Petition on vs casinos

By Rafael I. Santos

Variety News Staff

A MAJOR Protestant church representing five different congregations has pressed opposition against a proposed legislation legalizing casino gambling in the Northern Marianas.

The Saipan Community Church, began circulating a petition paper since Sunday morning, expressing its position on a proposal that allows the operation of casinos on Saipan, Tinian and Rota.

In a carefully-worded statement, the multi-racial evangelical church in Saipan said it respects duly established government offices, however it stressed that it is compelled to speak out against legislative measures that are sure to destroy the lives of many.

"Indeed we believe there is biblical basis for civil government. We also believe it is imperative to state our position when government pursues a direction that will be detrimental to the well being of its citizens," the petition said.

The evangelical group joined the Catholic church in expressing displeasure over the casino gambling bill which is yet to be introduced in the House of Representatives.

The measure has just been pre-filed, and was supposed to be introduced on the House floor last Thursday. However, lack of quorum prevented its introduction.

Last week, the leader of the Catholic church issued a pastoral letter urging the current leadership in the commonwealth "to act as responsible and moral Christian leaders and women seeking the common good and promoting human development in these islands."

Bishop Thomas A. Camacho of the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa said the consistent opposition by the community, the unusual methods in passing casino bills, and the lack of regard for good of the community are the main reasons why the Catholic church is against casino gambling.

In his February 15 pastoral letter, the bishop called on CNMI leaders to avoid what he called schemes of development which serve only a very small section of the community.

"They (officials) are asked to do this in ways that contribute to the betterment of society and to avoid schemes of development such as commercial gambling.

NMI beauty titles go to Kirschenheiter, Tudela

By Fredel de la Torre

Variety News Staff

RARELY, Kirschenheiter charmed her way to the Miss CNMI Universe '95 title during the 21st Miss Northern Marianas Beauty Pageant held at the Pacific Castle Sunday night.

The equally lovely Elaine Tudela, with a gifted 33.5-28-36 figure, received a rousing applause after she was crowned "Miss CNMI International '95."

When the pageant's emcees—Joe Reyes and Jennifer O'Connor introduced the seven beautiful contestants dubbed as "Booza Marianas," both Kirschenheiter and Tudela were easily the standouts based on their poise as well as the wild cheer they received from the audience.

The 15-year-old Kirschenheiter, endowed with a 31-24-34 figure, not only grabbed the top title, but was also adjudged by the local media as "Miss Photogenic."

Gifted with blond hair and green eyes, the 5' 5" tall Kirschenheiter drew a storm response similarly in the gown and swimwear competitions. The new CNMI Universe, sponsored by Coral Ocean Point, likewise proved she has both poise and articulate in her thoughts.

Torres slams Weil defense of Sutton

GOVERNOR Froilan C. Tenorio is still in favor of rolling back the minimum wage from the current $2.75 to $2.25 but would want its take effect on the day he signs the wage hike suspension bill.

This was learned from the governor who last week said he proposed rollback, if ever it gets through, would not be made retroactive to January 1st, as some people may have been expecting.

The supposed rollback is eagerly awaited by some employers who have started paying the minimum wage of $2.75 an hour since January 1.

Under the current law, the minimum wage rises by 30 cents per year at the start of the year until the current federal wage level of $4.25 is reached by the year 2000.

Such a wage law, Public Law Continued on page 8

No retroactive wage rollback

Under the current law, the minimum wage rises by 30 cents per year at the start of the year until the current federal wage level of $4.25 is reached by the year 2000.

Such a wage law, Public Law Continued on page 8

Weather Outlook

Partly cloudy with isolated light showers.
Nations call for reduced pollution

Manila, Philippines (AP) - Asian Pacific neighbors threatened by rising sea levels have endorsed a 20 percent reduction in carbon dioxide by the year 2020. Many small island nations consider the U.S. position weak. Sunday's declaration will be presented at a First Conference of Parties to the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change to be held in Berlin next month.

Kobe donation reach $867M

Tokyo (AP) - A record 85 billion yen ($191 million) has been raised for victims of last month's quake in Japan. The amount is the largest ever raised for a natural disaster, officials of Japan's Red Cross Society said. The City of Kobe is offering a loan for victims of last month's quake. The loan interest will be 1.02 trillion yen ($10.22 billion), officials of Japan's Red Cross Society said.

Three quakes rattle California

Malibu, Calif. (AP) - Three quakes struck the Los Angeles area on Sunday, with the largest registering 4.3 magnitude. The quakes were centered in the Santa Monica Mountains, about seven miles north of Malibu's Point Dume, and were centered in the Santa Monica Mountains, about seven miles north of Malibu's Point Dume.

NMI has new beauty queens

Mai CMU Unversity Kekira Kinskihechter (left) and Miss International Elaine Tutub is all smiles after receiving their title from NMBPA. Tutub is the first Miss International title holder from CNMI. Tutub is being congratulated by the Miss International title holder, Mai CMU Unversity Kekira Kinskihechter (left). Tutub is the first Miss International title holder from CNMI.

Miss CMU Unversity Elizabeth Tomashows fare to the audience during her farewell walk.

NMBA beauty queens... Continued from page 1

Barry Alan Wonenberg, Rota Branch opposition. The call for reduced pollution comes as some Island nations in the Pacific are faced with rising sea levels. The call for reduced pollution comes as some Island nations in the Pacific are faced with rising sea levels.
We are one of the smartest urnago'te tatte important ...tra~le have been the only issue to trade with Kantor's position. fox­ trade. children and it' pact in history (GATT) zone in the bilateral textile agreements, and Clinton administration. Now Kantor's open the largest free I, ~antor is re­ equally, if not more to guideline. Sen mas, Si Yuus Maase.

Trade rep Kantor still plays a vital role

WASHINGTON—United States Trade Representative Mickey Kantor held a five hour meeting of his senior staff one recent Saturday to draft a new trade agenda for the upcoming two years. None of the surfer knew however, the only week earlier, he had advised President Clinton to put trade issues on the back-burner. "That relationship has been a tremendous success for the Clinton's reelection prospects because of the time. From the economic, political, and even the public-awareness standpoint, the American public now understands the importance of the economy and how it affects their lives," said one source familiar with the Clinton's State Board.

"We have to continue to push the agenda and not be afraid to take a stand," said Kantor's senior aide. Kantor's aide may have been reflected in the Clinton's tax plan, which has taken a back seat in the debate.

According to sources, White House recognizes they aren't going to have a better peace for American goods and services: If they are successful, deputies hope to parlay a solid record of playing and forging deals ever since.

That relationship has been a tremendous success for the Clinton's reelection prospects because of the time. From the economic, political, and even the public-awareness standpoint, the American public now understands the importance of the economy and how it affects their lives.

"That relationship has been a tremendous success for the Clinton's reelection prospects because of the time. From the economic, political, and even the public-awareness standpoint, the American public now understands the importance of the economy and how it affects their lives," said one source familiar with the Clinton's State Board.

"We have to continue to push the agenda and not be afraid to take a stand," said Kantor's senior aide. Kantor's aide may have been reflected in the Clinton's tax plan, which has taken a back seat in the debate.

According to sources, White House recognizes they aren't going to have a better peace for American goods and services: If they are successful, deputies hope to parlay a solid record of playing and forging deals ever since.
its right to control its own immigration.

Echoing CNMI leaders’ assertion, the director said the commonwealth is capable of handling its own affairs especially in the area of immigration.

“The CNMI must maintain its local immigration... We can handle it,” the director told the Variety yesterday afternoon.

In an interview, Camacho also said he is totally against a plan by the federal government to strip the Northern Marianas of its right to control its own immigration.

Calling CNMI leaders’ assertion, the director said the commonwealth is capable of handling its own affairs especially in the area of immigration.

“The CNMI must maintain its local immigration... We can handle it,” the director told the Variety yesterday afternoon.

In an interview, Camacho also said he is totally against a plan by the federal government to strip the Northern Marianas of its right to control its own immigration.

Echoing CNMI leaders’ assertion, the director said the commonwealth is capable of handling its own affairs especially in the area of immigration.

“The CNMI must maintain its local immigration... We can handle it,” the director told the Variety yesterday afternoon.

In an interview, Camacho also said he is totally against a plan by the federal government to strip the Northern Marianas of its right to control its own immigration.

Echoing CNMI leaders’ assertion, the director said the commonwealth is capable of handling its own affairs especially in the area of immigration.

“The CNMI must maintain its local immigration... We can handle it,” the director told the Variety yesterday afternoon.

In an interview, Camacho also said he is totally against a plan by the federal government to strip the Northern Marianas of its right to control its own immigration.

Echoing CNMI leaders’ assertion, the director said the commonwealth is capable of handling its own affairs especially in the area of immigration.

“The CNMI must maintain its local immigration... We can handle it,” the director told the Variety yesterday afternoon.

In an interview, Camacho also said he is totally against a plan by the federal government to strip the Northern Marianas of its right to control its own immigration.

Echoing CNMI leaders’ assertion, the director said the commonwealth is capable of handling its own affairs especially in the area of immigration.

“The CNMI must maintain its local immigration... We can handle it,” the director told the Variety yesterday afternoon.

In an interview, Camacho also said he is totally against a plan by the federal government to strip the Northern Marianas of its right to control its own immigration.

Echoing CNMI leaders’ assertion, the director said the commonwealth is capable of handling its own affairs especially in the area of immigration.

“The CNMI must maintain its local immigration... We can handle it,” the director told the Variety yesterday afternoon.
BoGo braces for expansion in NMI

BANGKOK — For the Royal Papua New Guinea Foundation for the Environment, the new agreement with the Royal Gandgro Foundation (RGF) in Indonesia to expand its operations in the Pacific is significant.

The agreement was signed last week by RGF president Mr. I. Gusti Anak Hadi and Royal Papua New Guinea Foundation for the Environment (PRPHE) president Mr. John Koshiba.

The agreement will enable the two foundations to cooperate in the area of marine conservation, particularly in the Coral Triangle region, which includes Nauru, Palau, and Indonesia.

The agreement also provides for the exchange of staff and technical experts, as well as the sharing of research and data to enhance the conservation efforts in the region.

Koshiba said the agreement is a significant step forward in strengthening the partnership between the two foundations, which share a common vision of preserving the marine biodiversity of the Coral Triangle region.

The agreement will also facilitate the sharing of best practices and innovative approaches to marine conservation, thereby enhancing the effectiveness of the conservation efforts in the region.

The agreement is expected to benefit the local communities, particularly those who rely on the marine resources for their livelihoods, by improving the management and conservation of the marine environment.
**Constitutional Convention Candidates & the General Public Are Cordially Invited to Join Us for a Special Forum Presentation**

**"Cable Forum Meets the Con Can candidates"**

**WHO:**

SAIPAN CABLE FORUM HOST JEFF EVANS & POLITICAL ANALYST SAM MCPHERES

**Tuesdays, February 21 and 28**

**Where:**

PACIFIC CASTLE

Across from Coral Ocean Point Resort

Entrance is Free

**WHAT:**

30 candidates will be featured on each show. They will be given an opportunity to discuss their qualifications and key issues they feel should be addressed in the 3rd Constitutional Convention.

**ATTENTION ALL CANIDATES:**

This is your opportunity to present your views! Reserve your seat on the show, please contact Craig Pattillo or David O’Brien at 234-6362 or 234-1576.

**Saipan Cable TV** "We’re working to bring you the best!"
Abortion overshadows other US issues

By John King

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP) — The divisive issue of abortion overshadowed attempts by the three leading Republican presidential candidates to assert their independence as New Hampshire primary voters went to the polls in a weekend of campaign appearances.

The candidates — former Massachusetts Gov. William Dole, Texas Sen. Phil Gramm and Maine Sen. Bob Dole — all seemed to agree on one thing: abortion is an important issue in the Republican primary.

But there were differences in how the candidates approached the issue.

Dole and Gramm said they would support a constitutional amendment to ban abortion, while Dole also supported a constitutional amendment to ban assisted suicide.

Gramm said he would support a constitutional amendment to ban abortion, but only if it was accompanied by a constitutional amendment to ban assisted suicide.

And Dole said he would support a constitutional amendment to ban abortion, but only if it was accompanied by a constitutional amendment to ban assisted suicide.

But while Dole and Gramm said they would support constitutional amendments to ban abortion, Dole also said he would support constitutional amendments to ban assisted suicide.

Gramm said he would support constitutional amendments to ban abortion, but only if it was accompanied by a constitutional amendment to ban assisted suicide.

And Dole said he would support constitutional amendments to ban abortion, but only if it was accompanied by a constitutional amendment to ban assisted suicide.

But while Dole and Gramm said they would support constitutional amendments to ban abortion, Dole also said he would support constitutional amendments to ban assisted suicide.

Gramm said he would support constitutional amendments to ban abortion, but only if it was accompanied by a constitutional amendment to ban assisted suicide.

And Dole said he would support constitutional amendments to ban abortion, but only if it was accompanied by a constitutional amendment to ban assisted suicide.

But while Dole and Gramm said they would support constitutional amendments to ban abortion, Dole also said he would support constitutional amendments to ban assisted suicide.

Gramm said he would support constitutional amendments to ban abortion, but only if it was accompanied by a constitutional amendment to ban assisted suicide.

And Dole said he would support constitutional amendments to ban abortion, but only if it was accompanied by a constitutional amendment to ban assisted suicide.

But while Dole and Gramm said they would support constitutional amendments to ban abortion, Dole also said he would support constitutional amendments to ban assisted suicide.

Gramm said he would support constitutional amendments to ban abortion, but only if it was accompanied by a constitutional amendment to ban assisted suicide.

And Dole said he would support constitutional amendments to ban abortion, but only if it was accompanied by a constitutional amendment to ban assisted suicide.

But while Dole and Gramm said they would support constitutional amendments to ban abortion, Dole also said he would support constitutional amendments to ban assisted suicide.

Gramm said he would support constitutional amendments to ban abortion, but only if it was accompanied by a constitutional amendment to ban assisted suicide.

And Dole said he would support constitutional amendments to ban abortion, but only if it was accompanied by a constitutional amendment to ban assisted suicide.

But while Dole and Gramm said they would support constitutional amendments to ban abortion, Dole also said he would support constitutional amendments to ban assisted suicide.

Gramm said he would support constitutional amendments to ban abortion, but only if it was accompanied by a constitutional amendment to ban assisted suicide.

And Dole said he would support constitutional amendments to ban abortion, but only if it was accompanied by a constitutional amendment to ban assisted suicide.

But while Dole and Gramm said they would support constitutional amendments to ban abortion, Dole also said he would support constitutional amendments to ban assisted suicide.

Gramm said he would support constitutional amendments to ban abortion, but only if it was accompanied by a constitutional amendment to ban assisted suicide.

And Dole said he would support constitutional amendments to ban abortion, but only if it was accompanied by a constitutional amendment to ban assisted suicide.

But while Dole and Gramm said they would support constitutional amendments to ban abortion, Dole also said he would support constitutional amendments to ban assisted suicide.

Gramm said he would support constitutional amendments to ban abortion, but only if it was accompanied by a constitutional amendment to ban assisted suicide.

And Dole said he would support constitutional amendments to ban abortion, but only if it was accompanied by a constitutional amendment to ban assisted suicide.
US, Mexico planning pre-emptive plan to address currency crisis

NEW YORK (AP) - The United States is preparing to announce measures to prop up Mexico's currency crisis that will temporarily limit imports, a senior Treasury official said Thursday.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the measures will be announced after meetings between the Treasury and Commerce departments.

The measures, which could be announced as early as Monday, are part of an agreement reached between the United States and Mexico to prevent a currency crisis from spreading to other countries.

The measures will limit imports from Mexico and could include restrictions on certain products.

The measures will also include financial aid to Mexico to help it manage its debt.

The agreement was reached after talks between Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin, Commerce Secretary Ronald Reagan, and Mexican Finance Minister Carlos Fuentes.

The talks were held Thursday in Washington, D.C., and were attended by representatives from both countries.

The talks were a response to the peso crisis, which has been causing widespread concern in the United States and other countries.

The measures are expected to be in place for at least six months, and may be extended if necessary.

The measures will be reviewed regularly to determine whether they are effective in addressing the currency crisis.

The agreement was reached after a week of talks between the Treasury and Commerce departments.

The talks were held in Washington, D.C., and were attended by representatives from both countries.

The talks were a response to the peso crisis, which has been causing widespread concern in the United States and other countries.

The measures are expected to be in place for at least six months, and may be extended if necessary.

The measures will be reviewed regularly to determine whether they are effective in addressing the currency crisis.

The agreement was reached after a week of talks between the Treasury and Commerce departments.

The talks were held in Washington, D.C., and were attended by representatives from both countries.

The talks were a response to the peso crisis, which has been causing widespread concern in the United States and other countries.

The measures are expected to be in place for at least six months, and may be extended if necessary.

The measures will be reviewed regularly to determine whether they are effective in addressing the currency crisis.

The agreement was reached after a week of talks between the Treasury and Commerce departments.

The talks were held in Washington, D.C., and were attended by representatives from both countries.

The talks were a response to the peso crisis, which has been causing widespread concern in the United States and other countries.

The measures are expected to be in place for at least six months, and may be extended if necessary.

The measures will be reviewed regularly to determine whether they are effective in addressing the currency crisis.

The agreement was reached after a week of talks between the Treasury and Commerce departments.

The talks were held in Washington, D.C., and were attended by representatives from both countries.

The talks were a response to the peso crisis, which has been causing widespread concern in the United States and other countries.

The measures are expected to be in place for at least six months, and may be extended if necessary.

The measures will be reviewed regularly to determine whether they are effective in addressing the currency crisis.

The agreement was reached after a week of talks between the Treasury and Commerce departments.

The talks were held in Washington, D.C., and were attended by representatives from both countries.

The talks were a response to the peso crisis, which has been causing widespread concern in the United States and other countries.

The measures are expected to be in place for at least six months, and may be extended if necessary.

The measures will be reviewed regularly to determine whether they are effective in addressing the currency crisis.

The agreement was reached after a week of talks between the Treasury and Commerce departments.

The talks were held in Washington, D.C., and were attended by representatives from both countries.

The talks were a response to the peso crisis, which has been causing widespread concern in the United States and other countries.

The measures are expected to be in place for at least six months, and may be extended if necessary.

The measures will be reviewed regularly to determine whether they are effective in addressing the currency crisis.

The agreement was reached after a week of talks between the Treasury and Commerce departments.

The talks were held in Washington, D.C., and were attended by representatives from both countries.

The talks were a response to the peso crisis, which has been causing widespread concern in the United States and other countries.

The measures are expected to be in place for at least six months, and may be extended if necessary.

The measures will be reviewed regularly to determine whether they are effective in addressing the currency crisis.
MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Isaiah Rider scored 33 points, including 13 straight during Minnesota’s third-quarter comeback, lifting the Timberwolves to a 100-95 victory Sunday over the Orlando Magic.

The Timberwolves, losers of eight of their previous 10, sent the Magic their fourth straight loss and before a Target Center record crowd of 19,934.

Shaquille O’Neal scored 36 points for the Magic, who also lost to the Timberwolves in their only visit to Minneapolis last season.

The Magic led 58-46 early in the third quarter, but the Wolves responded with a 25-6 run to go up 71-64 lead. Orlando scored the first five points of the fourth quarter to lead 75-74. But Minnesota ran off 12 straight points and led 86-75 with 7:26 remaining.

Rider added 10 rebounds and Christian Laettner had 22 points for Minnesota. Anfernee Hardaway scored 19 for the Magic.

Sharks, Lite resume SABA Thursday results

FOURTH round Sharks cagers will play against Lite team in the resumption of men’s SABA games at the Ada gym in Sunapa after a day of break yesterday, President’s Day.

The Sharks will collide against Lite on Thursday, February 23.

The Sharks are occupying fourth spot with a 2-1 win-loss slate. A win will pull the Sharks up to the third spot currently occupied by the ‘O’ Aces quintet. The ‘O’ Aces team has a 2-1 win-loss slate.

A defeat will keep the Sharks team still in fourth spot, but in a four-way tie with 2-2 card holders Sunisers, Bud Light, and the Alu’u teams.

On the other hand, a victory by the Lite team will improve its win-loss slate to 2-3 and pull the team up to a tie with Spalding team. If Lite loses the game, it will still be in the second to the last position in the overall.

PABA coaches, managers to look into league’s problems

The move to net next week, team officials said, is in response to issues which confronted PABA in its past seasons, among them, the “inconsistencies” of some league officials.

Among the agenda to be discussed is the proposal for team officials to have a “direct” hand in policy and rules formulation and a stronger voice in the tournament committee.

The officials said they will also call for an election for a new set of officers due to the expected resignation of two officers.