

# ANTE UP

## PAUL WASICKA

The Vegas pro finally has direction in his life, and now he's captured the WSOP circuit championship in Tunica.



OLYMPIC ROUNDERS?

A DAY WITH T.J.

BERNARD LEE Q&A

SUPERNova MOM



FLORIDA  
BREVARD CHAMPIONSHIP

MISSISSIPPI  
DELTA GOLD CLASSIC

WEST VIRGINIA  
MOUNTAINEER WINTER OPEN

## SCOOP 2010 - Schedule

Date	Event	Low-stakes		Medium-stakes		High-stakes	
		Buy-In	Guarantee	Buy-In	Guarantee	Buy-In	Guarantee
02-May	NL Hold'em [6-max]	\$22.00	\$250,000	\$215	\$1,000,000	\$2,100	\$1,000,000
02-May	NL Hold'em	\$22.00	\$500,000	\$215	\$2,000,000	\$2,100	\$2,000,000
03-May	NL Hold'em [6-max, rebuys]	\$5.50	\$250,000	\$55	\$500,000	\$530	\$1,000,000
03-May	FL Badugi	\$16.50	\$250,000	\$162	\$50,000	\$1,575	\$75,000
03-May	PL Omaha [turbo, 1R1A]	\$11.00	\$50,000	\$109	\$100,000	\$1,050	\$150,000
04-May	PL 5-Card Draw	\$11.00	\$25,000	\$109	\$50,000	\$1,050	\$75,000
04-May	NL Hold'em [Heads-Up Match Play]	\$16.50	\$100,000	\$162	\$250,000	\$1,575	\$500,000
04-May	NL Hold'em	\$11.00	\$100,000	\$109	\$200,000	\$1,050	\$500,000
05-May	Mixed Hold'em [6-max]	\$22.00	\$100,000	\$215	\$200,000	\$2,100	\$400,000
05-May	7-Card Stud High	\$33.00	\$25,000	\$320	\$50,000	\$3,150	\$100,000
06-May	PL Omaha [Heads-Up Match Play]	\$22.00	\$25,000	\$215	\$100,000	\$2,100	\$200,000
06-May	NL Hold'em	TBD	\$100,000	TBD	\$200,000	TBD	\$300,000
07-May	NL Hold'em [Ante Up!]	\$16.50	\$50,000	\$162	\$100,000	\$1,575	\$200,000
07-May	FL Omaha Hi/Lo	\$55.00	\$50,000	\$530	\$150,000	\$5,200	\$250,000
07-May	NL Hold'em [2X Chance, turbo]	\$16.50	\$250,000	\$162	\$500,000	\$1,575	\$750,000
08-May	NL Hold'em - Quadruple, Triple, Double Shootout [10-max]	\$22.00	\$150,000	\$215	\$150,000	\$2,100	\$200,000
08-May	PL Omaha [6-max rebuys]	\$16.50	\$100,000	\$162	\$250,000	\$1,575	\$500,000
08-May	FL Hold'em [turbo]	\$22.00	\$25,000	\$215	\$100,000	\$2,100	\$150,000
09-May	NL Hold'em [big antes]	\$22.00	\$250,000	\$215	\$750,000	\$2,100	\$750,000
09-May	NL Hold'em	\$22.00	\$500,000	\$215	\$2,000,000	\$2,100	\$2,000,000
10-May	PL Hold'em / PL Omaha	\$16.50	\$75,000	\$162	\$200,000	\$1,575	\$300,000
10-May	NL Hold'em [4-max]	\$33.00	\$150,000	\$320	\$300,000	\$3,150	\$500,000
10-May	NL Hold'em [turbo, rebuys]	\$11.00	\$150,000	\$109	\$300,000	\$1,050	\$500,000
11-May	Triple Draw 2-7	\$11.00	\$25,000	\$109	\$50,000	\$1,050	\$75,000
11-May	7-Card Stud Hi/Lo	\$22.00	\$50,000	\$215	\$100,000	\$2,100	\$150,000
11-May	NL Hold'em	\$11.00	\$100,000	\$109	\$200,000	\$1,050	\$500,000
12-May	Razz	\$22.00	\$50,000	\$215	\$100,000	\$2,100	\$150,000
12-May	NL Hold'em [rebuys]	\$11.00	\$200,000	\$109	\$400,000	\$1,050	\$600,000
13-May	8-Game	\$33.00	\$75,000	\$320	\$150,000	\$3,150	\$250,000
13-May	PL Omaha Hi/Lo	\$11.00	\$75,000	\$109	\$150,000	\$1,050	\$300,000
14-May	NL Hold'em [1 rebuy, 1 add-on]	\$22.00	\$250,000	\$215	\$500,000	\$2,100	\$1,000,000
14-May	FL Hold'em [6-max]	\$55.00	\$100,000	\$530	\$200,000	\$5,200	\$300,000
14-May	NL Omaha Hi/Lo (turbo)	\$22.00	\$50,000	\$215	\$100,000	\$2,100	\$200,000
15-May	PL Omaha [6-max]	\$55.00	\$100,000	\$530	\$250,000	\$5,200	\$500,000
15-May	NL Hold'em [Heads-Up Match Play] (2 day event)	\$270.00	\$250,000	\$2,600	\$500,000	\$25,500	\$750,000
15-May	HORSE	\$22.00	\$50,000	\$215	\$100,000	\$2,100	\$150,000
16-May	NL Hold'em	\$22.00	\$200,000	\$215	\$750,000	\$2,100	\$750,000
16-May	NLHE Main Event (2 day event)	\$109.00	\$1,000,000	\$1,050	\$3,000,000	\$10,300	\$5,000,000

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A black and white close-up photograph of a man's face. He is wearing dark sunglasses. The lenses reflect two playing cards: an Ace of Spades and an Ace of Diamonds. He has a serious expression and is looking slightly to the side. In the background, a hand of playing cards is visible, held by someone's fingers.

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## FROM THE PUBLISHERS



# POKER IN THE OLYMPICS?

Imagine, if you will, a nearly 80-year-old Doyle Brunson, crutch and all, standing atop a podium. He removes his famous cowboy hat, its shadow passing by the glistening gold medal around his neck as our national anthem blares throughout the Empire Casino in London. It's enough to make you weep.

The recent conclusion of the Winter Olympics in Vancouver has inspired us to look ahead to the 2012 London Summer Games with a hopeful eye that poker might be included as an exhibition sport.

No, we're not kidding.

To buy into this you have to believe the Olympics is for competition and not just people who have athletic ability. They are, after all, called the Olympic *Games*, are they not? Hell, the National Spelling Bee is on ESPN every year, and clearly that takes no physical effort. So, why not poker?

Poker transcends age and gender, to put everyone on a level playing field, or felt. And isn't that what the Olympics is all about? Plus, it's not as if poker players would be "gambling" for a prize pool; they'd be going for the gold, just like any other Olympic hopeful. Golf and tennis have made appearances in the Olympics, and players in those individual pro sports have vied for cash for decades, yet they're allowed to compete in the Olympics. And half the fun would be trying to figure out who would play for what country since so many international poker pros call America home. Daniel Negreanu for Team Canada? Johnny Chan for China? And what about Vanessa Rousso? She has dual citizenship in France and the United States. Would she say *tapis* or all-in?

If you can get past the gambling-athletic aspect and focus on our chance to represent our country then continue reading. If not, then we have a nice story for you on heart disease by Dr. Frank Toscano on Page 52.

This by no means is uncharted territory. Gaming companies have gone on campaigns to achieve this lofty goal in the past. Even Full Tilt created a Web site (half jokingly) during its 2004 launch that touted the USA Poker Team. Yes, when sports such as baseball and softball get eliminated from a full Olympic roster, it's hard

to imagine making room for us. Still, everyone tries to hit a gutshot once in a while, especially if we're getting the right pot odds. So how can we get there?

First we have to get poker recognized as a sport by the International Olympic Committee. This shouldn't be too difficult since the IOC says chess and bridge are sports. (And don't even get us started on curling!) Poker incorporates the strategy of chess and the random dealing of shuffled cards, just like bridge.

Second, the IOC says poker must be "widely practiced by men and women in at least 75 and 50 countries, respectively, among four of the seven continents." This might have been a stretch back when Texans were

the only ones who could play hold'em. But with the boom spawning dozens of online poker sites, PokerStars' Asia-Pacific, European, Latin American, North American and Russian poker tours, not to mention Europe's World Series of Poker efforts and the Aussie Millions, poker is now global.

Another hurdle is the lack of an official international governing body that sets rules for poker, which is something we don't have yet but is required by the IOC. We'd argue the Tournament Directors Association could fit the bill. TDA founder Matt Savage has traveled to just about every country where poker is played and run his tournaments using TDA rules. Plus we have the World Poker Association, which has the goal of promoting professionalism in poker worldwide and supporting the highest standards of ethical conduct in tournament poker activities. Let's say we get these two married and have ourselves a governing body party!

Ultimately it'll take a serious push from a PokerStars-type entity that has the ability and financial backing to reach millions of people to petition the IOC and get the ball moving. It won't happen overnight, but it could happen if enough of the right people get behind it.

Oh, and if you could hurry up we'd appreciate it; Doyle's not getting any younger.

We'll see you at the tables.



## ANTE UP

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**Christopher Cosenza and Scott Long**

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# ANTE UP

## MISSISSIPPI

Dina Rylander of Collierville, Tenn., won two tournaments at Gold Strike's Delta Gold Poker Classic, including the main event. **Complete results, 26**

## WEST VIRGINIA

Mike Crispino wraps up the Mountaineer Winter Poker Open by winning the main event and nearly \$28K. **Results, 28**

## FLORIDA

In what could be an unprecedented finish, the final 15 players in the Brevard Championship at Club 52 in Melbourne decide to chop. But they played it out for the trophy. **12**

## LOUISIANA

The inaugural Louisiana State Poker Championship kicks off this month at the Isle of Capri Lake Charles. **Schedule, 29**

## AROUND THE NATION



West Virginia's Leron Washington earns a WPT Celebrity Invitational seat online and then wins it all. **31**

## COVER STORY



Poker pro Paul Wasicka has had an up-and-down career, but his recent rededication to the game has resulted in taking down the World Series of Poker circuit main event at Tunica. **36**



Complete results for Tunica, **40-44**

## PERSPECTIVE



### Turbo time

Jay Houston, a sit-n-go phenom for DeepStacks, says you need to take into account opponents' weaker hand ranges when playing SNG turbos. **51**

### Focus on bluffs

Doc Bloomfield says it's much easier to bluff than to find someone bluffing. So why not practice bluffing? **50**



### Online analysis

Ante Up's Scott Long takes a look at some of the online poker bills trying to make their way through state legislatures. **49**

## ON THE BUTTON



With a radio show, an ESPN show, a column and poker career, it's safe to say Bernard Lee has a full schedule. But he also has a family and a new deal with Foxwoods Casino. How does he find the time? **62**

## Supernova in the making

Beth Gains splits time between New Orleans and Los Angeles. But there's one thing she doesn't split time on and that's her commitment to becoming a PokerStars Supernova. Ante Up's Lauren Failla had a chance to catch up with this super-busy Super Mom. **54**





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# BLEWITT TAKES BREVARD CHAMPIONSHIP

**By Michael Bielecki**

Players came from all over the county on Feb. 27 for Melbourne Greyhound Park's first Brevard Championship at Club 52, but in the end it was a regular who captured the trophy.

Bill Blewitt, a Melbourne resident who plays often at Club 52, won his seat in a \$95 satellite and turned that into a championship title.

"We love to play loose during the cash games here in Melbourne, but for tournaments it's all playing tight and waiting for good cards," Blewitt said. "It really meant something for me to play for that trophy, and I'm glad to have it."

The \$505 event drew 45 players, with much of the field coming from satellites. Players started with 10,000 chips and the 20-minute blinds began at 25-50.

"We wanted to make sure the players got a good value," tournament director Darlene Taylor said. "We ran step satellites at \$25, \$95 and \$185 to feed this tournament and we felt the low \$5 rake would make this tourna-

ment appealing."

Ten minutes into the tournament, two Club 52 regulars, Sonny Bunce and Bernard Letzinger, got all-in on the river when Bunce河了一个ace-high straight. Unfortunately for Bunce, Letzinger had turned a very rare royal flush.

"I guess if you're going to go out of a tournament, that's the way to do it," said Bunce, fresh off a WPT cash at Beau Rivage in Biloxi, Miss.

Only five players had been knocked out by the first break, and by the second break 29 players remained. Letzinger couldn't hold on to his chip lead, however, and was knocked out in 20th place just before the third break.

With 15 players left blinds were 3,000-6,000 and only two players had more than 10 times the big blind. At this point, the players asked Taylor how much everyone would get if they chopped the \$22,500 prize pool. After some deliberation the players agreed to each take home \$1,500 and play for the trophy.



That's right, a third of the tournament field won the event on this rainy Saturday.

One success story was Palm Bay's Dave Maximo, who parlayed his original \$25 satellite buy-in into \$1,500.

"I'm surprised everyone agreed to chop," Maximo said. "I'm happy to take the money with the blinds getting as high as they were."

## ALL IN POKER SERIES



Tommee Lee Diamantis, left, won a sponsorship to a \$1,080 World Series of Poker circuit event at Harrah's Tunica.

She flew to Tunica (with three other All In players), stayed for the weekend and entered a two-day tournament. There were a little more than 200 players in her circuit event as she made it through half the field before getting eliminated about six hours into the tournament.

The next WSOP seat giveaway for All In will be June 6.

- Lisa Morrell won the monthly invitational Feb. 13 by besting almost 70 players. She took home two passes to SeaWorld and Aquatica, and earned a seat at the next WSOP giveaway.

## TAMPA BAY DOWNS



These guys won the monthly Ante Up Team Tournament on Feb. 16. From left: Bob Verney, Paul Rix, champion Jimmy Farnsworth and Fred Machholz. Farnsworth won this first two heads-up matches 2-0, before facing *Ante Up*'s Scott Long in the final. Long took the first match but Farnsworth won the last two.

**WDAE POKER CLUB:** Tom Shuga won the Fishtail Willy's \$10,000 shootout, never losing a showdown in the event. There were 97 players in the field as Shuga won a buy-in to a \$350 event at Tampa Bay Downs.

## BIG STACKS POKER LEAGUE

At Gators Dockside in Clermont, Eddie Torres defeated 82 players at the bi-monthly event in January before eliminating Sharon White in heads-up play to win \$500 in poker-room sponsorships. White won a \$200 sponsorship for second, followed by Mary Lou Heller (\$125), Gary Sokolitsky (\$100) and Bill Mick (\$75).

**BAD BEAT JACKPOT HIT:** On Feb. 4 at

Frank's Place in Ocoee, Sarah Griffith was all-in with A-Q and flopped trip aces. Karen Strong called with K♦-J♦. The queen of spades came on the turn, giving Sarah a full house, aces full of queens. But the 10♦ on the river gave Strong a royal flush. Griffith earned 3,600 Big Stack Dollars while Strong got 1,800. The rest of the table split 1,800.



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# DEBARY CITY COUNCIL BANS POKER ROOMS

The DeBary City Council on March 3 voted 3-1 to ban poker rooms in the city, according to numerous reports, including the *Daytona Beach News-Journal*.

The law has no immediate effect, since there are no poker rooms in the city, or even parimutuel facilities.

Last year a developer lost its bid to open a parimutuel facility and poker room in the city. This action by the council appears to be a defensive bid to let other developers know they are not welcome in the city.

This is just another in a long string of defeats for the Orlando area

when it comes to acquiring legal poker.

- Orlando Jai-Alai has been voted down numerous times in the past in regards to poker expansion.

- Former Minneola mayor David Yeager tried last year to bring an entertainment complex that would include a horse track and poker room to his struggling city, but he was voted down, and it ultimately cost him his mayoral seat.

- The Sanford-Orlando Kennel Club has met resistance in Longwood on more than one occasion and has since suspended its efforts to get poker expansion in its facility.

## TREASURE CHEST POKER



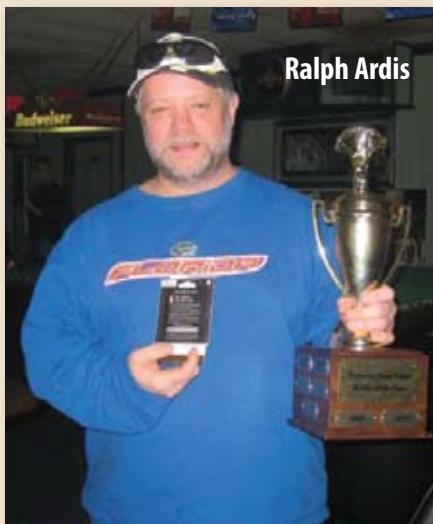
There were quite a few winners from Treasure Chest Poker recently. Here's a wrapup of the events:

- Sophie Keil won the monthly tournament at Strokers in February. She took home a \$100 casino buy-in.

- Ralph Ardis won the Battle of the Bars for Azara's, which beat Crazy Dave's and gets to keep the trophy a second month in a row.

- Marco Vargas competed at Sundown Sports Bar in Tarpon Springs against more than 120 players to win the monthly event in January. Here's the top 10 from that event:

- 1. Marco Vargas**
- 2. Casey Whitlock**
- 3. Todd Donnelly**
- 4. Joey Kupo**
- 5. Sara Alderich**
- 6. Barbara Sherrod**
- 7. Brandon Sefton**
- 8. Michelle Thomas**
- 9. T.J. Gorham**
- 10. Sophie Keil**



## OCALA POKER & JAI-ALAI



Meet Lucky Linda, as she's been called lately. She hit the bad-beat jackpot in November, then two weeks later was at the table where the bad-beat hit again. Finally, on Feb. 26, she hit the diamond royal flush jackpot.

## CHIP ANA CHAIR POKER



D.J. Fredericks won the fourth main event Feb. 21 at the Lost Kangaroo in downtown Bradenton. He was followed by Tabbi Kehr, Joe Rogers, Melissa Steortz, Kyle Phillips, Mark Remaley, Kathy Blahna, Jack Farrel, Jean Eisenwinter, and Matt Gibbons.

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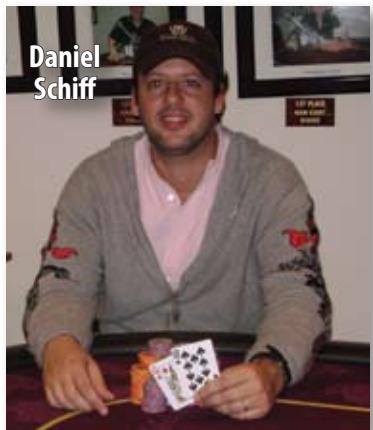


The Silks Poker Room at Tampa Bay Downs

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HARD ROCK HOLLYWOOD



## WINNERS ARE EVERYWHERE IN HOLLYWOOD



Here are the results of February's Main Event series:

- T.J. Schulman of Duluth, Ga., pocketed \$11,781 for winning the \$350 Middleweight Division, which drew 119 entries.
- The \$575 Cruiserweight Division (103 entries) went to Daniel Schiff of Ventura (\$17,250).
- Julio Fernandez of Miami won \$26,250 by capturing the \$1,100 Heavyweight Division, which attracted 75 players.
- The Mega-Bad Beat hit at the Paradise Poker Room for \$297,349 on Feb. 27. Michelle Knight of Plantation (at right) won \$148,675 when her four jacks were beaten by the straight flush of Jenny Sokol of Margate (\$89,205). The remaining seven players at the table won \$8,496 each.



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# ROYCE CLAYTON CELEBRITY CHARITY TOURNAMENT

**MARCH 6, 2010 • PALM BEACH KENNEL CLUB • WEST PALM BEACH, FLA.**

Celebrities descended upon the Palm Beach Kennel Club and raised more than \$30K for the Royce Clayton Family Foundation and Baldwin Prep School.

Fox Sports producer Fred King grabbed first place and won a \$2,500 trip to New York City, plus \$500 spending money. "I've never had so much fun at a poker tournament and was so happy to be helping out two great organizations," he said. "Congratulations to the Royce Clayton Family Foundation and the Baldwin Prep School for putting on such a fabulous event."



Even Billy the Marlin made an appearance to take some photos with the fans.



Cardinals pitcher Kyle Lohse, left, poses with Lamar Thomas, the Ocala native and ex-Bucs-Dolphins running back.



WSOP bracelet winner Robert Williamson III found time to do a little emcee duties.



Robert Williamson III gives his approval.



Royce Clayton laughs with the dealer.

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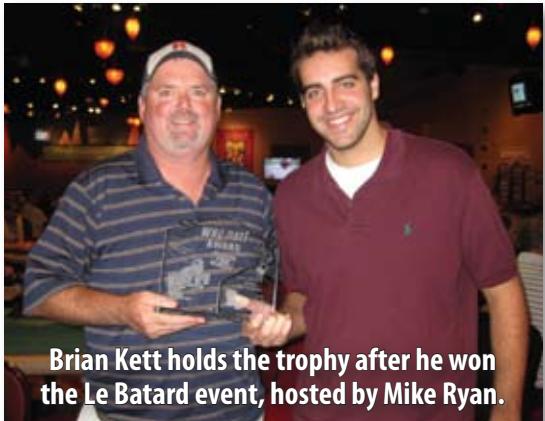
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## DANIA JAI-ALAI



**Brian Kett holds the trophy after he won the Le Batard event, hosted by Mike Ryan.**

Brian Kett of Hollywood won the Dan Le Batard 790 The Ticket Celebrity tournament on Feb. 24. The final two players decided to chop the remaining prize pool, giving each \$1,739 for their \$50 buy-in.

Kett was the chipleader and was awarded the trophy.

At Foxwoods' \$340 NLHE Mega-Stack Challenge, Maurice Hawkins of Tamarac defeated 723 players en route to a \$37,586 payday. He was the only Floridian to cash in the February event.



## MIAMI POKER SOCIETY



**Players settle in at Waxy's.**

There were a host of recent winners from the Miami Poker Society year-end tournaments, starting with Marc Manfredi, who won the Corbett's Sports Bar & Grill Season 1 Final Table event. After a 6.5-hour tournament he earned airfare and hotel accommodations in Las Vegas to play in a \$1,500 World Series of Poker no-limit hold'em bracelet event.

Some of the other prize winners (by random drawing) included Mike Napolis (second), Lou Stadler (third) Chris Ravinet (fourth) and Kynaston Perreira (fifth).

- Neil Blakemore won the Waxy O'Connor's Season 2 Final Table tournament and will be joining Manfredi in Vegas, winning airfare/hotel and entry into a \$1,500 WSOP NLHE event.

- Bernie Claro won the MPS' first WSOP satellite tournament and will be headed to Vegas to play in a \$1,000 WSOP NLHE event.

MPS will be holding more satellites this month.



IMAGE COURTESY OF OASIS OF THE SEAS

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# CHAD BROWN EVENT'S TV SCHEDULE RELEASED

The TV schedule for the inaugural Chad Brown No-Limit Texas Hold'em Championship has been announced.

The tournament, played at Orange Park Kennel Club near Jacksonville, in January, was filmed for TV by Fallah Productions Inc., creator of the Windy City Poker Championship. *Ante Up* publishers Scott Long and Chris Cosenza were hosts and commentators.

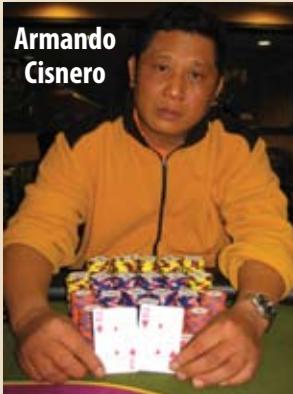
The show will debut on Bright House Sports Network in Florida at 10 p.m. on March 28, and later will be broadcast on Cox Cable in Louisiana and Comcast SportsNet in Illinois. The show also will be posted to various Web sites after the debut broadcast.



## Broadcast schedule

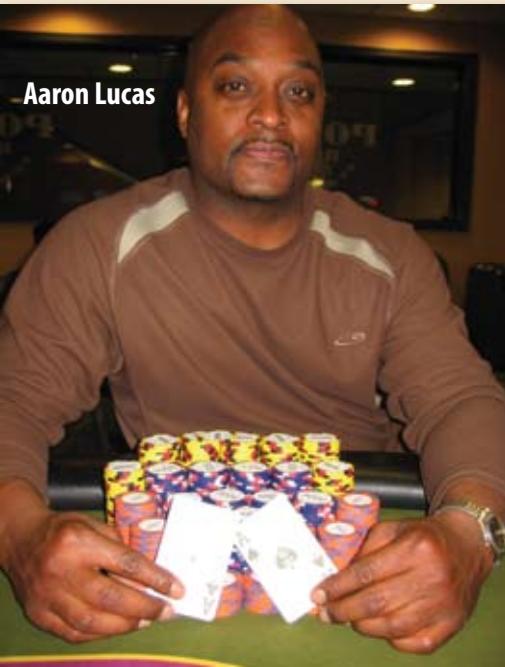
- March 28, 10 p.m.: Bright House Sports Network (Fla.)**
- March 29, midnight: Bright House Sports Network (Fla.)**
- April 4, 11 p.m., CT: Cox Cable (Louisiana)**
- May 9, 10 p.m.: Bright House Sports Network (Fla.)**
- May 10, midnight: Bright House Sports Network (Fla.)**
- May 16, 7 p.m.: Comcast SportsNet Chicago (two additional broadcasts on this network will be announced later)**
- May 16, 11 p.m., CT: Cox Cable (Louisiana)**

## ST. JOHNS GREYHOUND PARK



Top 5 winners of February's \$225 Mega Deep Stack, which drew 165 entries:

1. Aaron Lucas, \$10,895
2. Armando Cisnero, \$6,600
3. Greg Balotin, \$3,630
4. Tommy Palmer, \$2,310
5. Todd Davis, \$1,650



Wongsan Nga bested 140 players at the \$150 WSOP qualifier to claim his main event seat and \$2K for expenses.

1. Wongsan Nga, WSOP package
2. Bob Gasson, \$2,355
3. Robert Wing, \$1,300
4. Roy Vazquez, \$870
5. Rodney Ellison, \$560

## ORANGE PARK KENNEL CLUB

If Roy Vazquez ever writes a book on how to win a World Series of Poker satellite be sure to buy it.

Vazquez won a seat in a satellite at Orange Park in Jacksonville last year and turned it into a main-event cash worth \$40K. Well, he won another seat at Orange

Park on Feb. 21 in the \$150 WSOP qualifier, pocketing \$10K for the main event plus \$2,000 for other expenses.

He survived a field of more than 170 players to claim his second satellite win.



## PLEASURE ISLAND



Glenn Yost, left, faced nearly 70 players at Scully's on the Bayou in Ft. Walton Beach and emerged victorious, beating defending champ Loria Walters.

• Teena Fendley won the second "Save the TATA's" charity tournament (Jan. 16) to benefit Susan G. Komen's Run For The Cure.

Fendley, a former monthly champion, beat Frank "Gator" Crowder in heads-up action.



## TEXAS HOLD'EM POKER TOURS

Jennifer Williams of Niceville took down the monthly tournament in February, defeating 35 players at the Block in Ft. Walton Beach.





### April Tournament Schedule

#### Multi-Table No Limit Hold'em

Mondays 12:30PM & 7:30PM • \$85 + 15

Tuesdays & Thursdays 12:30PM & 7:30PM • \$100 + 20

Wednesdays 4/7 & 4/21 12:30PM • 4/14 & 4/28 7:30PM • \$85 + 15

Fridays 12:30PM • \$85 + 15

Saturdays 10AM • \$85 + 15

Sundays 4/11, 4/18 & 4/25 12:30PM • \$100 + 20

Texas Hold 'em, Florida-style.

#### Ladies Multi-Table No Limit Hold'em

Sunday 4/4 12:30PM • \$85 + 15

#### Deep Stack Multi-Table No Limit Hold'em

Wednesdays 7:30PM • \$200 + 40

Fridays 4/16 7:30PM • \$355 + 45 • 4/30 7:30PM • \$500 + 50

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# SPENDING THE DAY WITH T.J.

FEB. 20, 2010 • HOLLYWOOD CASINO • BAY ST. LOUIS, MISS.

When a six-time World Series of Poker champion comes to town and offers insights into how he's become the most successful tournament player in history, people take notice.

Such was the case at the Hollywood Casino Bay St. Louis poker room when it hosted a private workshop led by T.J. Cloutier in conjunction with DeepStacks Live.

More than 25 novice and professional poker players attended the workshop and enjoyed dinner while learning some of Cloutier's inside strategy secrets and tournament winning tactics.

"I had a great time learning how to play Texas Hold'em,"

said Linda Nichols, a poker player from Mandeville, La. "It was a blast. This has given me the confidence to play in tournaments. I can't hardly wait to play my very first Texas Hold'em tournament."

Cloutier provided the students with examples on cards that should not be played and, among other topics, ways to figure the odds of getting a winning hand among other game-winning secrets.

"We're very pleased to bring powerful poker players like Mr. Cloutier to help our players improve their game," Hollywood poker manager Darryl Hodgson said. "I would recommend T.J. for any such public event. He is very unassuming and very accomodating to the public. We hope to do more in the future."

Cloutier has won more than \$11 million in tournament play, is in the Poker Hall of Fame and has written several leading instructional books. He is one of the mega-superstars who work with DeepStacks Live out of Orlando, Fla., and Los Angeles.

"Today we had a one-day poker boot camp," DeepStacks Live founder Chris Torina said. "Between this boot camp and our two-day workshops we've helped nearly 10,000 poker students improve their game."

If you'd like DeepStacks to deliver one of its pros to your poker room call 727-331-4335.



Director of player development Joe Phelps, left, with player Chris Dose.



Poker room manager Darryl Hodgeson and DeepStacks founder Chris Torina flank poker legend T.J. Cloutier.



"I had a great time learning how to play Texas Hold'em," said Linda Nichols, a poker player from Mandeville, La.

# 2nd Anniversary Celebration

**Wednesday April 28th**

\$500 High Hand Of The Hour (2 PM -to- 11 PM)

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Mondays - 7 PM: \$75 Multi-Table 3,000 Starting Units

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# DELTA GOLD POKER CLASSIC

FEB. 25-MARCH 8, 2010 • GOLD STRIKE • TUNICA, MISS.

This series attracted nearly 1,550 entrants while generating a \$521,000 prize pool. The \$2,500 no-limit hold'em main event drew 67 players for a \$151K prize pool. [Dina Rylander](#) of Collierville, Tenn., won the top spot for \$54,352 and entry into Gold Strike's WPO main event in October. Rylander also won the fifth event of this series, a \$550 NLHE tournament, for \$17,258 and a seat into the Delta Gold main event.



## Event #1 • \$230 NLHE

**132 Entries • Prize Pool: \$25,608**

1. Dustin Rankin, Texarkana, AR, \$8,449
2. Paul Fehlig, St. Louis, \$4,662
3. Jon Sexton, Southaven, MS, \$2,562
4. Wistar Holt, St. Louis, \$2,049
5. Perry Brigman, Baldwyn, MS, \$1,536
6. James Angotti, Memphis, \$1,280
7. Steven Melton, Oklahoma City, \$1,024
8. Benjamin Grant, Myrtle, MS, \$768
9. Curtis Johnson, Savannah, TN, \$512
10. Randal Ferguson, \$359
11. Noel Marsh, \$359
12. Preston Darden, \$359
13. Paul Arnold, \$307
14. Roger Foley, \$307
15. David Henslee, \$307
16. Larry Riggs, \$256
17. Michael Schnieder, \$256
18. Ronald Layne, \$256



Ladies champ  
Deb Hardwick

## Event #2 • \$550 PLO w/rebuys

**9 Entries • Prize Pool: \$13,095**

1. Elmer Thomas, Birmingham, AL, \$6,545
2. James Wethington, Memphis, \$3,930
3. Galen Kester, Senatobia, MS, \$2,620

## Event #3 • \$340 NLHE

**131 Entries • Prize Pool: \$35,621**

1. Larry Rapp, Lithonia, GA, \$11,435
2. Hans Anderson, Austin, TX, \$6,483
3. Charles Hendron, R'veille, MS, \$3,562
4. Timothy Scully, Baldwin, MI, \$2,850
5. Mark Kehrees, Alexander, AR, \$2,137
6. Harmon Davis, Ocilla, GA, \$1,781
7. James Mashburn, Cordova, TN, \$1,425
8. Jeff Roberson, Rolla, MO, \$1,069
9. Richard Christian, Grenada, MS, \$712
10. Michael Prichard, \$534
11. Brandon Gladish, \$534
12. Steven Pionk, \$534
13. James Quick, \$463
14. Michael Skorich, \$463
15. Ky McPherson, \$463
16. John Binns, \$392
17. Michael Usakowski, \$392
18. John Andrus, \$392

## Event #4 • \$230 Ladies

**66 Entries • Prize Pool: \$12,804**

1. Deborah Hardwick, Oxford, MS, \$4,611
2. Judy Nargi, Maumelle, AR, \$2,433
3. Peg Ledman, Goodlettsville, TN, \$1,536
4. Tina Taylor, Mount Juliet, TN, \$1,024
5. Susan Davis, St. Charles, MO, \$896
6. Laura Walters, Huntsville, AL, \$768
7. Donna Henslee, Mount Juliet, TN, \$640
8. Carolyn Starnes, Hanceville, AL, \$512
9. Mary Dlugach, Cordova, TN, \$384

## Event #5 • \$550 NLHE

**104 Entries • Prize Pool: \$47,940**

1. Dina Rylander, Collierville, TN, \$17,258
2. Mark Cooney, Collierville, TN, \$9,109
3. Danny Nelson, Batesville, AR, \$5,753

## Event #10 • \$340 Omaha/8

**52 Entries • Prize Pool: \$15,132**

1. Randy Phelps, Benton, KY, \$5,447
2. Austin Harber, Robinsonville, MS, \$2,875
3. Larry Evans, Yellville, AR, \$1,816
4. Chad Bell, Evansville, IN, \$1,211
5. Alan Hardcastle, Springdale, AR, \$1,059
6. Leo Haky, Sykesville, PA, \$908
7. David Segal, Memphis, \$757
8. Tim Scully, Baldwin, MI, \$605
9. Matthew Stevens, Becksville, OH, \$454

## Event #11 • \$340 NLHE

**126 Entries • Prize Pool: \$24,444**

1. Mike Schneider, Covington, GA, \$8,069
2. Mary Rouse, Gilmer, TX, \$4,449
3. Jeff Seims, Gulfport, MS, \$2,444
4. Mike Gooden, Mount Vernon, IL, \$1,956
5. Ky MacPherson, Austin, TX, \$1,467
6. Clay Clayton, Hazen, AR, \$1,222
7. Chris Brauer, Milan, TN, \$978
8. Nelda Hopper, Anna, TX, \$733
9. Thomas Garland, Birmingham, AL, \$489
10. Roderick Moreland, \$342
11. Shane Mansker, \$342
12. Larry Whitworth, \$342
13. Michael Fink, \$293
14. Jerry Etheridge, \$293
15. John Gallenberg, \$293
16. Donald Claywell, \$244
17. Andrew Cameron, \$244
18. TJ Boytor, \$244

## Event #12 • \$340 NLHE

**102 Entries • Prize Pool: \$27,182**

1. Ky MacPherson, Austin, TX, \$9,784
2. Jonathan Abla, Athens, GA, \$5,166
3. Brian Niekerk, Kingston, TN, \$3,262
4. Joseph Owen, Shelbyville, IN, \$2,175
5. Steve Melton, Noble, OK, \$1,903
6. Glenn Hyde, Atlanta, \$1,631
7. Ray Hall, Huntsville, AL, \$1,359
8. Earl "Mitch" Merritt, Ponder, TX, \$1,087
9. Josiah Johnson, Nashville, \$815

## Event #13 • \$230 Stud/8

**25 Entries • Prize Pool: \$4,850**

1. Damjan Radanov, \$1,940
2. Matthew Stevens, \$1,455
3. Patricia Yannuzzi, \$970
4. Benjamin Grant, \$485

## Event #14 • \$340 NLHE

**133 Entries • Prize Pool: \$36,203**

1. Rolland Young, Cartersville, GA, \$11,622
2. David McCarty, Lagrange, GA, \$6,589
3. Terry Coleman, Muscle Shoals, AL, \$3,620
4. Joyce Westbrook, Rock Hill, SC, \$2,896
5. Perry McGinnis, Douglasville, GA, \$2,172
6. David Rylander, Collierville, TN, \$1,810
7. Jim "Sarge" Quick, Decatur, TN, \$1,448
8. Allen Hughes, Summerville, GA, \$1,086
9. Ray Blanchette, Sunset Beach, NC, \$724
10. Terry Shortland, \$543
11. Salah "Avner" Levy, \$543

12. Lance Paulson, \$543
13. Charles Bocksnick, \$471
14. Roger Hamlin, \$471
15. Jerry Etheridge, \$471
16. William Sanders, \$398
17. Brandon Navarro, \$398
18. Richard Bolden, \$398

## Event #15 • \$340 PLO/8

**30 Entries • Prize Pool: \$8,730**

1. Justin Selph, Erin, TN, \$3,927
2. Nathan Ford, Rossville, GA, \$2,183
3. James Wilson, Nashville, \$1,310
4. Bill Mann, West Monroe, LA, \$873
5. Rhonda Dowell, Batesville, AR, \$437

## Event #16 • \$230 NLHE

**195 Entries • Prize Pool: \$37,830**

1. Mark Cooney, Collierville, TN, \$12,483
2. Ricky Daniel, Franklin, TN, \$6,885
3. Kevin Cox, Greenville, SC, \$3,783
4. Geneva Robuck, Humble, TX, \$3,026
5. David Smith, Memphis, \$2,270
6. William Cox, Sparkman, AR, \$1,892
7. Jonathan Abla, Athens, GA, \$1,513
8. Brian Neikerk, Kingston, TN, \$1,135
9. Richard Bulden, Christiana, TN, \$757
10. Jarrett Croft, \$530
11. Terry Crosby, \$530
12. Marvin Durden, \$530
13. Carroll Clark, \$454
14. James Wilson, \$454
15. Jeter Brock, \$454
16. Eddie Crosthwaite, \$378
17. Adam Scott, \$378
18. Jennifer Tackett, \$378

## Main Event • \$2,500 NLHE

**67 Entries • Prize Pool: \$150,976**

1. Dina Rylander, Collierville, TN, \$54,352
2. Mitch Franks, Tupelo, MS, \$28,685
3. Terry Hawkins, Cordova, TN, \$18,117
4. Vince Musso, Birmingham, AL, \$12,078
5. Damjan Radanov, Memphis, \$10,568
6. Theanne Sergeant, Kalamazoo, MI, \$9,059
7. Gil George, Dallas, \$7,549
8. Geneva Robuck, Humble, TX, \$6,039
9. Doug Saab, Trussville, AL, \$4,529

## Event #21 • \$125 w/rebuys

**18 Entries • Prize Pool: \$2,619**

1. Daniel Jamerson, Bartlett, TN, \$1,178
2. Mike Clemenin, Jacksonville, FL, \$655
3. Richard Palter, Atlanta, \$393
4. Stella Davila, Richmond, TX, \$262
5. Billy Mann, West Monroe, LA, \$131

## Event #22 \$125 NLHE

**32 Entries • Prize Pool: \$3,104**

1. David Davis, Decatur, AL, \$1,397
2. William Cox, Sparkman, AK, \$776
3. Norris Ross, Eads, TN, \$466
4. Ian Twiford, Nashville, \$310
5. Richard Locke, Augusta, GA, \$155



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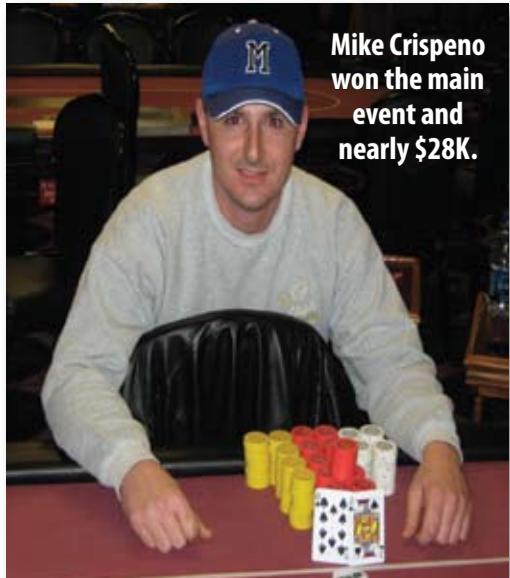
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## MOUNTAINEER RIVER



Frank Dellaria



Jim Orban



Matt Stevens



Dave Stephenson

Event	Date	Buy-in	Entries	Winner	First prize
1. NLHE	Feb. 15	\$60	65	Frank Dellaria	\$1,135
2. NLHE	Feb. 16	\$60	55	Jim Orban	\$960
3. O/8	Feb. 16	\$120	28	Joseph Z.	\$1,400
4. NLHE	Feb. 17	\$120	51	Dale L.	\$1,785
5. NLHE	Feb. 17	\$145	83	Matthew Stevens	\$3,631
6. NLHE	Feb. 18	\$540	60	Dave Stephenson	\$9,900
7. Main Event	Feb. 20	\$1,080	84	Mike Crispino Jr.	\$27,720
8. NLHE	Feb. 21	\$275	50	Miles L.	\$4,375

## CRISPENO WINS MOUNTAINEER'S WINTER POKER OPEN

Casino poker is still relatively new to most of the folks in the West Virginia area, but that didn't stop 476 players from playing for a prize pool of more than \$150K in the second annual Winter Poker Open at the Mountaineer River Poker Room.

The series, which ran from Feb. 15-21, featured mostly no-limit hold'em events, including the \$1K main event that Mike Crispino

won, picking up \$27,720. Right behind Crispino was Dan Lyle (\$16,800) and Ohio's Kent Walter (\$11,760).

You may remember Walter from last month after he beat Darvin Moon heads-up in the Moon Challenge to win \$2K.

Other winners in the series included Frank Dellaria, Jim Orban, Matt Stevens and Dave Stephenson.

# \$10,000 GUARANTEE

## NO LIMIT TEXAS HOLD'EM TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY  
APRIL 10, 2010  
\$150 | 1:30PM





**WSOP SATELLITE**  
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## AROUND THE SOUTH

### KENTUCKY



Kentucky Blue Poker Crew, a Central Kentucky free poker league, recently held its 2009 championship in which 12 monthly winners competed for a \$10,000 WSOP Main Event seat. These winners also won a four-day, three-night trip to Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., which was where they held the final table Feb. 27.

After a tightly contested tournament KBPC crowned Dan Gumm as the league's Season 2 champion. He won a \$10,000 seat, but instead chose the cash option. Visit [www.kentuckybluepokercrew.com](http://www.kentuckybluepokercrew.com).

**CHARITY EVENTS:** There are three NLHE charity tournaments in Kentucky on April 10, hopefully one near you.

- The Knights of Columbus in Vine Grove begins its \$40, 3K-chip event at 5 p.m. Call Kevin at 502-345-3934 for details.
- The \$65 event at the Shelby County Fairgrounds begins at 6:30.
- American Legion Post 7 in Frankfort hosts a \$50 event at 7.
- For more information go to [www.derbycitypoker.com](http://www.derbycitypoker.com).

### LOUISIANA

#### Isle's state championship is April 19-25

The Isle of Capri Casino in Lake Charles will host the first Louisiana State Poker Championship on April 19-25. The series is highlighted by two bracelet events: the \$335 pot-limit Omaha championship (April 22) and the \$1,060 no-limit hold'em main event (April 24-25).

The series will have six events overall and each will have a \$10 optional dealer add-on. Registration for all events begins 90 minutes before start time and alternates will be allowed through the third round.

**EVENT 1, APRIL 19:** The \$120 mega-satellite into the LSPC main event starts at 6 p.m. and is capped at 150 players (1 in 10 win a seat).

**EVENT 2, APRIL 20:** This \$120 NLHE event has a \$5K guarantee, will be capped at 150 players and starts at 6 p.m.

**EVENT 3, APRIL 21:** A \$225 NLHE tournament with a \$10K guarantee, it's capped at 150 players and begins at 6 p.m.

**EVENT 4, APRIL 22:** This \$335 pot-limit Omaha championship is a bracelet event that begins at 6 p.m. and will be capped at 150 players.

**EVENT 5, APRIL 23:** There's a \$15K guarantee attached to this \$335 NLHE event. It begins at noon and will be capped at 150 players.

**EVENT 6, APRIL 24-25:** The main event costs \$1,060 and will be awarding a bracelet to its winner. This field is capped at 130 players and the event begins at noon. For more information please see the ad on Page 33 or call 337-430-2407.



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### April Events:

#### APRIL 10TH - WSOP<sup>SM</sup>

Satellite Event - 1 pm at St. Johns Greyhound Park  
-\$150 buy-in

**APRIL 18TH - WSOP<sup>SM</sup>** Satellite event - 1 pm  
Orange Park kennel Club - \$150 buy-in

**APRIL 23RD - APRIL 25TH - Three Day Mega**

Stack Main Event - St. Johns Greyhound Park - \$225 buy-in

**DAILY** - Mini Jaxpot - \$1,000



### May Events:

**MAY 2ND - WSOP<sup>SM</sup>** 1 p.m. St. Johns Greyhound Park - \$150 buy-in

**MAY 16TH - WSOP<sup>SM</sup>** Satellite event - 1 p.m. Orange Park Kennel Club - \$150 buy-in

**DAILY** - Mini Jaxpot - \$1,000

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## AROUND THE SOUTH

### SOUTH CAROLINA

#### Gambling ship to sail again from Little River port



Myrtle Beach will soon get a casino ship to replace the SunCruz ship that sailed at the port until recently folding under financial problems.

According to numerous reports, Robert Weisberg, a former owner of the SunCruz ship, has formed a new company that's negotiating with the Little River port to return a ship to the area. The ship is being repaired in Florida, but the new company will begin hiring soon. No word on whether the ship will include a poker room, but Weisberg indicated it would offer the same games SunCruz formerly offered.

### ALABAMA

All-In Alabama director Steve Ramsey, left, congratulates Steve Bass, who earned the Player of the Month award for the second straight month.

Bass, of Lincoln, had three podium finishes, including one win and two seconds.

Runner-up was Doug Griffin, of New London. Kyle Jack of Cropwell was third.

Ramsey of Eden caught a royal flush on the river in recent play to collect the league's special award.



### NEXT MONTH IN ANTE UP



The World Series of Poker circuit stopped at Caesars Atlantic City, and right off the bat The South claimed the first title of the series as Yat "Tony" Cheng from Atlanta won the \$340 NLHE event. He beat 681 players to collect \$55,569.

Pick up May's issue of *Ante Up* for complete coverage from Atlantic City.

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# West Virginia's Washington snags WPT Celebrity Invitational


**EVENT 1 • \$335 NLHE • ENTRIES: 5847**

56. Martin Matranca, Coral Gables, FL \$2,630
  - 105.** Alexander Garcia, Miami, FL \$1,000
  225. Joshua Birenbaum, Falls Church, VA \$800
  277. Joel Deutsch, Lauderdale, FL \$800
  364. Ryan Baroff, Ft. Lauderdale, FL \$800
  485. Alcides Gomez, Miami \$600
  501. David Woo, Atlanta \$600
- EVENT 3 • \$545 NLHE • ENTRIES: 263**
14. Dallas Jenkins, West Chester, LA \$1,450
- EVENT 5 • \$335 NLHE • ENTRIES: 250**
4. Ryan Baroff, Weston, FL \$5,920
  15. Alcides Gomez, Miami, FL, \$800

**EVENT 6 • \$335 OMAHA/8 • ENTRIES: 320**

26. Chester Foster, Homewood, FL \$780
  33. Dale Phillips, Miami, FL \$690
- EVENT 14 • \$335 NLHE • ENTRIES: 440**
13. David Tuthill, St. Petersburg, FL \$1,200
- EVENT 17 • \$345 HEADS-UP • ENTRIES: 256**
9. Derek Ecenarro, Miami, FL \$1,360
  23. Darryll Fish, Cape Coral, FL \$900
- EVENT 18 • \$220 NLHE • ENTRIES: 2,134**
8. Henry Goble, Miami, FL \$6,600
  62. Phong Huynh, Duluth, GA \$600
- EVENT 19 • \$335 NLHE • ENTRIES: 286**
137. Michael Lohmann, Ft. Lauderdale, FL \$500
  9. Henry Rondon, Miami, FL \$1,480

Just when it looked like southern players wouldn't make a splash at the L.A. Poker Classic series, along comes LeRon "Dream187" Washington from West Virginia.

Washington, a 34-year-old boxer and amateur poker player, won the eighth annual WPT Celebrity Invitational on March 3 at the Commerce Casino, earning \$75K and a seat in the \$25K WPT World Championship in April.

"It's a dream come true; I've been waiting for this day a long time," said Washington, who is the first ClubWPT.com qualifier to win a WPT event. "I've been trying to get out there to show what I can do, but you have to earn it."

The Commerce Casino donated the \$200K prize pool as 567 players showed up for their chance at the money. No other player from The South won an event during the LAPC.

Below are our cashiers, and if you don't see an event listed it means no one from The South cashed:

**EVENT 20 • \$545 NLHE • ENTRIES: 269**

27. Jesse Herron, Alpharetta, GA \$1,230
- EVENT 24 • \$1,065 NLHE • ENTRIES: 211**
7. Darryll Fish, Cape Coral, FL \$6,960
- EVENT 26 • \$545 NLHE • ENTRIES: 267**
17. Gary Long, Naples, FL \$1,350
- EVENT 32 • \$1,585 NLHE • ENTRIES: 154**
7. Michael DeGilio, Port St. Lucie, FL \$8,740
- EVENT 35 • \$1,065 8-GAME • ENTRIES: 106**
3. John Myung, Vienna, VA \$12,720
  12. Jason Mercier, Davie, FL \$2,240
- EVENT 36 • \$1,065 H.O.R.S.E. • ENTRIES 94**
5. Matthew Waxman, Parkland, FL \$6,500

**EVENT 46 • \$1,065 NLHE • ENTRIES: 260**

2. Vitor Coelho, Tampa, FL \$40,100
- EVENT 48 • \$545 NLHE • ENTRIES: 240**
6. Larry Lane Gurney Jr, Kingston, TN \$5,350
  15. Phong Huynh, Lilburn, GA \$1,200
  20. Adam Roy, Aventura, FL \$1,200
- EVENT 50 • \$10K MAIN EVENT • ENTRIES: 745**
13. Mark Newhouse Chapel Hill, NC \$60,080
  27. Steve Karp N. Miami Beach, FL \$45,770
  60. Hoyt Corkins Glenwood, AL \$23,600
- EVENT 51 • \$25,100 HIGH ROLLER • ENTRIES: 41**
3. Jason Mercier, Davie, FL \$141,780

## Griffin captures NAPT High Roller

Ashton Griffin of Lake Worth, Fla., is a 21-year-old online poker prodigy who won a \$560,000 payday in the \$25K NAPT Venetian High Roller Bounty Shootout on Feb. 26.

Alabama's Hoyt Corkins won the second most money at \$100,000.

Dan Clemente of Hernando, Miss., fell just short of winning the NAPT main event by coming in third (\$309,366).

We had two winners in the Venetian DeepStack events as Tim Burt of Grenada, Miss., took down Event 12 (\$550 NLHE) for \$15,438, and Salman Juddi of Pembroke Pines, Fla., won Event 16 (\$340 NLHE) for \$27,031. Here are the rest of our cashiers:

**EVENT 1 • \$340 NLHE • ENTRIES: 422**

18. Mike Shannon, Satellite Beach, FL \$1,173
33. William Lathrop, Atlanta \$745

**EVENT 2 • \$340 NLHE • ENTRIES: 352**

5. Jose Trapote, Plantation, FL \$5,197
10. James Meadows, Hendersonville, TN \$1,936
13. Deven Hanneman, Arlington, VA \$1,457
31. Mike Sbrocco, Longwood, FL \$713

**EVENT 3 • \$340 NLHE • ENTRIES: 249**

17. Scott Schultz, Boca Raton, FL \$901

**EVENT 4 • \$550 NLHE • ENTRIES: 134**

- Kay Jones, The Villages, FL \$1,293

**EVENT 8 • \$1,080 NLHE • ENTRIES: 119**

8. Greg Monoldi, Davie, FL \$4,019

**EVENT 10 • \$550 NLHE • ENTRIES: 227**

16. James Lloyd, Melbourne, FL \$1,369
24. Andrew Davis, Guyton, GA \$1,205
27. Josh Plummer, Salisbury, NC \$1,205

**EVENT 11 • \$550 NLHE • ENTRIES: 185**

11. Bart Tichelman, Duluth, GA \$2,142

**EVENT 12 • \$550 NLHE • ENTRIES: 100**

1. Tim Burt, Grenada, MS \$15,438

**EVENT 13 • \$340 NLHE • ENTRIES: 335**

2. Jason Becher, Gainesville, FL \$14,121



## Barbour, Morgan win WSOPC rings in Iowa

Florida's Natasha Barbour and Tim Morgan have new jewelry to wear these days.

On Feb. 23, Barbour, an ex-University of South Florida student, captured Event 10 (\$300 NLHE) for \$12,444 and the coveted WSOP circuit ring at Harrah's Council Bluffs in Iowa.

"I actually had a good feeling about this tournament," said the 23-year-old from Tampa by way of Lebanon. "There were a lot of soft players. Iowa is a lot different from other places. I could raise someone's big blind 15 times in a row and they wouldn't fight back."

She joins a very short list of female players to win an open-field WSOPC event.

Morgan has had a lot of cashes (19 in 2009, with nine final tables) but no wins. He got heads-up in the 18th event (\$500 NLHE) and chopped (\$18,330) to bring home his first title. "I did it for my wife Lisa," said Morgan, 57, of Pompano Beach. "She's put up with my shenanigans for a long time."

The only other significant cash from a southern player came in Event 12 (\$345 NLHE) as Ralph Shannon of Atlanta finished fifth (\$2,392).





## SATELLITES CAN BE A GOLD MINE

I recently competed in four of Full Tilt Poker's FTOPS events. Normally, four of these events would put a bit of a dent in my bankroll. I was fortunate to satellite into all of them for a fraction of their buy-ins. Satellites provide every player, no matter what level, a chance to play with the big boys. And if they're fortunate they might win a life-changing sum of money.

Did you know a number of online players enter satellites as a way of making money, just as one would in a cash game or sit-n-go? A very small group of players actually play satellites with no intention of playing the "real" tournament because the satellites can be very profitable. I noticed some pros trying for a seat in the same event multiple times. You can win a satellite seat and then unregister from the event. The site will credit your account with Tournament Dollars. I'll discuss the methods of selling these dollars to other players or back to the site in a future column. Most players use these converted satellite winnings for entries into other events or SNGs. I'm not going to discuss satellite strategy (that's for our *Ante Up* pros), but instead I'll let you in on one of the best-kept secrets in poker: Satellites are soft!

There probably isn't a better straightforward form of online poker

available. You'll see a ton of errors. People don't play to survive till the end, and they believe they must double up early to ensure success. You also won't get a lot of the regulars because they have money and don't want to waste their time. You'll get inexperienced players who want to take a shot at a big event.

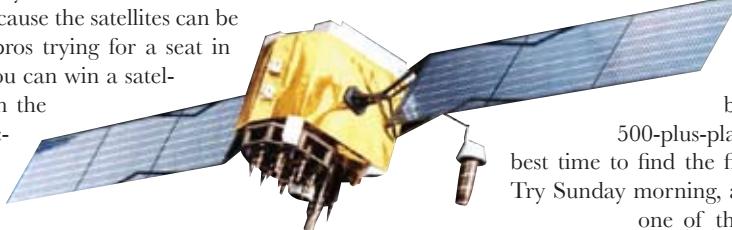
The larger WSOP, WCOOP and SCOOP satellites (for the PokerStars SCOOP schedule see the ad on Pages 2-3) will have a sizeable portion of the field that have started small with microstakes feeder tournaments.

These events are commonly called Step Events. Most of these are SNGs, and these players may be unprepared for playing in a

500-plus-player tournament satellite.

The best time to find the fish in a satellite is the weekend. Try Sunday morning, as most are taking a shot toward one of the many large "Sunday majors" that PokerStars is famous for, such as the Sunday Million.

There are many options and different satellites to suit players better. Spend your satellite money carefully to give yourself the greatest chance of success. Make sure you're familiar with the terms and conditions of the online site if you're playing. Pay close attention to the structure, prize distribution and how your chip stack affects strategy.



**Think of a satellite as a way to connect with a larger event or place, just like one from NASA would.**

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Wed	7 PM: \$65 NL Hold'em Multi Table
Thu	Noon: \$65 No Limit Hold'em MTT
Thu	7 PM: \$50 No Limit Hold'em MTT
Fri	7 PM: \$65 No Limit Hold'em MTT
Sat	Noon: \$225 Deep Stack MTT*

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## ONLINE REPORT



### Blue Shark Optics signs with online rooms

Blue Shark Optics, a Florida company that makes the Official Poker Optics of *Ante Up Magazine*, has announced its optics will soon be available in the player rewards stores of most major online poker rooms. Players at PokerStars, Cake Poker, UB, Absolute Poker and Doyle's Room will be able to exchange their player points for the optics.

Blue Shark Optics offers specialized eyewear that's created for poker. Their proprietary Crystalon-3™ lenses completely hide the eyes while allowing maximum light penetration.

Unique lens properties make the Blue Shark Optics poker eyewear a perfect solution for the player who prefers to wear eyewear at the table, as well as for the online player. The Crystalon-3™ lenses prevent what is commonly known as "Computer Eye Fatigue" as they filter the harmful rays emanating from the computer screen. It is the latter application that made the Blue Shark Optics product a natural fit for PokerStars.

Go to [www.bluesharkoptics.com](http://www.bluesharkoptics.com) for more details and for purchases use code AnteUp2010.

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**April 21:** \$10,000 Guaranteed No Limit Hold'em

**April 22:** Pot Limit Omaha Championship (LSPC bracelet event)

**April 23:** \$15,000 Guaranteed No Limit Hold'em

**April 24 and 25:** Louisiana State Poker Championship (LSPC bracelet event)

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### AIPS V

Buy-ins for events are \$5.50



APRIL 7, 9 p.m.: Badugi	AUG. 28, Noon: NLHE
APRIL 24, Noon: NLHE 6-Max	SEPT. 8, 9 p.m.: NLHE
MAY 12, 9 p.m.: NLHE	SEPT. 25, Noon: PLO/8
MAY 29, Noon: Razz	OCT. 13, 9 p.m.: PL 5-Card Draw
JUNE 9, 9 p.m.: Limit Hold'em	OCT. 30, Noon: NLHE
JUNE 26, Noon: NLHE	NOV. 10, 9 p.m.: NLHE
JULY 14, 9 p.m.: Rebuy NLHE	NOV. 27, Noon: HORSE
JULY 31, Noon: 2-7 Triple Draw	DEC. 8, 9 p.m.: HOSE
AUG. 11, 9 p.m.: Stud/8	DEC. 18, Noon: NL Heads-Up

#### What is AIPS?

The Ante Up Intercontinental Poker Series (a.k.a. AIPS) is our PokerCast's fan tournament series on PokerStars.com. Square off against the Ante Up Nation, including *Ante Up* publishers — Scott "OffDeadline" Long and Chris "aun2112" Cosenza. Don't have a PokerStars account? No problem. Go to [anteupmagazine.com](http://anteupmagazine.com) and click on our online poker rooms link. Use marketing code ANTEUPMAG and signup code STARS600 to get a 100 percent deposit bonus up to \$600!

#### POKERCAST SOUND BYTE OF THE MONTH

"In this world that we've lived in, the registration of tournaments has gone down over the last couple of years. I don't necessarily think it's the waning interest in poker. I think it's a couple of reasons: 1) The recession. Everyone feels it. ... And then 2) the world of online poker became very murky on whether you can qualify or whether you can't. ... Put all that together and I think that's why the registrations have gone down. Well, the NAPT is something where you can now qualify online. So because of that the registrations are going through the roof. ... And I think that's a good thing for poker."

— **Poker pro Bernard Lee on the North American Poker Tour**



If you'd like to read more from Bernard Lee turn to Page 62, or you can hear the entire interview at [anteupmagazine.com](http://anteupmagazine.com)



Hoyt "Cowboy" Corkins



Jonathan "Jcardshark" Little



Young "Phantastic" Phan



John "The Razor" Phan



Kathy "PokerKat" Liebert

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**(SEE AD ON THE BACK PAGE)**

# COVER STORY



# SWEET VICTORY

Paul Wasicka gets the monkey off his back with a main-event win in the World Series of Poker circuit stop at Harrah's Tunica.

BY CHRISTOPHER COSENZA

**W**hen someone has nearly \$8 million in tournament poker winnings you have to assume they have at least one multitable tournament victory, right? Not Paul Wasicka.

For all of his celebrity and success at the poker tables, the 29-year-old pro hadn't won an open-field event in his somewhat short career. He finished

second at the World Series of Poker Main Event in 2006, amassing most of his career earnings in one fell swoop, and he made a WPT final table shortly thereafter. But what about his 2007 NBC National Heads-Up Championship victory at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas?

"Yeah, I won the NBC heads-up bracket, but that's different," Wasicka said. "That's winning seven matches, 64 players. My friends and I weren't considering that a legitimate win. I really wanted to go out there and see what I could do."

And by "out there" he meant Tunica, Miss., for the WSOP circuit stop at Harrah's Casino. The \$5K main event attracted 96 players and Wasicka relished the opportunity to win a prestigious title in a smallish field.

"Honestly, usually I'm attracted to just the big prize pools with tons of cash, but I really think that getting all the chips in the tournament that one time, that was really awesome for getting the monkey off my back," said Wasicka, who made the final table in the largest WSOP and WPT fields in history. "I did get lucky early in (Tunica) to get some chips, but after then it was smooth sailing. To get that win meant so much to me. In the grand scheme of things it was

a small cash win (\$140K), but for my own motivation and dedication to the game it was just awesome to have that win come so soon after dedicating myself back to poker. For me it's the start of something special for what I want to accomplish in the poker world, so I really feel it's just the beginning."

Wasicka's "luck" in Tunica came in the form of three hands vs. fellow pro Jason Potter from Tulsa.

"There were a few hands in a short period of time where I was pretty low on chips," said Wasicka, who splits time between his pad in Vegas and home in Boulder, Colo. "Jason Potter limped and I completed the small blind with 9♥-6♥. I flopped a flush draw and check-raised all-in against Jason, who flopped top pair with J-10. I got there with the naked heart draw. I was a 2-1 dog. Shortly after that I was blinded down to an M of about seven. ... It folded to me in the hijack and I shoved with K-Q suited. And Jason again woke up with a big hand with aces in the big blind. I ended up turning a gutshot and won that pot, which crippled him. And then it ended up, a round later, folding around to him and he went all-in on the button for a tiny amount and I called in the big blind with K-J. He had ace-rag, so he had the best hand, and I knocked him out. So three hands, bam, bam, bam!"

When I see him I'm like 'I'm sorry man. That sucks. But at least I didn't throw your chips away.' Whenever someone eliminates me from a tournament I always like it when they go on to win the tournament 'cause then I'm like 'At least my chips didn't go to someone who pissed them away.'"

In such a short period of time Wasicka went from "nearly gone"



## PULLED FROM THE MUCK

In every interview there are questions that elicit terrific answers, but sometimes these nuggets just don't make it into the story. Here's the best of the rest of Chris Cosenza's interview with Paul Wasicka.

### **How did you get the online nickname Kwickfish?**

My online screen name used to be "kwicky" and that was back in my video game days. I just really felt like I was a very quick player. ... Then in poker this guy I used to play with, whenever I used to beat him with a bad starting hand ... he started calling me the kwick fish, so I took it on sarcastically because I wanted people to think I was bad.

**You once talked about poker helping satisfy your gambling fix. Do you still consider yourself a gambler?** I would say you can gamble in poker, but that's just depending on how much volatility you want. But, yeah, poker does scratch an itch. A lot of poker players are "degens" at heart and sometimes it can hurt them if they

go play a negative-EV game. Poker is still a negative-sum game, but if you put enough time and energy into it then you can become good. ... I recognize when I play (games other than poker) I have to expect, obviously, to lose, so I still play for entertainment. Like just last night I was out playing some craps, but I'm not going to go out and put \$60K on the table. When I play I'm betting \$10. I'm still doing full odds when I play so I'm probably like up or down \$1,000 or \$2,000 when I play, you know, not that huge. But I try to limit it for sure.

**You had tilting issues when your career was just starting, yet you had the discipline to stay with a job managing a restaurant for your brother-in-law because you promised to stick with the job for a year. Are you a walking oxymoron?** (laughs) He and I are not only brother-in-laws but we're good friends. The main thing that I really wanted to do was stick with my word. He knows my

personality. He knows I have a very tough time sticking with something, saying something and sticking with it for that period of time that I said I would do it. It wasn't easy for sure. Toward the end of that year, I gave him a year, and nine months in I'm having a lot of success playing poker. But I just thought it was really important for me as a person to stick with, for one time, to stick with what I said I was going to do. ... I think it might have helped my career because that was my problem before, I tried to turn professional too soon. ....

Sticking that out kinda stalled me needing to use my poker money to pay living expenses, because I still had that paycheck coming in. It allowed my poker bankroll to grow. ... I really do believe in maintaining a positive attitude. Good things come if you maintain your optimism and good attitude and keep positive energy all around you.

to flourishing with chips and confidence. ... and that's sort of the way his entire career has gone. A critical eye cast upon his statistics would see a very streaky player.

"I think it's coincidental, but it's also correlated at the same time," he said. "I think any gambling, any type of game like this, the stock market, is going to be up and down, up and down. It's just a matter of 'Can you go on a run? Can your stock boom, or can your stock bust?' Yeah, it can. And whenever you're taking bad beats you start playing worse and it's kinda like a downward spiral. You start questioning yourself. ... If you're a good enough player you can turn it around. But just about every poker player goes bust at some point. Even though they might be a winning player, they might not handle the downswings well, or they might not have good bankroll management. It's very hard to have a continuous upswing."

"Conversely, the luck goes the other way, too. When you're sucking out on people, hitting your cards and having your hands hold and you're playing with confidence, and everything seems to be going well, then you're going to be going deep time after time again. So that's just where I'm at right now. I really like where my mind's at when I play. I'm running well at the table, so it's just a really exciting time because I know that this is just the beginning of not only a short-term incline on the little stock-market graph, but I just feel like this is a huge step in my career."

### **A little help**

Poker is an individual sport, but that doesn't mean Wasicka got to this point on his own. About eight months ago while teaching at the World Series of Poker Academy he met Sam Chauhan, a life coach. ... though Wasicka considers him more than that.

"I was immediately drawn in by what I thought he could help me accomplish," Wasicka said. "I can't speak enough of how hard he works and what a great job he does as far as getting me ready to play my best. But it's more than just helping my career out; it's helping me be the person I want to be. He's kinda like an accountability partner, motivational speaker, mentor, shrink, friend. It's a lot of stuff. We've become good friends aside from our business relationship. He's really good at what he does."

Throughout his life Wasicka admits he's been uber-competitive, a trait that's allowed him to succeed in just about everything he's attempted (he once turned \$100 into \$15K at the blackjack tables).

"Here's the deal with my personality," he said, almost apologeti-

cally. "I've always been this way. I like to reach a certain level and then move on to something else and conquer a new mountain. This most recent time was getting into sports betting. I really wanted to beat the NFL spreads. But I gave up the NFL spreads to rededicate myself to poker in 2010. But that's just another example where I didn't stick with something fully and then just moved on to something else. Golf was the same thing. I thought I wanted to become a professional golfer. I always get these delusions of grandeur, like, 'I think I can do THIS!' ya know? I really think I could if I gave my 110 percent, and that was the only thing I did and I took it up focused on nothing but that. But, that's kinda starting over again, and I really think I have a good thing going with poker. I'm not gonna say (becoming a pro golfer) won't happen at some point in my life, but as of right now that's not even on the burner, it's not even on the back burner, it's like way off the table."

But it's this drive that makes defeat so much harder to come back from, and that's where Chauhan helps. Wasicka mentioned rededicating himself to poker. He wouldn't call his recent drought a fall, but rather an "extended time away from playing the game seriously."

"I wasn't playing bad or anything," he said, "but if you're going to succeed you need to take your game to the next level to rise to your full potential, and that's what (Sam's) helped me do. It's really tough to get there on your own. You (need) someone pushing you day-in and day-out ... but a lot of poker players are lazy and not rising to their full potential."

During this positive-reinforcement period Wasicka decided not to renew his contract with Full Tilt Poker, where he was a Red Pro.

"I was with Full Tilt for a while," he said. "I have no complaints with Full Tilt. I think they treated me awesome and there's no bad blood there whatsoever. ... I decided I didn't want to renew my contract because I really felt like I was going to come back and do something special in the poker world. This was around the time I started taking on Sam and I really felt he was going to help me play to my full potential and so I really felt like I was going to cheat myself out of what I was worth if I stuck with that contract."

Enter Victory Poker, a startup online site that's U.S. friendly and part of the Everleaf Network. Less than a month after leaving Tilt, Chauhan, who also works with Victory pro Antonio Esfandiari, started to press Wasicka to strive for something more.

"Sam was saying 'You need to get a deal, get some results and you need to start taking this seriously,'" Wasicka said. "So he mentioned to

**Paul Wasicka says winning this ring was a huge relief.**

### \$5,150 WSOP Circuit Main Event

Entries: 96 • Prize Pool: \$449,750

1. Paul Wasicka, Las Vegas	\$139,422
2. Larry Gurney, Kingston, TN	\$94,448
3. Richard Robb, Seneca, SC	\$62,965
4. Shane Zell, Memphis	\$44,975
5. Carter Phillips, Charlotte, NC	\$35,980
6. Dwyte Pilgrim, Brooklyn, NY	\$26,985
7. Matthew Stout, Galloway, NJ	\$17,990
8. Jason Thornhill, Spring, TX	\$14,616
9. Jerry Saucier, Helena, AL	\$12,368



Antonio that I wasn't with Full Tilt anymore and less than five minutes later I got a call from Antonio. I immediately clicked with (the Victory players) and I'm really excited about it. Our plans aren't to take over Full Tilt or PokerStars; we just want to hop on the scene and be another site for people to go play at if they want."

#### From one mentor to another

All of Wasicka's good fortune would never have been possible if it weren't for Thomas Fuller, a close friend who introduced Wasicka to poker in 2004 at the Denver Series of Poker, a \$30-ish tournament in an art gallery downtown.

"The day of the DSOP I was playing Frisbee golf with Paul and some others," said Fuller, who recently finished second at the main event of the North American Poker Tour's Venetian stop in Vegas. "When he heard I was going to a poker tournament that night, he asked if he could join. I versed him on the hold'em basics on the way down to Denver, and he wound up getting 10th place. Afterward Paul came over to my house, struck up an account on PartyPoker and started playing while I went to bed."

"Seven in the morning my dad woke me up to ask who the guy on the computer downstairs was. Paul had played sit-n-go tournaments all night on PartyPoker, and he had destroyed them. Poker had set its hooks into Paul's addictive personality and wouldn't be letting go any time soon."

Fuller and Wasicka never have been tighter, hiking in the mountains, playing softball and talking poker. But he admits seeing his best friend do so well wasn't always easy.

"Truthfully, it was very hard for me when Paul was having a lot of success on the tournament circuit," Fuller said, "I was very jealous. I kind of slowly dealt with that, though, and now a few of my friends are amongst the best. I wouldn't really say it's rewarding. It's nice because starting out Paul had some downs like every poker player will early in their career and I was worried his family was going to think I ruined his life. But his family has been extremely supportive of both of us. It's great."

Would Wasicka care to speculate what his life would be like without Fuller's influence?

"I have no idea, but I could tell you I would not be sitting here right now. Honestly I don't know, maybe I'd have gone back to school. I don't know. School was really, really tough for me. Nobody likes school, that's obvious, but it was really tough. I have problems sticking with things. So I would go to class and do my homework at the beginning of the semester and I'd be getting good grades. But then halfway through I'd just lose interest and stop going to class and just show up for the finals. Inevitably that's not going to cut it. But I honestly don't know where I'd be. I do think everything that happens in your life happens for a reason and builds who you are and makes you a stronger person. There's been moments in my career where he's really, really helped me out and moments in his career where I've really, really helped him out. It's just been an awesome relationship, not only for our careers but as friends."

Given Wasicka's penchant for conquering his interests and then moving on, is there a chance he'll leave poker if he, say, wins the 2010 WSOP Main Event?

"Well, I can't answer that question with 100 percent certainty either way. I can tell you that most likely I would continue playing poker because it's bigger than that for me right now. For me it's more than just winning a tournament or the most money. I know what I want to accomplish with my life right now. I'm playing to support people, family, causes I believe in, and poker is the best way for me to gather wealth at this moment in my life."

"Yes, if I win (the main event) I would be able to do a lot of that with all that money. I don't know if I would necessarily give that up; I love poker too much. I think I would at least play some main events. ... I know a lot of times I say stuff or I do stuff that's really impulsive, and that's just me. But I don't know if I'll be in poker in five years, but I think I (will be). I mean I love the game. It's unbelievable. If you know me, and my personality, it just fits so perfectly with me."

And if nothing else, he'll always have Tunica.



# WSOP CIRCUIT EVENT

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**EVENT 1:** Michael Crump, a 47-year old insurance broker from Morrison, Ill., earned his first WSOP circuit ring by virtue of his first cash in a major tournament (\$20,185). At the final table was four-time circuit champ, Mark "Pegasus" Smith, who had his sights set on a record fifth ring. But the Georgetown, Ky., man finished fifth.



**EVENT 2:** Jonathan Elliott, a 35-year-old chemical operator from Tennessee, captured the \$340 no-limit hold'em tournament. The event attracted 293 players, but the first-place prize of \$19,401 and the gold ring went to Elliott, who was the chipleader coming into the final table and maintained his lead for much of the evening.



**EVENT 3:** After just a few hands of heads-up play Shawn Brown (of the St. Louis area) flopped two pair and edged Doyne Finney, who had top pair. Brown won \$32,397 and Finney got \$19,703 for second. "They thought I was the worst player, but after a while they figured out that that wasn't the case," Brown said of his opponents.



**EVENT 4:** David Johnson, a 17-year member of the U.S. armed forces and veteran of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, defeated an 800-player field for \$47K. He was down to about two blinds at one point at final table. "I started playing online and a little bit on the base," he said. "This is unbelievable; it was a marathon, but it was a lot of fun."



**EVENT 5:** Rogers Patterson, 51, outlasted a field of 409 players to win the seniors event and \$16,356. Last year's seniors event attracted 274 players, so this year's field was a 67 percent increase. Patterson, a database administrator from Bryant, Ark., said "Fantastic, absolutely fantastic," when asked how it felt to win.



**EVENT 6:** Derek Puza and Dutch Magrath had similar stack sizes when play got heads-up, so they chopped, then played for the ring. Puza hit an inside straight on the turn after the players were all-in for the win. "I feel fantastic," Puza said. "These structures are great, they allowed me to play tight and pick my spots here and there."



**EVENT 7:** Robert "Skinny" Hankins said layoffs at his Bridgestone plant in Tennessee meant he was out of a job. "I went from earning \$1,100 a week to collecting a \$200 a week unemployment check," Hankins said in his slow southern drawl. He collected more than \$16K for his win and his pro career is off to a great start.



**EVENT 8:** John White, a retired nuclear physicist from Powell, Tenn., beat nearly 300 players in the \$340 NLHE event. White literally went wire to wire as he was first to register and last one standing. He compared nuclear physics and poker. "In both, there's this element of unpredictability." He won \$17K for first.



**EVENT 9:** While an ice storm brought temperatures down to the teens in Tunica, Raymond "Fibber" McGhee remained hot throughout his event. McGhee, a 67-year-old retired police detective from Little Rock, Ark., made it through a 230-player field. He earned nearly \$16K for his victory.



# WSOP CIRCUIT EVENT

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**EVENT 10:** Luther Lewis had a decisive chip lead over Jeter Brock of Birmingham, Ala., when play got heads-up, so they discussed a deal and Lewis was declared the winner, pocketing \$22,604. Brock got \$13,823. "This is amazing, man; I can't believe it," said Lewis, a musician from Goodlettsville, Tenn.



**EVENT 11:** Herbert Tapscott of Hartselle, Ala., took home \$25,369 and the coveted gold ring for first place. "I feel really good," Tapscott said after his first major tournament win. "This event was very entertaining; there were a lot of good players here today." Tapscott owns a finance company and has had a number of major cashes.



**EVENT 12:** While a severe regional ice storm forced the closure of area schools, libraries and other public services through Monday, the ladies event attracted a modest field of 162 players. "I'm pretty nervous, excited," Donna Jegger said after winning the event and \$7K. Jegger is a poker dealer from the Nashville area.



**EVENT 13:** Larry Hicks, a former member of Illinois' House of Representatives, outlasted 179 opponents to take down nearly \$13K and the gold ring. Hicks was among a strong final group of 10 players that included 2009 WSOP bracelet-winner, Mike Eise and the winner of the earlier seniors event, Rogers Patterson.



**EVENT 14:** Austin Schaal, a college student and online tournament player with a number of five-figure cashes, beat more than 200 players after being in the middle of the pack heading into his first live major final table. "I feel great; this was my first major live cash, my first piece of jewelry, definitely going for more." He won \$14,425.



**EVENT 15:** Down to less than two big blinds at the final table, Robert Hahs survived seven all-ins to win the event and \$15,715. Hahs, a farmer from Jackson, Mo., said he relied mostly on skill to make it through the 230-player field, but obviously it was a bit of luck that helped him during the final table.



**EVENT 16:** John "Cowboy" Land of Dallas is primarily a cash-game player, but he'll take the \$18,579 for his tournament victory. Land made his way through the 196-player field to put the gold ring on his finger. "Man, this is awesome, I can't believe it," Land said after his victory. He also says he isn't a cowboy; it's just his lucky hat.



**EVENT 17:** Scott Meena of Clairton, Pa., had the chip lead and offered a deal to Ricky Daniel. Meena won the title and the official payout of \$27,605. Daniel earned \$16,884 for second. "I feel good," said Meena after the win. "(Daniel) is a great player, I think he might be a better player than me and that I just got better rush of cards."



**EVENT 18:** Barry Schultz, who teaches statistics at a college in Cordova, Tenn., has been playing poker for 21 years with six circuit cashes and two WPT final tables. But this was his first final table on the WSOP circuit. The \$1,080 event attracted 202 entrants and generated a prize pool of \$195,940. He earned more than \$51K for the win.



**Event 4 drew 800 players to Harrah's Casino in Tunica. In a sign of the times, all events were no-limit hold'em.**



## WSOP CIRCUIT EVENT

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### Event #1 • \$340 NLHE

**Entries: 304 • Prize Pool: \$83,06**

1. Michael Crump, Maryville, TN, \$20,185
2. James Rogers, Russellville, AL, \$12,277
3. William Ryan Enis, Tupelo, MS, \$8,738
4. Gerard Thorpe, Christiana, TN, \$6,246
5. Mark "Pegasus" Smith, Georgetown, KY, \$4,992
6. J. Austin Hijar, St. Louis, \$3,746
7. Joseph Pace, Chicago, \$2,500
8. David Couch, Chattanooga, TN, \$2,027
9. James Whittinghill, Russellville, KY, \$1,719
10. Michael Bowling, Hixson, TN, \$1,503
11. Charles Dawson, Owensboro, KY, \$1,503
12. Warren Carps, Cordona, TN, \$1,503
13. Tracy Larson Russellville, AR, \$1,238
14. Amy Haberstein, Henryville, IN, \$1,238
15. Robert Flowers, Macomb, MI, \$1,238
16. Donnie Martinez, Little Rock, AR, \$1,030
17. Brandon Garner, Jackson, TN, \$1,030
18. James Quick, Decatur, TN, \$1,030
19. John Miraglia, Clarksville, TN, \$905
20. Nicholas Cook, Vineland, NJ, \$905
21. Brent Elza, Kenisaw, GA, \$905
22. Matthew Duffy, Ridgeway, GA, \$806
23. Jarrod Brown, Hillsboro, TN, \$806
24. Jason Mayfield, Cabot, AR, \$806
25. Sokcheka Philpott, Bartlett, TN, \$731
26. Ross Rehrig, Franklin, TN, \$731
27. Todd Bartlett, Dallas City, IL, \$731
28. Joseph Gorman, Memphis, \$665
29. Judah Merriman, Dublin, Ire., \$665
30. David Mosby, Fayetteville, AR, \$665

### Event #2 • \$340 NLHE

**Entries: 293 • Prize Pool: \$79,863**

1. Jonathan Elliott, Hixson, TN, \$19,401
2. James Mink, Houston, \$11,804
3. Houston White, Madison, TN, \$8,402
4. Kevin Buck, Lockport, IL, \$6,006
5. Joshua Kassinger, Dexter, MO, \$4,800
6. Jeffrey Houston, Ft. Madison, IA, \$3,602
7. Donald Holford, Norris, IL, \$2,404
8. Jack Armstrong, Berlington, IA, \$1,949
9. Joseph McArthur, Palatine, IL, \$1,653
10. Melvin McKinney, Counce, TN, \$1,446
11. John Hyde, Birmingham, AL, \$1,446
12. Jelle Simon, Watertown, MA, \$1,446
13. James Nickell, Batavia, OH, \$1,190
14. Paul Harris, St. Louis, \$1,190
15. Safar Turkmani, Silvis, IL, \$1,190
16. James Davis, Jackson, TN, \$990
17. Douglas Odom, Dawsonville, GA, \$990
18. Jefferson Morrell, Nashville, \$990
19. Emmet Humphrey, Metamorer, MI, \$871
20. Matthew Stahl, Chattanooga, \$871
21. Paul Demario, Grand Rapids, MI, \$871
22. Nicholas Gorman, Marshfield, MA, \$775
23. John Erwin, Crossroads, AL, \$775
24. Joseph Alvey, Southaven, MS, \$775
25. Matthew Blair, Florence, AL, \$703
26. Raymond Drown, Versailles, KY, \$703
27. Richard Smith, Dallas, GA, \$639
28. Stephen Kummer, Garland, TX, \$639
29. Todd Chew, Indianola, IL, \$639
30. Samuel King, Oklahoma City, \$639

### Event #3 • \$550 NLHE

**Entries: 286 • Prize Pool: \$133,310**

1. Shawn Brown, Overland, MO, \$32,397
2. Doyne Finney, Batesville, AR, \$19,703
3. Charles Dawson, Owensboro, KY, \$14,024
4. Robert Hankins, Murfreesboro, TN, \$10,025
5. Darren Dwyer, Salem, IL, \$8,012
6. Ryan Watson, Fayetteville, AR, \$6,012
7. Phillip Parker, Union Grove, AL, \$4,013
8. Jason Mayfield, Cabot, AR, \$3,253
9. Gerald Banach, North Aurora, IL, \$2,760
10. Lou Salamone, St. Louis, \$2,413
11. Jordan Stone, Fayetteville, AR, \$2,413
12. Benjamin Alvey, Knoxville, \$2,413
13. James Allen, Mt. Julius, TN, \$1,986
14. James McMahon, Olive Branch, MS, \$1,986
15. Matthew Chang, Birmingham, \$1,986
16. Jerry Barlow, Westminster, SC, \$1,653
17. Grant Gelven, Independence, MO, \$1,653
18. Larry Barr, Russellville, MO, \$1,653
19. Matthew Blaxton, Decatur, AL, \$1,453
20. Dexter Brown, Robinsonville, MS, \$1,453
21. Bradley Carroll, Hiram, GA, \$1,453
22. Alan Seymour, Huntsville, AL, \$1,293
23. Brian Roberts, Ridgeville, IN, \$1,293
24. David Shewchuk, Powder Springs, GA, \$1,293
25. Loyd James, Macon, GA, \$1,173
26. Ben Clayborn, Arlington, TN, \$1,173
27. Sean Williams, Dallas, GA, \$1,173
28. Joseph Cowart, Twin City, GA, \$1,066
29. Kevin Johnson, Hermitage, TN, \$1,066
30. Tony Jackson, Little Mountain, SC, \$1,066

### Event #4 • \$340 NLHE

**Entries: 800 • Prize Pool: \$272,000**

1. David Arthur Johnson, Bonaire, GA, \$47,321
2. Peter Sullivan, Roscoe, IL, \$26,879
3. Brian Roberts, Ridgeville, IN, \$16,782
4. Kenneth Piel, Robinsonville, MS, \$13,508
5. Radwan Khuri, Memphis, \$10,892
6. David Brown, Dallas, \$8,255
7. Adam Stein, Mount Juliet, TN, \$5,458
8. Daniel Gordon, Marietta, GA, \$4,321
9. Dustin Gardner, Sikeston, MO, \$3,729
10. Tommy Riley, Memphis, \$3,184
11. Kenny Thompson, Huntsville, AL, \$3,184
12. John Kelsey, Memphis, \$3,184
13. Jason Aken, Carterville, IL, \$2,592
14. Carey Gower, Chapel Hill, NC, \$2,592
15. Reginald Roberts, Ozark, MO, \$2,592
16. Marquis Paschal, Atlanta, \$2,160
17. Ralph MacDonald, Atlanta, \$2,160
18. Stephen Gilliam, Harrison, AR, \$2,160
19. James Kirk, Atlanta, \$1,887
20. Gary Huggins, Pinckneyville, IL, \$1,887
22. Matthew Green, Birmingham, \$1,683
23. Keenan Ballo, Chicago, \$1,683
24. Timothy Williams, Dallas, GA, \$1,683
25. David Hackman, Hernando, MS, \$1,524
26. Mark Jackson, Athens, TN, \$1,524
27. James Dark, Spring Arbor, MI, \$1,524
28. Michael Beatty, Columbus, GA, \$1,387
29. Richard Levy, Chicago, \$1,387
30. Johnny Ogle, White, GA, \$1,387
31. John Smith, Jasper, AL, \$1,296
32. Dennis Hogue, Tuscaloosa, MO, \$1,296



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33. Robert Rector, Marshall, NC, \$1,296
34. William Crust, Harrisonville, MO, \$1,205
35. Kevin Johnson, Hermitage, TN, \$1,205
36. James Harper, Parattsville, AR, \$1,205
37. James Quick, Decatur, TN, \$1,160
38. Michael Jamell, Alexander, AR, \$1,160
39. Marcus Marzette, Nashville, \$1,160
40. Walter Luse, Muskogee, OK, \$1,160
41. Lynn Leake, St. Louis, \$1,160
42. Luther Lewis, Goodlettsville, TN, \$1,160
43. Aphideth Nakhonein, Tampa, FL, \$1,160
44. Delta Jones, Sands Springs, OK, \$1,160
45. Preneth Floyd, Lexington, TN, \$1,160
46. Gilbert Henry, Paducah, KY, \$978
47. Chad Folsom, Little Rock, AR, \$978
48. Kevin McDade, Jackson, TN, \$978
49. Robert Warner, Covoda, TN, \$978
50. Jesse Jones, Ringo, GA, \$978
51. Shane Barnard, Memphis, \$978
52. Timothy Harbin, Haeville, AL, \$978
53. Jon Goskola, Sherrills, Ford, NC, \$978
54. Timothy Kramp, Olive Branch, MS, \$978
55. Andrew Harris, Little Rock, AR, \$841
56. Bobbie Talbot, Hernando, MS, \$841
57. Marvin Blair, Diberville, AR, \$841
58. Stephen Guidos, Nashville, \$841
59. Mark Brown, Memphis, \$841
60. Ronald Thomason, Ft. Smith, AR, \$841
61. Thomas Rosenthal, St. Louis, \$841
62. John Burage, Nashville, \$841
63. Lewis Clarke, Memphis, \$841
64. Danny Haddon, Winchester, TN, \$705
65. Eric Roberts, Paragould, AR, \$705
66. Philip Ardire, Kingsport, TN, \$705
67. Mason Kevin Brown, Athens, AL, \$705
68. Michael Ashar, Vermilion, OH, \$705
69. Kevin Praytor, Argo, AL, \$705
70. Jerry Rowden, Vienna, MO, \$705
71. Brian Thouvenot, St. Louis, \$705
72. Richard Dupree, Oxford, GA, \$705
73. Rex Rigdon, Twins City, GA, \$705
74. Jerry Stein, Austin, TX, \$705
75. Alan Wells, Ft. Payne, AL, \$705
76. Austin Stidham, Flowood, MS, \$705
77. Jon Sexton, Memphis, \$705
78. Robert Bedford, Lawrenceburg, TN, \$705
79. Ronnie Furr, Concord, NC, \$705
80. Joshua Gray, Godfrey, IL, \$705
81. Benjaminine Henley, Kelso, MO, \$705

## Event #5 • \$230 Seniors

**Entries: 409 • Prize Pool: \$73,946**

1. Rogers Patterson, Bryant, AR, \$16,356
2. Donald Britt, Loganville, GA, \$9,835
3. Edward Blevins, Hartford City, IN, \$7,054
4. John Bovin, Gladstone, MI, \$5,036
5. Russell Muller, Gillette, WY, \$4,030
6. Roger Ledford, Stone Mountain, GA, \$3,024
7. Alfred Bailey, Little Rock, AR, \$2,011
8. Michael Stephens, Godfrey, IL, \$1,634
9. John Payne, Guntown, MS, \$1,383
10. Michael Patterson, Woodstock, GA, \$1,213
11. Robert Slagle, Bristol, TN, \$1,213
12. Bryan Lindsey, New Braunfels, TX, \$1,213
13. Robert Fulton, Cookeville, TN, \$998
14. Patricia Altizer, Barlett, TN, \$998
15. Joel Feuerman, Memphis, \$998
16. Joseph Cowart, Twin City, GA, \$836
17. Charles Sauer, Indianapolis, \$836
18. Rebecca Summers, Swayzee, IN, \$836
19. Thomas Davis, Pickett, WI, \$725
20. David Smith, Walls, MS, \$725
21. Gary Byers, Jacksonville, IL, \$725
22. Walter Swoope, Paducah, KY, \$651
23. Carroll Dye, Johnson City, TN, \$651
24. Terry Johnson, Columbia, TN, \$651
25. Bobbie Talbot, Hernando, MS, \$592
26. Ronald Kelley, Sumpter, SC, \$592
27. Harl Donley, Ft. Wayne, IN, \$592
28. Richard Moss, Carbondale, IL, \$540

29. Russell Burkitt, Nashville, \$540
30. Bobby Bean, Athens, GA, \$540
31. Rita Estes, Tulsa, \$495
32. Janet Milakis, Indianapolis, IL, \$495
33. Daniel Behnke, Champaign, IL, \$495
34. Michael Bell, Southaven, MS, \$458
35. Karen Rutkoski, Macon, GA, \$458
36. Cheryl Baugus, Sand Springs, OK, \$458
37. Frederick Short, WA, \$451
38. Michael Duvall, Dallas, \$451
39. John Fox, Nashville, \$451
40. Phillip Novak, Greenbrier, AR, \$451
41. Wesley Crowder, Pine Bluff, AR, \$451
42. James Milam, Auburn, KY, \$451
43. Larry Rogers, Warrenton, MO, \$451
44. William Stanley, \$451
45. Chris Stumpenhaus, \$451

## Event #6 • \$230 NLHE

**Entries: 573 • Prize Pool: \$105,762**

1. Derek Puza, Charleston, SC, \$22,118
2. Dutch Magrath, Ringgold, GA, \$12,956
3. Richard Gibson, Sidon, MS, \$8,620
4. Larry Brown, Jamestown, TN, \$6,631
5. Zane Garner, Jackson, TN, \$5,309
6. Ray Martin, Bargersville, IN, \$3,977
7. Jody Akins, Cordova, TN, \$2,655
8. Keith Woerlein, Montgomery, AL, \$2,158
9. John Lopez, Houston, \$1,830
10. Daniel Behnke, Mahomed, IL, \$1,597
11. Charles Hafner, Kingston, TN, \$1,597
12. Jon Sexton, Memphis, \$1,597
13. Daryn Holweg, Marblehill, MO, \$1,311
14. Kevin Young, Atlanta, \$1,311
15. Daniel Goss, Knoxville, \$1,311
16. Regan Williams, Wartburg, TN, \$1,100
17. Bobby Bean, Ringgold, GA, \$1,100
18. Norris Ross, Eads, TN, \$1,100
19. Randy Godwin, Booneville, MS, \$962
20. William Smith, Russellville, AR, \$962
21. Mark Smith, Georgetown, KY, \$962
22. David Beck, Nashville, \$857
23. Michael Rose, Desha, AR, \$857
24. Carlos Requena, Chandler, AZ, \$857
25. Kristin Weeks, Crandall, TX, \$772
26. Rusty Farrin, Jonesboro, AR, \$772
27. Travis Wright, Olive Branch, MS, \$722
28. Merton Toler, Princeton, WV, \$709
29. Chad Stark, Hardy, AR, \$709
30. Larry Williamson, Brookhaven, MS, \$709
31. Misti Seibel, Copperas Cove, TX, \$656
32. Kerry Wallace, Symsonia, KY, \$656
33. Steven Shipowitz, Germantown, TN, \$656
34. Charles Casavant, Avilla, IN, \$603
35. James Lusk, Murray, KY, \$603
36. Garland Thomas, Oxford, AL, \$603
37. Rolland Young, Cartersville, GA, \$592
38. Charles Lineberry, San Antonio, TX, \$592
39. Steven Weigel, Woodland, AL, \$592
40. James Neal, Chickamauga, GA, \$592
41. Wendy Blumenthal, Atlanta, \$592
42. Harold Mabe, Abingdon, VA, \$592
43. Tracy Cooper, Oxford, AL, \$592
44. Larry Hirons, Arlington, TX, \$592
45. Leslie Hollis, Pomona, MO, \$592
46. Jonathan Ritter, Millington, TN, \$497
47. Bradley Fowler, Salem, SC, \$497
48. Steven Pionk, Hernando, MS, \$497
49. David Hilfer, Austin, TX, \$497
50. Kerin Schooler, Marble Falls, TX, \$497
51. James Odom, Crossville, TN, \$497
52. Betty Mabe, Abingdon, VA, \$497
53. Elva Gullett, Mountainview, AR, \$497
54. Jay Herndon, Murray, KY, \$497
55. Bradley Kieffer, Rogers, AR, \$434
56. Scott Flournoy, Sherwood, AR, \$434
57. James Marotta, Memphis, \$434
58. Allison Criswell, Cumming, GA, \$434
59. Johnny Brock, Bradford, AR, \$434
60. Billy McBryer, Tuscaloosa, AL, \$434

61. Robert Hankins, Murfreesboro, TN, \$434
62. Diane Herring, Alton, IL, \$434
63. Jesse Oddo, Houston, \$434

## Event #7 • \$230 NLHE

**Entries: 408 • Prize Pool: \$73,752**

1. Robert Hankins, Murfreesboro, TN, \$16,314
2. Damjan Radanov, Memphis, \$9,809
3. Michael House, New Albany, IN, \$7,036
4. Bobby Byram, Osceola, AR, \$5,023
5. David Simon, St. Louis, \$4,019
6. Leo Stephens, Dayton, TN, \$3,016
7. Robert Taylor, Booneville, MS, \$2,006
8. Gregory Burns, Flower Mound, TX, \$1,630
9. Brandon Jackson, Batesville, AR, \$1,379
10. Mitch Jones, Kennesaw, GA, \$1,210
11. Steven Brown, Ft. Walton Beach, FL, \$1,210
12. Jefferson Morrill, Franklin, TN, \$1,210
13. Richard Smith, Berry, AL, \$996
14. Billy Criner, Little Rock, AR, \$996
15. Timothy Kelly, Cedar Park, TX, \$996
16. Larry Morgan, Flower Branch, GA, \$833
17. Steven McClusky, Oxford, MS, \$833
18. Luther Lewis, Goodlettsville, TN, \$833
19. James White, Austin, TX, \$723
20. Glen Balmat, Little Rock, AR, \$723
21. Chad Cooke, Morrisville, NC, \$723
22. Brett Connally, Bulverde, TX, \$649
23. Miranda Groesse, Nashville, \$649
24. Fred Gerdig, St. Louis, \$649
25. Billy McBryer, Tuscaloosa, AL, \$590
26. Jason Butts, Ft. Myers, FL, \$590
27. Donald Holcombe, Blacksburg, SC, \$590
28. Kevin Hercules, Nashville, \$538
29. Jeremy Stocks, Nashville, \$538
30. Jackie Jackson, Dallas, GA, \$538
31. Frederick Short, WA, \$494
32. Jim Whittinghill, Russellville, KY, \$494
33. Timothy McGraw, Crossville, TN, \$494
34. Robert Davis, Decatur, GA, \$457
35. Joshua Robinson, Pontotoc, MS, \$457
36. Roger Gillard, Galveston, TX, \$457
37. Richard Raimond, Dallas, \$450
38. James Daniell, Carrollton, GA, \$450
39. Frank McNeill, Aberdeen, NC, \$450
40. James Knight, Memphis, \$450
41. Curtis Milstead, Summit, AR, \$450
42. Matthew Wright, Rosebush, MI, \$450
43. Gary Keeton, Florence, AL, \$450
44. Michael Usakowski, Belton, SC, \$450
45. Christopher Wise, Clarksville, TN, \$450

## Event #8 • \$340 NLHE

**Entries: 249 • Prize Pool: \$67,059**

1. John White, Powell, TN, \$17,129
2. Robert Schorr, Henderson, NV, \$10,475
3. David Kopacz, Hopkinsville, KY, \$7,430
4. Lawrence Beach, Decatur, GA, \$5,304
5. Roy Salinas, San Antonio, TX, \$4,245
6. David Kopacz, Hopkinsville, KY, \$3,185
7. Pete Hernandez, San Antonio, TX, \$2,126
8. Wayne Gatheright, Walls, MS, \$1,723
9. Bobby Woodruff, Tuckerman, AR, \$1,462
10. James Stallings, Stevenson, AL, \$1,281
11. Ed Guynes, Robinsonville, MS, \$1,281
12. A Culp, Marcell, AR, \$1,281
13. Richard Gibson, Sison, MS, \$1,053
14. Christopher Nash, Dallas, \$1,053
15. Chris Stolz, Huntsville, AL, \$1,053
16. Michael Watford, Richton, MS, \$878
17. Kenny Piel, Tunica, MS, \$878
18. Rich Stoeckmann, Princeton, MN, \$878
19. Carlos Hamby, Dalhart, TX, \$764
20. Earl Merritt, Ponder, TX, \$764
21. Patrick Folgeman, Springfield, IL, \$764
22. Lou Salamone, St. Louis, \$684
23. Harold Mabe, Abingdon, VA, \$684
24. Terry Coker, Robinsonville, MS, \$684

## Event #9 • \$340 NLHE

**Entries: 230 • Prize Pool: \$61,530**

1. Ray McGhee, Little Rock, AR, \$15,715
2. Glyn Banks, Smithville, TN, \$9,611
3. Benjamin Carli, Alliance, OH, \$6,818
4. Benjamin Clayborn, Memphis, \$4,867
5. Robert Russell, Louisville, TN, \$3,895
6. Danny Nelson, Batesville, AR, \$2,923
7. John Murtagh, Lincoln, NC, \$1,951
8. Bruce Sturgeon, Bedford, IN, \$1,581
9. Bobbie Talbot, Hernando, MS, \$1,341
10. Ryan Enis, Corinth, MS, \$1,175
11. Joey Huey, Newport, AR, \$1,175
12. Daniel Lewis, Orlando, \$1,175
13. Thaddeus Haas, Chesterfield, MO, \$966
14. Byford Klebba, Mt. Vernon, IL, \$966
15. Kevin Hercules, Nashville, \$966
16. Johnny Garland, Johnson City, TN, \$806
17. Steven Weigel, Woodland, AL, \$806
18. Rondal Rector, Birch Tree, MO, \$806
19. Linda Kennedy, Olive Branch, MS, \$701
20. Larry Hicks, Mt. Vernon, IL, \$701
21. Kevin Oursler, Asheville, NC, \$701
22. Steven Pionk, Hernando, MS, \$471
23. Steven Onheiber, Three Lakes, IL, \$471
24. David Price, Madison, TN, \$471
25. Brett Connally, Bulverde, TX, \$471

## Event #10 • \$440 NLHE

**Entries: 242 • Prize Pool: \$88,496**

1. Luther Lewis, Goodlettsville, TN, \$22,604
2. Jeter Brock, Birmingham, \$13,823
3. Mike Ashar, Vermilion, OH, \$9,805
4. Ray Hall, Huntsville, AL, \$7,000
5. Zack Lawmaster, Tulsa, \$5,602
6. Thomas Culberson, Biloxi, \$4,204
7. Scott Standridge, Ft. Smith, AR, \$2,805
8. Michael Wolf, Quinlan, TX, \$2,274
9. Terry Alvert, New Baden, IL, \$1,929
10. James Gardner, Shorewood, IL, \$1,690
11. Keith Woernle, Montgomery, AL, \$1,690
12. Ricky Fryer, Orange Grove, TX, \$1,690
13. Pat Fogleman, Springfield, IL, \$1,389
14. Aaron Lasater, Atlanta, \$1,389
15. Charles Lineberry, San Antonio, \$1,389
16. Chris Nash, Dallas, \$1,159
17. Brian Unkenholz, Bartlesville, OK, \$1,159
18. Darren Dwyer, Salem, IL, \$1,159
19. Jennifer Kasten, Star City, IN, \$1,009
20. Mark Mueller, Columbia, MO, \$1,009
21. Mike Sabbia, Overland Park, IL, \$1,009
22. Bradley Fowler, Salem, SC, \$903
23. Matthew Wright, Rosebush, MI, \$903
24. Gary Greenlee, Munce, IN, \$903

## Event #11 • \$590 NLHE

**Entries: 210 • Prize Pool: \$96,450**

1. Herbert Tapscott, Hartselle, AL, \$25,369
2. Michael Sanders, Pottsville, AR, \$15,577
3. Lisa Farmer, Atlanta, \$11,024
4. Michael Jordan, Brandon, FL, \$7,870
5. Charlie Dawson, Owensboro, KY, \$6,298
6. Erik Badgley, Dewitt, MI, \$4,726
7. Robert Meyer, Lawrence, KS, \$3,154
8. Rose Cooney, Collierville, TN, \$2,556
9. Brett Connally, Bulverde, TX, \$2,170
10. Mark Cooney, Collierville, TN, \$1,900
11. George Williams, Glenwood, IL, \$1,900
12. Frances Roche, Germantown, TN, \$1,900
13. Gary Bentley, Killen, AL, \$1,562
14. Richard Smreker, St. Louis, \$1,562
15. Dale Atchison, Mount Grove, MO, \$1,562
16. William Van Pelt, Houston, \$1,302
17. Frederick Smith, Loganville, GA, \$1,302
18. Mitchell Franks, Tupelo, MS, \$1,302
19. Thomas Pullens, Picayune, MS, \$1,138
20. Robert Muriel, Nashville, \$1,138
21. Lenol Clark, Trenton, GA, \$569
22. Thaire Daley, Ridgeland, SC, \$569

## COVER STORY: WSOPC TUNICA

Continued from previous page

### Event #12 \$230 • Ladies

**Entries: 162 Prize Pool: \$26,028**

1. Donna Jetter, Sparta, TN, \$7,091
2. Anne Manning, Kosciusko, MS, \$4,367
3. Lisa Craven, Cornelius, NC, \$3,084
4. Jennifer Embrey, Horn Lake, MS, \$2,202
5. Louraine Roberts, Talladega, AL, \$1,762
6. Marie Hernandez, Pueblo, CO, \$1,322
7. Karen Masey, Cordova, TN, \$882
8. Deborah Woit, Algonquin, IL, \$716
9. Sherry Hollis, Pomona, MO, \$606
10. Carol Tomlinson, Nashville, \$531
11. Susan Davis, St. Charles, MO, \$531
12. Christy Gilbert, Chattanooga, TN, \$531
13. Sheila Carwile, Chelsea, AL, \$437
14. Shannon Johnson, Memphis, \$437
15. Patricia Glass, Houston, \$437
16. Carrie Oster, Greenwood, IN, \$364
17. Kristen Deardorff, Gulfport, MS, \$364
18. Stephanie Angotti, Memphis, \$364

### Event #13 • \$340 NLHE

**Entries: 180 • Prize Pool: \$46,980**

1. Larry Hicks, Mt. Vernon, IL, \$12,792
2. Alvin Laser, Houston, \$7,883
3. David Clough, Murphysboro, IL, \$5,567
4. David Taylor, Magnolia, AR, \$3,975
5. Nathan Foust, Cullman, AL, \$3,181
6. Michael Warren, Tullahoma, TN, \$2,387
7. Michael Eise, Troy, MO, \$1,593
8. Steven Pionk, Hernando, MS, \$1,292
9. Rogers Patterson, Bryant, AR, \$1,095
10. Mickey Munlin, Pontotoc, MS, \$958
11. Chad Stephens, Cullman, AL, \$958
12. Scott Kahnou, Lagrange Park, IL, \$958
13. Christopher Nash, Dallas, \$789
14. Rufus Yates, New Iberia, LA, \$789
15. Benjamin Klein, St. Louis, \$789
16. John Laurel, Rowlett, TX, \$658
17. Victor Tiller, Shelbyville, TN, \$658
18. Jon Baldwin, Covington, GA, \$658

### Event #14 • \$340 NLHE

**Entries: 207 • Prize Pool: \$54,837**

1. Austin Schaal, Vandalia, IL, \$14,425
2. Gary Shenberg, St. Charles, MO, \$8,856
3. Steven Trimmer, Kirtland, OH, \$6,268
4. Daniel Pancotto, Burr Ridge, IL, \$4,475
5. Tony Sansone, Bowling Brook, IL, \$3,581
6. Brandon Garner, Jackson, TN, \$2,687
7. David Stafford, Westland, MI, \$1,793
8. Jonathan Frey, Cordova, TN, \$1,453
9. Michael Hamner, Tuscaloosa, AL, \$1,234
10. Jamie Nickell, Batavia, OH, \$1,080
11. Terry Crosby, Memphis, \$1,080
12. Michael Asher, Vermilion, OH, \$1,080
13. Eddie Chihak, Elma, IA, \$888
14. James Spain, Tunica, MS, \$888
15. Michael Schneider, Covington, TN, \$888
16. Jeffrey Little, Paris, KY, \$740
17. Max Litton, Conway, AR, \$740
18. David Kennedy, Olive Branch, MS, \$740
19. Billy Harrison, Rowlett, TX, \$647
20. Thomas Silber, St. Louis, \$647
21. Rodney Curtis, Tok, AK, \$647

### Event #15 • \$340 NLHE

**Entries: 230 • Prize Pool: \$61,530**

1. Robert Hals, Jackson, MO, \$15,715
2. David Dao, Elizabethtown, KY, \$9,611
3. Perry Ernest, Lisle, IL, \$6,818
4. Mark Eddleman, Fayetteville, AR, \$4,687
5. Rusty Farrin, Jonesboro, AR, \$3,895
6. In Choe, Walls, MS, \$2,923
7. Jeffery Ehman, Brownsburg, IN, \$1,951
8. Alex Gyr, Dallas, \$1,581
9. Joe Efford, Port-de-grave, Can., \$1,341
10. Jim Rye, Gravois Mills, MO, \$1,175
11. Robert Chaney, Covington, TN, \$1,175
12. Frank Burton, Carmel, IN, \$1,175
13. Samuel Barnhart, Little Rock, AR, \$966
14. Matt Davidson, Birmingham, AL, \$966
15. Jeremy Brewery, Arlington, TN, \$966

### Event #16 • \$440 NLHE

- Entries: 196 • Prize Pool: \$70,648**
1. John Land, Dallas, \$18,579
  2. Brian Niekerk, Kingston, TN, \$11,410
  3. Terry Crosby, Memphis, \$8,075
  4. Shawn Johnston, Robinson, MS, \$5,765
  5. Mat Lawrence, Tulsa, \$4,613
  6. Wayne Philpot, Sanford, FL, \$3,462
  7. Christopher Gray, Atlanta, \$2,310
  8. Scott Uithoven, Belden, MS, \$1,872
  9. Gary Lucht, Cissna Park, IL, \$1,590
  10. John Sarica, Alta. Springs, FL, \$1,392
  11. James Quick, Decatur, TN, \$1,392
  12. William Hedden, Franklin, NC, \$1,392
  13. Curtis Smith, Ringgold, GA, \$1,144
  14. Stanley Haythorne, Toledo, \$1,144
  15. Scott Monteath, Eads, TN, \$1,144
  16. Brandon Garner, Jackson, TN, \$954
  17. William Neal, Murfreesboro, TN, \$954
  18. Michael Woods, Las Vegas, \$954
  19. Peter Clive, St. Charles, MO, \$834
  20. Mark Smith, Georgetown, KY, \$834
  21. Chris Hight, Charleston, IL, \$834

### Event #17 • \$550 NLHE

**Entries: 234 • Prize Pool: \$108,090**

1. Scott Meena, Clifton, PA, \$27,605
2. Ricky Daniel, Franklin, TN, \$16,884
3. Radwan Khuri, Memphis, \$11,976
4. Michael Ashar, Ft. Myers, FL, \$8,550
5. Benjamin Mintz, Oxford, MS, \$6,842
6. John Yancey, Marvell, AR, \$5,134
7. Eric Koffman, Bay City, MI, \$3,426
8. Corrie Wunstel, Baton Rouge, \$2,778
9. Wayne Gatheright, Walls, MS, \$2,356
10. John Cuevas, Charlotte, NC, \$2,065
11. Michael Dunn, Flint, MI, \$2,065
12. Jeff Finlayson, Boca Raton, FL, \$2,065
13. Wilbur Futhay, Crossville, TN, \$1,697
14. Peter Clive, St. Charles, MO, \$1,697
15. Darrin Roth, Mequon, WI, \$1,697
16. Rose Cooney, Collierville, TN, \$1,416
17. Chris Fisher, Hot Springs, AR, \$1,416
18. Mac Ledbetter, Monroe, LA, \$1,416
19. Ray Martin, Bargersville, IN, \$1,232
20. Donald Harris, Washington, MO, \$1,232
21. Ross Farmer, Glenwood, AR, \$1,232
22. Michael Caruso, Arvada, CO, \$1,103
23. Michael Ratcliff, Martinfield, IN, \$1,103
24. Tory Major, Atlanta, \$1,103

### Event #18 • \$1,080 NLHE

**Entries: 202 • Prize Pool: \$195,940**

1. Barry Schultz, Cordova, TN, \$51,534
2. Matthew Lawrence, Tulsa, \$31,644
3. Ray Martin, Bargersville, IN, \$22,396
4. Damjan Radanov, Memphis, \$15,989
5. Jeremy Brewery, Arlington, TN, \$12,795
6. Chris Sullivan, Conway, AR, \$9,601
7. Gary Lucht, Cissna Park, IL, \$6,407
8. Marcus Barnes, Huntsville, AL, \$5,192
9. Ken Blanton, Caddo Mills, TX, \$4,409
10. Gary Laduca, Woodstock, GA, \$3,860
11. Fredrick Smith, Loganville, GA, \$3,860
12. David Winingar, Birmingham, \$3,860
13. Jonathan Elliott, Hixson, TN, \$3,174
14. John Miraglia, Clarksville, TN, \$3,174
15. William Kelly, Concord, OH, \$3,174
16. Scott Hall, Memphis, \$2,645
17. Rickie Merritt, Arlington, TX, \$2,645
18. William Hinson, Byhalia, MS, \$2,645
19. Wesley Snow, Virginia, IL, \$2,312
20. James Price, Oklahoma City, \$2,312
21. Vincent Byrd, Dayton, TN, \$2,312

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## PLAYER PROFILE: RANDI CALABRO

An occasional interview with a player from The South • By Garrett Roth

# Poker and Randi make perfect harmony



Randi Calabro from Harmony, Fla., is making noise in poker rooms across the United States. She has amassed roughly \$125,000 in live career earnings and has gained the respect of her peers, locally and nationally. She won a World Series of Poker circuit tournament at Lake Tahoe (Event 11, \$7,283) and finished third at the WSOP ladies championship (\$106,494).

*Ante Up's* Garrett Roth caught up with her to discuss the beginning, future and greatest accomplishments of her poker career.

### How did you first get your start in poker and what increased your learning curve so quickly?

I first got interested in poker by watching it on TV in 2005. I was living in Sacramento, Calif., and working for a company that I had to travel a lot. The only way I knew how to unwind at the end of the day was to watch poker on television at night. I remember watching a tournament featuring poker pros Scotty Nguyen and [Freddy Deeb](#). I really got fascinated watching and learning from the professionals, but never thought I would play myself.

### What has been the most rewarding accomplishment in your poker career?

Every cash, for me, is an accomplishment. The very first live tournament I ever played was the WSOP circuit event in [Lake Tahoe](#), in which I took first place. I busted the No. 1-ranked woman in the world, Kathy Liebert, on the bubble and went on a tear from there. I would, however, have to say that coming in third at the WSOP ladies championship was incredible for me.



### You participate in a lot of Ladies International Poker Tour (LIPS) events. Which do you enjoy more, ladies-only events or open fields?

I enjoy any tournament, ladies or mixed. It doesn't matter what the field is. I'm not easily intimidated but I have to say the play is very different. There seems to be a trend with most ladies' events, however I think I'm the exception to the theory about how ladies play.

### Who was your toughest opponent at your WSOP final table?

I didn't worry about who I was playing. To be honest, I didn't know who I was playing against until after the tournament when I got to read bios on them. I came to the final table eighth in chips and ended up taking third.

### What is your favorite tournament series?

The WSOP circuit is amazing because of its large rewards, but I play everything from charity events to single-table tournaments. I also have just begun playing on the Ante Up Poker Tour and I have to say I love playing these deepstack events. I think the blind structure and the rooms that these tournaments are being held in are great.

### How often do you play and what cardrooms do you enjoy playing in the most?

I play as much as I possibly can. My husband also plays and we have been trying to play at all of the new rooms. The closest to where we live is Melbourne; however we also play in Daytona. We like to vacation in Siesta Key and love the [One-Eyed Jacks](#) room in Sarasota. We also recently began playing in Ocala and Derby Lane in St. Petersburg.



### What do you think are your biggest advantages in a tournament?

I honestly feel like I have a natural gift and feel I'm unreadable at the table. I'm excited to make more final tables and get my name out there more. My claim to fame is being a great short-stack player. It takes a lot of talent and patience to be able to overcome a short stack and win a tournament.

### Now that you have already captured an amazing six-figure score, what are your future goals?

I would like to play a lot more tournaments, including the WSOP, WSOPC and AOPT events.

I would love to play against some more professionals to test my game. I also have great support from my husband, Chad, who's a very good player. Poker has become a huge part of my life and I would love to obtain a sponsorship to play as many tournaments that I possibly can to be successful.



**Ante Up Player of the Year bracelet provided by Madison Jewelers.**  
Go to [www.madison-jewelers.com](http://www.madison-jewelers.com).

### Race for the Bracelet

Points are earned by finishing in the top 10 and are distributed as follows: 1,000, 700, 500, 300, 250, 200, 175, 150, 125 and 100. Players also receive a 100-point bounty for eliminating an *Ante Up* publisher from an event. Here are the *Ante Up* Player of the Year leaders as of press time. For complete, up-to-date results be sure to log on to [anteupmagazine.com](http://anteupmagazine.com)

1. Walt Strakowski Jr., West Palm Beach	6,100
2. Tomas Singson, Orange Park	3,500
3. Luis Cristobal, Coral Gables	2,925
4. Jay Roden, Estero	2,600
5. Ken Basilio, Ft. Lauderdale	2,575
6. Mitchell Abrahams, Miami	2,425
7. Raj Vohra, Lake Worth	2,150
8. Robert Beyra, Hollywood	2,000
9. Omar Diaz, Coconut Creek	1,900
10. Glen Blumberg, Alachua	1,800
11. Eugene Link, Cocoa Beach	1,750
12. Carleen Heath, Belleview	1,700
12. Ronnie Browne, Gainesville	1,700
12. Eddie Rosenberg, Miami Beach	1,700
12. Matt Ridley, Jupiter	1,700
12. Rolland Botel	1,700
12. Chet Sickle, Melbourne	1,700
18. Peter Nadeau, Gainesville	1,625
19. Alberto Dominguez, Hollywood	1,500
19. Steve Mitchell, St. Augustine	1,500
19. Mark Petrillo	1,500
22. Jon Ronsisballe, Naples	1,450
23. Manny Leon, West Palm Beach	1,425

### Upcoming events

**March 27:** Hard Rock Hollywood, 11a, \$1,100

**March 27:** Sarasota Kennel Club, 6:30, \$100

**March 28:** Derby Lane, 1p, \$100

**March 28:** Ante Up Cruise, 1p, \$350

**March 28:** Miami Jai-Alai, 2:30p, \$165

**April 2:** Dania Jai-Alai, 6:30p, \$100

**April 3:** Seminole Immokalee, 7p, \$225

**April 10:** Calder Casino, 11a, \$100 (\$5K guar.)

**April 16:** Orange Park K.C., 2p, \$100

**April 17:** St. Johns Greyhound Park, 2p, \$125

**April 17:** Hard Rock Tampa, 10a, \$100

**April 17:** Isle Casino, 2p, \$720 (Seven-Deuce)

**April 17:** Ft. Pierce Jai-Alai & Poker, 3p, \$150

**April 18:** Tampa Bay Downs, 1p, \$350

**April 19:** Gulfstream Park, 6:30p, \$150

**April 22:** Mardi Gras, 6:30p, \$100

**April 23:** Palm Beach K.C., 1p, \$100

**April 24:** Ocala Poker and Jai-Alai, 2p, \$100

**April 24:** Sarasota Kennel Club, 6:30p, \$100

**April 24:** Hard Rock Hollywood, 11a, \$1,100

**April 24:** Naples-Ft. Myers, noon, \$225

**April 25:** Derby Lane, 1p, \$100

Updated schedule at [anteupmagazine.com](http://anteupmagazine.com)



## FEBRUARY RESULTS



Ocala's final table.

### CALDER CASINO

**FEB. 13**

1. Drhuso Gage, Hillsboro Beach
2. Manuel Herrera, Doral
3. Lans Beck, Miami
4. Calaga Brown, Miami
5. Declined points
6. Declined points
7. Roger Paugae, Miami Springs
8. Ted Transue, Ft. Lauderdale
9. Joanne Nicolette, Cooper City
10. Derrick Simon, Miramar

### DANIA JAI-ALAI

**FEB. 6**

1. Alex Fusco, Sunny Isles Beach
2. Martin Funer, Plantation
3. Ken Doran, Hollywood
4. Jeff Toll, Parkland
5. Richard Semander, Pembroke Pines
6. Gene Mydette, Ft. Lauderdale
7. Anthony Bertucci, Coral Springs
8. Don Day, Silver Springs, MD
9. Andrea Kraemer, Hollywood
10. Aishor Bhakta, Ft. Lauderdale

### DERBY LANE

**FEB. 28**

1. Matt Blaxberg, St. Petersburg
2. Brian Lawandus, St. Petersburg
3. Dimitrius Lawandus, Tampa
4. Bob Olsen, Parrish
5. Keith Garcia, Odessa
6. Declined points
7. Declined points
8. Steven Roe, St. Petersburg
9. Kevin Vanderkelen, St. Petersburg
10. Kevin Golden, Tampa

### FT. PIERCE JAI-ALAI & POKER

**FEB. 20**

1. Richard Hamun, Port St. Lucie
2. Brian Thurman, Stuart
3. Ernest Amidon, Vero Beach
4. Tan Nguyen, Ft. Pierce
5. Art Varton, California
6. Patterson Taylor, Sebring
7. Bruce Burton, Indiana
8. Joe Giummule, Vero Beach
9. Eugene Castaneda, Port St. Lucie
10. Eric Eckman, Port St. Lucie

### GULFSTREAM PARK

**FEB. 20**

1. Diana Bernal, Davie
2. Robert Capole, Miami
3. Brian Fitzgerald, Homestead
4. Khampetch Seignarack, Davie
5. Ramon Cruz, Hallandale
6. Omar Recuero, Hollywood
7. Fernando Grinberg, Hallandale
8. Diane Devereaux, Miami Springs
9. Roni Zelichonok, Aventura
10. Donald Penning, Miami Shores

### ISLE CASINO

**FEB. 15**

1. Edward Gordon, Tamarac
2. Joe Smith, Plantation
3. Mitchell Smith, Cape Coral
4. Ismael Delgado, West Palm Beach
5. Hal Klein, Delray Beach
6. Declined points
7. Jason Prest, Delray Beach
8. Nick Ricciardi, Palm Beach
9. Jason Bartholomew, Sarasota
10. Brett Goodall, Ontario

### MARDI GRAS CASINO

**FEB. 25**

1. Isiah Baker, Miami
2. Alex Jean-Gilles, Carol City
3. Yakima Palimero, Coral Gables
4. Anthony Moreda, Miami
5. Christine Rodriguez, Miami
6. Omar Recuero, Hollywood
7. Jerry Kielian, Hollywood
8. Francis Garcia, North Miami
9. Stuart Newmark, New York
10. Declined points

### MELBOURNE GREYHOUND PARK

**FEB. 13**

1. Chet Sickle, Melbourne
2. Michael Kaminsky, Patchogue
3. Greg Hunniat, Rockledge
4. Declined points
5. Tom Waurzaser, Ypsilanti, MI
6. Rich Poelker, Melbourne
7. Bob Downs, Melbourne
8. Jeff Renshaw, Cocoa
9. Christopher Randone, Melbourne
10. Gregory Thomas, Melbourne

### MIAMI JAI-ALAI

**FEB. 28**

1. Francisco Milanes, Miami
2. Henry Billeter, Hialeah
3. Julio Rodriguez, Miami
4. Dean Moreau, Homestead
5. Carlos Dorca, Doral
6. Cesar Pinto, Aventura
7. Miguel Rodriguez, Miami
8. Arturo Garcia, Miami
9. Pete Quesada, Miami
10. Lazaro Rojas, Miami

### NAPLES-FT. MYERS GREYHOUND

**FEB. 13**

1. Jonathan Ronsisballe, Naples
2. Harry Shatri, Naples
3. Ron Cheatwood, Ft. Myers Beach
4. Vinnie Iannuzzi, Naples
5. Elmo Mariathasan, Ft. Myers
6. Bob Seifert, Ft. Myers
7. Charles Mascki, Bonita Springs
8. Eddie Ibarry, Naples
9. Jean Sebastian Laurent, Naples
10. Joe Salaggio, Ft. Myers Beach

### OCALA POKER & JAI-ALAI

**FEB. 27**

1. Roy Bezeska, Summerfield
2. Joe Freck, Melrose
3. Eugene Link, Cocoa Beach
4. Kenny Szczesc, Ocala
5. Donnie Cooper, Ocala

6. Kirk Carson, Starke
7. LaRaya Smith, Jacksonville
8. Harry Flanigan, Gainesville
9. Mara Blumberg, Ocala
10. Roy Young, Dunnellon

### ORANGE PARK KENNEL CLUB

**FEB. 19**

1. Tomas Singson, Orange Park
2. Aaron Lucas, Jacksonville
3. Mark Petrillo
4. Robin Ulrey, Jacksonville
5. Bill Herbert, Camden, SC
6. Pam Moore, Jacksonville
7. Ken Kaplan, Silverdale, WA
8. Jueson Logan, Myrtle Beach, SC
9. John Smith, Orange Park
10. Rebecca Like, Pittsburgh

### PALM BEACH KENNEL CLUB

**FEB. 13**

1. Robert Apgar, Poughkeepsie, NY
2. Dax Werner, West Palm Beach
3. Al Zeitzer, West Palm Beach
4. Eric Brewster, North Miami
5. Richard Semander, Pembroke Pines
6. Irwin Block, West Palm Beach
7. Dale Friedlander, West Palm Beach
8. David Albertson, Margate
9. Robert Aron
10. Jo Mancuso

### PENSACOLA GREYHOUND TRACK

**FEB. 20**

1. Bob Harris
2. Gabe Hensley
3. Austin Andrews
4. Shane Caraway
5. Kevin Sellers
6. Roy Brown
7. Reese Vines
8. Nick Dorch
9. Joseph Fretwell
10. Dan Pittman

### SARASOTA KENNEL CLUB

**FEB. 27**

1. Rolland Botel
2. Robert Kay
3. Mark Fisk
4. Adam Foust
5. Russ Lash
6. Kyle Finney
7. T Bone
8. Ray Swart
9. Bill Winkler
10. Ken Boyce

### SEMINOLE H.R. HOLLYWOOD

**FEB. 27**

1. Rol Rodriguez
2. Robert Cooper
3. Jose Rodriguez
4. Zvi Shiff, North Miami
5. Richard Vargas, Aventura
6. Andres Athanopoulos
7. Richard Semander, Pembroke Pines
8. Michelle McLeod
9. Sharon Levin, Ft. Lauderdale
10. Soo Han, Boca Raton

### SEMINOLE HARD ROCK TAMPA

**FEB. 20**

1. Scott Huling, Clermont
2. Rob Corjay, Wesley Chapel
3. Samuel McDaniel, Tampa
4. Dave Larson, Arlington, VA
5. Ramses Rosa, Brandon
6. Jonathan Ramos, Kissimmee
7. Larry Dowling, Orlando
8. Richard Serafin, Spring Hill
9. Wayne Berry, Winter Haven
10. John Hallmeyer, Clearwater

### SEMINOLE IMMOKALEE

**FEB. 6**

1. Sebastian Lauver, Beach Grove, IN
2. Rosa Muchovej, Ft. Myers
3. Nocani Garcia, Naples
4. Alex Jarmoldoch, Ft. Myers
5. Nick Maddas, Immokalee
6. David Shorty, Estero
7. Terry Osiaski, Naples
8. Mark Hobert, Naples
9. Declined points
10. Declined points

### ST. JOHNS GREYHOUND PARK

**FEB. 20**

1. Mark Petrillo
2. Bob Woodward
3. Bobby Sikes, Folkston, GA
4. Mike Collier
5. Barry Price
6. Brian Cogon
7. Declined points
8. Lene Wlodys
9. Jim Lucas
10. James Lanier

### TAMPA BAY DOWNS

**FEB. 21**

1. Lace Decon
2. Angelo Rampino
3. Pat Keogan
4. Marc Lowe
5. Brad Heldenbrand
6. Tom Nguyen
7. Jim Larsen
8. Pedro Suarez
9. Mike Steckler
10. Steve Barn, New Port Richey

If you see any mistakes or omissions please let your poker room manager or tournament director know. Or you can feel free to contact us at [editor@anteupmagazine.com](mailto:editor@anteupmagazine.com).

## ACUMEN POKER

LEE CHILDS • Learn to play the Acumen Poker way

# QUIT YOUR WHINING!

Did you get knocked out of a tournament because of some horrific beat or cooler? Would you have been the chipleader with 20 players left if your pocket aces didn't get cracked? I don't care. Not a bit. And I'm really getting tired of people whining, especially on Twitter and Facebook, about how life sucks because of one hand of poker. Everyone knows "bad beats" are part of the game, yet they still whine. Most of the time they're 60-40 or 50-50 hands where they weren't that big of a favorite anyway. Even if they were a big favorite, who cares? Not me!



Let's put it into a little better perspective. Players consistently put beats on one another that don't matter. I raise with A-K, you call with A-Q, flop comes queen-high. I c-bet, you raise and I fold. I have no idea you hit a 30-percent suck-out on me and I really don't care at that point. I just know I couldn't stand the heat and folded. Point is, we didn't get all-in, and I'm not whining and moaning to all of my friends, wife and son (Yep, born in early March, doing great, and he's awesome!)

Here are a few facts I'd like to mention, and they're not meant to be a list of the most important issues/injustices facing the world, just a few things to think about when assessing the importance of your bad beat.

- 6,000 children lose a parent to AIDS every day.
- 700,000 to 2 million people are homeless in America.
- 20 million people were held in bonded slavery as of 1999.
- More than 1 billion people in our world lack access to clean water.

This causes 2 million unsafe drinking water deaths every year and 90 percent are children.

I have a lot of friends who are "professional" poker players. Many have won WSOP bracelets, won hundreds of thousands or even millions of dollars. They get to travel the world playing a game they supposedly love and most of the time just sleep when they want, eat when they want, play when they want. Why, then, do I have to hear about a hand of poker they played that resulted in a bad beat? Do they really think it's important to post on Facebook how bad they run?

I get you're disappointed. We're competitive and want to win. I get ticked off, too, sometimes, but if you're going to play this game for recreation, and especially for a living, stop bitching about the bad beats and coolers! They are part of the game and if you used your logical brain that makes you a good poker player, you would realize getting a bad beat means you got your money in good, possibly got your opponent to make a mistake. Over time that's a win for you. The game is about the long run and not about the beat that knocked you out of the tournament today.

Here's the best story I ever overheard after someone got knocked out of a tournament. His friend asked him what happened and he simply replied, "I lost the hand." That's the way it ought to be. Keep things in perspective, enjoy the game and please quit whining for sympathy as you sit in your suite at the hotel, drinking your purified bottled water, booking your flight across the country to play your next poker tournament on your \$2,000 laptop that you just bought because you broke your other one when your aces got cracked in that \$109 tournament online last week. Decide to Win!

— Lee Childs is founder and lead instructor of Acumen Poker. He also is an instructor with the WPT Boot Camp. Check out his site at [www.acumenpoker.net](http://www.acumenpoker.net).

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## LOBBYING MONEY PAID OFF BIG IN 2009 IN FLORIDA

And they're off ... Florida's 2010 legislative session is off and running, full of high hopes this finally will be the year Florida Legislature gets it right. Rumors are rampant of an impending deal with the Seminole Tribe that will usher in the future of Florida's gambling industry. While we wait on these rumors to be proved true or false, a quick look at 2009 and what was spent to get us where we are, might indicate things to come.



MARC DUNBAR

If the 2009 lobbying compensation reports are any indication, there's plenty of well-healed talent out there to help educate Florida's lawmakers as to the needs of the industry. The publicly reported lobbying expenditures for last year indicate at least \$5 million was spent by various gaming interests to advocate one position or another. This money was spent over more than 100 of the finest lobbyists in Florida. At the end of the day, we know the result of all of those lobbying dollars had some winners and losers, depending on how you fared by the passage of Florida's only gambling bill, Senate Bill 788.

Here's a breakdown of who spent what and whether they were successful. Keep in mind this assumes SB 788 actually is put into law at some point in the future:

Probably the biggest winner of the 2009 legislative session was Hialeah Park, which spent \$280,000 to lobby the Florida Legislature. When the dust settled, Hialeah secured in SB 788 the ability to return to horse racing, operate a cardroom and a slot machine casino. It was only a handful of years ago when Hialeah Park lost its parimutuel permit and began to rot away. As a result, racing has returned to Hialeah Park and the future for the historic property is brighter.

In terms of the coalition of interests, which did well in SB 788, the loose coalition of South Florida parimutuel casino properties, led by Florida's biggest lobbying spender Mardi Gras Casino at \$600,000, got a number of items on its wish list. The group, which includes Calder Racetrack and Casino (\$197,000), Magic City Casino (\$202,000), Isle of Capri (\$410,000), Boyd Gaming (\$110,000) and Gulfstream Park

Racing and Casino (\$190,000), spent more than \$1.7 million to secure an annual license fee reduction, an overall 30 percent reduction in the tax rate on slot-machine revenues and the ability to link into wide-area progressives that would allow them to offer mega jackpots via their slot machines. While they left disappointed full gaming parity with the Seminole Tribe was not achieved, the coalition saw some dividends as a result of their lobbying expenditures.

The statewide network of parimutuel poker rooms spent heavily in the hopes of securing some type of slot-machine gambling, but in the end, the Legislature awarded them with increased hours of poker operations and a removal of betting limits on poker. Here is a list of what the various poker rooms spent: Daytona Kennel Club, \$215,000; Jacksonville Greyhound Tracks (Jax, Orange Park, Bayard), \$205,000; Palm Beach Kennel Club, \$120,000; Derby Lane, \$120,000; Tampa Greyhound, \$60,000; Hamilton Jai Alai and Poker, \$50,000; Sarasota Kennel Club, \$20,000; Pensacola Greyhound, \$20,000; Tampa Bay Downs, \$20,000; Melbourne Greyhound, \$10,000; and Ocala Jai Alai and Poker, \$10,000.

These groups, for the most part, battled with the Christian conservatives in the Florida Legislature and the Seminole Tribe of Florida that spent \$395,000 on lobbyists in pursuit of its gaming compact and the right to exclusive blackjack throughout Florida. Other groups of note whose advocacy should be of interest to poker players were: Las Vegas Sands (\$60,000), fighting for destination casinos in Florida, and American Poker Ventures/Poker Voters of America (\$50,000) fought for the passage of the online intrastate poker study.

Winners and losers in Tallahassee as a result of SB 788 are somewhat tough to evaluate. But think of it this way: You would rather be playing with a big stack in this game, and you can see from this list who the guys were that were betting big and chasing a big pot in 2009. This year looks to break the records set in 2009; at the end of the day let's hope these big bets pay off for the Florida's gaming industry.

**— Marc W. Dunbar is a shareholder with Tallahassee law firm Pennington, Moore, Wilkinson, Bell & Dunbar, P.A. He represents several gaming clients before the Florida Legislature and teaches gambling and parimutuel law at the Florida State University College of Law.**

## FREE LEAGUE, FREE ADVICE

BRYAN OULTON • Learning poker etiquette

# Playing when there's 'nothing' on the line

By Bryan Oulton

Many think you can't play poker if there's nothing at stake, a common misnomer of free poker leagues. Granted, in most leagues you're playing for something, whether it be a nightly bar tab or season-ending prize pools. Though you're not playing for anything, you really are.

The mind-set of having to play for something to make the game meaningful leads to playing with scared money. Scared money is when all you can think about is the amount of money on the line.

Learning to play the same no matter the stakes (or lack thereof) will teach you to not allow negativity and doubt to creep in when money is on the line. Always play within your means. This axiom is designed to help you play to win, and play mistake-free poker.

Many say chips are nothing more than little pieces of plastic or clay. Utilizing this thought process will help you. You should have a plan going in, with your point of pushing your stack based on odds, reads

and position. That plan should be based on math and feel, not money. However, if the math or feel doesn't add up to a push, wait it out.

Great practice for this comes from free poker. Sure, seasoned players find free events (except for those with robust instant prize pools) to be a waste. That makes sense due to the sheer quantity of hands they play. Common amateurs, however, need to see hands and play situations. Poker is like anything else: You must practice to get better.

Free poker allows you to see those hands with no risk to your bankroll, plus there's a chance to win some prizes. It allows you to play with other amateurs. More often than not players at your local casino are as experienced as you and the players in your free league. Even when players seem horrible you can work on nuances of the game, such as trying to get them to do what you want through your play.

Once you're comfortable, then play for money. You should want to play for money anyway, just within your limits.

## SOUTHERN DRAW

Insight and analysis on poker in The South

# ONLINE POKER IN FLORIDA? DON'T GET GIDDY JUST YET

I hate to be a downer.

I'm always one of the most positive people in the room. When Frowny McFrownerson is going on and on about how the world is falling apart, I'm right there saying, "Yes, but what about ..."

But when it comes to Florida House Bill 1441 — "The Internet Poker Consumer Protection & Revenue Generation Act of 2010" — I'm sorry. There's just not much that'll put a smile on this face.

The bill seeks to create and regulate an intrastate Internet poker network in Florida — for Florida residents only and Florida residents who are physically in the state when they are playing. In other words, this isn't knighting the PokerStars and FullTilts of the world with official state acceptance and a tax bill — it's creating a David-sized monopolistic competitor to those Goliaths.

While I applaud Rep. Joseph Abruzzo, D-Wellington, for trying to advance any poker legislation, this bill faces long odds toward passage, toward implementation and, ultimately, toward acceptance by the poker playing community.

**PASSAGE:** This is a big year for gaming legislation in Florida. A bill to strip the state of bet and buy-in limits and to expand poker hours is back and appears to nearly be a certainty to take effect July 1. And, surprise, as of this writing, it looks like we may see a Seminole Compact that (most) everyone can agree on.

For a Legislature that's always apprehensive about expanding gaming's footprint in Florida, that's a lot to accomplish in one session. Add Internet poker to the mix, and I think you'll see lawmakers waive it off like the dessert cart after a big steak dinner.

But if I'm wrong ...

**IMPLEMENTATION:** If the bill passes, it'll be a while before anyone in Florida is click-raising the flop. Competitive bids need to be screened and a network created. That's an arduous process in any application, but since this bill puts the state's Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering in charge of it all, well, I wish it luck.

I mean no disrespect to the division or any of its hard-working employees, but by many of those employees' own admission, the division doesn't have the expertise to properly regulate the state's brick-and-mortar poker rooms. How anyone thinks that same division has the expertise to create a first-in-the-nation intrastate poker apparatus just isn't being honest with reality.

But if I'm wrong ....

**ACCEPTANCE:** If the bill passes and the division finds a way to properly create and regulate it, well, guess what ... we're only halfway home. And here's why:

The Internet is littered with the carcasses of dozens of upstart Internet poker rooms that failed to find an audience. Anyone with a six-figure bank account and connections in the Caribbean can open an online poker room; but attracting enough players to make it viable is a different challenge.

Think of it this way: PokerStars has the entire world from which to build a player base. If you want to play 1-cent/2-cent pot-limit 5-card draw at 3:26 a.m., chances are you'll find a game on PokerStars. But this new Florida site can only draw people from one state. With that



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# TO CATCH A BLUFFER, ONE MUST BE ONE

**D**eception has been described as an essential part of poker play. How good can you be at deception and reading deception? Probably not as good as you think.

Psychology has researched the ability to detect deception and most of us are no better than a coin flip. And how many times would you risk your stack on a coin flip? We try to develop our ability to read tells, but that's hard, even for experts in reading nonverbal behavior. You would be much better off reading patterns of play than trying to get a read on a good bluff.

My advice is to not overestimate other folks' bluffing and to make sure your bluffs tell a story that makes sense. When trying to get a read on a player, bluffing should be the last choice or interpretation, after you have ruled out everything else that's possible.

The person who might be bluffing is controlling the flow of information. It could be a bluff, a semibluff, fake bluff or none of the above. So it's the same when you're bluffing: You control all of the information and assume opponents are making the same reads you would make, even if they're not. It's easier to bluff to a good player than an unobservant player.

Poker players overestimate their ability to catch people lying because we only know it was a bluff when we call and they show it to us. We don't see our misreads or mistakes so we have a false sense of our abilities and this intermittent reinforcement just adds to our false confidence.

The Saints' onside kick in the Super Bowl, for example, was a great bluff. They set up the storyline and the Colts never expected an onside kick at that moment. It was a game-changer. The Saints were willing to go all-in on this bluff, they weren't read, and they won.

Ponzi scams also work because folks make themselves believe the tale; these schemes tap into the buyer's greed.

Some folks say the best advice is to discount a decision that concludes your opponent is bluffing, but most don't want to lose this tool from their box. So the best advice is to watch verbal and non-verbal activity. I researched other fields and found verbal clues might be easier to detect than non-verbal.

Some of the verbal clues to watch for are changes in behavior, something out of the ordinary. You can try to probe to get a clue. No response, delayed response, repeating your question, protest state-

## Continued from previous page

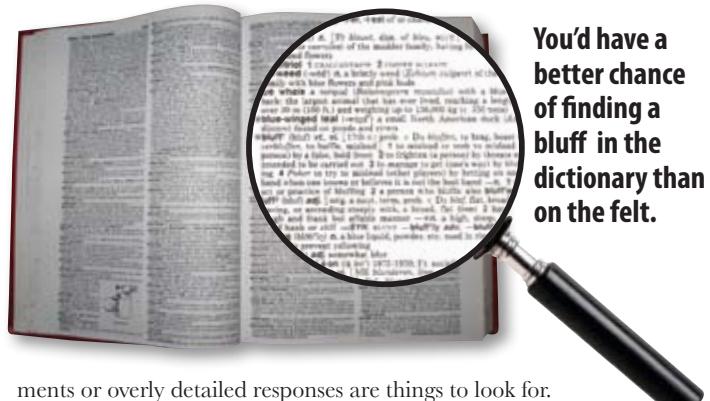
shallow of a pool, it might even be a challenge to find a \$10-\$20 no-limit game at any time of the day. And when players constantly log on and find nothing to their liking, they move on to somewhere they'll find something they like.

This bill does nothing to prevent players from playing on existing online sites. Obviously, it's assuming the Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act will finally take root and close the door on the competition, but we all know that's the longest of long-shots.

BUT ...

Remember when I told you I have an uncanny, and often annoying, way of finding something positive in just about anything? Well, here it is: The bill would permit all licensed parimutuel poker rooms in Florida to create a "skin" on this new network.

It's unrealistic to expect Ocala Poker or Miami Jai-Alai to run \$1 satellites for their tournaments or offer microlimit cash games. But they could if they had an online room linked to their operations. And it works in reverse, too. It's not smart business for rooms such as Gulfstream Park or Flagler Dog Track to close its profitable cash tables one day to run a huge multitable tournament. But if that



You'd have a better chance of finding a bluff in the dictionary than on the felt.

ments or overly detailed responses are things to look for.

On the non-verbal side: more face touching, feigned disinterest, change in body posture. Look for changes in the way people sit, fidget, get more relaxed or more upright in their seats.

Remember, though, appearances can be deceiving and experienced bluffer will try to hide changes and give off false tells.

There has been a good deal of study of "micro-expressions" that last only a fifth of a second and may leak emotions someone wants to conceal. But recognizing these takes a lot of skill.

If you read last month's article you should know Avoiders are likely to never bluff, Adapters will bluff when the time and the story seems absolutely correct; Adventurers will try bluffs more often, and use semibluffs when they think they have a read, but will be willing to come off if convinced the opponent is not buying the story; Attackers bluff often and fail often (see [anteupmagazine.com/archives](http://anteupmagazine.com/archives) for a full description of these personality styles).

You can get better at reading bluffs and bluffing by working at it. Here are some tips to get you started:

- Consider a bluff only after you have ruled out everything else.
- Don't get overly confident in your ability to read a bluff.
- Watch and observe, you can't tell a bluff until you know when they're playing straight.
- Don't try to bluff players who aren't watching; they won't notice.
- Watch body language. Mostly changes. Many liars avoid eye contact; some touch their faces a lot. But not always.

Learn all you can about tells and keep your head in the game.

— Dr. Stephen Bloomfield is a licensed psychologist and avid poker player. His column will give insight on how to achieve peak performance using poker psychology. Email questions for him at [editor@anteupmagazine.com](mailto:editor@anteupmagazine.com).

same room could host that big-money buy-in tournament online, then the cash games can thrive.

Intriguing possibilities, for sure. But not intriguing enough to warrant the expense and hassle of creating it, especially when you consider similar ideas in Iowa, California and New Jersey are helping to set the table for what we all really want (and what makes the most sense) federal regulation and acceptance of the existing online poker industry.

Rep. Abruzzo, I admire your moxie. But I'm pulling for Congressman Barney Frank to win this race.

— Email Scott Long at [scott@anteupmagazine.com](mailto:scott@anteupmagazine.com)



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## IN SNG TURBOS, LATE-STAGE HAND RANGES OPEN UP

By Jay Houston

If you've ever played a 180-player turbo sit-n-go on PokerStars, then you undoubtedly know the late stages of these tournaments consist mostly of just shoving to steal blinds because of the five-minute structure. However, when the occasional flop is shown and two bigger stacks consisting of 20-30 big blinds have to actually play some poker, some pretty crucial mistakes can be made.

Recently I was playing a session for a student when an interesting hand arose. We were close to the final table with the blinds at 500-1,000 with a 100 ante. Everyone at the table was a standard tight aggressive player or unknown with a stack anywhere from eight to 22 big blinds. I was dealt Q-Q in the lojack seat (this is three seats to the right of the button). I made it 2,500 with 18,500 behind to make it look like a cheap steal so someone would reship on me light. To my surprise, the other big stack at the table, directly to my left in the hijack with 20,000 chips, decided to call. The action folded to a flop of K-5-2 rainbow.

At this point my student made a huge sigh. He was disappointed we had to check-fold or blindly stab at this flop and fold to a shove. Then I asked him: "What range of hands do you think our opponent is holding?"

Basically, our unknown opponent's flat-calling range preflop is incredibly polarized and doesn't consist of a king a high percentage of the time. The reason for this is because so many players in a turbo

SNG reraise all-in with A-K in that spot. K-Q can be ruled out not only because we have two queens in our hand, but because the chances of him wanting to get involved in a raised pot with K-Q (or a worse king) are slim to none at this stage of the tournament, especially when he's doing well on chips.

After you eliminate a king from his range, you still have to think about how you're going to get max value. What I chose to do in the situation was to check-raise all-in or check call an all-in, and here's why:

I hate leading out because if he jams we have to make a crying call, and most of the time he's just going to throw away weaker hands than ours and we miss some value.

When we decide to check and our opponent bets 5,000 on the flop, the only play to make is re-raising all-in. If we just call right there, our opponent is rarely going double-barrel the rest of his chips off in a bluff, and we're letting him see a free turn.

So when you break it down, check-raising all-in ends up being the optimal play. Of course, our opponent could have trapped us with aces, but then we were going to go broke in the hand regardless and there isn't much to worry about anyway.

So the next time you're in a similar situation, don't instantly shut down. You can use this concept of preflop hand ranges in turbo SNGs to get max value even when an over card hits the flop.

— **Jay Houston** is a young poker pro with DeepStacks University and is a sit-n-go specialist. You can email him at [editor@anteupmagazine.com](mailto:editor@anteupmagazine.com)

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PERSPECTIVE

## SOME HEART CONDITIONS WORSE THAN OTHERS

**A**t about 6 p.m. on Day 2 of the 2009 World Series of Poker \$2,500 Razz event, “Miami” John Cernuto seemed to be taking a little nap between hands. When one of the players nudged him, he collapsed unconscious onto the table. Play stopped and paramedics were called. About 30 minutes later Cernuto regained consciousness and was taken to the hospital.



FRANK TOSCANO M.D.

Last month we discussed arrhythmias, abnormal heart rhythms, which may be predictors of serious illness. In my simplistic classification system, I advised slight elevations in heart rate or an occasional skipped beat usually fit into a “no big deal” category. Think about the possible causes like caffeine, stress, stimulants or dehydration and, if the arrhythmia persists, seek medical attention to look for more serious conditions. A completely irregular rhythm or really rapid rates fall into the “call for help” category. Have the floorman cash out your chips and call for an ambulance. This would not be a good time to play one more round.

This month, we’ll cover the “OMG you’re dead!” category, but first, a little background. The heart is a pump, a lot like the one attached to your pool. There are big pipes coming in and big pipes going out and some electrical connections to power the thing. Your heart also has a few smaller pipes (the coronary arteries) that supply nourishment to the pump itself, the heart muscle.

Over time, the plumbing in your house can get clogged with lime and scale. Likewise, your coronaries can get narrowed with french fries, cheeseburgers and pizza until one day a little clot forms and, bingo, a very important pipe supplying your heart muscle becomes blocked. If someone doesn’t get the clot out fairly quickly, say within an hour or two, some of your heart muscle will die and your pump will forever be less powerful. This is what a heart attack is, basically a plumbing problem.

When this happens to your home plumbing, you call a smelly over-priced guy with baggy pants to come over and snake your line. In the ER if you’re having a heart attack, we do exactly the same thing. We call in a plumber for your heart. Interventional cardiologists snake your clogged pipes, hike up their baggy scrubs and hand you a big bill, just like your plumber.

But the bad heart rhythms we’ve been talking about so far are not heart attacks, not plumbing problems at all, but actually electrical problems. More like short circuits or loose wires than clogged pipes.

The biggest danger occurs when, during a heart attack, the heart muscle becomes so irritated that the electrical circuits that run through it short out. The arrhythmia that can occur, called ventricular fibrillation, is a quick killer. The official name of this condition, “Sudden Death”, is so clearly descriptive that you don’t need me to tell you it’s a bad thing. Now not all heart attacks develop ventricular fibrillation, but when they do, this would not be the time for a plumber. This is a job for electricity. Time to charge up the paddles and reboot. Restore power first, then have the pipes unclogged.

Clearly, this is not something you can do much about if it happens to you. It’s “Sudden” so you really don’t have time to call 911 before you hit the felt. And it’s “Death” so your brain will turn to mush within a few minutes if someone doesn’t kick-start your ticker. You’d better hope you haven’t been the table bully because you’ve got to rely on others to save you.

So how do you know if you might someday suffer from this delightful condition? Count your risk factors. Are you older than 65? Do you have high blood pressure? High cholesterol? Diabetes? Do you smoke? Did a close family member have heart disease? Have you had heart problems in the past? Answer “yes” to too many of these questions and you are at risk for what Redd Foxx called “The Big One.”

There are some things you can do to lessen your risk. You can’t control your age or your genetics but you can put out that cigarette. Take your blood pressure medicine every day even if it makes you feel bad. Have your cholesterol checked and keep your diabetes under control.

If you are at risk, there’s one other thing you can do to improve your chances of surviving “Sudden Death” and it’s so important that I’ll devote my entire column to it next month. And, by the way, Miami John survived his collapse at the razz table and was able to return for the main event a few days later. Lucky for him, it wasn’t Sudden Cardiac Death, or even a heart attack. It turns out he had some internal bleeding that curiously enough is just another type of plumbing problem: leaky pipes. That’s what razz will do to you.

—An avid poker player, Frank Toscano, M.D. is a board-certified emergency physician with more than 28 years of front-line experience. He's medical director for Red Bamboo Medi Spa in Clearwater, Fla. Email your poker-health questions to [ftoscano@redbamboomedispa.com](mailto:ftoscano@redbamboomedispa.com)



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## HAND OF THE MONTH

CHRIS COSENZA • A look at a hand from the Ante Up PokerCast

# ACES: DAMNED IF YOU DO, DAMNED IF YOU DON'T

Once in a while a hand crosses my path that makes me go "hmmm."

Every Friday on our *Ante Up PokerCast* we dissect a Hand of the Week that's sent in from one of our listeners, and this time it was Brian Diebold of Lithia, Fla., who gave us a doozy.

Something that's very common in southern poker rooms is the Aces Cracked promotion. If you have pocket aces and lose the house pays you \$100. In most circles it's known as "Aces Cracked Gets a Rack."



CHRIS COSENZA

Brian was playing in one of our local cardrooms when the following hand happened, and I'll let him describe it.

*"Table is \$1-\$2 NLHE, nine-handed. I had been sitting there for about an hour and played only two hands, had shown down both (9-9 and Q-Q). Starting stacks were all about \$100; I had \$143. The small blind and big blind were both a little less than \$60. I was UTG with A♦ A♥ and raised to \$6 (This is the same raise I made with 9-9 and Q-Q). It folded around to the blinds, who both called.*

*The pot was \$18 (before rake). The flop: K♣ J♦ - 9♦. Both players checked and I bet \$15. Both called. I ranged their hands at either a pair (hit the K or J) or possibly a flush draw. The pot was around \$63. The turn was the 8♦. Now the SB bets \$10 and the BB calls. I called as well. I'm pretty certain I'm beat, they just wouldn't bet into me without a made hand better than A-A. But now I think if I can keep the pot small, I can win at least the money invested so far (\$31) from the promotion plus some extra. The pot is about \$90 now. The river was the 4♣. Now they check to me and I bet \$15. Both players called. I put in a total \$46 (\$25 after thinking A-A was not good), and if I was wrong on my read, I might win the pot anyway. SB turned over 9-9 for a set and BB turned over J-J for top set. I lost \$46 in the pot but gained \$54 from the house promotion. I only played the hand down because I was confident my aces were cracked. Thoughts?"*

Well, this was an amazing hand on many levels, so let's just start at the beginning. As most of us know a 3X raise in live cardroom cash games almost never thins the field enough to get heads-up or three-handed, despite it being the proper amount to raise. But, in Brian's case, only legitimate hands (that had money invested as well) called him and any raise other than a shove likely wouldn't have made 9-9 or J-J fold. So the raise amount is insignificant here. Once the blinds called that's when the real fun begins as normal poker strategy gets skewed beyond recognition.

The best part about this situation for Brian is the callers had less than \$60, so he was freerolling. Why? He had a \$100 insurance policy under his card protector. There's an argument for shoving preflop since no one had Brian covered. At worst he'd break even. But if one of the smaller stacks would've called a preflop shove (in this case the J-J) he would've netted around \$40 from the promotion after the set hit the flop. But in poker we like to maximize our profits, so I agree with raising a normal amount here. Limping has the same effect as shoving, so I disagree with this play as well.

After the flop, things get tricky. It's a very coordinated board (K♣ - 9♦), so Brian could've been beat right there. If he thinks he's beat then should he shove? At worst he could lose \$60 in the hand, but he'd

win \$100 from the house, thus profiting \$40. Brian doesn't suspect he's beat here because after he bets and gets called by both players he said he thought they might have paired the king or jack, or they might've had a flush draw. So do we like the bet of \$15? Remember, he's guaranteed \$100 from the house if he loses; the most he can win if both players commit all of their chips is \$120. The odds are very thin for Brian to get both players to put in their entire stacks and have his hand hold up against hands they deemed worthy of shoving. Little did he know both players had slow-played flopped sets.

On our pokercast I initially said I felt he should've shoved because if he were to get called it likely would be by one opponent and he'd guarantee himself at least \$40 profit (with a chance to win about \$70). But then I acquiesced and felt a tiny bet to string them along might allow me to win more than \$40 should they call and I still win the pot. By betting \$15 and getting called he essentially secured at least \$40 in the middle (not counting his \$21 in the pot). This way if he wins the hand he'll get at least what he would've won had disaster struck. There's also the argument for just checking or calling on every street. This way you commit as few chips as possible and you give them every chance to beat you for the cheapest price. The problem here is, if no one has a hand and no one bets then you just win about \$18. "What a mind-bender!" as my co-host Scott Long said during the show.

When the turn comes the 8♦ we have to go on the defensive. I love Brian's call. No way do you raise because clearly these guys have hand that beat you. Since you know you're beat why would you put any extra money in here, right? That 8♦ completes pretty much EVERY draw poker has to offer, and for the SB to bet \$10 into us knowing we raised preflop and bet postflop screams we're crushed. The only thing worse than raising is folding. So I like Brian's call.

The river bet, however, is another story. Both players checked to him after the 4♣ fell. Why did Brian feel the need to bet \$15? Did he think he had the best hand? He even said in his letter that he wanted to keep the pot small to ensure the most from the promotion. If he's ahead he might get one caller, but not likely. If he's behind then he just threw away \$15 profit. The pot was about \$90 at the time, of which only \$31 was his. If he checked it down and was ahead, he would've netted about \$60. But if he lost the hand he would have made \$69 because the promotion would've paid him \$100. Brian emailed me after he had heard the show and admitted it was a "donk bet."

He made \$54 on the hand, but had he taken the check-or-call line of action, he might've maximized his profit. In conclusion, an old football adage comes to mind: The best offense is a good defense. I think Brian should've taken the passive approach and squeezed the money from the promotion. Had he checked the flop, the SB still would've only bet \$10 on the turn (with a call from the BB). Since the blinds had checked the river there's no denying they would've checked the river in a scenario where Brian didn't bet the flop. Had this been the case Brian would've only committed \$16 to this hand and netted \$84.

Of course all of this advice comes after knowing the cards involved. But even if the blinds didn't have monster hands, Brian saw a very coordinated flop that only got more dangerous on the turn. There's no reason to bet this hand, and every reason to let them catch up for a cheap price.

— Email Chris at [chris@anteupmagazine.com](mailto:chris@anteupmagazine.com).



# SUPER LADY ... SUPER MOM ... SUPERNOVA?

**B**eth Gains is a wife, mother, entrepreneur, blogger, and she's on a quest to become a Supernova, an elite group on PokerStars. This feisty woman quickly is becoming a name recognized in the poker community. Her charismatic personality and her zest for life is a refreshing trend for women in poker.

As a Californian, she frequents the most famous for poker hotspots such as the Commerce Casino and Hollywood Park. But she also lives and plays in New Orleans. Don't be surprised if you see her carpooling, going to baseball practice, putting a brisket in the oven and playing in a cash game. I had a chance to chat with her recently, and Gains gave me a little insight into her world.

**How long have you been playing poker?** I started play-

ing poker when I was 18 years old; I was in college in Manhattan. We would stay up late after clubbing and we'd play draw, stud, lowball and wild cards. Sometimes we'd go to the underground poker clubs like the Madison or the Philly. It was all different then, not like today where poker is a part of our culture. Back then it wasn't that popular.

**What is your earliest memory of playing poker?** My earliest memory was as a kid with my family. We'd play draw and stud with wild cards for pennies. And we were all very competitive.

**What is your favorite game?** I'm right now learning the mixed games. There's a great game in Hollywood Park, but no-limit is the game of my choice. I love the nuances of the game and because I'm hyper-aggressive it suits my style.

**What is your favorite hand?** I guess 7-8 suited or 9-10 suited are my favorite hands. I seem to put a lot of people on tilt when I crack their aces or kings. I like that!

**What's your name online?** I play at PokerStars and my screen name is Betyamama. I was fortunate enough to win a seat online to the women's PCA tournament. When I was down in the Caribbean I met Sara Waller. She's head of women's marketing for PokerStars. She told me I should start blogging about my quest to become a Supernova. A Supernova is a VIP category that is very hard to achieve. I thought my story would be inspirational to others. If you'd like to follow me go to my.pokernews.com/betyourmama/blog. I'm no where near achieving that status yet, but I'm on my way.

**Tell me a little about your personal life and how it interacts with poker.** My life is very hectic. My husband is a movie producer, so he works long hours and is often away from home for months. I have two teenage boys (13 and 15); need I say more? On my off time I spend it by taking my kids to school, sporting events and parties. I try my best to keep



LAUREN FAILLA

things balanced. I take yoga and meditate. With the ups and downs of being a professional poker player the most important thing is to be well-balanced. Nothing good can come of it if you stay on tilt.

**How do you feel about today's up-and-coming female players?** I love the new female poker players. I'm super-aggressive myself, so I enjoy the competition. For so long women would play hands too passively. Annette Obrestad is my favorite poker player. About two years ago a pretty famous female poker writer gave a seminar before the WSOP ladies event. She used my hyper-aggressive style as an example. People thought I would be offended, but on the contrary, I loved it. I don't think being aggressive is a bad thing; it's gotten me to where I'm at now.

**If you had some advice for female players considering poker as a career, what would it be?** If you're really serious you need to know this is a very, very hard life. The ups and downs aren't for everyone. Like I said the

most important quality to be successful is balance and learning to make relaxed decisions. I like to relate the theory of poker to all aspects of my life. It's weird but poker is about not making mistakes, and well, isn't that what life is all about?

**Has there ever been a time that you have had a poker mentor?** Yeah I hired this guy Tom Gallagher. He worked with Johnny Chan. He taught me the math and I basically memorized it. But there's this friend of mine named Scottie who took me in and introduced me to all the floormen at the L.A. poker rooms.

He and I would sit in my kitchen and play imaginary poker. We would deal the cards to seven imaginary players, I would walk around and play each hand and then he would critique my bets or folds. Very helpful!

Otherwise, I've been fortunate to meet a lot of other pros who have given me great advice. Overall my philosophy is to put myself out there.

**Do you still feel you're learning all the time or do you feel you have mastered the game?** Anyone who tells you they have nothing else to learn has nothing else to learn. Poker is instinctual and mathematical. On the math side you either know it or don't. I like to think there's more luck involved but that's not the case. I'm constantly learning. I read, I watch and I play. I ask questions and I review my sessions. But the real answer to this question is I'm always learning.

**What can we expect from you in the near future?** Over the next few months before the WSOP, I'll be playing a lot of tourneys. But mostly I'm trying to become a Supernova so maybe one day PokerStars can sponsor me and I can become a Team Pro Member.

— Lauren Failla writes a monthly column for *Ante Up*, tracking the progress of women in poker. Email her at lauren@highheelspokertour.com.



Beth Gains wants to be a PokerStars Supernova.

# ANTE UP

## YOUR POKER EXPERIENCE



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LOCATION	TOURNAMENTS	JACKPOTS	EVENTS/PROMOTIONS
<b>CALDER RACE COURSE</b> <b>Phone:</b> (305) 625-1311 <a href="http://www.calderracecourse.com/poker">www.calderracecourse.com/poker</a>	Guarantee of at least \$1K every day except Fridays, including \$5K Saturdays (\$100, 11a, 6K units, 30-minute blinds).	Royals \$500 (double if flopped); Bad beat is any quads; big cash drawings April 30 (call for details).	AUPT, April 10 (\$100, 11a, \$5K guar.); Aces cracked, first 10 from noon, M-F (\$50 in limit, \$100 no-limit).
<b>DANIA JAI-ALAI</b> <b>Phone:</b> (954) 927-2841 <a href="http://www.dania-jai-alai.com">www.dania-jai-alai.com</a>	Daily (\$25-\$150), including \$15K guarantee Fridays, (\$100, 6:30p); Omaha/8 on Thursdays (\$70, 5:30p). <b>Minis:</b> \$30, \$50, \$100, any time.	High hands pay \$50 hourly 1-8p; royals \$500 (Omaha \$250). Bad beats paid in cash games only.	AUPT, April 2 (\$100, 6:30p); Free drinks to cash-game players.
<b>DAYTONA BEACH KENNEL CLUB</b> <b>Phone:</b> (386) 252-6484 <a href="http://www.daytonagreyhound.com/pokerroom">www.daytonagreyhound.com/pokerroom</a>	Daily, including Wed. Ladies (\$25) at 1p; Sat. deep-stack (\$225, 2p) and PLO/8 (\$120, 7p). <b>SNGs:</b> \$40-\$220.	Check Web site for details on high hands and bad beats, including the NL \$100K Bad Beat Countdown.	WSOP Main Event qualifier, April 11 (\$150, 1p, 10K chips, 25-minute blinds).
<b>DERBY LANE</b> <b>Phone:</b> (727) 812-3339 ext. 7 <a href="http://www.derbylanepoker.com">www.derbylanepoker.com</a>	Daily, (1p, 4p and 7p Su-Th and 2p, 6p and 8p F-Sa).	Daily royal flushes and mini bad beats. Full calendar of jackpots varying day-to-day. See Web site.	AUPT, April 25 (\$100, 1p).
<b>EBRO GREYHOUND PARK</b> <b>Phone:</b> (850) 234-3943 <a href="http://www.ebrogreyhoundpark.com">www.ebrogreyhoundpark.com</a>	Mega Stack (last Sunday of month, \$330, 2p, 10K chips); Mon. & Wed., (\$40, 3K chips, 7p); Thurs., (\$20, 3K chips, 7p); Tue. & Sat., (\$10, 3K chips, 7p).	Royals paid; bad beat is quad deuces; Bonus Fridays (\$100 high hands every 15 mins.).	Super Bonus Day (April 5, \$100 high hands every 15 mins. and \$100 aces cracked).
<b>FLAGLER GREYHOUND TRACK</b> <b>Phone:</b> (305) 649-3000 <a href="http://www.flaglerdogs.com">www.flaglerdogs.com</a>	Sundays, low-rake bounty event (\$40, 1p). Monday night is a \$75 NLHE event (7p). <b>SNGs:</b> \$65-\$800	High hands pay \$150 all day; non-heart royals win \$1K, heart royals pay \$2,500.	\$500 progressive hot table paid at 3p & 9p; Big Slick Royal progressive \$140K at press time.
<b>FT. PIERCE JAI-ALAI &amp; POKER</b> <b>Phone:</b> (772) 464-7500 <a href="http://www.jaijalai.net/poker.php">www.jaijalai.net/poker.php</a>	Mon. (\$75, 7p); Wed. (\$100, 6:30p); Sat. (\$100, 1:30p); Sun. (\$55, 4p). Deepstack third Sat. every month (\$150, 3p). <b>SNGs:</b> (Thu.-Sat., \$65-\$110)	All new bad beats in hold'em, stud and Omaha. Call for details or visit Web site.	AUPT, April 17 (\$150, 3p, \$10K guarantee); 2nd-year celebration (See ad Page 25 for details).
<b>GULFSTREAM PARK</b> <b>Phone:</b> (954) 457-6336 <a href="http://www.gulfstreampark.com">www.gulfstreampark.com</a>	Daily, (\$60-\$150, 6:30p), including bounties M-W-F, plus the Saturday Special, (\$150, 8K units). <b>SNGs:</b> \$60-\$120 (10 players, pays three spots).	Bad beat: aces full of jacks; hourly high hands, M-F, 2-10p, starting at \$250 (\$500 4p, 6p, 8p); royals: \$500	Ante Up Poker Tour, April 19 (\$150, 6:30p, 8K units); WSOP Challenge (see ad Page 13).
<b>HAMILTON JAI-ALAI &amp; POKER</b> <b>Phone:</b> (800) 941-4841 <a href="http://www.hamiltondownsjaialai.com">www.hamiltondownsjaialai.com</a>	Super Bounty Sunday (\$35, \$10 bounties, 100-player cap, 2p); Rake Break Saturday (\$40, no rake, 5p, 2K chips, \$20 add-on gets 2K more)	Clubs royal pays \$1,200 (mini royal is \$120). Bad beat is aces full of kings and pays \$5K.	First to Hit pays players who are first to hit certain high hands during the day. Details on Web site.
<b>ISLE CASINO AT POMPANO PARK</b> <b>Phone:</b> (954) 972-2000 x5123 <a href="http://www.theislepompanopark.com">www.theislepompanopark.com</a>	Daily (\$40-\$720), including bounty events (T, Th, Sa. & Su., 7p) and \$10K guarantee Tuesdays (\$230, 2p, 13K chips, 30-min. blinds). <b>SNGs:</b> \$60-\$225	Bad beat was \$54K at press time.	April 5, \$350, 2p, \$30K guar., \$100 bounties; AUPT, April 17 (\$720, 2:07p, see ad Page 17).
<b>JEFFERSON COUNTY KENNEL CLUB</b> <b>Phone:</b> (850) 997-2561 <a href="http://www.jckcpokerroom.com">www.jckcpokerroom.com</a>	Operations have been temporarily suspended. Please call the room for an update.		
<b>MARDI GRAS CASINO</b> <b>Phone:</b> (877) 557-5687 x3167 <a href="http://www.playbigeasy poker.com">www.playbigeasy poker.com</a>	Omaha/8 Tuesdays (\$100, 6:30p, 5K chips); Deepstack Thursdays, (\$100, 6:30p), 10K chips but 5K more for \$40 add-on. <b>SNGs:</b> \$25-\$110.	High hands, \$100 hourly, 8a-2a, \$50 3a-8a, double in no-limit. \$500 at noon, 3p, 6p, 9p & midnight.	Ante Up Poker Tour, April 22 (\$100, 6:30p).
<b>MELBOURNE GREYHOUND PARK</b> <b>Phone:</b> (321) 259-9800 <a href="http://www.mgpark.com">www.mgpark.com</a>	Daily, (\$65-\$120), including Saturday Super Stack (\$120, 2p, 10K chips) and the Sunday 150 (\$65, 1p 2,500 chips). <b>SNGs:</b> All day, buy-ins vary.	Bad beat is only in hold'em and requires aces full of jacks be beaten by quads or better.	Wed. is Ladies Night at Club 52; quads wins \$50, straight flush \$100, royals \$500.
<b>MIAMI JAI-ALAI</b> <b>Phone:</b> (305) 633-6400 <a href="http://www.miamijaialai.net">www.miamijaialai.net</a>	(\$20-\$165).	Progressive royals and rolling quads of the day progressive; see Web site for more information.	Hourly \$100 high hands (win three in a day get entry into \$10K guarantee tournament).
<b>MICCOSUKEE RESORT</b> <b>Phone:</b> (877) 242-6464 <a href="http://www.miccossukee.com">www.miccossukee.com</a>	Fridays (\$65, 8p). Super Saturday no-limit hold'em tournament (\$65, 8p) gets you 3K chips.	Spade royal flush pays \$16K as of press time.	Call for information.
<b>NAPLES-FT. MYERS GREYHOUND TRACK</b> <b>Phone:</b> (239) 992-2411 <a href="http://www.naplesfortmyersdogs.com">www.naplesfortmyersdogs.com</a>	Sun. bounty (\$125, 2p); Mon. (\$65, 7p); Tue. (\$50, 7p); Wed. (\$65, 7p); Thurs. (\$65, noon & \$50, 7p); Fri. (\$65, 7p). Deepstack is every other Saturday, (\$225, noon).	Royals pay \$1K (diamonds, \$5K). On April 6 high hands pay \$1K hourly from 1-10p.	AUPT, April 24 (\$225, noon); Florida Million Day 1, March 27 (\$550, noon).
<b>OCALA POKER AND JAI-ALAI</b> <b>Phone:</b> (352) 591-2345 <a href="http://www.ocalapoker.com">www.ocalapoker.com</a>	Daily (\$30-\$500), including a \$10K guarantee (April 10, \$150, 1:30p). <b>SNGs:</b> (\$45-\$500).	See Web site for continuously updated information on high hands and bad beats (quads).	WSOP Main Event satellites, April 3 & 15 (\$150, 2p); Ante Up Poker Tour, April 24 (\$100, 2p).
<b>ORANGE PARK KENNEL CLUB</b> <b>Phone:</b> (904) 646-0002 <a href="http://www.jaxpokerroom.com">www.jaxpokerroom.com</a>	Daily (\$30-\$150), but Mega Stack (April 3, 2p), is \$225, which gets you 10K chips and 30-minute blinds.	Royals \$250 (spades \$500); Bad beats for mini and full. See Web site for details, plus a Super High Hand.	Ante Up Poker Tour, April 16 (\$100, 2p); WSOP satellite, April 18 (\$150, 1p).
<b>PALM BEACH KENNEL CLUB</b> <b>Phone:</b> (561) 683-2222 <a href="http://www.pbkennelclub.com">www.pbkennelclub.com</a>	Daily (\$30-\$120), noon & 6:30p Sun-Thurs.; 1 & 6:30 Fri.-Sat. Satellites for WSOP Saturday events every Wed. (\$30, 6:30p w/\$20 rebuys).	Visit Web site or call for information on daily high hands and bad-beat payouts and qualifications.	AUPT, April 23 (\$100, 1p); WSOP satellites every Saturday (\$200, 1p, at least one seat guaranteed).
<b>PENSACOLA GREYHOUND TRACK</b> <b>Phone:</b> (850) 455-8595 <a href="http://www.pensacolagreyhoundpark.com">www.pensacolagreyhoundpark.com</a>	Weekly (\$65-\$120). Every Saturday (\$120, 2p) and Sunday (\$120, 3p) will be a \$5,000 guarantee.	Hold'em and stud bad beats (any quads) and in Omaha (quad jacks).	Mon.-Fri. 1st 20 full houses or better, \$25-\$200. Plus, at 7p, Tue., Thurs. & Sun. first 75 full houses or better.

\* SNG = single-table tournaments; all tournaments are no-limit hold'em unless noted. Poker room managers email [editor@anteupmagazine.com](mailto:editor@anteupmagazine.com)

## FLORIDA

LOCATION	TOURNAMENTS	JACKPOTS	EVENTS/PROMOTIONS
<b>SARASOTA KENNEL CLUB</b> <b>Phone:</b> (941) 355-7744 ext. 1054 <a href="http://www.skcpoker.com">www.skcpoker.com</a>	Daily, plus Fri. (\$100, 1p, 25K chips, 25-minute blinds); Sat. \$12K guarantee with minimum of 10 spots paid (\$230, 2:30p). <b>SNGs:</b> \$35-\$300.	High hands \$599 Fri. & Sat.; progressive jackpots in all games. Bad beat is quad threes (\$170K).	Ante Up Poker Tour, April 24 (\$100, 6:30p).
<b>SEMINOLE CASINO BRIGHTON</b> <b>Phone:</b> (866) 222-7466 ext. 121 <a href="http://www.seminolecasinobrighton.com">www.seminolecasinobrighton.com</a>	Mondays and Wednesdays, (\$20, 6:30p) with an optional add-on. <b>SNGs:</b> \$25, \$65, \$110.	On Sundays quads pay \$50 noon-8p; Tuesdays pay high hand \$500; Mega-Bad Beat (quad 10s).	Wed., Rolling Cash Fever; Thurs. Aces Cracked, 4-7p (\$100); Sat., straight and royal flushes pay double.
<b>SEMINOLE CASINO COCONUT CREEK</b> <b>Phone:</b> (866) 222-7466 <a href="http://www.seminolecoconutcreekcasino.com">www.seminolecoconutcreekcasino.com</a>	Friday bounty (\$150, 7:30p), bounties are \$50 and players start with 8K chips and 20-minute blinds. <b>SNGs:</b> \$55, \$85, \$135.	Mega-Bad Beat (quad 10s).	See Web site for details or call poker room for current offers.
<b>SEMINOLE HARD ROCK HOLLYWOOD</b> <b>Phone:</b> (866) 502-7529 <a href="http://www.seminolehardrockhollywood.com">www.seminolehardrockhollywood.com</a>	Daily (\$75-\$1,100), including the Big Slick (April 24, \$1,100, 11a) and Main Event series. <b>SNGs:</b> \$60-\$1,050.	\$500 (no-limit) or \$250 (limit) added to high hand (Sun-Thurs., 10a, 1p, 4p & 7p). Mega-Bad Beat (quad 10s).	AUPT, April 24 (\$1,100, 11a, this also is the Big Slick event).
<b>SEMINOLE HARD ROCK TAMPA</b> <b>Phone:</b> (866) 502-7529 <a href="http://www.seminolehardrocktampa.com">www.seminolehardrocktampa.com</a>	Daily (\$100-\$550), including a Ladies Only event (April 4, 12:30p, \$100). <b>SNGs:</b> \$125-\$1,075.	Mega-Bad Beat (quad 10s). Royal flushes on weekdays pay all players at table \$50, but \$250 in spades.	Ante Up Poker Tour, April 17 (\$100, 10a). Four of a kind Bonus Days (call for details).
<b>SEMINOLE HOLLYWOOD CLASSIC</b> <b>Phone:</b> (866) 222-7466 <a href="http://www.seminolehollywoodcasino.com">www.seminolehollywoodcasino.com</a>	<b>SNGs:</b> \$50-\$100 and are now jackpot eligible.	Mega-Bad Beat (quad 10s).	In-house bad beat is aces full of jacks beaten by quads. Starts at \$2,500, capped at \$10K.
<b>SEMINOLE CASINO IMMOKALEE</b> <b>Phone:</b> (866) 222-7466 <a href="http://www.theseeminolecasino.com">www.theseeminolecasino.com</a>	Wed. (\$35, 7p); Thurs. (\$50, 7p); Fri. (\$60, 7p); Sat. KO event (\$50, 1p) & DeepStack (\$115, 7p, 25K chips, 25-min. blinds); Sun., Winner Take All (\$30, 7p)	Mega-Bad Beat (quads 10s), plus Immokalee players get \$100 if Mega hits at any Seminole room.	AUPT, April 3 (\$225, 7p); World Series of Poker freeroll, April 25-27 (Call for details).
<b>ST. JOHNS GREYHOUND PARK</b> <b>Phone:</b> (904) 646-0002 <a href="http://www.jaxpokerroom.com">www.jaxpokerroom.com</a>	Daily (\$30-\$150), plus a two-day \$225 Mega Stack (April 23 is Day 1A, 24th is Day 1B, 2p) that gets you 20K chips, 30-minute blinds).	Royals \$250 (spades \$500); Bad beats for mini and full. See site for details, plus a Super High Hand.	Ante Up Poker Tour, April 17 (\$125, 2p); WSOP satellite, April 10 (\$150, 1p).
<b>TAMPA BAY DOWNS</b> <b>Phone:</b> (813) 298-1798 <a href="http://www.tampabaydowns.com">www.tampabaydowns.com</a>	Daily (\$20-\$540), including team event third Tuesday of month (April 20, \$240 per team, 6:30p). <b>SNGs:</b> \$100 and up, starts with four players.	All quads and higher win cash all the time. Look for double- and triple-multiplier times and days.	AUPT, April 18 (\$350, 12:30p).
<b>TAMPA GREYHOUND TRACK</b> <b>Phone:</b> (813) 932-4313 <a href="http://www.luckycards.com">www.luckycards.com</a>	Daily (\$45-\$200), at 1p and 6:30p, including \$115 Sunday Challenge (Last Sunday of month, 1p, 14K chips). <b>SNGs:</b> \$65-\$200.	Quads (\$75), straight flushes (\$200) and royals (\$599). Spade royal progressive. Call for more details.	Friday Bounty (\$150, 7:30p, 8K chips, 20-minute blinds). Aces cracked noon-2p pays \$100.



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## LOUISIANA

LOCATION	TOURNAMENTS	JACKPOTS	EVENTS/PROMOTIONS
<b>AMELIA BELLE CASINO</b> <b>Phone:</b> (985) 631-1745 <a href="http://www.amelialbellecasinocom">www.amelialbellecasinocom</a>	No tournaments until further notice.	Bad beat (aces full of tens beaten by quads) was \$105K at press time,	Call for information. Promotions tied to state approval.
<b>BELLE OF BATON ROUGE</b> <b>Phone:</b> (800) 676-4847 <a href="http://www.belleofbatonrouge.com">www.belleofbatonrouge.com</a>	No tournaments yet, but \$4-\$8 limit and \$2-\$5 no-limit hold'em cash games.	Bad beat (any quads) was \$56K at press time.	Call for information.
<b>BOOMTOWN NEW ORLEANS</b> <b>Phone:</b> (800) 366-7711 <a href="http://www.boomtownneworleans.com">www.boomtownneworleans.com</a>	Tue. (11a) freeroll for players with 20 hours of play in the room, otherwise it costs \$10; Wed. (\$35, 7:30) and Thurs. pot-limit Omaha (7:30p, \$50)	Bad beats in hold'em, stud and Omaha.	Check Web site or call for promotions information.
<b>COUSHATTA CASINO</b> <b>Phone:</b> (800) 584-7263 x7336 <a href="http://www.coushattacasinoresort.com">www.coushattacasinoresort.com</a>	Daily (\$15-\$230), including Tue. (\$15, 6:30p) with rebuys & add-ons; Thurs. (\$85, 7p); Fri. (\$20, 7:30p) with rebuys, and Sat. (\$230, 2p).	Bad beat was \$38K at press time.	Call for information.
<b>CYPRESS BAYOU CASINO</b> <b>Phone:</b> (800) 284-4386 <a href="http://www.cypressbayou.com">www.cypressbayou.com</a>	Wed. (\$40, 6:30p); Saturday Super Bounty, (\$60, 3p) with two \$20 rebuys and two \$20 add-ons. Bounties are \$20 and Super Bounties are \$100.	Bad beat: quads.	Aces cracked, first Thursday of the month (noon-10p); Tournament of Champs (June 5), call for details.
<b>ELDORADO CASINO SHREVEPORT</b> <b>Phone:</b> (318) 220-5274 <a href="http://www.eldoradoshreveport.com">www.eldoradoshreveport.com</a>	Daily (\$50-\$125), including Saturdays (\$125, 11a) and Tuesday rebuy event (\$75, rebuys are \$25-\$50 with \$25-\$50 add-ons at first break, 6:30p)	Bad beat: quads (\$122K at press time).	Royal flush progressives pay by suit. Fridays is Aces Cracked, (4-6p), pays \$100.
<b>HARRAH'S NEW ORLEANS</b> <b>Phone:</b> (504) 533-6000 <a href="http://www.harrahsnneworleans.com">www.harrahsnneworleans.com</a>	Wednesdays (\$120, 11a)	Bad beat: quads.	Aces cracked Wednesdays and Thursdays. Call for details.
<b>HORSESHOE CASINO BOSSIER CITY</b> <b>Phone:</b> (800) 895-0711 <a href="http://www.horseshoebossiercity.com">www.horseshoebossiercity.com</a>	Daily (\$100-\$400), including last Saturday of month (\$300, 10:30a) and last Sunday (\$400, 2p).	Bad beat: quads (\$41K at press time). Plus mini-bad beat pays 10% (aces full of 10s).	Numerous promotions that change daily. Call for details.
<b>ISLE OF CAPRI LAKE CHARLES</b> <b>Phone:</b> (337) 430-2407 <a href="http://www.lake-charles.isleofcapricasinos.com">www.lake-charles.isleofcapricasinos.com</a>	Mon. \$3K guar. (\$60, 6p); Tue. (\$90, 6p); Friday (\$60, noon; \$140 7p); Saturday (\$225, noon).	Bad beat is \$50K; "Minor Jackpots" pays quads (\$25), straight flush (\$50) and royals (\$125), 24/7. Call for details.	La. State Poker Championship, April 19-25 (see ad Page 33); Splash Sundays: \$100 each hour, noon-3p.
<b>PARAGON CASINO</b> <b>Phone:</b> (800) 946-1946 x1975 <a href="http://www.paragoncasinoresort.com">www.paragoncasinoresort.com</a>	Mondays (\$20 w/rebuys, 7p), Thursday bounty event (\$20 with \$15 unlimited rebuys, 7p) and Fridays (\$60 with one \$50 rebuy, 7p)	Loosest bad beat in the state: Aces full of eights. In Omaha straight flush must be beaten.	High hand pays \$50 every half-hour Wednesdays (noon-2:30p and 9-11:30p).

## ARKANSAS

<b>OAKLAWN RACING &amp; GAMING</b> <b>Phone:</b> (501) 623-4411 <a href="http://www.oaklawn.com">www.oaklawn.com</a>	Daily, including SNGs (\$30), on PokerPro tables.	Bad beat paid on all hold'em cash games. Call for details.	\$100 high hands paid every three hours (Sun-Thurs., 11a-1a).
<b>SOUTHLAND PARK GAMING &amp; RACING</b> <b>Phone:</b> (870) 735-3670 <a href="http://www.southlandgreyhound.com">www.southlandgreyhound.com</a>	Mon.-Tue.-Wed. & Sat. (\$20, 2p), 3K chips and 15-minute blinds.	Bad beat is aces full of jacks beaten by quads.	Player Rewards cards offer comps based on play and 10% gift shop discounts. Call for offers.

## VIRGINIA

<b>ARABIA TEMPLE NO. 12</b> <b>Phone:</b> (757) 487-1614 <a href="http://www.takeitdownpl.com">www.takeitdownpl.com</a>	Mon.-Wed.-Thurs.-Fri. (\$25-\$105), including freerolls and SNGs at 6:15p and Olde Town Classic (\$105, 25K chips, 20-min. blinds) on Fri., 7:30p.	Call about the bad-beat details.	WSOP Satellite location, check Web site for details.
<b>THE POKER PALACE</b> <b>Phone:</b> (757) 488-4912 <a href="http://www.thepokerpalace.net">www.thepokerpalace.net</a>	Tuesdays (\$50, 7:30p) and Saturdays (\$65 plus rebuys, 1p; also \$75 plus rebuys, 7p).	Bad-beat qualification descends from aces full of jacks when jackpot reaches \$10K.	Call for information/promotions.
<b>VICTORY POKER LOUNGE</b> <b>Phone:</b> (757) 472-1203 <a href="http://www.victorypokerlounge.net">www.victorypokerlounge.net</a>	Wednesday-Thursday-Friday, including SNGs (\$30, \$50 and \$125).	Bad beat is kings full of jacks (\$28K at press time).	There is a nightly \$200 high hand. A \$5K grand prize event is coming in May, call for details.

## WEST VIRGINIA

<b>MOUNTAINEER RIVER POKER ROOM</b> <b>Phone:</b> (304) 387-8458 <a href="http://www.mountaineerpoker.com">www.mountaineerpoker.com</a>	Daily at 12:15p and 7:30p (\$50-\$225). DeepStack Main Event, April 10-11 (\$1,100, 11a, 30K chips, 10K more for \$20 dealer add-on, hour blinds.	Bad beat (aces full of kings) was \$110 at press time.	Call for details.
<b>TRI-STATE RACETRACK AND GAMING</b> <b>Phone:</b> (800) 224-9683 <a href="http://www.tristateracetrack.com">www.tristateracetrack.com</a>	Generally events are Sun. (2p), Mon. (1p), Tue. (7p) & Wed. 7p and buy-ins vary (\$40-\$125). Big Stack is last Sunday of month (\$560, 10K chips, 2p).	Bad beat totals vary by game, but hold'em (aces full of jacks) was \$41K at press time.	Call for details.
<b>WHEELING CASINO</b> <b>Phone:</b> (304) 232-5050 <a href="http://www.wheelingisland.com">www.wheelingisland.com</a>	Sun-Fri. (\$40, 10a); Sat. (\$150, 3p, 6K chips), plus tournaments every night (\$40-\$65, 7p).	Bad beat was \$41K at press time; quads (using both hole cards) Mon.-Sat. lets you spin the wheel.	Full House Frenzy Sundays: Each player with a full house gets a ticket entered into a \$400 drawing.

# MISSISSIPPI

LOCATION	TOURNAMENTS	JACKPOTS	EVENTS/PROMOTIONS
<b>AMERISTAR VICKSBURG</b> Phone: (601) 630-4996 <a href="http://www.ameristar.com/vicksburg">www.ameristar.com/vicksburg</a>	Thursdays, (\$70, 7p) with one optional add-on.	Mini bad beat (quads over aces full) pays 10% of full bad beat (any quads), \$61K at press time.	Call for details.
<b>BEAU RIVAGE RESORT AND CASINO</b> Phone: (228) 386-7092 <a href="http://www.beaurivage.com">www.beaurivage.com</a>	Daily at noon & 6p (\$120-\$340), including \$20K guarantee first Saturday of the month (\$340, noon, 4K chips, but 2K more for \$10 add-on).	Royals pay \$200 but spades wins \$500; aces cracked for limit hold'em players (\$100).	Spring Break Poker Classic, March 26-April 11. Ask about the \$100 Omaha/8 promotion.
<b>BOOMTOWN CASINO BILOXI</b> Phone: (228) 436-8999 <a href="http://www.boomtownbiloxi.com">www.boomtownbiloxi.com</a>	Mon.-Wed and Sat. (\$45-\$65), plus last Wed. of the month features a bounty event (\$100, 7p).	Bad beat is aces full of kings (More than \$50K at press time). Mini pays 10% (aces full of jacks).	Aces cracked pays \$100 all day, every day, plus player entered in \$500 drawing.
<b>GOLD STRIKE CASINO AND RESORT</b> Phone: (662) 357-1136 <a href="http://www.goldstrikemississippi.com">www.goldstrikemississippi.com</a>	Daily (\$60-\$340). \$10K guarantee first Sun. of the month (\$340, 1p), 10K chips, 30-minute blinds. Third Sat. is \$5K guarantee (\$100, 6p, 8K chips)	Call for current bad beat and royal flush jackpots.	Call for any promotions.
<b>HARD ROCK BILOXI</b> Phone: (228) 374-7625 <a href="http://www.hardrockbiloxi.com">www.hardrockbiloxi.com</a>	Daily at 3p (\$25-\$55). Chip stacks, bonus chip offers and blinds vary. Web site has all details. <b>SNGs:</b> \$75, \$125, \$235, \$550.	Bad beat is aces full of queens beaten by quads (\$145K at press time).	Royal flush wins Hard Rock Poker Room jacket; straight flush wins Hard Rock Poker Room hat.
<b>HARLOW'S CASINO</b> Phone: (662) 335-9797 x144 <a href="http://www.harlowscasino.com">www.harlowscasino.com</a>	Tuesdays, USPT event (\$65, 7:30p); 2nd & 4th Saturdays of the month (\$100, 5p); first Friday of month (\$250, 8p).	No jackpots.	Call for any promotions.
<b>HARRAH'S TUNICA</b> Phone: (800) 946-4946, x33760 <a href="http://www.harrahsstunica.com">www.harrahsstunica.com</a>	Daily (\$60-\$105), including \$2,500 guarantee Fridays (\$80, 6p) featuring 12K chips and 20-minute blinds.	No jackpots.	Call for any promotions.
<b>HOLLYWOOD CASINO BAY ST. LOUIS</b> Phone: (866) 758-2591 x4026 <a href="http://www.hollywoodcasinobsl.com">www.hollywoodcasinobsl.com</a>	Daily (\$30-\$55) including a pineapple tournament on Thursdays (\$45, 6:30p) with 2,500 chips, 20-minute blinds.	Bad beat and mini bad beat available. High hands win \$50 Wed. & Thurs. (10a-6p). Call for details.	Aces cracked on Tue. (10a-10p) wins \$100 or \$150 progressive up to \$200. Ask about Funday Sunday.
<b>HOLLYWOOD CASINO TUNICA</b> Phone: (800) 871-0711 x5005 <a href="http://www.hollywoodtunica.com">www.hollywoodtunica.com</a>	Daily (\$10-\$70), including Sunday \$1K guarantee (\$10 gets 500 chips, \$5 dealer take gets 1,500 chips, \$10 rebuys and \$20 add-on for \$10K, 2p)	Hold'em bad beat (quads or better) must be in \$3-\$6 or higher (\$59K) and there's a new Omaha jackpot.	Aces cracked Wednesdays and High Hands Thursdays spin the prize wheel (\$25-\$500).
<b>HORSESHOE CASINO TUNICA</b> Phone: (662) 357-5608 <a href="http://www.horseshoetunica.com">www.horseshoetunica.com</a>	Daily (\$55-\$550), including first Sat. of the month's \$10K first-place guarantee (\$550, 4p) with 12K chips and 30-minute blinds.	Bad beat (quads) in hold'em was at \$100K at press time.	Hourly high hands in hold'em can win \$25-\$500 depending on the hand made. Call for details.
<b>ISLAND VIEW CASINO</b> Phone: (228) 314-2230 <a href="http://www.islandviewcasino.com">www.islandviewcasino.com</a>	Fridays (\$50 with \$25 rebuys, 6:30p)	Straight flush progressive Fridays (7:30p-8a). Bad beat is aces full of queens. Call about Beat the Dealer.	Splash the Pot daily (\$25 every 30 minutes, 10a-6p) and \$50 high hands Mon-Thurs., Sun. (7p-mid.).
<b>IP CASINO RESORT &amp; SPA</b> Phone: (888) 946-2847 x8554 <a href="http://www.ipbiloxi.com">www.ipbiloxi.com</a>	Daily at noon (\$60, 4K chips). Earn extra chips by playing live action between 8a-11a to receive an extra 1K chips for each hour played.	High hands pay \$75 hourly Tue. & Thurs. (midnight-4p). Hands must be at least a full house.	Aces cracked pays \$100 (Tue.-Wed 4p-midnight). WSOP satellite April 21-May 4; call for details.
<b>ISLE OF CAPRI BILOXI</b> Phone: (228) 436-7967 <a href="http://www.biloxi.isleofcapricasinios.com">www.biloxi.isleofcapricasinios.com</a>	Daily (\$15-\$50), including bounty rebuy event on Saturdays (\$30, 3p), featuring 3K chips, 20-minute blinds, \$20 rebuys, \$25 add-on and \$20 bounties.	Bad beat available in numerous games, but hold'em (aces full of queens) was \$81K at press time.	Royals win jacket; aces cracked (Mon & Wed., 10a-mid.) wins \$50 or wheel spin.
<b>SAM'S TOWN CASINO TUNICA</b> Phone: (800) 456-0711 <a href="http://www.samstowntunica.com">www.samstowntunica.com</a>	Daily (\$20-\$80), including a \$3K guarantee on Saturdays (\$20, 7p). <b>SNGs:</b> \$60-\$120.	Bad beat is any quads (\$32K at press time).	SNG bad beat is aces full of sixes and is \$2K at press time, but increases \$200 every day it's not hit.
<b>SILVER SLIPPER CASINO</b> Phone: (866) 775-4773 x3766 <a href="http://www.silverslipper-ms.com">www.silverslipper-ms.com</a>	Thursday bounty (\$75, 7p), 2K chips, 15-minute blinds, \$25 bounties. <b>SNGs:</b> \$45, \$65 (2K chips, 10 players).	Bad beat is \$75K in hold'em, \$2K for Omaha. Mini is aces full of deuces (\$550 to loser).	Aces cracked can earn you from \$50-\$150 depending on the day and time. Call for details.
<b>SILVER STAR CASINO (PEARL RIVER)</b> Phone: (601) 650-1234 <a href="http://www.pearlriverresort.com">www.pearlriverresort.com</a>	Daily, (\$35-\$60), including a \$2,500 guarantee on Saturdays (\$85, 2p). Events on M-T-W-Th start at 7p; F-S-Su start at 2p.	Bad beat in hold'em (quads), Omaha (quad 7s) and stud (quads).	\$3,500 freeroll is last Sunday of every month (5p). Check Web site for details.

# GEORGIA

<b>DIAMOND CASINO SAVANNAH</b> Phone: (912) 897-3005 <a href="http://www.diamondcasinosavannah.com">www.diamondcasinosavannah.com</a>	Friday (night cruise) and Saturday (afternoon and night cruises), \$110.	Call for information.	Call for any promotions.
<b>EMERALD PRINCESS II</b> Phone: (912) 265-3558 <a href="http://www.emeraldprincesscasino.com">www.emeraldprincesscasino.com</a>	Texas Hold'em Saturdays, call for details.	Call for information.	Call for any promotions.

# NORTH CAROLINA

<b>HARRAH'S CHEROKEE</b> <a href="http://www.harrahscherokee.com">www.harrahscherokee.com</a> Phone: (828) 497-7777	Tournaments and cash games on PokerPro tables. <b>SNGs:</b> Tuesday and Sunday (\$115).	Call for information.	Call for any promotions.
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## POKER PRODUCTS

From Ante Up Sponsors

**Gold Strike Poker**

Gold Strike Poker, a new sweepstakes-based online poker room, is set to launch before June 1 at [goldstrikepoker.com](http://goldstrikepoker.com) with revolutionary 3D graphics that players have never seen before.

Players in all 50 states can play free tournaments or cash games in a variety of different forms of poker in the Gold Strike Poker room, and can customize their individual 3D avatar with dozens of unique features. Players in every Southern state except Alabama, Arkansas, Tennessee and Georgia may redeem the points they win for prizes if they join for \$19.95 a month. More than a million different prizes, from electronics to gift cards to a new Corvette, will be offered.

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Look in next month's issue of *Ante Up* for special Gold Strike Poker deals just for *Ante Up* readers who sign up using the **ANTEUP** promo code!



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Stephen Bloomfield, a.k.a. the Doc, is one of Florida's leading psychologists. He wrote **Head Games** in the late '80s to help competitors of every type use the skills he had learned about the effects of the mind on performance.



After five years of playing poker in Florida, Mississippi, Las Vegas, Connecticut and occasionally online, Doc has decided to share his skills with *Ante Up* readers through periodic columns, titled Head Games. In addition Doc will be offering support to some of the region's best professionals and amateur players with one-on-one advising sessions and group workshops. Email questions to [editor@anteupmagazine.com](mailto:editor@anteupmagazine.com)

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# Q&A

## WITH BERNARD LEE



Poker pro Bernard Lee is one of the country's best-known poker journalists. Here are excerpts from his interview on the *Ante Up PokerCast* when he talked about his new gig as spokesman for Foxwoods Casino in Connecticut and about poker life in general.

**You've been doing a lot of interviews after your deal was announced. How's it feel to be on the other side of the questions?** (laughs) It's fine. You know, ironically I kinda started my career doing it that way. I did a lot of interviews when I came back from the World Series (in 2005 after finishing 13th in the main event). It's kinda reminiscent of that. ... To do this many in a row it definitely felt like '05 all over again.

**Can you tell us a little bit about your deal?** I'm just really honored and humbled that Foxwoods would consider choosing me. There are so many players out there, player who've been really successful. But it was something that kinda worked out very, very well. It's a two-year deal where I'll be sporting their logo out on the tour, on my radio show the presenting sponsor is now Foxwoods, building on what they already have. Foxwoods has one of the biggest and best rooms in the country, and I really don't think many people can dispute that.

**Will you have a chance to work with the poker room as far as designing tournaments and promotions?** Absolutely. And that's one of the things that isn't necessarily part of the contract per se, but I used to work for a Fortune 500 company in marketing ... and this is what I used to do. ... So helping the poker room increase its marketability, they can now tap into my marketing background, and with all my heart I'll help them out.

**You're a busy guy and a family man. How difficult will it be to add this deal to your laundry list of responsibilities?** This is going to take a little bit more time, obviously, but it's not as much as you would think. It's not as if my workload and or my time is going to increase exponentially by three-fold. I was playing a fairly decent schedule already on tour. ...

My schedule, in general, I would say is Chicago and (east). I don't usually do Las Vegas or California unless it's the World Series or maybe a Bellagio event. I might play in an event or two more now because I have that opportunity because Foxwoods is sponsoring me.

**How do you carve out time for your family when you're touring?** I don't take (my family) on tour. My wife doesn't like going to casinos that much. She doesn't mind staying in the hotel or going to the spa every once in a while, but we've been married 14 years and I've taken her on the casino floor maybe a handful (of times). And the only time she's bet is when someone's forced her to put a quarter in the slot machine. (laughs)

But when I'm home, I'm at home. I get to take my son and daughter to school, I get to pick them up from school, I could roll around in the snow with them at 2:30 in the afternoon if I wanted to. (laughs) ... I just feel so fortunate that when I'm home, I'm at home, and that's a good thing.



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