

# Lottery director set to pursue video poker game

SALEM (AP) — Oregon's lottery director said Monday that he plans to forge ahead on developing a video poker game despite some political obstacles.

Jim Davey's comments followed a Lottery Commission meeting at which Attorney General Dave Frohnmayer advised the panel of requirements it must meet to legally offer video poker.

"We think we can design a game that will satisfy the attorney general's criteria," Davey said.

He said a specific proposal could be presented to the commission as early as its next meeting in October.

He acknowledged he may have a tough job of selling the idea around the state in the face of political opposition to it. The City of Portland and three counties so far have formally gone on record against having state-operated video poker in their areas.

Frohnmayer said the lottery could override any local ordinances to the contrary and set up video poker anywhere. But Gov. Neil Goldschmidt, who appoints the Lottery Commission, has said the state won't impose the game on areas that don't want it.

The 1989 Legislature authorized the lottery to establish a video game. Plans were to produce an estimated \$35 million a year in net revenue, with \$25 million for college faculty sala-

ry improvements and \$10 million for mass transit.

Some foes of video poker claim it's not the kind of game the voters had in mind in 1984 when they passed ballot measures allowing a lottery. Frohnmayer said the state legally can operate video poker game as long as the game meets the legal standards for the lottery.

That means Nevada-style poker machines wouldn't be legal, he said, because the lottery can't operate devices that pay cash directly to players. The machines also couldn't provide receipts to be exchanged for winnings, Frohnmayer said.

Davey said he's confident a game could be designed meeting those requirements.

# Democrats chief removes documents and quits

SALEM (AP) — The administrator of the Oregon House Democratic caucus resigned Monday after disclosing he took a campaign finance document from the secretary of state's office last week.

The departure of Carl Wiederaenders came amid continuing questions about the reporting of political contributions to the caucus.

Wiederaenders' resignation was announced by House Majority Leader David Dix, who said Wiederaenders had inadvertently walked away with a page from a caucus financial report that was on file with the state.

The Eugene Democrat said although Wiederaenders had done so by mistake, the caucus chief decided to quit because his action created a "perception" problem for House Democrats.

Campaign finance documents on file with the secretary of state can be viewed by members of the public, but it is illegal to remove them from the office without authorization.

Dix said he returned the page from the cau-

cus campaign report to the secretary of state's office immediately after he discovered that Wiederaenders had walked away with it last Tuesday.

For his part, Wiederaenders, 30, said he didn't purposely remove the document.

"It wasn't intended, but I'd rather not discuss it," said Wiederaenders, who's been responsible for the day-to-day operations of the House Democratic caucus since mid-1986.


The caucus has come under scrutiny because, among other things, it failed to report a \$10,000 contribution it received in 1988 from state Rep. Hedy Rijken, D-Newport.

Dix earlier had said that the caucus had fully reported all contributions it received.

The page that Wiederaenders took from the secretary of state's office showed that, in fact, the \$10,000 contribution had not been listed in the caucus financial report.

Common Cause cited discrepancies in contribution and expenditure reports of the three campaign funds.

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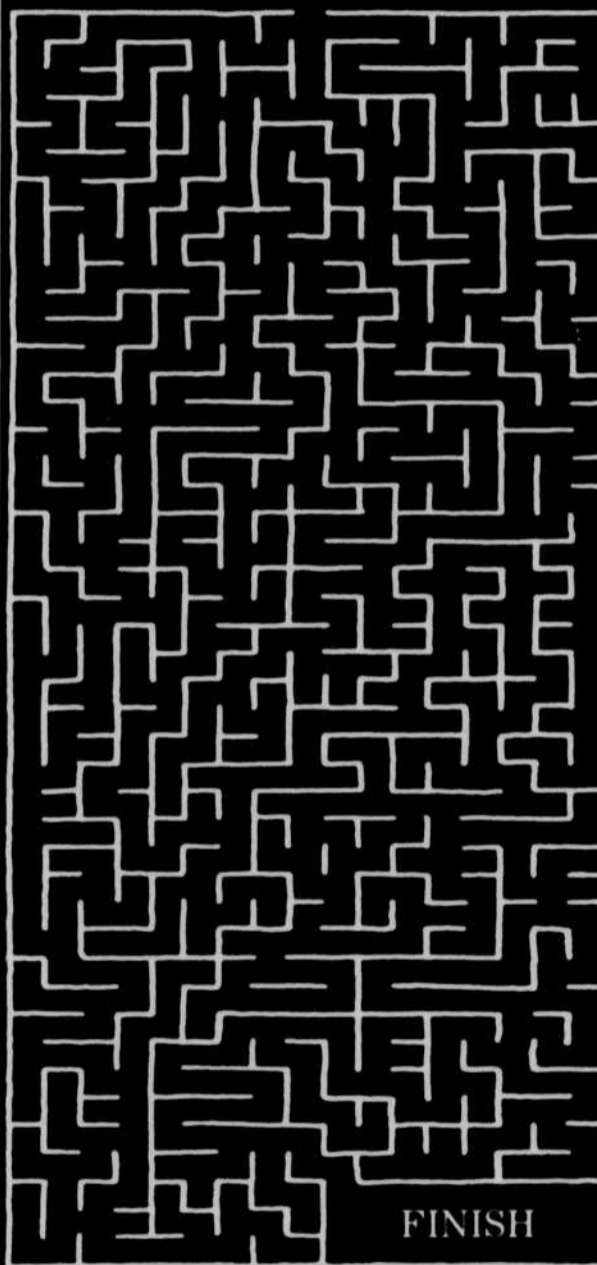
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