

Initiative filed for private casino

(AP) - Two men from a wealthy Portland suburb have made their push to build the state's first private casino official, filing an initiative petition that seeks to change Oregon's constitution.

Investment adviser Bruce Studer and attorney Matt Rossman, both of Lake Oswego, have until July to collect the thousands of signatures needed to put their proposal for a \$490 million gambling and entertainment complex at the currently inoperative Multnomah Greyhound Park in Wood Village onto the fall 2006 ballot.

The twinned ballot measures would amend the clause in Oregon's constitution that prohibits non-tribal casinos, and would authorize Studer, Rossman and their investors to open a single commercial, taxable casino.

The proposal is virtually certain to draw heavy opposition from Oregon's Indian tribes, which operate nine casinos on reservations throughout the

state and contribute a percentage of profits to public funds.

The powerful Oregon Restaurant Association, which is concerned about drop-off in business for the state-run lottery, is also likely to weigh in against the proposal. Lottery machines are installed at restaurants, bars and taverns throughout the state, and owners get a cut of the profits, though the bulk goes to state programs.

It's also the latest bid to put a casino in proximity to the lucrative Portland market. Currently, the closest casino to Portland - and the state's top tourist attraction - is Spirit Mountain, run by the Grand Ronde tribes and an hour's drive southwest of the metro area.

Closer in, the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs has won backing from Gov. Ted Kulongoski in their quest to build an off-reservation casino in the Columbia Gorge, about 40 miles east of Portland. And just 20 minutes over the border in La Center, Wash., the Cowlitz tribe

is hoping to break ground on a new casino by 2007, according to a tribal spokesman.

Studer and Rossman say the Washington casino, in particular, has fueled their plans. If that casino - which still needs to secure both federal and state approval - gets off the ground, they speculate that it will capture much of the Portland market, funneling jobs and economic revenue from Oregon to Washington. Dave Barnett, spokesman for the Cowlitz casino project, dismissed the Wood Village proposal, saying that the Washington tribe, "doesn't have an opinion on what happens in Oregon. There are two guys that are trying to make some money, and this is the angle they have chosen."

To sweeten their deal, Studer and Rossman have touted the potential for the creation of 2,000 jobs to staff the new complex, and said they'd dedicate 25 percent of revenue from their enterprise to public education.

Your Favorite
HOME
Furnishings
FOR
LESS







- DESKS
- LIVING ROOM
- DINING ROOM
- TABLES • LAMPS
- RECLINERS
- MATTRESSES
- BEDROOM • DAYBEDS
- SLEEPERS • BUNKBEDS
- LEATHER
- ENTERTAINMENT CENTERS
- AND MORE!

HOME FURNISHINGS • REDMOND
Locally Owned & Operated Since 1980

Free Delivery to
Most Central
Oregon Areas






Great
AMERICAN

732 SW 6th St. At The "Y"

Open 7 Days
a Week
10-6 Mon.-Sat.
11:00-5 Sun.
923-4155

Legal Aid Services in town on Jan. 9

Legal Aid Services of Oregon will be in Warm Springs at the Family Resource Center from 1 to 4 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 9.

Usually the service is available in Warm Springs the first Monday of every month, but the schedule was changed in January to accommodate the holiday. Legal Aid Services of Oregon provides free legal advice and representation to low-income Oregonians. Legal Aid Services can help with most civil legal problems, including:

Housing and landlord-tenant problems. Public benefits rights (Social Security, SSI, food stamps, unemployment, OHP,

and other programs).

Consumer law problems (repossessions, foreclosures, problems with debt collectors). Wills, living wills, guardianships and powers of attorney.

Family law issues (domestic violence, child custody, divorce, child support). Educational rights. Tax disputes with the IRS. Please come see us on the first Monday of every month, except this month.

The Family Resource Center is located at 1144 Warm Springs Street.

For information call 385-6944, or 800-678-6944.

Notice of IRMP-III Meetings

People on the Integrated Resources Management Plan III (IRMP III) team will provide an update on the plan during two meetings scheduled for January.

Planners will discuss the Simnasho community during a Jan. 18 meeting at the

Simnasho Longhouse.

The Warm Springs community will be discussed on Jan. 25 at the Agency Longhouse.

Both meetings begin with dinner at 6 p.m. Tribal member comments are accepted during the meetings.

Deschutes Canyon R.V. Store

Experience our "Friendly" service

Snacks & Candy

Cold Beverages

Groceries

We accept Oregon Trail Cards

"Free" government and tribal check cashing

Now taking cans and bottles daily.

Store Hours

Sunday - Thursday 7 a.m. to 11 p.m.
Friday & Saturday 7 a.m. to 2 a.m.
Cans 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. daily

Coupon
10% Off
All grocery items

* One per person

Cliff's Repair & Auto Sales

24-Hour Towing - 475-6618

Free towing w/engine or trans replacement from Warm Springs & Madras area

Need a 4x4? Take your PICK



1997 Ford F150 XLT Auto, 4x4, black

\$2,995
Each

Bargain of the Month



1998 Ford F150 XL Triton V8, green



475-6618

330 S.W. Culver Hwy.
Madras, OR 97741

Free Battery Check & Installation with purchase