

TouchPlay Tiff Continues

By Claire Kellett, Reporter

CEDAR RAPIDS - The tiff over TouchPlay in Iowa still doesn't have a clear winner. Wednesday, a U.S. Federal Judge heard two hours of testimony in the state's first TouchPlay lawsuit. Hawkeye Commodity Promotions is the first TouchPlay distributor to ask for an injunction against the law that would permanently ban the machines. It operates hundreds of the machines in Iowa, but there are more than 6,000 of them across the state. Lawyers for both sides say they're satisfied with the hearing.

"We're thankful for the opportunity to present our case to this forum today. The matter has been submitted and we were very happy to hear the questions the judge had," said Paula Roby, the plaintiff's attorney.

"We appreciate the judge moving this along very quickly. We'll file our brief Friday. Their brief and any response is due Monday by noon. We think the judge will make a prompt decision. There's not much time left until the statute goes into effect," said Deputy Attorney General Julie Pottorff.

The judge said not to expect a decision before Monday, but she guarantees a ruling by 11:59 p.m. on May 3. That's the deadline state lawmakers have given businesses to pull the plug on the machines.

Thomas Fitro
President

Anthony "Herk" Sparachane
Vice President

Lee Wesson
Treasurer

Patricia Rouse Pope
Executive Director

**West Virginia Amusement
& Limited Video Lottery
OPERATORS ASSOCIATION**

PO Box 2549
Charleston, WV 25329

WVALVLOA@aol.com

304.342.1737 phone
304.342.1737 fax