

Sports

Basketball's best impressed Jackman

By Tim Hartman
Staff Reporter

Wayman Tisdale, Ralph Sampson, Dominique Wilkins, Michael Jordan and Thurl Bailey are some of the biggest stars in professional basketball right now. Besides the fact that all of them play in the NBA, they share another characteristic — all have played against Nebraska senior forward Bill Jackman. Jackman has squared off against these and many other well-known players either at basketball summer camps during his year at Duke University or during his years at Nebraska.

With all that talent, who is the best player he has ever gone up against? "There's no doubt — Michael Jordan," Jackman said.

Jackman played against Jordan as a freshman at Duke, where he played before transferring to Nebraska. Jordan played for North Carolina. Guarding the future NBA all-star proved difficult, Jackman said.

"I guess someone had watched us on TV and said, 'What do Bill Jackman, Larry Bird and Dr. J. have in common?'" The answer: "We've all been dunked on by Michael Jordan."

Jordan wasn't the only player to amaze Jackman.

"I played against Dominique (Wilkins) in a summer camp and he was just phenomenal," he said.

The camp was the All-Star Camp and Jackman attended it after his senior year at Grant High School. The 250 best high-school players in the country were invited to the camp. At the conclusion of the camp the top 20 players were chosen. Jackman was among the 20 chosen and played the camp counselors in a game.

"We played the counselors, and Dominique was one of the counselors," Jackman said. "It was 12-0, the counselors were up, and he had six dunks. He had all their points."

One dunk particularly impressed Jackman. Wilkins took a half-court pass that was drifting away from the basket, caught it in mid-air, and was still able to slam it.

"It was incredible," he said. "Coming from a small high school, I had never seen that."

While Jackman was at Duke, the Atlantic Coast Conference was experimenting with the three-point goal, something that all conferences are using this year. Jackman said the three-point goal was a big factor in the ACC games.

"It really made a big difference in the games," he said. "Case-in-point: We were playing at Duke against Wake Forest. We were playing them and we had them down by 11 with two minutes

left and we thought we had the game won. They came down and hit a three-pointer and they would foul us. Since we would get two points each time and they would get three, they gained a point each time. They keep hitting those three-pointers, we missed and they ended up beating us."

Jackman said the three-point shot will benefit both him and the team.

"Personally, it's something I can hit," Jackman said. "We've got a lot of guys — like Brian (Carr) and Joel (Sealer) and Anthony Baillious — who can hit it."

While at Duke, Jackman played in front of the Duke crowd, a group known for their antics. During one game against North Carolina State, Jackman remem-

bers that the crowd bombarded N.C. State forward Lorenzo Charles with pizza boxes because he had stolen some pizzas earlier in the year.

The crowd gets so wild because of the obsession with basketball, Jackman said.

"People out there dream of playing in the ACC tournament; there's nothing bigger than the ACC tournament," Jackman said. "It would be like playing in the Nebraska-Oklahoma (football) game here."

Jackman said he hopes the Nebraska crowd can show the same enthusiasm that the Duke crowd does.

"It would be awesome if Nebraska could get that kind of crowd," he said. "I think eventually with Coach Ne-

they will."

Jackman said he transferred to Nebraska because he was homesick not just for his family and friends, but for the Nebraska people as well. He said Nebraskans were easier to get along with.

"Nebraska people are so friendly. Out there you would say 'hi' to people on campus and it was just a different mentality," Jackman said.

After Jackman returned to Nebraska, his recruiting class at Duke, which included all-American Johnny Dawkins, finished second in the NCAA tournament. Jackman said it was difficult to watch them do so well after leaving the school.

"It was tough," he said. "I think there was probably a period of two months in there and the fact that I wasn't playing at all here, where they were on TV just about every week. Just watching them, seeing these guys and watching the team progress — it was a tough situation."

The situation was made tougher by

the fact that people constantly asked him about Duke.

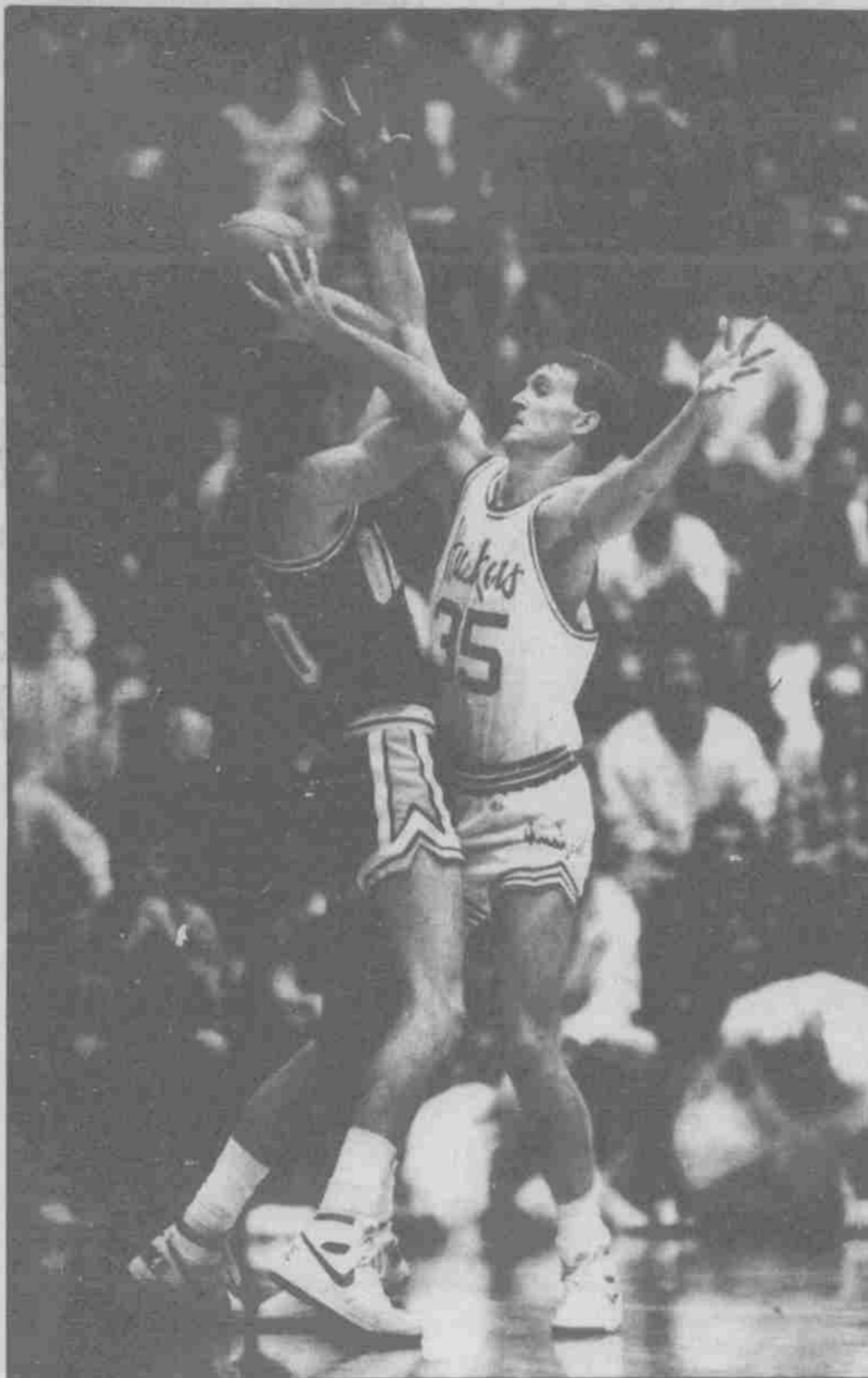
"I'd get it 15-20 times a day — 'What about Duke?' 'Do you wish you were still there?' 'I've got a ring, do you have a Final Four ring?'" Jackman said.

"It was a tough thing, but I'm glad they did what they did, and this is where I've been the last four years, so we'll just make the best of it," Jackman said.

During his first year at Nebraska Jackman had to redshirt and in the last two years he has seen limited playing time. He averaged 6.3 points a game in 1984-85 and 1.1 in 1985-86.


Jackman opened the regular season with 15 points against Cal-Irvine. Although he only scored three points against Oregon in the second game, he said he was pleased with his defense and rebounding.

"Our team is improving all the time," he said. "That's the biggest thing because the competition is going to get a lot better."



Andrea Hoy/Daily Nebraskan

Nebraska forward Bill Jackman defends against Oregon's Ian Craig during Monday night's 76-60 Cornhusker win.



Comedy Corner

9-11
TONIGHT

Rocky Rococo
Rocky Rococo

\$1

On Featured Import
Start Drinking Early
Special Begins At 8:00

also
Comedy Corner
Sunday Night Dec. 7

14th

14th

Rollin Ray
& Lampshades

NEED CASH?

Dirt Cheap

Downtown
buys used records, cassettes & compact discs.

217 No. 11th
477-6061

SALOMON

"POWERPACKED" PERFORMANCE



The SX91 Equipe, Salomon's Performance Racing Boot for 1986/87, features innovative Program-mability with instant flex adjustment... plus Salomon's latest innovation, the PowerPack, with a new, higher, inner boot that wraps more completely around the calf and a unique rear support system that puts more power in your turns. Racing, cruising or rocketing through moguls, the SX91 Equipe adds up to Program-mability plus Power, unequalled fit and comfort, precision adjustment and a new level of control... all you need for "PowerPacked" performance.

CLIP THIS AD

Receive a **FREE** Ski Boot bag (\$20 Value) with the purchase of any Salomon Ski Boots.

LINCOLN
gateway
466-1941
downtown
477-4477

LAWLOR'S

OMAHA
westroads
399-8809

SPORTING GOODS