

Written by Administrator
Monday, 14 February 2011 17:19 -

News of Trump Marina Hotel Casino's sale spread within hours Monday among the casino's regular and first-time guests alike.

Gamblers on the Marina's casino floor early Monday afternoon hoped the takeover by Landry's Inc., owner of Golden Nugget casinos in Las Vegas and Laughlin, Nev., would mean better comps, less smoking and improved hotel rooms -

without sacrificing the existing staff described as friendly and accomodating by patrons.

Terry Roach, 58, of Philadelphia, visits Atlantic City with her husband every weekend - at least half the time, they stay at the Trump Marina.

"The rooms need updating," Roach said. "But everyone in here, be it the ladies who clean the restrooms or security guards, they're so kind."

She also hoped new owners would completely ban smoking or enforce boundaries for the 25 percent of floorspace where it's allowed.

Lou Jaros agreed. The 77-year-old Mays Landing resident accompanied his wife Monday afternoon on one of her two or three monthly visits to play the slots.

"My wife has emphysema, so I'd like to see it go totally smoke-free. Even in the smoke-free areas, I see people with lit cigarettes. And my wife is on oxygen - that could be dangerous," Jaros said.

Jaros and Roach also said they wanted better comps - more cash, more time to take advantage of earned benefits, etc. - for gamblers who frequent the property.

Roach recalled enjoying time spent at the venue operated as the Golden Nugget during the early 1980s, now the Atlantic City Hilton.

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"I'm thrilled (about) the sale. It'll make things better for customers and employees," Roach said. "I think (Landry's) has a great thing to start with here."

Keon Grant, 25, of Brooklyn, N.Y., spent last weekend at the Marina and was happy with the way it is.

"It was beautiful here. We had fun, the service was good," Grant said. "I don't have too much to complain about - besides me losing my money."

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