How my fave band saved the **Knicks**

I heard the (March 18, 2014) Phil <u>Jackson</u> announcement on while I worked on some client matters.

Like many other fans of the <u>Knicks</u>, I welcome back *Action Jackson* as Walt "Clyde" Frazier calls him.

Like many others I look forward to better days at that basketball mecca otherwise known as <u>Madison Square Garden</u>. What I did not know until today involved the key role of my fave <u>band</u> in the hiring of the savior of the Knicks. So Kudos to the band found in the ashes of the Buffalo Springfield by Rock and Roll Hall of Famer, Richie <u>Furay</u> and Springfield bassist/ producer Jimmy <u>Messina</u> on its final *Last Time Around* <u>LP</u>.

At the presser today, Knicks owner Jim <u>Dolan credited</u> Irving <u>Azoff</u> for bringing him and Jackson together this past December and in the "Q&A" it became clear that Irving negotiated the contract for Phil.

In fact, several times did Dolan credit Irving for making it all happen.

Many know that Guitar Jimmy Dolan as some sports columnist call the media magnate Knicks owner, fronts a band, <u>JD and the Straight Shot</u>, that often opened for the <u>Eagles</u> who Irving manages. It is said the <u>Eagles</u> are his fave band.

Many do not know the <u>Eagles</u> exist because <u>Glenn Frey</u> and <u>Don Henley</u> sat in the audience in 1968 at the Troubadour in LA wowed by a band named <u>Poco</u>. Glenn and Don set to create their own band so influenced. Original Eagles bassist and singer (love) <u>Randy Meisner</u> was on stage at the <u>Troubador</u> as a founding member of Poco (at the time called Pogo); Randy did not last as member when Poco released it first LP, aptly named for what we expect Phil to do with the Knicks, *Pickin' Up the Pieces*. He was not listed as a member but was credited for supporting vocals and bass (Drummer George Grantham's vocals replaced Randy's lead on <u>Calico Lady</u>.

Of course Randy's ultimate replacement in Poco, Timothy B. Schmit (<u>I Can't Tell You Why</u> and <u>Love Will Keep You Alive</u>), replaced Randy in the Eagles in 1977.

So if not for Poco, we Knicks fan might not be enjoying today's news.

Does that mean, rather than buying new Phil Jackson Knicks <u>T-shirts</u>, we should perhaps sport one of those Poco <u>ones</u> with the lyrics from the title <u>song</u> of the first Poco <u>LP</u>: "there's just a little bit of magic...."?

Does not the Public Ought to know?

-Corey