

Bulls overcome cold shooting, Heat in opening game

By Mike Nadel
The Associated Press

CHICAGO — The Chicago Bulls couldn't shoot and they couldn't keep their cool. They didn't forget how to win, though.

The Bulls overcame 36 percent shooting and technical fouls on Michael Jordan, Scottie Pippen and Dennis Rodman to defeat the Miami Heat 84-77 Tuesday night in the opener of the Eastern Conference finals.

Miami led by 16 points in the first half and was still ahead 72-67 midway through the fourth quarter, but the Heat didn't make a field goal for almost 6 1/2 minutes and fell to 0-7 against the Bulls in the playoffs.

Jordan, Pippen and Rodman each atoned for his technical foul. Jordan scored 37 points and Pippen added 24, including a 3-pointer to spark Chicago's game-ending 17-5 run. Rodman pulled down 19 rebounds, by far his best showing this postseason, before fouling out with 1:19 left.

Alonzo Mourning had 21 points and six blocked shots for the Heat but missed five of six free throws in the final 2:20. Miami was 15-of-30 from the line, including misses of all three technical foul shots.

Tim Hardaway, who scored 38 points in the Heat's Game 7 win over New York in the conference semifinals, had only 13 points on 4-for-14 shooting against Ron Harper's outstanding defense.

Rodman's rebound basket began the Bulls' late surge. After Hardaway made one of two free throws, Pippen and Harper hit consecutive 3-pointers to put Chicago ahead to stay, 75-73, and Jordan followed with a dunk after Pippen stole Jamal Mashburn's inbounds pass.

Jordan got his technical for arguing an offensive foul, but Voshon Lenard missed the free throw. Mourning then went on his foul-shoot-

ing drought, and layups by Toni Kukoc and Jordan gave the Bulls an 81-74 lead.

Miami had won the last two meetings between the teams, giving it hope that it could upset the defending NBA champions. And the Heat was the more energetic team for most of the first 3 1/2 quarters, even though they were coming off a grueling series against New York while Chicago had a week of rest.

Mourning had 13 points, six rebounds and five blocks in the first half, when Miami led by as much as 44-28. The Heat was up 49-48 at the break.

The Bulls still trailed 54-45 before Pippen's eight points ignited a 14-4 surge that put them ahead for the first time since the game's opening minutes.

But Rodman was called for his 12th technical foul in Chicago's nine playoff games — this time for shoving Mourning with 3:26 left in the third — and the Heat finished the quarter with an 8-2 run for a 66-61 lead.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

- **GAME 1:** Chicago 84, Miami 77
- **GAME 2:** Miami at Chicago, May 22, 5:30 p.m.
- **GAME 3:** Chicago at Miami, May 24, 12:30 p.m.
- **GAME 4:** Chicago at Miami, May 26, 12:30 p.m.
- **GAME 5:** Miami at Chicago, May 28, 6 p.m. (if necessary)
- **GAME 6:** Chicago at Miami, May 30, 6 p.m. (if necessary)
- **GAME 7:** Miami at Chicago, June 1, TBA (if necessary)

Golf: Experience should help Ducks

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sure off the team.

"I think that these girls have a lot of experience outside of college golf, and that experience is going to help them when the pressure's on at the national championship," Baumgartner said. "They know it's the national championship, but they're treating it like it's just another tournament."

"We feel like we have nothing to lose and everything to gain. There are always teams at the top that are fighting to knock each other off the top, and we're hoping to sneak up on them."

The players are pretty loose going into the tournament, despite being a team of one junior, Patterson, two sophomores, Kylie Wilson and Karen Bristow; and two freshmen straight out of high school, Anika Heuser and Pam Sowden.

"We're really confident," Bristow said. "As we worked our way through the season [a high placing at nationals] became more and more of a goal for us."

Wilson said she thinks her experience in New Zealand and Australia have helped her to deal with

big tournaments.

"I'm looking forward to it, actually," Wilson said. "Playing in professional tournaments back home has helped, but one thing that coach has said to us is that it's going to be one of the biggest tournaments that we're going to play in, so that's a little bit nerve racking."

One factor the Ducks have in their favor is that they have played this Ohio State course this year, when they placed fifth at the Rolex Fall Preview against some of the nation's best competition.

The Oregon players see the course as an advantage because of their playing styles.

"It's really long, so you'll need to hit the ball well, but it will be the short game that will make the difference here; and we've worked really hard on our short game this year," Wilson said.

Play starts today with the first of four rounds of 18 holes on the par-72, 6,101-yard course. The tournament ends Saturday with the final round and the crowning of this year's national champion.

Men: Buciariski will compete in long jump

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Davis ran a career best of 8:48.23 in the steeplechase last weekend to move him up to No. 2 in the Pac-10 rankings behind Das Neves, providing the Ducks with the opportunity to go 1-2 in the event at the Pac-10s.

Ryan Cole continued his late-season surge in the discus at the Twilight, achieving a personal best for the second consecutive week. His throw of 179 feet ranks seventh in the Pac-10 and is just short of the NCAA provisional mark of

180-5.

Buciariski, who stunned the crowd Saturday by leaping 24-9 1/4 in the long jump, said he will compete in that event this Saturday because it will not interfere with the pole vault.

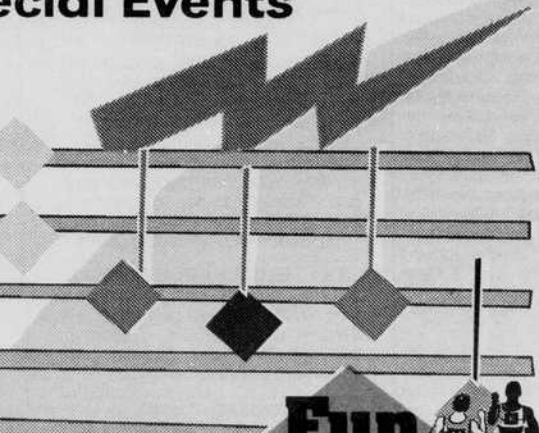
The mark tied him for third in the Pac-10 with teammate Jody Mortimore.

When Nelson cleared 7-0 1/2 in the high jump Saturday, Oregon fans witnessed the senior's final jump at Hayward Field in an Oregon uniform, as well as another victory.

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