

FAN FARE

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COMMENTARY

OUT-OF-WORK WIZARD

Some career counseling for Michael Jordan

By Paul Farhi

THE WASHINGTON POST

Now that his divorce from Abe Pollin and the Washington Wizards is final, Michael Jordan has some time on his hands. As he ponders his next move, we would like to offer some career guidance.

■ Start new airline — Air Jordan, of course — that flies only where it wants to, when it wants to, and mostly to Chicago.

■ Buy naming rights to Washington's MCI Center. Rename it "The Jordanaire." Or maybe "Abe's House of Losers."

■ Take over management of another outfit that hasn't had a winning season in years: the Democratic Party.

■ Interim president, Iraq.

■ Autograph self. Put up for auction on eBay.

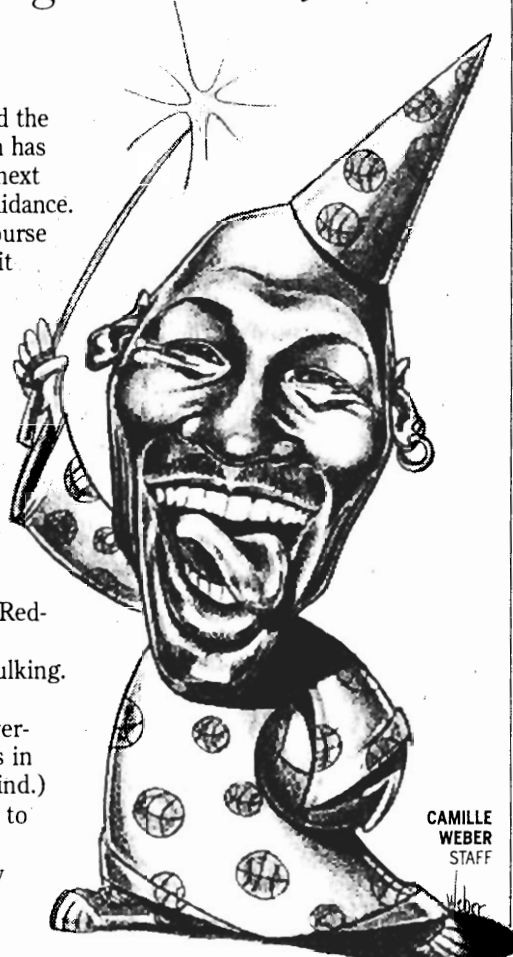
■ Leverage recent experience working for arrogant, obstinate team owner: See if Redskins' Dan Snyder is hiring.

■ Spend days brooding, spend nights sulking. When this gets old, switch.

■ Lend name to a line of overhyped, overpriced sneakers made by exploited laborers in Third World countries (Oh, wait. Never mind.)

■ Build a time machine and travel back to 1996, when you really ruled.

■ Take GM job with Bob Johnson's new franchise in Charlotte. When team plays Wizards, come out of retirement, drop 73 points. Just for spite.



READERS' VIEWS

Good is nice, great is better

I have been chastised about letters I've written for Fan Fare this past year regarding Kentucky basketball and the coaching situation. People who were on the fence are now singing Coach Smith's praises. To those people, I would like to ask several questions.

Why hasn't Coach Smith taken a team to the finals with any team he has recruited?

What happened to the four years between the national championship and this year? Don't point out that Kentucky won or shared in the SEC championship several years. Kentucky is supposed to win the SEC every year. If it does, it is an average year. If it doesn't, it is considered a poor year.

Why don't any of the top prospects have Kentucky on his list? UK is supposed to be the premier program in the country.

I've been around Kentucky basketball for a long time. I've seen the great, the good and the poor. What I've seen the last five years is four mediocre years and one good year. No great years. I am anxious to see what happens next year.

Price Huston



Smith



Barnhart

Why raise prices?

Happy birthday to me. Happy birthday to me. You guessed it, I received my UK football ticket renewal application on one of the biggest birthdays of my life.

Just when life should become easier, Mr. Barnhart decides to make it miserable by upping the prices and making it nearly out of reach for retirees like myself.

After purchasing the tickets for nearly 40 years (always trying to find someone dumb enough to go with me) and watching disappointing games week after week and always thinking, maybe next year, now I will be penalized for doing so. But believe me, it looks like I will be long gone by the time the program ever becomes a winner.

It is unreal for the administration to expect fans to pay more than 30 percent more (not counting the mandatory "donation") to watch the same old games we've been watching for years.

Doris Satterly

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