

LAS VEGAS

Sentinel Voice Sports

Scottie Pippen co-stars in Chicago's onslaught

GAME 1 OF NBA FINALS IS "ALL AIR-NO GLIDE"

By W. G. Ramirez

"This kid is showing he ate his Wheaties, drank his Gatorade and is wearing his Hanes..." commented James Jordan. Yes, even Michael's father sat in amazement, amongst the millions that watched Game 1 of the 1992 NBA Finals, as the "Air Jordan Show" returned to Chicago Stadium last night. Jordan scored a record 35-first half points in leading his Chicago Bulls to victory over the Portland Trailblazers 122-89 to take a 1-

0 series lead. Jordan ended up with 39 points for the game.

After a long regular season and the stretched out preliminaries of the playoffs, the "Crème de la Crème" of the NBA remained in the hunt for the coveted prize. The cream has definitely risen to the top.

One problem though, the cream was whipped and only appeared on two players' pieces of cake - Jordan's and teammate Scottie Pippen's.

The dynamic duo of Chicago

devastated Portland's defense by opening a 66-51 halftime lead.

Jordan's first-half total broke a 30 year-old record set by Elgin Baylor in 1962 when scored 33 points for the L.A. Lakers against the Boston Celtics. NBA MVP Jordan was supposed to co-star with Portland's All-Pro guard Clyde "The Glide" Drexler throughout this series however, Clyde must of left his Glide back in Portland. Most of Drexler's gliding occurred in the first quarter, highlighted by a flying slam

dunk over Pippen. The Bulls limited Drexler to a mere 8 points in the first half.

Both players aren't looking at it as an "Air-Glide" confrontation,

it's just plain and simple Chicago v.s. Portland.

"My approach is that it's not me against Clyde," says Jordan, "its my team against his team."

Drexler, who agreed with Jordan, didn't mind the comparisons with his Chicago counterpart.

"When I hear people com-



Hungry for a second consecutive title...



...Jordan snatched Drexler out of his groove in Game 1.

"I'm pretty sure the hype is going to begin between me Clyde and myself. I'm not going into the finals looking at it as a one-on-one confrontation between Clyde and myself," added MJ.

pare me to Michael Jordan, it's the highest compliment," Drexler said. "I'm always honored. But I don't compete against Michael. I do what I can for Portland. That's what matters."

The best-of-seven series remains in Chicago for Game 2 scheduled for tomorrow evening at 8:00 p.m. (EST).

Jordan found a new weapon in which to gun down opponents; located about 23 feet from the basket labeled the three-point line.

The "Air Show" had to share the spotlight with Michael's newest attraction at the three-point line.

Hitting 16-of-26 field goals, Jordan popped 6-of-10 for three just before halftime. The All-Pro Olympian had a playoff average of 34.0 points per game before the start of Game 1.

PLAYOFF LEADERS

SCORING

M. Jordan, Chicago 34.0
K. Malone, Utah 29.1
R. Lewis, Boston 28.0
R. Miller, Indiana 27.0

REBOUNDS

D. Schrempf, Indiana 13.0
S. Kemp, Seattle 12.2
T. Cummings, S.A. 11.3
K. Malone, Utah 11.3

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