

Washington Tribe to Open Casino Despite Governor Mike Lowry's Threat

Despite threats by Washington Governor Mike Lowry to ask federal authorities to intervene, officials with the Colville Confederated Tribes today said they are moving ahead with plans to open a casino Saturday in Manson, Wash.

"Gaming is providing Indian people with their first real chance at self-sufficiency. We don't want to miss out on that opportunity," said Colville Chairman, Eddie Palmanteer. "The Governor of this state is not interested in helping Indian people, he's only concerned about protecting the state's gaming interests."

Governor Lowry has said if the Colville open their casino without a compact, it will violate federal law and he'll ask the U.S. Attorney to take action to close it down.

The Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) requires states that offer gaming -- such as Washington -- to negotiate compacts with tribes to operate similar games on tribal owned land. However, Judge Nielson in the Federal Eastern District Court for the state of Washington ruled in 1993 that the entire compact process must be severed from IGRA in order for tribes to have recourse from uncooperative states such as Washington. Colville officials say Judge Nielson's ruling clears the way for the opening of the casino without a compact.

The casino will offer table games which are already legal in the state such as blackjack, roulette, poker, craps and pull tabs. The Colville casino will not take slot machines, which are not yet legal in the state.

"We're opening on Saturday regardless of what Governor Lowry threatens to do," said Palmanteer. "We've talked to the U.S. Attorney

and he said as long as we don't offer slots there shouldn't be a problem."

The Colvilles have tried unsuccessfully for four years to negotiate with the state for a gaming compact. "We desire a constructive relationship with the state," said Palmanteer. "But the state is only interested in dictating to us what we can and cannot do."

"The state can't have it both ways," added Palmanteer. "The state says negotiate on our terms or else we'll take legal action. At the same time the state claims federal Indian gaming laws are unconstitutional. Washington tribes have no choice but to proceed without the state."

The Chairman of the National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA), representing 10 tribes, said his organization fully supports the Colvilles. "Congress passed the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act so states and tribes could work together to provide benefits to Indian and non-Indian people alike," said Rick Hill. "The IGRA did not intend for states to block this economic opportunity from Indian people, like Governor Lowry is trying to do in Washington."

NIGA's Executive Director, Tim Wapato, who is also a Colville tribal member added, "this casino will generate much needed revenue for the Colville Confederated Tribes, create jobs and income for Indian and non-Indian people from the area, and increase tourism for the Chelan and North Central Washington region."

The Colville Confederated Tribes represented approximately 8,800 members. The reservation is located on 1.4 million acres of land in North Central Washington.

The Sunday School Lesson

by John R. Brayboy

God's Call and Our Response

Ex. 3:10-15, 4:1-5, 10-12

I. God's Plan for Redeeming His People (Ex. 3:10)

II. God's Revelation of His Name (3:11-15)

III. Moses' Excuses and God's Answers (4:1-5)

God's Plan for Redeeming His People (Ex. 3:10)

This week's lesson finds Moses in the desert, where God is calling him to deliver Israel out of bondage. We find that God spoke to Moses through the burning bush. The bush was on fire but the fire did not consume the bush. This amazed Moses, so he moved closer to investigate. Then God called him from the bush.

God calls people to service in different ways and each one has his own personal experience with God. God informed Moses that he was calling him to deliver His people from the bondage of the Egyptians. Moses was not as ready to go help Israel as he had been 40 years earlier. You see, Moses had been in the desert in God's training camp preparing for the mission God had planned for him. Forty years earlier, Moses was ready to help deliver his people, but he wanted to do it his way, not God's way.

Many times we want to do things on our own, instead of waiting for God's leadership. Too many times we are not willing to humble ourselves to submit to God's will. It took Moses forty years to realize that he was nothing apart from God.

II. God's Revelation of His Name (Ex. 3:11-15)

Moses asked God the question, "Who am I that you would want me to lead the children of Israel?" When God called Moses, he recognized his weaknesses and like many of us today, Moses began to make excuses. When God calls us to service he empowers us to do that which he has called us. The second question Moses had for God was "Who will I tell the children of Israel that I was sent by?" What name will I tell them? To tell them the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob will not be enough. God told Moses, "I am that I am. Tell them that I am sent by the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob is the same God of the children

of Israel, the one and only God from everlasting to everlasting."

III. Moses' Excuses and God's Answers (4:1-5, 10-12)

Moses like most of us began to make excuses that the people would not believe that God had sent him. A second time God had to prove to Moses that He was the I-am-the-God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. The rod that Moses had God turned into a snake. Then God told Moses to pick it up and it became a rod again. Now it takes faith for Moses to grab the snake by the tail and pick it up again. By now, God had convinced Moses that the people would believe him, but to make it more convincing, God inflicted Moses' hand with leprosy. Then he changed it back again. To put the final touches on God's proof, He turned water from the Nile into blood. God did those things for Moses so that the people would know that God had sent him when he told them of his experiences in the desert.

Many times in our Christian life, if we share our experiences with God with others, it can be the means of them accepting Christ as a savior. Many times we are like Moses, even with what he had experienced with God, he still had an excuse. He said he could not talk well. When God wants us to do service for him, no excuse will suffice. God will provide the tools needed to do the job. What we need to do is say "Lord send me. God will do the rest." Our problem is we want to choose what we will do and the way we will do it. We are afraid of God's way because we worry too much about what someone may think or the way they may react.

Many people today are not saved because they are worried about what someone will think if they are saved. Listen, if you are lost, it is God's will that you be saved. If you are saved, you need to be seeking the Divine Will of God in your life. Heed the call of Jesus today. Accept the call for whatever the need is in your life now.

Pray for us at Salem Missionary Baptist Church. Pray for Glenn Maynor, Democratic nominee for Sheriff of Robeson County. He certainly needs our prayer now and God's mercy upon him.

God bless you until next week!

REFLECTIONS

by Alta Nye Oxendine

Did you watch the D-Day commemoration? On Monday I found myself glued to the TV, in spite of the fact that I had planned to do other things. By the end of the of the special ceremony tears had broken through, as I, too, got caught up in the American soldiers' personal experiences on Omaha Beach during a battle sometimes called "the longest day."

If I'd had a chance to watch that event on TV back then, perhaps I could have better understood why my best girl friend, Wanda (for whom I named Wanda Kay) wanted to marry a war veteran. Instead, Pacifism was so important to me back then that I wanted little to do with anyone who had fought in the war. Of course, this was inconsistent, because there were a number of classmates (like Bob George) who dropped out of high school to serve their country either before or after being drafted. If it had not been for Bob's patience in getting me off on the right track in geometry, a couple of years before D-Day, I would likely not have been giving the valedictory speech in our little high school the year after D-Day. By 1945 there were only two boys left in our graduating class. Oliver, who helped on the family ranch and whose older brother, James, had already been killed in the war and "Cuddy" who walked with a permanent limp. Of course, there were only 13 girls that year!

BACK TO 1994

During the D-Day ceremony, a decorated war hero whose brother had died in the Normandy invasion told his own personal story. Later President Clinton gave what I believe to be a sincere speech of appreciation to our service personnel who fought on the shores of Normandy 50 years ago. I was moved by both speeches.

Clinton's vivid description of men who had been wounded reminded me of my own little talk at Twin Bridges High 49 years before. Miss McCoy, our senior sponsor, showed shock as I was practicing my speech, and suddenly started describing the horrors experienced by soldiers fighting in that conflict. Now I realize I was being unkind to her, since she was still grieving over her OWN fiance, one of the soldiers killed in that war!

What I was trying to do at the time was prove that war was hideous, that God Always wanted his human beings to avoid war at any cost. If I had been a boy, subject to the draft, I would have become a conscientious objector, like a Wesley Foundation director and several other young men

I was to meet during my post World War II college years.

Although still a "peace maker", now I am more of a Realist than a pacifist, though it would still be very hard for me to take away someone else's life. It must also have been difficult for many of our surviving veterans of all the wars to live with having done this, even though they had NO alternative. Perhaps in the past the Clinton's have been like me, unrealistic pacifists.

I do disagree with one of the last statements in President Clinton's speech. Like others, he referred to Russia as a "democracy" today. Aleksandar Solzhenitsyn, who spent years in Soviet labor camps as punishment for criticizing the government, later spent years in secret research, studying that same communist government. After the recent cross country train trip marking his return to his homeland, the Nobel prize winning author said: "Russia is a Pseudo democracy." According to the dictionary, pseudo means false, unreal, sham, pretended, not authentic. (don't believe a Real democracy could spring up this fast within an atmosphere to communist control.)

TRAGEDY IN CHINA

Only days before D-Day another anniversary was mentioned briefly by the American media. It was the tragedy at Tiananmen Square in Beijing, in June of 1989.

Things in China were different on D-Day, 1944. Back then much of China was under the control of the Japanese. The most interesting report I've read about that period is the story of a young Souther Baptist missionary from Georgia named John Birch who had gone to China as a missionary. Besides carrying out his missionary activities, however, he quietly served our armed forces as an "intelligence" expert until World War II ended in August, 1945. My mother had urged me, in the early seventies, to read a biography of John Birch, written by former North Carolinian Robert Welch and copyrighted in 1954. Some 15 years later I finally did!

CORRECTION

Last time I meant to say: "Hungary has just voted communists back into power, IF they were ever really out!" Although a former pacifist, and a present "peacemaker", I don't think this is the time to abandon our military system, the way I used to believe. Also, I am now very grateful to ALL the men and women who have fought for freedom around our world!

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Cameron's Comment

By Paul Cameron

If you think Mike Krzyzewski's recent flirt with the NBA was a ploy to pad his bank account at Duke, think again.

Most coaches feel the need to run the flag up the pole every once in a while to see who salutes. Coach K simply doesn't need to. He's won two national titles since the Boston Celtics tried to woo him in 1990. He also has taken Duke to the Final four seven of the past nine years. This is a guy who doesn't need to inflate his self worth.

What Krzyzewski wanted foremost in the recent announcement he was considering other coaching possibilities, was a reassurance from Duke's new president Nan Keohane that Blue Devils basketball would be high on the priority list.

No more waiting until the last week of the semester to tell coach a couple of his players might be in academic trouble.

Krzyzewski simply re-established his presence in the Duke hierarchy, nothing more. Oh, and don't feel too badly about Portland and Miami. One rule Coach K. knows--the NBA is a players league. Stars have longevity. Coaches are hired to be fired. The Hornets could do worse by picking Charlie Ward of FSU in the second round of the upcoming NBA draft.

Charlie fills Charlotte's point guard needs as a backup. But Ward's big rap is his hustle. And in a league build on speed, Ward better run the floor like the linemen are closing in

On The Pow Wow Circuit



Scenes From Richmond Community College Pow Wow

