



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 6, 2007

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VANCOUVER VOLCANOES WELCOMES GARY AKIYAMA TO FRONT OFFICE

Vancouver, WA—The Vancouver Volcanoes has announced that local business owner Gary Akiyama has joined the team’s ownership group. Akiyama, a Clark County resident and businessman and as well—a Royal Rosarian, will work to build community enthusiasm for Vancouver’s only pro sports team in addition to acting as an ambassador of goodwill.

Akiyama, a 25 year veteran of the financial services industry, is the owner of Akiyama Financial Services—with locations in Vancouver and Tacoma. Akiyama also has experience with professional basketball, having worked for six years with the Portland Trailblazers in promotions and marketing.

“I am extremely excited about getting started with the Volcanoes,” said Akiyama. “My involvement stems from the belief that this team has the potential to be a huge source of pride to the people of Clark County.”

Akiyama has four children, and currently lives in Camas with his wife of 24 years.

The Volcanoes 2007 season gets underway on Sunday, March 11 against the Portland Chinooks at the Stott Center on the campus of Portland State University. Tip-off is at 2:00pm.

About the IBL

Two unique features distinguish the IBL from other professional basketball leagues:

- 1. An entertaining game.** By allowing only one timeout per quarter, and reducing the time between plays with an immediate inbounds policy, IBL games are always fast and entertaining. IBL teams average 127 points per contest; just as important—games last only two hours.
- 2. Extremely low travel costs.** The IBL promises a maximum of one trip per season requiring air travel. This ‘one flight guarantee’ that teams enjoy promotes financial health and longevity for IBL teams. In fact, **all 17 teams** completed the first IBL season (the 2005 season); as well, **all 24 teams** completed the 2006 season.

The IBL is now heading into the third year of play with tip-off in mid March of 2007. For more information, photos and videos about IBL teams and/or the IBL itself, visit the league web site www.iblhoopsonline.com