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*For Immediate Release*

## **Zak!Charity Open Adds Poker Tournament to Event**

Spokane, WA (June 10, 2010) – One of the Inland Northwest’s premier charity events just got more exciting. Organizers have announced that starting in 2010, the Zak!Charity Open will have even more ways for people to get involved thanks to the addition of its newest event – the “Beat the Pros” Poker Tournament presented by the Kalispel Tribe of Indians and Northern Quest Resort & Casino.

“This is such a generous and active community. There are so many people who want to help, but in years past, we haven’t always had enough room for everyone who wants to participate,” said Irv Zakheim, founder of the Zak!Charity Open. “With the addition of the poker tournament, even more people can come out and support these fantastic charities, and have a great time doing it.”

The poker tournament will be added to the Zak!Charity Open’s schedule that includes the Summer Celebration dinner and auction at Northern Quest Resort & Casino as well as separate golf tournaments at Spokane Country Club and Manito Golf and Country Club. The tournament will feature professional poker players such as Phil Gordon, Rafe Furst, Erick Lindgren, Nathan Doudney and Blake Stepp as well as celebrity players such as Mark Rypien.

The addition of the poker tournament will also expand the Zak!Charity Open into a three-day event with the “Beat the Pros” tournament on Saturday, July 24th at Northern Quest Resort & Casino. The Summer Celebration will be held the following evening on Sunday, July 25<sup>th</sup> and both golf tournaments will run simultaneously on Monday, July 26th.

Money raised through the 2010 Zak!Charity Open will benefit The Rypien Foundation and Boys & Girls Clubs of Spokane County. For more information about any of the events, visit [www.zakcharityopen.org](http://www.zakcharityopen.org).

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