

(Continued)

**SB1082**, authored by Rep. Danny Hilliard, D-Sulphur, grants authority for certain part time employment within specified cities and towns by off duty police officers.

The measure was amended on page 1, by adding a new section 1, and page 4 line 17 and 14. The bill passed with a vote of 95-0 with an emergency clause.

## SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE GIVES NOD TO ROGERS STATE COLLEGE APPOINTMENTS

By Shawn Ashley  
Staff Writer

■(GIT) The Senate's Education Committee on Wednesday gave its approval to three nominations to the Board of Regents for Rogers State College.

Receiving committee approval were Timothy Best, of Skiatook; James Henry Morrison, of Tulsa; and H.E. Reynolds, of Coweta.

The nominations will now go before the full Senate for final approval.

## EDMONDSON APPLAUDS SUPREME COURT DECISION

By Marta McCloskey  
Staff Writer

■(GIT) Two years ago in district court, Judge Ralph Thompspon ruled that an Oklahoma Ponca Tribe could not sue the state over a gaming compact. The compact would have allowed the tribe to install slot machines on their property.

Wednesday, Attorney General Drew Edmondson announced that the Supreme Court has also ruled in favor of the state's position. "The state has negotiated several compacts with tribes to conduct gaming that is lawful in Oklahoma. This decision should in no way obviate the duty of states to continue to negotiate in good faith with tribes and nations within their borders," he said.

Edmondson said the major impact of the decision defeats the primary argument for those pushing casino gaming. He also explained that anyone has the right to sue the state if the state agrees to be sued. However, in this case, the state prevailed.

Edmondson also said the 5 to 4 ruling by the justices was historical. "The direction of the court has generally been in favor of state's rights, however it was close," he said.

Another constitutional issue will hit the state next year when a federal statute becomes effective. Under the statute, only private investigators would be able to obtain drivers' license information on individuals. Edmondson explained that the statute was a product of crimes related to stalking. "Instead of a stalker getting information on a person from the Department of Motor Vehicles, they could go to a private investigator." Edmondson continued, "Information would be cloaked, but in my opinion, the state certainly ought to have the right to make their own decision on the issue." The state complies with other federal measures to receive federal funding, but not for driving records. "The statute will most likely be challenged," he said.

*"Every time a man puts a new idea across he finds ten men who thought of it before he did — but they only thought of it."*

Anon.