

# Harrah's buying Planet Hollywood's debt

By ARNOLD M. KNIGHTLY, LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL

Harrah's Entertainment is buying up the Planet Hollywood Resort's debt in what an analyst said could be a bid to take over the financially troubled Strip resort.

Sources confirmed this weekend that Harrah's has purchased a portion of the resort's \$860 million debt that is leveraged against the property.

Officials from Harrah's and Planet Hollywood Resort declined to comment (Sept. 14).

The Planet Hollywood restaurant at what was Caesars Tahoe , and is now MontBleu, closed years ago.

Brian Gordon, a principal at Applied Analysis, said Harrah's could be following the recent trend of acquiring casino properties through debt instead of a buyout.

“With covenant and debt defaults looming around for some of these properties, it's a potential way to gain eventual ownership of a property,” Gordon said.

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