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Boot Hill Casino Sees Hundreds

Operators of a new casino in Dodge City are betting the southwest Kansas town's colorful history and the casino's small size will secure a niche in gambling.

So is the state, which would claim some of the revenues.

The new casino attracted hundreds of customers in just its first afternoon last week. Boot Hill opened Tuesday, then started around-the-clock operations Wednesday after a ribbon-cutting ceremony with Gov. Mark Parkinson.

Casino backers still face skepticism about whether its success translates into economic growth for the area.

Boot Hill officials hope the casino will average 20,000 visitors a week -- or about 1 million over the next 12 months

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