.2% they set 1 year earlier.

NBA Top 3:	Scoring			Rebounding		
	Bernard King	NY Knicks	32.9	Moses Malone	Philadelphia	13.1
	Larry Bird	Boston	28.7	Bill Laimbeer	Detroit	12.4
	Michael Jordan	Chicago	28.2	Buck Williams	NJ Nets	12.3

NBA Top 2:	Assists			FT %		
	Isiah Thomas	Detroit	13.9	Kyle Macy	Phoenix	90.7%
	Magic Johnson	LA Lakers	12.6	Kike Vandeweghe	Portland	89.6

Blocked Shots			Steals		3 pt. %			
Mark Eaton	Utah	5.8	MR Richardson	NJ Nets	3.0	Byron Scott	LA Lakers	43.3%
Hakeem Olajuwon	Houston	2.7	Johnny Moore	San Antonio	2.8	Larry Bird	Boston	42.7

Last season: Dan Issel, Truck Robinson, Harvey Catchings, and Lionel Hollins

Rookie Class: John Stockton, Charles Barkley, Sam Perkins, Vern Fleming, Jerome Kersey, Kevin Willis, Michael Cage, Antoine Carr, and Otis Thorpe
Hall of Famer Stockton established NBA record for total number of assists (15,806) and steals (3,265).

#1 Draft Pick: Hakeem Olajuwon (Houston), Houston. Olajuwon NBA leader in blocks (3,830); spent 17 seasons as Rocket.

Rookie/Year: **Michael Jordan, Chicago**

6th Man: Kevin McHale, Boston

Comeback: Michael Ray Richardson, New Jersey Nets

Executive: Vince Boryla, Denver

Coach/Year: Don Nelson, Milwaukee

Defensive: C Mark Eaton, Utah

All NBA Team: Larry Bird, Bernard King, Moses Malone, Magic Johnson, Isiah Thomas

MVP: Larry Bird, Boston

Hall of Fame: Inductees included Al Cervi, Nate Thurmond

NBA finals: LA Lakers beat Boston Celtics in 6. Lakers' 1st championship vs. Boston in 9 NBA finals

Eastern Conference				Western Conference			
Atlantic		Central		Midwest		Pacific	
Boston	67-15	Milwaukee	57-25	Houston	51-31	LA Lakers	62-20
Philadelphia	54-28	Atlanta	50-32	Denver	47-35	Portland	40-42
New Jersey	39-43	Detroit	46-36	Dallas	44-38	Phoenix	32-50
Washington	39-43	Chicago	30-52	Utah	42-40	LA Clippers	32-50
New York	23-59	Cleveland	29-53	Sacramento	37-45	Seattle	31-51
		Indiana	26-56	San Antonio	35-47	Golden State	30-52
Offense:		109.3 (13 th)	LA Lakers 117.3	Defense:		113.1 (18 th)	NY Knicks 104.3

Home: 22-19 Best: Boston (40-1) Worst: New York (15-26)
Away: 8-33 Best: Boston & LA Lakers (27-14) Worst: Golden State (6-35)
Best: 4-2 vs. New York, 2-0 vs. Denver and Golden State.
Worst: 1-5 vs. Boston, Philadelphia, Milwaukee, and Atlanta; 1-4 vs. Washington; 2-4 vs. Detroit; 0-2 vs. Sacramento, Dallas, and the LA Lakers

Club:

- Attendance: 469,226 (11,445/game).
- **WFLD TV** began televising Bulls' games through 1989.
- Coach **Stan Albeck** (30-52, .366) previously coached San Antonio, New Jersey, Cleveland, and was LA Lakers' assistant coach. This was Albeck's final year as a head coach.

GM Jerry Krause hired **Tex Winter** as assistant coach.

Winter, the author of the **triangle offense**, previously coached the Houston Rockets. From 1953-68, Winter led the Kansas State Wildcats to several 8 league titles and twice made the Final Four in the NCAA tournament.

- Club began 3-0. During the 3rd game, **Michael Jordan broke** the navicular/tarsal bone in left foot and was out 61 games.
 - Bulls were 18-43 during his absence.
 - Physicians informed team that there was a possibility, albeit small, that he could suffer career-ending injury if he were to return too soon.
 - When Jordan returned on 3/15, Coach Albeck was warned to keep Jordan to a strict/limited playing schedule: 7 minutes per quarter to 15-30 minutes per game. Jordan's insistence on increased playing time led to a compromise. Outcome: Jordan's minutes were later expanded then discontinued altogether (see 4/3 game below).

Streaks: -7, 2 of -5, and 2 of -4; Bulls won 3 straight games 5 times.

Draft: 1st: **Charles Oakley** (Virginia Union). Bulls first chose Keith Lee (U of Memphis) then traded him to Cleveland with G Ennis Whatley for the rights to draft **Oakley**.

2nd: Ken Johnson (MSU). Traded to Portland with Ben Coleman for C Mike Smrek (Canisius).

Also drafted: Adrian Branch (Maryland) and Mike Brown (George Washington)

Lee spent 3 years in NBA. Smrek's career spanned 8 years with 7 teams.

Branch was waived and signed with Lakers in 1986; Brown was a Chicago Bull for 2 of his 11 years in NBA.

Add/lost: **Gene Banks** (from San Antonio), Mike Holton & Kyle Macy (from Phoenix), Billy McKinney (9G).

Banks: 2 productive years in Chicago. Holton and Macy were with the Bulls for 1 year. Rod Higgins was waived.

F **David Greenwood** to San Antonio for 34 y/o **George Gervin**. Gervin retired after season; **Hall of Fame** in 1996.

G **John Paxson** for cash from San Antonio: 4th in games (645), 5th in assists (2,153), 6th in steals (468).

The clutch shooter later became a Bulls assistant coach and club GM.

Injuries: Jordan (foot); Quintin Dailey (drug rehab)

Season:

10/25: **Beat Cleveland** 116-115 in OT (Woolridge 35/12; Jordan 29; Macy 13 assists).

Jordan's 2nd of 2 free throws to win the game.

10/26: **Beat Detroit** 121-118 (Jordan 33/7, Woolridge 29; Corzine 10). Isiah Thomas scored 36 for the Pistons.

- 10/29: **Beat Golden State** 111-105 (Woolridge 27, Jordan 12; Green 11).
Gene Banks added 18; Sleepy Floyd scored 32 for the Warriors.
Just 18 minutes into the game, **Jordan broke a bone in left foot**.
- 11/12: **Lost to Milwaukee** 132-103 (Woolridge 30; Corzine 10). *Season's greatest margin of defeat (-29)*.
11/13: **Lost to Philadelphia** 110-106 (Woolridge 24; Green 16; Macy 12 assists). Moses Malone: 21/16 for the Sixers.
- 11/16: **Lost to Cleveland** 132-128 in OT. Four Bulls scored 20+ points (Woolridge 25, Corzine 23, Gervin 22, and Green 21).
Next time 4 Bulls would score 20+ points in 1 game: 4/2/04. World B. Free scored 28 for the Cavs.
- 11/23: **Beat Golden State** 135-108 (Gervin 32, Woolridge 28; Green 16) *Season's greatest margin of victory (+27)*.
- 12/1: **Lost to LA Lakers** 117-113 (Dailey 19; Oldham 7). Lakers were led by James Worthy (33) and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar (27).
12/3: **Lost to Sacramento** 131-118 (Woolridge 23; Corzine 14/8).
- 12/15: **Lost to Boston** 109-104 (Woolridge 27; Green 17/16). Celtics were led by Larry Bird (34/13) and Kevin McHale (27/11).
12/17: **Beat Boston** 116-108 (Woolridge 37; Oldham 8). Celtics totaled 7 turnovers, Bulls 8.
Dennis Johnson scored 25 for the Celtics.
- 1/25: **Beat Phoenix** 133-114 (Woolridge 44; Green 11).
1/27: **Lost to Dallas** 124-116 (Gervin 45; Corzine 9). Gervin scored 35 points in 1st half.
- 2/1: **Beat Houston** 132-112 (Gervin 35; Oakley 17). Hakeem Olajuwon: 33/11 for the Rockets; Ralph Sampson added 15/10.
2/21: **Beat Portland** 108-96 (Banks 26; Oakley 18/15). Clyde Drexler scored 18 for the Blazers.
2/22: **Beat Seattle** 129-125 in 3OT (Banks 38; Oakley 20). Tom Chambers scored 31 for the Sonics.
- 2/24: **Lost to Detroit** 110-100 (Gervin 26; Green 22/12). Pistons' Kelly Tripucka scored 41 points.
2/25: **Lost to Philadelphia** 122-108 (Oakley 31/13).
Philadelphia's Moses Malone scored 42 points; Charles Barkley added 30/15.
- 3/9: **Beat NY Knicks** 114-101 (Green 31; Oakley 15). Jordan returned; club at 21-43. Club went 9-9 the rest of the way.
3/15: **Lost to Milwaukee** 125-116 in OT (Oakley 35/26; Jordan 12)
Oakley's 18 offensive rebounds were 3 short of Moses Malone's NBA record (2/11/82).
3/17: **Lost to Atlanta** 106-96 (Oakley 20/15; Jordan 17). Dominique Wilkins scored 29 for Atlanta.
3/19: **Lost to Philadelphia** 118-112 (Gervin, Jordan 12; Oakley 11). Moses Malone and Julius Erving each scored 29 for Sixers.
- 3/22: **Lost to Cleveland** 123-97 (Gervin 20; Oakley 18). Jordan limited to 8 points.
Jordan would score in double figures the following 866 games.
- 3/25: **Beat NY Knicks** 111-98 (Woolridge 22, Jordan 19; Oakley 12).
3/28: **Lost to NJ Nets** 118-107 (Woolridge 32, Jordan 22; Oakley 14). Mike Gminski scored 26 for the Nets.
3/29: **Beat NY Knicks** 106-96 (Jordan 24; Banks 18/11).
- 4/1: **Lost to Milwaukee** 116-107 (Jordan 28; Oakley 17/12). Terry Cummings scored 32 for the Bucks.
4/3: **Beat Indiana** 109-108 (Jordan 26; Banks 20/10). Per agreement with club, **Albeck had to take Jordan out or be fired**.
4/8: **Lost to Atlanta** 131-118 (Jordan 30; Oakley 16/9). Dominique Wilkins scored 37 for Atlanta.
4/11: **Beat Washington** 105-103 (Jordan 31; Oakley 13/20).
- All-Star Game:** East beat West 139-132. MVP: Isiah Thomas (Detroit). 5'7" Spud Webb won Slam Dunk Contest.
All-Rookie Team: Charles Oakley

Player	Games	Scoring	Rebounds	Assists	
Michael Jordan	18	22.7	3.6	2.9	
Orlando Woolridge	77	20.7	5.0	3.0	
Quintin Dailey	35	16.3	1.9	1.9	
George Gervin	82	16.2	2.6	1.8	5 th in FT% (87.9%)
Sidney Green	80	13.5	8.2	1.7	
Gene Banks	82	10.9	4.4	3.1	
Dave Corzine	67	9.6	6.5	2.2	
Charles Oakley	77	9.6	8.6	1.7	
Kyle Macy	82	8.6	2.2	5.4	6 th in 3 pt% (41.1%)
Jawann Oldham	52	7.4	5.9	0.7	6 th in Blocked Shots (2.5)
John Paxson	75	5.3	1.3	3.7	

Playoffs: Boston Celtics included Larry Bird, Kevin McHale, Dennis Johnson, Robert Parish, Bill Walton, and Danny Ainge.

4/17: **Lost 123-104** at Boston (Jordan 49; Oakley 13/10). Celtics out-scored the Bulls 62-45 in 2nd half.
Celts were led by Larry Bird (30), Kevin McHale (27), Dennis Johnson (26), and Robert Parish (23).

4/20: **Lost 135-131** in 2OT at Boston (**Jordan 63**). Game was tied at 117 at end of regulation.
Jordan's 63 points was **NBA post-season scoring record**; former record: Elgin Baylor (61; LA vs. Boston, 1962).
Jordan scored 18 points in 4th Q, including 2 crucial FT with 0:17 left. Bulls led in 1st OT 125-121.
Jordan: 22-41 from the field and 19-21 FT line. Woolridge added 24; Oakley 10/14.
Boston was led by Larry Bird (36 points), Kevin McHale (27), and Danny Ainge (24).

4/22: **Lost 122-104** at home (Paxson 23; Corzine 22/15; Jordan 19/10/9 assists). Kevin McHale scored 31 for Boston.

Playoff Stats:	Scoring	Rebounds	Assists
Michael Jordan	43.7	6.3	5.7
Orlando Woolridge	21.0	4.7	1.3
Dave Corzine	12.0	9.0	2.0
Charles Oakley	10.0	10.0	1.0
John Paxson	9.0		1.7
Gene Banks	7.3	3.3	1.7
Kyle Macy	4.0	1.3	3.3
Sidney Green	6.0	4.0	

League:

- May: NBA's 1st **Lottery Draft**. Coin flip between two teams with worst records determined who got 1st choice. Knicks won the flip and chose Georgetown's **Patrick Ewing**.
- **KC-Omaha Kings** moved to **Sacramento** – the 4th move in franchise history. Team originated in Rochester, NY.
- **Boston Celtics'** 40-1 home record is also an NBA record.
- Those **failing drug testing**: In the following 2 years, NBA banned the following players: John Lucas, Walter Davis, and Michael Ray Richardson. Richardson was reinstated in 1988 but did not play; Lucas later returned to coach Houston.
- San Antonio's **Alvin Robertson** established NBA record 301 steals. His 3.67spg also NBA record (old: Don Buse 1976-77).
- Washington's 7'7" rookie from Sudan, **Manute Bol**, blocked 397 shots (4.97game) - NBA rookie records & 2nd most in NBA.

Changing Places: Bill Walton (Boston), Maurice Lucas (LA Lakers), and Kiki Vandeweghe (Portland).

Noteworthy games:

11/19: **Denver** beat Houston 127-113. Nuggets' **Alex English** scored 54 points.

12/12: **Washington** beat Milwaukee 110-108 in OT. Bullets' **Manute Bol** blocked 12 shots.

1/7: **Houston** beat Golden State 124-115. Rockets' **Hakeem Olajuwon** blocked 11 shots.

1/10: **Portland** lost to Milwaukee 95-89. Blazers' **Clyde Drexler** collected 10 steals.

1/25: **Washington** beat Atlanta 111-103. Bullets' **Manute Bol** blocked 15 shots.

2/1: **Portland** beat LA Clippers 156 -121. Kiki Vandeweghe scored 36 for the Blazers.

2/18: **San Antonio** beat Phoenix 120-114. Spurs' **Alvin Robertson's** quadruple double: 20/11, 10 assists and 10 steals.

2/22: **Utah** beat Phoenix 105-97. Jazz's **Mark Eaton** blocked 10 shots.

2/25: **Washington** lost to Indiana 100-87. Bullets' **Manute Bol** blocked 10 shots.

4/10: **Atlanta** beat NJ Nets 126-117. Hawks' **Dominique Wilkins** scored 57 points.

Streaks: Boston (+14 & +13). From 12/10/1985-11/28/1986, Celts won 38 straight home games.

Boston's 40-1 record at home is NBA record (97.6%)

LA Lakers began season 25-5. **Milwaukee & Detroit** (+10/each)

Portland (-12); **Phoenix** began 0-9 on way to a 3-15 beginning.

NBA Top 3:	Scoring		Rebounding		
	Dominique Wilkins	Atlanta	30.3	Bill Laimbeer	Detroit 13.1
	Adrian Dantley	Utah	29.8	Charles Barkley	Philadelphia 12.8
	Alex English	Denver	29.8	Buck Williams	NJ Nets 12.0

NBA Top 2:	Assists			FT %		
	Magic Johnson	LA Lakers	12.6	Larry Bird	Boston	89.6%
	Isiah Thomas	Detroit	10.8	Chris Mullin	Golden State	89.6%

Blocked Shots			Steals		3 pt. %	
Manute Bol	Washington	5.0	Alvin Robertson	San Antonio	3.7	Craig Hodges Milwaukee 45.1%
Mark Eaton	Utah	4.6	M R Richardson	NJ Nets	2.7	Trent Tucker NY Knicks 45.1%

Last season: Jamaal Wilkes, Johnny Moore, Ernie Grunfeld, Ricky Sobers, and Bob McAdoo

Rookie Class: Manute Bol, Chris Mullin, Terry Porter, Karl Malone, Joe Dumars, AC Green, Michael Adams, Xavier McDaniel, John "Hot Rod" Williams, Wayman Tisdale, Detlef Schrempf, Gerald Wilkins, Tyrone Corbin, Sam Mitchell, Charles Oakley, Spud Webb, Michael Adams, Arvydas Sabonis, and Bill Wennington
 Malone: Hall of Fame; 2nd behind Abdul-Jabbar in career points (36,928)
 Dumars: Hall of Fame; 6X All-Star; Finals MVP, 6X NBA All-Defensive Team (1st or 2nd Team)

#1 Draft Pick: Patrick Ewing (Georgetown) by New York

Rookie/Year: Patrick Ewing, NY Knicks

6th Man: Bill Walton, Celtics

Comeback: Marques Johnson, LA Clippers

Improved: Alvin Robertson, San Antonio

Executive: Stan Kasten, Atlanta

Coach/Year: Mike Fratello, Atlanta

Defensive: Alvin Robertson, San Antonio.

All NBA Team: Larry Bird, Dominique Wilkins, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Magic Johnson, Isiah Thomas

MVP: Larry Bird, Boston (3rd of 3)

Hall of Fame: Among the inductees: Billy Cunningham, Tom Heinsohn, Red Holtzman, college coach Fred Taylor

NBA finals: Boston beat Houston in 6 games

Eastern Conference

Atlantic		Central	
Boston	59-23	Atlanta	57-25
Philadelphia	45-37	Detroit	52-30
Washington	42-40	Milwaukee	50-32
NY Knicks	24-58	Indiana	41-41
NJ Nets	24-58	Chicago	40-42
		Cleveland	31-51

Western Conference

Midwest		Pacific	
Dallas	55-27	LA Lakers	65-17
Utah	44-38	Portland	49-33
Houston	42-40	Golden State	42-40
Denver	37-45	Seattle	39-43
Sacramento	29-53	Phoenix	36-46
San Antonio	28-54	LA Clippers	12-70

Offense: 104.8 (20th) Portland 117.9

Defense: 103.9 (3rd) Atlanta 102.8

Home: 29-12

Best: Boston (39-2)

Worst: LA Clippers (9-32)

Away: 11-30

Best: LA Lakers (28-13)

Worst: LA Clippers (3-38)

Best: 5-1 vs. Cleveland, 2-0 vs. Seattle, LA Clippers, 4-2 vs. New York and Milwaukee

First of eight straight season Bulls won series vs. Milwaukee (35-7 in span)

Worst: 0-6 vs. Boston, 2-4 vs. Atlanta; swept by LA Lakers, Utah, Houston, and Golden State.

Club:

- **Attendance:** 650,718 (15,871/game).
- **Doug Collins** (137-109, .557) replaced Stan Albeck.
The 35 y/o Collins was a 1972 Olympian and NBA #1 draft choice by Philadelphia Sixers (1973). Collins later served as a broadcaster, an assistant coach at U. of Pennsylvania and Arizona prior to coaching the Bulls.
Johnny Bach was added as assistant coach. Bach had previously coached the Golden State Warriors.
- **Michael Jordan** on cover of Sports Illustrated "One Man Gang"

Jordan lore:

Led team in scoring 77 of 82 games. Scored 50+ points 6 times, 40+ points 37 times.

His 37.1 points per game is 5th highest in NBA history.

Jordan averaged 41.1 points per game in 10-game span (11/26 - 12/12) & 40.2 points per game (2/14 - 3/4).

His 833 free throws rank 3rd behind Jerry West (1965-66) and Wilt Chamberlain (1961-62)

Jordan **only player to record 100 blocks and 200 steals in one season.** Led NBA in steals 1988, 1990, and 1993

- Bulls began 5-1 then went 3-7. Streaks: -6, -5; two streaks of +4. Tough at end: 13 of final 16 losses were by 5 points or less.
- No success vs. Celtics: 0-6 in regular season and lost all three games in playoffs.

Draft: #1: **Brad Sellers** (9th; OSU). The 7' Sellers spent 3 of 6 seasons with Bulls. NIT MVP in 1986. Traded to Seattle in 1989.

#2: Larry Krystkowiak (Montana). Nine years in NBA, mostly in Milwaukee. Returned to Bulls 1994-95.

#3: Ricky Wilson (George Mason). Signed with New Jersey Nets in 1987-88.

#6: **Pete Myers** (Arkansas Little Rock); journeyman - 10 teams in 9 seasons.

Myers spent 2 tours with Bulls and was later a Bulls assistant coach.

Add: Earl Cureton (Detroit), Granville Waiters (Houston; 2 years), G Steve Colter (Portland), Mike Brown, Elston Turner, Sedale Threatt (2 years), Rory Sparrow (also 1991-92), and G Perry Young.

Gone: Sidney Green (Detroit), Jawann Oldham (New York), Orlando Woolridge (New Jersey), and Quintin Dailey (LA Clippers)

Season:

11/1: **Beat NY Knicks** 108-103 (**Jordan 50**; Cureton 17/13). Jordan went 20-22 at FT line and scored final 18 points.

11/2: **Beat Cleveland** 94-89 (Jordan 41/8; Oakley 28/15). Mike Mitchell scored 34 for the Spurs.

11/7: **Lost to Detroit** 115-109 (Jordan 33; Oakley 20/19). Pistons' Isiah Thomas scored 29 points.

Detroit's Adrian Dantley (24 points) made 18-20 free throws. Pistons were 48-60 at the FT line.

11/11: **Beat Atlanta** 112-110 (Jordan 34; Cureton 13/11). Jordan made crucial layup with 0:09 left.

11/14: **Lost to Boston** 110-98 (Jordan 48; Oakley 20/13). Larry Bird scored 37 for the Celtics.

11/21: **Beat NY Knicks** 101-99 (Jordan 40; Corzine and Oakley 7 rebounds/each). Jordan hit game-winning 18' shot with 0:01 left.

11/22: **Beat Washington** 93-84 (Jordan 22/9; Oakley 21/12). Bulls last non-sellout until November 2000.

- 11/26: **Lost to Denver** 109-107 (Jordan 37; Corzine 13/14). Bulls went 1-6 on West Coast trip.
 11/28: **Lost to LA Lakers** 110-103 (Jordan 41/10; Oakley 14/21). Jordan began string of 9 games scoring 40+ points.
 11/29: **Lost to Golden State** 113-106 (Jordan 40).
- 12/3: **Lost to Utah** 99-94 (Jordan 45; Oakley 16/14). Karl Malone scored 24 for the Jazz.
 12/5: **Lost to Phoenix** 114-112 (Jordan 43; Oakley 15/9). Walter Davis scored 31 for the Suns.
 12/6: **Lost to San Antonio** 106-97 (Jordan 43/Oakley 15). Spurs out-scored the Bulls 40-17 in the 3rd Q.
 12/9: **Beat Denver** 106-100 (Jordan 40; Oakley 13). Alex English scored 28 for the Nuggets.
- 12/10: **Lost to Atlanta** 123-95 (Jordan 41; Oakley 10). Hawks' **Dominique Wilkins scored 57 points**.
 12/13: **Lost to Milwaukee** 113-90 (Paxson 16; Oakley 18/16). Jordan added 11. Bulls were behind 52-29 at the half.
 12/16: **Beat NJ Nets** 99-98 (Jordan 41). Colter added 14, Mike Brown 10/8). Mike Gminski scored 24 for the Nets.
 12/30: **Lost to Golden State** 102-99 (Jordan 31; Corzine 8). Warriors' Joe Barry Carroll scored 25 points.
- 1/8: **Beat Portland** 121-117 (**Jordan 53**; Oakley 16).
 1/17: **Beat Philadelphia** 105-89 (Jordan 47/10; Oakley 17). Charles Barkley: 21/17 for Philadelphia.
 1/19: **Lost to Indiana** 109-95 (Jordan 32; Oakley 28/18). Chuck Person scored 27 for the Pacers.
 1/20: **Beat Milwaukee** 103-90 (Jordan 31). First of 27 straight games Jordan led Bulls in scoring against the Bucks.
- 1/24: **Lost to Cleveland** 114-84 (Jordan 27). *Season's greatest margin of defeat* (-30). Ron Harper scored 22 for the Cavs.
 1/28: **Lost to Boston** 132-103 (Jordan 27; Oakley 11). Dennis Johnson and Larry Bird each scored 26 for Boston.
 1/30: **Lost to Philadelphia** 121-112 (Jordan 49; Oakley 18/17). Sixers' Charles Barkley scored 40 points.
- 2/1: **Lost to Detroit** 94-92 (Jordan 38; Oakley 17). Total of 38,873 attended.
 2/13: **Beat Seattle** 106-98 (Jordan 45). Banks added 17.
 2/16: **Lost to Sacramento** 124-120 in OT (Jordan 43). Former Bulls G Reggie Theus scored 28 for the Kings.
- 2/22: **Beat Cleveland** 102-98 at home (Jordan 43 and 8 steals). Cavaliers' G Ron Harper committed 11 turnovers.
 2/26: **Beat NJ Nets** 128-113 (**Jordan 58**; Oakley 17). Jordan broke **Chet Walker's club record for points** (56).
 Jordan went 26-27 at the FT line.
- 3/3: **Beat LA Clippers** 114-80 (Jordan 30; Banks 11). *Season's greatest margin of victory* (+34).
 3/4: **Beat Detroit** 125-120 in OT (**Jordan 61**). Pistons' G Isiah Thomas (31/18 assists) missed crucial shot at end of OT.
 Jordan scored 37 points in 2nd half – 26 in the 4th Q. Adrian Dantley added 32 for Detroit.
- 3/8: **Beat Dallas** 115-105 in OT (Jordan 33; Oakley 20).
 3/14: **Lost to Washington** 106-105 in OT (Sellers 25; Oakley 24/19). Bulls were behind 57-43 at the half.
 3/16: **Lost to Houston** 97-96 (Jordan 44; Oakley 17). Bulls' 3rd straight loss by 1 point.
 3/21: **Beat Sacramento** 112-97 (Jordan 40; Oakley 16/13).
- 3/24: **Beat Philadelphia** 93-91 (**Jordan 56/7 & 8 steals**). Charles Barkley 17/25 for the Sixers.
 3/27: **Lost to Boston** 111-106 (Paxson & Sellers 23; Oakley 11). Jordan added 22. Celtics' Larry Bird scored 41 points.
 Boston shot 62% from the floor.
 3/29: **Beat NY Knicks** 115-96 (Jordan 33; Oakley 15/14/10). Bulls shot 59% from the floor.
- 4/12: **Beat Indiana** 116-95 (**Jordan 53**; Oakley 16).
 4/13: **Beat Milwaukee** 114-107 (**Jordan 50**; Oakley 22/19).
 4/16: **Lost to Atlanta** 117-114 (**Jordan 61/10**). **Jordan scored NBA record 23 points in a row**.
 Bulls were out-scored 37-23 in the 4th Q. Dominique Wilkins scored 31 for Atlanta.
- All-Star Game:** West beat East 154-149. MVP: Tom Chambers (Seattle). Bulls' Michael Jordan scored 11 points.
 All NBA Team: Michael Jordan (1st Team). Jordan won Slam Dunk contest (1st of 2).

Player	Games	Scoring	Rebounding	Assists	
Michael Jordan	82	37.1	5.2	2.6	1 st in Scoring, 2 nd in Steals (2.9)
Charles Oakley	82	14.5	13.1	3.6	2 nd in Rebounding
John Paxson	82	11.3	1.7	5.7	
Gene Banks	63	9.7	4.9	2.7	
Brad Sellers	80	8.5	4.7	1.3	
Dave Corzine	82	8.3	6.6	2.5	
Sedale Threatt	40	7.9	1.3	4.4	
Earl Cureton	43	6.9	5.3	1.6	
Mike Brown	62	4.2	3.5	0.4	
Elston Turner	70	3.5	1.6	1.5	

Oakley's 775 defensive rebounds was club record until 1997-98.

Playoffs: Bulls were 0-6 against KC Jones' **Boston Celtics**. Stars were many: Larry Bird, Kevin McHale, Robert Parish, Dennis Johnson, Danny Ainge, and Bill Walton, playing in his final NBA season.

4/23: **Lost 108-104** away (Jordan 35; Oakley 21/12). Banks added 19 points. Bulls were behind 66-47 at the half. Each team did well at FT line: Bulls 96.4% FT, Celtics 94.7%. Kevin McHale scored 21 for Boston.

4/26: **Lost 105-96** away (Jordan 42; Oakley 25/15). Celtics committed only 5 turnovers. Bird led Celtics with 29 points.

4/28: **Lost 105-94** at home (Jordan 30/11; Oakley 14/19).

Larry Bird: 32/14 for Boston; Dennis Johnson added 24 points & 10 assists.
Celtics committed only 31 turnovers in the 3G series.

Playoff Stats:	Scoring	Rebounding	Assists
Michael Jordan	35.7	7.0	6.0
Charles Oakley	20.0	15.3	2.0
Gene Banks	10.3	2.7	
Dave Corzine	9.0	7.0	2.3
John Paxson	8.7	1.0	3.7
Sedale Threatt	6.7	1.7	5.3
Brad Sellers	5.0	2.3	1.0

League:

- **Len Bias**, taken #2 in the NBA draft by the Boston Celtics, died of a cocaine overdose 2 days later.
- Walter Davis and 4 other active/former **Phoenix Suns** were indicted on marijuana and cocaine use. Houston Rockets G **Lewis Lloyd** and G **Mitchell Wiggins** were suspended 2 years for using cocaine.

Changing Places: Moses Malone (WA), Adrian Dantley (Detroit), Jack Sikma (Milwaukee), Jeff Ruland (Phil), Kevin Duckworth (Portland), Mychal Thompson (LA Lakers), and Kelly Tripucka (Utah)

Noteworthy Games:

11/1: **Utah** beat Portland 119-110. Jazz's **Mark Eaton** blocked 12 shots.

12/6: **Seattle** beat Houston 136-80 in Houston. Biggest rout by a visiting team.

1/8: **Utah** beat LA Lakers 107-101. Jazz's **John Stockton** handed out 22 assists.

1/12: **Atlanta** beat LA Clippers 125-115 in OT. Hawks' **Dominique Wilkins** scored 53 points.

2/1: **Golden State** beat NJ Nets 150-147 in 4 OT. Warriors' **Eric Sleepy Floyd** played 60 minutes. High scorer was Golden State's Joe Barry Carroll (43 points).

2/3: **Atlanta** beat Boston 126-123 in OT. Hawks' **Dominique Wilkins** scored 54 points.

2/23: **Seattle** beat LA Clippers 124-112. Sonics' **Nate McMillan** handed out 25 assists.

2/26: **Washington** beat Indiana 100-94. Bullets' **Manute Bol** blocked 15 shots.

3/10: **Cleveland** lost to Philadelphia 100-91. Cavs' **Ron Harper** recorded 10 steals. **Houston** lost to Seattle 136-127 in 2 OT. Rockets' **Hakeem Olajuwon** blocked 12 shots.

3/31: **Seattle** beat Sacramento 132-129. Sonics' **Nate McMillan** credited with 21 assists.

Playoffs:

5/26: **Eastern Finals:** Boston beat Detroit 108-107. Game known for **Larry Bird** intercepting Isiah Thomas's in-bound pass, then tossed the ball to Dennis Johnson for the game-winning basket.

Streaks: LA Lakers began 16-4 and had winning streaks of 11, and 10 (twice); Atlanta also began 16-4 (+11).

From 11/15 - 1/26, LA Clippers went 2-33. Club endured losing streaks of 12, 14 and 16 games. NJ Nets began 3-17.

- From 1985-87, Boston's home record was 79-3. Celtics (39-2) almost duplicated NBA record they set the year before (40-1).
- Only 2 teams had winning road records: LA Lakers and the Atlanta Hawks.

NBA Top 3:	Scoring			Rebounding		
	Michael Jordan	Chicago	37.1	Charles Barkley	Philadelphia	14.6
	Dominique Wilkins	Atlanta	29.0	Charles Oakley	Chicago	13.1
	Alex English	Denver	28.6	Buck Williams	NJ Nets	12.5

NBA Top 2:	Assists			FT %		
	Magic Johnson	LA Lakers	12.2	Larry Bird	Boston	91.0 %
	Sleepy Floyd	Golden State	10.3	Danny Ainge	Boston	89.7

Blocked Shots	Steals			3-pt %					
	Mark Eaton	Utah	4.1	Alvin Robertson	San Antonio	3.2	K. Vandeweghe	Portland	48.1%
	Manute Bol	Washington	3.7	Michael Jordan	Chicago	2.9	Detlef Schrempf	Dallas	47.8

Last season: Julius Erving, Bill Walton, Jeff Ruland, Junior Bridgeman, Dan Roundfield, and Clark Kellogg

Rookie Class: Ron Harper, John Salley, Dennis Rodman, Nate McMillan, Jeff Hornacek, Johnny Dawkins, Scott Skiles, Roy Tarpley, Del Curry, Mark Price, Johnny Newman, Kevin Duckworth, and John Williams
 - Price set NBA record by making 90.4% of his free throws.
 - Rodman was inducted into Basketball Hall of Fame in 2011.

#1 Draft Pick: Brad Dougherty (North Carolina), Cleveland

Rookie/Year: Chuck Person, Indiana

6th Man: Ricky Pierce, Milwaukee

Improved: Dale Ellis, Seattle

Executive: Stan Kasten, Atlanta

Coach/Year: Mike Schuler, Portland

Defensive: Michael Cooper, LA Lakers

All NBA Team: Larry Bird, Kevin McHale, Hakeem Olajuwon, Magic Johnson, and Michael Jordan

MVP: Magic Johnson, LA Lakers

Hall of Fame: Among the inductees: Rick Barry, Walt Frazier, Pete Maravich, and Bobby Wanzer

NBA finals: LA Lakers beat Boston in 6 games.

Eastern Conference

Atlantic

Boston	57-25
Washington	38-44
New York	38-44
Philadelphia	36-46
New Jersey	19-63

Central

Detroit	54-28
Chicago	50-32
Atlanta	50-32
Milwaukee	42-40
Cleveland	42-40
Indiana	38-44

Western Conference

Midwest

Denver	54-28
Dallas	53-29
Utah	47-35
Houston	46-36
San Antonio	31-51
Sacramento	24-58

Pacific

LA Lakers	62-20
Portland	53-29
Seattle	44-38
Phoenix	28-54
Golden State	20-62
LA Clippers	17-65

Offense: 105.0 (19th) Denver 116.7

Defense: 101.6 (1st)

Home: 30-11

Best: LA Lakers & Boston (36-5)

Worst: LA Clippers (14-27)

Away: 20-21

Best: LA Lakers (26-15)

Worst: New Jersey & LA Clippers (3-38)

Best: 5-1 vs. New Jersey, Milwaukee; 4-2 vs. Philadelphia; 1-1 vs. Lakers; 3-3 vs. Boston

Worst: 2-4 vs. Detroit, 0-2 vs. Dallas

Club:

- **Phil Jackson** joined the Bulls as an assistant coach.
- From this point on, Bulls' yearly attendance (18,061/game) remains one of the highest in NBA.
- Michael Jordan later stated that this season meant most to him – that he was finally viewed as a complete player. Jordan's 131 blocks are most ever for guard.
- **NBA draft:** Bulls and Seattle swapped 1st round choices. Seattle chose **Scottie Pippen** #5 in draft, and traded him to the Bulls for Olden Polynice (8th, Virginia), and two 2nd round picks.
- Collins and Jordan "locked horns" during intra-squad game. Collins changed the score so that Jordan's team would lose. Jordan left gym angrily.
- Club began 12-3. Streaks: +6 and 2 of +4; longest losing streak: -5.
- Jordan led team in scoring in every game but one (December 1).
- NBA All-Star Game was played in Chicago. Jordan won the Slam Dunk Contest, but many felt Atlanta Hawks' Dominique Wilkins was the true winner.
- **Playoffs:** Jordan averaged 45.2 ppg vs. Cleveland, then faced a physical Detroit team that featured "Bad Boys" Bill Laimbeer, John Salley, Rick Mahorn, Dennis Rodman, Isiah Thomas, and Vinnie Johnson.

Draft: 1st: Olden Polynice (U. of Virginia): traded to Seattle for G/F **Scottie Pippen** (Central Arkansas). Polynice played for 6 teams through 2004.

2nd: **Horace Grant** (#1; Clemson).

Pippen: 12 years with Bulls. Skills led him to invent the small forward position. **Hall of Fame:** 2010.

- Voted one of **NBA's 50 Best Players**.
- Career included 7X All-Star games (1994 MVP), 10 All-Defensive teams, 6th in career steals and 26th in career assists. Recorded 19 triple-doubles as a Bull.
- With the Bulls: Pippen was 1st in 3-pt baskets/attempts (664/2031), 2nd in games (793), points (14,987), assists (4,444), steals (1,926); 3rd in rebounds (5,658) and games 856, offensive & defensive rebounds; points. 15,123.
- Playoffs: 17.5 ppg, 5.0 assists and 395 steals in 208 games.
- Signed on with Houston Rockets after the 1998-98 season.

Grant: 7 of his 17 years in the NBA were spent with the Bulls. Career: 12.6/8.6

- As a Bull: 4th in steals (587), FG % (53%), and rebounds (4,721), 8th in games (546), and points (6,866). Grant left for Orlando following 93-94 season and later played for Seattle and the LA Lakers.
- Polynice, Pippen and Grant all retired after the 2003-2004 season.

Also drafted: G Rickie Winslow (Houston), G Tony White (TN), C Jack Haley, and Doug Altenberger (U of I).

- Winslow played for Milwaukee; White played 49G at guard.

Add/trade/lost: Sam Vincent (from Seattle; 2 years), Artis Gilmore (24G) and G Rory Sparrow (from NY Knicks).

Season:

- 11/7: **Beat Philadelphia** 104-94 (Jordan 36; Oakley 21). Sixers' Charles Barkley: 34/10.
11/14: **Lost to Indiana** 111-110 (Jordan 37; Oakley 19). Chuck Person led Pacers with 20 points.
11/17: **Beat Washington** 105-101 (Jordan 26; Oakley 21). Bullets' Bernard King scored 23.
11/20: **Beat Atlanta** 94-92 (Jordan 33/7/7; Oakley 17). Dominique Wilkins scored 36 for Atlanta.
- 11/21: **Lost to Detroit** 144-132 in OT (Jordan 49/8 assists) Bulls committed 44 fouls. Pistons scored 22 points in OT.
Pistons' Adrian Dantley scored 45 points (19-22 free throws) & Dennis Rodman grabbed 25 rebounds.
11/23: **Beat Boston** 107-102 (Jordan 31/10). Celtics' Dennis Johnson scored 23.
11/25: **Beat Milwaukee** 103-101 (Jordan 33, Oakley 14). Bucks' Paul Pressey: 18/13 & 10 assists.
- Collins November Coach of Month**
- 12/1: **Beat Golden State** 98-97 (Paxson 19; Oakley 13) - *the only time during season Jordan (16/9) did not lead Bulls in scoring.*
12/2: **Beat Utah** 105-101 (Jordan 47/9 assists; Oakley 9). Jazz's Karl Malone scored 33 points.
12/5: **Lost to San Antonio** 110-101 (Jordan 40/8 assists; Oakley 12). Spurs' Johnny Dawkins scored 20.
- 12/12: **Beat Houston** 112-103 (Jordan 44; Oakley 14). Jordan rejected shots by centers Olajuwon and Sampson.
12/15: **Lost to Detroit** 127-123 in OT (Jordan 38/8/12; Oakley 17). Pistons' Adrian Dantley (27 points) 19-19 from FT line.
12/17: **Beat Cleveland** 111-100 (**Jordan 52**). Cleveland went 22-22 from FT line.
- 12/22: **Lost to Dallas** 111-100 (Jordan 28; Oakley 10). Mark Aguirre led Mavs with 32.
12/29: **Lost to Atlanta** 108-98 (Jordan 39/8; Oakley 13). Doc Rivers scored 29 for Atlanta.
- 1/2: **Beat NJ Nets** 116-93 (Jordan 25/10/10). Bulls out-scored the Nets 34-16 in 2nd Q.
1/5: **Beat Indiana** 93-77 (Jordan 31/11/9). Bulls out-shot Pacers 50%-37%. Reggie Miller scored 13 for the Pacers.
1/7: **Beat Denver** 100-96 (Jordan 28/9; Oakley 14). Nuggets' Fat Lever: 31/16 & 12 assists.
- 1/16: **Beat Detroit** 115-99 (Jordan 36/10/10). Dennis Rodman scored 10 points and grabbed 13 rebounds for the Pistons.
1/22: **Beat Phoenix** 118-98 (Jordan 43/13 assists). Eddie Johnson led Suns with 27 points.
1/23: **Beat Golden State** 121-94 (Jordan 36; Corzine 11; Rod Higgins 14 assists). *Greatest margin of victory (+27) – 1st of 2.*
- 1/27: **Beat Philadelphia** 119-109 in OT (Jordan 37; Oakley 10).
1/29: **Beat NJ Nets** 120-93 (Jordan 32). Jordan's 10 steals were 1 short of NBA record.
Greatest margin of victory (+27).
1/30: **Beat NY Knicks** 97-95 in OT (Jordan 28; Oakley 13). Knicks were led by Patrick Ewing (18).
- 2/2: **Lost to LA Lakers** 111-101 (Jordan 39; Sellers 14). Lakers were led by Magic Johnson (25) and James Worthy (22).
2/12: **Beat Milwaukee** 95-93 (Jordan 27/8 assists; Oakley 14). Jordan converted 2 free throws with 0:02 left.
Rookie Horace Grant added 15/11.
2/13: **Lost to Detroit** 82-73 (Jordan 27). Bulls lost 89-74 to the Pistons 4 days earlier.
- 2/19: **Beat Sacramento** 111-90 (Jordan 49; Oakley 13). Joe Klein scored 15 for the Kings.
2/23: **Beat Seattle** 104-97 in OT (Jordan 39/9, Sellers 24; Oakley 12). Sonics' Dale Ellis scored 34.
2/26: **Lost to Portland** 104-96 (**Jordan 52**). Blazers' Clyde Drexler scored 42 points, Kevin Duckworth added 27.
- 3/10: **Beat LA Lakers** 128-107 (Jordan 38; Oakley & Grant 11; Vincent 11 assists). AC Green led LA with 13 rebounds.
3/15: **Beat Cleveland** 108-89 (Jordan 38; Oakley 14). Ron Harper led Cavs with 20 points.
3/16: **Lost to Washington** 106-103 (Jordan 25; Oakley 9). Moses Malone grabbed 13 rebounds for the Bullets.
- 3/18: **Beat Boston** 113-103 (**Jordan 50/9** assists; Oakley 12/12). Celtics: Kevin McHale (33/10) & Larry Bird (19/10).
3/20: **Lost to Boston** 137-107 (Jordan 26, Pippen 17; Oakley 9). *Greatest margin of defeat (-30)*. Bird scored 33 for Boston.
3/23: **Beat Philadelphia** 118-102 (Jordan 49/13; Oakley 19).
- 3/25: **Beat Cleveland** 111-110 in OT (Jordan 39; Oakley 22/19). Bulls lost 12-point 4th Q lead. Larry Nance: 29/11 for Cavs.
3/30: **Beat LA Clippers** 111-94 (Jordan 36; Oakley 17; Corzine 21/11).
- 4/3: **Beat Detroit** 112-110 (**Jordan 59**; Corzine 12). Jordan made 2 FT with 0:04 left. Isiah Thomas scored 24 for Detroit.
4/8: **Beat NY Knicks** 131-122 at home. (Jordan 40 & 8 steals, Pippen 24 points; Oakley 10).
NY's Patrick Ewing scored 42 points.
- 4/15: **Beat NJ Nets** 100-99 (Jordan 28; Oakley 17/21). Jordan scored winning basket with 0:22 left.
4/21: **Lost to Boston** 126-119 (Jordan 39; Oakley 18/17). Celtics' F Larry Bird scored 44 points.

- 4/22: **Lost to Cleveland** 107-103 (Jordan 26; Oakley 26/35).
All-Star Game in Chicago: East beat West 138-133. MVP: Michael Jordan (Chicago) – 1st of 3.
 - Jordan 40 points (17-23 from field, 6-6 at FT line). First Chicago Bull to be awarded MVP.
 - Jordan won the Slam Dunk contest vs. Dominique Wilkins.

Jordan: All NBA Team (1st Team), All NBA Defensive Team (1st Team), NBA Defensive Player of the Year.

Player	Games	Scoring	Rebounding	Assists	
Michael Jordan	82	35.0	5.5	5.9	See below
Sam Vincent	29	13.0	3.6	8.4	
Charles Oakley	82	12.4	13.0	3.0	See below
Dave Corzine	80	10.1	6.6	1.9	
Brad Sellers	82	9.5	3.0	1.7	
John Paxson	81	7.9	1.3	3.7	
Scottie Pippen	79	7.9	3.8	2.1	
Horace Grant	81	7.7	5.5	1.1	
Sedale Threatt	45	6.6	1.2	2.4	
Rory Sparrow	55	4.5	1.3	2.9	
Mike Brown	46	4.3	3.5	0.6	

Jordan: 2,868 points ranks 2nd highest on club.

Jordan's 259 steals are club record (3.16/game) – 1st of 3 times he led the NBA in steals.

Oakley: Led league with 1,066 rebounds (13.0 rebounds per game); his 326 offensive rebounds were #4 all-time.

Playoffs: Coach Lenny Wilkins' **Cleveland Cavaliers** featured Brad Daugherty, Larry Nance, Mark Price, Hot Rod Williams, Craig Ehlo, and Ron Harper.

4/28: **Won** 104-93 at home. (**Jordan 50**; shot 19-35 from field). Oakley grabbed 15 rebounds. Ehlo scored 21 for Cavs.

5/1: **Won** 106-101 at home (**Jordan 55**; 24-45 from field). Jordan's 24 baskets were **NBA playoff record**.

Oakley added 17/17, and Vincent handed out 14 assists. Cavs' Larry Nance scored 27; Brad Daugherty 21/13

5/3: **Lost** 110-92 away (Jordan 38/9 assists; Oakley 9). Cleveland was led by Mark Price's 31 points.

5/5: **Lost** 97-91 away (Jordan 44; Oakley 10). Ron Harper scored 30 for the Cavs

5/8: **Won** 107-101 at home (Jordan 39, Pippen 24; Oakley 20). Pippen started.

Mark Price scored 25 for Cleveland. Jordan's 226 points (45.2ppg) in was a record for 5G playoff series.

Detroit Pistons' "Bad Boys" included Dennis Rodman, Bill Laimbeer, Isiah Thomas, Adrian Dantley, Joe Dumars, Vinnie Johnson, John Salley, and Rick Mahorn. Pistons head coach was Chuck Daly.

5/10: **Lost** 93-82 away (Jordan 29/11; Oakley 13). Grant added 16.

Game included fight between Bulls' Charles Oakley and Pistons' Rick Mahorn; Coach Doug Collins was also involved. Detroit's Adrian Dantley scored 23 and Bill Laimbeer grabbed 14 rebounds.

5/12: **Won** 105-95 away (Jordan 36/11), Vincent 31; Oakley 12). Pistons' Isiah Thomas: 25 points & 13 assists.

5/14: **Lost** 101-79 at home (Jordan 24). Jordan squared off against Bill Laimbeer following Laimbeer's forceful pick.

Vinnie Johnson scored 23 for Detroit.

5/15: **Lost** 96-77 at home (Jordan 23). Dantley led Pistons with 24 points; Laimbeer 16/13.

5/18: **Lost** 102-95 away (Jordan 25/8/8). Oakley added 19/15; Grant scored 20. Jordan elbowed Thomas – knocking him out.

Thomas's 25 points led the Pistons. Bill Laimbeer added 19/13.

Detroit went 23-23 at FT line.

Playoff stats:	Scoring	Rebounding	Assists	
Michael Jordan	36.3	7.1	4.7	1 st in Scoring, Steals (3.2), and Minutes
Sam Vincent	10.2	1.9	4.4	
Horace Grant	10.1	7.0	1.6	
Charles Oakley	10.1	12.8	3.2	2 nd in Rebounds
Scottie Pippen	10.0	5.2	2.4	
Dave Corzine	6.1	5.7	1.0	
John Paxson	4.6		3.0	
Rory Sparrow	4.5		2.6	

League:**New Collective Bargaining Agreement:** 6-year pact. Players would continue receiving 53% of NBA's gross revenue.February 20th was new NBA trading deadline. Deadline was changed to February 8 prior to 2017-18 season.

Also: beginning in 1888-89, college draft would be reduced from 7 rounds to 2.

1/5: Hall of Fame G **Pete Maravich** died during a pickup game.

- CBS, WTBS/TNT paid combined \$251M to broadcast games through 1989-90 – almost 300% increase from 1983-87.
- Only 2 of 23 NBA teams had winning road records: LA Lakers (26-15) and the Boston Celtics (21-20).
- **Dallas** would not return to NBA playoffs until 2001.
- **Detroit** was 1st NBA team to draw 1M fans.
- **Denver's** best season to date (tied in 2008-09).
- **Utah's** John Stockton collected 1,128 assists. Stockton would break his own record twice in the next 3 years.
- Prior to joining the NBA, Spurs C **David Robinson** fulfilled his 2-year commitment with the Navy.

Changing Places: F Larry Nance (Cleveland) for G Kevin Johnson, Tyrone Corbin, and Mark West (Phoenix); Tom Chambers (Phoenix); John Long (Indiana); Ralph Sampson (Golden State); James Edwards (Detroit); Eric Floyd, Purvis Short, & Joe Barry Carroll (Houston).

Noteworthy games:12/5: **Portland** beat Phoenix 133-115. Blazers shot 68.2% from the floor (58-85).1/ 4: **Phoenix** lost to Philadelphia 122-114. Suns' **Larry Nance** blocked 10 shots.1/22: **Washington** beat Golden State 115-91. Bullets' **Manute Bol** blocked 10 shots.1/29: **LA Clippers** lost to Milwaukee 97-88. Clippers' **Benoit Benjamin** blocked 10 shots.2/16: **Atlanta** lost to Sacramento 118-115. Hawks' **Dominique Wilkins** scored 51 points.2/22: **Philadelphia** lost to Houston 119-106. Sixers went 0-14 from 3-point range – 1 short of NBA record.3/1: **Atlanta** lost to Detroit 117-104. Hawks' **Dominique Wilkins** scored 50 points.3/31: **Golden State** lost to Utah 115-92. Warriors' **Chris Mullin** turned the ball over 13 times.4/20: **LA Lakers** beat Dallas 114-107. Lakers' **Magic Johnson** handed out 23 assists.4/21: **Houston** lost to San Antonio 117-116. Rockets' **Hakeem Olajuwon** (38 points, 10 rebounds) blocked 10 shots.4/24: **LA Clippers** lost to Seattle 109-100.Clippers' **Michael Cage's** 30 rebounds were enough to beat **Charles Oakley** for the crown.**Streaks:** **Lakers** had winning streaks of 15 & 10; club went 25-3 in January-February.**Dallas** (+11), **Denver** and **Detroit** (+10/ea)**New Jersey** had losing streaks of 15 & 11; **Golden State** lost 17 straight on the road.

NBA Top 3: Scoring			Rebounding		
Michael Jordan	Chicago	35.0	Michael Cage	LA Clippers	13.0
Dominique Wilkins	Atlanta	30.7	Charles Oakley	Chicago	13.0
Larry Bird	Boston	29.9	Hakeem Olajuwon	Houston	12.1

NBA Top 2: Assists			FT%		
John Stockton	Utah	13.8	Jack Sikma	Milwaukee	92.2%
Magic Johnson	LA Lakers	11.9	Larry Bird	Boston	91.6

Blocked Shots			Steals			3-pt %		
Mark Eaton	Utah	3.7	Michael Jordan	Chicago	3.2	Craig Hodges	Mil/Phoenix	49.1%
Benoit Benjamin	LA Clippers	3.4	Alvin Robertson	San Antonio	3.0	Mark Price	Cleveland	48.6

Last season: Artis Gilmore, Alvan Adams, Cedric Maxwell, World B. Free, Mike Mitchell, Andrew Toney, and Kent Benson

Rookie Class: 5'3" Muggsy Bogues – shortest to ever play in NBA, Kevin Johnson, Reggie Miller, Scottie Pippen, Mark Jackson, Kenny Smith, Ken Norman, Armen Gilliam, Derrick McKey, Horace Grant, and Reggie Lewis

#1 Draft Pick: David Robinson (Navy), San Antonio

Rookie/Year: Mark Jackson, NY Knicks

6th Man: Roy Tarpley, Dallas

Improved: Kevin Duckworth, Portland

Executive: **Jerry Krause, Chicago**

Coach/Year: Doug Moe, Denver

Defensive: **Michael Jordan, Chicago**

All NBA Team: Charles Barkley, Larry Bird, Hakeem Olajuwon, Magic Johnson, Michael Jordan

MVP: Michael Jordan, Chicago (1st of 5)

Hall of Fame: Among the inductees: Wes Unseld, Clyde Lovellette, Bobby McDermott, coach Ralph Miller

NBA finals: LA Lakers beat Detroit in 7 games. First back-to-back championships since 1968-69. Magic Johnson's 5th and last championship with the LA Lakers