

## **Commission Action**

At its meeting on Feb. 17 in Lakewood, the Commission:

- Renewed the manufacturer/distributor licenses of Novomatic Colorado, Inc.; Atronic Americas, LLC; WMS Gaming, Inc.
- Renewed the operator license of WMS Gaming, Inc.
- Approved changes of ownership for Fortune Valley Hotel & Casino, Bronco Billy's Sports Bar & Casino and Buffalo Billy's Casino

## **Commission to Hear Gaming Space Issue**

The Colorado Limited Gaming Control Commission will conduct a hearing Friday, March 18 at 1 p.m. to consider a petition of declaratory order filed by Ameristar Casino Black Hawk, Inc. In its petition, Ameristar challenges the Division of Gaming's long-standing interpretation that only the building area within a city's gaming district be used to calculate the 35 percent and 50 percent restrictions prescribed in the constitutional amendment allowing gaming in Colorado. Ameristar argues Gaming Regulation 47.1-313, which outlines the requirements for licensed premises, does not explicitly exclude building space outside the gaming district, thus allowing it to be used in the calculation of gaming space. At its meeting Feb. 17, the Commission granted a motion by a group of 21 casino owners to intervene in the process. As a result, the intervenors will be allowed to file briefs, present evidence and make oral arguments at the March hearing.

## **AGP Jump Start to New Year**

Colorado casinos rang in the new year with improved revenues in January. Casinos statewide reported \$60.1 million in AGP in January, up slightly from \$59.7 million in December and up 3.5 percent from \$58.1 million in January 2004.

Black Hawk's 21 casinos generated \$42.4 million in AGP in January, down from \$42.9 million in December and \$42.5 million in January 2004. Cripple Creek's 19 casinos totaled \$11.6 million in AGP in January, up slightly from nearly \$11.6 million in December and \$11.4 million the previous year. Central City's five casinos recorded \$6.0 million in AGP in January, up from \$5.2 million the previous month and \$4.2 million in January 2004.

Casinos statewide paid \$8.8 million in gaming taxes in January, with 14 casinos reporting revenues in the 0.25 percent tax bracket; 13 at 2 percent; two at 4 percent; eight at 11 percent; three at 16 percent; and eight at 20 percent. Three casinos changed ownership during the month to account for the higher casino count.

## **MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR**

The Division of Gaming's background investigation unit is experiencing the calm after the storm. At the Gaming Commission meeting in December, the team presented 18 licensing reports, including seven new business license applications. In January the background investigators presented reports on three additional new applicants, bringing the total to 10 new applications completed in a two-month span. Considering we typically tell new business applicants the process can take from six months to a year *depending on how busy we are*, you can easily tell the nine-member background unit had its hands full in 2004. By the way, did I mention that throughout the year they also completed 91 business renewals, 28 changes of ownership, 132 background investigations on key and associated person applicants, as well as scores of problem support application assists to our Licensing Section?

It seems that whenever a new business applicant addresses the Gaming Commission after receiving approval for a new business license, the applicant is full of praises for the background investigation team. I share in those sentiments. I, like others, am impressed with their professionalism, their thoroughness and their human touch. I want to personally commend Ron Kammerzell, Will Lukela, Flavio Quintana, Kendal Dittmer, Lewis Koski, Joanna Meyer, Karl Trump, Evan Kwiatkowski and Mark Rule for their outstanding work and dedication, especially during this past year. I also want to single out Karl Trump, who at the end of February is retiring after 24 years of service to the State of Colorado. Karl spent most of those years as a hearings officer and enforcement investigator in the Motor Vehicle Division, where he became known as an expert on driver license fraud. Fortunately for the Division, he joined the background unit five years ago and has been a valuable member of the team since then. We all wish Karl the best in his retirement.

—Mark L. Wilson



## COLORADO STATE GAMING STATISTICS

	<u>JAN 2005</u>	<u>DEC 2004</u>	<u>JAN 2004</u>	<u>TAX YTD</u>
<b>1¢ SLOTS</b>	2,568	2,480	1,501	16,153
COINS IN	135,064,872.80	127,840,998.72	77,762,916.84	837,816,712.51
AGP	10,776,664.06	10,047,371.91	6,084,659.97	66,692,396.20
AVG DAILY AGP	144.60	133.59	130.96	136.55
HOLD %	7.98%	7.86%	7.82%	7.96%
<b>5¢ SLOTS</b>	4,221	4,352	5,309	32,124
COINS IN	175,563,649.34	177,215,392.06	238,877,703.50	1,366,686,459.14
AGP	11,742,124.32	12,229,717.47	16,390,898.44	93,300,690.55
AVG DAILY AGP	95.86	92.66	99.74	96.06
HOLD %	6.69%	6.90%	6.86%	6.83%
<b>25¢ SLOTS</b>	3,940	3,989	4,327	28,237
COINS IN	257,788,764.50	252,329,095.00	279,498,214.18	1,871,279,815.50
AGP	12,913,107.05	12,783,801.23	14,234,501.79	95,707,044.14
AVG DAILY AGP	112.93	105.68	106.27	112.10
HOLD %	5.01%	5.07%	5.09%	5.11%
<b>\$1 SLOTS</b>	2,892	2,926	2,954	20,405
COINS IN	290,750,546.00	285,390,379.00	290,164,042.00	2,084,993,946.00
AGP	13,238,849.02	13,287,279.74	13,304,679.69	96,039,518.70
AVG DAILY AGP	157.74	149.74	145.50	155.66
HOLD %	4.55%	4.66%	4.59%	4.61%
<b>\$5 SLOTS</b>	299	296	304	2,095
COINS IN	45,797,990.00	48,095,210.00	52,115,705.00	345,785,310.00
AGP	1,967,451.07	2,217,826.05	2,102,848.50	14,494,545.65
AVG DAILY AGP	226.74	247.07	223.47	228.82
HOLD %	4.30%	4.61%	4.03%	4.19%
<b>OTHER SLOTS*</b>	1,697	1,511	852	10,747
COINS IN	112,259,929.39	100,252,365.83	64,156,714.08	740,861,909.21
AGP	6,910,382.55	6,373,333.12	3,641,915.48	43,660,969.39
AVG DAILY AGP	140.32	139.09	138.09	134.36
HOLD %	6.16%	6.36%	5.68%	5.89%
<b>BJ TABLES</b>	80	80	82	578
BJ DROP	3,816,043.25	3,796,916.16	4,198,274.90	28,256,037.41
AGP	779,278.50	773,503.16	884,456.40	5,575,941.16
AVG DAILY AGP	335.65	318.83	348.45	319.06
HOLD %	20.42%	20.37%	21.07%	19.73%
<b>POKER TABLES</b>	100	100	71	653
POKER DROP	2,682,103.25	2,681,428.70	2,502,462.25	18,571,521.55
AGP	1,754,589.25	1,675,909.80	1,407,950.75	11,457,841.30
AVG DAILY AGP	604.60	552.63	640.63	580.32
HOLD %	17.77%	16.65%	18.88%	17.32%
<b>TOTAL AGP</b>	60,082,445.82	59,725,209.53	58,051,911.02	426,928,947.09
<b>GAMING TAXES</b>	8,781,534.59	8,942,857.19	9,402,616.50	47,535,236.52
<b># OF ACCOUNTS</b>	48	46	44	46
<b>AVG. DAYS OPEN</b>	29.02	30.33	30.95	30.24
*10¢, 50¢, \$2 and Multi-Denomination Slots				

## CRIPPLE CREEK GAMING STATISTICS

	<u>JAN 2005</u>	<u>DEC 2004</u>	<u>JAN 2004</u>	<u>TAX YTD</u>
<b>1¢ SLOTS</b>	841	840	467	5,358
COINS IN	29,661,164.84	27,867,899.64	18,759,708.55	187,963,317.47
AGP	2,261,499.10	2,111,694.51	1,388,926.21	14,461,016.89
AVG DAILY AGP	86.74	81.09	95.94	87.89
HOLD %	7.62%	7.58%	7.40%	7.69%
<b>5¢ SLOTS</b>	1,310	1,334	1,553	9,998
COINS IN	35,859,985.59	36,153,107.10	48,435,949.55	295,217,967.14
AGP	2,199,070.28	2,267,167.74	3,159,453.40	19,065,958.51
AVG DAILY AGP	54.15	54.82	65.63	62.10
HOLD %	6.13%	6.27%	6.52%	6.46%
<b>25¢ SLOTS</b>	1,141	1,151	1,218	8,089
COINS IN	51,832,736.00	51,148,301.00	54,899,614.50	397,272,432.00
AGP	2,665,719.93	2,529,850.79	2,879,662.48	20,357,665.86
AVG DAILY AGP	75.36	70.90	76.27	81.96
HOLD %	5.14%	4.95%	5.25%	5.12%
<b>\$1 SLOTS</b>	925	934	847	6,397
COINS IN	62,496,620.00	61,467,911.00	64,348,871.00	473,918,560.50
AGP	2,813,887.16	2,901,390.35	2,917,026.77	21,674,326.89
AVG DAILY AGP	98.13	100.21	111.10	110.34
HOLD %	4.50%	4.72%	4.53%	4.57%
<b>\$5 SLOTS</b>	71	71	72	501
COINS IN	4,011,755.00	4,715,615.00	5,399,880.00	41,984,450.00
AGP	132,161.50	222,225.80	257,340.00	1,786,331.36
AVG DAILY AGP	60.05	100.97	115.30	116.12
HOLD %	3.29%	4.71%	4.77%	4.25%
<b>OTHER SLOTS*</b>	494	465	145	3,280
COINS IN	17,983,866.01	17,164,171.20	7,664,465.38	133,852,955.50
AGP	1,158,089.19	1,132,170.75	454,425.27	8,136,523.10
AVG DAILY AGP	75.62	78.54	101.10	80.79
HOLD %	6.44%	6.60%	5.93%	6.08%
<b>BJ TABLES</b>	17	16	15	126
BJ DROP	506,566.00	556,775.75	604,507.50	4,663,665.32
AGP	103,961.00	129,097.50	135,951.00	929,394.07
AVG DAILY AGP	197.27	260.28	292.37	240.21
HOLD %	20.52%	23.19%	22.49%	19.93%
<b>POKER TABLES</b>	23	23	14	147
POKER DROP	266,554.50	256,336.00	198,090.00	2,097,338.75
AGP	303,603.75	290,499.35	209,458.90	2,139,508.75
AVG DAILY AGP	425.81	407.43	482.62	473.98
HOLD %	24.37%	16.46%	16.56%	20.55%
<b>TOTAL AGP</b>	11,637,991.91	11,584,096.79	11,402,244.03	88,550,725.43
<b>GAMING TAXES</b>	986,695.97	885,130.98	1,084,199.87	3,712,159.00
<b># OF ACCOUNTS</b>	19	19	18	19
<b>AVG. DAYS OPEN</b>	31.00	31.00	31.00	30.71
*10¢, 50¢, \$2 and Multi-Denomination Slots				

## BLACK HAWK GAMING STATISTICS

	<u>JAN 2005</u>	<u>DEC 2004</u>	<u>JAN 2004</u>	<u>TAX YTD</u>
<b>1¢ SLOTS</b>	1,450	1,396	987	9,193
COINS IN	88,869,370.56	85,816,128.25	56,259,441.66	563,288,536.81
AGP	7,252,932.75	6,866,989.33	4,502,900.74	45,659,816.99
AVG DAILY AGP	184.97	166.24	147.60	166.97
HOLD %	8.16%	8.00%	8.00%	8.11%
<b>5¢ SLOTS</b>	2,409	2,491	3,148	18,156
COINS IN	124,086,000.95	125,486,395.91	171,645,810.00	962,593,393.05
AGP	8,367,380.12	8,813,611.82	11,728,887.10	66,127,146.01
AVG DAILY AGP	128.45	119.57	120.54	122.44
HOLD %	6.74%	7.02%	6.83%	6.87%
<b>25¢ SLOTS</b>	2,366	2,400	2,670	17,239
COINS IN	179,285,015.75	177,971,630.75	199,695,025.75	1,318,204,509.25
AGP	8,831,726.13	9,008,932.92	10,161,799.31	66,929,145.86
AVG DAILY AGP	138.04	126.85	123.13	130.52
HOLD %	4.93%	5.06%	5.09%	5.08%
<b>\$1 SLOTS</b>	1,689	1,708	1,767	12,066
COINS IN	200,504,260.00	200,382,326.00	202,829,812.00	1,449,098,264.50
AGP	9,199,505.40	9,256,026.21	9,436,108.83	67,167,195.45
AVG DAILY AGP	201.42	183.14	172.77	187.14
HOLD %	4.59%	4.62%	4.65%	4.64%
<b>\$5 SLOTS</b>	208	205	208	1,441
COINS IN	39,345,300.00	41,423,785.00	45,094,865.00	290,819,940.00
AGP	1,682,629.57	1,907,432.30	1,727,038.50	12,079,130.42
AVG DAILY AGP	299.15	314.44	268.63	281.80
HOLD %	4.28%	4.60%	3.83%	4.15%
<b>OTHER SLOTS*</b>	1,100	1,046	692	6,991
COINS IN	86,064,021.61	83,088,194.63	55,978,042.20	576,550,194.56
AGP	5,223,806.51	5,241,162.37	3,143,238.51	33,683,608.80
AVG DAILY AGP	175.61	169.33	146.96	161.97
HOLD %	6.07%	6.31%	5.62%	5.84%
<b>BJ TABLES</b>	55	56	59	391
BJ DROP	3,075,692.75	3,012,851.76	3,496,193.40	22,448,011.34
AGP	644,275.50	607,479.01	733,260.90	4,475,944.09
AVG DAILY AGP	433.19	366.59	402.09	384.84
HOLD %	20.95%	20.16%	20.97%	19.94%
<b>POKER TABLES</b>	62	62	47	406
POKER DROP	2,125,888.25	2,152,518.85	2,055,773.25	14,760,866.45
AGP	1,241,948.50	1,192,854.60	1,054,456.35	8,094,416.95
AVG DAILY AGP	740.76	650.19	725.85	670.24
HOLD %	17.16%	16.45%	18.86%	16.71%
<b>TOTAL AGP</b>	42,444,204.48	42,894,488.56	42,487,690.24	304,216,404.57
<b>GAMING TAXES</b>	6,815,567.53	7,228,617.78	7,601,738.44	39,910,951.36
<b># OF ACCOUNTS</b>	24	22	22	22
<b>AVG. DAYS OPEN</b>	27.04	29.59	30.91	29.75
<b>*10¢, 50¢, \$2 and Multi-Denomination Slots</b>				

## CENTRAL CITY GAMING STATISTICS

	<u>JAN 2005</u>	<u>DEC 2004</u>	<u>JAN 2004</u>	<u>TAX YTD</u>
<b>1¢ SLOTS</b>	277	244	47	1,602
COINS IN	16,534,337.40	14,156,970.83	2,743,766.63	86,564,858.23
AGP	1,262,232.21	1,068,688.07	192,833.02	6,571,562.32
AVG DAILY AGP	146.99	141.29	132.35	133.56
HOLD %	7.63%	7.55%	7.03%	7.59%
<b>5¢ SLOTS</b>	502	527	608	3,970
COINS IN	15,617,662.80	15,575,889.05	18,795,943.95	108,875,098.95
AGP	1,175,673.92	1,148,937.91	1,502,557.94	8,107,586.03
AVG DAILY AGP	75.55	70.33	79.72	66.49
HOLD %	7.53%	7.38%	7.99%	7.45%
<b>25¢ SLOTS</b>	433	438	439	2,909
COINS IN	26,671,012.75	23,209,163.25	24,903,573.93	155,802,874.25
AGP	1,415,660.99	1,245,017.52	1,193,040.00	8,420,232.42
AVG DAILY AGP	105.47	91.69	87.67	94.24
HOLD %	5.31%	5.36%	4.79%	5.40%
<b>\$1 SLOTS</b>	278	284	340	1,942
COINS IN	27,749,666.00	23,540,142.00	22,985,359.00	161,977,121.00
AGP	1,225,456.46	1,129,863.18	951,544.09	7,197,996.36
AVG DAILY AGP	142.20	128.34	90.28	120.68
HOLD %	4.42%	4.80%	4.14%	4.44%
<b>\$5 SLOTS</b>	20	20	24	153
COINS IN	2,440,935.00	1,955,810.00	1,620,960.00	12,980,920.00
AGP	152,660.00	88,167.95	118,470.00	629,083.87
AVG DAILY AGP	246.23	142.21	159.23	133.87
HOLD %	6.25%	4.51%	7.31%	4.85%
<b>OTHER SLOTS*</b>	103	0	15	476
COINS IN	8,212,041.77	0.00	514,206.50	30,458,759.15
AGP	528,486.85	0.00	44,251.70	1,840,837.49
AVG DAILY AGP	165.51	0.00	95.16	125.91
HOLD %	6.44%	0.00%	8.61%	6.04%
<b>BJ TABLES</b>	8	8	8	61
BJ DROP	233,784.50	227,288.65	97,574.00	1,144,360.75
AGP	31,042.00	36,926.65	15,244.50	170,603.00
AVG DAILY AGP	125.17	148.90	61.47	91.06
HOLD %	13.28%	16.25%	15.62%	14.91%
<b>POKER TABLES</b>	15	15	10	100
POKER DROP	289,660.50	272,573.85	248,599.00	1,713,316.35
AGP	209,037.00	192,555.85	144,035.50	1,223,915.60
AVG DAILY AGP	449.54	414.10	464.63	398.48
HOLD %	16.22%	18.41%	20.87%	18.56%
<b>TOTAL AGP</b>	6,000,249.43	5,246,624.18	4,161,976.75	34,161,817.09
<b>GAMING TAXES</b>	979,271.09	829,108.43	716,678.19	3,912,126.16
<b># OF ACCOUNTS</b>	5	5	4	5
<b>AVG. DAYS OPEN</b>	31.00	31.00	31.00	30.71
<b>*10¢, 50¢, \$2 and Multi-Denomination Slots</b>				

## JANUARY AGP BY DEVICE

### Statewide

Device	Number	AGP	Avg. Daily AGP/Device	Hold %
Slots	15,617	\$57,548,578	\$126.98	5.66%
Tables	180	\$2,533,868	\$485.07	19.33%
TOTAL	15,797	\$60,082,446	\$131.06	5.86%

### Cripple Creek

Device	Number	AGP	Avg. Daily AGP/Device	Hold %
Slots	4,782	\$11,230,427	\$75.76	5.56%
Tables	40	\$407,565	\$328.68	21.85%
TOTAL	4,822	\$11,637,992	\$77.86	5.74%

### Black Hawk

Device	Number	AGP	Avg. Daily AGP/Device	Hold %
Slots	9,222	\$40,557,980	\$162.64	5.65%
Tables	117	\$1,886,224	\$596.18	19.40%
TOTAL	9,339	\$42,444,204	\$168.07	5.87%

### Central City

Device	Number	AGP	Avg. Daily AGP/Device	Hold %
Slots	1,613	\$5,760,170	\$115.20	5.92%
Tables	23	\$240,079	\$336.72	14.91%
TOTAL	1,636	\$6,000,249	\$118.31	6.14%

Average daily AGP per device is calculated by dividing the total AGP by the number of devices, further divided by the average number of days open for all establishments open in January. Hold percentage does not include player-banked poker tables.

# GAMING ♦ UPDATE

## DATES TO REMEMBER

- ✓ March 15 • February gaming tax returns due
- ✓ March 17 • Gaming Commission meeting, 1881 Pierce St., Suite 110, Lakewood
- ✓ March 18 • Gaming Commission hearing, 1881 Pierce St., Suite 110, Lakewood

MARCH 2005

COLORADO DEPT OF REVENUE  
DIVISION OF GAMING  
1881 PIERCE ST STE 112  
LAKEWOOD CO 80214-1496