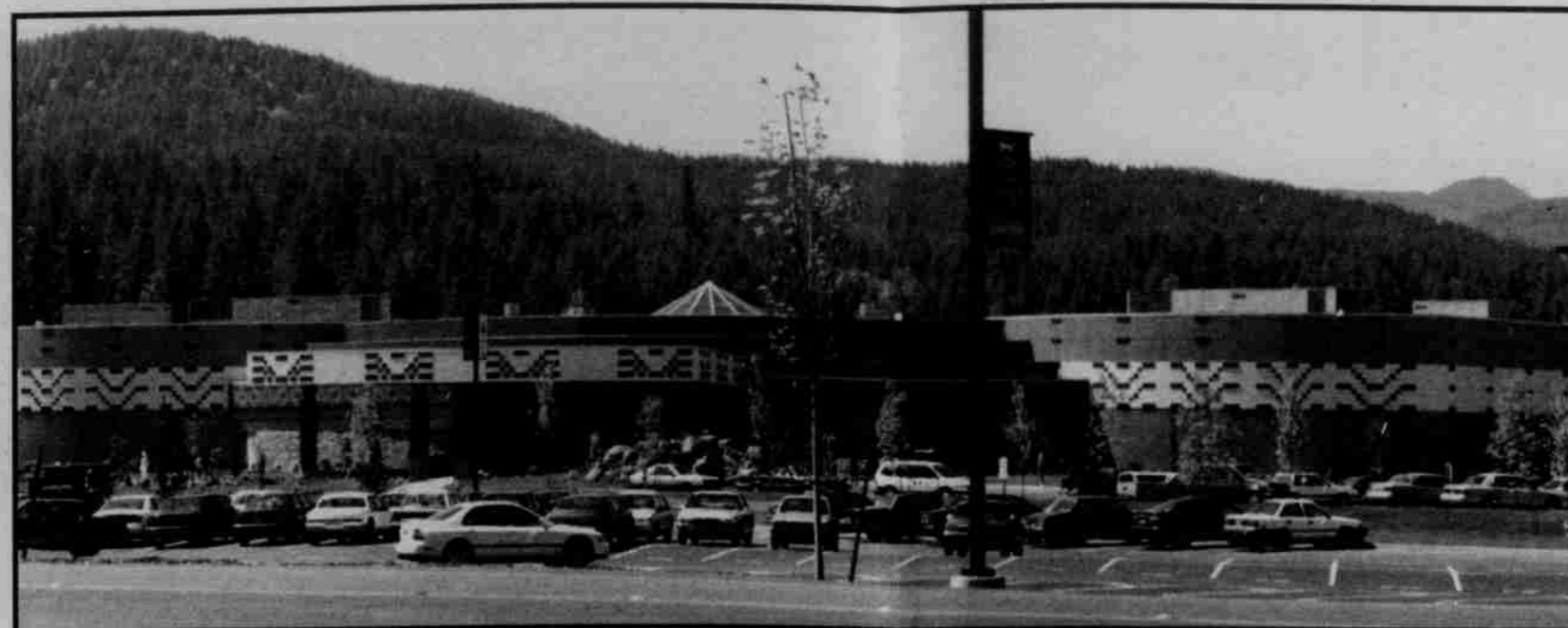




From dreams to reality: Former Tribal CEO Jim Willis (left), former Tribal Council Chairman Mark Mercier and former Spirit Mountain CEO Bruce Thomas had a vision for success.



# 5-YEAR CELEBRATION

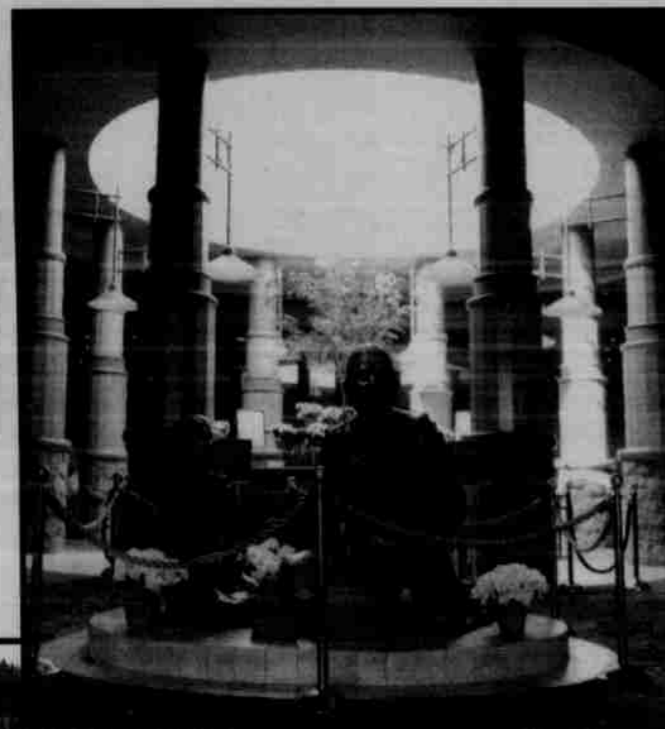
Photos by Tracy Dugan and Kim Mueller



**A foundation for self-sufficiency:** Bruce Thomas shows off the casino construction site to Tribal Council.



Above: Grand Ronde Tribal Elders at the "moonlight pour" of the Martha Jane Sands and Gertrude Mercier statue which sits in the casino entrance (right).



Tribe builds highway underpass to ease local traffic.

August 1993: Tribe reaches gaming agreement with the state; Governor Barbara Roberts signs compact at the annual Pow-wow.

September 1993: Ground breaking ceremony.

March 1995: Construction begins. Cement poured for foundation.

April 3, 1995: Nelson's Checkermallow agreement signed; transplants successful.

April 3, 1995: Spirit Mountain logo unveiled.

June 1995: Bruce Thomas gives Tribal Council a tour of the casino construction site.

June 1995: Underpass and Casino walls erected.

July 1995: Job Fair held to recruit employees.

July 1995: Interior work begins.

August 3, 1995: First security guard graduation ceremony.

August 26, 1995: Rip Caswell and Lon Mercier host a "Moonlight Pour" of Martha Jane Sands and Gertrude Mercier statue at Caswell Gallery in Troutdale.

September 1995: Underpass and parking lot completed. Blackjack tables set up inside.

October 8, 1995: General Council meeting held in Bingo Hall.

October 16, 1995: Opening day for Tribal families; sculpture unveiled.

October 17, 1995: Opening night. Special guests and Tribal members were invited to join in a night of fun before the Casino opened to general public.

February 1996: Phase II started. Adding 35,000 square-feet for "Legends" restaurant and lounge and the "SuperPlay" kid's area.

June 1996: Spirit Mountain makes first appearance in Portland's Rose Festival Grand Floral Parade, wins the Sweepstakes award for best float. Float was called "Nature's Spirit."

July 4, 1996: Phase II completed.

August 1996: First Annual Spirit Mountain Stampede and Rodeo held.

October 1996: Casino gives away \$20,000 in cash during first year anniversary celebration.

November 1996: Casino donates two speed lasers to local law enforcement to promote safety along highways.

January 10, 1997: Governor John Kitzhaber and Kathryn Harrison signed a gaming compact to expand gaming at Casino, including craps, roulette, sports betting, and pai gow poker to players.

May 1997: Spirit Mountain Community Fund announces the first recipient to the Life Flight Network for \$174,000.

July 1997: Spirit Mountain Casino gives a grant of \$100,000 from the Spirit Mountain Community Fund to the Portland Art Museum to underwrite a landmark exhibition of Native American Art, stage one for a permanent installation for Native American Art.

August 1997: The Pacific Northwest Regional Council, appointed by President Bill Clinton, visits the casino.

August 1997: Construction begins on 57,000 square-foot expansion to casino on the main casino, the Bingo Hall and Coyote's Buffet.

August 20, 1997: The new valet parking lot opened to help accommodate parking for new casino expansion.

1997: Casino gives away \$900 million in jackpots in 1997.

January 1998: Oregon's Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI) receives Spirit Mountain Community Fund's largest donation yet of \$265,000.

March 1998: Construction begins on Spirit Mountain Lodge.

November 1998: Casino receives plaque awarded by *Today's Choices... Tomorrow's Community* for making people's lives better in Marion and Polk County.

November 1998: Moonlight pour of life-size bronze coyote, salmon and forest scene for entrance of lodge took place.

December 21, 1998: Spirit Mountain Lodge opens.

June 24 1999: Casino receives the 1999 Gene Low Rose City Award in recognition of its significant contribution to the promotion of tourism.

December 1999: Casino will serve as the primary management consultant to the Kalispel's Tribe in developing the Quest Casino north of Spokane, WA.

1999: Spirit Mountain Community Fund distributed \$1.8 million throughout the year of 1999.

January 17, 2000: Jay Leno performs at casino.

March 2000: Robert Watson takes interim CEO position of casino.

October 2000: Casino celebrates 5-year anniversary.



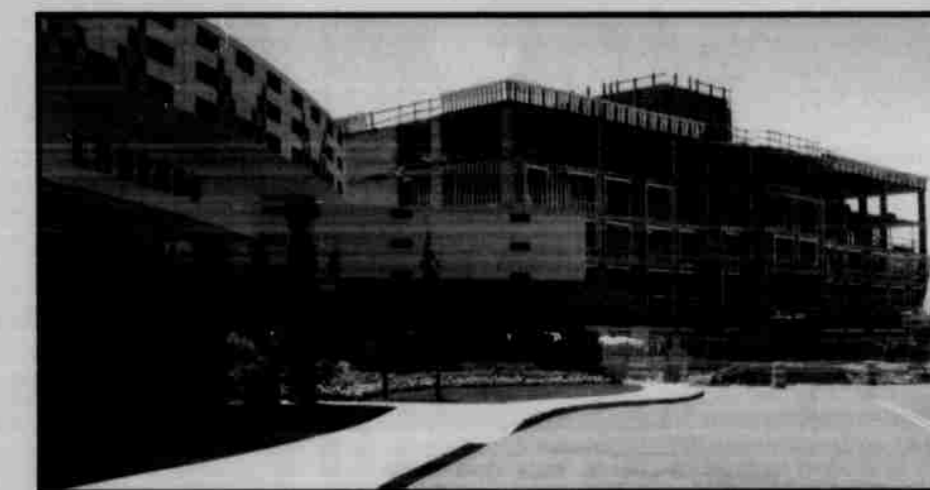
Above: Tribal Council member Ed Larsen (left) and the casino's Head of Security Bruce Lattin try out a new laser radar detector. The casino donated the speed guns to local law enforcement.



Left: Life Flight was the first recipient of the Spirit Mountain Community Fund.



The Tribe participates in the Rose Festival Parade — winning awards annually.



Hotel construction



Tribal member employees and staff who have worked at the casino since opening recently gathered.