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LOUISIANA

SEVEN CLANS CUP

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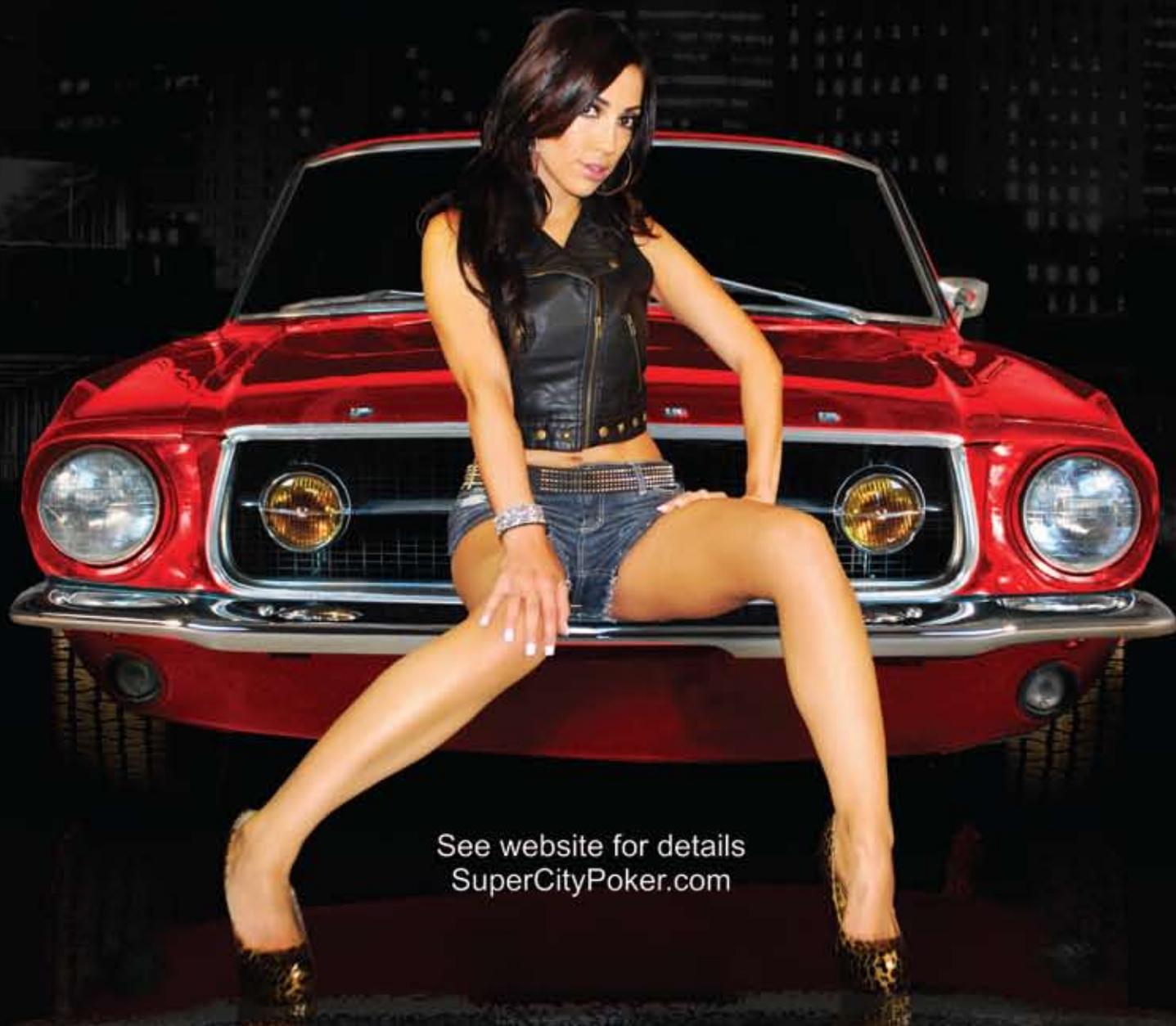


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A POWER TRIO OF HOPE

Thank you John Dolan, John Racener and Michael Mizrachi.

You see, a few months back we implored our players to come up with a victory in the World Series of Poker Main Event. Now, we aren't so arrogant as to think these guys picked up our magazine at one of our great local poker rooms and were inspired by our words. But it's been too long since the poker community in the *Ante Up* coverage area has had a champion to call its own, and now we like our chances. Though the November Nine's conclusion has yet to pan out, at this point we really couldn't ask for more. We relish our 1-in-3 odds at having a world champion. Think of it like this: You hit one in every three flops ... THAT'S how close we are to crowning one of our own.

And given the enormous main event fields, to have all three of our players come from the Sunshine State is unprecedented. Not since the days when just about everybody ponying up the \$10K buy-in was from Texas have this many players from one state made it to the final table.

Dolan and Racener were under-the-radar pros before all of this, each with moderate live successes. Racener, known as \$JMONY\$ online, has won a few titles, including a WSOP circuit event, while Dolan has taken home victories from the Beau Rivage's Gulf Coast Championships and Harrah's Winter Bayou series in New Orleans.

Mizrachi is quite the opposite. Our 2010 WSOP Player of the Year is having the best WSOP of his career and still has a shot at tying Tennessee native Frank Kasella for the Series' official POY.

The Grinder has numerous World Poker Tour titles and about \$10 million in career tournament earnings. If he were to win the title in the same year as winning the \$50K Players Championship, it will be the greatest accomplishment ever in one WSOP, and might go down as the finest feat in poker history, with Johnny Chan's back-to-back world titles and runner-up finish the next year as a close second.

We'll take a quick look at our local November Nine representatives, what it was like for them en route to making history, what they've been doing since and what they think of each other. We'll also give you a preview of the rest of the players at that prestigious final table.

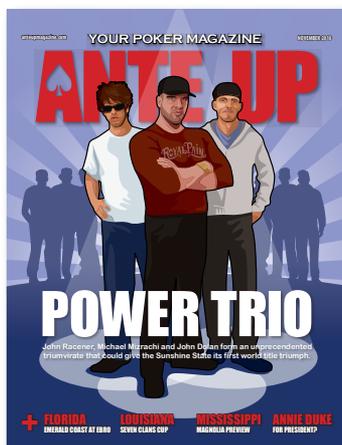
This power trio represents a nice mix of styles and personalities, and each would do well serving as poker's ambassador. No matter the outcome, these fine players should be proud of

their run. ... *Ante Up* certainly is. And just remember, boys, there's still work to be done. Now go bring the title home.

Elsewhere in this issue, we continue our Road Trip series with a visit to the new rooms in Delaware and Eastern Pennsylvania; *Ante Up* endorses Annie Duke for political office as she gives us her take on the progress of online poker's fight for regulation; and Joe Sebok is On the Button as we catch up with him at a recent charity event.

Also, we are excited to announce we have added the poker rooms of Connecticut and New Jersey to our circulation and news section. Welcome aboard and we'll see you at the tables.

Christopher Cosenza and Scott Long



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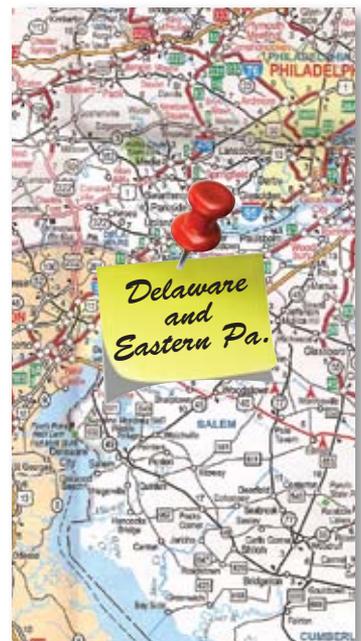
Joe Sebok, the poker pro with the famous poker legend step-dad, chats about charity, life as a UB rep, why he hasn't won any significant event and he explains that he's not a jerk. **70**



EXCLUSIVE!

In a special one-on-one interview with *Ante Up's* Chris Cosenza, Annie Duke shares her thoughts on everything from her disdain for the Commerce Casino and her love of charity events, to life as a vegan and cooking from scratch for her children. She also discusses the status of online poker regulation and inspires *Ante Up* to endorse her for any political office she chooses. **46**

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**EVENT #1: NO LIMIT HOLD 'EM DEEP STACK
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\$560 Buy In • Day 1A Friday, November 12 at 11AM
or Day 1B Saturday, November 13 at 11AM
Final Day on Sunday, November 14

(Players who were eliminated from Friday Day 1 may re-enter into Saturday Day 1)

**EVENT #2: DEEP STACK TURBO
\$15,000 GUARANTEED PRIZE POOL**

\$230 Buy In • Sunday, November 14 at 4PM

**EVENT #3: NO LIMIT HOLD 'EM
\$30,000 GUARANTEED PRIZE POOL**

\$350 Buy In • Monday, November 15 at 11AM

**EVENT #4: NO LIMIT HOLD 'EM
\$75,000 GUARANTEED PRIZE POOL**

\$1,100 Buy In • Day 1 Tuesday, November 16 at 11AM
(Surviving players return on Wednesday, November 17 at 11AM)

**EVENT #5: NO LIMIT HOLD 'EM
\$20,000 GUARANTEED PRIZE POOL**

\$230 Buy In • Wednesday, November 17 at 2PM
(Re-entries permitted for 2 rounds)

**EVENT #6: NO LIMIT HOLD 'EM
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**EVENT #7: NO LIMIT HOLD 'EM
\$500,000 GUARANTEED PRIZE POOL**

\$5,000 Buy In
Day 1A Friday November 19th 11AM
Day 1B Saturday November 20th 11AM
Day 2 Sunday November 21st 11AM
Final Day Monday November 22nd 11AM
(Players who were eliminated from Friday Day 1
may re-enter into Saturday Day 1)

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DANIA JAI-ALAI



Paul Bange took home the trophy for the Dan Le Batard celebrity tournament Oct. 6. The final table of 10 players chopped, giving each \$530 for their \$50 buy-in.

Bange was chipleader at the time of the chop and declared champion.

Jim White of Ormond Beach finished fourth in the inaugural T.J. Cloutier Classic at Choctaw Casino in Durant, Okla., taking home \$23,954.

The \$1,650 event had 191 players, including Cloutier (17th), Scotty Nguyen, Young Phan, Tex Barch, Tom McEvoy and Vince Burigio.

PLAYERS CHOICE POKER



Glenn Fennell won the September tournament at Howard Johnson's in North Lakeland, defeating more than 140 players to take home the \$1,200 first-place prize. He was followed by Donnie Willis (\$500), Vince Valin (\$250), Alex Kent (\$150), Steve Eady (\$100), Reubin Goss (\$75), James Kipp (\$75), Abraham Hardee (\$50), Shane Brown (\$50) and Bev Garceau (\$50).

DEAD MAN POKER CLUB



About 40 players showed up at Jolly Rogers Bar & Grill in Kissimmee on Sept. 26 for the club's first quarterly tournament. First place went to Freddie, followed by Peter G. and Stephanie M. The prize pool was more than \$1,000.

BIG STACKS POKER LEAGUE



From left is Keith Britton, Judy Grimes, Enzo Gaivizzo, league owner Brian Esparza, Sylvia Pacheco and Kathy Cruse.

It was Ladies Night at the September bi-monthly event at Legend's Sports Bar and Grill, or so it seemed. The final table consisted of three women and seven men, but two of those women, Sylvia Pacheco and Judy Grimes, made it to heads-up play.

Pacheco won the match and the \$500 poker room sponsorship as Grimes took home a \$200 sponsorship. She was followed by Keith Britton (\$125 sponsorship), Enzo Gaivizzo (\$100 sponsorship) and Kathy Cruse (\$75 sponsorship).

SEMINOLE HARD ROCK TAMPA

There's just something about the Seminole Hard Rock poker room in Tampa. The past four times the Mega Bad Beat Jackpot was hit it happened at the Tampa property, most recently on Oct. 3 for \$235,871.

It was the 11th time overall the mega was hit in Tampa as longtime regular Richard B. of Tampa won \$118,934 when his queen-high straight flush lost to **Buck J.** of Tampa (\$71,361). The remaining four players took home nearly \$12K each.

On Sept. 19 Paul Trianosky of Mountain City, Tenn. saw his four kings lose to the six-high straight flush of Michael Gisoni of Hawthorne, Fla. Trianosky took home \$163,608 while Gisoni won \$98,265. The remaining six players each won almost \$11K.

A whopping \$2,401,474 of the nearly \$4.5 million paid in mega bad beats has come from the Tampa poker room.



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JANUARY 6 - 27, 2011

DATE	EVENT#	TIME	GAME	ENTRY FEE	BONUS CHIPS
Jan 6	Thursday	6PM	Single Table Satellites and Nightly Event		
Jan 7	Friday	12PM	No Limit Hold'Em	\$500 + \$50	
Jan 7	Friday	4PM	Limit Omaha 8 or Better	\$300 + \$40	+ \$10
Jan 8	Saturday	12PM	No Limit Hold'Em	\$300 + \$40	+ \$10
Jan 8	Saturday	4PM	Seven Card Stud	\$300 + \$40	+ \$10
Jan 9	Sunday	12PM	No Limit Hold'Em	\$500 + \$50	
Jan 9	Sunday	4PM	Pot Limit Omaha (1 Re-entry, 1 Add-on)	\$300 + \$40	+ \$10
Jan 10	Monday	12PM	No Limit Hold'Em	\$300 + \$40	+ \$10
Jan 10	Monday	4PM	Seven Card Stud 8 or Better	\$300 + \$40	+ \$10
Jan 11	Tuesday	12PM	No Limit Hold'Em (1 Re-entry, 1 Add-on)	\$200 + \$30	+ \$10
Jan 11	Tuesday	4PM	Limit Hold'Em	\$300 + \$40	+ \$10
Jan 12	Wednesday	12PM	No Limit Hold'Em	\$300 + \$40	+ \$10
Jan 12	Wednesday	4PM	Pot Limit Omaha/Re-entry	\$300 + \$40	+ \$10
Jan 13	Thursday	12PM	No Limit Hold'Em	\$1,000 + \$70	
Jan 13	Thursday	4PM	Limit Omaha 8 or Better	\$300 + \$40	+ \$10
Jan 14	Friday	12PM	No Limit Hold'Em	\$300 + \$40	+ \$10
Jan 14	Friday	4PM	HOSE	\$300 + \$40	+ \$10
Jan 15	Saturday	11AM	Ladies No Limit Hold'Em	\$300 + \$40	+ \$10
Jan 15	Saturday	1PM	Seniors No Limit Hold'Em	\$300 + \$40	+ \$10
Jan 15	Saturday	4PM	No Limit Hold'Em/Pot Limit Omaha	\$500 + \$50	
Jan 16	Sunday	12PM	No Limit Hold'Em	\$300 + \$40	+ \$10
Jan 16	Sunday	4PM	HORSE	\$500 + \$50	
Jan 17	Monday	12PM	No Limit Hold'Em	\$300 + \$40	+ \$10
Jan 17	Monday	4PM	No Limit Hold'Em Heads up (64 Max)	\$500 + \$50	
Jan 18	Tuesday	12PM	No Limit Hold'Em	\$1,000 + \$70	
Jan 18	Tuesday	4PM	Pot Limit Omaha Re-entry	\$200 + \$30	+ \$10
Jan 19	Wednesday	12PM	No Limit Hold'Em	\$1,500 + \$80	
Jan 19	Wednesday	4PM	No Limit Hold'Em	\$300 + \$40	+ \$10
Jan 20	Thursday	12PM	Pot Limit Omaha Championship	\$2,500 + \$100	
Jan 20	Thursday	4PM	6 Handed No Limit Hold'Em Knockout Bounty	\$600 + \$60	
Jan 21	Friday	12PM	No Limit Hold'Em	\$2,500 + \$100	
Jan 21	Friday	4PM & 8PM	Mega Satellite		
Jan 21	Fri. Night	Midnight	Midnight Mega Satellite		
Jan 22	Saturday	12PM	Mega Satellite	\$1,000 + \$60	
Jan 22	Saturday	4PM & 8PM	Mega Satellite	\$500 + \$40	
Jan 23	Sunday	12PM	WPT No Limit Hold'Em Championship Event	\$9,700 + \$300	
Jan 24	Monday	1PM	Heads-up No Limit Hold'Em	\$2,500 + \$100	
Jan 24	Monday	4PM	WPT Next Stop Mega Satellite	\$1,000 + \$60	
Jan 25	Tuesday	2PM	8 Game Mix	\$2,500 + \$100	
Jan 26	Wednesday	2PM	Day 4 of Main Event		
Jan 27	Thursday	4PM	Main Event Final Table		



\$200 + \$30 Mega Satellites for Championship Event every day at 5PM, January 7 - 21. \$100 + \$25 No-Limit Hold'Em nightly events at 7PM, January 6 - 25.

Registration begins at 5PM on January 6. Registration is open from 8AM - 9PM daily. For more information call 228.386.7092. Blind structures and other details are available at beaurivage.com. Complete rules are available in the poker room.

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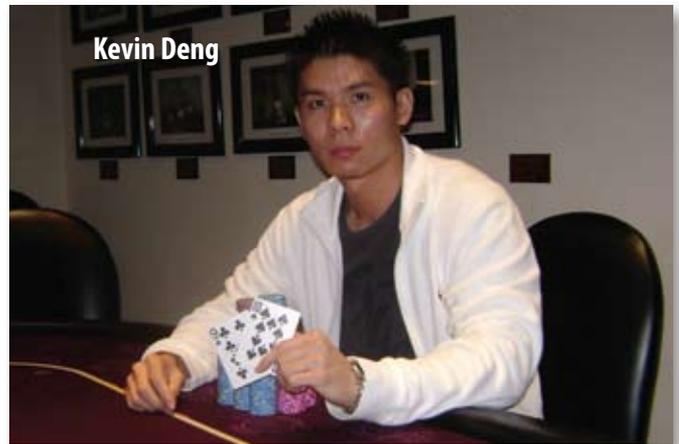


SEMINOLE HARD ROCK HOLLYWOOD

Here are two recent results from the Paradise Poker Room, listing the top 10. You'll notice Big Slick winner Arturo Garcia made less than the second- and third-place finishers. That's likely because they chopped and he agreed to take less money if he could win the trophy. Don't forget the \$700K Fall Open is this month, Nov. 12-22, including a \$5K buy-in main event. See ad on Page 11 for full schedule and details.



Arturo Garcia



Kevin Deng

Big Slick Tournament

Sept. 24-26 • Players: 189 • Prize pool: \$94,500

1. Arturo Garcia	Miami	\$13,200
2. Patrick Capozziello	Delray Beach	\$14,000
3. Christy Pham	Lake Mary	\$13,299
4. Sergei Kirkunov	Hollywood	\$10,000
5. Robert Fava	Homestead	\$10,000
6. Ward Martin	Lantana	\$10,000
7. Kevin Deng	Coral Springs	\$3,119
8. Leon Benmargui	Hollywood	\$2,268
9. Fernando Halac	Aventura	\$2,174
10. Sean M. Martin	Hollywood	\$2,079

Labor Day Tournament

Sept. 5-7 • Players: 214 • Prize pool: \$107,000

1. Kevin Deng	Coral Springs	\$30,450
2. Juan Peralta	Miami	\$17,850
3. Daniel Shiff	Aventura	\$11,550
4. Nigel Murray	Miami Gardens	\$7,350
5. Eliyahu Levy	North Miami	\$5,250
6. Kelvin McClendon	North Miami	\$4,515
7. Juan Naranjo	Hialeah	\$3,465
8. Moshe Tarich	N. Miami Beach	\$2,520
9. Omar McFarlane	Lake Worth	\$2,415
10. Santana Noronha	Davie	\$2,310

HAMILTON JAI-ALAI



Mario Martinez, left, and Derek Norris pose with their \$2,100 each after splitting the Labor Day deepstack event.

PENSACOLA GREYHOUND PARK



Here are the results from the \$20K guarantee on Sept. 25. The \$340 event drew 85 players for a \$25,500 prize pool.

1. Brian Mason, \$8,797
2. Austin Andrews, \$5,610
3. Kevin Walsh, \$2,103
4. N/A, \$2,103
5. John Tran, \$1,785
6. N/A, \$1,530
7. Ronnie Bryant, \$1,338
8. Janet Clark, \$1,150

ALL-IN FREE POKER

Joe Hedleston defeated two-time champ John Morrow to earn his first championship, the 24th in league history.

Packy's Sports Pub at Lighthouse Point hosted 150 players on Oct. 6 as Morrow had to settle for an \$1,100 Isle Open seat instead of his third title. Hedleston won a \$5,000 package that includes a poker cruise.

Hedleston and Morrow were followed by Mark Miller, Bill Scott, Tim Roberts, Bruce Kahn, Mike Coberly, Kildare Pierre, Taylor Brooks and Lisa Woodburn. Places 5-10 earned seats in Isle Open satellites while Miller and Scott each won a \$575 entry to the Isle's \$50K guarantee.



PLEASURE ISLAND POKER



Mark Dickey defeated Jack Chaemcheun to win the September monthly event at Scully's on the Bayou in Ft. Walton Beach, defeating 70 players. Both players won seats in Pensacola Greyhound tournaments. They were followed by Jack Lippert, Scott Lee, Teena Fendley, Mike Johnson, Josh Morehouse, Robert Klein and Shelby Jo Lynch.



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Tournament Schedule

Date & Day	Event #	Time	Tournament	Buy-In
Dec. 2 Thu.		10 A.M.	Satellites begin	
Dec. 2 Thu.	1	12 P.M.	No-Limit Hold'em	\$100 + \$25
Dec. 2 Thu.	2	2 P.M.	Limit Omaha 8/B	\$200 + \$30
Dec. 3 Fri.	3	12 P.M.	No-Limit Hold'em	\$200 + \$30
Dec. 3 Fri.	4	2 P.M.	7-Card Stud 8/B	\$200 + \$30
Dec. 4 Sat.	5	12 P.M.	No-Limit Hold'em	\$300 + \$40
Dec. 4 Sat.	6	2 P.M.	Ladies Event	\$200 + \$30
Dec. 5 Sun.	7	12 P.M.	No-Limit Hold'em	\$200 + \$30
Dec. 5 Sun.	8	3 P.M.	Limit Omaha 8/B	\$200 + \$30
Dec. 6 Mon.	9	12 P.M.	No-Limit Hold'em	\$200 + \$30
Dec. 7 Tue.	10	12 P.M.	No-Limit Hold'em	\$200 + \$30
Dec. 7 Tue.	11	2 P.M.	7-Card Stud 8/B	\$200 + \$30
Dec. 8 Wed.	12	12 P.M.	No-Limit Hold'em	\$100 + \$25
Dec. 8 Wed.	13	2 P.M.	Limit Omaha 8/B	\$200 + \$30
Dec. 9 Thu.	14	12 P.M.	No-Limit Hold'em	\$200 + \$30
Dec. 9 Thu.	15	2 P.M.	PLO Omaha 8/B	\$200 + \$30
Dec. 10 Fri.	16	12 P.M.	No-Limit Hold'em	\$300 + \$40
Dec. 10 Fri.	17	4 P.M.	Super satellite/\$50 rebuy	\$100 + \$25
Dec. 10 Fri.	18	8 P.M.	Super satellite/\$50 rebuy	\$100 + \$25
Dec. 11 Sat. (2 days)	19	2 P.M.	N/L Hold'em Main Event	\$1,000 + \$80
Dec. 11 Sat.	20	4 P.M.	No-Limit Hold'em	\$200 + \$30
Dec. 12 Sun.	21	12 P.M.	No Limit Hold'em	\$100 + \$25

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An occasional interview with a local player • By Garrett Roth

There are many people eagerly awaiting the return of the Florida Million, and none more than Toan Trinh, who was third in last year's event (\$73K). Toan, who lives in St. Petersburg, is excited to make a run toward back-to-back final tables in this prestigious event. Trinh, who also has a final table in this year's World Series of Poker circuit event at New Orleans (\$7K), met with *Ante Up's* Garrett Roth to discuss his poker career, his interests and his great run in last year's Florida Million.

How long have you been playing and what are your favorite variations of poker? I first started playing poker at the old Seminole casino (in Tampa) back in 1997 when I was about 15 years old (fortunately, my brother and I look very similar). I learned how to play seven-card stud before I even learned how to play no-limit hold'em. I also enjoy PLO and O/8; they are probably my favorite games as of late.

What's so special about the Florida Million over other events? The Florida Million was a great tournament. My favorite part about it was that it was almost like a rebuy since you were able to buy in on different days, even if you happen to bust the first session. This added a lot more money to the prize pool. Lucky for me, I only had to buy in one time and it was the best investment of my life!

What were some of the big hands that propelled you to the final table? One specific hand I remember was against November Niner John Racener. Surprisingly, it wasn't a hand I won, but one that I folded. I picked up aces under the gun after I had just showed down the same pair of aces. At 1K-2K blinds, I limped and ended up in a three way pot with the big blind and Racener. The flop came $K\clubsuit-Q\clubsuit-5\clubsuit$. The big blind and myself checked, and John bet 3,700. The big blind then raised to 17K. I called and Racener reraised all-in for around 60K, followed by the big blind re-shoving all-in for 150K. I thought for a while and ended up folding aces. The big blind had $J\clubsuit-9\clubsuit$ and Racener had A-K. The turn and river were blanks and my hand would have held. The main reason I folded was that the tournament was a long way from being over. I still had 230K behind and I felt my tournament life was more important at that stage.

What are some of your future aspirations in poker? Well, first, I will definitely be playing the Florida Million again this year. They reward you with the great structure and the ability to play a lot of hands at the



final table. My goal in poker is to win an event that would make me a millionaire. Anything is possible if you believe in it because the beauty of the game is that you don't have to have any sort of educational degree to win a monster pot. Everybody has the same chance to win because we all breathe the same air. The only difference is some people's pockets are deeper than others, but all it takes is one big double-up to get back in the game.

MIAMI POKER SOCIETY



Damian Jaworek ousted Eric Torres to win the Season 3 finale at Waxy O'Connor's. Jaworek won a seat in an MPS satellite to a \$1,500 WSOP event with flight and hotel. He hit a one-out $4\heartsuit$ to stay alive in the heads-up match, sending the onlookers into a frenzy (pictured).

ALL-IN POKER SERIES

Yvonne Buxton won the monthly event Sept. 19 in Orlando, beating nearly 70 players to take home the trophy, a GPS and gift cards. The members of the final table each qualified for the chance to play for a WSOP seat in December.



Brian Sheekey poses with the 2011 Mustang he won after capturing the Daytona Beach Kennel Club Classic.

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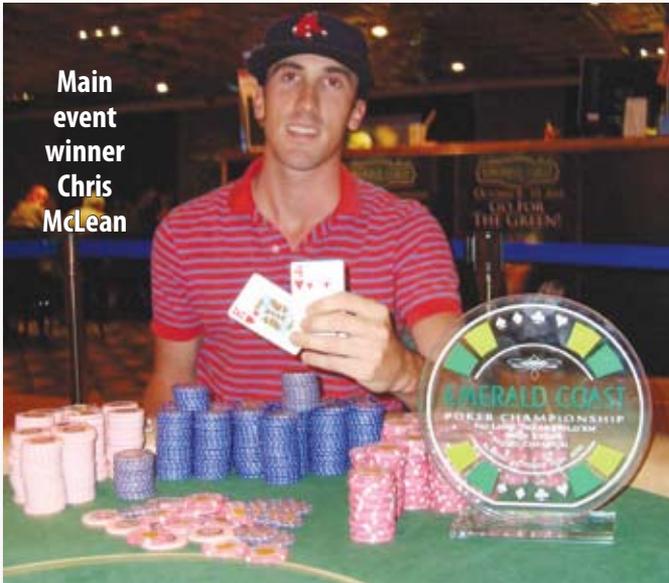
*First 30 players before 10:30am. Must be 18 or older to play poker. Gulfstream Park reserves the right to change, alter or cancel part of or in its entirety any promotion at its sole discretion. Concerned about a gambling problem? Call 1-888-ADMIT-IT.

EMERALD COAST CHAMPIONSHIP

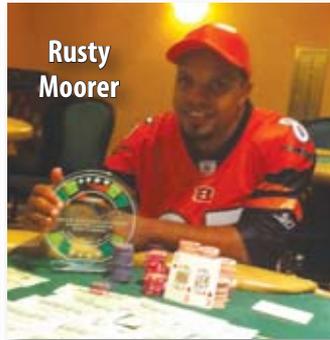
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After spilling over into two days with 12 hours of actual playing time, Chris McLean of Destin finally won the main event, ultimately eliminating David Burns of Tallahassee when his pre flop all-in with **K♥-4♥** held up against Burns' **Q♥-10♥**, earning almost \$16K for defeating 114 players.

Burns pocketed nearly \$12K for second in Ebro Greyhound Park's signature event.



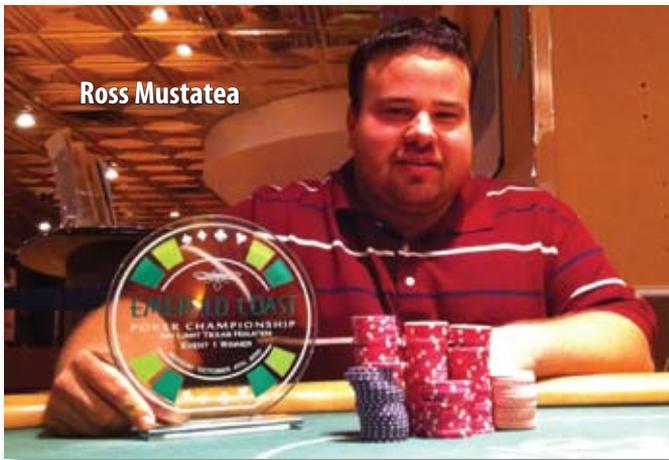
**Main event winner
Chris McLean**



Rusty Mooror



Michael Warrington



Ross Mustatea



Brandon Gustein



Jackie Walker and Wanda Kelley



Gordon Alberti

Event #1: \$110 NLHE
103 players • Prize pool: \$10,300

1. Ross Mustatea, Lynn Haven, \$2,987
2. John Holley, Panama City Beach, \$2,060
3. Karl Jones, Los Angeles, \$1,236
4. Shane Smith, Hiram, GA, \$1,030
5. John Laney, Chipley, \$824

Event #2: \$250 NLHE
60 players • Prize pool: \$13,500

1. Rusty Mooror, Crestview, \$4,490
2. Reba Hanson, Panama City, \$3,090
3. Trey Trawick, Iron City, GA, \$1,890
4. Gordon Alberti, Panama City Beach, \$1,620
5. Clarence "CJ" Pinkard, Panama City, \$1,340
6. Charles Baker, Birmingham, AL, \$1,070

Event #3: \$330 NLHE
57 players • Prize pool: \$17,100

1. Brandon Gustein, Tallahassee, \$5,643
2. Willy Lawrence, Atlanta, \$3,993
3. Bob Beck, \$2,394
4. Ray Young, \$2,052
5. Joe Green, \$1,710
6. Dave Pleat, Destin, \$1,368

Event #4: \$275 Bounty Shootout
40 players • Prize pool: \$10,000

1. Michael Warrington, Chipley, \$3,360
2. JR Moneyham, Grand Ridge, \$2,160
3. Burt Curry, Destin, \$1,360
4. Carl Walker, Panama City Beach, \$1,120

Event #5: \$400 NLHE
40 players • Prize pool: \$14,400

1. Gordon Alberti, Panama City Beach, \$6,048
2. John Juliano, Hoover, AL, \$3,888
3. JR Moneyham, Grand Ridge, \$2,448
4. Wayne Burnett, Destin, \$2,016

Event #6: \$220 HHPT Ladies
21 players • Prize pool: \$4,200

1. Jackie Walker, Panama City Beach, \$2,100
1. Wanda Kelley, Dothan, AL, \$1,260
3. Lisa Bennett, Panama City Beach, \$840

Main Event: \$600 NLHE
115 players • Prize pool: \$63,250

1. Chris McLean, Destin, \$15,662
2. David Burns, Tallahassee, \$10,024
3. Reba Hansen, Lynn Haven, \$7,518
4. Gordon Alberti, Panama City Beach, \$6,265
5. W. Ray Della Rosa, Panama City Beach, \$5,638
6. Eddie Monk, Marianna, GA, \$5,012
7. Chuck Bauer, Birmingham, AL, \$4,385
8. Quinn Brock, Headland, AL, \$3,132
9. Vince Zanghi, Panama City, \$2,506
10. Jim Williamson, Panama City Beach, \$1,566
11. Brandon Andrews, Ebro, \$939
12. Dave Rossbaum, \$600



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Tournament Schedule

Monday Evenings 8pm. (3,000 Starting Chips)
\$35 + \$5, No-Limit Hold'em, 20 Min Levels

Tuesday Evening Poker Academy Class Starts at 7pm
Tournament Starts at 8pm. (3,000 Starting Chips)
\$15 + \$5, No-Limit Hold'em, No Rebuys

Wednesday Evenings 8pm. (3,000 Starting Chips)
\$55 + \$5, No-Limit Hold'em, 20 Min Levels

Thursday Evenings Bounty 8pm. (3,000 Starting Chips)
\$65 Prize Pool, \$25 Bounty, \$10 Fee
\$100 Buy-In, No-Limit Hold'em, 20 Min Levels

Saturday Evening Poker Academy Class Starts at 7pm
Tournament Starts at 8pm. (3,000 Starting Chips)
\$15 + \$5, No-Limit Hold'em, No Rebuys

Sunday Afternoon 2pm. (5,000 Starting Chips),
\$90 + \$10, No-Limit Hold'em, 30 Min Levels

Sunday Mega Stack - Last Sunday of every month - 2pm
\$300 + \$30, No-Limit Hold'em, (10,000 Starting Chips)
30 Min Levels

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POKER TOURNAMENT

Florida Million II Qualifiers

PBKC Satellite Dates
Saturdays, Nov. 6, 20 & 27 and Sun., Nov. 14

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Contact High Limit Host, Willie at 561.312.0728 or pokerhost@pbkennelclub.com



FLORIDA MILLION RETURNS BIGGER

The Florida Million is back, and it's even bigger than before. Earlier this year six Florida poker rooms got together to offer this unprecedented tournament series that had players qualifying in their respective participating rooms around the Sunshine State. The top 10 percent from each qualifier congregated at Derby Lane in St. Petersburg for the final, ultimately crowning Charlie Miller of Palmetto its first champion.

This month the Florida Million kicks off with seven qualifying rooms (Orange Park Kennel Club, Daytona Beach Kennel Club, Mardi Gras Casino, Derby Lane, Naples-Ft. Myers Greyhound Track, Palm Beach Kennel Club and Pensacola Greyhound Park) and a new finals location (PBKC) on Dec. 11-12.

"We are very excited to be hosting the second Florida Million," PBKC tournament director, Joe Conti said. "After the success of the first Florida Million and the attendance and attention it received, we're expecting the Florida Million II to be even more popular, making it likely the largest and most special event in state history."

The premise for the event will be the same: Players qualify in participating rooms and if they finish in the top 10 percent they'll move on with those chips to the final in West Palm Beach. There will be satellites offered daily at most locations to help fray the cost of the \$550 entry, but you can buy-in directly to the Day 1 events.

"With four Day 1 qualifiers (Nov. 6, 13, 21 and 27 at 1 p.m.) and three weekly \$30 satellites, having an opportunity to be a part of this huge special event is available to all players," Conti said of PBKC's schedule.

Last time, 2,349 entrants played in the Million, with 235 cashing and advancing to Derby Lane. For info regarding Day 1 schedules and satellites be sure to check the Where to Play pages in the back of the magazine, go to flmillion.com or contact the participating poker rooms.

PALM BEACH KENNEL CLUB



From left: Veronica Cuellar, J-Mart from ESPN 760 AM, Bob Smith and David Lauck chopped the prize pool.

This year the Rooney's Golf Foundation added a poker tournament to its fundraising efforts at the Palm Beach Kennel Club in West Palm Beach. This first effort attracted 97 players to the \$50 buy-in event that included a buffet and drink. Players raised \$6,825 for local charities and after 16 levels of play Veronica Cuellar, J-Mart from ESPN 760 AM, Bob Smith and David Lauck were the final four, agreeing to chop.

"Our director of the card room, Noah Carbone, came up with the idea of a charitable poker tournament a few months ago. We were hoping to get 40 or 50 people to participate in this inaugural year," said Pat Rooney, founder of the Rooney's Golf Foundation. "To get double that is a testament to the hard work of our foundation committee that really made this happen, and be successful."

Proceeds from the event will benefit: Autism Project of Palm Beach County, FAU Honors College, Elite Greyhound Adoption and Potentia Academy.

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Florida



MILLION II

POKER TOURNAMENT



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Tournament players from throughout the state of Florida will be competing in one giant tournament that will kick off in 7 different locations and end at The Poker Room at the Palm Beach Kennel Club! Look for satellites, promotions and events throughout November - call your local Poker Room for details. The Final Event will be on Sat., Dec. 11 at The Poker Room at Palm Beach Kennel Club!

Call your local location for more information!

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Make it to the **top 10%**
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Continue to play with your chip stack
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INTERNATIONAL RETURNS

The Daytona Beach Kennel Club and Poker Room brings back its International tournament series Nov. 1-14, and again this year there is a nice mix of events.

In an interesting twist, the International will feature a razz tournament (Nov. 10, 7 p.m., \$125) and a pot-limit Omaha/8 event (Nov. 10, 7 p.m., \$125) at the same time. Also, there will be a Young Guns tournament for players 18-40 years old (Nov. 9, 7 p.m., \$120), a casino-hospitality employees event (Nov. 7, 2 p.m., \$175) and a ladies event (Nov. 13, 2 p.m., \$150).

The \$550 main event will feature two Day 1s (Nov. 11, 6 p.m. and Nov. 12, 7 p.m.) with Day 2 coming on Nov. 14 at noon. Satellites for this event (\$80) will run during the first week of this series, including every day at 2 p.m. from Nov. 1-5.

For more information see ad on facing page and be sure to go to daytonapokergreyhound.com.

TEXAS HOLD'EM POKER TOURS



Roberto Deleon, David Bane and Diane Walton chopped the Central Florida quarterly event (\$1333.33 each) in August. They were followed by Luke Turcott (\$250), Walt Hearn (\$150), Jim Arnemann (\$125), Chris Lopez (\$125), Philip Curtis (\$100), Patterson Tuttle (\$100), Neel Venkatesh (\$75) and Ken Reed (\$75).

The event was highlighted by DeepStacks University seminar hosted by Mike Matusow, who also participated in the quarterly. The next quarterly is Nov. 6-7.



TREASURE CHEST POKER

- Tina Dorobkowski, left, won the monthly tournament at Stokers in Palm Harbor, taking home a hotel stay at the IP in Biloxi, Miss., and seats in four of the casino's WSOP \$100 circuit events.
- Terri McFarlane, a.k.a. Ice Queen, won the Ocala monthly to earn a buy-in to Ocala Poker. She's pictured at right.
- Brandon Lee Quinn won a quarterly tournament at 1st Turn in Clearwater, beating more than 140 players and earning a \$1,500 WSOP seat with hotel and airfare.



MEGA SATELLITE TOURNAMENT



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November 1-14, 2010

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SCHEDULE

Event	Date	Day	Time	Game	Buy-in	Entry
1	November 1	Monday	2:00 pm	Finals Qualifier Super Sat., NL Hold'em	\$80	\$70+10
2	November 1	Monday	4:00 pm	Finals Qualifier Super Sat., NL Hold'em	\$80	\$70+10
3	November 2	Tuesday	2:00 pm	Finals Qualifier Super Sat., NL Hold'em	\$80	\$70+10
4	November 3	Wednesday	2:00 pm	Finals Qualifier Super Sat., NL Hold'em	\$80	\$70+10
5	November 3	Wednesday	4:00 pm	Finals Qualifier Super Sat., NL Hold'em	\$80	\$70+10
6	November 4	Thursday	2:00 pm	Finals Qualifier Super Sat., NL Hold'em	\$80	\$70+10
7	November 5	Friday	2:00 pm	Finals Qualifier Super Sat., NL Hold'em	\$80	\$70+10
8	November 6	Saturday	4:00 pm	Deep Stacks, NL Hold'em	\$225	\$200+25
9	November 7	Sunday	2:00 pm	Casino/Hospitality Indstry, NL Hold'em	\$175	\$150+25
10	November 8	Monday	7:00 pm	Deep Stacks, NL Hold'em	\$115	\$100+15
11	November 9	Tuesday	7:00 pm	Young Guns 18-40 yrs.old NL Hold'em	\$120	\$100+20
12	November 10	Wednesday	2:00 pm	Finals Qualifier Super Sat., NL Hold'em	\$80	\$65+15
13	November 10	Wednesday	7:00 pm	Razz	\$125	\$100+25
14	November 10	Wednesday	7:00 pm	Pot Limit Omaha Hi/Lo	\$125	\$100+25
15	November 11	Thursday	6:00 pm	<small>LATE ENTRY FIRST HR.</small> Championship Event (day 1A)	\$550	\$500+50
15	November 12	Friday	7:00 pm	<small>LATE ENTRY FIRST HR.</small> Championship Event (day 1B)	\$550	\$500+50
16	November 13	Saturday	2:00 pm	Ladies, NL Hold'em	\$150	\$125+25
17	November 13	Saturday	4:00 pm	Deep Stacks, NL Hold'em	\$225	\$200+25
18	November 14	Sunday	12:00 pm	Championship Event (day 2) FINAL		

BONUS DAYTIME EVENTS

Bonus Event	Date	Day	Time	Game	Buy-in	Entry
*	November 1-5	Monday-Friday	1:00 - 5:00 pm	Training Table	\$0	

BONUS EVENING EVENTS

Bonus Event	Date	Day	Time	Game	Buy-in	Entry
1	November 5 & 12	Friday	7:00 pm	NL Hold'em*	\$120	\$100+20
2	November 6	Saturday	7:00 pm	Pot-Limit Omaha Hi/Lo	\$80	\$70+10

Registration is open Monday - Sunday during our normal Poker Room hours. For more information please call 877-311-6484.

Blind structures and additional details are available at daytonapokergreyhound.com.

Complete rules are available at the poker room host station.



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FLORIDA'S FULL POTENTIAL YET TO BE REALIZED

As July 1 drew near, Florida poker players were giddy. That was the day “true poker” was coming to the Sunshine State, when the handcuffs were taken off the state’s 31 poker rooms, allowing them to deal games without bet and buy-in limits and for more than 12 hours a day.

I was giddy, too. Finally, real poker just 10 minutes from my house.

But as giddy as I was, I tried to choose my words carefully when I ran into players in rooms or did media interviews. While the changes were indeed fantastic, I told folks that really all it meant was that

Florida now had the potential to rival other poker jurisdictions. Potential. The reality was up to the state’s poker room managers and its players.

I also cautioned about making any brash comparisons. No doubt, the first weekend — especially since it fell on a holiday — was going to be wild and wacky. Heck, even the entire

first month was likely to be strong as the new-car

smell of real poker continued to waft through the state. But invariably, the action was expected to taper off in August and successive months, as the excitement wore off, as players began to go bust, as football season started and our kids went back to school and we returned to our normal lives.

But as we bear down on November, it’s time to take a look at how Florida poker has changed in just a few short months.

First, a look at the hardcore numbers:

The state’s 24 parimutuel poker rooms took in just shy of \$1.9 million more in July 2010 than in July 2009, when you take away the revenue from Pensacola Greyhound Park and Calder Casino, which did not have poker rooms in July 2009. (The state’s seven Indian casinos don’t report their revenues). That’s an increase of nearly 22 percent.

Again, that’s largely a fanciful number (as is the 33.4 percent increase from June 2010 to July 2010), since the state’s poker players flooded rooms in July to check out the new action.

More telling perhaps are year-over-year comparisons in August and September. Those increases are 15 percent and 14.9 percent, respectively, (again not counting the revenue from the two rooms that weren’t open in 2009). Those numbers show some leveling off, so we might be able to start having some confidence in the assumption that longer operating hours and uncapped limits have resulted in 15 percent more revenue.

And to further bolster that still-early assumption, the dropoff in revenue from August 2009 to September 2009 was 9.2 percent. This year, the same two months saw a dropoff of 9.5 percent. That’s virtually the same.

Looking deeper into the raw numbers, we can see some truth to some long-standing assumptions.

First, the rich get richer. Poker is an action game. Players will gravitate to where the games are the juiciest and where the variety is widest. Before July 1, that division was smaller, since rooms were limited in what they could offer. But now, the gap is widening. It will be increasingly difficult for smaller rooms to compete with the big boys if they can’t attract enough players. The ones who flourish will be the ones who embrace a niche in the wide-open marketplace. As proof, eight parimutuel rooms are experiencing revenue boosts of 19 percent or more, while nine rooms are seeing numbers that essentially are flat or actually down.



While the invasion of professional players that many predicted hasn’t happened, quite a few pros, including Phil Ivey, have stopped in the Sunshine State to check out the action.

And it’s not only the smaller rooms who can benefit from niche service. Palm Beach Kennel Club’s high-limit host Willie Meila cobbled together eight well-heeled players (including Celine Dion’s husband Rene Angelil) for a \$5,100 buy-in single-table tournament. John F. Riordan won the hours-long event and \$20,000, and the room is trying to repeat the event monthly.

Second, generally speaking, the clientele at a thoroughbred track is wealthier than that of the clientele at a greyhound or jai-alai facility, and as such, one can theorize those players have more money to put on an uncapped table than us working stiff. Before July 1, it was hard to see evidence of a direct effect from that since everyone was limited to \$100 at a time. But now, when players can buy-in for whatever they want, it shouldn’t be a drastic surprise to see that Tampa Bay Downs sustains a nose-bleed no-limit game on a regular basis. And Gulfstream Park was one of only two parimutuels in the state (neighboring Mardi Gras Casino was the other) to see an increase from July 2010 to August 2010, where the overall state numbers plunged 8.6 percent. And both rooms are in hyper-competitive markets.

“It’s really been unprecedented growth,” Gulfstream Park general manager Steve Calabro said. “And what’s incredible is that we have fewer tables than all of our competitors.”

Third, the death of limit poker sadly wasn’t exaggerated. Forced to play \$100 buy-in no-limit poker vs. \$2-\$4 limit bingo, most players chose the former in the three years between law changes. While players like yours truly had hoped to see a resurgence of limit after July 1, it hasn’t come to pass. Sure, there are sporadic games, especially in the big rooms, but by and large, Florida is a no-limit state.

And finally, while the invasion of professional players that many predicted hasn’t happened, quite a few pros, including Phil Ivey, have stopped in the Sunshine State to check out the action. Establishing a strong base to support the highest-limit players will take time. Those players will need to know the games and limits they enjoy playing in Nevada and California will be here consistently. Something that should help is the introduction of big-money tournaments that are televised across the country.

Seminole Hard Rock Hollywood and Orange Park Kennel Club near Jacksonville have \$5,000 buy-in events on the schedule, and the Hard Rock also will host the state’s first World Poker Tour event in April. A World Series of Poker circuit event is rumored to be on its way. If the requisite cash games that come with those big events materialize, the players will follow.

Potential.

That’s still the key word here in Florida. Give the state some time to grow the market, and to let the rest of the world know it’s here. The big time is just around the corner.

— Email Scott at scott@anteupmagazine.com.



SCOTT LONG

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Friday, November 19th at 1pm
Saturday, November 20th at 1pm
Fourth Event is TBA



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FISHER'S TOURNEYS

Fisher from the 97X Morning Show hosts tournaments regularly. These events always feature a fun crowd as well as some bonus giveaways and cash. Check out the tournament calendar for dates and times.

SPECIAL EVENTS

We regularly run special events, such as multi-tournament Poker Runs, our monthly Mega Stack tournament and unique events as well.

A look at the Mississippi-area poker scene • By Jennifer Gay

MAGNOLIA CLASSIC A VITAL STOP THIS FALL

The *Ante Up* crew will be visiting Mississippi in November, and not for a week of just rest and relaxation. The Magnolia State Fall Classic at Horseshoe Tunica (Nov. 15-21) is an absolute must-stop on the fall schedule. In the third year of this event, the Magnolia Classic has partnered with *Ante Up* to feature six days of fantastic structures, unique concepts and affordable buy-ins. Not to mention the good ol' southern hospitality you can always expect from Horseshoe Tunica.



JENNIFER GAY

Horseshoe tournament director Dale Carden said: "Our goal with this event is to provide tournaments with a buy-in everyone can afford. Most of the big events have enormous buy-ins and really limit who can play. Daily noon events at the Magnolia Classic (\$230) average fields of over 100, with the nightly

events (\$150) averaging just over 80."

Noon events each award one seat into the World Series of Poker circuit main event at Harrah's Tunica in January. Carden added: "This seat is paid for by the Horseshoe poker room, rather than the prize pool, and is a huge bonus for our players."

A tournament is just as good as its director, and Carden's career experience makes him one of the best. In 2004 he was inducted into the Seniors World Championship Hall of Fame. Working with Jack Effel (WSOP tournament director) on past events has influenced how he runs tournaments.

"All of our noon tournaments offer 10,000 chips and 45-minute blind levels," he said. "We really focus on giving players time to play their chips, to play poker. We also have the best staff at Horseshoe Tunica, bar none, in the poker world. Seasoned and experienced is how I would describe them. We hope that by scheduling this event between other large-scale tournaments and by partnering with *Ante Up Magazine* we'll draw fields of 150-plus for each event."



Said Carden: "The ladies event this year will offer an extra 1,000 chips for any participant wearing the color red. Our main event (\$550) will also feature a bracelet for the winner.

Though the "Battle of the Ages" featured the last two years will not be returning this year, we will instead just focus on offering a great seniors event. We do anticipate that the Battle of the Ages will return at some point in the future."

Another highly anticipated tournament is the last event, the Bad Hat and White Tiger Cash Blast, which has received quite a bit of buzz.

"This is a 'money for money' tournament," said Carden, who began his career as a Florida dealer in 1990. "The \$340 buy-in awards the player 300 chips with real cash value, that they may cash out at any time during the tournament. Blinds are 5-5 the first hour and then go up to 5-10 for an hour."

Ante Up caught up with Mike "White Tiger" Woods, for some additional information on this unique tournament.

"This tournament was designed to entice cash players to play tournaments," Woods said. "Players can cash out their chip stack at any time, or play down to compete for a prize pool that is sponsored by Horseshoe Tunica. Because of the small amount of starting chips, the game starts out with very low blinds at one-hour increments and then progressively the time will get shorter and the blinds will increase,

Magnolia State Fall Classic

NOV. 15-21

DATE	TIME	EVENT	BUY-IN
11-15	10-7 p.m.	SNG satellites	35-45-65-125
11-15	Noon	NLHE	200+30+10
11-15	7 p.m.	NLHE	125+25+10
11-16	Noon	NLHE	200+30+10
11-16	7 p.m.	NLHE	125+25+10
11-17	Noon	NLHE	200+30+10
11-17	7 p.m.	NLHE	125+25+10
11-18	Noon	Seniors*	200+30+10
11-18	7 p.m.	NLHE	125+25+10
11-19	Noon	NLHE	300+40+10
11-19	2 p.m.	Ladies**	125+25+10
11-19	7 p.m.	NLHE	125+25+10
11-20	Noon	Main Event	500+50+10
11-20	7 p.m.	NLHE	125+25+10
11-21	Noon	BHWT***	300+30+10

- Single-table satellites start 11-15 at 10am daily
- Every Noon event winner gets a seat into the WSOPC Main Event at Harrah's Tunica in January 2011, which is paid for by Horseshoe, not out of the prize fund.
- All tournaments are one-day events.
- * Age 40 or older by Nov. 18, 2010 to play this NLHE event.
- ** Ladies wearing red receive extra 1,000 chips.
- *** Bad Hat and White Tiger (BHWT) Cash Blast: Chips have actual value and you can cash out at any time.

until it resembles a regular tournament structure."

The idea for this has humorous origins.

"One time while playing in a tournament Kenny "Bad Hat" Piel was at a table with a new player who had quite a chip stack," Woods said. "When the table broke, rather than going to his new seat, the first-time player decided he'd just go to the cage and cash out. Of course, the player was promptly sent back to his seat."

A rather entertaining story quickly turned into a brilliant idea, which has since been copyrighted under the Bad Hat White Tiger name. Though Bad Hat and White Tiger are both pro poker players in their own right, Woods said, "Without the help of Dale Carden (and Lisa Crompton, also of Horseshoe Tunica), we would have never gotten off the ground."

Their Cash Blast tournament is leased to be run at multiple locations nationwide, but with its origins stemming from Horseshoe Tunica, they are very happy to be included in the Magnolia State Fall Classic.

It's no surprise with all this and more that the Magnolia Classic, (named after the formidable state tree of Mississippi) will not be a week of R&R for the *Ante Up* crew or the thousands of poker players who will visit Horseshoe Tunica during November. But it does promise non-stop action, impressive prize pools and a solid six-day southern poker event to rival any other.

— Jennifer Gay is a poker journalist, poker room supervisor and poker player local to the Mid-South region. Her column will focus on the Mississippi-area poker scene. She can be contacted at [facebook.com/aceofjewels](https://www.facebook.com/aceofjewels).



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SEVEN CLANS POKER CUP

SEPT. 22-26, 2010 • COUSHATTA CASINO • KINDER

\$300 NLHE event

Players: 246 • Prize pool: \$64,427

1. S. Hart, \$9,986.24
2. M. Busner, \$9,986.24
3. R. Romero, \$9,986.24
4. D. Tavares, \$5,476.33
5. R. Durham, \$4,832.06
6. J. Cavazos, \$3,543.51
7. R. Gruner, \$3,221.37
8. J. Delcon, \$2,899.23
9. J. Tamburello, \$2,254.96
10. L. Hewitt, \$1,932.82
11. G. Vidallier, \$1,610.69
12. A. Zamarripai, \$1,288.55
13. C. Hernandez, \$1,288.55
14. T. Tran, \$1,288.55
15. S. Stark, \$966.41
16. S. Brooks, \$966.41
17. J. Vincent, \$966.41
18. J. McFalls, \$644.27
19. A. Nguyen, \$644.27
20. R. Bernardo, \$644.27



Glaforo Valle was the main event winner of Coushatta's Seven Clans Poker Cup, taking home \$35K for first.

\$1K Main Event

Players: 192 • Prize pool: \$176,928

1. Glaforo Valle, \$35,000
2. Garrett Jones, \$29,578.72
3. Ronald Towry, \$17,692.80
4. Thao Tran, \$15,038.88
5. Jim Simoneaux, \$13,269.60
6. Jesse Valenzuela, \$9,731.04
7. Shane Vicknair, \$8,846.40
8. George Merchant, \$7,961.76
9. Brandon Terry, \$6,192.48
10. Seyed Jafari, \$5,307.84
11. B. Putman, \$4,423.20
12. R. Fryer, \$3,538.56
13. O. Mawim, \$3,538.56
14. A. Hinson, \$3,538.56
15. P. Hall, \$2,653.92
16. M. Vardemani, \$2,653.92
17. J. Mink, \$2,653.92
18. R. Alleman, \$1,769.28
19. M. Truong, \$1,769.28
20. T. Karlson, \$1,769.28



Garrett Jones



Ronald Towry



Thao Tran



Jim Simoneaux



Jesse Valenzuela



Shane Vicknair



George Merchant



Brandon Terry



Seyed Jafari

New Baton Rouge casino to have poker room



Pinnacle Entertainment Inc. has announced updated plans for its casino, due to open in Baton Rouge, La., in December 2011 (subject to approval from the Louisiana Gaming Control Board).

The \$357 million project includes 1,857 gaming positions, 257 more than previously planned, and 51 table games, including a dedicated poker room.

The new facility will feature a single-level, 30,000-square-foot gaming floor; 1,500 slot machines; 51 table games, a hotel with about 200 rooms and a rooftop pool; three dining outlets; a unique casino bar with breathtaking views of the Mississippi River; a multi-purpose event center with concert seating for 1,400 people or banquet seating for 800 people; and outdoor festival grounds with capacity for 2,500.

Stay tuned to *Ante Up* for more details on the poker room as they become available.

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LOUISIANA FALL CLASSIC

SEPT. 17-26, 2010 • ISLE CASINO • LAKE CHARLES, LA.



The inaugural Fall Classic drew 533 entrants for a prize pool of nearly \$300K. Jeremy Tinsley took the top spot in the \$540 main event to earn almost \$11K.

Event #1: \$90 NLHE**Players: 71 • Prize Pool: \$5,325**

1. William Johnson III, \$1,704
2. Danny Nguyen, \$1,011
3. Donald Ripley, \$692
4. Jacob Clark, \$479
5. Steve Buttieri, \$346
6. Robert Croft, \$292
7. Anthony Mosley, \$266
8. Darrell Hollis, \$213
9. Edward Morris, \$186
10. George Joseph, \$133

Event #2: \$90 Ladies NLHE**Players: 35 • Prize Pool: \$2,625**

1. Ruth "Ruthless" Hall, \$918
2. Daphne Turner, \$656
3. Lacie Smith, \$525
4. Cindy Sinclair, \$341
5. Candace Armstrong, \$183

Event #3: \$120 NLHE**Players: 82 • Prize Pool: \$8,200**

1. Patrick Shipper, \$2,624
2. Mark Pratt, \$1,558
3. Thomas Jones, \$1,066
4. Pauline MacDonald, \$738

5. Paul Laird, \$533
6. Frederick Turner, \$451
7. Victor Matthews, \$410
8. Luis Garcia, \$328
9. Koby Wong, \$287
10. Richard McDonald, \$205

Event #4: \$120 Shootout**Players: 30 • Prize Pool: \$3,000**

1. Stephen Shugart, \$990
2. Thomas Jones, \$720
3. Matthew Terral, \$600
4. Gerry Trahan, \$420
5. Anthony Mosley, \$270

Event #5: \$225 NLHE/PLO**Players: 30 • Prize Pool: \$6,000**

1. David Shaw, \$2,100
2. Kenneth Proffitti, \$1,500
3. Paul Laird, \$1,200
4. Stephen Schornstein, \$780
5. Matthew Stroud, \$420

Event #6: \$225 NLHE**Players: 68 • Prize Pool: \$13,600**

1. Eusebio Hernandez, \$4,352
2. Christopher Gamboa, \$2,584

3. Stephen Buttieri, \$1,768
4. Hung Nguyen, \$1,224
5. Douglas Justus, \$884
6. Matthew Stroud, \$748
7. Leslie Conn, \$680
8. Winston Bloodworth, \$544
9. Ada Lang, \$476
10. Phuoc Ton, \$340

Event #7: \$335 PLO**Players: 26 • Prize Pool: \$7,800**

1. William Benton, \$3,120
2. Patrick Bell, \$2,340
3. Robert Schwen Jr., \$1,560
4. Christopher Gamboa, \$780

Event #8: \$335 NLHE**Players: 69 • Prize Pool: \$20,700**

1. Jody Boren, \$6,624
2. William Benton Jr., \$3,933
3. Jacob Seale, \$2,691
4. Patrick Holmes, \$1,863
5. Stephen Buttieri, \$1,345
6. Clint Whitman, \$1,138
7. Daniel Carroll, \$1,035
8. Eric Mata, \$828
9. Jerry Stroope, \$724
10. Long Nguyen, \$517

\$540 Main Event**Players: 67 • Prize Pool: \$33,500**

1. Jeremy Tinsley, \$10,720
2. Kinsey Pitts, \$6,365
3. Eric Yates, \$4,355
4. Soren Jensen, \$3,015
5. Ada Lang, \$2,177
6. Ronnie Lamb, \$1,842
7. Stephen Shugart, \$1,675
8. Jacob Phillis, \$1,340
9. Quynh Ho, \$1,172
10. Joe Zaula, \$837

Event #10: \$120 NLHE**Players: 55 • Prize Pool: \$5,500**

1. Daryl Huff, \$1,760
2. Leslie Eitel, \$1,045
3. James MacManus, \$715
4. Bryan Poole, \$495
5. Gail Centanni, \$357
6. Edward Smith, \$302
7. Thanhlu Quachi, \$275
8. Ryan Cappello, \$220
9. Michael Lenander, \$192
10. Loi Danh, \$137

ARKANSAS: OAKLAWN RACING



From left: Brad Hall, Robert Gorrell, John Cash, James Hart, James Lambert, Jack Hill, Robert Foster, Steven McPherson, Philip Johnson, Michael Busselle and Sara Martin.

Jack Hill of Hot Springs celebrated his "bad luck" on Oct. 3 after hitting the bad-beat jackpot worth \$87,569 in Oaklawn Racing and Gaming's poker room.

After being dealt pocket aces, Hill went on to nab another ace and two kings giving him a full house with aces over kings. But the queen-high, straight flush of Steven McPherson of Alexander was better. Hill received half the jackpot (\$43,785) and McPherson took home \$21,892.

"I was there to play in a tournament that filled up and I almost left," Hill said. "But I decided to play. I had pocket aces and the guy to the right of me came out with a bet around \$11, and I thought about raising him, but I waited. We all called and there was a decent pot, so when the flop came and I had trip aces. I put in my last \$46 and went all-in."

When it came time to show the cards, the initial feeling of defeat suddenly changed to victory.

"We all just sat there for a second. It was real quiet," Hill said. "Then, someone yelled 'That's it!' and it came on the machine and everyone began hollering so loud they said they could hear it across the room."

The other seven players in the hand received \$3,127 apiece.

KENTUCKY

The Louisville Poker Tour kicked off its new season with the Points Invitational at Bearno's on Sept 19.

More than 40 players participated for the \$600 prize pool as Marita Gee won the title, including \$300 for first place.

Heads-up action didn't take long as Gee and Andy Wright pushed all-in blind.

Bruce Payne was third (\$100).





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BORGATA POKER OPEN

SEPT. 8-24, 2010 • BORGATA HOTEL AND CASINO • ATLANTIC CITY

Here are the top 10 cashers from each event in this record-setting tournament series.

Event 1: \$400 NLHE

964 entries • \$337,400 prize pool

1. WILL PATTERSON (NEW KENSINGTON, PA), \$73,638
2. MITCHELL WILSON (MANASSAS, VA), \$43,364
3. BENJAMIN BUTLER (S WILLIAMSPRIT, PA), \$26,182
4. ANDREW DEGEORGE (PITMAN, NJ), \$21,928
5. BRIAN MUNSHOWER (APOLLO, PA), \$18,000
6. JOHN DELIO (BOOTHWYN, PA), \$14,564
7. JOSEPH MIRANDA (BETHPAGE, NY), \$11,618
8. DANIEL SHAPIRO (GREAT NECK, NY), \$8,837
9. GREGORY SCARPA (STATEN ISLAND, NY), \$6,055
10. ERIC ROCKWELL (CHESAPEAKE, VA), \$3,927

Event 2: \$230 NLHE

594 entries • \$118,800 prize pool

1. TAITT JAIMANGAL (RICHMOND HILL, NY), \$28,693
2. JEREMIAH CALLAHAN (OYSTER BAY, NY), \$16,132
3. GIUSEPPE PANTALEO (BIELEFELD, GER), \$10,371
4. FRANCIS GOTTRON (LAGRANGEVILLE, NY), \$8,239
5. ANDRE BOYER (ACTON VALE, CAN), \$6,453
6. DAVID SEMLESS (VOORHEES, NJ), \$5,301
7. GEORGE MONTEBELLO (CENTEREACH, NY), \$4,206
8. GREGORY MERRITT (FRENCHTOWN, NJ), \$3,284
9. JEFFREY LEE (FORT LEE, NJ), \$2,305
10. CHRISTOPHER BONITA (WINTHROP, MA), \$1,498

Event 3: \$560 NLHE

373 entries • \$186,500 prize pool

1. MATTHEW KLEIN (TIFFIN, IA), \$48,844
2. CUONG PHUNG (ATLANTIC CITY, NJ), \$27,136
3. COLIN MANEVAL (NEWTON, MA), \$16,824
4. PERRY JOHNSTON (OAK ISLAND, NC), \$13,568
5. JOSHUA EMERSON (WHITE RIVER, VT), \$10,492
6. JOHN CLEAVER (WILMINGTON, DE), \$8,864
7. BASTIAN FISCHER (DENMOLD, GER), \$7,146
8. MICKAEL MORGOUSKY (BROOKLYN, NY), \$5,337
9. VATTHANA SOURYACHAK: \$3,619
10. RALPH CAPAROTTI (FREDERICK, MD), \$2,352

Event 4: \$400 PLO

91 entries • \$31,850 prize pool

1. MATTHEW DELANO (MT LAUREL, NJ), \$10,813
2. DANIEL WASSERBERG (HOUSTON, TX), \$5,870
3. JAMES WEAVER (CORAPOLIS, PA), \$3,707
4. HAMDY ABDALLA (WATERBURY, CT), \$2,780
5. ANTHONY CARUSO (MEDFORD, NJ), \$2,163
6. BRANDON VARGAS (MALVERNE, NY), \$1,854
7. STEVE KOTATIS (NEW MILFORD, NJ), \$1,545
8. RICHARD DEVITO (YONKERS, NY), \$1,236
9. MATTHEW STEVENS (BRECKSVILLE, OH), \$927

Event 5: \$1,090 NLHE

292 entries • \$292,000 prize pool

1. KEVIN CALENZO (NEW HARTFORD, NY), \$79,307
2. WILL "THE THRILL" FAILLA (COMMACK, NY), \$46,735
3. STEVEN COLLINS (RUTHERFORD, NJ), \$26,908
4. GORDON ENG (CLIFFSIDE PARK, NJ), \$21,809
5. DEREK BUONANO (TOLLAND, CT), \$16,994
6. TOMISLAV DOBROILVIC (WEST NYACK, NY), \$14,162
7. WILLIAM TONKING (FLEMINGTON, NJ), \$11,330
8. TYLER PATTERSON (EVERETT, WA), \$8,498
9. MIGUEL BORRERO (JERSEY CITY, NJ), \$5,666
10. ANDY YOUNGBLOOD (DEARBORN HTS, MI), \$3,682

Event 6: \$280 NLHE

453 entries • \$113,250 prize pool

1. ANDREW BADECKER (VERNON, CT), \$28,067
2. JOHN LEE (WESTWOOD, NJ), \$16,203
3. JUAN CHIN (PEMBROKE PINES, FL), \$9,887
4. JAMES SOLOMON (WILMINGTON, DE), \$7,964
5. JOHN SPAGNUOLO (HOWARD BEACH, NY), \$6,262
6. CHO YEUNG (NEW YORK, NY), \$5,218
7. CHRISTOPHER MUELLER (BROOKLYN, NY), \$4,174
8. BRIAN NARDONE (SEWELL, NJ), \$3,186



Dwyte Pilgrim took down the main event and \$733K.

9. PEDRO MUNOZ (ELIZABETH, NJ), \$2,198
10. ANTHONY MOORE (EMPORIA, VA), \$1,429

Event 7: \$400 NLHE

644 entries • \$225,400 prize pool

1. JON-MICHAEL REA (STUEBENVILLE, OH), \$52,495
2. DAVID TAYLOR (ELKRIDGE, MD), \$29,516
3. MATTHEW BUTCH (CLARKSBURG, NJ), \$18,584
4. DAO BUI (STERLING, VA), \$15,086
5. JAMES BOYLE (HAVRE DE GRACE, MD), \$12,025
6. ANTHONY CURCIO (CLARK, NJ), \$9,948
7. ROBERT NOEL (JOHNSTOWN, PA), \$7,980
8. JACK BARNES (BRICK, NJ), \$6,014
9. TRAVIS WONG (REGO PARK, NY), \$4,155
10. ROHAN LONG (WINDSOR, CT), \$2,842

Event 8: \$230 Ladies NLHE

154 entries • \$30,800 prize pool

1. LIPING ZHANG (DOYLESTOWN, PA), \$8,962
2. PHUONG NGUYEN (EGG HARBOR, NJ), \$4,929
3. SHERRY HERMAN (FARMINGDALE, NJ), \$2,838
4. LYNNE BENNETT (DURHAM, CAN), \$2,390
5. ELAINE RAWN (ONTARIO, CAN), \$1,793
6. KAREN GUSTAFSON (REHOBOTH BEACH, DE), \$1,494
7. JENNY CHANG (ELLICOTT CITY, MD), \$1,195
8. CHRISTINE HIRSCH (PEEKSKILL, NY), \$896
9. NANCY MCLAUGHLIN (BROOMALL, PA), \$672
10. MORAN MICHILOVICH (FLUSHING, NY), \$598

Event 9: \$400 NLHE

280 entries • \$98,000 prize pool

1. ALEX KUCHIK (BROOKLYN, NY), \$26,616
2. CLARENCE TEMPLES (N MYTLE BEACH, SC), \$15,684
3. MICHAEL LATOUR (CLAY, NY), \$9,030
4. CRAIG RUBINSTEIN (NEW YORK, NY), \$7,319
5. DANIEL VRANICH (LAKE PARK, FL), \$5,703
6. ALBERT RICCOBONO (OSSINING, NY), \$4,752
7. GIUSEPPE PANTALEO (BIELEFELD, GER), \$3,801
8. GREGORY BEST (BURKE, VA), \$2,851
9. BRIAN NICHOLS (EGG HARBOR, NJ), \$1,901
10. RAID ETAYIYIM (BROOKLYN, NY), \$1,236

Event 10: \$400 Omaha/8

171 entries • \$59,850 prize pool

1. BARRY LEVY (BROOKLYN, NY), \$17,417
2. THOMAS NOYES SR (CLARKS SUMMIT, PA), \$9,579
3. CANDACE VERRASTRO (PT PLEASANT, NJ), \$5,515
4. DOUGLAS ROBINS (JACKSON, NJ), \$4,644
5. RICHARD PILCHMAN (BRICK, NJ), \$3,483
6. JONATHAN BLOCH (ROSLYN HEIGHTS, NY), \$2,903
7. ALFRED ANNUZIATA (BAYONNE, NJ), \$2,322
8. ERIC SAUNDERS (HAWTHORNE, NJ), \$1,742
9. LOUIS ERCOLANO (CEDAR GROVE, NJ), \$1,306
10. ROBERT CAMANO (WALL, NJ), \$1,161

Event 11: \$2,150 Heads Up

64 entries • \$128,000 prize pool

1. ROBERT MCLAUGHLIN (WASHINGTON, DC), \$49,662
2. JESSE YAGINUMA (SILVER SPRING, MD), \$31,040
3. CHRISTIAN HARDER (ANNAPOLIS, MD), \$18,624

4. JACK SCHANBACHER (PITTSBURGH, PA), \$12,416
5. MATTHEW LOMBARDI (EDISON, NJ), \$6,209
6. HAYDEN FORTINI (VERO BEACH, FL), \$6,209

Event 12: \$350 NLHE

374 entries • \$112,200 prize pool

1. MICHAEL SHELDON (DRESHER, PA), \$29,386
2. JOHN DAVIS (WAKE FOREST, NC), \$16,326
3. DANIEL COUZENS (WEST HARTFORD, CT), \$10,122
4. ANDREW GILENO (BRONX, NY), \$8,163
5. CUONG PHUNG (ATLANTIC CITY, NJ), \$6,312
6. PAUL FAYNGERSH (POCONO PINES, PA), \$5,333
7. MARCO LAVIOLA (N BERGEN, NJ), \$4,299
8. SCOTT FISHER (VENTNOR CITY, NJ), \$3,211
9. KEVIN GIMBLE (PHILADELPHIA, PA), \$2,177
10. KENNETH SMITH (ATLANTIC CITY, NJ), \$1,415

Event 13: \$200 NLHE

948 entries • \$161,160 prize pool

1. JUSTIN CILLO (BROOKLYN, NY), \$35,173
2. PAUL SPITZBERG (TENAFLY, NJ), \$20,713
3. GINA LEONE (TAPPAN, NY), \$12,506
4. JONG MAN KIM (SILVER SPRING, MD), \$10,474
5. MICHAEL NAIDRICH (PRINCETON, NJ), \$8,598
6. CELSO GARCIA (CHARLOTTE, NC), \$6,957
7. WILLIAM MEEHAN (STATEN ISLAND, NY), \$5,550
8. ERIC BEHAR (CHARLOTTE, NC), \$4,221
9. CHRISTOPHER SENAPE (NEW YORK, NY), \$2,892
10. DONALD TRANBERG (HOWELL, NJ), \$1,876

Event 14: \$1,650 NLHE

303 entries • \$454,500 prize pool

1. JOSHUA BRIKIS (MONROEVILLE, PA), \$119,034
2. DENNIS SUMMERS (CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA), \$66,130
3. DAVID DIAZ (BARTLETT, TN), \$41,000
4. SCOTT ANDERSON (CANDOR, NC), \$33,065
5. SHAWN BUSSE (MAASAPEQUA, NY), \$25,571
6. STAR MOORE (BROOKLYN, NY), \$21,603
7. ALEXANDER ROCHA (S SETAUKET, NY), \$17,415
8. ANDREW DYKEMAN (JACKSONVILLE, FL), \$13,006
9. GARY LOBELLO (HOLMDEL, NJ), \$8,818
10. JOANNE MONTEAVARO (BRONX, NY), \$5,732

Event 15: \$350 Seniors NLHE

257 entries • \$77,100 prize pool

1. THOMAS NOYES SR (CLARKS SUMMIT, PA), \$20,940
2. JAMES GOVERNA (RICHBORO, PA), \$12,340
3. ADDISON ALSTON (MOUNT LAUREL, NJ), \$7,105
4. JOSEPH GALLINARO (BROOKLYN, NY), \$5,759
5. CHARLES LAPHAN (SEWELL, NJ), \$4,487
6. BARRY SMITH (FOREST HILLS, NY), \$3,739
7. RICHARD PILCHMAN (BRICK, NJ), \$2,991
8. KENNETH JACOBY (ROSLYN HGTS, NY), \$2,244
9. WILLIAM FOUKE (HAGERSTOWN, MD), \$1,496
10. J MITCHELL MILLER (CANTON, OH), \$972

Event 16: \$1,090 6-Max NLHE

297 entries • \$297,000 prize pool

1. DANIEL SPIRER (MECHANICSVILLE, PA): \$80,665

2. STEVEN LEVY (PEABODY, MA): \$47,534
3. STEVEN DEWAYNE WIGGINS (DOUGLAS, GA): \$27,368
4. SAMIR HUSAYNUE (W BLOOMFIELD, MI): \$22,182
5. CHRISTOPHER BONITA (WINTHROP, MA): \$17,285
6. MARC LOME (EVEN PRAIRIE, MN): \$14,405
7. WILLIAM HALEY (FLORHAM PARK, NJ): \$11,524
8. DANIEL JOHNSON (HONOLULU, HI): \$8,643
9. MICHAEL HALLEN (KATY, TX): \$5,762
10. DAVID GRANA (GRAND ISLAND, NY): \$3,745

\$3,500 WPT Main Event

1,042 entries • \$3,438,600 prize pool

1. DWYTE PILGRIM (BROOKLYN, NY), \$733,802
2. KIANOOSH MOHAJERI (ROCKLEDGE, FL), \$440,945
3. OFIR MOR (WOODMERE, NY), \$266,835
4. BRANDON NOVENA (PICKERINTON, OH), \$223,475
5. DANIEL MAKOWSKY (ZURICH, SWI), \$183,449
6. BENJAMIN KLIER (ASTORIA, NY), \$148,427
7. JEFFREY PAPOLA (NEW YORK, NY), \$118,408
8. ANDY YOUNGBLOOD (DEARBORN HTS, MI), \$90,057
9. LEE CHILDS (ALEXANDRIA, VA), \$61,706
10. CHRISTIAN IACOBELLIS (RYE, NY), \$40,025

Event 18: \$560 NLHE

188 entries • \$94,000 prize pool

1. ROSLYN QUARTO (EDISON, NJ), \$27,354
2. DON CALDARAZZO (COCKEYSVILLE, MD), \$15,045
3. EVERTON TAYLOR (BROOKLYN, NY), \$8,662
4. JOHN KURZ (PHILADELPHIA, PA), \$7,294
5. MIRSAJ KOVACI (ALLENSTOWN, PA), \$5,471
6. ONOFRIO REINA (ELIZABETH, NJ), \$4,559
7. PETER MAVRO (DOUGLSTON, NY), \$3,647
8. BERNARD LIBERATI (CHERRY HILL, NJ), \$2,735
9. MIGUEL BORRERO (JERSEY CITY, NJ), \$2,052
10. EDWARD GRUSKA (MASSAPEQUA, NY), \$1,824

Event 19: \$400 NLHE

313 entries • \$109,550 prize pool

1. TYLER PATTERSON (EVERETT, WA), \$28,691
2. JAIME HERRERA (LONG ISLAND, NY), \$15,940
3. ONOFRIO REINA (ELIZABETH, NJ), \$9,883
4. ALEX TORRES (FAIRVIEW, NJ), \$7,970
5. MARGUERITE SPAGNUOLO (STATEN ISLAND, NY), \$6,163
6. MICHAEL CAZULL (HOWARD BEACH, NY), \$5,207
7. PAUL GOMBERG (PHILADELPHIA, PA), \$4,197
8. ANDREW KNEE (MOUNT SINAI, NY), \$3,135
9. STEVEN CHO (DERWOOD, MD), \$2,125

Event 20: \$350 NLHE

287 entries • \$86,100 prize pool

1. DUBOIS ALAIN (BLAINVILLE, CAN), \$23,384
2. KEVIN WAY (WARRINGTON, PA), \$13,780
3. SCOTT GIRARD (ALDIE, VA), \$7,934
4. ALEXANDER GENTILE (BOHEMIA, NY), \$6,430
5. MEIKAT SIU (NEW YORK, NY), \$5,011
6. THOMAS BALLA (BELLEROSE, NY), \$4,175
7. ANTHONY CASAGRANDE (CORAM, NY), \$3,340
8. MICHAEL SHAMMAS (CHESAPEAKE, VA), \$2,505
9. RANDY PLUDO (PLYMOUTH MTNG, PA), \$1,670
10. EDWARD SHADE (HURRICANE, WV), \$1,086

Event 21: \$230 NLHE

324 entries • \$64,800 prize pool

1. SIMON RUDIN (MONROE TWP, NJ), \$16,971
2. AARON CARR (NEW YORK, NY), \$9,428
3. ERIC OLSON (NEW YORK, NY), \$5,846
4. DONALD POPOWSKI (HAMILTON, NJ), \$4,714
5. GRANTEL GIBBS (WHITBY, CAN), \$3,646
6. RAYMOND GIFFORD (ALSTON, PA), \$3,080
7. MOSHE BERNSTEIN (BROOKLYN, NY), \$2,483
8. TOM WHITMORE (MASSAPEQUA PARK, NY), \$1,855
9. ALEX TORRES (FAIRVIEW, NJ), \$1,258
10. RYAN MILLER (ANNANDALE, NJ), \$818

DELAWARE

The folks at the Delaware Park poker room celebrated the opening of their new 25-table tournament room with a series of events the first weekend in October. Here are the results, and for a closer look at Delaware Park and the other new rooms in Delaware and Eastern Pennsylvania be sure to check out our Road Trip series on Pages 40-45.



\$150 \$20K guarantee

PLAYERS: 155 • PRIZE POOL: \$20K

1. \$5,400: John Thomas
2. \$3,360: Robert Daniels
3. \$2,040: Thomas Hover
4. \$1,500: Robert Lazansky
5. \$1,120: Michael Desanto
6. \$920: Brian Shive
7. \$810: Steven Krumm
8. \$710: William Shewbrooks
9. \$600: Jeffrey Starratt
10. \$480: Georgios Gregoraskos
11. \$480: Mark O'Keefe
12. \$480: Parker Jones
13. \$380: Frank Fulmer
14. \$380: Lloyd Carter

15. \$380: David Shaker
16. \$320: Matthew Sowells
17. \$320: Kim Eisler
18. \$320: Jaime Shughart

\$150 \$20K guarantee

PLAYERS: 93 • PRIZE POOL: \$20K

1. \$6,400: Arie Kestler
2. \$4,000: Edward Saxon
3. \$2,620: Remo Lupo
4. \$1,900: Alexander Evans
5. \$1,400: Brent Dahlquist
6. \$1,100: Gary Wainwright
7. \$960: Lisa Vanlandingham
8. \$860: Bjorn Hoyer
9. \$760: Samuel Ableman

\$85 Midnight Bounty

PLAYERS: 127 • PRIZE POOL: \$6,033

1. \$1,809: Teddy Way
2. \$1,086: Jean Pierre
3. \$724: Jim McDonough
4. \$534: Brian K. Tinsley
5. \$401: Michael Napier
6. \$332: Melissa Kortas
7. \$271: Gary Boyd
8. \$211: Brian Stroh
9. \$166: Ronald Hamlick
10. \$136: Scott Haddon
11. \$121: Jarell Clinton
12. \$121: Michael Welch
13. \$121: Mark Dougherty

\$150 \$20K guarantee

PLAYERS: 281 • PRIZE POOL: \$33,439

1. \$8,026: Darren Dellanoce
2. \$4,949: Charley Sung
3. \$3,344: Jay Bang
4. \$2,374: Augustine Dibiasi
5. \$1,839: Eric Doerr
6. \$1,505: Khanh Tran
7. \$1,254: Lloyd Carter
8. \$1,053: Kyle Baird
9. \$869: Jonathan Seeger
10. \$685: Laurence Gay
11. \$685: Derek Payne
12. \$685: Matthew Wiercioch
13. \$535: Jonah Wilhelm
14. \$535: Jarell Clinton

15. \$535: Albert Wooten
16. \$418: Justin Vickers
17. \$418: Vincent Dibendetto
18. \$418: Patrick Dicrecchio
19. \$368: Alvin Messersmith
20. \$368: Joseph O'Neil
21. \$368: Wayne Defrancesco
22. \$368: Curtis Dean
23. \$368: Ronald Thomas
24. \$368: Michael Kraus
25. \$368: Ahmad Wardak
26. \$368: Layton Sumpter
27. \$368: Lawrence Hulst

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MEET THE ...

~~NOVEMBER NINE~~

Florida Three!



John Racener, left, Michael Mizrachi, center, and John Dolan carry the hopes of a state still looking for poker respect.

MICHAEL “THE GRINDER” MIZRACHI: 14,450,000 CHIPS (SEVENTH)



Michael “Grinder” Mizrachi is in demand, and is it any wonder? The 2010 Ante Up World Series of Poker Player of the Year sits seventh in chips at the WSOP main event final table and could become the most successful tournament earner in history if he wins the big one. If you saw him during the three-month hiatus you may not have recognized him as he seems to have a cell phone fused to his head these days to conduct all of those interviews. He also made good at home as he taught a DeepStacks Live course at Miami’s Studz Poker Club (though this is not unprecedented as he was once part of the Pros vs. Joes series at One-Eyed Jacks in Sarasota, Fla.). Here is what he’s been up to since making history.

What’s life been like after making the final table? I’ve been traveling like crazy. I went to a Full Tilt tournament at Cyprus; I played the high-rollers; I played the main event. I was playing a lot of water polo in Cyprus, starting to get in shape, swimming a lot.

After Cyprus I headed to Israel to be with my family. We went to the Western Wall, prayed for a little bit, as you know what I wished for. (laughs) From there we went to Romania for a day and a half and played some cards there. Then I went to France (to play the Partouche tournament), then London (for the WSOPE) then back to Miami (for his son Paul’s sixth birthday party), then to New York for my cousin’s wedding, and to ESPN’s studios to do some interviews, then I’m headed back to London tonight to play the Full Tilt Invitational.

At what point in the main event did you think, “I can make the November Nine?” When it was the end of Day 6 and into Day 7 I believe I was second in chips with 7.5 million I felt like no one could stop me now. I’m second in chips and I feel like I have a big advantage, just the fact that I have so much more experience than everybody else. And I’ve played a lot more situations. I felt like if I play well, play my game, I’ll get there, I’ll make it to the November Nine. Fortunately I did.

What’s been the reaction of your family/friends and the media? Um, well, the media’s been crazy. I’ve been averaging two interviews per day. The first month and a half was hectic.

A lot of my friends are excited. Everybody wants to go. Hopefully I can get enough tickets to get everybody out there. ... It’s gonna be tough. I don’t want to handle that part though, because it would stress me out, so I let (my wife) Lily handle that.

You’ve played with John Racener; what do you think of his game? I played with John the last three or four years. I would say sometimes he mixes it up really well. He’s aggressive and likes to play pots in position.

Have you mixed it up with John Dolan before? No, not really, just when we were down to the final 10. I’ve heard he’s really, really good. And he knows how to get chips, that’s for sure.

What do you think it says about Florida poker having three of its players at the final table? We are the Sunshine State. And I think due to the fact that we have the beaches and great lifestyle that Florida’s come out with some good poker players.

There’s a limited amount of great players, but there’s a lot of good players. Florida’s got talent, and we have high stakes. Maybe they have the Mizrachi blood, who knows? (laughs)

What will you do (or what have you done) to prepare for the November Nine? All I’ve been doing is traveling. ... I’m actually doing a class for DeepStacks Live at Calder Race Course. But there hasn’t been much preparation. ... When I get to the final table I’m just going to make my adjustments and hopefully I could take it down.

If you win it all, what’s the first thing you’ll buy? I don’t know yet, maybe a nice car. But I don’t know. We’ll see.

What do you think life will be like if you’re the world champion? If I do become world champion my lifestyle will stay the same. I’ll be the No. 1 tournament earner in the world for all-time winnings. You know, enjoy myself and enjoy my family. Maybe take it easy and not play as much poker as I did in the past. It will still be my full-time job, but I’m gonna take a nice long vacation and enjoy myself.

JOHN RACENER: 19,050,000 CHIPS (FOURTH)

John Racener is no stranger to World Series success, having won a circuit event in Atlantic City in 2007 and scoring a dozen WSOP cashes in his career. And that's just live. Racener,



Racener, left, and Crist, right.

of Tampa, Fla., is one of the top online players in the world, going by the handle \$JMONEY\$. But all of that pales to what's possible for Racener this month as he's playing for nearly \$9 million and poker immortality. The celebrity of making the November Nine already is paying dividends. He was invited to a special

fund-raising dinner for Florida Gov. Charlie Crist's Senate campaign. "It was really cool," he said. "They had (bodyguards) there and everything. ... He said he heard about my success and said congratulations and good luck." Here's an update on Racener's life during the three-month hiatus.

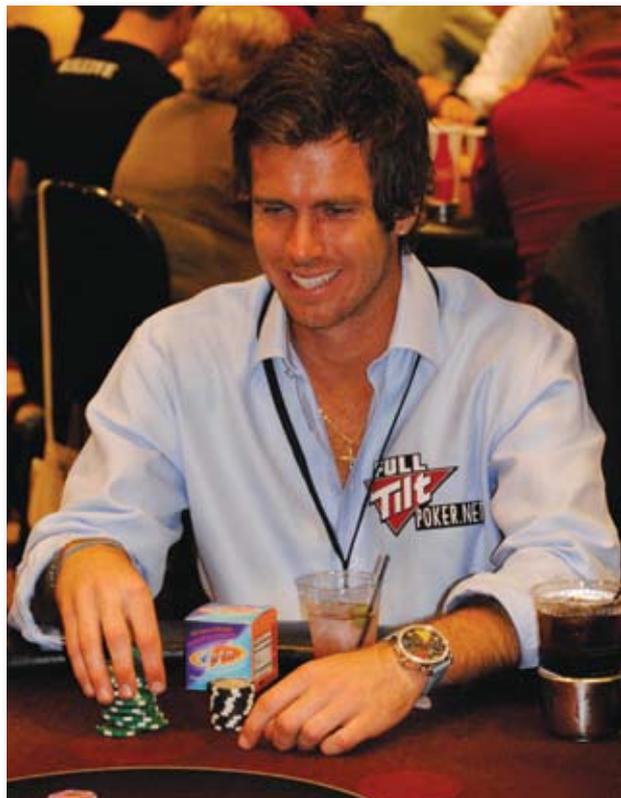
What's life been like after making the final table? Pretty amazing... A lot of people congratulating me, sending me funny Facebook private messages and chats, text messages, stuff like that. People come up to me when I'm out at night, or even when I'm at the pool laying out people come up to me. ... it's what I dreamed about so I like it.

At what point in the main event did you think, "I can make the November Nine?" When there was about a hundred people left and I won that big hand, queens vs. aces, that they showed on ESPN, that put me in the top three with like a hundred left. I knew then I had a really good shot. ... I first thought about the November Nine when we were 27 left and I was top three, two, I might even have been at the top, I don't know, but I knew then I had like a really, really good chance at it and it was most likely going to happen.

What's been the reaction of your family/friends, and have a lot of long lost relatives come out of the woodwork? Well, obviously my mom and my sister are extremely happy, my closest friends are really happy about it. We've been talking about it 24/7. ... I actually had a really funny private message on Facebook. Some older-looking guy, he looks like Santa Claus (laughs), private-messaged me saying he used to be good friends with my dad (who passed away about a year and half ago) and saying, "If you need assistance or help with the money..." I just laughed about it and moved on and didn't reply.

You've played with the Grinder before; what do you think of his game? I think his game is amazing. When I first started traveling around (the poker circuit) I was 21 and I played with him for the first time at the Wynn Classic. We played almost the whole tournament together and we got into a lot of big hands together, a lot of interesting hands. And that's when we became close friends. When I came back from that trip I told all of my closest buddies and my poker buddies that I think Grinder is the best player I've played with so far in my life. I just thought his game was amazing, just the things he does, I thought it was really unique. I kinda actually started to mimic my game after him after that.

Have you played with John Dolan before? No, I've never played with him and I didn't really know too much about him until we were 27-handed and he started the day to my immediate right. He only had like two or



three million chips then, and that was the day he went on his big run.

What do you think it says about Florida poker having three of its players at the final table? I do find it really interesting. I think that poker's really competitive in Florida between Tampa and Miami. There's always a lot of home games going on, and now that they have (uncapped poker) in casinos, I think the players in Florida might be some of the best in the U.S.

What will you do (or what have you done) to prepare for the November Nine? I went to the Full Tilt event in Greece just to keep my game sharp. And of course I went to the WSOPE (where he made the final table in the PLO event and finished fifth) and the EPT and I did well on those trips. Now I just got back home a couple of days ago and I'll be watching a lot of the replays and the videos on ESPN. ... Just looking at certain hands when these players are in big hands, see what they're doing, like when they're bluffing or not, just so I can know what to expect in certain situations when it comes up at the final table. ... One of my fellow pro friends came up to me when I was at the WSOPE and he said, "I think I have a tell on you." So we had dinner one night and he was telling me what he thought was going on. So that's kinda like something that will help me.

If you win it all, what's the first thing you'll buy? The only thing that I really, really want that I don't have is a big house. I would like to buy a nice four- or five-bedroom house, possibly on the water. Get some jet-skis, maybe a boat, and then I think I'll have everything I want. ... I want it to be somewhere here around Tampa, Fla. I like it here. All of my closest friends are here; my mom lives here. I like the atmosphere around here and don't think I'd be as happy anywhere else.

What do you think life will be like if you're the world champion? I kinda already got a glimpse of that a little bit when I was in London. I had people coming up to me on break wanting to take pictures and sign autographs. I think if I'm champion it's going to be like that all the time. ... especially when I'm traveling on tour because everyone knows who the champion is, even if they're not a full-time poker player. ... I feel like I carry myself really well. People around here already act like I'm champion. (laughs)

JOHN DOLAN: 46,250,000 CHIPS (SECOND)

Heading into the final table last year, Darvin Moon said the money wouldn't change him, and you believed him. But after receiving \$5 million for second place and having some time to spend it, he admitted later it did change his life. Yet when you talk with John Dolan of Bonita Springs, Fla., and he says nothing would change if he were to win it all this month, you believe him, too. This former Jefferson County Kennel Club dealer is very unassuming and very level-headed. Don't be surprised if you see the bling on his wrist when this is all said and done. He has won plenty of important tournaments around the gulf region and has had a ton of online success. *Ante Up* called a little too early and woke him up to discuss his experiences after qualifying second for the November Nine.

What's life been like after making the final table? It's been pretty awesome. I pretty much just traveled Europe and played a bunch of live tourneys and had fun. Seen some old friends or talked to some old friends I haven't seen or heard from in a while. (laughs) It's just 'cause of the TV coverage and stuff.

At what point in the main event did you think, "I can make the November Nine?" Probably with like a hundred left. ... It's like, "Wow, this is actually possible." With like 400 or 500 left you're like, "OK, this is still like a normal tournament, or whatever." There's still so many people left you can't expect anything at that point I guess. But with a hundred left you start to feel like, "Wow, 10 tables." And all of the tables have disappeared. It's a really cool feeling.

What's been the reaction of your family/friends? My family has been awesome. They're ecstatic and really happy for me. Old friends think it's the coolest thing ever; you know, to see me on TV or whatever. That's the gist of it, but my family's been awesome.

What do you think of Grinder? Michael is the most accomplished player of anyone by far at the final table. He's obviously doing stuff right and he had the biggest summer out of anyone. I obviously respect his game a ton. It's nice to have him not with as many chips, to be honest. (laughs)

What do you think of John Racener? John's really good. He plays a little different from what I would expect another 24-year-old would play. It's not at all from what I would expect from an Internet person to play, because I play a bunch on the Internet. He plays a lot of live poker and kinda came up in both. He plays a little different than I would in spots. ... I think he is more than capable and probably one of the toughest at the table, to be honest.

What do you think it says about Florida poker having three of its players at the final table? I don't know what it says specifically because with the exception of homes games and the Internet there really wasn't anywhere to play in Florida before that. There's something about it, though, because there are SO many good players from Florida. So many Internet kids, it can definitely arguably be the best state.

Have you done anything (or will you do anything) to prepare for the November Nine? No I really haven't. I've talked to a few of my closest poker friends, just about different spots and what we think people will be doing in certain spots. That's the extent of it. I mean, I'll watch the coverage and see if I can get anything off of it, but besides that I really haven't done much.

If you win it all, what's the first thing you'll buy? Probably a house, somewhere in Florida.



John Dolan has a handful of WSOP cashes, plus this victory in a Gulf Coast Poker Championship event.

What do you think life will be like if you're the world champion? With the exception of traveling and playing more live poker, I really don't expect much to change. I really wouldn't change anything about the way I live. That's just me. I mean, yeah, I'll be able to live comfortably and won't have to worry about things. I wouldn't have to play poker as much. (laughs) But besides that, it wouldn't change anything I did all the time.

2010 World Series of Poker by the numbers

The November Nine will play for \$29,032,637 (plus interest added and accrued from July 20 until the time they return on Nov. 6). The payout schedule is as follows:

1st: \$8,944,138	4th: \$3,092,497	7th: \$1,356,708
2nd: \$5,545,855	5th: \$2,332,960	8th: \$1,045,738
3rd: \$4,129,979	6th: \$1,772,939	9th: \$811,823

- The main event total prize pool was \$68,798,600.
- 747 players from a field of 7,319 cashed in the main event.
- The tournament resumes with 250K-500K blinds, 50K antes.
- The entire Series attracted a record 72,966 entrants from 117 nations competing for more than \$187,109,850 in prize pool money over 57 events.
- ESPN will carry coverage on Nov. 9 at 8 p.m. ET

Cuong "Soi" Nguyen

Seat 9: 9,650,000 chips
Hometown: Santa Ana, CA
Age: 37

Random fact: Nguyen is the only amateur member of the November Nine.



Jason Senti

Seat 1: 7,625,000 chips
Hometown: St. Louis Park, MN
Age: 25

Random fact: This is the pro poker player's first WSOP cash on any level.



Filippo Candio

Seat 8: 16,400,000 chips
Hometown: Cagliari, Italy
Age: 26

Random fact: Candio is the first Italian player to make the main event final table.



Joseph Cheong

Seat 2: 23,525,000 chips
Hometown: La Mirada, CA
Age: 24

Random fact: Cheong won a WSOP circuit ring this year.

John Racener

Seat 7: 19,050,000 chips
Hometown: Tampa, FL
Age: 24

Random fact: Racener won a 2007 WSOP circuit ring at Atlantic City.



NOVEMBER NINE

John Dolan

Seat 3: 46,250,000 chips
Hometown: Bonita Springs, FL
Age: 24

Random fact: The poker pro cashed three times in this WSOP.



Matthew Jarvis

Seat 6: 16,700,000 chips
Hometown: Surrey, BC
Age: 25

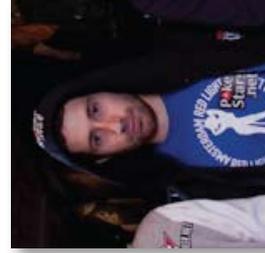
Random fact: This is the first WSOP cash for Jarvis, who mostly plays online.



Michael Mizrachi

Seat 5: 14,450,000 chips
Hometown: Miramar, FL
Age: 29

Random fact: If Grinder wins he'll have the most overall tournament earnings in history.



Jonathan Duhamel

Seat 4: 65,975,000 chips
Hometown: Boucherville, Quebec
Age: 22

Random fact: Duhamel has three cashes at this year's WSOP.



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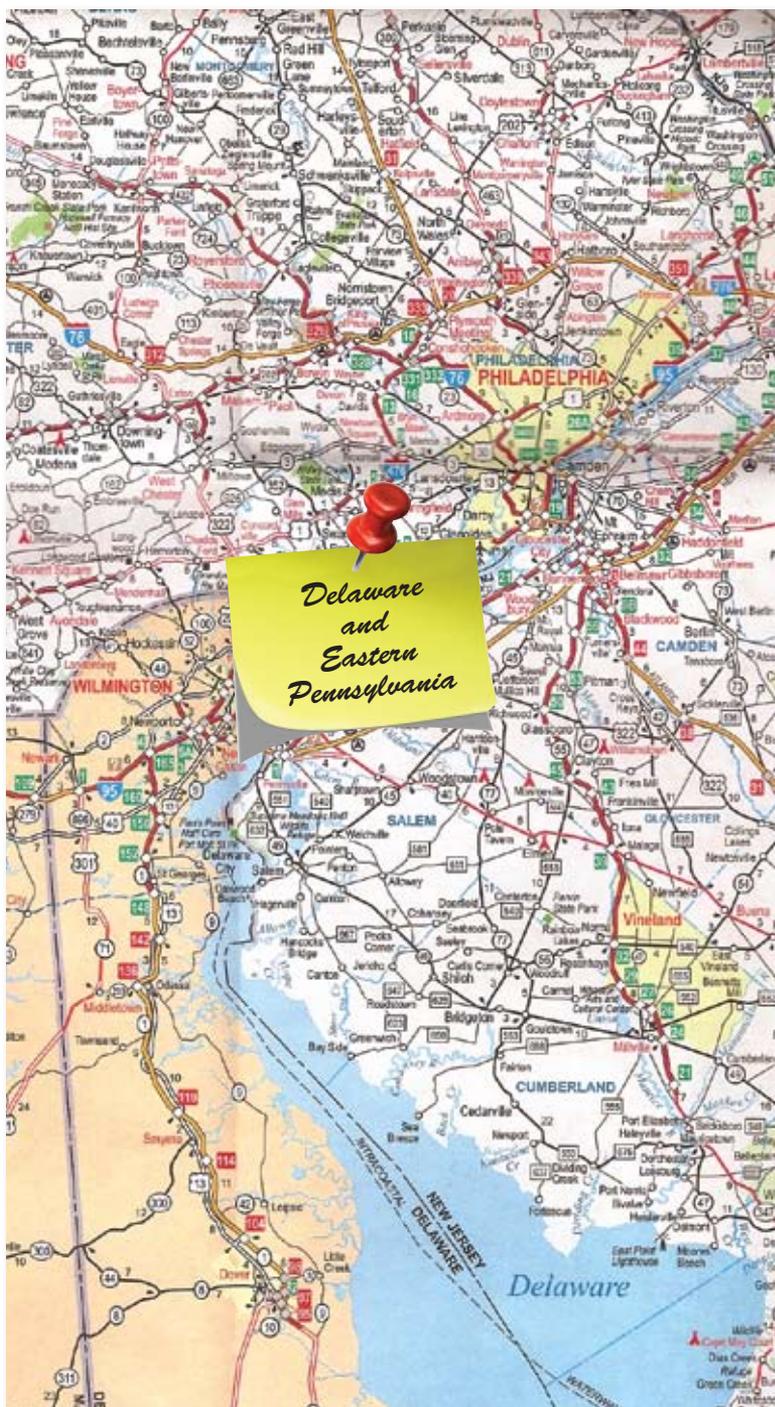
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DELAWARE & EASTERN PA.

When a state approves poker for its citizens we always like to think of it as a victory for all poker players. So when a pair of states is granted the right to pitch cards it makes us twice as thrilled.

Two milestones highlighted this past summer: Pennsylvania and Delaware began spreading live poker, and consequently, *Ante Up* expanded into these states. What better way to celebrate these great accomplishments than to visit the new poker rooms on an *Ante Up* Road Trip? Most of the rooms were awaiting approval for tournaments when we visited, but you can check our Where to Play pages in the back of the magazine for the most up-to-date information.



DELAWARE



Harrington Raceway

(888) 887-5687 | harringtonraceway.com

When you're the first to open a poker room in your state there are pros and cons: You get first crack at players itching to play live poker, but you also have to set the standard, which isn't easy. Harrington Raceway was the first to open a poker room in Delaware after the legislation passed and its goal was to be the friendly room. In talking with the staff they said they pride themselves in getting to know their players and it's a rare occurrence when they don't know players by name.

TABLES: 10

POPULAR GAMES AND LIMITS: \$1-\$2 NLHE (\$2-\$5 and \$5-\$10 on weekends). We were told nobody is interested in limit poker there.

PROMOTIONS: The bad beat is aces full of kings (\$62K as of press time). During football season (Sundays and Mondays) two cash game tables are randomly selected and the pot is splashed once with \$100. Also, Monday-Thursday (6-10 a.m.) the room pays high hands.

STAFF: The poker room and table games share dealers.

AMENITIES: A waitress will bring you food and you can eat at the table. Try the crab cakes from Murphy's. There are 10 TVs and pagers will alert you if your seat is ready. Also, there is talk of comps, but be sure to ask the brush when you arrive.

OF NOTE: Tournaments began in late September, running every Tuesday and Thursday (\$60 buy-in, 3,000 chips), but seating is limited to 45 players. Call ahead for times. The room plans to offer larger buy-ins and bigger stacks in the future. Also, Harrington has a large ballroom and the staff says it wants to plan a larger tournament series down the road.



Delaware Park

(302) 355-1050 | delawarepark.com

As a tournament director at the Venetian in Las Vegas, Anthony Chester saw first-hand how a successful poker room looked, felt and operated. He knew if he got his chance to open a room he'd try to replicate that experience, and with Delaware Park he has. From the oak décor and marble drink rests on the tables, to the five oversized leather chairs (and their wooden carved armrests) in the waiting area, Chester handpicked every item and detail of this elegant poker room. And when it came to buy-ins and limits, he mimicked the Venetian, setting up what he calls a "true Las Vegas-style poker room." Here's the skinny on Delaware Park:



TABLES: 20, plus a 25-table tournament room

POPULAR GAMES AND LIMITS: \$1-\$2, \$2-\$5, \$5-\$10 NLHE; \$3-\$6 (occasionally \$6-\$12) limit and a \$3-\$6 or \$6-\$12 H.O.R.S.E. game. "Every once in a while they'll throw that deuce-to-seven in there," Chester said with a smile. "All week we had a \$3-\$6 mix of pineapple and crazy pineapple."

PROMOTIONS: "Well, it's not specifically a bad-beat dollar," Chester said. "We take a dollar out of every pot when the pot reaches \$20, and it's a promotional dollar. It goes to fund two different bad beats, the mega beat, which is for the entire room, and then we have a mini beat for the table only. ... We also have a monthly \$15K freeroll, 40 hours of play in a month will qualify you for the freeroll." Also, top 10 in hours earned gets \$100. And be on the lookout for a \$150K bi-annual freeroll.

STAFF: Nearly 200.

AMENITIES: About 20 flatscreen TVs circle the main room, including four dedicated to promotions and waitlists. The Bravo system is installed at every table to help take care of players using their Delaware Park Players Card. There's also a poker room menu so you can eat at the table. The Bravo system can alert a waitress if you need a beverage or food.

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN IN POKER: "Since 2000," Chester said. "I started out dealing poker at the World Series. My first hand of poker dealt was \$30-\$60 Omaha/8. I got thrown immediately to the wolves. But I've been in gaming for 16 years. I started in blackjack and craps. The back gave out on me so I had to go to the box and sit down. Ironically I had to give up the standing job and ended up with another standing job."

WHAT CAN A PLAYER EXPECT FROM YOUR ROOM? "Complete customer service. We use game attendants and chip-runners. So you're going to be greeted by someone who is just like a hostess in a restaurant; they're the hostess to the poker room. You're going to be greeted by a board attendant who's going to take your name and make you a players card if you don't have one. ... The way we do things is a true Las Vegas-style poker room."

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Dover Downs

(302) 674-4600 | doverdowns.com

Frank Foti is the king of setting up poker rooms, and with Crown Royal as title sponsor of the Dover Downs poker room, is it any wonder? Foti has built poker rooms from the ground up all over Atlantic City for the past 10 years and has been in the casino industry for three decades. This unassuming manager has put together a very relaxed poker room dedicated to the wants and needs of its poker players. As Foti put it, Dover Downs is a “real gambling-style poker room where there’s not a carnival-like atmosphere. There are some places that do that, and some places it works and some places it doesn’t. We just want to take it one step at a time and it’s been working because we’ve been growing every week.”

TABLES: 18; **STAFF:** 50

POPULAR GAMES AND LIMITS: \$1-\$2, \$2-\$5, \$5-\$10 NLHE. “We’ve had some requests for stud games. If we have enough players I’ll spread pinochle,” Foti said with a laugh.

PROMOTIONS: The bad beat is aces full of jacks, one of the easiest to hit in the area. “What I’m trying to do is keep this to as close to a real poker room as possible,” Foti said.

AMENITIES: “We have a full menu and full wait service,” Foti said.

“Players can use the betting machine in the room to bet on races, etc., and we have football parlay cards.” Also, a players comp card is available and pays 50 cents an hour. Shuffle machines are installed in 12 of the 18 tables and there are 11 TVs.

WHAT CAN A PLAYER EXPECT FROM YOUR ROOM? “This is kind of like they took a Las Vegas or Atlantic City hotel and dropped it right here. It’s a classy place to come to. I’ll never let it turn into a dive joint. If somebody utters the wrong word here they’re out. We had a Scrabble tournament here (on property) and two of the players came in cursing, from Scrabble! I said to the one guy, “How many points do you get for that word?” ... It’s a relaxed place to come. It’s a fun place to come. That’s how I am. We just have fun. We’re open-collar, we’re round-collar. No shirt and tie, that’s really stuffy. They can expect a lot of fun, to be treated with a lot of respect. I want the room to be a house game that everybody can come to.”

OF NOTE: The Crown Royal Poker Room offers reduced specials on Crown Royal products, plus players can win Crown Royal gear if they hit a royal flush. And what about the Crown Royal throne in the lobby? “That’s mine,” Foti said, laughing. “If it swiveled it’d be in my office.”



Foti, the king at Dover Downs.

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PENNSYLVANIA

Harrah's Chester

(800) 480-8020 | harrahschester.com

If you've read *Ante Up* Road Trips in the past you'll notice a theme whenever a Harrah's property is reviewed: the World Series of Poker. It's hard to ignore, and Harrah's Chester is no different. Just outside Philadelphia, this Harrah's room is the only WSOP-branded property in the area, so that means plenty of players will flock there for WSOP satellites and events. Being so close to A.C. you may wonder how those properties feel about having another one so close, but manager Chris Loscalso says it's a synergy that works well.

"We have a great working relationship with our sister properties in A.C. and I think we share a lot of their best practices," he said. "We think there's enough people in the market that there's plenty of poker to go around."

TABLES: 25

POPULAR GAMES AND LIMITS: \$1-\$2, \$2-\$5 NLHE. "But occasionally we'll get limit games ranging from \$2-\$4 to \$20-\$40," Loscalso said. "And a stud game has been known to break out."

PROMOTIONS: Bad beat is quad deuces.**STAFF:** 150

AMENITIES: You can eat at the tables (a waitress will deliver the food) and there's tableside beverage service. Total Rewards cards are being used but specifics aren't nailed down just yet.



HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN IN POKER? "I started in poker in 2006 and this is the second poker room I've helped run," Loscalso said, who started in the casino business in 2003 as a dealer. "When people say 'You don't remember when,' I actually do. I've never forgotten where I've started."

OF NOTE: Actress/poker player Shannon Elizabeth visited the room recently and Harrah's randomly picked six people playing live games and gave the \$300 to play with against her. "She did relatively well," Loscalso said with a smile.



Hollywood Penn National

(717) 469-2291 | hcpn.com

It's always a good sign when the staff at your local poker room is thinking of expanding the playing area. It's even more encouraging when a room that's only just in its infancy is considering it because that means business is good.

The folks at Hollywood Penn National (minutes from Hershey/Harrisburg) have put together a fine looking poker room, very spacious and rich in décor. But the first-floor room is so busy that expansion to the second floor is being explored, and you just know that expansion will be as successful and aesthetically pleasing as the first effort. Until that move, however, here's what you have to look forward to at HPN:

TABLES: 14

POPULAR GAMES AND LIMITS: \$1-\$2 and \$2-\$5 NLHE (though \$3-\$6 limit and \$4-\$8 Omaha/8 were running when *Ante Up* visited).

PROMOTIONS: "We are moving toward having 'special game' nights, where we would 'guarantee' an available table of a type of game (PLO, LHE, etc.) on certain nights of the week," manager Marc Bilodeau said.

STAFF: The poker room and tables games share dealers and staff.

AMENITIES: Tableside dining and a poker room menu are offered. "Hot dogs are a great choice," said table games manager Anthony Ciallella. A Bravo system aids in seating, but comps aren't offered for poker just yet. There are 11 TVs, a self-service wagering terminal and a large-screen LCD monitor strictly devoted to horse racing.

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN IN POKER? "This is my 22nd year in gaming," Bilodeau said, "and I've been directly involved with poker for the past 10 years."

WHAT MAKES YOUR ROOM DIFFERENT? "Our Central Pennsylvania players are friendly, polite and very laid back and this makes for a great experience in our poker room," Bilodeau said. "Our courteous staff easily handles the rare major incident we might have during a day."

WHAT CAN A PLAYER EXPECT FROM YOUR ROOM? "We know all any player wants is a fair game and customer service that exceeds expectations," Bilodeau said, "and that's what we are proud to offer at Hollywood Casino."

OF NOTE: The brush stand at the entrance handles seating and chips as well.



Mohegan Sun Pocono Downs

(570) 831-2100 | mohegansunpocono.com

Art Blanda, the young and energetic manager at MSPD, runs a clean, professional room, no doubt a result of his years of experience working in the Connecticut poker rooms. And when you combine that with Mohegan's modern, spacious layout and experienced staff, you can't lose.



"When you come here it's a poker room," he said. "You don't have to worry about people bumping into you, no noise."

Blanda was an integral member with the relatively new Mohegan Sun poker room in Uncasville, Conn., and that really helped when he assembled the pieces for his new room, which is divided into three areas. As you walk up to the brush stand you can see the somewhat secluded high-limit area to the right. The \$1-\$2 no-limit tables are buzzing behind the brush and to the left. And if you have to wait to play the brush will text you when your table is ready so you're free to roam around the casino.

TABLES: 18

POPULAR GAMES AND LIMITS: \$1-\$2, \$2-\$5, \$5-\$10 NLHE; \$2-\$4 limit and a \$15-\$30 H.O.S.E. game has been running pretty regularly at night.

PROMOTIONS: Bad beat and/or high hand jackpots are coming soon, pending state approval.

STAFF: Nearly 75 members.

AMENITIES: There are 12 flatscreen TVs, some as big as 65 inches, that can broadcast anything. There's a tote in the room to bet any race and simulcast. The side tables arrived Oct. 1 so tableside dining and waitress service is now 24 hours. Comp cards exist on three levels (Regular, Elite and Sagamore) as players earn 50 cents an hour in \$1-\$2 NLHE and limit games, but \$1 an hour if you play higher.

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN IN POKER? "I started in the (Mohegan) poker room in Connecticut two years ago as a dual rate dealer/floor person," Blanda said. "I've been in the business almost 15 years."

WHAT CAN A PLAYER EXPECT FROM YOUR ROOM? "You can see the atmosphere is a nice poker setting," Blanda said. "It's quiet, out of the way (bottom floor). You're not going to have much noise and you're going to get great service. Our floor staff is fantastic. ... We can spread almost any limit you can think of. We're very flexible. If you want to play heads-up with someone we'll take care of it."

OF NOTE: "Our dealers went through a 13-week class instead of a four-week class," Blanda said, "so they came out much quicker and much more efficient." Also, sit-and-go tournaments began Oct. 1 and multitable tournaments were set to launch Nov. 1. "The large starting chip stack amounts and the 20- to 25-minute levels should be very enticing to even the experienced tournament player," Blanda said.

Mount Airy

(570) 243-5184 | mtairycasino.com

As you stroll from the parking lot and look out at the rolling green hills and wooded surroundings you can't help but think of the Catskills and the opening scenes from *Dirty Dancing*. And that's pretty much the clientele Mount Airy has, casual players looking to enjoy a game of poker and not look across the table at some serious, sunglasses-wearing pro who will berate you if you make a bad play. On this night Thomas Hanno was one of the floor personnel in charge and he answered *Ante Up's* questions as we sat in the room's bronze leather chairs.



TABLES: 11

POPULAR GAMES AND LIMITS: \$1-\$2, \$2-\$5 NLHE; \$2-\$4 and \$3-\$6 limit.

PROMOTIONS: The bad beat is aces full of kings and high hands may be coming soon.

STAFF: Most of the poker room staff is shared with table games.

AMENITIES: There's no eating at the tables (the room is fairly small so adding side tables likely would make this unmanageable). There



is a casino players card that serves as the poker players card and earns 40 cents an hour.

WHAT CAN A PLAYER EXPECT FROM THIS ROOM? "We go after the casual poker player," Hanno said. "You're not going to come in here and be intimidated by professional players. This is more of a casual weekend gambler. They just want to be able to play."

OF NOTE: The staff is hoping to move this smallish poker room into the much larger conference center.

Sands Casino Bethlehem

(877) SANDS-77 | sandsbethworks.com



Do you like energy in your poker? Do you feel like you're not playing unless you're in the main casino and can hear all of the music and atmosphere? Then the Sands poker room is for you.

Well, it's not exactly a poker room, it's the area of the casino where poker is played, which is just fine with its players. About 50 percent of the clientele comes from Lehigh Valley (college students, Allentown, Bethlehem) and the other half is from north Jersey (New Brunswick, Bergen County).

This room breeds action, which is why just about every table was full when *Ante Up* arrived on a Wednesday night. Players without tables sat in the chic central seating area.

Or, if they wanted to roam the casino the brush could text them through the Bravo system.

Expansion is on the horizon for the Sands poker room, especially once tournaments get approved and the casino's hotel is completed in the spring. Poker room manager David Urie said he has big plans for a tournament series once the pieces of the puzzle fall into place. Until then you'll just have to be satis-



fied with a very fun, energetic poker experience at the cash game tables.

TABLES: 12

POPULAR GAMES AND LIMITS: \$1-\$2, \$2-\$5

NLHE.

PROMOTIONS: The bad beat is quad deuces and is a one-table winner.

STAFF: There are dedicated floors and dual rates, but staff is shared among table games.

AMENITIES: The Bravo system is installed and you'll earn 50 cents an hour. Also, you can eat at the table as a waitress will take your order. There is a poker menu with 20 items but you can also order from the full menu.

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN IN POKER? "About six years," Urie said. "I started as a dealer at the Taj Mahal in Atlantic City. I've been in the casino business 11 years."

WHAT CAN A PLAYER EXPECT FROM YOUR ROOM? "The beautiful part about this room is we have a lot of professional (staff) here who've been in the business a long time," he said. "Our poker supervisors all have 10 years' experience in the field. If you come here you can expect quality service, people who know what they're doing. You're not going to have inconsistencies, which as a player that always drives me crazy."

"Being this is a different kind of room, you have energy and vigor here. You have the music, but not too loud, and it kind of keeps you up and excited."

OF NOTE: Tournaments won't begin until 2011, likely between January and March, when the room expands to about twice its current size.

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ANNIE DUKE

FOR PRESIDENT?



It's November and the smell of freshly printed ballots are in the air. Politicians are scrambling for your votes and voters are tired of recorded messages ringing their home phones during dinner. But this election year *Ante Up* has found a potential candidate who could climb atop Capitol Hill and put tremendous fear in the big boys. Of course we didn't actually ask Annie Duke if she wanted to run for office, but we're certain she'd make quite a few career politicians squirm in their comfy leather chairs if she did.

Let's look at her resumé, shall we? She's beyond bright, attending Columbia University and the University of Pennsylvania. She founded Ante Up for Africa and is tied to more charities than Bill Gates. She's an author; a mother of four, and her boyfriend is actor Joe Reitman. She spoke so eloquently and intelligently on behalf of poker in front of Congress that she gained the respect and admiration of politicians and poker players everywhere. She's led numerous boycotts, including one against the World Poker Tour, when the rights and livelihood of poker players were callously disregarded. Oh, and when Joan Rivers besmirched Duke on national television she was calm, graceful and defended professional poker players (and herself) to the end.

And we haven't even gotten to her poker accomplishments yet. She is one of only a handful of women to win a World Series of Poker bracelet in an open event (Omaha/8, 2004) and she captured the Tournament of Champions and \$2 million later that same year. With more than \$4 million in career tournament winnings she is one of the most successful players in poker history.

Clearly she's shown the ability to deal with pompous, over-the-hill public figures (yes, Joan, we mean you, too) in a professional, productive manner and can handle stressful situations, as evidenced by her poker prowess. Yes, she has been known to blow up at fellow poker players, but don't you want a feisty woman fighting for you behind closed doors? She may never choose to run for office, but if she did she'd have our vote.

Recently *Ante Up*'s Christopher Cosenza caught up with Duke at the Vinny Lecavalier charity poker tournament at Derby Lane in St. Petersburg, Fla. "This is my first time in Florida outside of the Miami airport since I was 14," she said. "We grew up very poor and it was my first real family vacation at Disney World." Annie and Chris chatted about everything from charity and being a vegan to her views on the progress of online poker regulation and her boycott of the Commerce Casino.

How important are charity events to you? I play more charity tournaments than I do regular tournaments, so I guess that's where my priorities are. ... I just find it really difficult to say no because from my perspective poker is a very effective fund-raising tool, and apparently I can bring some publicity to those events. I feel like I would be an asshole if I said no. It's just such an effective way to raise money and it's so easy and the only thing I'm giving up is my time. So I just feel like how could I say no? I've ended up doing more of this than actual poker lately. ... None of this is about me.

I hear it was kinda tough for you to adhere to your vegan diet in Florida? I've been making my way through the menus, but today we ate lunch at a chophouse and had to order a regular dish and ask them to remove the main item. I'm really spoiled because I live in L.A. and in L.A. everywhere you go they have not only vegetarian options but vegan options. So it's a little tough when you say to people "I don't eat meat," and they say, "But we have fish." (laughs) ... and it's not anything with a face. It's not an ethical issue for me. Somebody said to me the other day, "What about the baby cows?" And my response was, "I'll kill a baby cow; I just won't eat it." So it's completely a health choice for me. I eat basically no animal products at all.

How difficult was it for you being a face of UltimateBet after the cheating scandal? Obviously when I found out what happened the real difficult decision was whether I was going to stay or not. Basically my decision was based on what I felt like Paul Leggett was going to do. ... The big frustration that I have is that, here you have this guy, Paul Leggett, who's COO of the company, who truly inherited a problem, and through that made sure almost \$23 million got refunded to the players, when he could have said, "It's not my problem; it's (software company) Excapsa's problem." And he said, "No, these are our customers," (and) refunded this money.

I know people are frustrated with how long it took for the list of names to get released, but that was because the investigation had to be done properly. I wish that it could've gone faster, certainly, but the fact is they did get released, and I felt that at every turn Paul Leggett has stood up and tried to do the right thing. It frustrates me that people try to give him flack as if he was the perpetrator, as if this happened under his watch or something, and it didn't. ... I had a really difficult decision and I actually talked about it in-depth with my brother (pro poker player **Howard Lederer**). What I said to (him) was, "I feel like the easy choice is to leave," clearly. And that's going to be the easiest choice for me to make. But, when this all happened I had actually just come from testifying in front of Judiciary. What I had said in front of Judiciary was essentially, to paraphrase, obviously cheating is going to happen. It happens in every single financial market; it happens in the stock market; it happens in business; cheating clearly is going to happen. But, what we want is companies to do the right thing.

Online poker is uniquely suited to give reparation for cheating. You have this huge database and you can scrape all the data and make people whole, which in that sense made it better than playing in a brick-and-mortar casino. If you play in a brick-and-mortar casino and you suspect somebody of cheating, first of all it's almost impossible to prove, and second of all, the casino's not exactly going to hand you your money back. But online poker isn't like that, and I said the majority of companies behave that way. And that was a good thing about poker, to not all put our heads in the sand and say cheating's never going to happen, but to realize that when companies are standing up and doing the right thing and use leveraging the transparency of the data to make people whole in a real way that we should be supportive of this industry.

So now I'm faced with this scandal and Paul's telling me what he's going to do, that he's gonna scrape the database and he's gonna leverage the transparency of the database and he's intending to refund every-



body, and deal with this in a way where you come out and you say, "This is what happened." And I realized that this is literally just what I had testified in front of Congress about. My brother was really urging me to leave the company when I explained this to him. But he understood; he felt bad for me. He realized that was going to be a difficult choice in terms of the way people were going to react to me. But what I said to him was I felt like if I left I would be a complete hypocrite. I would be leaving a brand that was intending to do exactly what I said the brand should do, and that I really didn't feel like I could do that. I understood that this might be really bad for my reputation, but I wanted to know that I wasn't casting aspersions on, particularly in Paul Leggett's case, a person that really didn't deserve to have that happen to them. I needed to stand up and say this is the way companies are supposed to behave in the face of this kind of thing.

How come you didn't just join (Lederer's) Full Tilt Poker when it launched?

When Full Tilt was starting I was under contract to UB, and it would have required me to break a contract. Obviously I could've broken the contract. In retrospect given the quality of the people I had a contract with I wish I had. But at the time I didn't realize the quality of the people I had a contract with. As far as I knew they were honest people and I try to honor my obligations. So I didn't feel like I could break that contract. In the end I don't think it necessarily was a bad choice to say, "Look, this is an industry as a whole that's probably going to do well, but we don't know how Full Tilt's gonna do; we don't know how UB's gonna do, so why not just spread it out and not put all of the family eggs in one basket?"

In retrospect given what happened, would I have gone to Full Tilt when they asked me to? Absolutely! Obviously. But I thought I was in a contract with honorable people at the time. And that



Continued from previous page

was a bad judgment on my part. It is what it is.

What's the best piece of poker advice Howard has ever given you? When I used to moan to him about hands, he was very, very curt with me about it. What he said to me was, "What's the point of this story? ... Why don't you tell me a story that matters? Why don't you tell me about a hand you won that you played like shit? Why are you telling me some story about when you got your aces cracked? What's the point?" And that's probably the best thing he ever did for me. ... There's really no point in telling bad stories. If you read my Twitter stream (realannieduke) I probably have like 10,000 tweets and you might find two moans. He really taught me there's really no point to it. ... His point was to think about things that can actually change your game for the better, as opposed to just random occurrences where you're just whining, which was the best advice he ever gave me.

Are there any points you differ on? We had a big fight this summer about a hand he got knocked out of a tournament on. In the end people agreed that I was right, though. (laughs) But it was a game he doesn't know. It was the first time he had played this particular game. We actually don't disagree on a lot.

Were you approached to be on the "Second Chance" *Apprentice* this season? I think they know not to call me again, honestly. (laughs) They asked me to come back for the finale last year and I asked them if they had started a career in comedy. ... So I don't think they'll be calling me.

Your Congressional testimony is so appreciated by the poker community. How do you think the fight to regulate poker is going? I think it's going better than it ever has. I'm very optimistic. To give you an idea, four years ago when a similar piece of legislation was in committee it got defeated 2-1. Two years ago, really with (Rep.) Spencer Bachus, R-Ala., having to leverage a lot of political capital to get it won, it was a tie. And he really burned up a lot of favors to get it to just be a tie. And this time it was 2-1. And I think one of the reasons why there's been such a shift is that four years ago so much of what was being talked about were moral objections. This is immoral; people are going to go bankrupt. ... There was that story about that kid who went to college and accumulated \$3,000 worth of gambling debt. And then robbed a bank. ... It's completely ridiculous to blame his robbing a bank on playing online poker. His robbing a bank says that there was something really wrong in that family because his father knew that he was accumulating this debt as he went along, didn't really do anything about it, certainly could've intervened at some point. And then what's going on in a family where a son doesn't feel like he can go to his parents and tell them?

So what I had said when (Congress) asked me about it a few years ago, I said I would think that's a symptom of a problem, not the cause.

But those were really the kind of objections they had. ... "What constitutes direct harm? If you're playing poker can you actually cause any direct harm to anybody? Is it really immoral? Should we be legislating morals?" So that was really swinging a lot of people, were those types of arguments. But those arguments have lost of all of their weight.

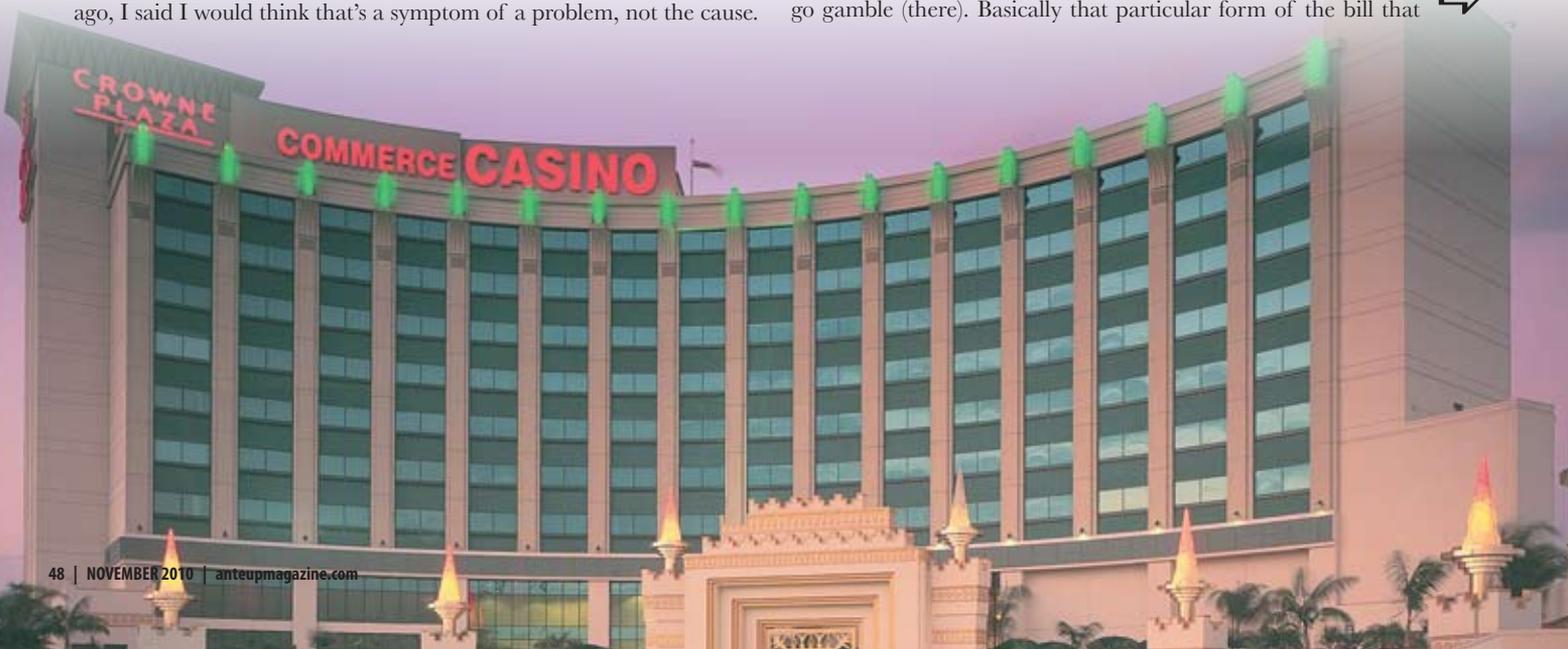
There are a lot of consumer agencies that are now for this. They say the best way to protect children is actually to regulate as opposed to what's going on now. ... As those kinds of groups get on board ... the moral arguments have really fallen away. The only opposition that's really left at this point are the people who don't want the competition. And that's not very sympathetic when you're talking about the upper end of the estimates is \$41 billion in tax revenue in 10 years. That's the upper end of the estimate. But the low end of the estimate is \$10 billion in tax revenue. It's probably somewhere in between, but either way it's just hard to take such an anti-competitive stance when there's so much benefit to the U.S. that could come.

I think that's why it switched to 2-1. I think there's a not-surprising-scenario where they go off to the elections Nov. 2 and then they come back for the lame-duck session where they have to pass all the spending bills, and it gets attached to the back of one of those spending bills. I wouldn't be surprised if that happened. Does that mean online poker's gonna be legal and regulated the next day? No, it's probably going to take 2-5 years to figure out some sort of regulatory scheme. But obviously that would be a huge step because it will make a lot of people feel safe at that point.

A lot of the objections that even some of the anti-competitive people have were addressed in the amendments to the bill. ... The anti-competitive stuff is so weird to me because they're like, "Oh, you're going to take jobs away from Americans." My response to that is, do you think for a second that a site like UB or Full Tilt or whatever doesn't want to have offices in the U.S.? Full Tilt and UB originally were in the U.S. ... and when they saw the legislative climate was kinda going against them they moved out of the country. These were thriving companies that were paying U.S. taxes that got chased away from the job base and the tax base. One would assume they'll certainly be opening up branches here, and there's actually an amendment that says they have to do that. ...

So we can be rest-assured that jobs will be created.

Can you talk a little about the Commerce and your stance against them? They currently back no online poker legislation at all. For those who don't know ... they were pushing for a bill in California that would allow intrastate California gaming, so that would mean you could gamble with only people in California. Now, first of all, that's not even true at the Commerce. At the Commerce you can come from Germany and go gamble (there). Basically that particular form of the bill that



Continued from previous page

they were backing allowed for a hub for licensing, and that hub was the Commerce. It's not that Pechanga (Casino) couldn't get a license ... it was that if they wanted a license they would have to get it through the auspices of the Commerce. ... The problem with that kind of system is it's vulcanized, meaning you have little fiefdoms that have their own little gaming where you can only gamble with people within those fiefdoms. It might look OK from the standpoint of Californians because California is a big state, but think about it from the standpoint of Delaware, which is really terrible.

Then the other problem is, once you set up state-to-state it's very hard for the government to come in and have any kind of consistent regulation across the industry. So you're really talking about each state deciding its own regulatory system, which is bad. Frankly, it's just not much of a choice for the consumer. If the consumer can gamble with people from all over the world you should really let them.

So (the Commerce was) backing this. They commissioned a study — and this was to get the Indian gaming interest on board — that said in the face of online gaming that the number of people that go to brick-and-mortar casinos doesn't change. And this is what really annoyed me. In Congress they testified that if you allow online gaming the Indian gaming people would be destroyed because nobody would go to their casinos anymore. Yet they commissioned a study that showed that's not true. So I felt that was very hypocritical.

That bill was having trouble, so somebody else in the California legislature introduced a bill for intrastate California gaming with three hubs, with the Commerce still being one of them, and (the Commerce) wouldn't back it. They would only back the one where they were the only hub. ... And now they're opposing the federal level with Internet gaming with a licensing scheme in America.

This is an institution that has benefited from online gaming almost more than anyone outside the World Series of Poker. In 2000 the LAPC

had like 70 players in it. Last year it had almost 800. That's from satellite winners being sent to them and the online gaming industry creating poker players that then end up at the Commerce. ... For them to now back no online gaming, and not only back no online gaming but do something so offensive as to use as their comparison for the operators, the drug cartels. As if the people operating UB are the Escobars. And what I said in front of Congress was, these sites are licensed, they just aren't licensed in the U.S. They are licensed by our allies; they're licensed by the U.K. by France, by Italy, by Gibraltar. These are licensed companies, behaving in a licensed environment, offering games to the U.S., wanting to be licensed by the U.S. And to compare them to murderers, because that's what the Escobars are, is so offensive, when they've benefited so much. I see that you're still taking the satellite money, from the Escobars. It was just so incredibly offensive. And to say that somehow all the people playing on these sites are participating in some sort of underground drug-cartel-like business is just offensive to poker players; it's offensive to the operators who are honest business people who are working in a licensed environment. ...

They're truly just being anti-competitive; there's no logic to it. ... Any charity that I'm involved with has been asked to move away from the Commerce by me because I can't show up otherwise. I think it's really too bad. I think they could've taken a much friendlier stance and understood that as the ocean rises all of the ships rise as well, and they could've had a nice piece of the pie.

What is one thing our readers would be surprised to know about you? That I cook everything from scratch for my children. I wake up at 6:30 every morning and make breakfast from scratch, and I cook them dinner from scratch every night. ... We don't have cans of ... if they want soup, we make it. So we go to farmers markets every week we get all of our ingredients. The other morning I made homemade potato latkes for the kids. I grated the potatoes and everything. Everything in our house is homemade. ♠

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TRUST YOUR READS, TRUST YOUR RECALL

This month I'm concluding my math-vs.-feel series as I have a few new ideas brewing in my head. In the previous columns I focused on the math side of things, covering a few key concepts behind the game. Now let's focus on some of the ideas

I think are behind what we regard as the feel of the game.



LEE CHILDS

In Doyle Brunson's *Super System* he talks about the "recall" you may have at the tables, which is the term he uses for that gut feeling you have about a hand, situation or opponent that stems from your subconscious. This is not a magical sixth sense, but it comes from the experience you have and all of the hands you've played. Many of these hands or situations you

may not consciously be able to bring to the front of your mind or even articulate. Your subconscious mind can recall information for you and provide you with those instincts or gut feelings.

Sometimes this may be the betting pattern of your opponents or the way they're acting that will give you that sense of where you and/or they stand. You may sense your opponent is weak, though you're not able to explain what triggered that emotion. It may be that they leaned back from the table, they seemed to appear overly strong (which we know often means weakness), or they may do something

you don't think you have seen before. But it gives you the sense that they are weak. The key for you is to act on these feelings. Your first instinct while playing poker is often the right one. Because of this, you have to be really careful not to "think long, think wrong" while still balancing that with not acting too quickly or irrationally.

The bottom line is you must use your recall and gut feelings when you're playing because you have those feelings for a reason. Something likely has happened in the past that's helping you put a situation together. If you really feel you are beat, fold. If you really feel your opponent is weak then call or raise! Make that decision based on how strong your showdown value is.

Obviously if you have a monster hand, you'll raise them, especially on the river. If you have decent showdown value, you should lean toward just calling because if you raise you likely will only get called by a better hand.

And when you really feel like your opponent is weak and you don't have a strong hand or decent showdown value, raise! Trust your gut and take those chips. If you happen to be wrong so what. You'll automatically learn from it and add that hand to that mysterious hand-tracking database in your head that will recall that information down the road and tell you exactly what to do next time you feel like you are in the same situation. Decide to Win!

— Lee Childs is founder and lead instructor of Acumen Poker. He also is an instructor with the WPT Boot Camp. Go to www.acumenspoker.net.

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STRATEGY

JAY HOUSTON • Finding edges

RECOGNIZE BLOCKERS IN POT-LIMIT OMAHA

Blockers in pot-limit Omaha are a big part of the game. A blocker is when you have one or two cards needed to have the absolute best hand possible.

EXAMPLE 1: The flop is K♣-8♣-2♣ and we have A♣-Q♦-10♦-8♣. We hold the nut club blocker, so no one can have the nut flush. We should win this pot a high percentage of the time by bluffing.

EXAMPLE 2: The flop is 7♦-8♣-9♠ and our hand is A♦-10♣-10♦-5♠. We have two of the four 10s in the deck needed to have the nut straight, so the chances of our opponents having a 10 and a jack are small. This is a great spot to bluff.

Recognizing someone's tells online that they're playing only blockers is not easy because it requires a lot of courage to go with your read, and hero calls in PLO are not something you want to be doing too frequently. But occasionally there are times when a player overplays their blockers in a manner where there is no way they would play it the same way if they truly had the nuts.

EXAMPLE: For a replay of what I am about to share with you, I highly recommend you check out DonkReview.com to watch the hand.

INFORMATION: The game is \$2-\$4 deep, ante, heads-up PLO. We've been playing our opponent for about 20 hands and we know he's a decent and capable player who has made one or two moves on us so far. The effective stack is \$700.

PREFLOP: I'm in the big blind with 3♥-3♦-6♦-5♣. My opponent raises his button and I make a loose call to balance my range.

FLOP: 10♦-7♣-2♣ and we both check.

TURN: A♣, which makes a flush possible. I check and my opponent bets pot (\$28). I now raise to \$76. Our opponent three-bets pot to \$256. I four-bet all-in. My opponent folds.

ANALYSIS: It might just look like I'm spewing chips and it's a battle of who has the bigger heart, but let's break the hand down.

We passively checked the flop and our opponent checked behind in position. The chances of him having a king-high flush draw that he checked behind is unlikely, but possible.

We passively checked the turn and then our opponent bet pot. Why would he do this? What is he expecting us to call with? Is he betting for value or to protect his hand? A high percentage of the time he's just trying to steal the pot, so we make a standard check-raise and that's where things get interesting.

Our opponent then three-bet pot on a flush board when he's in position. Why? If he actually had the best possible hand, why would he scare off weaker hands such as bad flushes? If he just called he could get a lot of money out of us on the river. He knows we would never check-raise with two pair or a set so he's rarely trying to protect his hand. The most logical conclusion is he has the K♣ and knows we shouldn't be calling a raise. But because of how our opponent unrealistically overplayed his blocker trying to represent the nuts, we can take advantage by moving all-in and forcing him to fold.

I'm not saying this is how you should play this hand every time, but if you can rationalize these situations, there's a lot of value in recognizing blockers when playing against solid players.

— Jay Houston is an instructor with DeepStacks.com and is a sit-n-go specialist. You can email him at editor@anteupmagazine.com



JAY HOUSTON

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PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE

Over the past few columns I've explored purpose, patience and preparation when it comes to your peak performance. Now let's focus on practice, persistence, patterns, passion and pleasure.

Every important venture needs practice. Too bad we don't have a readymade driving range or batting cage, or maybe we do; low-stakes games, small-buy-in tournaments, free play and micro-stakes Internet play can function as practice for higher stakes.



DR. BLOOMFIELD

We practice not to become perfect but to achieve peak performance.

Recently I watched a poker show where one of the Internet players made an off-hand remark to a top live pro cash player about how many hands he might play in a month and how many an Internet player might play in a week.

The Internet has changed the way poker is being played. Playing 10,000 hands used to be a lifetime of experience, now it's an instant in online play. How does this all translate? Will the Internet players hold up to hard-crusted live cash players? Are live-only players dinosaurs? The advice from psychology is practice what you play. Practice playing poker and peak performance procedures.

You can really only practice well by playing seriously every time you play. Good players rethink their good and bad hands and run through their leaks. A word of caution: Research has shown there's often a diminishing return right after something new is learned. New material needs time to sink in and become part of your repertoire before it creates an obvious payoff.

Be persistent. It has been said you can only judge your poker play over a lifetime, that a hand or a session doesn't matter. Persistence is the only thing that overcomes luck and variance. A run of dead cards means you have to be better attuned to your game and not make stupid mistakes. Variance will even out, so skill will take over.

Your perceptions are key. When you're in the zone you perceive what's going on accurately, your reads are good and you hide tells.

Patterns are more easily identifiable than tells. I feel almost blasphemous in writing this, but tells are not all they're cracked up to be. I spent years learning body language, non-verbal cues and the rest. A

story from graduate school: One of the gurus of non-verbal behavior met with a select group of us in our doctoral program. He spent the day demonstrating and lecturing about body language and non-verbal behavior and how to make sense of it all.

At dinner that night he was pontificating (or so it seemed), took a sip of some expensive red wine and said, "Here is the most important thing I can teach you." He said whenever we were doing family therapy and the father rubbed his nose it meant the intervention we just tried was not being accepted, that the father was brushing it off. Wow, we thought, if we could just learn to read people like he does we would have this knocked. He paused, took a long swig of his expensive red wine and said, "EXCEPT if his nose itches."

So, yes there are tells and yes some can read tells accurately, but my advice is to concentrate on patterns of play. Unless you're really going to study non-verbal body language and study your opponent I contend that following the patterns of play will be more profitable. Except if you happen to pick up an absolute tell.

If you don't have a passion for poker, play it recreationally. For goodness' sake, like a tablemate said recently, "This game sucks, I would rather be working." If you can develop a passion for this work, it won't be work. That is true about all work.

And finally, take some pleasure from poker, whether it's the competition, winning, learning or hanging with the guys. Without pleasure and passion why play this confounding game?

The P's of poker are just a short hand to let you remember what's important; each one requires effort, time and execution.

Remember the "mantra" I gave when I started this series: I will develop my poker purpose by defining why I play and accept the pluses and minuses of this decision. Once I accept who I am and why I play the rest will fall into place. I will learn to be patient and play my game. I will practice and prepare to the extent necessary to reach my goals. I will be persistent. I will sharpen my perceptions and learn to identify patterns. I have a passion for the game equal to the reason I play poker and the game is pleasurable.

And above all 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.

DON'T CRACK UNDER PRESSURE!

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 is sharing his skills with Ante Up readers through periodic columns, titled Head Games.
- ♥ Doc offers support to some of the region's best professionals and amateur players with one-on-one advising sessions and group workshops.

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IT'S TIME TO BET BIG, IN THE POLLS

As you read this column it's some time around the November elections, so I thought it'd be worth looking at which gaming operators are betting big this coming election cycle. The gaming activity level in The South is relatively tame as only a couple of states have pressing gaming issues.



MARC DUNBAR

For example, in Georgia, all eyes are on the next legislative session when a group of horseracing enthusiasts will be pushing for an amendment to the Georgia constitution to allow for parimutuel wagering within that state. The money movement is primarily around Speaker of the House, David Ralston, and his leadership efforts as he essentially is the gatekeeper for that passage of the proposed amendment, which will need statewide voter approval.

The true hotbeds for gaming campaign activity are Alabama and Florida. The gambling industry in Alabama is hoping a new governor will usher in support for commercialization and regulation of the shuttered gambling industry in that state. Outgoing Gov. Bob Riley and his Gambling Task Force have shut down all electronic bingo casinos, save those operated on Indian lands pursuant to federal law.

To make matters worse, some of the highest profile figures in the industry, such as Country Crossing casino developer Ronnie Gilley and VictoryLand casino owner Milton McGregor, were indicted with a number of lobbyists and politicians for alleged vote-buying related to a failed effort during the 2010 legislative session to place a gaming expansion measure before the voters in Alabama.

As an indication of the kind of money being moved in Alabama one indicted state senator allegedly received in-kind political contributions from one gaming interest in excess of \$200,000. In the governor's race Democrat agriculture commissioner Ron Sparks is the leader in terms of contributions from individuals with gambling ties with more than \$120,000. Unfortunately for Mr. Sparks, the gambling controversy is not helping his efforts as last polls showed him trailing by nearly 20 points to the anti-gambling Republican Robert Bentley.

In Florida, it appears to be business as usual as the major gambling players are stepping up and supporting the political efforts of candidates and political parties. While the giving season has yet to close at the writing of this column, gambling interests have given more than \$2 million toward the 2010 elections. Leading the way as in past years is Mardi Gras Casino with contributions in excess of \$250,000. Joining Mardi Gras on the list of power givers are the other parimutuel casinos that benefited from legislation decreasing the tax rate on slot machines in Florida with Isle of Capri chipping in around \$200,000 in political contributions, Magic City at \$100,000 and the horse tracks Calder and Gulfstream Park coming in at around \$60,000 and \$120,000, respectively. The South Florida parimutuels, however, are not the only power givers. The Jacksonville Greyhound racing circuit and Palm Beach Kennel Club are posting contributions in excess of \$200,000 each. Even the PAC for the Florida Thoroughbred Breeders is registering an active election giving program with contributions of nearly \$100,000 for the election cycle.

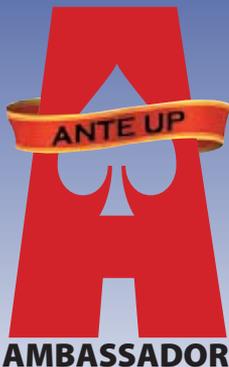
For online poker players, Poker Voters of America and the Poker Players Alliance have moved more than \$20,000 in contributions, an amount that, while respectable, pales in comparison to the contributions by incumbent poker room operators. Despite boasting the largest operations in Florida and one of the most profitable casinos in the world, the Seminole Tribe of Florida is not yet registering in the top 10 givers from the gambling industry this election cycle.

In short, spending a couple of million a year on lobbyists and a couple of million more on political contributions means the gambling industry in Florida is planning on having a major seat at the table for next year's legislative and political agenda. One thing to know if you're going to bring your game to this table is that it is a game for big stacks and patient players where the money gets you in the game, but as folks in Alabama are finding out, it doesn't guarantee you good cards.

— 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.

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HERE COMES ANOTHER FLU SEASON

Readers of this column may remember I was pretty concerned about swine flu a year ago, and that I believed poker players had a greater risk than most. I advised them, especially touring pros, to get the vaccine. As the 2010-11 flu season approaches, this is the perfect time to review what happened last year and remind you to get a flu vaccine every year.



FRANK TOSCANO M.D.

So, what happened last year? The media hype made it seem like the streets would be littered with bodies, yet by springtime the flu seemed to have fizzled out. Does that mean the dire warnings were way overblown? I don't think so. Swine flu, a member of the H1N1 family, killed about 13,000 Americans, less than the average flu death rate of about 23,000, but still a significant number. Two factors kept swine flu in check. First, very large numbers of people got the vaccine, far more than usual. And second, luck would have it that a very close virus relative of swine flu caused a serious pandemic in 1957. Today's 60-year-olds were just

old enough then to be in elementary school and so they probably got exposed. They, and nearly anyone older, developed antibodies in 1957 that protected them from last year's swine flu.

In a normal year, 90 percent of flu deaths occur in the population older than 65. That means typically for every person younger than 65 who dies from flu, nine in the older age group also die. Last year, almost all of the 13,000 deaths were in the younger group. If the older population didn't enjoy leftover immunity from 1957, there could easily have been another 100,000 deaths.

So, in my opinion, the warnings weren't overblown. We were just really lucky.

OK, now what do we have to look forward to this year, the return of swine flu? Or a whole new virus? And what should you do about it?

Well, swine flu isn't likely to come back. This summer a few isolated cases were reported, but pretty much H1N1 has gone into hibernation for a long time.

Virus strains tend to ebb and flow like imaginary armies marching across a Risk board: mostly blue one turn, mostly yellow the next. Each year one strain tends to win the "world domination war" and all other virus strains retreat to their hideouts in seagull nostrils, turkey spit or pig lungs. That's why last year's vaccine won't work for this year's virus.

New on the scene this year is likely to be Perth H3N2. This year, 12 states have reported small influenza outbreaks that appear to be similar to a 2009 Australian virus named Perth. Perth never really made it to America in 2009, so unless your name happens to be Hachem or Lisandro, you probably have no immunity to this one. It's time to roll up your sleeve and get a new shot.

So, let's focus on three questions:

- Why are poker players at greater risk than the general population?

- What are the risks from the vaccine?

- What should you do if you think you've caught the flu?

If your poker career consists mainly of staying at home staring at multiple computer monitors and occasionally ordering pizza or Chinese delivery, then maybe your risk of exposure isn't so terrible. But if you like to shuffle your chips and squeeze out your hole cards in a real cardroom with real people sitting across from you, you need a shot.

Influenza can live on hard surfaces such as poker chips or playing cards for 24-48 hours. Imagine there's one sick guy among 300 or so poker players in, say, a Borgata DeepStack event. The 300 players pass around chips and cards for a few days and then, the next week some of them fly to various cities such as Vegas, Macau, Biloxi or New Orleans to play more poker. You can see how one sick fellow in Jersey could infect hundreds or thousands of players all over the world in just a few weeks. If you're still not convinced, consider H3N2 viruses tend to kill almost three times as many people as H1N1 viruses.

"What about the dangers of the vaccine?" you may ask. Don't fret. You can't get the flu from the vaccine because they kill the virus when they make the vaccine. It's dead! Last year in the United States exactly ZERO people died from the vaccine. None! Nada. Compared to the number of people who died from the flu last year, the vaccine is a more than a bazillion times safer than going bare. Take my advice; get the shot. The CDC is recommending that every poker player in America should get vaccinated. (Actually, this year they're recommending EVERYONE in America get vaccinated.) As soon as it's out, I'm getting my shot, and you should, too.

The final question, what should you do if you get exposed, or even, horrors, get the flu? Don't panic. I'll cover that next month. For now, just get the shot already.

— 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@redbamboomedisa.com

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BRYAN OULTON • Learning poker etiquette

Change in limits means softer tournament fields

By Bryan Oulton

With Florida now a “real” poker state, the cash games have exploded and the players love it. An unexpected (and often unnoticed) side effect has occurred as well: softer and smaller tournament fields. Sure, we’re also seeing the big ticket, huge guarantee tournaments, as well as a WPT event next year. These will continue to attract the better players. But the nightly \$100-\$200 tournaments have experienced a change that is lost on some players. The better players who were forced to play these events in the past have now moved on to more profitable cash game pastures. Hopefully I don’t have a target on me for spilling the beans on this one.

With that said, now is the time for bar poker players to continue to hone their skills in tournament play in their leagues. The biggest mistake I see of bar players is they transition right to cash games when their experience and learning has come from tournament play. As you would expect, anyone with a tournament mentality usually gets beat up pretty badly in cash games for a while. Why do that when tournaments are getting softer? Now is the time, if you’re a tournament player, to take advantage of this swing and take down the dead money.

Realize also, with softer players in the game, you’re going to have more chances of getting sucked out on, so be cognizant of that with your betting patterns. Keep the pots small and then get paid when you have the nuts.

— Bryan co-owns All In Free Poker, a league based in Pompano Beach, Fla.



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TAKING ADVANTAGE OF EVERY OPPORTUNITY

I remember Amy Zupko as one of the first people to interview me when the High Heels Poker Tour began. I was nervous (not my normal M.O.) and thought: What if I can't answer her questions because I don't know enough about my business yet or know where it's going for women in poker? But I got through the interview fine and she made me feel good about being a woman in a male-dominated industry. She has had a rare opportunity to make big strides for women in poker by being an author and columnist, pushing the envelope while working for Ante Up partner PokerNews and writing the Women's Poker Spotlight. She took the time to find out about me and the HHPT so let's now take the time to get to know her.



LAUREN FAILLA

How long have you been playing poker? I've been playing poker in home games since I was a teenager, then in more organized home games since the early '90s. Mostly we played dealer's choice or whatever crazy game we could come up with. ... Follow the Queen, different versions of stud with crazy wild cards ... I didn't find hold'em or tournament poker until 2001. I saw some games on TV, started playing online for play money and eventually started playing for real money and then on to live events.

What is your earliest poker memory? Not necessarily my earliest memory of poker but one that clearly drew a line in the sand as to what part in poker I would play: When I attended the first (Women's Poker Club) Showdown in Atlantic City, it coincided with the first month that *Woman Poker Player Magazine* was in print. Also my first article that would be out there for the masses to read. It was an interview with Rose Ritchie (of St. Petersburg, Fla.). The reaction from the women who attended was phenomenal. I knew right then and there that I wanted to continue writing for poker. It didn't hurt that I won the WPC Omaha/8 tournament either.

What is your favorite game? Omaha/8. I love the complexities of the game and how it constantly changes as the hand moves on. I find that in Omaha/8, even more than hold'em, each hand is truly different and the ways to play it are more complex as there are more scenarios to think out before making a move.

What is your favorite hand? My favorite hand is Big Slick, preferably suited, but I'll take it over any pocket pair, including aces, any day.

Do you play online? If so, how do you think online poker has influenced poker for women? Because of where I live, I play mostly online. I believe that online poker has been the single most influential aspect of women's poker. It has influenced the women's market in ways that I don't think were imagined when online poker first came about. I have not seen anything else that can appeal to all women, regardless of age, creed, financial situation, etc. Online poker allows anonymity, offers a wide range of games suited for any level of play as well as all levels of financial situations. ... Online poker also hides emotion. For decades women have been taught to let people know when they are angry, sad, etc. It may sound stereotypical, but studies show that although it's changing, women are more emotional than men. Many women have to concentrate to keep emotion out of play in different situations. Online poker allows women (and men as well) to show that emotion privately without opponents gaining advantages.

How did you get involved in writing and radio, and how did it segue to poker? Actually poker segued into writing and radio. I started out in the industry as a moderator at womenspokerclub.com. In the course of working with the women and helping to educate beginning players I

started writing a bit on the forum. When the owner of WPC, Maryann Morrison, talked about starting the print version of *Woman Poker Player Magazine*, she asked if I would be interested in working with her doing the feature interviews as well as some other pieces. Obviously I agreed. I felt it was a good way to give a voice to the women who play poker. It went from there. I went on to write a weekly column (Women's Poker Spotlight) for PokerNews.com. The column ended when PN cut back on expenses and chose to not continue the column. I'm back now writing for WomanPokerPlayer.com. I have also started my own site womenspokeronline.com and also writing for PokerStarsWomen.com. ... So, while I never set out to be anything more than a casual player, the more I got involved in the industry the more I wanted to be involved. I love the way the poker world works.

Tell me a little about your personal life and how it interacts with poker. Poker was not always an easy fit with my personal life. I have three kids (22, 18 and 10) who all have very active social and sports obligations, work full-time and have a fairly busy social life. As my kids are getting older and I now only have two living at home it has gotten easier. I have learned over the years to better manage my time to keep everything together. It can be a challenge sometimes, but it is getting easier as time goes by. Luckily my kids and my husband support my efforts in poker and know that I am doing what I really want to do. I enjoy the industry itself and it has become a large part of who I am and what I am.

How do you feel about the up-and-coming female players? I am enjoying the up-and-coming players. I think they're a refreshing addition to the poker world, provided they are up-and-coming players and not one-hit wonders who appear in the spotlight but contribute very little to poker. ... I definitely feel they are a good representation for women in poker. Most (or the ones I have dealt with anyway) are very committed to the game and spend a lot of time playing and studying the game. They come from all walks of life and show that with dedication women can be more than competitive in poker.

What is your poker dream? To be honest I am living my poker dreams. I'm not sure that I have what it takes to be a successful player. If I had to rely on playing poker for a living we very well might starve death. Technology gives me the option of writing and (being on the) radio, etc., without having to be away from family and friends for long periods of time or having to uproot them altogether. I can be part of the industry right from Vermont. My goals now are to continue to grow a following as a writer.

If you had some advice for female players what would it be? My advice would be: Don't be a spectator; take each opportunity you are given and make the most of it. Get in there and do what you want to do. Whether it is play professionally, write or start a poker business. No matter what it is, find what you want to do and do it, but don't go in blind. Do your homework and know your limitations.

Do you feel you're still learning? Whether you're playing poker or working in the industry, most of the fun of poker is that it changes constantly. There's never a time when the industry or a game is not evolving. As a player I learn something new, and sometimes more than one thing, every time I sit at the tables. As a writer I learn through researching articles or talking to players and others in the industry. There's always something new to learn.

What can we expect from you in the near future? I really can't say. ... I take each opportunity as it comes. I never planned on becoming a poker writer or hosting a radio show (Women's Poker Hour on Holdem Radio), it just happened. A new opportunity could come at any time and could completely change the direction I am headed in now.

CALL THE FLOOR

Expert advice from poker room manager Jody Russell

THE HALF BET RULE SHOULD HAVE BEEN ENFORCED

In a \$1-\$2 no-limit hold'em cash game a player raises to \$13. Next player wasn't paying attention and says, "\$20," throwing out \$20 in chips. The dealer says it was already \$13 so this is a no-raise, giving him back his change. After the hand, I asked the dealer about it. I told him it was my understanding that if somebody raises more than half the previous raise, then they need to make a full raise (in this case, it would have been \$11 more than the \$13, so \$24). He said that's only in a limit game. Upon further discussion, he agreed if the second player had just said "raise" and put out \$20, he would have had to increase it to \$24, but saying \$20 made it a call. — Crackpot One, via anteupmagazine.com/forum

The "Half Bet" rule deals with half or more bets in limit games when there is an all-in. This is not the case here. In situations involving half a bet or more from a player who isn't all-in, the player should be required to complete the bet to the minimum raise regardless of whether the game is limit or no-limit. It is important to know the only options are to leave the \$20 in the pot and fold, or complete the raise to \$24. Taking back the \$20 and folding, or raising more than the minimum amount would not be correct.

There is a huge problem with not requiring players in this situation to complete the raise. It opens the door for shot-takers. A good example would be: Player A bets \$200, Player B puts \$399 in the pot and gets reraised by Player A. At this point Player B declares he didn't raise, pulls back \$199 and folds.

The mistake this dealer made is a common error in this situation. He was trying to apply the "Half Bet" rule in a situation it doesn't address. This is why it's important to always ask for a floor person. This

TDA Rules

Each month Jody Russell will interpret one rule from the TDA.

AT YOUR SEAT: A player must be at his or her seat by the time all players have been dealt complete initial hands to have a live hand. A player must be at his or her seat to call time.

JODY: Before this rule there were instances of people being hurt in tournaments from running to their seats. There is still some grey area with this rule. Most places require "meat in the seat" or player touching the seat. Always ask about this one your first time in a room.

MORE TDA RULES: Go to www.pokertda.com to see all 44 TDA rules.

dealer had the opportunity to learn the correct rule from a competent floor person if someone had simply asked for a ruling at the table. A lot of people are reluctant to ask for decisions for a variety of reasons, such as being unpopular or looked at as trouble makers. Folks, you are playing for a lot of money these days. You deserve to have the best trained and most well-informed dealers. Assisting in their training on a day-to-day basis by calling for rulings is an enormous help that only you, the player, can give.

— Jody Russell is a veteran poker room manager in Nevada who also runs the Ante Up Poker Room. Email him at editor@anteupmagazine.com.



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Design

Design (pronounced "J Design") Playing Cards is proud to be a sponsor of Ante Up Magazine! Design has also partnered with The Poker Depot, your one stop shop of everything poker! At Design, the passion is playing cards and designing them well, using quality 100 percent plastic stock. From the classy and easy-to-read indices to the unparalleled back and face designs, this passion resonates with each shuffle and deal. Design is pleased to announce its new and improved jumbo index playing cards, called Classic Victorian which will be made available around Thanksgiving in November of this year.

For more about Design Playing Cards, visit www.classicplayingcards.com to peruse its catalog and its offerings to casinos.



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From Ante Up Sponsors



Blue Shark Optics

Wearing dark sunglasses at the poker table is no longer a viable option. They may hide your eyes, but they also limit your vision and cause visual fatigue because your eyes strain to gain visibility.

Blue Shark Optics eliminates the negatives associated with dark sunglasses by providing eyewear that not only hides your eyes, but also allows maximum light penetration. Endorsed by professional players such as Hoyt Corkins, Kathy Liebert, Humberto Brenes and Jonathan Little, Blue Shark Optics provide poker-specific eyewear that gives an invaluable edge to the player.

Available in six different styles, Blue Shark Optics pro poker eyewear has been at the cutting edge of the field that they have defined as "poker optics." Their proprietary Crystalion-3™ lenses have unique properties which hide the eyes and allow maximum light penetration. The overall effect is what every poker player wants in their eyewear: Protection, visibility, and rested eyes.

Added value is provided by the multi-functionality of the Crystalion-3™ lenses. Due to their unique properties they are excellent for night driving, and the combat of computer eye strain by diminishing the glare that results from these two sources. Now with UV400, the eyewear can be worn outdoors functioning as regular sunglasses.

The company also provides custom solutions such as prescriptions, clip-ons, and lens replacement of frames that a client currently owns. The customization capabilities ensure complete satisfaction by allowing each client to select an option that is more suited to his/her individual tastes and budget.

Blue Shark Optics has developed eyewear that provides a real edge to the poker player. It is an indispensable tool at the poker table. And it is now available with UV400. You can contact the company for further details at: www.bluesharkoptics.com

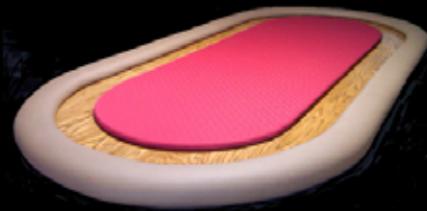


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LOCATION	TOURNAMENTS	JACKPOTS	EVENTS/PROMOTIONS
CALDER CASINO Phone: (305) 625-1311 www.calderracecourse.com/poker	Two guaranteed tournaments every day (11a, 7p; \$40-\$150).	Flopped straight flushes have different payouts per suit, plus daily high hand promotions.	Ask how you can qualify for the \$10K freeroll on Nov. 27. Also, see ad on Page 9.
DANIA JAI-ALAI Phone: (954) 927-2841 www.dania-jai-alai.com	Daily (12:30p and 6:30p), including a \$15K guarantee every Friday (\$105, 6:30p). Halloween \$40K guarantee (Oct. 30, noon, \$250)	Hold'em tournaments are included in the bad-beat jackpot. A \$5 jackpot fee will be added to buy-ins.	Borgata Winter Open \$10K Le Batard tournament, Nov. 17 (8p, \$79).
DAYTONA BEACH KENNEL CLUB Phone: (386) 252-6484 www.daytonagreyhound.com/pokerroom	Daily, including Friday Night Lights (\$120, 7p); Sat. deepstack (\$225, 2p). See ad on Page 23 for details to the International Series this month.	Bad beats in limit, no-limit (\$71K) and Omaha. Daily high hands paid every two hours.	Cracked Aces (Mon.-Tue., 4-10p) pays \$50 for limit hold'em and \$100 for NLHE.
DERBY LANE Phone: (727) 812-3339 ext. 7 www.derbylanepoker.com	Daily (buy-ins vary); \$220 Mega Stack, last Saturday of the month (\$12K, 2p, 30-minute blinds). Fla. Million Day 1s (Nov. 6, 19, 20, 1p, \$550).	Daily royal flushes and mini bad beats. Full calendar of jackpots varying day-to-day. See website.	Mega-Sundays mean hourly high hands on Sunday (1p-1a) will win entry into Saturday mega event.
EBRO GREYHOUND PARK Phone: (850) 234-3943 www.ebrogreyhoundpark.com	Daily, except Friday (\$20-\$330), including Mega Stack (last Sunday of month, \$330, 2p, 10K chips).	Ultimate Big Easy Bad Beat (\$59K at press time); mini bad beat is \$2K.	Royal flushes pay \$250. See ad on Page 19 for more promotions.
FT. PIERCE JAI-ALAI & POKER Phone: (772) 464-7500 www.jaijai.net/poker.php	Mon. (\$75, 7p); Wed. (\$100, 6:30p); Sat. (\$100, 1:30p); Sun. (\$55, 4p). \$150 Deepstack (Nov. 20) SNGs: Thurs.-Sat., \$65-\$110.	All new bad beats in hold'em, stud and Omaha. Call for details.	Deepstack event is the third Saturday every month (\$150, 3p).
GULFSTREAM PARK Phone: (954) 457-6336 www.gulfstreampark.com	Daily, (\$40-\$60, 6:30p), including bounties M-W-F, plus Sat. rebuy, (\$40); Tue. PLO (\$25, 6:30, \$1K guaranteed). SNGs: \$60 hold'em or \$45 PLO.	Bad beat: quad deuces; hourly high hands (11a-1a), \$100 (but \$300 at 11a, noon, 1p, 2p, 4p, 7p and mid.).	Royals pay \$500. Free drinks and free breakfast. See ad on Page 17.
HAMILTON JAI-ALAI & POKER Phone: (800) 941-4841 www.hamiltondownsjaijai.com	"Almost Freeroll" Sundays (\$5, 3p, 2K units; \$20 add-on good for 1,500 more, plus a \$10 add-on after first break worth 1,500 units).	Clubs royal pays \$1K (mini royal is 10% of main, and in any suit).	Aces/kings cracked (Wed.), Win with Quads (Fri.), Splash the Pot (Mon.). See website for more.
ISLE CASINO AT POMPANO PARK Phone: (954) 972-2000 x5123 www.theislepompanopark.com	Daily (\$40-\$350), including \$15K guarantee on Tuesdays (\$230, 2p, 13K chips, 30-min. blinds). SNGs: \$60-\$225.	Bad beat is quad 10s and was \$190K at press time.	\$400K Isle Open, Oct. 31-Nov. 8, plus a \$30K guarantee on Nov. 22 (\$350, 1p, \$100 bounties).
JEFFERSON COUNTY KENNEL CLUB Phone: (850) 997-2561 www.jckcpokerroom.com	Fridays, 7:30 p.m., \$50 (2K chips and 15-minute blinds)	Royal flushes win jackpot.	Call for promotions.
MAGIC CITY CASINO Phone: (305) 649-3000 www.flaglerdogs.com	Sundays, low-rake bounty event (\$40, 1p), bounties are \$5. SNGs: \$65-\$800.	High hands (\$150); non-heart royals win \$1K, heart royals pay \$2,500; Big Slick Royal progressive.	\$500 progressive hot table paid at 2p & 2a.
MARDI GRAS CASINO Phone: (877) 557-5687 x3167 www.playmardigras.com	\$15K guar. deepstack (\$250, Sundays, 2p); Super 7 Shootout (\$177, Mondays, 7p), 7 tables, 7-handed, win your table and advance to the final table.	All new jackpots coming soon. Check website for details.	Fla. Million Day 1s (Nov. 6, 13, 21, noon, \$550) See ad on Pages 4-5. Also, Fat Tuesday \$1K High Hands.
MELBOURNE GREYHOUND PARK Phone: (321) 259-9800 www.mgpark.com	Daily, (\$65-\$120), including Sat. Super Stack (\$120, 2p, 10K chips); Sunday (\$65, 1p, 3K chips, free sandwich buffet).	Bad beat (\$23K) is in hold'em (aces full of jacks beaten by quads or better).	Quads win \$50, straight flush \$100, royals \$500. Spin to Win Saturdays. See ad Page 59.
MIAMI JAI-ALAI Phone: (305) 633-6400 www.fla-gaming.com	Daily (\$20-\$165).	Progressive royals and rolling quads of the day progressive; see website for more information.	Hourly \$100 high hands plus tickets for Sunday raffle.
MICCOSUKEE RESORT Phone: (877) 242-6464 www.miccosukee.com	Fridays (\$60, 8p). Super Saturday no-limit hold'em tournament (\$60, 8p) gets you 3K chips. Free buffet for all tournament players.	Spade royal flush pays jackpot.	Call for information.
NAPLES-FT. MYERS GREYHOUND TRACK Phone: (239) 992-2411 www.naplesfortmyersdogs.com	Sun. bounty (\$125, 2p); Mon. (\$40, noon); Tue. (\$50, 7p); Wed., (\$65, 7p); Thurs. (\$65, noon & \$50, 7p); Fri. (\$115, 6p). Fla. Million Day 1s (Nov. 7, 27, 11a, \$550)	Big Slick Royal Progressive was \$150K at press time; all other royals pay \$1K.	High hands pay \$100 every two hours. Oct. 30 is \$10K high hand day (\$1K hourly, 11a-mid.).
OCALA POKER AND JAI-ALAI Phone: (352) 591-2345 www.ocalapoker.com	Daily (\$30-\$500). SNGs: (\$45-\$500). See ad on Page 55.	See website for numerous jackpots and other cash giveaway promotions. Bad beat is \$35K.	Super Saturday High Hands pay \$300 (NLHE) and \$150 (limit) hourly from 8p-1a.
ORANGE PARK KENNEL CLUB Phone: (904) 646-0002 www.jaxpokerroom.com	(\$30-\$550), Fla. Million Day 1s, (Nov. 7, 28, 1p, \$550), \$130 Fla. Million satellites all month long.	Royals and Steel Wheels \$250 (spades \$500); Super High Hand, Tournament Ticket Giveaways.	PokerStars Caribbean Adventure w/1 guar. \$2K kackage Nov. 19 (7p). See the ad on Page 39.
PALM BEACH KENNEL CLUB Phone: (561) 683-2222 www.pbkennelclub.com	Daily (\$30-\$120), noon & 6:30p. Super Satellites to Florida Million qualifiers \$30 (\$20 rebuy) Tuesdays at noon and Wednesdays and Sundays at 6:30p.	Visit website or call for information on daily high hands and bad-beat payouts and qualifications.	Fla. Million Day 1s: Nov. 6, 13, 21 and 27 at 1 p.m. (\$550); High Hands pay seats to Fla. Million.
PENSACOLA GREYHOUND PARK Phone: (850) 455-8595 www.pensacolagreyhoundpark.com	Daily (\$50-\$600), including Mon. (\$50, 7p) and Sat. (\$100, 7p). Fla. Million Day 1 (Nov. 27, 1p, \$600) with satellites every Sunday (\$100, 4p).	Hold'em and stud bad beats (any quads) and in Omaha (quad jacks).	Splash the Pot during late NFL games (Sun. & Mon.). \$20K guar., Nov. 26 (4p, \$350).
SARASOTA KENNEL CLUB Phone: (941) 355-7744 ext. 1054 www.skcpoker.com	Daily, plus Fri. (\$100, 1p, 25K chips, 25-minute blinds); Sat. \$12K guarantee with minimum of 10 spots paid (\$230, 2:30p). SNGs: \$35-\$300.	Progressive jackpots in all games. Bad beat is quad threes (\$10K).	High hands pay \$599/\$299 on Fridays & Saturdays. See ad on Page 29 for more details.

FLORIDA

LOCATION	TOURNAMENTS	JACKPOTS	EVENTS/PROMOTIONS
SEMINOLE CASINO BRIGHTON Phone: (866) 222-7466 ext. 121 www.seminolecasinobrighton.com	Mon. & Wed., (\$20, 6:30p) with optional add-on. SNGs: \$25, \$65, \$110.	Quad aces (\$50, Fri.); any quads (\$50, Sun.); straight flushes (\$100, Tue.); Mega-Bad Beat is \$165K.	Wednesday high hands pay out \$500 (\$300, \$100 and \$100, noon to midnight). Royals pay \$1K.
SEMINOLE CASINO COCONUT CREEK Phone: (866) 222-7466 www.seminolecoconutcreekcasino.com	SNGs: \$55, \$85, \$135.	Mega-Bad Beat (quad 10s, \$165K at press time).	See website for details or call poker room for current offers.
SEMINOLE HARD ROCK HOLLYWOOD Phone: (866) 502-7529 www.seminolehardrockhollywood.com	Mon. (\$300, 6:30p, \$20K guar.); Tue. (\$150, \$12K, 6:30p guar.); Fri. (\$150, 11a, \$10K guar.); Sat. (\$100, 11a); WPT satellites (See ad Page 11).	Mega-Bad Beat (quad 10s, \$165K at press time). High hands (limit and no-limit) of the hour every day.	Fall Poker Open, Nov. 12-22. See ad on Page 11 for complete schedule and details.
SEMINOLE HARD ROCK TAMPA Phone: (866) 502-7529 www.seminolehardrocktampa.com	Daily (\$40-\$550), including Night Owl every Wednesday (\$40, with \$40 add-on, 12:30a). SNGs: \$50-\$1,075. See ad on back page.	Mega-Bad Beat (quad 10s, \$165K at press time). Royals pay \$500.	Dec. 24, \$100K freeroll. Play 50 hours at cash tables in Nov. to earn a seat.
SEMINOLE HOLLYWOOD CLASSIC Phone: (866) 222-7466 www.seminolehollywoodcasino.com	SNGs: \$50-\$100 and are now jackpot eligible.	Mega-Bad Beat (quad 10s, \$165K at press time).	In-house bad beat is aces full of jacks beaten by quads. Starts at \$2,500, capped at \$10K.
SEMINOLE CASINO IMMOKALEE Phone: (866) 222-7466 www.theseminolecasino.com	Wed. (\$35, 7p); Thurs. (NL O/8, \$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 players get \$100 if Mega hits at any Seminole room. \$10K mini bad beats.	Nov. 6, satellite into Hard Rock WPT Fall Open (4p, \$260). See ad on Page 22 for details.
ST. JOHNS GREYHOUND PARK Phone: (904) 646-0002 www.jaxpokerroom.com	Daily (\$30-\$550), Fla. Million Day 1 (Nov. 12, 7p, \$550), \$130 Fla. Million satellites all month long. \$225 10K Mega Stack every Saturday night.	Royals and Steel Wheels \$250 (spades \$500); Super High Hand, Tournament Ticket Giveaways.	Ask about the PCA satellites and see ad on Page 39.
TAMPA BAY DOWNS Phone: (813) 298-1798 www.tampabaydowns.com	Daily, starting at \$30. SNGs: \$100 and up, starts with as few as four players, all day and at any buy-in. See ad on Page 27.	Quads or better win cash all the time in jackpot aces. \$599 High Hand payouts Friday and Saturday.	Mark Longway Memorial tournament, Nov. 7 (\$40, 2p). Check for events and promotions online.
TAMPA GREYHOUND TRACK Phone: (813) 932-4313 www.luckycards.com	Daily 1p & 6:30p (\$30-\$60) but 7:30p Fri. & Sat.). Ask about \$115 Sunday Challenge (1p, 14K chips). SNGs: \$65-\$410.	Quads (\$75), straight flushes (\$200) and royals (\$599). Tournament spade royal progressive.	Aces cracked (11:30-2p & 8-10p, \$100).

CONNECTICUT

FOXWOODS CASINO Phone: (800) 369-9663 www.foxwoods.com	Daily, five events with 9a-8p start times, which include guarantees, bounties and turbos. SNGs: \$60-\$550. Check website for details.	Hold'em bad beat is quad eights and was \$400K at press time. Stud bad beat is quad deuces (\$4K).	Black Friday and Turkey Weekend Specials to include 11 events. Check website for details.
MOHEGAN SUN CASINO Phone: (860) 862-8000 www.mohegansun.com	Daily (\$50-\$200), including \$15K guarantees on Fridays (2p, \$200, 20K chips).	High hands paid every three hours daily.	\$250K guarantee Fall Showdown, Nov. 14-21.

NEW JERSEY

ATLANTIC CITY HILTON Phone: (609) 347-7111 www.hiltonac.com	No tournaments. Poker only spread Friday-Sunday if there's enough interest, and generally only a \$1-\$2 NLHE cash game gets going.	None at this time.	None at this time.
BALLY'S ATLANTIC CITY Phone: (609) 340-2000 www.ballysac.com	Two tournaments daily (1p and 7p, \$50 — buy-in is \$75 on Friday and Saturday — 10K chips)	Bad beat is quad sixes but decreases if it doesn't get hit. As of press time it was \$348K.	Quads spin the wheel on Monday and Tuesday, aces cracked spins the wheel on Friday.
BORGATA HOTEL CASINO Phone: (609) 317-1000 www.theborgata.com	Daily (11a and 7p, buy-ins vary), including \$15K guarantee for Wed. events (11a and 7p, \$120).	Bad beat is quad 10s and was \$200K at press time.	Two \$20K guarantees every Friday (noon, 6p, \$200).
CAESARS ATLANTIC CITY Phone: (609) 348-4411 www.caesarsac.com	Mon.-Fri. (3p, \$95 & 9p, \$80 turbo); Sat. (1p, \$150 & 9p, \$80 turbo) and Sun. (1p, \$120 & 9p, \$80 turbo).	Bad beat is quad sixes but decreases if it doesn't get hit. As of press time it was \$348K.	N/A
HARRAH'S ATLANTIC CITY Phone: (609) 441-5000 www.harrahsresort.com	Daily at 10:15a (\$70) and midnight (\$70), plus Sun.-Fri. (1:15p, \$80), Sun.-Thurs. (8:15p, \$80) and Fri. (8:15p) and Sat. (1:15p), \$125, 15K chips.	Bad beat is quad sixes but decreases if it doesn't get hit. As of press time it was \$348K.	WSOP circuit event in December, call for details.
SHOWBOAT ATLANTIC CITY Phone: (609) 343-4000 www.showboatcasino.com	Mon.-Thurs. & Sun. (11a, 2p, 7p & 10p, \$65, 10K chips), Fri. (11a, 2p & 10p, \$65, 10K chips, plus 7p, \$100, 10K); Sat. (11a, 2p, 7p & 10p, \$100, 10K).	Bad beat is quad sixes but decreases if it doesn't get hit. As of press time it was \$348K.	Beginning Nov. 1 Total Rewards multiplier comps, plus straight flush earns \$20 comp.
TROPICANA ATLANTIC CITY Phone: (609) 340-4000 www.tropicana.net	Daily (11:15a, \$62, 10K chips and 7:15p, \$62, 15K chips).	Bad beat is quads and was \$150K at press time. Tournament bad beat is \$52K.	Phamily Poker Classic Charity event, Oct. 30. Call for details.
TRUMP TAJ MAHAL CASINO RESORT Phone: (609) 449-1000 www.playtajpoker.com	Daily (12:15p, \$50; 4:15p, \$50; 7:15p, \$65, midnight, \$65), including two 15K deepstacks on Saturdays (7:15p, \$230, & midnight, \$120).	Bad beat is quads and was \$161K at press time. High Hands entered into drawings.	U.S. Poker Championship (Nov. 1-22). Ask about the 50-50 Club and the Taj Football Challenge.

* SNG = single-table tournaments; all tournaments are no-limit hold'em unless noted. Poker room managers email editor@anteupmagazine.com

LOUISIANA

LOCATION	TOURNAMENTS	JACKPOTS	EVENTS/PROMOTIONS
AMELIA BELLE CASINO Phone: (985) 631-1745 www.ameliabellecasino.com	No tournaments until further notice.	Bad beat is quads over aces full of 10s (\$1K at press time).	Call for information.
BELLE OF BATON ROUGE Phone: (800) 266-2692 www.belleofbatonrouge.com	Wed. & Sun., (10a, \$50, 1K chips, 15-minute blinds). Mon. & Thurs., 555 tournament (\$5 buy-in, \$5 entry, \$500 prize pool, plus buy-ins (11a).	Bad beat is any quads. Win a pot with black deuces in your hand and get \$50 (Sun. noon-4).	Ask about Sunday and Monday football promotions that win you \$100 after every quarter.
BOOMTOWN NEW ORLEANS Phone: (800) 366-7711 www.boomtownneworleans.com	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. Mini (aces full of 10s) wins 10 percent of main jackpot.	High hands (Mon., noon-10; Wed. noon-6) win \$50.
COUSHATTA CASINO Phone: (800) 584-7263 www.coushattacasinoresort.com	Daily (\$15-\$230), including Tue. (\$15, 6:30p) with rebuys & add-ons; Thurs. (\$75, 7p); Fri. (\$20, 7:30p) with rebuys; Sat. (\$220, 2p, 7K chips).	Bad beat was \$65K at press time.	Big Bonus Hands are progressive.
CYPRESS BAYOU/SHORTY'S CASINO Phone: (800) 284-4386 www.cypressbayou.com	All tournaments are rake-free. Wed. (\$40, 6:30p, two rebuys, two add-ons); \$22 single-table satellites for end-of-the-month \$200 freezeout.	Bad beat: quads (\$90K at press time).	Aces cracked, 1st & 3rd Thursday, 2nd & 4th Monday.
ELDORADO CASINO SHREVEPORT Phone: (318) 220-5274 www.eldoradoshreveport.com	Sat.-Tue. (\$75-\$150), including a new \$2K guarantee tournament (Mon., 11a, \$130) and a ladies rebuy event 2nd Friday of month (\$50, \$20 rb).	Bad beat: quads (\$141K); mini bad beat is aces full of 10s beaten by quads. Royals pay \$250.	Aces Cracked (Fri., 4a-4p), \$100. High hands (Mon. 8a-8p) \$100. Deepstack (Nov. 21, 11a, \$525).
HARRAH'S NEW ORLEANS Phone: (504) 533-6000 www.harrahsneworleans.com	Wednesdays (\$120, 11a).	Bad beat: quads.	Aces cracked almost every day.
HORSESHOE CASINO BOSSIER CITY Phone: (800) 895-0711 www.horseshoebossiercity.com	Daily (\$100-\$400), including last Sunday of the month (\$400, 2p, 10K chips, 30-minute levels).	Bad beat: quads; plus mini-bad beat pays 10% (aces full of 10s). Aces cracked (7a-noon).	Numerous promotions that change daily, including Splash the Cash.
ISLE OF CAPRI LAKE CHARLES Phone: (337) 430-2407 www.lake-charles.isleofcapricasinos.com	Weekdays at 6:30p, including a noon event on Fridays (\$60) & Saturdays (\$115), plus a Sunday Bounty event (\$60, 2p).	Bad beat is \$40K; "Minor Jackpots" pays quads (\$25), straight flush (\$50) and royals (\$125), 24/7. Call for details.	Exact Match Hand of the Day and Monday Night Blitz.
PARAGON CASINO Phone: (800) 946-1946 x1975 www.paragoncasinoresort.com	Mondays (\$20, 7p, three rebuys); Thursdays (\$20, 7p, unlimited \$15 rebuys and a \$50 add-on); Fridays (\$60, 7p, \$50 rebuys). Tuesday (10:30a, \$18).	Bad beat: quads. In Omaha straight flush must be beaten.	High hand Wednesdays, \$50 every 30 minutes (noon-2:30p and 9-11:30p)

ARKANSAS

OAKLAWN RACING & GAMING Phone: (501) 623-4411 www.oaklawn.com	Daily, including SNGs (\$30), on PokerPro tables.	Bad beat paid in all hold'em cash games. Call for details. Daily \$100 high hands.	\$50 Splash the Pot Tue. and Fri. (7p-midnight). \$5 MTT (Sundays, 10a, \$500 guarantee).
SOUTHLAND PARK GAMING & RACING Phone: (870) 735-3670 www.southlandgreyhound.com	Mon., Tue., Wed. & Sat. (\$20, 2p), 3K chips and 15-minute blinds (on PokerPro tables).	Bad beat is aces full of jacks beaten by quads.	Player Rewards cards offer comps based on play.

DELAWARE

DELAWARE PARK Phone: (302) 355-1050 www.delawarepark.com	Daily (\$60-\$150), including a \$125 event on Fridays and Saturdays (7p, 5K chips, 20-minute blinds). Ask about the monthly \$15K freeroll.	Bad beat with descending qualifier (quad eights) was \$60K at press time. Mini is aces full of kings (\$4K).	Royal flushes win a jacket. See Road Trip story and ad on Page 41 for more details.
DOVER DOWNS Phone: (302) 674-4600 www.doverdowns.com	Twice daily (Sun.-Fri., 11a, \$55, 6K chips and \$80, 7p, 8K chips); \$5K guar. events on Nov. 19 and 20, see ad on Page 42 for full details	Bad beat (aces full of jacks) was \$80K at press time.	Royal flushes win a Crown Royal shirt. See Road Trip story and ad on Page 42 for more details.
HARRINGTON RACEWAY Phone: (888) 887-5687 www.harringtonraceway.com	Room offers \$60 NLHE tournaments, but call for details. See Road Trip story on Page 40 for more details.	Bad beat (aces full of kings) was \$71K at press time.	High hands, aces cracked and football promotions on the horizon, call for details.

GEORGIA, NORTH AND SOUTH CAROLINA

DIAMOND CASINO SAVANNAH (GA.) Phone: (912) 897-3005 www.diamondcasinosavannah.com	Call for information.	Call for information.	Call for any promotions.
EMERALD PRINCESS II (GA.) Phone: (912) 265-3558 www.emeraldprincesscasino.com	\$125 NLHE event every Saturday night. Please see ad on Page 61.	Call for information.	Call for any promotions.
HARRAH'S CHEROKEE (N.C.) www.harrahscherokee.com Phone: (828) 497-7777	Tournaments and cash games on PokerPro tables. SNGs: Tuesday and Sunday (\$115).	Call for information.	Call for any promotions.
SUNCRUZ AQUASINO (S.C.) Phone: (843) 280-2933 www.suncruzaquasino.com	Mon. cruise (7p, \$110) and Fri. cruise (11a, \$110). SNGs: \$60	Bad beat is aces full of jacks beaten by quads.	Quads (\$50), straight flush (\$100) royals (\$200).

MISSISSIPPI

LOCATION	TOURNAMENTS	JACKPOTS	EVENTS/PROMOTIONS
AMERISTAR VICKSBURG Phone: (601) 630-4996 www.ameristar.com/vicksburg	Thursdays, (\$70, 7p) with one optional add-on.	Mini bad beat (quads over aces full) pays 10% of full bad beat (any quads).	Call for details.
BEAU RIVAGE RESORT AND CASINO Phone: (228) 386-7092 www.beaurivage.com	Daily at noon & 6p (\$120-\$340), including \$20K guarantee first Saturday of the month (\$335, noon, 4K chips, but 2K more for \$10 add-on).	Aces cracked all day Mon.-Fri. (\$100). Also, weekly \$10K cash giveaways (Monday-Friday).	Southern Poker Championships (Jan. 6-27, see ad Page 13). Ask about Pro Football Squares.
BOOMTOWN CASINO BILOXI Phone: (228) 436-8999 www.boomtownbiloxi.com	No tournaments scheduled unless there is enough interest.	Bad beat is aces full of kings (More than \$50K). Mini pays 10% (aces full of jacks).	Aces cracked enters you into a drawing where you can win \$100.
GOLD STRIKE CASINO AND RESORT Phone: (662) 357-1136 www.goldstrikemississippi.com	Daily (\$35-\$340). \$5K guarantee first Sun. of the month (\$230, 1p), 10K chips, 30-minute blinds. Third Sat. is \$5K guarantee (\$100, 7p, 8K chips)	Call for bad beat and royal flush totals. Cash drawings (\$100 hourly) Tuesdays (1-10p).	Winter Poker Classic, Dec. 2-12 (See ad on Page 15). Ask about MNF \$1K cash drawings.
HARD ROCK BILOXI Phone: (228) 374-7625 www.hardrockbiloxi.com	Daily at 3p (\$25-\$55). Chip stacks, bonus chip offers and blinds vary. Website has all details. SNGs: \$75, \$125, \$235, \$550.	Bad beat is aces full of queens beaten by quads (\$36K). Ask about Hard Rock Jackpot hands.	Ask about Aces Cracked, Are you Ready For Some Football and Splash the Pot promotions.
HARLOW'S CASINO Phone: (662) 335-9797 x144 www.harlowcasino.com	Tuesday & Saturday (\$60, \$5 add-on, 7:30p). SNGs: Thursday & Friday (\$40, 6p).	Bad beat is aces full of 10s beaten by quads or better.	Hourly high hands on Wed.; Friday Flat Screen Frenzy (Tickets to raffle on 1st Friday of every month)
HARRAH'S TUNICA Phone: (800) 946-4946, x33760 www.harrahstunica.com	Daily at 1p (\$50-\$110) and first-place guarantees ranging from \$500-\$1,200 set with a min. of 20 players. Plus events at 6p (Thurs.-Sun.).	Bad beats in hold'em, Omaha and stud. Progressive Royal Flush pays jackpot and pays table.	Call about the \$150K WSOP Fantasy Freeroll and the nightly Spin to Win promotions.
HOLLYWOOD CASINO BAY ST. LOUIS Phone: (866) 758-2591 x4026 www.hollywoodcasinobs.com	Monday and Wednesday (\$30, 6:30p).	High hands win \$50 Wed., plus Thurs. lucky table progressive \$50, \$100 or \$150. (10a-10p).	Ask about the \$20K Monday Night Football Frenzy. Aces cracked is \$100, \$200 and \$500 on Tuesdays.
HOLLYWOOD CASINO TUNICA Phone: (800) 871-0711 x5005 www.hollywoodtunica.com	Daily (\$10-\$70).	Hold'em bad beat (quads or better) must be in \$3-\$6 or higher and there's a new Omaha jackpot.	Sunday \$1K guar. (\$10 gets 500 chips, \$5 token gets 1,500, \$10 rebuys & \$20 add-on for 10K, 2p).
HORSESHOE CASINO TUNICA Phone: (662) 357-5608 www.horseshoetunica.com	Daily (\$65-\$160), including Sat. \$10K guarantee (\$150, 4p) with 10K chips (2K more for \$10 add-on); Sun (\$100, 2p) Super Deep Stack (15K chips).	Bad beat (quads) in hold'em. Flush Frenzy (\$100) if you make a flush in every suit during your session.	Magnolia Fall Classic presented by Ante Up, Nov. 15-21. See story on Page 26 for details.
IP CASINO RESORT & SPA Phone: (888) 946-2847 x8554 www.ipbiloxi.com	Noon (\$60, 4K chips). Play Your Way: Play at least 4 hours (9a-9p on Mon., Tue. or Sat. and the house pays \$50 of a \$60 buy-in for the next day's event.	High hands pay \$75 hourly Wednesday (8a-4p). Poker Squares Sun & Mon. (\$1K up for grabs daily)	Aces cracked pays \$100 (Tuesdays). WSOP circuit event (Oct. 28-Nov.10), call for details.
ISLE CASINO BILOXI Phone: (228) 436-7967 www.biloxi.isleofcapricasinos.com	Daily (\$40-\$60), including bounty-rebuy event on Saturdays (\$60, 3p), featuring 3K chips, 20-minute blinds, \$20 rebuys, \$25 add-on and \$20 bounties.	Bad beat available in numerous games, but hold'em is aces full of queens (\$120K at press time).	Ask about the Aces Full or Better. Royals and straight flushes win \$150.
SAM'S TOWN CASINO TUNICA Phone: (800) 456-0711 www.samstowntunica.com	Daily (\$20-\$80), including a \$3K guarantee on Saturdays (\$20, 7p). SNGs: \$60-\$120. \$15K guarantee on Nov. 13 and Dec. 4 (11a, \$150, 10K chips).	Bad beat is any quads. Ask about the Live Action Bonus (Sat. & Sun., 7a-11a).	Ask about Spin-N-Win (Tue.-Fri.) and football squares on Sunday.
SILVER SLIPPER CASINO Phone: (866) 775-4773 x3766 www.silverflipper-ms.com	SNGs: \$45, \$65 (2K chips, 10 players).	Bad beat is \$75K in hold'em, \$2,300 for Omaha. Mini is aces full of deuces (\$550 to loser).	Aces cracked (Mon.-Fri., amounts vary). Sunday is Player Appreciation with \$100 hourly drawings.
SILVER STAR CASINO (PEARL RIVER) Phone: (601) 650-1234 www.pearlriverresort.com	Daily, (\$35-\$60), including a \$2,500 guarantee on Saturdays (\$60, 2p). Events 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). Diamond royals (\$500).	\$3,500 freeroll is last Sunday of every month (5p). Call for details. 4 aces pay \$50; high hands (\$100).

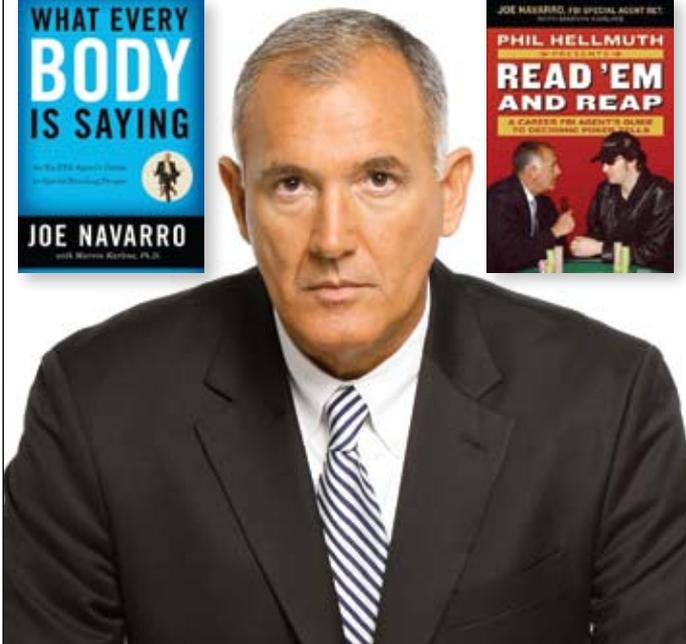
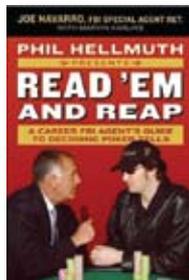
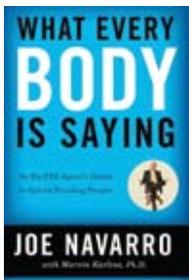
WEST VIRGINIA

HOLLYWOOD AT CHARLES TOWN Phone: (800) 795-7001 www.ctowntables.com	Room hours: 1p-4a daily, and no tournaments yet.	None at this time.	None at this time.
MOUNTAINEER RIVER POKER ROOM Phone: (304) 387-8458 www.mountaineerpoker.com	Daily at 12:15p and 7:30p (\$50-\$225), plus Sundays (\$65, 2p). Ladies Toy Drive event, Nov. 6 (12:30p, \$75, 500 extra chips for unwrapped toy).	Bad beat (aces full of kings) was \$40K at press time, and ask about new payouts.	Sundays in November is Football Frenzy. Touchdowns scored in featured games earn a player \$100.
MARDI GRAS CASINO AT TRI-STATE Phone: (800) 224-9683 www.tristatetrack.com	Generally events are Sun. (2p), Mon. (1p), Tue. (7p) & Wed. (7p) and buy-ins vary (\$40-\$125).	Bad beat totals vary by game, but hold'em (aces full of jacks) was \$75K at press time.	Play 50 hours in October and be eligible for hourly \$500 drawings Nov. 14 (noon-5p).
WHEELING ISLAND CASINO Phone: (304) 232-5050 www.wheelingisland.com	Sun-Fri. (\$40, 10a); Sat. (\$150, 3p, 6K chips), plus events every night (\$40-\$65, 7p). Heartland Poker League (Sat., \$60, 5K in chips 10:45a).	Bad beat was \$78K at press time.	Pick of the Litter, M-F (12:30p), one player chosen for chance at \$1K. Quads lets you spin the wheel.
THE GREENBRIER Phone: (304) 536-7806 www.greenbrier.com	The poker room open only to guests; call for information.	Call for details.	Call for details.

PENNSYLVANIA

LOCATION	TOURNAMENTS	JACKPOTS	EVENTS/PROMOTIONS
HARRAH'S CHESTER Phone: (800) 480-8020 www.harrahschester.com	Call for information.	Bad beat (quad deuces) was \$44K at press time.	None at this time. See Road Trip story on Page 43 for more information.
HOLLYWOOD PENN NATIONAL Phone: (717) 469-2211 www.hcpn.com	None at this time.	None at this time.	None at this time. See Road Trip story on Page 43 for more information.
MEADOWS CASINO Phone: (724) 503-1200 www.meadowsgaming.com	Daily, including a \$40 event every morning at 10:30 and a deepstack bounty event on Saturdays (\$225, 3p, bounties worth \$25).	Call for information.	Call for information.
MOHEGAN SUN/POCONO DOWNS Phone: (570) 831-2100 www.mohegansunpocono.com	Daily, beginning Nov. 1 (\$60-\$100, 10a and 7p), including a \$60 H.O.S.E. tournament on Thursdays (7p). SNGs are running around the clock.	Bad beat or high hands coming soon. See Road Trip story on Page 44 for more details.	Players card can earn between 50 cents and \$1 an hour toward comps.
MOUNT AIRY CASINO Phone: (570) 243-5184 www.mtairycasino.com	Pending state approval, planning MTTs and SNGs. See Road Trip story on Page 44 for more info.	Bad beat is aces full of kings.	None at this time, though high hands may be coming.
PARX CASINO Phone: (215) 639-9000 www.parxcasino.com	Poker room opens this fall.	N/A	N/A
RIVERS CASINO Phone: (412) 231-7777 www.riverscasino.com	Call for information.	Bad beat available soon, call for details.	Call for information.
SANDS CASINO BETHLEHEM Phone: (877) SANDS-77 www.sandsbethworks.com	Likely coming between January and March 2011.	Bad beat (quads) was \$25K at press time and is a one-table winner.	None at this time. See Road Trip story on Page 45 for more information.

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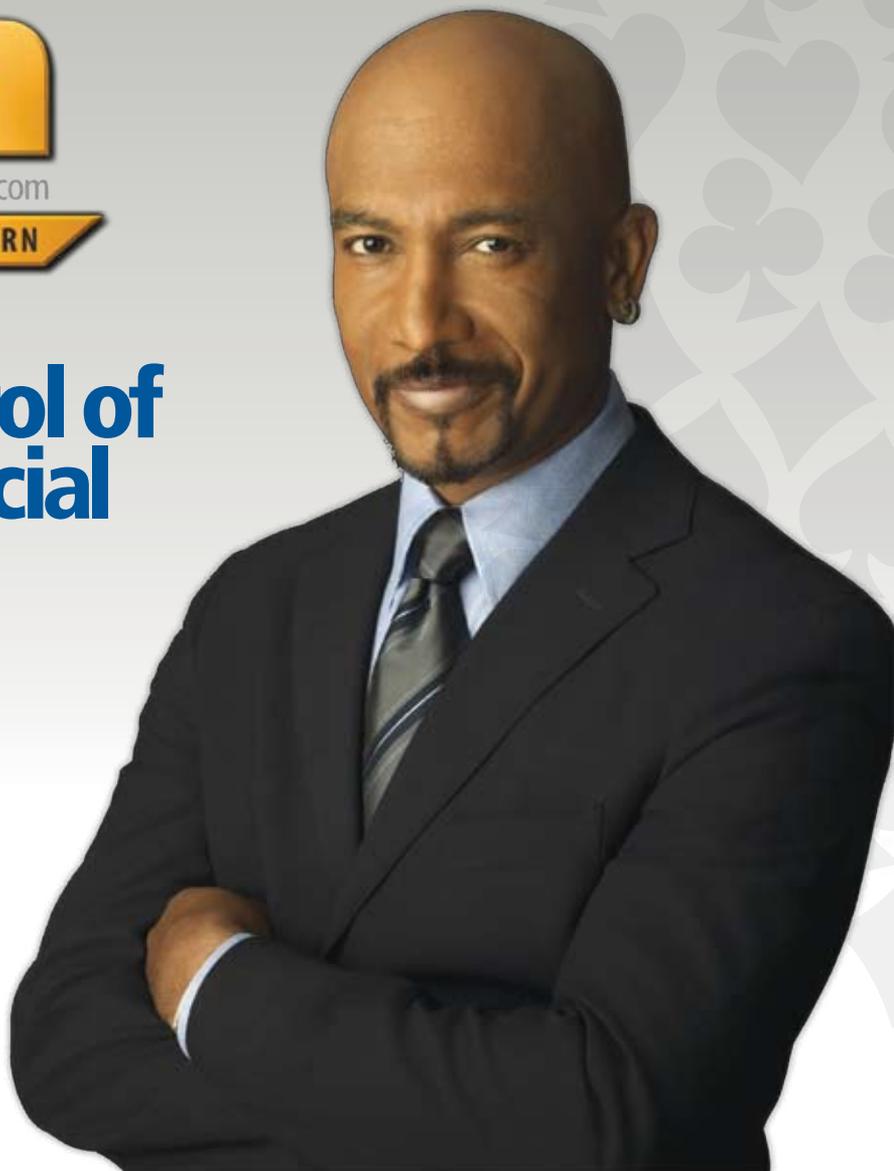




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Q&A

WITH JOE SEBOK



Pro Joe Sebok, known as the Cub because he's the stepson of Barry "Bear" Greenstein, and called Seventhbok because of his many World Poker Tour TV bubble finishes, recently chatted with *Ante Up's* Chris Cosenza at a charity event. He discusses his relationship with UB, his inability to win a big tournament and why people have preconceived notions about his personality.

How important are charity events to you? I think charity should be a huge part of everyone's lives, especially for me, coming from where I'm coming from with my dad (Barry Greenstein) kinda setting the pace with that stuff. I just consider it incumbent upon us to get involved and even a privilege. It's always a funny situation whenever I come to these events because everyone's thanking me and I'm just like, "Man, I'm so lucky to be able to do these kinds of things and to be able to help people." Especially playing poker and having access to money and to not give back is selfish in my opinion.

You've been with UB.net for about a year now. How do you think things are going and how did they sign you? Obviously it's been rocky. Anything with UB is always a little difficult because they've made a lot of mistakes in the past. They came to me and I sat down with (COO) Paul Leggett, who's kinda running the show, and just said, "Hey man, I'm happy to get involved, but I just want to change things. I want to get some of this information out and move forward on the right foot and sort of have a nice break from everything that's going on. ... The last year has been all about that, trying to get as much information out as is humanly possible. ... Obviously in a perfect world I would like to just release everything. These people who basically performed this crime in the (poker) community, I think we all want to see in jail. Paul has said that to me repeatedly. But it's, of course, not as easy as we'd like it to be. But we've gotten out a lot of information and there's still a few things that I'm working on that I would like to finish up. ... My goal is to get this mess clean so finally we can do some exciting things, and when people hear the letters UB they don't just think scandal, terrible, cheating, awful. You know, they start thinking (about) some interesting and exciting things, because I have a lot of ideas to bring to help build the company up. But again, we have to get through sort of the garbage to get to that point.

OK, back to real poker. You've played professionally for a few years now. What's it going to take for you to get over the hump and get that first really important big win? (laughs) What it's really going to take is me getting back into poker. Basically I took this turn into PokerRoad, and now UB, and there's so many good business things that I've gotten involved in, and they've all been great. And I would not for half-a-second complain. I mean, I'm probably the luckiest person in poker to be able to do all of these different things. But it's going to detract from your game; it's the nature of the

beast. So probably what's going to happen is, we'll get things settled ... and then maybe I'll feel satiated on those levels, and then I'll say, "OK now it's time to get back into poker." It's frustrating. It seems like I'm always there; you know I just cashed in the event at the Bike, so I never feel like, "Man, I suck." I just can't do anything. I'm not really one of those guys who goes in and I don't ever do anything; it's really just correlated to how much time I'm able to put into it. If I'm able to put in the hours it seems like I'm able to get the results.

What was the best poker advice Barry ever gave you? The best advice he ever gave me I didn't follow, and that was don't play poker. (laughs) I decided to ignore it and got into the game. ... Some of the biggest things in poker have nothing to do with, you know, "Don't play ace-queen in this spot." So much of it is ego. So much of it is having enough of an ego to get out there and go to war and have faith in yourself in battle, but having such a small ego that you can pull back. ... It's really sort of a weird situation; you have to have a lot of ego and at the same time none. So probably those lessons were the best ones he taught me. Just learning some humility. And the nice thing about our game is it's gonna humble you whether you like it or not.

Is there a poker strategy point you two differ on? Barry's become so famous now for the (continuation) bet. I mean, he's like Mr. C-bet. You even see on a lot of the TV shows they're like, "We know Barry's betting right here!" So we've had a lot of discussions in the last year-and-a-half or so about the pros and cons of doing that all of the time. What you gain vs. what you lose. If everyone knows you're going to do that it's a bad thing. ... but at the same time you still put them in a box where they have to make a play on you. So, long story short, we've definitely been talking a lot about c-betting.

What is one thing that would surprise our readers about you? Maybe just that I didn't grow up rich. (laughs) People seem to really think that I grew up with Bear and we had millions of dollars and I got a Mercedes-Benz on my 16th birthday and all this kind of stuff, and none of it's true. It's not even remotely true. ... I met so many people in the first couple of years that were like, "Wow, you're like a really cool guy. I thought you were going to be an asshole!" (laughs) I was like, "What? Why?" So I don't know where it comes from. Maybe it's because they thought I was this rich kid growing up, which I wasn't. So I deal with that a lot. It's pretty funny.



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