

# SPORTS

## FREUD AND RODMAN WOULD HAVE A LOT TO TALK ABOUT

Freud said sometimes a cigar is just a cigar. He never met Dennis Rodman, neither as one master psychologist to another nor to give the Chicago Bulls' badboy the help some believe he so desperately needs.

To teammate Michael Jordan, a request by Rodman for a cigar earlier this season was just his way of saying "I'm sorry." To his coach, Rodman's cigar would just be the prop of an "irresistible clown." But it seems to be exploding in the faces of the Seattle SuperSonics.

On Monday's off day after the Bulls took a 3-0 lead in the NBA Finals, Jordan praised Rodman's focus this past season and told how the league's best rebounder and wildest posterboy had apologized for his biggest lapse — head butting a referee.

"He called me up and asked me for a cigar," said Jordan. "I think that was his way of saying I'm sorry, that was a bad thing on his part. That's the way I took it and I think that's the way he meant it."

But Rodman was not apologizing for Sunday's Game 3 when his smirking and flopping so enraged the Sonics that toughguy Frank Brickowski got thrown out of his second game this series and their star

Shawn Kemp was drawn into his fifth foul.

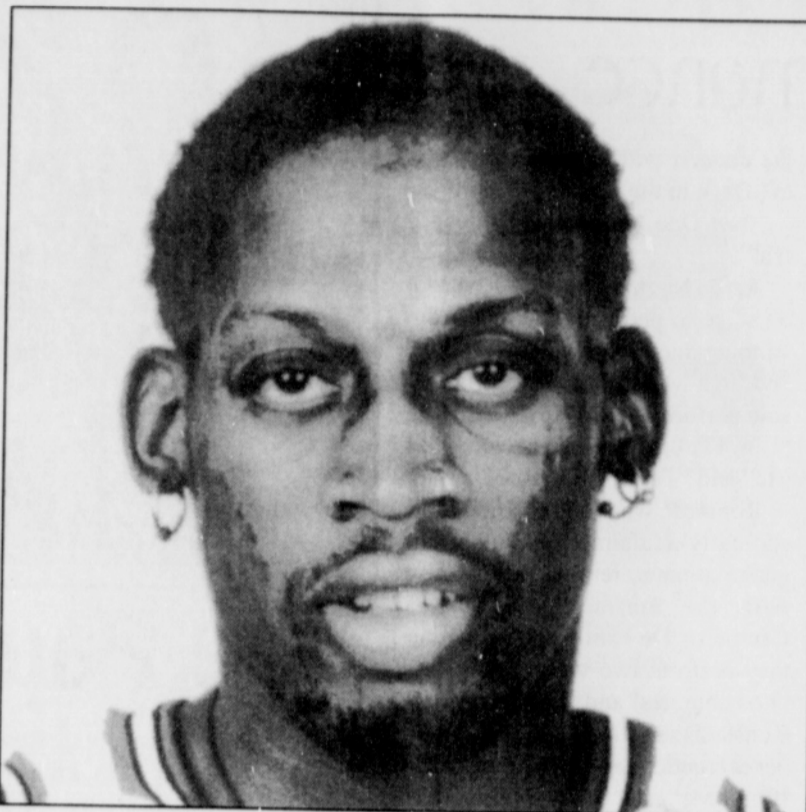
"He just came in basically to do one thing, hit me and make me look like a fool," Rodman said of Brickowski. "In the end he's the one who looked like a fool, he's been ejected in two games."

He added: "You saw Shawn Kemp, just after Brickowski got thrown out, he was just trying to hit me, do everything he can to frustrate me. But he has not been in this league long enough to know that's not going to do it."

The desperate Sonics, needing a win Wednesday to stay alive in the Finals, might get even rougher.

"If they get nasty, I think they'll lose by 20 points. That's not their type of game," said Rodman. "The whole game yesterday they were so concentrated on what I was doing, what I was saying and how I was acting on the floor they just totally forgot how to play basketball."

Rodman, wearing impenetrable wraparound sunglasses, his nose and ear rings and a big floppy floral hat, said the Sonics should just ignore him and play ball. However, he admitted, "It's kind of hard to pretend I'm not there."



Said Seattle coach George Karl of Rodman's Bulls: "They are an obnoxiously persistent rebounding basketball team, led by Dennis Rodman, who's definitely obnoxious."

Karl also called Rodman "a great

basketball player" but called for the league to do something about "his tricks."

Karl said the Sonics were aware that Rodman, never in a fight in 10 years in the NBA, was trying to get

them out of their game, literally and figuratively.

"Dennis Rodman uses that as his line of intimidation. He doesn't care if you hit him. He wants you to hit him, he wants you to punch him. Because that's another notch in his belt. The thing to do to Dennis Rodman if you were playing on the playground is basically to fight him."

Rodman's response: "He has the nerve to say it's bad for the sport. I think it's great for the sport. It adds a little more aroma, it adds a little more flavor and taste to the sport."

Rodman added: "George Karl, I think he's just frustrated. The sad thing about it is he wanted me on his team two years ago."

The coach who got him this year, Phil Jackson, launched his own salvo.

"I think that the diversion tactics the Sonics have used have not worked. Dennis has remained who he is — that irresistible clown on the court that just continues to bounce back, gets up after getting knocked down, draws a charge and creates havoc on the offensive boards."

"If you ask the fans of Chicago, he's really energized our crowd. He's energized our team, I know that."

"There's some genuine emotion that Dennis emotes when he's on the court that's very warm and endearing to his own fans. To opposing fans and coaches, I'm sure it's very irritating."

"I'm not irritating," said Rodman. "I just say certain things and create a problem within the mental aspect of the game."

Rodman said Jordan enjoys him. "He says it all the time. He says, 'You're one of the craziest guys I've ever been around but I'm so happy you're on this team.' It's been a great relationship."

Rodman can't wait for the season to end. "This has been a draining experience for me this year, it's been really one of those emotional rides but it's been a great trip," said the best-selling author who counts pop star Madonna as an ex-lover but supermodel Cindy Crawford as "strictly" a friend.

How will he celebrate his third NBA championship if it comes? "I think I'll just be totally exhausted, I'll fall on the floor, it's over, it's finally over, and now I've proved all the critics and people who tried to bring me down wrong again."

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### REPORT: MARGE SCHOTT SUSPENSION

Embattled Cincinnati Reds owner Marge Schott reportedly will be suspended Wednesday from day-to-day control of the team. ESPN, citing unidentified sources, is reporting tonight that the suspension is expected to run through the 1997 season, although some baseball officials are pushing for the ban to last longer, perhaps through 1999, when Schott's partnership agreement to run the Reds expires. Acting Commissioner Bud Selig today gave no indication on any possible ruling. According to ESPN, baseball's ruling Executive Council is expected to name an interim president to assure Schott does not run the Reds through a hand-picked replacement. Two candidates who have been mentioned are Pittsburgh Pirates president Mark Sauer and former California Angels president Richard M. Brown, ESPN reported.

### AVALANCHE WIN STANLEY CUP ON KRUPP TRIPLE-OT GOAL

Colorado is enjoying its first professional sports championship today. The Avalanche won the first Stanley Cup championship in franchise history Monday as Uwe Krupp scored at 4:31 of triple-overtime for a 1-0 victory that completed a four-game sweep of the Florida Panthers. Colorado becomes the first professional team to win a title in its first year in a new city since the 1937 Washington Redskins of the National Football League. The Avalanche moved west from Quebec City following the 1994-95 season. The closest Colorado came to a title before the Avalanche came to town was four lopsided Super Bowl losses by the Denver Broncos.

### BULLS ONE GAME AWAY FROM SWEEP

Sweeps week is occurring in June this year. As the Colorado Avalanche completed a sweep Monday against the Florida Panthers in the Stanley Cup Finals, the Chicago Bulls are on the brink of winning four in a row over the Seattle SuperSonics in the NBA Finals. Sunday night, Michael Jordan scored 27 of his 36 points in the first half as the Bulls embarrassed Seattle, 108-86, to move within one win of their fourth NBA championship in six years. Chicago will have a chance to complete the greatest season in league history in Game Four on Wednesday in Seattle.

### BULLS' JACKSON SET TO LEAVE WITHOUT SATISFACTORY CONTRACT

Phil Jackson said today he would return as coach of the Chicago Bulls only if the nucleus of the team — including free agents Michael Jordan and Dennis Rodman — is kept together. At a practice at Key Arena in Seattle, Jackson responded to a report in today's Chicago Tribune that said he would leave the Bulls if a satisfactory contract cannot be reached. He said he would speak with Bulls chairman Jerry Reinsdorf following the season. "The only reason I would come back is if Michael Jordan, Scottie Pippen and Dennis Rodman were back," Jackson said. "That's one of the reasons why this team is what it is, along with the coaching staff I have assembled. That's a little hard to break up."

### BASEBALL NAMES MURPHY MLB PRESIDENT

Gregory B. Murphy today was named president and chief executive officer of the newly created Major League Baseball Enterprises. Murphy, who has more than 20 years of experience in marketing some of the biggest consumer companies but has no specific sports sales or media background, will oversee all the business and marketing for Major League Baseball. Murphy was president of Kraft Foods Bakery Companies from 1987-95, running the company's \$1-billion-a-year baking division.

## BULLS ONE GAME AWAY FROM SWEEP AND NBA TITLE

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Jordan had scored at least 30 points in nine consecutive Finals games be-

fore being limited to 28 and 29 points in the first two wins in Chicago. He nearly reached that total in the first half, when the Bulls built a 24-point lead.

The SuperSonics were given some credit for slowing Jordan and were hoping to build on that as the series shifted to Key Arena. But the Bulls scored the first seven points and never led by less than 11 after the first four minutes.

Jordan's performance has the Bulls on the brink of NBA history. Chicago, which won a record 72 games during the regular season, improved to 14-1 in the post-season with its ninth consecutive triumph. It is the longest single-season streak since the Los

Angeles Lakers won their first 11 games in 1989 and places the Bulls in position to surpass the top playoff record of 12-1 set by the 1983 Philadelphia 76ers.

The Sonics have lost three in a row for the first time since last year's first-round playoff exit and will try to avoid becoming the second straight Finals sweep victim and the third in seven years. Dating back to its Western Conference final series against the Utah Jazz, Seattle has lost five of its last six games.

The Sonics won 64 games during the regular season — the 10th best record in history — but no team has rallied from a 3-0 deficit to win any NBA playoff series.

All-Star forward Shawn Kemp

lashed into himself and his Sonic teammates on Monday.

"When you lose it's one thing. When you get your butts kicked, it's another," Kemp said. "We didn't put up enough of a fight. I feel like we didn't challenge those guys in the first three games."

Led by Jordan, the Bulls won three straight titles from 1991 to 1993. The Sonics are in their first Finals since 1979, the year of their only title.

This is the first matchup of the league's best teams since 1992, when Chicago knocked off Portland in six games. The loser of the series will become the winningest team to fail to capture the championship.

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## JAMMIN' HOOPS CAMP SCHEDULED FOR PORTLAND

The Bank of America Jammin' Hoops Camp is coming to Portland and Tualatin for the first time from August 27-29, and enrollment applications for the camp are now available at BofA branches throughout the Portland area.

"The camps are three days of fun and learning that will make any kid feel seven feet tall," said basketball legend Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, who serves as co-director of the Jammin' Hoops Camp. "Kids learn to play hard, play well, and stay in school."

Free for kids ages 7 to 17, the program combines basketball instruction from local coaches and NBA stars who teach kids to be big in life as well as in basketball. Campers also receive a free BofA Jammin' Hoops Camp T-shirt, team photo and certificate of completion. To top it off, kids and their families are invited to a free barbecue and evening of fun.

"Basketball is an important part of life for a lot of kids," said Rich Brown,

vice president of Corporate Community Development of Bank of America Oregon. "We believe it can also be used as a bridge to communicate with kids and let them know what's important in the real world — like developing the self-esteem they need to stay in school and stay off drugs. That's what BofA Jammin' Hoops Camp is all about."

As part of the program, kids are encouraged to turn in two school progress reports during the 1996-97 academic year in order to receive an autographed NBA poster. In addition, the bank awards a \$1,000 college scholarship to a high school senior participating in the camps.

There will be two camps hosted in the Portland area simultaneously. The first will be at Grant High School in Northeast Portland, the second will be at The Urban Athlete on Lower Boones Ferry Road in Tualatin. NBA players attending the Portland area camps will be announced just prior to the camp opening.

## Congratulations Antar Brame

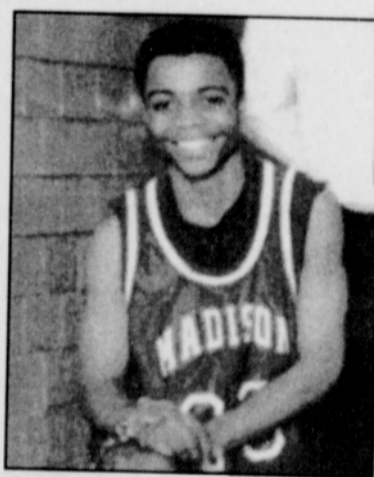
Antar Brame, scored in the top 10 percent of all juniors nationwide in Economics. Antar did this even though he is currently a sophomore at Madison High School.

Antar's other accomplishments are: 2.7 GPA. Varsity letter in football as a running back and defensive back. Was a starter on the football team last season when Madison went to the state 4A playoffs.

Varsity letter in basketball and starter at the guard position.

This spring he played varsity and JV baseball as a pitcher and center fielder.

Also, this spring he played guard for the Portland Excel Basketball Club's team during the Salvation Army's high school spring league that included many PIL players. Portland Excel won the team champi-



Antar Brame

onship. This summer he scored 25 points for Madison in a summer league games victory over state 4A basketball champion South Salem. Antar, keep the good work up. Again congratulations from the Portland Observer Newspaper.

## Happy Fathers Day

Mon: Free bread with Rack of Ribs

Tues: \$1.00 Beef Ribs

Fri: Cajun Clam Chowder

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