

## There's a new challenge for Jordan, in more ways than one

Suffice it to say that Michael Jordan, in his first seven games back from retirement, hasn't shown the greatness he once possessed. But the last time Jordan started off so slowly was 1998, the year he ended up leading the Chicago Bulls to their sixth NBA Championship in eight years.

Comparing the 2001 edition of Jordan with the 1998 edition, both have some surprising similarities. And in those similarities lies proof that it's still too early to count out Jordan.

Jordan is scoring more points, shooting better from the foul line, assisting on more scores, and stealing more basketballs this year than he did in his first seven games of 1998. The only major statistic Jordan has failed to meet is field-goal percentage, falling less than one percent from his early season drought of the '98 campaign.

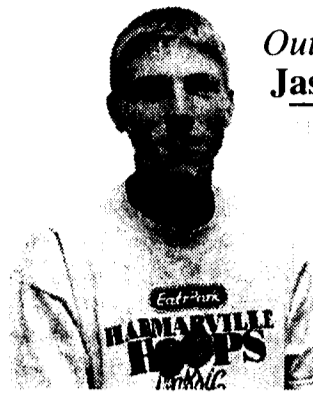
Jordan found a way to salvage his career three years ago and ended on a high note, despite showing some signs of getting old. This year presents a similar challenge, but with very different obstacles.

The NBA is no longer a league of aging veterans and immature rookies as it was when Jordan made his first return to basketball in 1995. Karl Malone, Patrick Ewing, David Robinson, Hakeem Olajuwon, and Charles Barkley are all either past their prime or turning basketball analysis on TNT and TBS into Comedy Central.

The early career inconsistencies of players like Chris Webber, Jerry Stackhouse, and Shaquille O'Neal have finally been put in the past and great players like Allen Iverson, Vince Carter, Kobe Bryant, and Tracy McGrady are emerging.

The league has a much different look than it did when Jordan dominated. He entered a league of half-court sets and hard-nosed play. He left the game redefined, turning half-court sets into fast-break dunks and hard-nosed play into style and grace.

The problem for Jordan now is that everyone that wanted to "Be Like Mike" is in the NBA and attempting to imitate his greatness. His age has possibly left him unable to com-



**Out of Bounds**  
Jason Snyder

pete with players that are using his own style of play against him. It was apparent in the Washington Wizards vs. Boston Celtics games last week that Jordan has new challenges. The Celtics' Paul Pierce told the media prior to the game that he was ready for Jordan. This is a challenge that Jordan used to feed off. But Pierce got the better of Jordan, blocking an attempted jumper late in the game that would have pulled the Wizards within striking distance. The Celtics won 104-95.

Another obstacle Jordan hasn't dealt with

since early in his career is playing for a team with no other big-name stars. Jordan helped the Bulls make some strides back in the mid 1980s without much help from the rest of the team. It wasn't until the emergence of Scottie Pippen and Horace Grant that the Bulls really began to click.

The Wizards' Richard Hamilton ranks closest to Jordan than anyone else on Washington's roster, which doesn't bode well for their postseason hopes. Jordan is seeing all the double-teams, something the Bulls made their opponents pay for in their championship seasons.

Perhaps the toughest challenge that Jordan is facing today, though, is his age. A younger Jordan could step up to the challenge of younger players and was confident enough to take on double-teams as if he was twice as good as the players defending him.

Today, his legs look heavier and his drives look a little less swift. Jordan relied on his quickness and athleticism early in his career to deal with the challenges. After his first re-

turn, he relied on a patented jumper. But this return has shown that Jordan's quickness no longer gets him to the hoop and his jumper has struggled to go through it.

It could be early season rust. He is returning from his longest break from the game since he was born and he is doing it at a much older age. He's being challenged by many more confident players as opposed to players who used to fear that they would be just another player in a Michael Jordan poster.

But if the past is any indication, the bigger the challenge presented to Jordan, the bigger his response. It took him the final stretch of regular season games, a playoff series and a full offseason to return to greatness after his comeback of 1995. It took him several seasons early in his career to carry the Bulls to championship glory.

But one thing about Jordan; he hasn't always been the best at starting things. But he makes sure that he finishes them.

## That's right, Behrend has a lacrosse club

by Edward Dearolf  
staff writer

Though the Penn State Behrend lacrosse club had only two wins last year, it is recharged and ready to net a few more victories this season.

Last year's two victories are skewed, of course, due to the fact that they only got to play in six games last season because of a snow-covered field. The club doesn't have a coach and is run by the players.

"The coaching responsibilities are divided up between the members who have been playing the game for a while," said club president Mike May. "Chauncey Hartwig and I carry out most coaching responsibilities. Chauncey has been playing the game for at least nine years and is the most knowledgeable member of the team. This is my sixth year play-

ing."

Hartwig is the vice president and Mark Scabilloni is the treasurer of the club.

The club participates in the Allegheny Division of the National College Lacrosse League (NCLL). Pitt, West Virginia, Grove City, Slippery Rock, Duquesne, Bethany, Carnegie Mellon, and Allegheny are the other teams that make up the division. As of right now, Slippery Rock can be considered Behrend's main rival, the team that Behrend beat in its very first game in 1999.

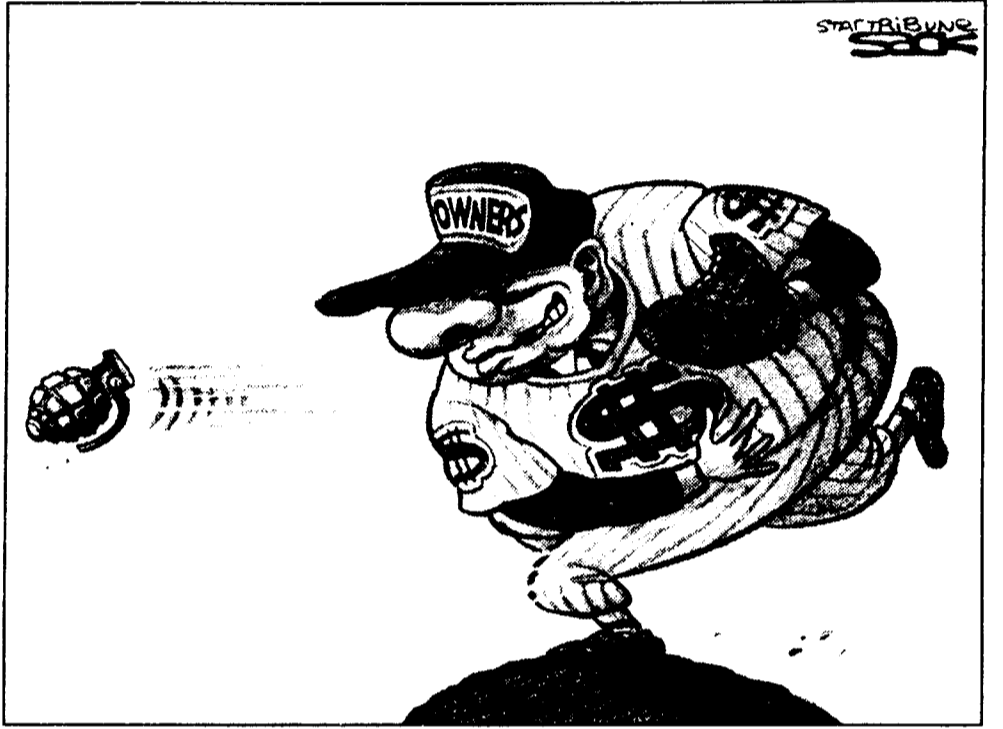
As the team prepares for the season, it will have to replace a starting midfielder, Bryan Colligan, who transferred this year and was a top scorer a year ago. The club also lost starters Mark Lupinacci and Bryan Wilson. Ten players play at a time, including the goalie, three defensemen, three attackers, and three midfielders. May will start at the goalie positions with Hartwig, Jon Fallon, and Liam

Barnes on defense. The starting attackers are Scabilloni, Chris Agosti, and Keith Snead with the midfielders rotating in and out every three or four minutes.

In order to qualify for the playoffs, the lacrosse club has to manage to play at least eight games, which is not the easiest thing to do here in Erie. The season runs from the second week in March through the second week in April.

"We try to practice everyday on the Behrend fields from 4 to 6 p.m.," said May about practice times. "When the fields are covered with snow, we try to get some time in one of the gyms."

The team is currently made up of 25 players with a wide range of experience. They have participated in such tournaments as the Falcon Cup at Bowling Green and the Mountaineer Invitational at West Virginia University.



## SCOREBOARD

### BEHREND SPORTS

#### Volleyball Statistics

Player	Kills	Digs	Blocks	Service Aces
Brianne Engelbert	147	368	6	72
Jessica Niedermeyer	355	455	6	40
Ashley Ordy	6	224	0	64
Sarah Peterson	226	365	0	33
Danielle Bemis	253	388	3	52
Lauren Senkevich	198	62	25	3
Trish Krantz	161	70	19	11

#### Water Polo Statistics

Player	Goals	Attempts	Assists	Steals
Andy Hanhauser	49	128	26	64
Jon Harding	29	83	12	36
Casey Doody	26	52	16	50
Chad Holzshu	21	46	12	24
Mark Ostrzeniec	19	48	3	28
Alan Haywood	18	32	2	14
Justin Lucas	7	17	8	13

#### President's Cup Standings

School	Points
Penn State Behrend	34
Frostburg	33
Pitt-Bradford	21
La Roche	18
Penn State Altoona	17
Pitt-Greensburg	17
Lake Erie	10

PENN STATE  
BEHREND  
LIONS

### NATIONAL SPORTS

#### NASCAR

##### 2001 Winston Cup

##### Standings:

Race 34 of 36

Next Race: Napa 500 Nov. 18

Pos.	Driver	Points
1	Jeff Gordon	4829
2	Ricky Rudd	4524
3	Tony Stewart	4465
4	Sterling Marlin	4391
5	Dale Jarrett	4336
6	Rusty Wallace	4245
7	Dale Earnhardt, Jr.	4213
8	Bobby Labonte	4211
9	Kevin Harvick	4151
10	Jeff Burton	4143
11	Johnny Benson	3931
12	Mark Martin	3860
13	Matt Kenseth	3710
14	Ward Burton	3654
15	Jimmy Spencer	3618
16	Bill Elliott	3606
17	Bobby Hamilton	3417
18	Ken Schrader	3364
19	Jerry Nadeau	3360
20	Ricky Craven	3276

#### National Basketball Association League Leaders

##### Points Per Game (PPG)

Player	Team	POS	PPG
1	S O'Neal	LAL C	30.7
2	K Bryant	LAL G	28.5
3	P Pierce	BOS F-G	27.7
4	N Van Exel	DEN G	27.0
5	V Carter	TOR G-F	26.1

##### Rebounds Per Game (RPG)

Player	Team	POS	RPG
1	D Forston	GS F	13.9
1	L Wright	MEM C	13.9
3	T Duncan	SA F-C	13.3
4	D Mutombo	PHI C	12.4
4	S O'Neal	LA C	11.8

##### Assists Per Game (APG)

Player	Team	POS	APG
1	A Miller	CLE G	10.6
2	G Payton	SEA G	10.1
3	S Marbury	PHX G	9.0
3	J Stockton	UT G	9.0
5	T Brandon	MIN G	8.7

##### Field Goal Percentage (FGP)

Player	Team	POS	FGP
1	D Marshall	UT F	.627
2	R Nesterovic	MIN C	.614
3	C Mills	GS F	.597
4	S Swift	MEM F	.591
5	J Smith	MIN F	.564

#### National Hockey League League Leaders

##### Points (Pts)

Player	Team	POS	Pts
1	J Iginla	CGY RW	28
2	R Smyth	EDM LW	23
3	J O'Neill	CAR C	22
3	B Shanahan	DET LW	22
5	7 tied with		21

##### Goals

Player	Team	POS	Goals
1	J Iginla	CGY RW	14
2	J O'Neill	CAR C	13
2	M Parrish	NYI RW	13
4	P Demitra	STL RW	12
4	P Bondra	WSH RW	12

##### Goals Against Average (GAA)

Player	Team	POS	Yds
1	B Boucher	PHI G	1.60
2	T Conklin	EDM G	1.62
3	R Turek	CGY G	1.71
4	J Hackett	MTL G	1.80
5	J Giguere	ANA G	1.87

##### Penalty Minutes (PM)

Player	Team	POS	PM
1	P Worrell	FLA LW	78
2	K Sawyer	ANA LW	77
3	D Brasher	VAN LW	76
4	B Shanahan	DET LW	69
5	2 tied with		65

#### National Football League

##### NFC Statistics

##### Passing Yards (Yds)

Player	Team	POS	Yds
1	K Warner	STL QB	2308
2	B Favre	GB QB	2016
3	D Culpepper	MIN QB	1986
4	K Collins	NYG QB	1963
5	J Garcia	SF QB	1958

##### Rushing Yards (Yds)

Player	Team	POS	Yds
1	A Green	GB RB	774
2	R Williams	NO RB	736
3	S Davis	WAS RB	666
4	A Thomas	CHI RB	580
5	G Hearst	SF RB	578

##### Receiving Yards (Yds)

Player	Team	POS	Yds
1	D Boston	ARI WR	864
2	T Owens	SF WR	768
3	K Johnson	TB WR	745
4	I Bruce	STL WR	639
5	J Horn	NO WR	589

##### Sacks

Player	Team	POS	Sacks
1	M Strahan	NYG DE	15
2	K Biamila	GB DE	10
3	L Little	STL DE	8
3	P Kerney	ATL DE	8
3	C Clemons	NO LB	8

##### AFC Statistics

##### Passing Yards (Yds)

Player	Team	POS	Yds
1	T Green	KC QB	2088
2	P Manning	IND QB	2077
3	B Griese	DEN QB	2033
4	R Gannon	OAK QB	1792
5	D Flutie	SD QB	1789

##### Rushing Yards (Yds)

Player	Team	POS	Yds
1	C Martin	NYJ RB	917
2	J Bettis	PIT RB	866
3	P Holmes	KC RB	782
4	S Alexander	SEA RB	758
5	L Tomlinson	SD RB	726

##### Receiving Yards (Yds)

Player	Team	POS	Yds
1	R Smith	DEN WR	923
2	M Harrison	IND WR	751
3	J Smith	JAC WR	722
4	Q Ismail	BAL WR	718
5	T Brown	NE WR	703

##### Sacks

Player	Team	POS	Sacks
1	J Abraham	NYJ DE	9
2	M Wiley	SD DE	8.5
3	J Kearse	TEN DE	8
4	M McCrary	BAL DE	7.5
5	2 tied with		7

