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## Bucks Blog

The Journal Sentinel sports staff brings Milwaukee Bucks fans the latest news, notes and analysis

## Redd repeats desire to return

By Charles F. Gardner of the Journal Sentinel

Nov. 18, 2010 | (29) COMMENTS

**Philadelphia** - Michael Redd showed up at the Cousins Center during the Bucks practice session Thursday and spoke with many of his teammates as they prepared to leave for Friday night's road game against the Philadelphia 76ers.

Redd was in Milwaukee for his annual turkey giveaway as he distributed 150 Thanksgiving meals at the House of Peace for families in need. The Bucks guard has donated Thanksgiving meals at the House of Peace for eight consecutive years.

"It kind of passed on to me from Ray (Allen) when he was here," Redd said. "Ray was doing some things with the House of Peace, and after he left I wanted to continue the legacy."

Redd reported he is making steady progress in his comeback from left knee surgery and has been cleared for basketball activities for the first time since Jan. 10, when he suffered torn ligaments in a game against the Los Angeles Lakers at the Staples Center.

"I've been on the court a little bit shooting," Redd said. "It feels great. We're at the point right now where we'll let the graft continue to heal.

"By January we're looking at going full steam in my individual workouts. The goal for me is to be ready to practice (in February) and be ready to jump in."

Redd is in the final year of a six-year, \$91 million deal he signed as a free agent in the summer of 2005. He is making \$18.3 million this season.

It remains unclear if Redd will play for the Bucks again after he suffered ACL injuries to his left knee in January 2009 and again almost one year later. Bucks general manager John Hammond has not commented on a possible return by Redd.

But the former Ohio State star made it clear he wants to return at some point this season, repeating the sentiment he expressed last month when the Bucks played an exhibition game in his hometown of Columbus, Ohio.

"It's not complicated for me," Redd said. "I just want to get back on the court and do what I love to do.

"I'm under contract still, so I can't speak any other way. My intent is to come back here (to Milwaukee) in February. As long as I'm a Milwaukee Buck, I have an obligation to help this team be the best it can be."

Redd is currently living and working out at his home base in Columbus but has been keeping tabs on the Bucks' progress.

"They're playing a lot better, getting acclimated to the system," Redd said of the team's 5-6 start. "We'll be fine; it's just a matter of time."

Redd said it would mean a lot to him to pull on his No. 22 Bucks uniform again.

"Just the act of putting on the uniform again would be awesome," Redd said. "The last time I wore a uniform I was walking off with an ACL (tear).

"It would be one of the highlights of my career, to be honest with you. A lot of people thought I would retire or quit and that's just not my DNA. The doctors have told me I can come back and be at 100%. I'm relying on them. That's the bottom line. I'm going to be back."

The 31-year-old shooting guard ranks fourth on the franchise's all-time scoring list and has played all 10 seasons of his pro career in Milwaukee after being selected 43rd overall in the 2000 draft.

**Bucks on ballot:** Five Bucks players are on the NBA all-star ballot unveiled at a tip-off event in Los Angeles on Thursday.

Center Andrew Bogut, point guard Brandon Jennings, shooting guard John Salmons and forwards Drew Gooden and Corey Maggette made the ballot for the 60th All-Star Game, to be played at the Staples Center on Feb. 20, 2011.

Fans will be able to vote at the Bradley Center beginning with Saturday night's home game against Oklahoma City and also can vote at NBA.com and through mobile phones by texting the player's last name to 6-9-6-2-2 (MYNBA) or by visiting m.nba.com on any wireless carrier.

Fans also can use their Facebook profile information to create an NBA.com all-access account, enabling them to complete a ballot online.

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**Woodson** - Nov 18, 2010 8:59 PM

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And as a bucks fan I will repeat myself too, the bucks are better off without you!!!

**Jimbo67** - Nov 18, 2010 9:12 PM How about Redd and Ilasova for Carmello [» Report abuse](#) 0 0

**BKbrewer** - Nov 18, 2010 9:17 PM [» Report abuse](#) 0 0

Time for him to latch on somewhere else, but he is a good guy. Glad to hear he is still doing his Milwaukee charity work.

**daddy needs a drink** - Nov 18, 2010 9:27 PM [» Report abuse](#) 0 0

Honestly I'm surprised he still has friends on the team. Not saying He's a bad guy but I wpuld guess most of the roster spots have turned over since he was a regular in the locker room

**sloughratt** - Nov 18, 2010 9:34 PM [» Report abuse](#) 2 0

If he really wants to be part of this team, shouldn't he use some of that \$18 million and buy a few plane tickets and join the team for a game every now and then. Showing up to give away some turkeys then return home doesn't a teammate make! Redd is a nice enough guy and I wish him the best, just hope it's with somebody else, he really doesn't fit Skiles style of play.

**toasty2k** - Nov 18, 2010 9:40 PM [» Report abuse](#) 3 3

And in a few years everyone will start complaining about Bogut too. He has a long term max salary too and gets injured lot. You other so-called Buck fans make me sick. Yes he got hurt and yes he makes a lot of money, but he was one heck of a good player surrounded by crappy players. Redd was a true all-around classy player who represented this community and Wisconsin well. Myself and other Buck fans can't wait for you to come back. You will make this team better.

**danbucksfan123** - Nov 18, 2010 9:45 PM [» Report abuse](#) 0 2

can we start a new blog "fans repeat desire for Redd to move the \*\*\*\* on" haha. I believe he has some talent left and can become a decent bench player for a playoff team with lack of outside firepower but with Jennings, Salmons, maggette, Ilyasova, and Delfino/CDR coming back along with Goodens ability to shoot the outside shot I don't see Redd fitting in too much with this team. I could see him signing with miami, Boston, La etc... after this season but none of those teams can trade for him this year. clippers have some pieces to get rid of and i'd say new jersey or Phili maybe? I honestly see him expiring with us so we can afford to pay the guys we have under contract now and add a piece or two.

**Woodson** - Nov 18, 2010 9:48 PM [» Report abuse](#) 1 1

Toasty,

No offense but the bucks are either going to trade or release the clown. Yes Redd, is a clown, the guy can't support the team, even when he was hurt. The guy is almost healed and can't come out and show some love to the team. Well one thing is for sure, I won't miss him when he is gone, the team won't miss him either, quite frankley I believe it feels as if he is already gone!

**sloughratt** - Nov 18, 2010 10:01 PM [» Report abuse](#) 1 0

Toasty - I don't think anybody is saying that Redd isn't a good player when healthy, but his shoot first, no defense style doesn't translate to Skiles type of play. If he goes to an uptempo team he'd be money again if healthy, just not here.

And he signed a 6yr-\$91million contract in 2004, Bogut signed a 6yr-\$75million contract in 2009, can't even compare those two if you adjust for league inflation. Boguts would be a steal along the same lines as Braun was for the Brewers.

**I Actually Think** - Nov 18, 2010 10:04 PM

» Report abuse 0 1

I've been a Bucks fan since their inception. Never has one player been so disrespected as Michael Redd. The only thing not blamed on him has been the recession.

**andypana** - Nov 18, 2010 10:06 PM

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Bring Redd back. 4 reasons:

1. His expiring contract will help with resigning guys after the season.
2. Injuries to swing players are likely, and we need the depth.
3. Dude is pure class; a credit to the team in the community.
4. Has anyone seen this team shoot?????????????????????????????

Bring him in. We need any help we can get.

**moviemanmarty** - Nov 18, 2010 10:10 PM

» Report abuse 1 0

"Redd repeats desire to return"

And I have a desire to spend an evening alone with Jennifer Love Hewitt.

I think I have a better shot at it then Redd does! :)

**TXBadger1** - Nov 18, 2010 10:14 PM

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It's great that Michael is out in giving his time and money to people who really need it.

Did he look like he was in shape? At 31, and with 2 knee surgeries, he needs to be in the best shape of his life if he wants to get out on the flooor and compete for playing time.

**daddy needs a drink** - Nov 18, 2010 10:17 PM

» Report abuse 2 1

I now feel that I must clarify my view better. I know the injuries are act of god. And I could never fault a person for taking a max deal. Seriously, good for him. What chaps me is the fact that this guy spent the better part of the last two years in Columbus, while his teammates busted their humps here in Milwaukee. Your a member of a team. Active or not. support the troops on the playoff run last year. Your veteran experience is on value. Bogut made all the games. CD-R is doing his part this year. To say you want to be a part of the team from three states over just strike me as aloof.

**hectorpr414** - Nov 18, 2010 10:18 PM

» Report abuse 0 0

I can't wait to see michael redd back. He will be like a jerry stackhouse type player wen he returns. Nobody has to worry who wil start or nothing. Skiles will put salmons

in but redd is going to be a nice addition to this team. He's been around forever, so he knows what he's talking about. I can't begin to tell you people how sorry you guys are for NOT appreciating one of the bucks leading scorers/player

**Monticristo** - Nov 18, 2010 10:26 PM

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"getting acclimated to the system,"

Uh... what team is he following? Have we changed 'systems' this year? Im pretty sure we have the same coach, and a decent number of returning players...

**SpittinOpinions** - Nov 18, 2010 10:27 PM

» Report abuse 1 1

Dear Michael Redd,

We don't want you, your lazy approach to the game of basketball, your selfish ball handling, your incredibly poor defense, your extremely overpriced contract, your declining shooting ability, your high turnovers, your injury prone scrawny body, or your cancerous locker room presence. So long.

Sincerely,

Milwaukee Bucks Fans

**TommyHarper** - Nov 18, 2010 10:29 PM

» Report abuse 3 0

Come on folks. The only reason Redd is not with the team, last season and now, is because management has asked him NOT to be with the team. This was reported last season. He is under contract and answers to the Bucks organization, so you can be sure that he would be here if the team wanted him here. But obviously they know it would be awkward to have him around, so this is the best situation for both the team and Redd. He is certainly a class act and represented our team at the last Olympics, and was the last Bucks player to represent the team at the all star game. His best days are behind him obviously, but there is no reason to criticize someone for not showing up for work when his boss has told him not to show up.

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