







Glickman looking toward future

By Carrie Vincent

For the Oregon Daily Emerald

Harry Glickman can't quite keep his hands out of the not

The 69-year-old president of the NBA's Portland Trail Blazers said he is in semi-retirement, but his energy and the love for his job are making it difficult for him to "phase out."

"It's a very rare day that I don't enjoy work," Glickman said.

His enthusiasm is boundless, considering he has been with the organization since the beginning in fact, Glickman has been integral to the Blazers since he secured the backing for getting the fran-

chise in 1970. And he hasn't looked back.

It's the future that is keeping Glickman, who actually started in sports writing when he received his bachelor's degree in journalism from the University in 1948, on the edge of his seat — a new sports arena for the Blazers is projected to open in September 1995.

The business savvy of Glickman is apparent when he begins to talk about this new venture, which started Monday with the groundbreaking ceremony.

"With the Memorial Coliseum right next door and the International Conference Center virtually across the street, who knows what kind of events we can attract," Glickman said.

The inevitable sports promoter in Glickman is confident that the new arena will probably secure another professional team for Oregon, probably in the National Hockey League.

The arena has an estimated cost of \$250 million, of which the city of Portland will contribute \$34.5 million. Owner Paul Allen will contribute \$46 million, and the rest will be gathered from non-recourse loans.

Glickman jokingly refers to Allen's high aspirations for the new arena.

"(Allen) said that whatever the requirement for restrooms is, add 25 percent," Glickman said. "We want to be the most bladder-friendly building in the country."

Glickman's respect for the Trail Blazers' owner is obvious.

"Allen is very involved," Glickman said, unlike many owners who tend to only communicate through electronic mail, with little hands-on relations.

Allen, along with Glickman and 10 others, were the decision makers in the "war room" — as Glickman called it — two-and-a-half weeks ago for the Blazers' 24th NBA Draft.

Even though the coaches have little opportunity to do any scouting. Glickman said they have a lot of input on who will be drafted, and "we never draft over the absolute objections of the coaches".

The Blazers had the 21st pick in the first round and No. 48 in the second. The acquisition of James Robinson, a 6-foot-2 shooting guard from Alabama,

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— Harry Glickman, President, Portland Trail Blazers

has raised some eyebrows because the Blazers failed to fill the middle of the lane with, for example, Irvin Johnson, the 6-foot-11 big man who went to Seattle with pick No. 23.

"I think the necessity of height is a little exaggerated, and I think we can be pretty good without it." Glickman said in defense of the "war room's" decision. "Besides, arguably, Robinson was the most athletic guy in the draft. We couldn't pass him up when he was still available at (pick) 21."

That move, combined with the recent acquisition of Harvey Grant, will probably put forwards Buck Williams and Cliff Robinson in the center more often, Glickman said.

Glickman said that in the next couple of years, the Blazers anticipate getting a younger group of players on the floor.

"We are dealing with A.C. Green (of the Los Angeles Lakers), but we don't have enough money to offer him yet," he said, citing salary cap restrictions.

However, with a lucrative one-year \$8 million contract pending for Clyde Drexler in two years, the veterans are still a factor.

Despite Glickman's input and insight on the team, he quickly admits that he is mostly involved with the business side of the game.

"I'm going to be phased out eventually," Glickman said. "I never once thought I was the basketball maven in our organization. But I maintained veto power for financial reasons."

Glickman's sports-promoting abilities are sizable, and he has put them to good use for the Blazers.

"We broke into cable as a way of increasing our capacity," Glickman said.

The Blazers also utilize radio and a variety of other sources to supplement the growth of the team. Because of heavy marketing, the Blazers have the longest history of sell-outs in the NBA — more than

700 consecutive games.

Glickman also proudly mentions that \$1 billion in Blazer merchandise has been sold this year alone.

"In fact," Glickman said, "the new store, Blazers on Broadway in Portland, has sold more merchandise per square foot than any other store downtown."

Although Glickman's contract expires June 30, 1994, it will be difficult for him to keep his fingers out of the pot.

"When my contract runs out, I will become a consultant, whatever that means," he said. "I'd like to stay on through the building of the new arena, and I'd like to always keep my foot in the door."

Two Oregon softballers to play in U.S. tourney

Two Oregon softball players have been selected to play in the U.S. Olympic Festival scheduled for later this month in San Antonio.

Kathy Stahl, who will be a sophomore, and incoming freshman Barbie Hickson, will be among 60 players competing for medals at the festival, which is July 24-28.

Stahl hit .388 with five home runs and 15 RBIs in leading the Ducks to an 18-16 mark this year. As a freshman shortstop, Stahl earned first-team all-Pacific-10 Conference honors and shared the team's MVP award with junior Laura Schmidt.

Stahl, a native of San Jose, also tried for the Pan-American Games in 1991, the only high school to be selected.

While becoming one of the top prep pitchers in the nation, Hickson helped Churchill High School of Eugene to the 4A state title in 1991 and 1992 and to a runner-up finish in 1993.

The Oregonian selected Hickson as its 1993 state player of the year after she finished her season with a 16-4 record, had a 0.54 ERA and struck out 173 batters.

Hickson, who will enroll at the University in the fall, was a threetime first-team all-state selection and was 10-0 with a 0.00 ERA in 1992, including a no-hitter in the state title game.

The U.S. Olympic Festival, scheduled July 23-Aug.1 in San Antonio, will serve as an early indicator for 1996 Olympic team selection when women's fastpitch softball becomes and official medal sport at the Atlanta Olympic Games.

Colorful fan to serve life

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A religious zealot known to sports fans as the "Rainbow Man" was sentenced Tuesday to three concurrent life prison terms for holding a maid hostage and making terrorist threats during a hotel standoff.

Rollen Frederick Stewart, 48, began shouting end-ofthe-world Scripture during the Sperior Court hearing.

Judge Robert P. O'Neill ordered deputies to subdue Stewart, who shouted: "Forgive them, Lord, for they know not what they're doing!"

Stewart was known nationwide by positioning himself in front of TV cameras at sporting events, wearing a frizzy, multicolored wig and waving a sign reading "John 3:16."

He was convicted last month of six counts stemming from September's standoff.