

Innovation Capital

Investment Bankers



Gaming Newsweekly
For the week ended January 6th, 2019

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For securities-related inquiries, please contact an Innovation Capital banker.

Newsweekly Archive

You can now access Innovation Capital's Newsletter archive on the firm's website [here](#). This feature is password protected-- this month's password is: **Gamble** (case sensitive).

Gaming Industry Public Company & High Yield Data:

[Public Company Trading Comparables](#)

[High Yield Bond Trading Levels](#)

Featured Article:

The NFL, which long viewed gambling as a threat, now has a \$90 million partnership with Caesars

January 3, 2019

UNITED STATES- (Associated Press) - The NFL entered a partnership with Caesars Entertainment (CZR) on Thursday, the league's first official casino sponsor. The multiyear deal, however, does not include sports betting or fantasy football. The arrangement begins with this weekend's playoffs and is worth \$30 million annually for three years, a person with knowledge of the agreement tells The Associated Press. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the league has not announced specific terms. This latest development is part of a dizzying turnabout for the league. For years, the league insisted gambling was one of the biggest threats to its existence.

[Click here to read the article in Market Watch](#)

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EG casino on track for 2020 opening, says tribe's chair

January 4, 2019

CALIFORNIA- (Lance Armstrong, Elk Grove Citizen) - Wilton Rancheria Chairman Raymond "Chuckie" Hitchcock this week told the Citizen that the tribe continues their drive to open their \$500 million casino-resort in Elk Grove by the end of next year. If built, the project would become Sacramento County's first tribal casino-resort. The project site is located on 35.9 acres at Highway 99 and Kammerer Road. This location neighbors the unfinished Outlet Collection at Elk Grove mall site. "There's no definitive date yet, but we're looking at early 2019 to begin this process, and it's slated for completion by late 2020," he said. He stressed that although the timing of particular project phases may vary, such a schedule would not affect the target plan for the project's completion.

[Click here to read the full article in Elk Grove Citizen](#)

Pennsylvania is Reaping the Financial Rewards of Gambling Expansion

January 4, 2019

PENNSYLVANIA- (Play USA) - Figures collected by PlayPennsylvania.com show that the legalization of sports betting and online gambling has already generated more than \$395.8 million for the state. That money hasn't come from extra gaming taxes - at least not yet. So far, only three casinos have launched sports betting and none have launched online gaming.

[Click here to read the full article in Play USA](#)

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Why the Empire City Casino sale to MGM is delayed

January 3, 2019

ALBANY - (Joseph Spector, Albany Bureau) - Don't read too much into it, the state Gaming Commission stressed: The \$850 million sale of Empire City Casino in Yonkers to MGM was merely delayed because it couldn't get enough board members to the meeting. The abrupt cancellation late Wednesday of Thursday's long-planned meeting to approve the high-stakes sale fueled speculation that perhaps there was trouble with the deal. But the Gaming Commission on Thursday assured that is not the case, saying the meeting's delay was merely because it couldn't get three of its five members to the meeting.

[Click here to read the full article in lohud.](#)

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The #1 Social Casino Game Slotomania - to Boost Gameplay with New Sloto Card Heroes Collection

January 3, 2019

TEL AVIV, Israel - (Business Wire) - Seven years after then-Gov. Chris Christie stripped away the \$17 million annual purse supplement New Jersey's horse racing industry received from Atlantic City casinos, Trenton lawmakers are moving to replace the shortfall with money from taxpayers. A bill authored by state Sens. Vin Gopal, D-Monmouth, and Paul Sarlo, D-Bergen, that would provide \$20 million annually for purses over the next five years was approved unanimously by the Budget and Appropriations Committee on Monday.

[Click here to read the full article in Business Wire](#)

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Macau gambling revenue grows 14 percent in 2018, shrugging off trade war fears

January 2, 2019

MACAU- (Kelly Olsen, CNBC) - Asian gambling enclave Macau finished 2018 on a strong note, shaking off China's slowing economy and concerns over that the trade war with the United States will continue to drag on. Gaming revenue in December recorded a double-digit increase - the biggest gain in four months - as the former Portuguese colony and now semi-autonomous Chinese territory near Hong Kong seeks to attract more mass market visitors in a bid to lessen reliance on bigger spending VIP customers.

[Click here to read the full article in CNBC](#)

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Michigan veto delays online gambling by at least one year

January 2, 2019

MICHIGAN- (Chris Murphy, SBC Americas) - Fears that online gaming might cannibalize revenue from the official state lottery have temporarily put paid to the passage of Michigan's proposed internet gambling bill. That was the view of Republican Brandt Iden, the sponsor of the bill that was vetoed by outgoing Governor Rick Snyder late last week, effectively delaying its introduction into law by at least one year. Speaking to Online Poker Report, Iden said that Snyder's office harbored concerns that online gambling, which would include sports wagering, would take money away from the state lottery which funds Michigan's public schools.

[Click here to read the full article in SBC Americas](#)

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NBC Sports Debuts The Daily Line Sports Gambling Radio Show

January 2, 2019

WASHINGTON- (Andrew Cohen, NBC Sports) - NBC Sports' new sports gambling radio show The Daily Line launches today on the NBC Sports Radio mobile app. The show will broadcast out of NBC Washington's studio in Bethesda, MD. Michael Jenkins, who currently hosts D.C. Sports Live on NBC Sports Washington, will co-host the new gambling show alongside Tim Murray, a host for SB Nation Radio and the studio host for Navy football. Jenkins and Murray will discuss the biggest daily topics in sports, but with a gambling focus that includes point spreads and line movements as talking points. Oddsmakers and professional sports bettors will be brought on as guests, according to The Washington Post.

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Cambodia added 52 new casino licenses in 2018

January 2, 2019

CAMBODIA- (Steven Stradbroke, Calvin Ayre) - Cambodia's casino market underwent a dramatic expansion in 2018, thanks to the rapid development of the Sihanoukville region's gaming sector. New official numbers from Cambodia's Ministry of Economy and Finance show there were 150 active casino licenses at the end of 2018, up from just 98 at the end of 2017. Cambodia's Preah Sihanouk province

alone had 88 active casino licenses at the end of last year. The government has yet to issue specifics on how much revenue it reaped from the gaming industry in 2018. But Ros Phirun, deputy director of the General Department of Financial Industry, told the Phnom Penh Post that the ministry had previously forecast gaming tax and fee revenue of \$56m.

[Click here to read the full article in Calvin Ayre](#)

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New promise and old problems due in 2019 for Atlantic City

January 1, 2019

ATLANTIC CITY- (The Associated Press) - The new year holds promise and peril for Atlantic City, with new benefits facing off against old problems. The East Coast gambling resort is on something of a roll, having regained its balance as a smaller market following years of casino closings and job losses. It is part of New Jersey's skyrocketing sports betting market, which could rival that of Nevada before too long. Atlantic City reversed some of the casino closings and job losses by reopening two of the five casinos that shut down since 2014, and a new college campus has brought thousands of students and renewed economic activity to the downtown area.

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Outgoing Arkansas Mayor Backs Casino Plan On Last Day

January 1, 2019

RUSSELLVILLE, Ark.- (AP) - The outgoing mayor of Russellville chose his last day in office to express support for a Mississippi company's proposal to build a \$254 million, 600-room hotel and casino in Pope County. Russellville Mayor Randy Horton, who was defeated by newcomer Richard Harris in a December runoff, submitted a letter to the Arkansas Racing Commission on Monday expressing support for the plan despite opposition from some local residents and a lawsuit over another official's similar support. The Arkansas Democrat-Gazette reported that Jim Ed Gibson, the county judge for Pope County, has also expressed support for the Gulfside Casino Partnership. Monday also was Gibson's last day in office. A lawsuit was filed against Gibson last week.

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