

## Park Place Details Casino Spending Plan Albany - CEO describes aggressive plan to open in 3 years near Monticello

Park Place Entertainment Corp. says it intends to spend \$65 million for the Kutsher's Resort Hotel and Country Club for a massive casino that should be built in less than three years.

Arthur Goldberg, chief executive officer of Park Place, told investment analysts in a conference call Tuesday that his company paid \$1 million for the five-year option on the 1,400-acre resort and golf club just north of Monticello.

He also said his company - which reported \$52 million in net income in the first quarter - will pay \$125,000 each year it holds the option. And, he revealed, it paid \$250,000 to buy 50 acres of Kutsher's, which would be transferred to the St. Regis Mohawk Indians, who would own the casino proposed for the site.

Goldberg's move to commit the casino to the investment community and tell its shareholders of that commitment on Park Place's quarterly performance statements would appear to strengthen Goldberg's argument that he is sincere about carrying out the plan.

However, Catskill Development Corp. President Robert Berman, whose firm had worked for five years with the Mohawks before it was abruptly cut out of the casino deal when Park Place emerged, was unimpressed.

"It's obvious ... he wanted to derail this," said Berman. He called Park Place's investment in getting the Mohawk deal - \$3 million to the tribe and \$1.25 million to Kutsher's - "negligible if you consider the loss in revenues his three (New Jersey) casino properties would suffer" from a Monticello casino.

Numerous government officials and Catskill Development Corp. say they doubt Park Place wants to build in New York, but will kill the project to protect its Atlantic City interests.

Park Place, according to several sources, has hired the law firm of James Featherstonhaugh, a well connected lobbying outfit familiar with gaming issues. Featherstonhaugh acknowledged he is talking to the New Jersey-based company, which owns 28 casinos.

However, Donald Trump, owner of three casinos in Atlantic City, told The Press of Atlantic City he believes Goldberg's involvement brings in a heavy hitter and legitimizes the Monticello deal. "He's a professional who knows what he's doing; the other guys ... were not in the same league," said Trump.

Goldberg told investment analysts he is eager to create the Monticello casino, about 90 miles from New York City, so that Park Place could draw gamblers from the large Native American casinos in Connecticut - Foxwoods and Mohegan Sun.

The relationship between Catskill Development and the Mohawks soured since the Mohawks turned to Park Place, according to a source familiar with Mohawk business discussions.

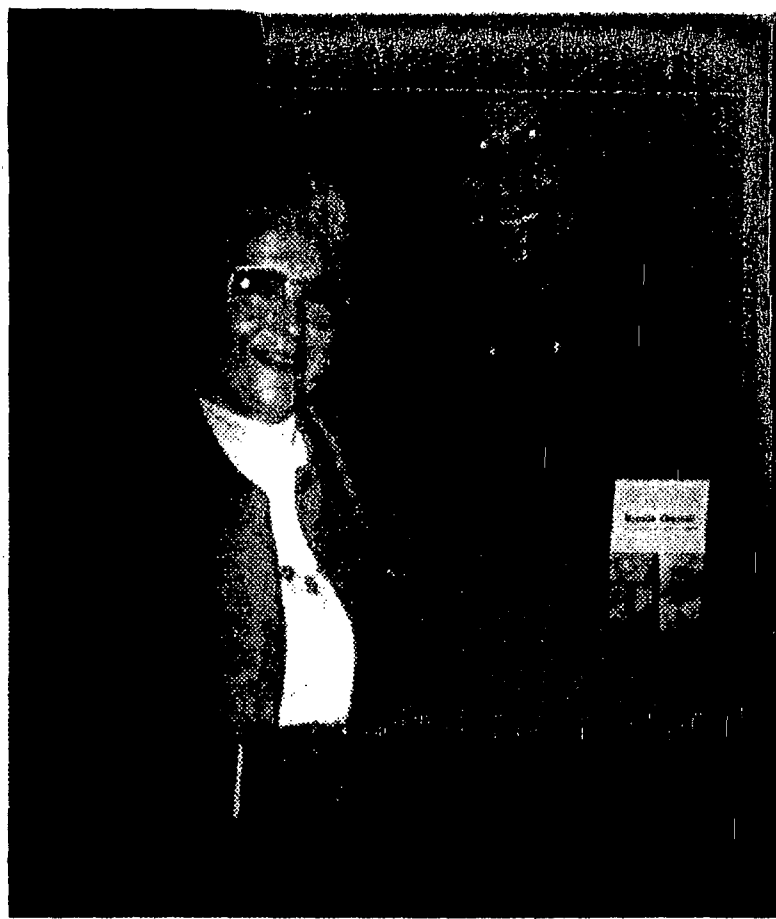
Goldberg paid the tribe \$3 million up front for exclusive rights to develop and manage for seven years any Mohawk casino in New York. The money would be returned if the Mohawks can't go forward with their casino plan.

Although federal officials say changing the location of the Mohawk casino from the raceway would result in a multi-year review, Goldberg told analysts the casino at Kutsher's would open before three years.

## Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Conservation Department April Report

- 1 Stray canine running at large
  - 2 Aggressive canines reported
  - 6 Canine nuisance reported
  - 10 Stray canines at large
  - 1 Lost canine reported
  - 1 Canine attack on a person
  - 2 Canine bites on two persons
  - 2 Abandoned canines on road
  - 1 Stray cat picked up in Snye area
  - 1 Unwanted 5 cats find new home
  - 1 Pack Coyote nuisance on an Island
  - 1 Weasel nuisance in home reported
  - 4 Oil spills reported
  - 1 Report of Cabin broke into
  - 1 Unclaimed boat turned over to finder
  - 1 Ontario license found and returned to owner
- MEETINGS ATTENDED IN APRIL
- 1 Emergency Response TERC/LEPC
  - Canines taken over to the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals for April 2000 was 28
  - Total number of reports for April 2000 was 65

## Tribal Chief Alma Ransom attends NCAI Executive Council Winter Session



Pictured (1 to r) St. Regis Mohawk Tribal Chief Alma Ransom, who is also the Northeast Area Vice President for NCAI and Kevin Gover, Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior at the NCAI Executive Council Winter Session.

Washington, D.C. - Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Chief Alma Ransom, who is the NCAI Northeast Area Vice President, participated in the National Congress of American Indians Executive Council Winter Session 2000 in Washington D.C. in February of this year.

Over 560 tribal registrants heard from key members of the Clinton Administration, including Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman; Attorney General Janet Reno; Treasury Secretary Lawrence Summers; and, Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala. Housing and Urban Development Secretary Andrew Cuomo also met with the NCAI Executive Committee.

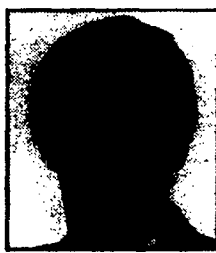
In addition to the above federal agency representatives, Jacqueline Johnson, HUD's Deputy Assistant Secretary for Native Programs, Dr. Kenneth Prewitt, U.S. Census Bureau Director; Mike Cohen, Education's Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education, T.J. Gauthier, Energy's Deputy Secretary; and Kevin Gover, Interior's Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs also addressed the delegates. The White House was represented by Maria Echaveste, Deputy Chief of Staff to the President and Lynn Cutler, Senior Advisor for Indian Affairs to the White House Chief of Staff.

Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell (R-CO); Senator Byron Dorgan (D-ND); Senator Daniel K. Inouye (D-HI) and Senator Thomas Dachele (D-SD) addressed the delegates.

A series of other NCAI meetings were also held during the Executive Session which included: Welfare Reform Task Force; HUD's National Tribal Consultation; NCAI/BIA Workgroups on Trust Management, Policy and Procedures, Reporting, Accountability and Auditing; and, Government-to-Government consultation.

The Mohegan Tribe of Connecticut sponsored the Annual Leadership Banquet which honored Senator John McCain (D-AZ); Representative Patrick Kennedy (D-RI) and California Lt. Governor Cruz Bustamonte.

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