



Dave McMechan/Spilyay

On behalf of Kah-Nee-Ta High Desert Resort and Casino, Lena Ike (second from left) presents checks to various representatives of Pi-Ume-Sha events. Those accepting the checks are Val Squiemphen, Char Herkshan, Sam Starr, Richard Tohet and Cassie Katchia.

### Pennsylvania governor legalizes slot machines

BENSALEM, Pa. (AP) - Pennsylvania Gov. Ed Rendell on Monday signed a bill to legalize slot machines, giving Pennsylvania more of the machines than any state except Nevada, and a second bill that finances \$1 billion a year in property-tax reductions.

The companion bills authorize up to 61,000 slot machines at 14 sites. Most of the resulting tax revenue would be used to cut local property taxes by an average 20 percent.

Rendell, a Democrat who had made slots-for-tax-relief the centerpiece of his 2002 election campaign, signed the bills at a ceremony at Philadelphia Park, the thoroughbred track that produced Kentucky Derby-winner Smarty Jones.

It isn't a panacea, but it certainly isn't the demon it's been made out to be," Rendell said Monday at the bill signing. "It's a good, significant step on the road to property-tax relief."

Opponents of the slots bill predict a proliferation of crime, addiction and other social ills. They complained that the bill was crafted in secret by a handful of party leaders and lacks adequate safeguards against cor-

ruption and conflicts of interest among members of the state panel that would oversee the slots parlors.

Of the roughly \$3 billion a year slots are expected to generate, the licensees would keep 48 percent, the state would get 34 percent and the rest would be divided among the equine industry, public construction projects, and counties and municipalities in which slots parlors are located. Proponents said the bill will enable the state to recapture much of the money Pennsylvanians currently pour into slot machines in neighboring states and help revive the state's horse racing industry.

The property-tax reduction will not be immediate. Officials say the initial relief would be deferred until at least 2006 to allow time for the slots parlors to obtain licenses and gear up.

Ultimately, state taxes on slots are expected to generate \$1 billion a year for reducing property taxes in all but one of the state's 501 school districts. In Philadelphia, there would be reductions in the city's wage tax.

A new gambling commission would issue slots licenses to racetracks, resorts and other sites for fees ranging up to \$50 million apiece.

## Spill plan: only about money, tribes say

(Continued from page 1)

Recent returns above Shears have been 2,000 to 4,000 fish, so the loss of 1,000 would eliminate the Shears Falls fishery.

In testimony before federal officials in Portland, Council Chairman Suppah said, "It appears to us that the federal trust responsibility is given little if any consideration, and that our concerns and objections have had no effect." The BPA plan, he said, is only about money. "The harm to fish and the tribes' treaty rights apparently are not as important to BPA as selling electricity," he said.

The Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, and the National Congress of American Indians have passed resolutions condemning spill reduction at the dams. The four treaty tribes of the Columbia - Warm Springs, Yakama, Umatilla and Nez Perce - all oppose the spill plan.

"We're now convinced it's time for BPA to stop proposing to end summer spill. Their most recent proposal violates the Endangered Species Act, violates a federal court order, violates the United States-Canada Salmon Treaty and is a violation of our treaty rights," said Antone Minthorn, who chairs the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation.

"It's time for BPA to admit that this proposal is a loser and

*"The harm to fish and the tribes' treaty rights apparently are not as important to BPA as selling electricity,"*

Council Chairman Suppah

take it off the table. The new proposal doesn't satisfy the conditions set forth by the Governor of Oregon and our congressional delegation - the condition that the spill proposal not continue the decades-long saga of killing salmon."

Jerry Meninick, chairman of the Confederated Tribes of the Yakama Nation, said, "The plan still lacks adequate measures to offset the salmon and steelhead we would lose if BPA gets its way. We want this haphazard plan off the table."

Nez Perce Tribe chairman Anthony Johnson said, "Halting summer spill would prove devastating for both the natural production of Snake River fall Chinook - an Endangered Species Act-listed species - and the hatchery program, which is demonstrating strong success in rebuilding this important fish population."

There is unity among the tribes but the BPA refuses to listen, said Suppah. At the Portland hearing before the federal officials he said, "We are unani-

mous in our opposition to reducing summer spill. If the federal trust responsibility means anything, and if you truly respect and honor our treaty rights, you will not go forward with this proposal."

(Note: The AP helped with this story.)

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### Powwow results

(Continued from page 9)

**Walkers, Little Boys:** first, Manni Totus; second, Ethan Miller; third, Terry Heemsah.

**Walkers, Little Girls:** first, Lola Dick; second, Heaven Walsey; third, Sawnee Wahchumwah.

**Other Contest Results**  
**Charles & Yvonne Nathan "Owl Dance" Special:** first, Julie & David Johnson; second, Shawneta Yahtin & Reynolds Allen; third,

Aurolyn Stwyer & Lee White Plume

**Patricia Smith "Shell Dress" Memorial Special:** first, Saraphina Scott, Warm Springs; second, Edith Walsey; third, Katrina Walsey; fourth, unknown; fifth, Cece Walsey Begay

**"Animal" Richard Tohet "Round Bustle" Special:** first, Dillon Begay, Granger; Terry Heemsah Sr., Toppenish; third, Owen Danzuka Jr., Warm Springs.

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