

SPECIAL WORLD SERIES OF POKER EDITION

# Rounder

THE CASINO LIFESTYLE MAGAZINE

ROUNDERLIFE.com



## VITALY LUNKIN

WINS STAR-STUDED  
\$40,000 WSOP EVENT

## MARK SELIGER

"LUCK'S CHANGING LANES"

## JEAN GASPARD

WINS HARRAH'S NEW  
ORLEANS CIRCUIT EVENT  
IN "PRINCE" LIKE FASHION

## ELKY GROPELLIER

IS SEASON VII WORLD POKER  
TOUR PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Meet Our  
*Dream Team*  
CAT, REBECCA, AND MANDY

JUNE/JULY 2009 \$4.95US



INSIDE: POKER + ENTERTAINMENT + FOOD + MUSIC + SPORTS + GIRLS

*Some luxuries are essential...*



**GRAHAM**  
LONDON 1695



WORLD LUX

*Fine Writing • Timepieces • Leather & More*

WWW.WORLDLUX.COM • FAIRMONT OLYMPIC HOTEL, 1208 FOURTH AVENUE, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON • 1-888-585-3579



Call today for your free lifestyle catalog

1-888-585-3579

*S.T. Dupont*

*Live the*  
**Rounder** **LIFE**

EXCLUSIVE WEB VIDEO AT [ROUNDERLIFE.COM](http://ROUNDERLIFE.COM)



ROUNDER GIRLS AFTER DARK • PLAYER INTERVIEWS  
CASINO AND RESTAURANT REVIEWS

HOT NEWS AND EVENTS  
BEHIND THE SCENE FOOTAGE



# 2009

## World Series of Poker Daily Time Schedule with Projections

### Monday, June 15, 2009

12 Noon: #32: No-Limit Hold'em \$2,000  
 2pm: #28: No-Limit Hold'em Final Table  
 2pm: #30: Pot-Limit Omaha Day 2  
 3pm: #29: WC Heads Up No-Limit Hold'em Final Table  
 3pm: #31: H.O.R.S.E Day 2  
 3pm: #139: Mega Satellite \$330  
 5pm: #33: WC Limit Hold'em \$10,000  
 7pm: #140: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$340  
 8pm: #141: Mega Satellite \$550  
 11pm: #142: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$200

### Tuesday, June 16, 2009

12 Noon: #34: No-Limit Hold'em \$1,500  
 2pm: #30: Pot-Limit Omaha Final Table  
 2pm: #32: No-Limit Hold'em Day 2  
 3pm: #31: H.O.R.S.E Final Table  
 3pm: #33: WC Limit Hold'em Day 2  
 3pm: #143: Mega Satellite \$330  
 7pm: #144: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$340  
 8pm: #145: Mega Satellite \$550  
 11pm: #146: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$200

### Wednesday, June 17, 2009

12 Noon: #35: Pot-Limit Omaha \$5,000  
 2pm: #32: No-Limit Hold'em Final Table  
 2pm: #34: No-Limit Hold'em Day 2  
 3pm: #33: WC Limit Hold'em Final Table  
 3pm: #147: Mega Satellite \$330  
 7pm: #148: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$340  
 8pm: #149: Mega Satellite \$550  
 11pm: #150: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$200

### Thursday, June 18, 2009

12 Noon: #36: No-Limit Hold'em \$2,000  
 2pm: #34: No-Limit Hold'em Final Table  
 2pm: #35: Pot-Limit Omaha Day 2  
 3pm: #151: Mega Satellite \$330  
 5pm: #37: WC Seven Card Stud Hi-Low Split-8 or Better \$10,000  
 7pm: #152: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$340  
 8pm: #153: Mega Satellite \$550  
 11pm: #154: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$200

### Friday, June 19, 2009

12 Noon: #38: Limit Hold'em \$2,000  
 2pm: #35: Pot-Limit Omaha Final Table  
 2pm: #36: No-Limit Hold'em Day 2  
 3pm: #37: WC Seven Card Stud Hi-Low Split-8 or Better Day 2  
 3pm: #155: Mega Satellite \$550  
 7pm: #156: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$340  
 8pm: #157: Mega Satellite \$1060  
 11pm: #158: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$200

### Saturday, June 20, 2009

12 Noon: #39: No-Limit Hold'em \$1,500  
 2pm: #36: No-Limit Hold'em Final Table  
 2pm: #38: Limit Hold'em Day 2  
 3pm: #37: WC Seven Card Stud Hi-Low Split-8 or Better Final Table  
 3pm: #159: Mega Satellite \$550  
 5pm: #40: WC Pot-Limit Omaha \$10,000  
 7pm: #160: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$340  
 8pm: #161: Mega Satellite \$1060  
 11pm: #162: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$200

### Sunday, June 21, 2009

12 Noon: #41: No-Limit Hold'em Shootout \$5,000  
 2pm: #38: Limit Hold'em Final Table  
 2pm: #39: No-Limit Hold'em Day 2  
 3pm: #40: WC Pot-Limit Omaha Day 2  
 3pm: #163: Mega Satellite \$330  
 5pm: #42: Mixed Event \$2,500  
 7pm: #164: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$340  
 8pm: #165: Mega Satellite \$550  
 11pm: #166: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$200

### Monday, June 22, 2009

12 Noon: #43: Seniors No-Limit Hold'em WC \$1,000  
 2pm: #39: No-Limit Hold'em Final Table  
 2pm: #41: No-Limit Hold'em Shootout Day 2  
 3pm: #40: WC Pot-Limit Omaha Final Table  
 3pm: #42: Mixed Event Day 2  
 3pm: #167: Mega Satellite \$330  
 5pm: #44: Seven Card Razz \$2,500  
 6pm: #168: \$50K H.O.R.S.E Mega Satellite \$2250  
 7pm: #169: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$340  
 8pm: #170: Mega Satellite \$550  
 11pm: #171: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$200

### Tuesday, June 23, 2009

12 Noon: #45: WC Pot-Limit Hold'em \$10,000  
 2pm: #41: No-Limit Hold'em Shootout Final Table  
 2pm: #43: Seniors No-Limit Hold'em Day 2  
 3pm: #42: Mixed Event Final Table  
 3pm: #44: Seven Card Razz Day 2  
 3pm: #172: Mega Satellite \$330  
 5pm: #46: Omaha Hi-Low Split-8 or Better \$2,500  
 6pm: #173: \$50K H.O.R.S.E Mega Satellite \$2250  
 7pm: #174: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$340  
 8pm: #175: Mega Satellite \$550  
 11pm: #176: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$200

### Wednesday, June 24, 2009

12 Noon: #47: Mixed Hold'em (Limit/No-Limit) \$2,500  
 2pm: #43: Seniors No-Limit Hold'em Final Table  
 2pm: #45: WC Pot-Limit Hold'em Day 2  
 3pm: #44: Seven Card Razz Final Table  
 3pm: #46: Omaha Hi-Low Split-8 or Better Day 2  
 3pm: #177: Mega Satellite \$330  
 6pm: #178: \$50K H.O.R.S.E Mega Satellite \$2250  
 7pm: #179: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$340  
 8pm: #180: Mega Satellite \$550  
 11pm: #181: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$200

### Thursday, June 25, 2009

12 Noon: #48: Pot-Limit Omaha Hi-Low Split-8 or Better \$1,500  
 2pm: #45: WC Pot-Limit Hold'em Final Table  
 2pm: #47: Mixed Hold'em (Limit/No-Limit) Day 2  
 3pm: #46: Omaha Hi-Low Split-8 or Better Final Table  
 3pm: #182: Mega Satellite \$330  
 6pm: #183: \$50K H.O.R.S.E Mega Satellite  
 7pm: #184: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$340  
 8pm: #185: Mega Satellite \$550  
 11pm: #186: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$200

### Friday, June 26, 2009

12 Noon: #49: WC H.O.R.S.E \$50,000 (5 day event)  
 2pm: #47: Mixed Hold'em (Limit/No-Limit) Final Table  
 2pm: #48: Pot-Limit Omaha Hi-Low Split-8 or Better Day 2  
 3pm: #187: Mega Satellite \$550  
 5pm: #50: Limit Hold'em Shootout \$1,500  
 7pm: #188: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$340  
 8pm: #189: Mega Satellite \$1060  
 11pm: #190: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$200

### Saturday, June 27, 2009

12 Noon: #51: No-Limit Hold'em \$1,500  
 2pm: #48: Pot-Limit Omaha Hi-Low Split-8 or Better Final Table  
 2pm: #49: WC H.O.R.S.E Day 2  
 3pm: #50: Limit Hold'em Shootout Day 2  
 3pm: #191: Mega Satellite \$550  
 7pm: #192: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$340  
 8pm: #193: Mega Satellite \$1060  
 11pm: #194: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$200

### Sunday, June 28, 2009

12 Noon: #52: Triple Chance No-Limit Hold'em \$3,000  
 2pm: #49: WC H.O.R.S.E Day 3  
 2pm: #51: No-Limit Hold'em Day 2  
 3pm: #50: Limit Hold'em Shootout Final Table  
 3pm: #195: Mega Satellite \$330  
 5pm: #53: Seven Card Stud Hi-Low-8 or Better \$1,500  
 7pm: #196: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$340  
 8pm: #197: Mega Satellite \$550  
 11pm: #198: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$200

### Monday, June 29, 2009

12 Noon: #54: No-Limit Hold'em \$1,500  
 2pm: #49: WC H.O.R.S.E Day 4  
 2pm: #51: No-Limit Hold'em Final Table  
 2pm: #52: Triple Chance No-Limit Hold'em Day 2  
 3pm: #53: Seven Card Stud Hi-Low-8 or Better Day 2  
 3pm: #199: Mega Satellite \$330  
 5pm: #55: 2-7 Triple Draw Lowball (Limit) \$2,500  
 7pm: #200: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$340  
 8pm: #201: Mega Satellite \$550  
 11pm: #202: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$200

### Tuesday, June 30, 2009

12 Noon: #56: No-Limit Hold'em/Six Handed \$5,000  
 2pm: #49: WC H.O.R.S.E Final Table  
 2pm: #52: Triple Chance No-Limit Hold'em Final Table  
 2pm: #54: No-Limit Hold'em Day 2  
 3pm: #53: Seven Card Stud Hi-Low-8 or Better Final Table  
 3pm: #55: 2-7 Triple Draw Lowball (Limit) Day 2  
 3pm: #203: Mega Satellite \$330  
 7pm: #204: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$340  
 8pm: #205: Mega Satellite \$550  
 11pm: #206: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$200

### Wednesday, July 1, 2009

10am: #207: Mega Satellite \$550  
 1pm: #208: Mega Satellite \$1060  
 2pm: #209: Ante Up for Africa \$5,000  
 2pm: #54: No-Limit Hold'em Final Table  
 2pm: #56: No-Limit Hold'em/Six Handed Day 2  
 3pm: #55: 2-7 Triple Draw Lowball (Limit) Final Table  
 4pm: #210: Mega Satellite \$550  
 7pm: #211: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$340  
 8pm: #212: Mega Satellite \$1060  
 11pm: #213: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$200

### Thursday, July 2, 2009

10am: #214: Mega Satellite \$550  
 1pm: #215: Mega Satellite \$1060  
 2pm: #56: No-Limit Hold'em/Six Handed Final Table  
 4pm: #216: Mega Satellite \$550  
 7pm: #217: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$340  
 8pm: #218: Mega Satellite \$1060  
 11pm: #219: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$200

### Friday, July 3, 2009

10am: #220: Mega Satellite \$550  
 12 Noon: #57A: WC No-Limit Hold'em Day 1A \$10,000  
 1pm: #221: Mega Satellite \$1060  
 4pm: #222: Mega Satellite \$550  
 7pm: #223: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$340  
 8pm: #224: Mega Satellite \$1060  
 11pm: #225: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$200

### Saturday, July 4, 2009

10am: #226: Mega Satellite \$550  
 12 Noon: #57B: WC No-Limit Hold'em Day 1B \$10,000  
 1pm: #227: Mega Satellite \$1060  
 4pm: #228: Mega Satellite \$550  
 7pm: #229: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$340  
 8pm: #230: Mega Satellite \$1060  
 11pm: #231: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$200

### Sunday, July 5, 2009

10am: #232: Mega Satellite \$550  
 12 Noon: #57C: WC No-Limit Hold'em Day 1D \$10,000  
 1pm: #233: Mega Satellite \$1060  
 4pm: #234: Mega Satellite \$550  
 7pm: #235: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$340  
 8pm: #236: Mega Satellite \$1060  
 11pm: #237: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$200

### Monday, July 6, 2009

8am: #238: Turbo Mega Satellite \$1060  
 12 Noon: #57D: WC No-Limit Hold'em Day 1D \$10,000  
 7pm: #239: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$340  
 11pm: #240: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$200

### Tuesday, July 7, 2009

12 Noon: #57: MAIN EVENT DAY 2A (1A + 1B)  
 7pm: #241: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$340  
 11pm: #242: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$200

### Wednesday, July 8, 2009

12 Noon: #57: MAIN EVENT DAY 2B (1C + 1D)  
 7pm: #243: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$340  
 11pm: #244: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$200

### Thursday, July 9, 2009

1pm: Media Event  
 7pm: #245: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$340  
 11pm: #246: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$200

### Friday, July 10, 2009

12 Noon: #57: MAIN EVENT DAY 3  
 7pm: #247: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$340  
 11pm: #248: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$200

### Saturday, July 11, 2009

12 Noon: #57: MAIN EVENT DAY 4  
 7pm: #249: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$340  
 11pm: #250: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$200

### Sunday, July 12, 2009

12 Noon: #57: MAIN EVENT DAY 5  
 7pm: #251: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$340  
 11pm: #252: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$200

### Monday, July 13, 2009

12 Noon: #57: MAIN EVENT DAY 6  
 7pm: #253: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$340  
 11pm: #254: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$200

### Tuesday, July 14, 2009

12 Noon: #57: MAIN EVENT Play Down to 27  
 7pm: #255: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$340  
 11pm: #256: Nightly No-Limit Hold'em \$200

### Wednesday, July 15, 2009

12 Noon: #57: MAIN EVENT Play Down to 9



\*Start Times are subject to change, all bold events 3 day events unless otherwise stated

**S**o far, the dismal state of the economy hasn't translated to a decline in attendance at the 40TH Annual World Series of Poker. In fact, participation has increased at the time of this publication, which leads one to wonder just how staggering the numbers would have been in a more stable economic environment. Also, take into account the 'grey area' with regard to online qualifying over the last couple of years, and the hypothetical number of people playing in the 'Main Event' this year, could have been well over 10,000. Estimates from insiders vary, but the consensus is that the attendance this year will be comparable to last year. (6,844)

Highlights so far include Tom McEvoy winning the Inaugural WSOP Champions Invitational, a 6012 player field entering the \$1000 buy-in 'Stimulus Special', and Phil Ivey capturing his sixth and seventh bracelets. Jeffrey Pollack and his staff have once again done a stellar job preparing, with no major complaints to mention. The decision to televise fewer events this year was met with some criticism, but if you remember, so was last years decision to delay the final table...and that turned out to be a slam dunk for poker fans and the WSOP!

The "Coolest" thing happening in Vegas this summer is the NHL Awards Ceremony coming to town, and the Stanley Cup being brought to the WSOP. The Awards Show was scheduled to take place June 18th at the Pearl Theatre located inside The Palms Casino Resort. Many of today's NHL superstars, such as Evgeni Malkin from the Stanley Cup Champion Pittsburgh Penguins, Alex Ovechkin from the Washington Capitals, and Nicklas Lidstrom from the Detroit Red Wings were scheduled to attend, along with past greats such as Mark Messier, Luc Robitaille, Doug Gilmour, Stan Mikita, and many more. A charity poker tournament was also scheduled to take place among the players, poker pros, and celebrities. Let's just hope Phil Hellmuth doesn't mouth off to the wrong guy... or he does.

Cat, Rebecca, and Mandy's cover shot was photographed in front of Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino. Several other locations on the property were also made available, including the pool and a sample villa at Planet Hollywood Towers by Westgate Resorts. Scheduled to open in the Fall of 2009, the Resort is located on the grounds of Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino. For more information please visit phtowers.com. The three Rounder Girls are part of a group who will be competing in various charity and regular buy-in poker tournaments throughout the country. If you'd like to book the Rounder Girl Poker Team for an event, please send your request to info@rounderlife.com. Good luck to everyone participating in this years 'Main Event'!



Evert Caldwell  
Editor

**PUBLISHER**  
Greg McDonald - greg@rounderlife.com

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**  
Evert Caldwell - evert@rounderlife.com

**MANAGING EDITOR**  
Johnny Kampis

**CONTRIBUTING EDITOR**  
Dave Lukow

**ART & DESIGN** design@rounderlife.com  
Casey Wiesel, Nathan Hess, Whitney Prewitt

**PHOTOGRAPHY**  
Kaden, Lee Cave, Hod Berman  
Kristen Hanshaw, Jeremy Robinson

**TELEVISION PRODUCTION**  
Tom McDonald, Gregory McDonald  
Sherry McDonald, Suzanne La Belle  
Jenna Edwards, Arthur Bergel, Susan Fowler

**RESEARCH & CONTENT**  
Roberta Caldwell

**CONTRIBUTING WRITERS**  
Nolan Dalla, Susie Isaacs, Johnny Kampis  
Darlene Least, Peter Herold, Jay Ginsbach  
David & Claire Sasseman, Peter Gulliver  
Jenna Edwards

**ADVERTISING SALES/DISTRIBUTION**  
advertising@rounderlife.com  
Evert Caldwell (205) 937-9887  
Hod Berman (917) 607-1641  
Michael Clemente (954) 871-7216  
Martin G. Kenny (702) 265-1822  
Danny Baseheart (702) 443-0639

**ROUNDER GIRL CASTINGS**  
casting@rounderlife.com

**MARKETING & PROMOTIONS**  
info@rounderlife.com

**LEGAL AFFAIRS**  
Jeffrey P. Krantzdorf

**SUBSCRIPTIONS**  
3960 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 500  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89169

**CORPORATE OFFICE**  
3960 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 500  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89169  
877-841-2424



© 2009 ROUNDER ENTERPRISES INC. All Rights Reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part is prohibited without prior written consent from Rounder Enterprises Inc. The articles printed in Rounder Magazine are not necessarily the views of the publisher. The accuracy of the data gathered is not guaranteed. Rounder Enterprises Inc. does not endorse any of the products or services advertised in this magazine, nor is the publisher responsible for the contents of any ads.

Any material submitted for editorial consideration becomes the property of Rounder Enterprises Inc. and may be used by the publisher for editorial purposes, without the consent of the author.

# GOLD STRIKE WORLD POKER OPEN

♥ ♠ ♦ ♣ July 23 - August 11, 2009

\$5,000+\$150 Buy-In Championship Event · \$1,000+\$70 Pot-Limit Omaha Championship

Event #	Date	Time	Game	Buy-In
1	Thurs., July 23	12PM	Single and Mega-Satellites Begin	
2	Thurs., July 23	2PM	No-Limit Hold 'Em	\$200 + \$30
3	Fri., July 24	12PM	No-Limit Hold 'Em	\$300 + \$40
4	Fri., July 24	2PM	Ladies No-Limit Hold 'Em	\$200 + \$30
5	Sat., July 25	12PM	No-Limit Hold 'Em	\$500 + \$50
6	Sat., July 25	2PM	Ladies No-Limit Hold 'Em	\$300 + \$40
7	Sun., July 26	12PM	No-Limit Hold 'Em	\$300 + \$40
8	Sun., July 26	2PM	Seven Card Stud 8/b	\$300 + \$40
9	Mon., July 27	12PM	Limit Hold 'Em	\$300 + \$40
10	Mon., July 27	2PM	Pot-Limit Omaha (deep stack)	\$500 + \$50
11	Tues., July 28	12PM	Omaha 8 or Better	\$300 + \$40
12	Wed., July 29	12PM	No-Limit Hold 'Em (deep stack)	\$300 + \$40
13	Wed., July 29	2PM	Seven Card Stud	\$300 + \$40
14	Thurs., July 30	12PM	No-Limit Shootout	\$300 + \$40
15	Thurs., July 30	2PM	Seven Card Stud 8/b	\$300 + \$40
16	Fri., July 31	12PM	No-Limit Hold 'Em (deep stack)	\$300 + \$40
17	Fri., July 31	2PM	HOSE	\$300 + \$40
18	Sat., August 1	12PM	No-Limit Hold 'Em	\$500 + \$50
19	Sat., August 1	2PM	Triple Draw A-5 / 2-7	\$1,000 + \$70
20	Sun., August 2	12PM	No-Limit Hold 'Em	\$300 + \$40
21	Mon., August 3	12PM	No-Limit Hold 'Em (deep stack)	\$300 + \$40
22	Mon., August 3	2PM	HORSE	\$1,000 + \$70
23	Tues., August 4	12PM	No-Limit Hold 'Em (deep stack)	\$300 + \$40
24	Tues., August 4	2PM	Pot-Limit Omaha w/re-buys	\$500 + \$50
25	Wed., August 5	12PM	Omaha 8 or Better	\$300 + \$40
26	Wed., August 5	2PM	No-Limit Hold 'Em (deep stack)	\$1,000 + \$70
27	Thurs., August 6	12PM	No-Limit Hold 'Em (deep stack)	\$300 + \$40
28	Thurs., August 6	2PM	Seven Card Stud 8/b	\$300 + \$40
29	Fri., August 7	12PM	Limit Hold 'Em	\$300 + \$40
30 & 31	Fri., August 7	2PM	PLO Championship w/re-buys	\$1,000 + \$70
32	Fri., August 7	4PM & 8PM	Mega-Satellite	\$500 + \$40
33	Sat., August 8	12PM	No-Limit Hold 'Em	\$200 + \$30
34	Sat., August 8	4PM & 8PM	Mega-Satellite	\$500 + \$40
35	Sun., August 9	12PM	No-Limit Hold 'Em	\$200 + \$30
36	August 9 - 11	2 PM	Championship Event	\$5,000 + \$150
	August 10 & 11	2PM & 7PM	No-Limit Hold 'Em	\$175 + \$25



Nightly Tournaments at 7PM: \$175+\$25  
Mega-Satellites Daily at 4PM: \$300+\$30 Buy-In. One Seat Guaranteed.

Enjoy contemporary style and plasma TVs in one of our newly renovated hotel rooms for \$69/night during the World Poker Open.

Call 1.888.245.7529 ext. 1136 OR 1.662.357.1135 for reservations.

\$5,150 withheld from each event (except events 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 21, 22, 23, 24, 27, 28, 29 & 35) for entry of the event winners into main event (7PM tournaments excluded). \$10,000 withheld from Championship Event for WPT Championship at Beau Rivage. The Mississippi Gaming Commission reserves the right to investigate any and all complaints and disputes regarding tournaments, promotions and drawings. Such disputes and complaints will be resolved in accordance with the Mississippi Gaming Control Act and Mississippi Gaming Commission Regulations. Management reserves the right to cancel, change or modify the tournament, promotion or drawing with prior written approval from the Mississippi Gaming Commission, but must do so at least three (3) days prior to the commencement of the activity.

GOLDSTRIKE.COM | 1.888.24K.PLAY | AN MGM MIRAGE PROPERTY



GOLD STRIKE  
CASINO RESORT • TUNICA, MS



# ROUNDER

JUNE/JULY 2009

## ROUNDER PROMOTIONS

- 10 | Harrahs, New Orleans, LA
- 11 | The Orleans, Las Vegas, NV
- 12 | Daytona Beach Kennel Club & Poker Room, Daytona Beach, FL

## BEYOND THE RAIL

- 14 | The Venetian, Las Vegas

## Q&A

- 18 | John Colville

## SPORTS

- 20 | Sports Memo
- 20 | Rounder Sports

## ROUNDER GIRLS

- 22 | Sahar
- 23 | Irina
- 86 | Sivan
- 88 | Mahsheed

## ALL THINGS ROUNDER

- 24 | Back-Raising in Limit Hold'Em
- 26 | Chip Chatter
- 27 | Base Calls on Your Opponent

## NEWS & EVENTS

- 30 | - *Elky* is WPT Player of the Year
- Howard Lederer Hosts Charity Poker Event at Golden Nugget
- WSOPE 2009 to Host Unique Caesars Cup Event

- 31 | - Several Summer Vegas Tournament Series will Compete with WSOP
- World Series of Poker Academy to Hold Four Events this Summer

## CELEBRITY Q&A

- 32 | Jd Webb

## CASINO LISTINGS

- 34 | Hotel & Casino Listings

## SPECIAL FEATURE

- 36 | Rounder Dream Team

## PLAYER PROFILE

- 60 | Tom Dwan
- 42 | Andy Bloch
- 64 | Jean Gaspard
- 66 | Joe Sebak

## ONLINE POKER 101 W/JENNA

- 68 | Online Poker 101

## SCHEDULE & RESULTS

- 70 | Rounder of the Year
- 72 | Roundup
- 76 | Weekly Tournament Listings by State
- 80 | 2009 World Series of Poker Bracelet Winners
- 82 | WSOP - Vitaly Lunkin
- 84 | WPT - Yevgeniy Timoshenko

## ROCKIN' ROUNDER

- 90 | Mark Seliger

## ENTERTAINMENT

- 92 | Concerts & Shows
- 94 | Night Life

## ASK HOYT

- 96 | Q&A with Hoyt Corkins



On the Cover:  
**The Rounder Dream Team**

Cover photograph by Kaden



# Beautifully played.



Sept. 3 - Sept. 14

DATE	EVENT	TIME	TOURNAMENT	BUY-IN
Sept. 3	Thu.	6PM	Satellites and Nightly Event Begin	
Sept. 4	Fri.	12PM	No-Limit Hold 'Em (deep stack)	\$300 + \$40
Sept. 5	Sat.	2 Day 1	No-Limit Hold 'Em	\$500 + \$50
Sept. 6	Sun.	2 Day 2	No-Limit Hold 'Em (optional Day 1 Re-entry)	\$500 + \$50
Sept. 6	Sun.	3	LIPS Ladies Event	\$300 + \$40
Sept. 7	Mon.	4	No-Limit Hold 'Em (deep stack)	\$300 + \$40
Sept. 7	Mon.	5	Limit Hold 'Em	\$300 + \$40
Sept. 8	Tue.	6	No-Limit Hold 'Em (deep stack)	\$300 + \$40
Sept. 8	Tue.	7	Limit Omaha Hi-Lo	\$300 + \$40
Sept. 9	Wed.	8	No-Limit Hold 'Em (deep stack)	\$300 + \$40
Sept. 9	Wed.	9	Seven Card Stud/Stud 8 mixed event	\$300 + \$40
Sept. 10	Thu.	10	No-Limit Hold 'Em (deep stack)	\$300 + \$40
Sept. 10	Thu.	11	Pot Limit Omaha/Rebuy	\$500 + \$50
Sept. 11	Fri.	12	No-Limit Hold 'Em	\$500 + \$50
Sept. 11	Fri.	13	A-5 Lowball/2-7 Lowball/Badugi Draw	\$1,000 + \$70
Sept. 11	Fri.	4PM	Mega Satellite (1 Day)	\$500 + \$40
Sept. 11	Fri.	8PM	Mega Satellite (1 Day)	\$500 + \$40
Sept. 12	Sat.	10AM	Last Chance Mega Satellite Turbo	\$500 + \$40
Sept. 12	Sat.	14	No-Limit Hold 'Em Championship	\$5,000 + \$150
Sept. 13	Sun.	12PM	Day 2 of Championship Event	
Sept. 13	Sun.	4PM	Mega Satellite	\$500 + \$40
Sept. 14	Mon.	15	No-Limit Hold 'Em Turbo (1 Day)	\$270 + \$30
Sept. 14	Mon.	4PM	Championship Event Final Table	

Event 14 winner receives a seat into the WPT event at Beau Rivage, January 2010.

\$300 + \$30 Mega Satellites for Championship Event every day at 4PM. \$175 + \$25 No-Limit Hold 'Em Nightly Events, every night at 7PM.

Registration begins at 5PM on September 3. Registration is open from 8AM - 9PM daily. For more information, call 1.228.386.7092. Blind structures and additional details are available at beaurivage.com. Complete rules are available in the poker room.

MGM MIRAGE's AAA Four-Diamond destination awaits on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Play and stay with your special \$59 weekday and \$99 weekend room rates.\* For reservations, 1.888.56.ROOMS.



RESORT & CASINO • BILOXI, MS

A Feeling Like No Other.  
1.888.750.7111 | beaurivage.com

Pending Mississippi Gaming Commission approval. The Mississippi Gaming Commission reserves the right to investigate any and all complaints and disputes regarding tournaments, promotions, and drawings. Such disputes and complaints will be resolved in accordance with the Mississippi Gaming Control Act and Mississippi Gaming Commission. Management reserves the right to cancel, change, and modify the tournament, promotion or drawing with prior notification to the Mississippi Gaming Commission, but must do so at least (3) days prior to the commencement of the activity. When you need to win, you need to quit. Gambling problem? Call 1.888.777.9696. \*Limited room availability. Five hours play per day with your Players Club card is required to qualify for special hotel rate. All room bookings subject to \$5.95 Resort Fee.



THE ROUNDER GIRLS AND FRIENDS



THE ROUNDER GIRLS AND FRIENDS



THE ROUNDER GIRLS AND FRIENDS



**DAYTONA BEACH**  
KENNEL CLUB & POKER ROOM

# Experience it Live! Winning!



**Poker Room  
Open  
7 Days a Week**  
Monday - Wednesday  
12:00 noon - 12:00 midnight  
Thursday - Sunday  
1:00 pm - 1:00 am

**Major Jackpot Tournaments • WSOP Qualifying Tournaments  
Bad Beat & Mini Bad Beat Jackpots • Poker Room WOW Spins daily for Cash & Prizes**

**50 New Luxurious Tables with table side food and cocktail service**

**36 High Def LCD TV's • Table Side Massage**

**Texas Hold'Em - Omaha Hi-Lo - Seven Card Stud**

**Live Action Greyhound Racing - Monday - Saturday**

**Live Simlucast Races from Premier Racetracks**

**300 Wall to Wall High Def LCD TV's**

**12:00 Noon - 12:00 Midnight - 7 Days a week**

**Free Admission and Monitored Parking**

**960 S. Williamson Blvd. • Daytona Beach, FL 32114  
386-252-6484 • [www.daytonapokergreyhound.com](http://www.daytonapokergreyhound.com)**





## The Venetian Resort Hotel Casino

The Venetian is an extraordinary celebration of the beauty, grace, and artistic vision of Venice. Located on the world-renowned Las Vegas Strip, on the historic site of the Sands Hotel, The Venetian Las Vegas opened in 1999 as a world-class resort destination. A masterwork of sweeping architecture and Renaissance revelry, The Venetian triumphs in bringing together the inspired elegance of the city of canals, gondoliers, and rich Italian history with the unparalleled excitement of Las Vegas. Faithfully recreating the aura and ambience of the fabled Italian city, The Venetian will transport you not only to another place, but to another time as well. From the detailed frescoes of the Great Hall to the serenading gondoliers winding their way down the Grand Canal, every breathtaking detail has been carefully attended to. The Venetian will take your breath away and satisfy your every indulgence.

### ROMANCE

A symbol of Italian tradition, The Venetian gondolas are as picturesque as they are romantic. This special place truly captures the romanticism of Venice an enchanted edifice where eternal love is sealed with a kiss. Overlooking the Venezia pool gardens, The Venetian offers three separate Chapels. The beautifully decorated, white gondola is uniquely crafted and authentically Italian. Serenading gondoliers escort guests along the quarter-mile-long waterway as they relax and absorb the atmosphere of Venice and its architecture. Guests can also enjoy the open-air elegance of an outdoor ride, overlooking the unparalleled excitement of the Las Vegas Strip. >>>>>





**ACCOMMODATIONS**

The newly renovated and more stylish than ever accommodations at The Venetian offer a degree of luxury designed to be a perfectly appointed home away from home. The suites average 700 square feet roughly twice the size of most Las Vegas hotel rooms. Featuring a sunken living room and marble adorned bath, Venetian suites embody a distinctly modern European design with contemporary touches throughout. Your hotel-within-a-hotel, Venezia®, sets the bar even higher with a romantic and tranquil pool garden, terraced suites, a separate registration area, and a first-of-its-kind Concierge Level with exclusive amenities such as unpacking services and a private concierge lounge.

**SPA**

Escape to your own health and fitness oasis at Canyon Ranch SpaClub. The two-story, 109,000-square-foot facility includes a 40-foot indoor

rock-climbing wall, wellness center, over 120 services, 50 massage rooms, Balneotherapy Body cocoons, Pilates studios, indoor cycling gym, and a full-service salon. Even the most discriminating guest can expect a unique range of treatments at the Canyon Ranch SpaClub, specializing in the advanced, the exotic, and the delightfully surprising.

**ENTERTAINMENT**

Nestled in the heart of The Venetian is The Grand Canal Shoppes. The centerpiece of the experience is a re-creation of the historic Piazza San Marco, a bustling square of street-side vendors, outdoor cafes, and costumed Carne-vale performers. Shoppers can enjoy a unique blend of more than 80 retail stores and boutiques before dining at one of the many gourmet restaurants or sipping a cappuccino at one of the street-side cafés. With The Grand Canal Shoppes, shoppers no longer have to travel to New York or Milan to find the most exclusive retail stores in the world.

**DINING**

The Venetian Las Vegas has been called “the Culinary Capital of the World” and for good reason. As host to 20 world-class restaurants The Venetian offers an extraordinary experience with an astounding array of remarkable dining establishments. World-Class Award-winning chefs include seven James Beard Award-winners: Wolfgang Puck, Emeril Lagasse, Piero Selvaggio, Thomas Keller, Joachim Splichal, Luciano Pellegrini and Mario Batali.

**NIGHTLIFE**

TAO Nightclub is part dance destination, part ultra-lounge, and all excitement. The star-studded TAO Nightclub is one of the city’s hottest places to see and be seen. V Bar is a sexy, hip, upscale lounge with all the style and attitude of New York and L.A. La Scena Lounge offers nightly live entertainment, featuring high-energy bands performing a variety of musical styles. Oculus bar set

among the slots of the Doge’s Palace, and watched over by the Lion of St. Mark, offers patrons a wide array of libations. In May 2007, TAO Asian Bistro and Nightclub unveiled TAO Beach, the seductive and sophisticated Asian-themed beach club/ night club extension of the already popular TAO Nightclub.

**GAMING**

Inside the replicated facade of the Doge’s Palace, you’ll find the 120,000-square-foot casino, lavishly detailed with marble floors, hand-painted frescoed ceilings, and plush furnishings. Expect the ultimate casino experience with classic opulence, a winning atmosphere, and a second-to-none focus on customer recognition. The Venetian Poker Room has quickly made a name for itself among the poker elite with visits from poker pros, nationally televised events like The National Poker League’s Vegas Open and annual tournaments such as the Deepstack Extravaganza. **R**





He's only lived in Las Vegas for about five years, but he has quickly moved up the ranks from wannabe poker professional to director of poker operations for the Golden Nugget. We talked with John Colville this month to find out how that happened.

should do that. The next night I was in the box. I had never dealt before, but I knew poker and how to run a game and it went from there. I was there for six weeks and then the Golden Nugget opened their poker room in April 2004 and I moved over there.

**LET'S TALK ABOUT THE GRAND POKER SERIES. THIS IS THE SECOND YEAR FOR THAT, CORRECT?**

This is the second year. Last year was good, it was great at times, it was not as great at other times. We restructured the schedule – moved some events around and changed some pricing around – and we really expect it to take off. Last year we sold about 17,000 or 18,000 seats total and I look to probably triple that this year.

**HOW DO YOU THINK YOU WILL BE ABLE TO DO THAT WITH THE COMPETITION FROM THE OTHER SUMMER TOURNAMENTS IN VEGAS?**

What hurt me last year was being too aggressive if that makes any sense. We did a survey of the market and we saw a hole last year at World Series time for a bunch of \$300 and \$500 buy-in events and the Venetian was running their thing at the time, but they were the only ones running it and we were thinking there was more play out there at the \$300 and \$500 level. So we put a schedule together with good chips, good structures and we released it in January, which ended up being too early because a few months after that, Caesars Palace got into the mix, and let me tell you they hurt me. It was good business on their part and I respect that. They came in and gave lots of chips and then the Venetian started adding even more chips and the next thing you know this hole in the market got sucked up. We were mindful of that this year. We changed all our buy-ins. They are now all in the \$200 and \$300 buy-in level. I think with the economic times it's a great value to the player. We have nice chip stacks. We're giving away 12,000 in chips and 40 minutes levels. I will put our structures up against anybody's. We also have a big variety

of poker. Some of our biggest events last year were PLO and HORSE. Everybody's got No-Limit Hold'em, so I did a real careful analysis of when Caesars is going to run a \$300 deep stack No-Limit Hold'em on a Saturday afternoon and when the Venetian is going to run the same type of tournament. There's no sense in me being the third guy out there, so on Saturdays I've got PLO and Omaha Hi-Lo. I'm just making sure I'm not butting heads with those guys. I'm just giving players another option. I'm also offering NLHE every day as well, twice a day every day. I call them "bankroll builders." They are \$125 buy-ins, 30 minute levels with 8,000 in chips and just the best structure. A guy can take a small buy-in and win \$10,000. He could take that and buy himself a seat to the World Series.

**WHAT'S THE KEY TO GETTING FOLKS TO VEGAS AND TO DOWNTOWN WITH THE ECONOMIC CONDITIONS AS THEY ARE?**

Well, I tell you, the Golden Nugget – it's a Wednesday and the hotel is full. We are at 100 percent capacity. It's a struggle. We have to come up with new ideas all the time. I know it sounds cliché, but to me it goes back to customer service. It comes back to taking care of that customer when they come to town. Everybody is offering discounts. Everybody is offering food credit. Everybody is offering show tickets. It's gotten to the point that we're all offering the same thing. We've got to do something above and beyond giving customers a good offer. We've got to give them maximum service at those discount prices. That has made all the difference in the world. We've also got a lot of stuff on TV right now. We're the home of Poker After Dark. We're the home of High Stakes Poker. Right now on television, between NBC and GSN, Golden Nugget poker is on TV seven days a week. That's a big deal to a guy in Middle America to think that he could come here and happen to see a Daniel Negreanu or a Howard Lederer and just to be here where they actually film the show. There's a lot of value in getting that Golden Nugget name out there. **R**

**WHAT IS YOUR HISTORY IN THE POKER INDUSTRY?**

My history is actually more as a player at one time. I came to Vegas in '04 and that was right as things were brewing. I came with every intention of being a player. I bounced around the country – Atlantic City, L.A., Denver, Phoenix – playing all the rooms there. I was in the nightclub business for a long time, sold a couple of bars and was coming here to be a player. Within my second day here I ended up getting a job as a dealer just by pure accident. I went from dealer to supervisor, supervisor to shift manager, shift manager to room manager and now to director of operations.

**PRETTY QUICK ASCENT FOR YOU.**

It was, and the first job was pretty cool in that I was playing in a game, I took a bad beat – well actually I played it bad was the honest truth. I was playing in a no-limit game and I lost to this lady sitting next to me. She was a little bit of an older lady. She apologized almost, for winning, because she had a bad hand. I told her 'not to worry about it' because 'it was my fault, because I played it bad'. For whatever reason she just thought that was the coolest thing in the world that a poker player was that calm about a bad beat. I didn't realize it at the time, but she was actually the manager of the room I was sitting in. She asked me what I did for a living. I said "nothing," and she asked if I had ever thought about being a dealer or a supervisor. I said I wasn't really looking to work. She said 'let me get you signed up as a dealer and if you only want to work one or two days a week that will be fine'. I said that wasn't a bad idea. I guess I

**REGISTRATION NOW OPEN**

**THE GRAND POKER SERIES AT THE GOLDEN NUGGET**

June 6 - July 5, 2009

Tournaments start each day at 12 noon

Day	Date	Event #	Buy-In	Event	Starting Chips	Bonus Buy Chips†	Blind Levels
Sat	6/6	1	\$225	No-Limit Hold'em	\$10,000	\$2,000	40
Sun	6/7	2	\$230	H.O.R.S.E.	\$10,000	\$2,000	40
Mon	6/8	3	\$230	GN Poker Queen Ladies Event*	\$10,000	\$2,000	40
Tues	6/9	4	\$230	No-Limit Hold'em	\$10,000	\$2,000	40
Wed	6/10	5	\$230	7 Card Stud	\$10,000	\$2,000	40
Thur	6/11	6	\$230	H.O.R.S.E.	\$10,000	\$2,000	40
Fri	6/12	7	\$225	No-Limit Hold'em	\$10,000	\$2,000	40
Sat	6/13	8	\$230	Omaha H/L 8 or Better	\$10,000	\$2,000	40
Sun	6/14	9	\$230	<b>\$50 No-Limit Hold'em, Cash and Grand Finale Seat Giveaways</b>			
Mon	6/15	10	\$230	Pot Limit Omaha	\$10,000	\$2,000	40
Tues	6/16	11	\$225	No-Limit Hold'em	\$10,000	\$2,000	40
Wed	6/17	12	\$230	H.O.R.S.E.	\$10,000	\$2,000	40
Thur	6/18	13	\$230	Pot Limit Omaha	\$10,000	\$2,000	40
Fri	6/19	14	\$230	Omaha H/L 8 or Better	\$10,000	\$2,000	40
Sat	6/20	15	\$230	Seniors 55+ No-Limit Hold'em	\$10,000	\$2,000	40
Sun	6/21	16	\$230	<b>\$50 No-Limit Hold'em, Cash and Grand Finale Seat Giveaways</b>			
Mon	6/22	17	\$225	No-Limit Hold'em	\$10,000	\$2,000	40
Tues	6/23	18	\$230	Pot Limit Omaha	\$10,000	\$2,000	40
Wed	6/24	19	\$225	No-Limit Hold'em	\$10,000	\$2,000	40
Thur	6/25	20	\$230	7 Card Stud H/L	\$10,000	\$2,000	40
Fri	6/26	21	\$230	H.O.R.S.E.	\$10,000	\$2,000	40
Sat	6/27	22	\$230	Omaha H/L 8 or Better	\$10,000	\$2,000	40
Sun	6/28	23	\$230	<b>\$50 No-Limit Hold'em, Cash and Grand Finale Seat Giveaways</b>			
Mon	6/29	24	\$230	H.O.R.S.E.	\$10,000	\$2,000	40
Tues	6/30	25	\$230	2-7 Triple Draw	\$10,000	\$2,000	40
Wed	7/1	26	\$330	**Charity Tournament (Starts at 4 p.m.)	\$2,000	N/A	30
Thur	7/2	27	\$225	No-Limit Hold'em	\$10,000	\$2,000	40
Fri	7/3	28	\$225	No-Limit Hold'em	\$10,000	\$2,000	40
Sat	7/4	29	\$1,080	GRAND FINALE NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM CHAMPIONSHIP*	\$20,000	\$5,000	60
Sun	7/5	30	\$230	Omaha H/L 8 or Better	\$10,000	\$2,000	40
Sun	7/5			CONCLUSION OF GRAND FINALE NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM CHAMPIONSHIP*			

\* Bracelet Event  
† Bonus Buy \$10

Play in any 12 noon tournament June 6 – June 30 and be entered to win a seat in the Suzie and Howard Lederer Celebrity Charity Poker Tournament. One winner will be selected each day.

For more information call John Colville at 702-386-8164 or via email to poker@goldennugget.com

**\*\*SUZIE AND HOWARD LEDERER CELEBRITY CHARITY POKER TOURNAMENT**

To benefit The Boys and Girls Club

July 1, 2009 • 4 p.m.

\$330 Buy-in • \$200 Multi Re-Buys

**1<sup>st</sup> Place: \$20,000 seat on NBC's Poker After Dark**

Win your chance to become a TV Poker Star and play for \$120,000!

For Special Hotel Room Offers Please Call 1-800-634-3454 and mention offer code **POKER**.

Buy-ins are non-refundable. Bonus buy chips for all tournaments are \$10 and must be purchased at time of registration; bonus buys are optional. Three percent of total prize pools will be withheld for poker staff. Winners will be paid in casino chips. Must be 21 years or older to attend. All applicable tax laws will apply. Residents of foreign countries without a U.S. tax treaty will be subject to withholding. TDA poker tournament rules apply. All Golden Nugget Poker Room rules apply. Rulings by The Golden Nugget Management Staff are final. Golden Nugget Management reserves the right to cancel or change tournaments. Golden Nugget management reserves all rights.

**NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM BANK ROLL BUILDERS!**

Daily  
11 a.m. \$65  
1 p.m. \$125  
3 p.m. \$65  
7 p.m. \$65  
9 p.m. \$125  
1 a.m. \$65

**SUPER SUNDAY'S NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM**

- \$50 Buy-In
- \$20 Multi Re-Buys

Sundays at 12 noon

**PLUS!**

**\$1,000 IN CASH GIVEAWAYS\*\***

Sundays at 3 p.m. - 4 p.m.

&

**GRAND FINALE SEAT GIVEAWAY††**

Sundays at 4 p.m.

\*\*Must be present to win. One (1) \$500 prize, five (5) \$100 prizes. Official rules posted and available. †† Play in any tournament during The Grand Poker Series to earn drawing tickets. No limit on drawing tickets.



LAS VEGAS

goldennugget.com

702.386.8383

**SPORTSMEMO**  
SPORTS FROM A VEGAS PERSPECTIVE  
SPONSORED BY: LASVEGASMOVE.COM BY FAIRWAY JAY



**FAIRWAY AT THE FINAL TABLE – WYNN CLASSIC**

With the WSOP under way, I thought it was time for some poker talk I've been able to participate, compete and make a pair of final tables in a few featured poker events recently at Caesars Palace and Wynn Las Vegas. There are plenty of other opportunities right here in Las Vegas to make money, have fun and 'tune-up' your poker game with various tournaments running daily at many of the casinos. Some of the recent featured events included the Wynn Classic, the WSOP Circuit Event at Caesar's Palace, the Venetian Deep Stack Extravaganza II, and the Five Star World Poker Classic at the Bellagio.

Also at the end of March at Caesar's Palace was the Dream Team Poker Tournament – a popular new tournament feature that pays both individual winners and 3-player team cash prizes. The event sold out in advance, and I was fortunate enough to win my way into the \$1,650 per team event just four days prior and invited two of my out of town friends to join me, including my old college roommate now living in Los Angeles. Having won my team entry plus \$1,800 cash through a Caesar's Palace free roll that awarded 30 players and their invited team members a seat, I was excited and looking forward to a full day of fun with friends while playing poker and competing in this team structure. Everyone wears team jerseys, and the general mood is more outgoing with player participation and fun stories. There was also a pre-tournament welcome party the night before the event in which Caesar's Palace rolled out the red carpet and provided complimentary food and drinks to tournament players and guests in their 6,000 sq. ft. tournament room. Caesar's Palace and their entire staff should be recognized for their work and improved performance in making the poker experience more enjoyable for the players.

My Dream Team Tournament story is short and sweet however, as I was the second player to bust out of the tournament! With over 400 total players including many poker professionals, celebrities and amateurs alike, the general mood was festive and fun for all participants. My first three hands were A-J of clubs, pocket Queens and Pocket Aces. I took down the first hand of the tournament pre-flop with a mid-position raise following an early limper. I raised first to act 4x the big blind to 200 the next hand with Q-Q and was called in two places including the big blind (BB). A King flopped and I

called a BB bet but folded to a big bet on the turn as I showed my pocket Queens to the table.

The next hand, which was my last, I picked up pocket Aces (A-A) and just called for 50. The cutoff player called and the small blind (SB) made it 400 to go. I sensed a good holding, but one he wanted to protect and not receive a call. I decided to just call 400 instead of re-raising with my pocket Aces hoping to disguise my big hand and win even more chips after the flop. The cutoff player also decided to play and call 400, which was fine with me. The flop came J-10-4 with 2 clubs and the initial raiser in the BB checked. I bet out 600 and the button folded. However, the BB check raised me to 2000. A bit concerned for certain, but he can't put me on A-A and he could have Q-Q or K-K. Certainly A-K, A-Q or K-Q for a straight draw or perhaps even a flush draw are possibilities. No doubt he could have flopped a set, but I decided that it was do-or-die and moved all-in for my final 8,000+. Instant call from the big blind who flopped a set of Jacks and no help on the turn or river and my pocket Aces were crushed and so was I with a quick exit from the Dream Team event. While a check re-raise pre-flop may have seemed more appropriate on my part, no doubt the result would have been the same unless I was able to get away from pocket Aces after the flop. I went aggressive and went to the rail.

My playing team members could not believe I was out so quickly, and ironically my friend and team partner from LA also busted out with pocket Aces when his opponent flopped two-pair. Our third team member was now playing for individual prize money, and built a big stack early to over 45k in chips when the average stack was only 16k. I came down later to check on him, and the hand before dinner he busted out when a player over-played A-Q both pre flop and post flop and my friend check raised him all-in with pocket fives on a board of 3-4-6. The opponent called off over 75% of his chips with nothing, but hit a Queen on the turn and my friend could not catch a straight or set. He was a 4-1 favorite after the flop, but exited the tournament with approx. 125 players remaining and we went to dinner to review the day. My friend from LA said it was definitely one of the more fun events he has played while enjoying his table and chatter with two well-known pros and

a celebrity. I encourage others to give the team tournament a try the next time you have a chance to play.

Now to the good news and successes for Fairway Jay on the felt. I competed in event no. 7 at the Wynn Classic - \$500 buy-in which I won my way into the tournament through a \$130 single table satellite. After over 10 hours of play I was grinding towards a payday, but was in approx. 35th position with 40 players remaining. The top 27 were paid starting at \$700 with a first place prize of over \$42,000. I remained patient and stayed away from shoving all-in too early on two separate occasions holding an Ace. Ultimately, I secured a spot in the money and then the biggest pot came about when I picked up J-J in the big blind and doubled through when I busted A-K UTG as a Jack hit the flop and we both were all-in. The turn and river did come Ace-Ace to give me a full house and my opponent temporary excitement until he realized his 3-of-a-kind Aces was crushed by my full house.

I played until 2:30 in the morning with now 14+ hours of action, but was back the next day at the final table with a bunch of us lumped in chip average between no. 3 and no. 7 position. It took awhile to bust out any players, as the two low stacks both picked up pocket Aces early to double through when they got action. The top pro at the table was not as fortunate, as he picked up Q-Q and was all-in pre-flop against K-K and was crippled when he lost the hand. Once down to six players, the biggest stack was playing very aggressively.

The following hands and situation came up with six players remaining and I was in second chip position with approx. \$700,000. The chip leader had 900,000 and the blinds were up to \$15,000/30,000 with a \$3000 ante. It was costing each player \$63,000 per round. One of the lower stacks moved all-in first to act with \$170,000 remaining. The big stack moved all-in over the top for \$900,000. I looked at A-K in the big blind. After much deliberation, I decided to fold and flipped my cards face up on the table. A few players expressed their surprise that I folded. Low stack had pocket 4's (4-4) and big stack had pocket 5's (5-5). The flop helped nobody, an Ace hit the turn and a five hit the river. I would have busted out had I played the hand as the big stack made a set of five's. Instead, five of us remained and the big stack got bigger and just kept raising and pushing. We got down to three players and I was the low stack with chip counts approx. 300k – 700k – and 2 million. I had folded two hands prior with Queen high when the big stack pushed, and I was running out of time to just play a premium hand as the blinds were up to 30,000/60,000 with a \$5,000 ante. My patience was finally rewarded, as I picked up 7-7 first to act and moved all-in. The big stack actually had a big hand and called with A-K. My pocket pair held up, and I doubled through to approx. 600k. The very next hand I was in the big blind and the big stack again raised to 150k from the small blind. I moved all-in and he mucked instantly as I showed K-8. I decided to make a stand against the big bully.

We played on for a bit with no confrontations as the blinds moved to \$40,000/80,000 with a 10,000 ante. The chip leader was at approx. 1.9 million, I had approx. 725k and the third player had approx. 375k. The prize payouts were 42k for 1st, 28k for 2nd and 15k for 3rd. No deals as the chip leader was in command. The low stack was in the big blind and needed a double up in the next four hands or he was going

to drop below 150k and in real trouble. I knew the situation and was clearly a solid favorite to take at least 2nd place at this point. And the big stack kept putting the pressure on, as he moved all-in first to act. I looked down at pocket Jacks (J-J). I deliberated a bit to review the chip counts and situation. An easy call for most I know, but strategy, situations, financial gain, etc. should be considered. The chip leader had been very aggressive and here I finally had a big hand to make a stand. If I win the hand I am chip leader and we'll likely go heads up shortly. If I fold, I'm a solid favorite to move up another \$13,000 in prize money. I've had various comments about making a bad call to, you absolutely should make the call. It depends on the situation, need for additional money, etc. I think I may have regretted not making the call if the low stack would have rallied and I finished third without playing that hand. I'm always playing to win, but I think I also analyze information more than most players, as my sports handicapping and betting background along with poker playing allows me to evaluate more situations.

Anyway, I called. The low stack in the big blind got out of the way and folded. Chip leader showed A-2. I had J-J. Unfortunately an Ace hit the flop and I was unable to catch a Jack for a set. The low stack was out just two hands later in heads up action and I was out the door with over \$15,000, but feeling like many wondering 'what if'.

Be sure to say hello to 'Fairway' Jay on the felt and best wishes as you shoot for the green at the World Series of Poker (WSOP). **R**

Jay Ginsbach, better known as 'Fairway Jay', lives in Las Vegas and is a professional sports handicapper, bettor and accomplished poker player. His documented success and winning results in football, basketball and PGA golf have earned his clients (Fairways Followers) plenty of profit and 'green' while establishing himself as a leading handicapper and 'top pro' in the NFL, college football and basketball the past five years. Fairway Jay's insight and analysis can be heard

each weekday morning on Sirius Hardcore Sports Radio, channel 98, and in Las Vegas on FOX Sports radio channel 920. All of Fairway Jay's forecasts, selections, blogs and writings are provided at Sportsmemo.com...a proven winner and leader in the sports service industry. If you have a question or comment for Fairway Jay, 'shoot' him an email at FairwayJay@cox.net. He'll 'chip-in' with his thoughts, insight and help you stay on 'course' as you 'fire' for 'fairways' and 'green'.

Kickoff the football season with a...

**FREE ISSUE**  
of the **SPORTSMEMO** Newsletter

Year Round Weekly Issues  
Handicapper Best Bets 60% winners in 2008  
Analysis and recommendations for every weekend football game  
Special Previews and Editions  
Your ultimate source for winning sports information

For your free issue call toll free or email  
**1-800-575-3069**  
main@sportsmemo.com

**SPORTSMEMO.COM**  
SPORTS FROM A VEGAS PERSPECTIVE

# SARAH

**BIRTHPLACE:** The snowy peaks of Utah  
**HOMETOWN:** Sierra Vista, AZ  
**BIRTH-DATE:** June 04  
**SIGN:** Gemini  
**MEASUREMENTS:** 34-26-35  
**HEIGHT:** 5'7"  
**EYES:** Dark Brown

#### FAVORITES...

**ACTIVITY:** I love baking; cookies, brownies, and pumpkin pie is my specialty.  
**VACATION SPOT:** Monterey Bay, CA because of its many places dine, sites to see, and of course to attend the Auto Events (Concours D'Elegance). I love vintage cars!  
**POKER PLAYER:** Jamie Gold, his name speaks of his reputation.  
**SPORTS TEAM:** The Lakers had a solid season this year, but I will always be a Suns fan.

**MY BEST FEATURE IS:** My exotic look makes me stand out, olive skin and dark features are always a winning combination.

**THE BEST DATE I EVER HAD WAS:** The best date started out with a road trip that led to an aquarium, then an elegant dinner that ended at the beach.

**THE WORST DATE I EVER HAD WAS:** I've been on a couple of failed dates but none compared to the one when my date told me to order from the appetizer menu then invited his buddies to stop by while we were eating. Later I found myself impatiently waiting while they calculated how everyone would split the bill, down to the last penny according to who ate what percentage of the potato wedges. And yes, that was the last time I answered his calls.

**SOMETHING PEOPLE WOULD NEVER GUESS ABOUT ME IS:** It's a surprise to everyone that I grew up a tomboy. I wasn't really into lipgloss and boys, I wanted to join the Wrestling team in High School instead.

**THE BEST PICK UP LINE I'VE HEARD IS:** My favorite pickup line was actually the opposite. This guy approaches me and says "...hey I noticed you from across the bar and we made eye contact a couple of times, I just wanted to come over here and tell you...no chance. None!". I wasn't about to let someone shut me down, he is a close friend to this day.



Photography by The Glamourmaker

# IRINA

**BIRTHPLACE:** Dzerzhinsk, Russia  
**HOMETOWN:** Los Angeles, CA  
**BIRTHDATE:** 12/19/1977  
**SIGN:** Sagittarius  
**MEASUREMENTS:** 36C-27-36  
**HEIGHT:** 5'9 1/2"  
**EYES:** Blue

#### FAVORITES...

**ACTIVITY:** Yoga  
**VACATION SPOT:** Any tropical island, as long as it's a vacation and not another photo shoot!  
**POKER PLAYER:** Annie Duke  
**SPORTS TEAM:** LA Lakers

**MY BEST FEATURE IS:** My brain.

**THE BEST DATE I EVER HAD WAS:**  
A homemade dinner by the candle lights :-)

**THE WORST DATE I EVER HAD WAS:**  
A very long time ago... I've made better choices since high school graduation!

**SOMETHING PEOPLE WOULD NEVER GUESS ABOUT ME IS:**  
I am total nerd! I love my Mac computer!

**THE BEST PICK UP LINE I'VE HEARD IS:**  
How would i know? They never worked on me :-)

**THE WORST PICK UP LINE I'VE HEARD IS:**  
Have we met before? You are from Moscow, right? What was your name again?

**THE BEST TIP I COULD GIVE GUYS ABOUT DATING IS:**  
Be yourself and don't try too hard!

**I'M HAPPIEST WHEN:**  
When I've just completed another exciting project.

**TO GET ME IN A ROMANTIC MOOD YOU WOULD NEED TO:**  
There is no specific instructions, it's all about the chemistry between two people.

Photo by Andre Felix



# Back-Raising in Limit Hold'Em

BY PETER HEROLD

I recently played an interesting hand of limit hold'em in which I was able to win a big pot due to a timely "back-raise." In a \$40 - \$80 limit game, after two players called \$40 in early position I called in middle position with the jack-ten of spades. The action folded around to the button, he raised to \$80, followed by calls from both of the blinds and both of the limpers, and the action was on me. Most players in my position would have called here and gone to the flop six handed with my suited-connector hoping to flop a big hand. After all, I certainly do not have the best hand at the moment, so why not see the flop as cheaply as possible before investing a lot of money into the hand? While calling here is a reasonable option, I elected to re-raise to \$120 after initially limping in, also known as back-raising.

One of the benefits to back-raising is that it builds a big pot in which we have a positive expected value. I have five opponents in this pot and it is unlikely that anyone will fold pre-flop after already putting \$80 into the pot. Therefore, assuming everyone calls behind me, I will be getting an additional \$200 of my opponents' money into to the pot at the relatively low cost of \$40. Therefore, I only need to end up winning the pot one sixth of the time in order for this pre-flop investment to pay for itself, and I will certainly win it more often than that with this holding. Even if the initial raiser is holding an over-pair, I am still less than a five to one underdog against his hand. While there are some possible combinations of holdings that my opponents can have in which I am more than a five to one underdog against (such as if someone has an over-pair, someone has a higher spade draw and someone has jack-ten as well) this will only be the case a small fraction of the time.

Another reason why many players don't back-raise in this situation is that they are afraid that the initial raiser will raise again, forcing them to put even more money into the pot with the worse hand. This should not be a concern in a limit game, however, due to the fact that getting five to one on your money still has a positive expectation. If it is profitable to get an additional \$200 into the pot at the mere cost of \$40, then it is twice as profitable to get \$400 into the pot at a cost of \$80. In the unlikely event that one of your opponents opts to fold for two more bets after already putting two bets into the pot, your equity will actually increase further. The fact that the pot is \$80 smaller is more than compensated for by the fact that your chances of winning the pot increases with this players' absence.

In fact, that is exactly what happened in this particular hand. The button raised, capping the betting at \$160, the small blind folded and the rest of us went to the flop five handed with \$880 in the pot. (Five of us put in \$160 plus \$80 in dead money from the small blind.) The flop came king-queen-jack, giving me a pair and an open-ended straight draw, everyone checked to the button and two of us called. The turn provided a nine, giving me a straight. The button called my bets on both the turn and river and I ended up scooping a massive pot. The small blind, who called \$80 pre-flop and then opted to fold rather than put in another \$80 after my back-raise, sighed and announced that he folded queen-ten off-suit and would have split the pot with me. In this instance, in addition to building a huge pot, the back-raise also provided the welcomed side-effect of chasing out a hand that had me dominated pre-flop and would have taken away half of the pot.

Note that the ability to back-raise for value without fearing a re-raise is one of the key differences between limit and no limit strategy. Although the concept of positive expected value applies to both games, in no

limit play back-raising gives the initial raiser an opportunity to make a big bet and blow me off of the hand pre-flop. This is not a concern in limit, however, as I know that it will only cost us another \$40 at most to see the flop.

In addition to having a positive expectation, back-raising also adds deception to my hand at a small cost. Many players will not expect such a play with a suited connector and they will erroneously assume that I limped and re-raised with a big pocket pair, a move that is commonly made in no limit play. This may force them to make a costly mistake later in the hand. For example, an early position opponent that hits the flop hard will often check to me, looking to check-raise, which may provide a much needed free card. Often times when I miss the flop entirely, seeing a free turn card will allow me to pick up a draw and profitably continue with the hand even in instances in which I would have been forced to fold to a bet on the flop.

In addition to the deceptive value that gained while playing out the hand, this type of play will also cause opponents to misread me on future hands, a concept known as "meta-game" value. Some players that do not understand the value of back-raising may recall only that I re-raised, or "three-bet," with a suited connector. Later on when such players see me make conventional three-bets they will think that my hand range is much wider than it actually is, forcing them to play weaker hands than they should and therefore adding a lot of value to my premium hands. Meta-game value is often overlooked because it is difficult to measure. While it is not always clear how closely our opponents observe hands that they are not involved in or exactly how the observations that they do make alter their play on future hands, it can not be ignored that players that make the occasional unconventional play stand to get paid off more on big hands than players that play every hand in a straightforward manner. **R**

# "Accuracy is everything when you're measuring ocean currents in Antarctica."

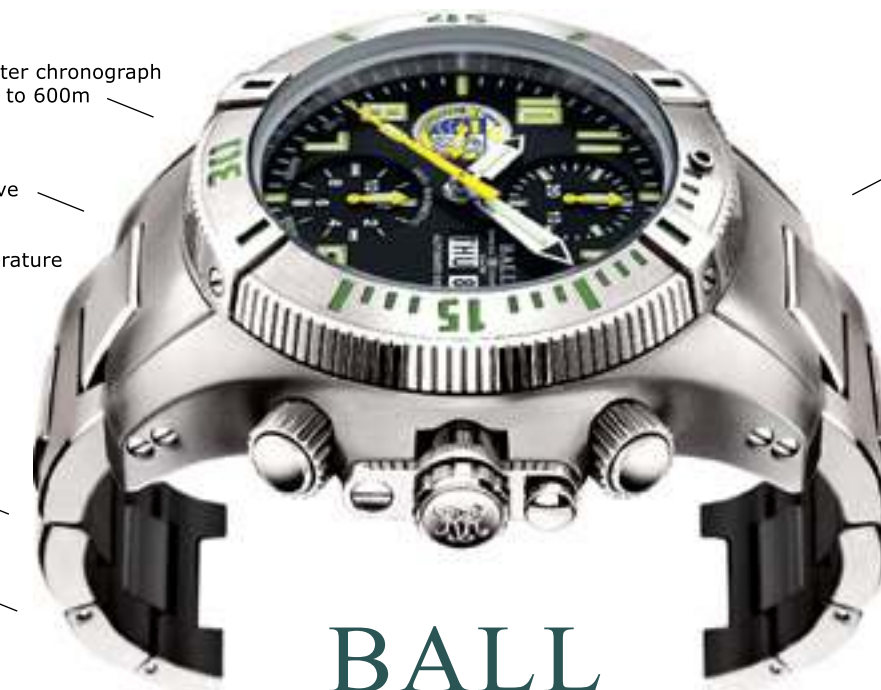
Richard Limeburner  
- Oceanographer and Deep Sea Recovery Expert



"Deploying oceanographic instruments in frigid polar water must be done with exact timing. If not, you've wasted a long trip. That's why a dependable timepiece like Ball watch is so important to scientific experiments in a place that features truly adverse meteorological conditions"

The watch that once ran America's railroads now helps the world's explorers keep time. There is no other timepiece that is as rugged and dependable.

- Underwater chronograph operates to 600m
- Automatic Helium Valve
- 40 degree temperature endurance
- Antimagnetic to 12,000A/m
- Patented crown protection system (Patent No.: 132 700)
- 7,500Gs shock resistance



Self-powered micro gas lights on hands and dial that glow for more than 25 years

Unidirectional rotating bezel integrated with LumiNova

**BALL**  
OFFICIAL STANDARD  
Since 1891

Engineer Hydrocarbon Trieste Chronograph  
Limited edition of 1,000 pieces  
Automatic - 43mm titanium and steel case

Since 1891, accuracy under adverse conditions

BALL Watch USA [www.ballwatch.com](http://www.ballwatch.com) Tel: 727-896-4278  
(see web site for complete list of Authorized BALL Dealers)

Special box set includes spare rubber strap & miniature Trieste prototype



**KENJO**  
THE STORE TO WATCH

40 WEST 57TH STREET NEW YORK, NEW YORK  
800-548-8463 • 212-333-7220

**Old Northeast Jewelers**

1131 4th Street North St Petersburg, Florida  
800-922-4377 • 727-896-0622



## HERE COMES THE 2009 WORLD SERIES OF POKER

everything and this was no exception. The flop came queen-rag-rag. I was loving life and moved in. He called and turned over his hand. He had flopped two small pair. I was devastated.

Fifteen minutes later, as I made my way to valet parking, busted and disgusted, the gentleman who busted me stopped me and said, "Hi, I'm Bill Storm from Cheyenne, Wyoming. Sorry about putting that beat on you, but I was on a rush. I won that satellite outright – no deals."

Big frigging deal, I thought. Do you think I give one damn that you won that satellite and I didn't? "Good for you!" I lied. "Congratulations," I said with a forced smile.

"Are you going to play in the super-satellite tonight?" He asked.

"Probably not," I said. "My WSOP bankroll is just about out of steam."

"I'll make you a deal," he said with a big smile, "I'll put you in tonight with one bullet (rebuy) for half your action, whatever happens. What do you say?"

"That's very generous of you," I said, "but you don't even know me."

"I think I know enough", he said. "I know who you are and I've been watching you play and I like your play ... but there is something else."

Here it comes, I thought. I waited for him to continue.

"You might think this is silly, but it's true. About ten days ago, I dreamed that Susie Isaacs scored in the main event. I simply would like to be a part of that."

My new partner, Bill Storms, walked me to the satellite area and signed me up for the super-satellite. He handed me the money for

one rebuy and we shook hands. He handed me his business card and had hand written his home phone number on the back. He had to head back to Wyoming. "I'll call you if I win my seat," I assured him.

"Oh, don't worry. Just play good. You'll win a seat."

Four hours later, I was elated when I accomplished that goal. Six of us won seats that night and with all the whooping, hollering, and high-fiving, you would have thought we each had just won \$10,000 – which in essence, we had! I couldn't believe I was going to get to play in the BIG ONE for the first time and all thanks to a stranger who had a strange dream.

The next day, I was still very excited when I called him with the news. He wasn't surprised. "I told you about my dream," he said.

That year (1998), the WSOP broke their world's record with 350 players. At the end of day one, I had a short stack with \$4,250. There were 199 players left and I was number 188th. Fourteen hours later, the 28th player was eliminated and I was in the money! On day three, Bill Storms and his wife flew in for the finals. I was at first disappointed when I got knocked out in 10th place but that didn't last very long. I had accomplished something only a few women in the world had done and I got a standing ovation!

I learned more in those three nerve wrecking days of play, playing with the big boys, than I had learned in my three years of studying the game. **R**

*Susie Isaacs is the most published female author on the subject of poker and she has a new novel out. Visit her website for full descriptions on all of her books: [www.susieisaacsbooks.com](http://www.susieisaacsbooks.com).*

**W**orld Series of Poker Fever is in the air. There will be a multitude of events and buy-in ranges, of course the piece de resistance will be the main event which is expected to be so big that they are allowing for four Day Ones beginning July 3. I have never had the financial security such that I could plop down ten grand for a seat, but I have won a seat through the years in a variety of ways. My first time was in 1998. That was back in the days of Binions and the WSOP when a huge crowd was anything over 300 for the main event. I'll never forget the range of emotions I felt the first time I played it. Mostly, it was fear. This is the story of how I acquired that first \$10,000 seat.

My WSOP bankroll was getting so low that I decided to try a one-table satellite for the \$3000 no-limit hold'em event. My plan was to win it or split it and have more money for my bankroll to continue to play and try to win my seat in the main event. This was the first year that I had really put forth an effort to play it, as this was the first year I felt prepared to enter such a field. I had been studying no-limit and playing in small events for three years. Everything was going okay in the satellite except for one gentleman who was on a hell of a rush. I tried to stay out of his way, but when it got to three-ways, I had to face him. I picked up A-Q and raised. He had been calling



UNITY

The Embracing Project  
WWW.THEEMBRACINGPROJECT.ORG

**POKER**-TEXAS NO-LIMIT HOLD'EM  
JUNE 20TH SATURDAY 5PM

**RED CARPET EVENT** - 4:30PM

SPECTATORS WELCOME

**PLANET HOLLYWOOD RESORT & CASINO**

**ENTRY FEE \$200**

**RE-BUYS \$100.**

NO CREDIT CARDS PER NEVADA GAMING LAW  
CASH ONLY TAKEN BY PLANET HOLLYWOOD.

**GRAND PRIZE:**  
Trip to NBA All Star Weekend  
2010 in Dallas Texas.

VIP MEET & GREET  
FRIDAY JUNE 19 5-7PM  
AT PLANET HOLLYWOOD'S  
RACE & SPORTS BOOK

**FIRST 100 ENROLLEES**  
RECEIVE AN OFFICIAL  
ph POKER CHIP SET.

**PLAY POKER WITH**  
\***NBA LEGENDS**

MOSES MALONE  
RON HARPER  
SAM PERKINS  
ERIC MURDOCK  
EDDIE JOHNSON  
MICHAEL BROWN  
ED O'BANNON  
SEAN ROOKS  
PETE MYERS  
SIDNEY GREEN  
ANTHONY AVENT  
JEROME JYD WILLIAMS



ATTENDING ATHLETES SUBJECT TO  
CHANGE BASED ON ATHLETES AVAILABILITY

Reservation:

CALL PLANET HOLLYWOOD AT  
702-785-5555

OR MICHAEL BROWN  
847-707-2764

**Rounder**

Sponsored by:

ph planet hollywood  
RESORT & CASINO • LAS VEGAS



**HCW**  
WATCH COMPANY

**200**  
www.2GOTOOLS.com  
Wholesale Print



## Base Calls on Your Opponent, Not on the Strength Of Your Hand

BY JOHNNY KAMPIS

In poker, we occasionally make four of a kind, straight flushes even more rarely, and royal flushes least commonly of all, but sometimes all it takes to win a pot is king high.

It doesn't matter how good your hand is as long as it's good enough to win the pot, and how good a hand you need is based mostly on what opponent you face. Of course, in the long run players make the same amount of good hands and bad hands, but if you're facing a bet from a player known to bluff you don't need as strong a hand to call as you would against a player who plays very tightly.

If you keep this in mind, you will start calling down with more moderate hands and pick off more bluffs. Just make sure you know your opponent first.

I can give you two examples of hands I played in a recent game that demonstrate this principle in practice. It's a \$10-\$20 limit game with a "rock" that makes some hands \$20-\$40.

On the first hand, I held 7s-8s and the flop came 9s-8d-2s, giving me a pair of 8s and a flush draw. Maurice, a super tight player, bet out \$10 and I raised to \$20. There was one other caller. The turn brought a 7, giving me two pair to go with my flush draw. To my dismay Maurice bet out, so I immediately put him on the straight with 10-J. I called and missed both my full house and flush draws on the river. When Maurice bet out again, I folded my pretty good

hand. The other opponent called and Maurice turned over 10-J. I wouldn't fold a hand that good in most instances, but here I was so sure I was beat and the move was automatic.

Compare that to the second hand, in which I held the "rock" under the gun, which put it into play and made the hand \$20-\$40. Paul, a fairly loose player who will frequently bluff, raised to \$40 and several people called. I held absolutely garbage in the form of 7-5 off suit, but the pot odds were too great for me to fold for another \$20 so I called. The flop came 7 high. I held top pair with no kicker to speak of, and given my disadvantageous position I decided to check. The flop was checked around. When a jack hit the turn, it was checked to Paul, who bet \$40. Everyone else folded and the action was on me. I figured Paul could easily be betting here with ace high. It was worth it for him to try to steal this pot, which had more than \$200 in it. So I called with my pair of 7s and we saw a 6 on the river. I checked and Paul bet again. I knew at this point that he didn't have a pair like 9-9 because he would have checked a pair under jacks in case I had a jack. He didn't have aces, kings or queens because he would have bet the flop. So he either had a jack in his hand or nothing. I called and he turned over A-Q. My lowly 7-5 dragged this nice pot.

Against most opponents in this game I would not have made the calls on the turn and river, but I was playing my opponent and not my weak hand. **R**



## MAYA MICHELLE CREW

BIRTHPLACE: Tokyo, Japan  
HOMETOWN: Carpinteria, CA  
BIRTHDATE: February 5, 1987  
SIGN: Aquarius  
MEASUREMENTS: 32C-24-38  
HEIGHT: 5'3"  
EYES: Light Brown

MY FAVORITE...  
Come find out!

PHOTO BY: AARON RIVEROLL

## Meet the Rounder Girls

• Rio Casino - Las Vegas, NV July 2-5, Rounder Booth at Poker Palooza



## “ElkY” is WPT Player of the Year



**B**ertrand “ElkY” GrosPELLIER is the Season VII World Poker Tour Player of the Year following his third-place finish at the WPT World Championship during the Five Star World Poker Classic at the Bellagio in Las Vegas. The Frenchman needed to finish fifth or better to take the POY race over John Phan and just eclipsed him with 1,600 total points. GrosPELLIER was boosted to the win largely on his victory at the Fiesta al Lago last October, which was also held at the Bellagio and earned him 1,000 POY points. More importantly to “ElkY’s” bank account, he won more than \$2.2 million on the WPT during Season VII.

The 28-year-old is a Team PokerStars pro and has had a strong start to his live career with more than \$5.7 million in winnings since 2005. He has enjoyed success early in 2009 with a win for \$433,500 in the \$25,000 High Rollers event at the PokerStars Caribbean Adventure and a fourth-place showing for \$125,000 in the nationally televised NBC Heads-Up Championship and is looking for his first bracelet during the 2009 World Series of Poker.

## Howard Lederer Hosts Charity Poker Event at Golden Nugget

**A**mateurs will have the chance to win a seat on the NBC Show Poker After Dark during a charity poker tournament this summer at the Golden Nugget in Las Vegas.

Howard Lederer and his wife, Suzie, organized the tournament on July 1 to benefit the Boys and Girls Club. Full Tilt Poker has donated the \$20,000 PAD seat and the Golden Nugget and other sponsors will provide additional prizes. The tournament, which is open to the public, will feature a \$330 buy-in with \$200 rebuys and a \$100 add-on.

“This is a very exciting and almost unbelievable poker opportunity. To not only be able to give our tournament winner a seat on nationally televised Poker After Dark, but also be able to help raise money for these great kids, is fantastic.” said John Colville, director of the Golden Nugget poker room.

The Lederers will also host their annual World Series of Barbecue at The Tank, the Golden Nugget’s pool and aquarium, after the tournament. Participants in the charity event will be eligible to attend the barbecue with at least two rebuys.

## Oklahoma Johnny



**A**t this year’s induction ceremony at the WCOP/WSOP, Oklahoma Johnny Hale, will be inducting Men “The Master” Nguyen, and Mike Sexton, into “The Seniors” WCOP/HOF.

Oklahoma Johnny, who has been named “The Elder Statesman of Poker,” by the National League of Poker, will also be hosting all of the senior on line internet poker happenings at NLOP events. Seats will be given away on the site to “The Seniors” WCOP/WSOP. For more information, please go to [www.NLOP.com](http://www.NLOP.com) or [www.ok-j.com](http://www.ok-j.com) or email Johnny at [Okklajohnny@aol.com](mailto:Okklajohnny@aol.com) !

## WSOPE 2009 to Host Unique Caesars Cup Event

*Europe will take on Americas at WSOP Europe Presented by Betfair*

**T**he best poker players from Europe and the Americas are set to battle it out at this year’s World Series of Poker Europe, in the Caesars Cup, a unique Ryder Cup-style poker tournament that pits teams of the best players from both sides of the Atlantic against each other.

The Caesars Cup is a made-for-television special that will air on ESPN-branded channels around the globe and syndicated in markets without ESPN affiliates as part of televised 2009 WSOPE coverage.

Pride, bragging rights and claiming the inaugural Caesars Cup are all up for grabs at the event. It will be included in this year’s World Series of Poker Europe Presented by Betfair taking place at the Casino at the Empire in famed Leicester Square from September 17 to October 2. The unique event will be played on September 25th, with the tournament being fought out on the feature table area of the main casino floor.

“What better way to showcase poker at the WSOPE than to pitch the elite poker players from both Europe and the Americas against each other,” said Betfair Director of Poker Bruce Stubbs. “We all know that poker is a highly competitive game but with pride, bragging rights and the cup at stake, this promises to be one of the highlights of this year’s poker calendar.”

The Caesars Cup will feature the game No-Limit Hold’em with two teams of eight doing battle over a series of Heads Up and partner

formats, with points awarded at each stage. The unique formats will include alternate betting and other non-traditional elements as players aim to win points for their respective teams.

Each team will feature eight top players, with the Americas team captained by poker professional Daniel Negreanu and the Europeans skippered by Betfair-sponsored sensation Annette Obrestad. Both Negreanu and Obrestad will be responsible for selecting six additional team members each of whom will do battle alongside them to determine whether the Americas or Europeans is home to the best tournament poker players.

One lucky player will also be able to qualify for the European Team exclusively through Betfair Poker. From June through to August Betfair players will be able to take part in the Caesars Cup leader boards, with the winner to be featured in the live television showdown in London.

“Nothing brings out competition like representing your country,” said World Series of Poker Vice President Ty Stewart. “This continent versus continent format will draw the biggest names in poker to see who will lay claim to the inaugural Caesars Cup.”

Betfair and the World Series of Poker Europe are proud to introduce such a unique and exciting event. And with one seat on the European team up for grabs to a qualifier, Betfair Poker is the place to play to test yourself against the best and win your way into this unique televised event.

To vote for who you think should represent the Americas and/or Europe and for the chance to qualify for the European Team please visit [www.wsop.betfair.com](http://www.wsop.betfair.com)

## Several Summer Vegas Tournament Series will Compete with WSOP

**I**t should come as no surprise that the World Series of Poker will receive plenty of competition this summer as Las Vegas continues to be a hotbed for tournament series from May through July.

The Venetian Deep Stack Extravaganza, the Binion’s Poker Classic, the Golden Nugget Grand Series and The Orleans Open will all take place this summer in Sin City.

Things start off with The Orleans Open from May 9-18. There will be two events each day with an assortment of No-Limit Hold’em and Omaha Hi-Lo tournaments with buy-ins ranging from \$110 to \$540. Go to [orleanscasino.com](http://orleanscasino.com) for more information.

The Binion’s Poker Classic will return to the downtown Las Vegas stalwart property this summer from May 25-July 8, coinciding

with the WSOP a few miles down the road. As before, the events will somewhat mirror the WSOP tournaments, with buy-ins at 10 percent of the price (the \$500 HORSE at 1 percent being a notable exception). The Binion’s Poker Classic will comprise 44 events and concludes on July 7 with a two-day \$1,000 No-Limit Hold’em main event. This year’s tournament series also includes some non-WSOP tournaments, such as the \$150 Crazy Pineapple tournament on June 29. Go to [binions.com](http://binions.com) for more information.

The Venetian’s Deep Stack Extravaganza will run from May 28-July 16 with buy-ins of \$330, \$550, \$1,070 and a \$5,000 main event. Tournaments are predominantly NLHE with one event each of HORSE, O8 and Pot-Limit Omaha. Of note to luxury lovers is that rooms at the Venetian can be had for as low as \$99 this summer through the poker rate. Go to [venetian.com](http://venetian.com) for more information.

Also returning is The Grand Poker Series at the Golden Nugget. This event will run June 6-July 5 with a wide assortment of NLHE, HORSE, 7-Card Stud, O8, PLO and 2-7 Triple Draw events. Like its neighbor Fremont Street property Binion’s, this event is budget player friendly with all buy-ins in the \$200 range aside from the \$1,080 NLHE Main Event. Head to [goldennugget.com](http://goldennugget.com) for more info.

## World Series of Poker Academy to Hold Four Events this Summer

**I**f the actual World Series of Poker is not going well for you this summer, take a break for some instruction. You will have plenty of opportunities as the WSOP Academy is planning four instructional events at Caesars Palace during the WSOP this summer. The events will run from May 30 through June 21, featuring topics such as cash games, tournaments, ladies only events and a main event primer. Instructors include Phil Hellmuth, Annie Duke, Phil Gordon, Greg Raymer, Mark Seif and more. Each event will also feature a seminar on poker tells with former FBI expert Joe Navarro.

“Our upcoming WSOP Academy events are the best hands players can deal themselves as they prepare to take on the world’s best and hopefully walk away from Las Vegas with a bracelet,” said Brandon Rosen of Post Oak Productions, the company that produces the WSOP Academy.

The schedule includes: Cash Game Academy May 30-31, Ladies Only Event June 5-6, Tournament Academy June 13-14 and Main Event Primer June 29-July 1.

# Jd Webb

BY DAVE LUKOW  
Artist stealing scenes with his songs

Jd Webb ... that's a name you'll want to remember.

An award-winning singer/songwriter/producer, Webb first caught the mainstream crowd's attention in 2003, when Warner Brothers released his album, *Bring It On*. The project received important praise from some of the giants in the industry, such as *Rolling Stone* and *Billboard*, as well as from the Christian music publication, *CCM Magazine*.

Formerly a member of, Raze, a Christian band, Webb has toured the U.S., performing before tens of thousands of fans, but his primary gig is working as the songwriter/male

vocalist for the NBC soap opera, *Days of Our Lives*. It's a challenging role, but one this versatile Texan – he was born there, and raised in Honolulu – clearly embraces.

That enthusiasm, as I found out, is not confined to the studio or stage. Webb, it seems, handles a lot of things with uncommon dedication. Despite being in the midst of a demanding radio tour, he politely turned our interview into a conversation, providing detailed answers to every question and making my work an absolute breeze.

Oh yeah, before I forget, he's also spent a bit of time at the poker table.



# GEVRIL

Fine Swiss Timepieces since 1758

#### HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN INVOLVED WITH MUSIC?

Actually, my whole life – I did my first concert when I was 3. Every summer, we'd come to the mainland – we lived in Hawaii – and travel from church to church. From the time I was 10, I played drums on the tours. I started playing the piano at 6.

#### AS AN ARTIST, WHAT DO YOU DO BEST?

That's a tough call. I love performing, writing and producing. There are aspects of each of those things that I love.

#### IN TERMS OF PERFORMERS, WHO ARE SOME OF YOUR INFLUENCES?

Stevie Wonder, Marvin Gaye, Boyz II Men, Michael McDonald ... it covers the gamut. I'm also a huge fan of Billie Holiday and Nina Simone. I always kind of navigate back to R&B.

#### WORKING FOR DAYS OF OUR LIVES – WHAT'S THAT BEEN LIKE?

It's awesome! It's really stretched me as a writer. They'll give me a storyline and I'll have to write from that. Again, it really stretches me. Sometimes, I'll get a call

in the morning telling me we'll need four songs. We'll be recording those songs by 1 p.m. Deadlines come really quick.

#### WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR UPCOMING PROJECTS?

Right now, we're promoting the single, *Big For Me*. On this album, I wrote the songs and played many of the instruments. The label is Infinite Music Group – it's a boutique company. I've seen so many artists – in major deals – that were so unhappy. With this label, it's almost like bringing back the old days of Motown.

#### DO YOU PLAY LAS VEGAS?

I think, pretty soon, we're doing a radio show in Vegas. We're launching a 40-city tour late in the summer. After that, we'll go to Asia. When we get back, it's another U.S. tour. For the show (*Days of Our Lives*), I'm bringing a portable studio.

#### HOW DID YOU START PLAYING POKER?

I started playing poker in high school, with my friends. It was a great time to hang out

and just kick it. It was all fun. My family also plays cards. They're pretty cool when it comes to those things.

#### HAVE YOU EVER PLAYED ONLINE?

I haven't ... I think it can get the best of you. For me, it's more of a social thing. To be honest, I don't have the time to play online.

#### IN POKER, WHAT TALENT IS ESSENTIAL?

I'm pretty good at reading people. A lot of times, I can tell if they're bluffing. In general, poker can sharpen a lot of skills – it keeps your brain sharp. Instead of just watching TV, you're challenging yourself.

#### HAVE YOU PLAYED IN ANY POKER TOURNAMENTS?

I did. A buddy of mine and I went to Vegas and played in one. About an hour in, I got a phone call and had to leave. I'm looking forward to trying that again. **R**

# MAYORS

THE HEART OF LUXURY

800.4mayors mayors.com

SERENADE

Dual Time Zones Automatic, Patented GV- AOASE Movement  
18K White Gold, Louisiana Crocodile, Limited Edition: 50 Pieces

[www.gevriL.com](http://www.gevriL.com)

# Hotel & Casino Listings

## CALIFORNIA

Agua Caliente Casino	(888) 999-1995
Artichoke Joe's Casino	(650) 589-3145
Augustine Casino	(760) 391-9500
Axtion Jaxson Card Room	(209) 339-8658
Bay 101 Casino	(408) 451-8888
Black Oak Casino	(877) 747-8777
Brook's Oceana Card Room	(805) 474-0188
Cameo Club Casino	(209) 474-1777
Casino Club	(530) 221-5015
Casino Pauma	(760) 742-2177
Casino Real Card Room	(209) 239-1455
Casino Royale	(209) 522-7570
Cher-Ae Heights Casino	(707) 677-3611
Club One Casino	(559) 497-3000
Colusa Casino Resort	(530) 458-8844
Commerce Casino	(323) 721-2100
Eagle Mountain Casino	(559) 788-6220
Elk Valley Casino	(707) 464-1020
Fantasy Springs Resort Casino	(800) 827-2946
Feather Falls Casino	(530) 533-3885
FLB Sports Bar and Casino	(916) 983-4411
Ginny's Club	(530) 749-2137
Gloria's Lounge and Casino	(559) 651-3724
Gold Country Casino & Hotel	(559) 651-3724
Golden Acorn Casino	(866) 794-6244
Harold's Card Casino	(209) 847-2919
Harrah's Rincon Casino and Resort	(760) 751-3100
Hawaiian Gardens Casino	(562) 860-5887
Hopland Sho-Ka-Wah Casino	(707) 744-1395
Hustler Casino	(310) 719-9800
Kelly's Cardroom	(925) 957-5190
Lake Elsinore Hotel & Casino	(951) 674-3101
Limelight Bar, Cafe & Card Room	(916) 446-2208
Lucky 7 Casino	(707) 487-7777
Lucky Buck Card Club	(925) 455-6144
Mike's Card Casino	(209) 847-2919
Mint	(559) 783-8320
Napa Valley Casino	(707) 644-8851
Normandie Casino	(310) 352-3400
Oaks Card Club	(510) 653-4456
Paiute Palace Casino	(760) 873-4150
Palomar Card Club	(619) 280-5828
Pechanga Resort & Casino	(909) 693-1819
River Card Room	(707) 782-9453
River Rock Casino	(707) 857-2777
Robinson Rancheria Resort & Casino	(707) 262-4000
Rogelio's Dine & Sleep Inn Casino	(916) 777-6606
Rooney's Cardroom	(530) 743-4120
S & K Card Room	(707) 442-2305
San Manuel Bingo & Casino	(909) 864-5050
Spa Resort Casino	(760) 325-1461
Spotlight 29 Casino	(760) 775-5566
Sycuan Casino & Resort	(619) 445-6002
Table Mountain Casino & Bingo	(559) 822-7777
Thunder Valley Casino	(916) 408-7777
Tommy's Casino	(760) 352-6191

## CALIFORNIA

Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indian Travel Center	(760) 397-8144
Trump 29 Casino	(760) 775-5566
Twin Pine Casino	(707) 987-0197
Win-River Casino	(530) 243-3377

## FLORIDA

Brighton Seminole Bingo and Casino	(863) 467-9998
Dania Jai-Alai	(954) 920-1511
Fort Pierce Jai-Alai & Poker	(772) 467-0790
Gulfstream Park Racing & Casino	(954) 454-7000
Hollywood Seminole Gaming	(954) 961-3220
Miccosukee Indian Gaming	(305) 222-4600
Pompano Park Racing & Poker	(954) 972-2000
Seminole Casino Coconut Creek	(954) 977-6700
Seminole Casino Immokalee	(239) 658-1313
Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino - Hollywood	(954) 327-7625
Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino - Tampa	(813) 627-7625
Ebro Greyhound Park	(850) 234-3943

## LOUISIANA

Belle of Baton Rouge	(225) 378-6000
Boomtown Casino New Orleans	(504) 366-7711
Coushatta Casino Resort	(800) 584-7263
Eldorado Resort Casino Shreveport	(877) 602-0711
Harrah's Lake Charles Poker Room	(337)-437-6074
Harrah's New Orleans Casino	(504) 533-6000
Hollywood Casino Baton Rouge	(225) 381-7777
Horseshoe Casino Hotel - Bossier City	(318) 742-0711
Isle of Capri Casino Lake Charles	(318) 430-2407
L'Auberge Hotel & Casino	(337) 395-7777
Paragon Casino Resort	(318) 253-1946

## MISSISSIPPI

### BAY SAINT LOUIS

Hollywood Casino Bay St. Louis	(866) 7-LUCKY-1
Silver Slipper Casino	(866) 775-4773

### BILOXI

Beau Rivage Resort & Casino	(888) 595-2534
Boomtown Casino	(228) 435-7000
Grand Casino Gulfport & Biloxi	(228) 436-2946
Hard Rock Hotel & Casino	(228) 374-7625
IP Hotel & Casino	(228) 436-3000
Island View Casino Resort	(228) 314-2100
Isle of Capri Casino	(800) THE-ISLE
Treasure Bay Casino	(228) 385-6000
Palace Casino	(228) 432-8888

### PHILADELPHIA

Goden Moon Hotel & Casino	(601) 650-1234
Pearl River Resort	(601) 389-3110
Silver Star Resort	(601) 659-1234

### TUNICA

Bally's Casino	(800) 382-2559
Fitzgeralds Casino/Resort	(800) 766-5825
Gold Strike Casino Resort	(662) 357-1111
Harrah's Tunica	(800) WIN-4-WIN
Hollywood Casino	(800) 871-0711

## MISSISSIPPI

Horseshoe Casino/Hotel	(800) 558-2387
Sam's Town Casino/Hotel	(800) 456-0711
Sheraton Casino/Hotel	(800) 391-3777

## NEW JERSEY

Atlantic City Hilton Casino Resort	(609) 347-7111
Bally's Atlantic City	(609) 340-2000
Borgata Hotel Casino and Spa	(609) 317-1000
Caesars Casino Atlantic City	(609) 348-4411
Harrah's Atlantic City	(609) 441-5000
Resorts Casino Hotel	(609) 340-6000
Sands Casino Hotel	(609) 441-4000
Showboat Casino Atlantic City	(609) 343-4000
Tropicana Casino and Resort	(609) 340-4000
Trump Marina Hotel Casino	(609) 441-2000
Trump Plaza Hotel & Casino	(609) 441-6000
Trump Taj Mahal Casino Resort	(609) 449-1000

## NEVADA

Arizona Charlie's	(702) 258-5200
Bally's	(702) 739-4111
Bellagio	(888) 987-6667
Bill's Gamblin' Hall & Saloon	(702) 737-2100
Binion's Gambling Hall & Hotel	(702) 382-1600
Boulder Station	(702) 432-7777
Buffalo Bill's	(800) 386-7867
Caesars Palace	(702) 731-7110
California	(702) 385-1222
The Cannery	(702) 507-5700
Casino Royale	(702) 737-3500
Circus Circus	(702) 734-0410
El Cortez	(702) 385-5200
Eldorado	(702) 564-1811
Ellis Island	(702) 733-8901
Excalibur	(702) 597-7700
Fitzgeralds	(702) 388-2400
Flamingo	(702) 733-3111
Gold Coast	(702) 367-7111
Gold Strike	(702) 477-5000
Golden Gate	(702) 385-1906
Golden Nugget	(702) 385-7111
Golden Palm	(702) 798-1111
Hard Rock Hotel	(702) 693-5000
Harrah's Las Vegas	(702) 369-5000
Hooters	(866) LVHOOTS
Hyatt Regency Lake Las Vegas	(702) 567-1234
Imperial Palace	(702) 731-3311
Lady Luck	(702) 477-3000
Luxor	(702) 262-4000
MGM Grand	(702) 891-7777
Mandalay Bay	(702) 632-7777
The Mirage	(702) 791-7111
Monte Carlo	(702) 730-7777
Nevada Landing	(702) 387-5000
New Frontier	(702) 794-8200
New York-New York	(702) 740-6969

## NEVADA

Oasis Resort Casino (Mesquite, NV)	(702) 346-5232
The Orleans	(702) 365-7111
O'Shea's	(702) 697-2711
Palace Station	(702) 367-2411
The Palms	(702) 942-7777
Paris Las Vegas	(702) 946-7000
Planet Hollywood	(702) 785-5555
The Plaza	(702) 386-2110
Poker Palace	(702) 649-3799
Pot O'Gold	(702) 564-8488
Primm Valley	(800) 386-7867
Railroad Pass	(702) 294-5000
Rainbow Club	(702) 565-9776
Red Rock Resort	(866) 767-7773
Renata's	(702) 435-4000
Rio	(702) 252-7777
Ritz-Carlton, Lake Las Vegas	(702) 567-4700
Riviera	(702) 734-5110
Sahara	(702) 737-2111
Sam's Town	(702) 456-7777
San Remo	(702) 739-9000
Santa Fe Station	(702) 658-4900
Mahoney's Silver Nugget	(702) 399-1111
Silverton	(702) 263-7777
Skyline	(702) 565-9116
Stardust	(702) 732-6111
Stratosphere	(702) 380-7777
Suncoast	(702) 636-7111
Sunset Station	(702) 547-7777
Terrible's	(702) 733-7000
Texas Station	(702) 631-1000
Treasure Island	(702) 894-7111
Tropicana	(702) 739-2222
Tuscany Las Vegas	(877) 887-2261
Venetian	(702) 414-1000
Westward Ho	(702) 731-2900
Whiskey Pete's	(800) 386-7867
Wildfire	(702) 648-3801
Wild Wild West	(702) 740-0000
Wynn Las Vegas	(702) 770-7000





# Catherine Tucker

BIRMINGHAM BABE FOCUSED ON BODY

BY DAVE LUKOW PHOTOGRAPHY BY KADEN

For Catherine Tucker, poker takes a backseat. “I don’t have much experience with poker,” she said. “I like to play blackjack. I’m very good at it.” With that being said, her expectations, as far as taking part in the 2009 World Series of Poker, were limited.

“I like to watch it, I know that,” said Catherine. Catherine also knows a bit about Rounder, having appeared on the cover in January of 2007. “I got started, with Rounder, right when it began,” she said.

“I was working at a poker club in Birmingham. It was while I was in college.”

She started modeling, however, several years earlier.

“I’ve been modeling ever since I was a little kid,” Catherine said. “It’s not something I’ve pursued very hard. It’s something I do for extra money.”

Ironically, being a cover girl provided a different kind of exposure.

“It changed me, because I became more interested in gambling,” said Catherine.

As far as career goals go, her main objective also involves the club circuit. It’s just that the placing of bets will not be allowed.

“I’m going to open a gym.” Catherine said. “Right now, I’m a personal trainer.” **R**

Shot on location at Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino • Special thanks to Tom Dwan for additional shoot locations.

HOMETOWN:  
Birmingham, Alabama

HEIGHT:  
5'4"

EYES:  
Blue

SIGN:  
Taurus

FAVORITE ACTIVITIES:  
Riding horses and working out

VACATION SPOT:  
Israel





# PLAY POKER IN STYLE



It's poker at its best. Enjoy the hottest, action-packed gaming in Florida's #1 poker room!

- "No Flop, No Drop" on all hold'em games
- All players have the option to be rated
- Proud host of Florida State Poker Championships
- World Series of Poker® satellite location

Powerline Road, South of Atlantic Blvd.  
777 Isle of Capri Circle • Pompano Beach, FL 33069  
877-ISLE-2WIN • [www.theislepompanopark.com](http://www.theislepompanopark.com)

© 2009 Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc. Must be 21. World Series of Poker is a registered trademark of Harrah's License Company, LLC. Gambling problem? Call 1-888-ADMIT-IT.

**isle**<sup>®</sup>  
**CASINO**  
POMPAÑO PARK



# Mandy Baggett

STRAIGHTFORWARD AND SEXY

BY DAVE LUKOW PHOTOGRAPHY BY KADEN

Mandy Baggett tells it like it is. A Rounder Girl from deep in Dixie, Mandy takes pride in speaking the truth. “I’m probably the most honest person you’ll meet,” she said.

Her assertion gained more weight when I asked about her poker prowess.

“I have played, but I’m not exactly good at it,” Mandy admitted. “I’m in the process of learning, let’s just say that.”

Scheduled to participate in events during the 2009 World Series of Poker in Las Vegas, Mandy is going to have to learn fast.

“I’ve got to learn the game, yes, but I’m really excited about being able to play,” she said.

Mandy’s association with Rounder has opened the door not only to poker, but to another arena as well.

“I’ve been modeling ever since I started with Rounder. I never modeled before,” she explained. “Being in Rounder was very good exposure for me. They had been trying to get me in the magazine for a while. One day, I just decided to do it.”

It’s an experience that should pay long-term dividends.

“I graduated from college in 2007, so modeling isn’t my career right now,” said Mandy. “I’d love to be doing it full time!”

I don’t know, but I sense that’s going to happen. **R**

HOMETOWN:  
Alabaster, Alabama

HEIGHT:  
5'5"

EYES:  
Brown

SIGN:  
Aries

FAVORITE ACTIVITY:  
Dancing

VACATION SPOT:  
St. Augustine, Florida







BRET HARRISON

BURT REYNOLDS

AND SHANNON ELIZABETH



# DEAL

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURES and SEVEN ARTS PICTURES present  
A SEVEN ARTS/TAG ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCTION A FILM BY GIL CATES, JR. BRET HARRISON BURT REYNOLDS "DEAL"  
CHARLES DUNNING VINCENT VAN PATTEN MICHAEL SEXTON with JENNIFER TULLY and SHANNON ELIZABETH  
WRITTEN BY BARBARA FLORENTINO, CSA PRODUCED BY WENDY WEIDMAN, CSA EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS ALBERT J. SALTZER JOHN J. ANDERSON  
DIRECTED BY GIL CATES, JR. COSTUME DESIGNER PETER RAFFELSON EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS ERIC STAUD PRODUCED BY ERIC STAUD JONATHAN CATES PRODUCED BY FRANK J. ZITO II  
EDITED BY THOMAS M. HARTING, CSA EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS GREG McDONALD SCOTT LAZAR RICHARD GABAI MICHAEL ANATO  
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS MICHAEL ANATO MARG WENSTOCK STEVEN MUSTIN PRODUCED BY GIL CATES, JR. & MARG WENSTOCK DIRECTED BY GIL CATES, JR.

PG-13 Parents Strongly Cautioned Some Material May Be Inappropriate for Children Under 13  
© 2009 Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios Inc. All Rights Reserved. www.dealthemovie.com

THE GAME IS ON

Rounder





# Rebecca Rutherford

CAN YOU BLAME US FOR ASKING?

BY DAVE LUKOW PHOTOGRAPHY BY KADEN

Rebecca Rutherford cannot be ignored.

That made selecting her for the magazine an easy choice. “I believe *Rounder* found me,” said Rebecca. “It was before March, I would say at the beginning of the year. I was at the Beau Rivage doing the Playboy competition, **which I won.**”

Rebecca is used to being the center of attention.

It’s been that way for a while.

“I’ve been modeling since I was little,” she said. “I was in beauty pageants – and kind of worked my way up. I just do it for fun, but while I’m in school, I am doing full-time promotional modeling.”

It may be something that’s fun, but this lovely Louisianan wouldn’t mind calling it a career.

“I would enjoy either modeling or medical,” Rebecca said.

“I enjoy helping people out.”

Scheduled to travel to Las Vegas during the World Series of Poker, Rebecca might soon be a person looking for some assistance.

“My ex-boyfriend played a lot of poker,” she told me. “**I played a little bit.** It seems so long ago, though, I don’t remember much.”

Nonetheless, the WSOP offers a certain element of intrigue.

“I am looking forward to it,” said Rebecca.

“It’s interesting to watch, and to be around a different environment than I’m used to.”

While she doesn’t claim to be an accomplished player, Rebecca, when asked, did admit to watching poker on the tube.

“I do watch it, sometimes,” she said. “Even if I didn’t understand it, I watched it.” **R**



HOMETOWN:  
New Orleans, Louisiana

HEIGHT:  
5'7"

EYES:  
Brown

SIGN:  
Libra

FAVORITE ACTIVITY:  
Anything to do with sports

VACATION SPOT:  
Las Vegas



If you sounded this good, you'd stick your chest out too.

Everything you could ever want in a LCD panel, housed inside a body designed to produce unparalleled sound quality. This is integration, engineered to perfection.

For more information contact Bang & Olufsen at the location listed below or visit [www.bang-olufsen.com](http://www.bang-olufsen.com).

BeoVision 8: MSRP starting at \$3,950

**BANG & OLUFSEN**



# Christine Biondo

MISSOURI NATIVE HAS CHEST FULL OF CHOICES

BY DAVE LUKOW PHOTOGRAPHY BY KADEN

Christine Biondo is a quick study.

Currently working on her master's thesis at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Christine only began playing poker a few months ago. Since that time, she's cashed in most of the tournaments she's entered. "I'm learning, I'm dabbling," she laughed. "I really enjoy it. Right now, I'm trying to read a little bit more about it."

Her association with *Rounder* is also a recent occurrence. "I actually found out about *Rounder* about two months ago, while I was in Atlantic City," said Christine. "I was looking through the magazine in the casino. I thought it would be a good fit."

While pursuing her graduate degree, in Political Science, Christine took some time to give the cameras a lesson. "I lived in Las Vegas for about two years, so I modeled on a part-time basis while I was there," she said. "What's my best feature? Probably my lips, and my stomach, maybe."

This beautiful blonde will be back in Las Vegas for the 2009 World Series of Poker.

"I'm extremely excited about that," Christine admitted. "I started watching poker before I began playing it, so I'm somewhat familiar with the World Series. **The energy is great.**"

With a master's on the horizon, and her obvious talent as a model, Christine is someone with a number of options.

"My master's is in Political Science, but I'm kind of pursuing broadcast journalism," she said.

"I'm really more interested in that." **R**



HOMETOWN:  
Saint Charles, Missouri

HEIGHT:  
5'6"

EYES:  
Blue

SIGN:  
Pieces

---

FAVORITES:  
ACTIVITY:  
Playing poker and snowboarding

VACATION SPOT:  
Europe and Mexico



# HWCW™

## HARDCORE WATCH COMPANY

Designs By

*[Signature]*

**THE  
ULTIMATE  
WATCHES  
FOR THE  
ULTIMATE  
PLAYER.**

VISIT OUR NEWEST  
LOCATION AT



**LAS VEGAS**

VIEW THE SUICIDE KING IN THE ARTISTRY IN TIME SECTION.

[WWW.HARDCOREWATCHES.COM](http://WWW.HARDCOREWATCHES.COM)





PHOTO COURTESY OF WORLD POKER TOUR

**T**om Dwan may be behind in his high stakes challenge against Patrik Antonius, but he's not about to give up, having closed a gap of about \$400,000 in the last month.

## TOM DWAN *takes on all challengers*

BY JOHNNY KAMPIS

After just more than 16,000 of the 50,000 hands to be played, Dwan, better known as "Durrurr" online, is now only down about \$35,000. After 15,000 hands he was down more than \$400,000.

"There's obviously variance in poker and Patrik is also obviously a very good player. I knew there was a very good chance I would

lose. That chance is obviously higher now than when we started," said Dwan before his recent hot streak. Obviously now that the gap has closed it's anyone's game.

Five years ago, Dwan could have hardly believed he would be playing for million dollar pots when he first got into poker by playing sit-n-go's for fun with his

family and friends. He discovered poker while a senior in high school in Edison, New Jersey, and played small stakes with friends for fun and to make a little money to avoid getting a job.

One day he was going to attend a movie with friends, but it snowed and they stayed home. While fooling around on the computer they discovered the online poker site Empire Poker and began entering play money SNGs.

"We started watching the real money ones and said, wow, people are really terrible in the real money ones. Maybe we should put real money online. I convinced my parents

to put \$50 online at Paradise Poker and I just worked my way up from there."

Dwan attended college briefly before the poker bug truly bit.

"By about halfway through my freshman year in college I had been somewhat successful at it and started attending fewer and fewer of my classes, and playing more poker. By the end of my freshman year I had already dropped out of school and started playing poker for a living. I never looked back from there."

He began by playing \$6 SNGs and worked his way up to the high stakes in a short amount of time, eventually reaching the \$500/\$1,000 No-Limit Hold'em and Pot-Limit Omaha cash games he often plays today. His winnings online are estimated in the millions, an amazing statistic for a guy who has only been playing poker seriously for about five years.

But the high stakes games started drying up and Dwan was looking for a challenge so he decided earlier this year to issue what has come to be known as the Durrurr Challenge or the Million Dollar Challenge. He offered any player other than his friend Phil "OMGClayAiken" Galfond the chance to put up \$500,000 to his \$1.5 million that he could beat them over 50,000 hands at four simultaneous tables of \$200/\$400 blinds NLHE or PLO. If Dwan is down a mere dollar after the 50,000 hands he would owe his opponent \$1.5 million while Dwan would earn \$500,000 if the reverse were true.

"I issued it mainly as a way to generate action and hopefully to make some money, and if I wasn't a favorite then hopefully I would learn from the people I was playing against," Dwan said.

The Finnish player Antonius was the first to accept the challenge and he and Dwan have played off and on for the last several months. Coincidentally, the high stakes games have been more active lately so both Dwan and Antonius have focused much of their online time on those weaker games.

Both Phil Ivey and David Benyamine have expressed interest in the challenge and Dwan said he may play them or other foes after the battle with Antonius is complete. "I think it's likely I'll play one of them, and if not it's likely that someone else will take the bet."

Not surprisingly, when asked who he considers the best players in poker, Dwan quickly names Antonius, Ivey and Benyamine. "There might be two games that I am slightly better than them at and there are probably a dozen games that they are way better than me at," he said.

Dwan prefers to put more time into games he enjoys (such as Deuce-to-Seven Triple Draw) and less into games he hates (like Razz). He thinks that is true of most younger players who would

rather focus on games where they stand to make the biggest profit, namely NLHE and PLO.

The 22-year-old only plans to play a handful of events in the World Series of Poker this summer, most of them \$10,000 events like the Mixed Hold'em, 2-7 TD, Pot-Limit Omaha and, of course, the Main Event. He had no luck in the \$40,000 NLHE, having been bounced less than an hour after sitting down. He was close to making some bracelet prop bets this summer like Ivey is famous for, but passed. If he chooses to make such a bet next year expect to see Dwan more active at the WSOP.

When not playing poker, Dwan likes outdoor pursuits such as tubing on Lake Mead or skydiving over Vegas. "I just try to do whatever seems like the most fun everyday unless I'm playing poker and then I try to do whatever will make the most money every day."

As for how he came up with the name "Durrurr", Dwan had only one goal. "The idea was to come up with a name that would slightly annoy people and bother them if I took money from them and so hopefully they would lose more money to me. Over the past few years I would say that has worked out really well." **R**



**NO LIMIT MANAGEMENT**

**Interested in booking a poker celebrity for your next event?**

Please visit  
[www.nolimitmanagement.com](http://www.nolimitmanagement.com)  
for more information.





# ANDY BLOCH

## Ready for the Series

BY JOHNNY KAMPIS

It's World Series of Poker time again, and Andy Bloch, for one, is eager to play.

"Of course, that's what you look forward to each year. Each year you have five or six weeks of work and the rest of the year you look forward to getting back to that," he said.

One of the most affable and likable players in poker, Bloch is also one of the game's best with more than \$4 million in tournament winnings and several final tables on both the World Poker Tour and World Series of

Poker. But so far, the 40-year-old has no major titles in either. He is often put on the short list of the best players who have never won a bracelet.

"I wouldn't say it's frustrating. I wish I had a bracelet. I got a little bit unlucky in a couple of hands in which I could have won the bracelet. I don't feel like I've blown off and not given myself the opportunity to win bracelets. I wouldn't mind having that monkey off my back and when people ask how many bracelets you have I don't have to tell them zero, or make up some story about 0.93 bracelets or whatever."

The 0.93 he is referring to is the chance he had of winning four all-in confrontations against Chip Reese heads-up in the inaugural \$50,000 HORSE event at the WSOP in 2006. Reese kept surviving and went on to win the title. Bloch also came close in 2008, finishing second to Nenad Medic in the \$10,000 Pot-Limit Hold'em event.

"The chance that I don't have any bracelets... you could argue that I should have at least two bracelets by now," Bloch said.

Bloch is perhaps more famously known as a member of the MIT blackjack team documented in the book "Bringing Down the House" and the movie "21". This team of blackjack players descended on Las Vegas and other gaming locales, taking the casinos for big money.

He said almost none of the MIT team was consulted for the movie and Kevin Spacey's

### BLOCH IS PERHAPS MORE FAMOUSLY KNOWN AS A MEMBER OF THE MIT BLACKJACK TEAM DOCUMENTED IN THE BOOK "BRINGING DOWN THE HOUSE" AND THE MOVIE "21".

character is not based on reality, but Bloch said he enjoyed the flick. "There were a few scenes I really liked that showed the essence of the MIT blackjack team and what the experience was like to come to Vegas and knowing that you were going to beat the casinos and pulling it off. Millions of people come to Vegas every year thinking they are going to take the town by storm and they are going to break the bank or at least win thousands of dollars, but for most of them it's a complete pipe dream. They have no chance at it. We knew the mathematics were on our side."

It was around that time that Bloch first got into poker and won the first No-Limit Hold'em tournament he played, a small \$100 buy in at the World Poker Finals at Foxwoods. As his interest and success in the game grew, Bloch took his game to the next level by playing in the WSOP. He was the volunteer for Tom Sims in 1997 when the tournament reporter recorded all of Bloch's hole cards for a comprehensive report that Sims produced. Bloch got a law degree from Harvard in 1999, but decided to focus on poker instead. That proved fruitful quickly after he made two WSOP final tables in 2001 and had two third-place finishes during the first season of the WPT.

In 2004, Bloch was one of the founding members of the online poker site Full Tilt Poker, which has since grown to the second-largest of its kind, with only PokerStars drawing more traffic.

"We were looking at the biggest sites back then and said if we were 10 percent as big as they were then, that Full Tilt would be a success," he said. "We ended up passing what every site was back then, as when we started and now we're the second biggest site, much bigger than Party Poker was and Party Poker is now, and there's one more site on our radar that we're trying to catch."

If you kept up with "Celebrity Apprentice" you may have spotted Bloch, who appeared in one episode to help out contestant and fellow poker pro Annie Duke. Bloch attended a charity event in which he bid on some jewelry for Duke's team. As you may have heard, Donald Trump picked Joan Rivers over Duke as the Celebrity Apprentice, drawing controversy from poker circles. Bloch agreed that the decision was unjust.

"I thought obviously that Annie Duke should have won. They made a lot of things unfair so that they could justify Joan Rivers winning. It seems like after that fact that, they wanted her to win from the beginning. There were so many opportunities in which she should have been fired, but Donald Trump gave some excuse to fire somebody else."

Bloch is active in charity events, having played several already this year. For the next several weeks, at least, his main focus is on the grind of the WSOP.

"Whether you've had good results or bad results by the end of it you're thinking, God, I really need a vacation. Why do I do this to myself? But you look forward to it all year. It's great to have so many tournaments to play." **R**

www.myspace.com/rustytruck  
www.rustytruckmusic.com



Jean Gaspard faced a tough decision in the \$40,000 No-Limit Hold'em event at the World Series of Poker earlier this month. He had limped with K-J and gotten six callers who saw a flop of K-K-3. Gaspard bet and was raised. He re-raised and his opponent moved all-in. Fold or call? Gaspard opted for the later and unfortunately ran into K-3.

Although the WSOP did not get off to a good start for the player known as "Prince",

# JEAN GASPARD

## Wins Harrah's New Orleans Circuit Event in "Prince" Like Fashion

BY JOHNNY KAMPIS

Gaspard has had a hot 2009, most recently with a victory at the WSOP Circuit event at Harrah's in New Orleans.

A native of Haiti, Gaspard and his family moved to the United States when he was 14. He loved basketball and ended up playing for Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago. It was while traveling to play

UNLV in 1991 that Gaspard first tried his hand at casino poker. He snuck out of his hotel room at Sam's Town down to the casino and played some small limit poker and loved it.

After college, Gaspard attended NBA camps, but a pro career didn't pan out for him, so he went back to his second love...

poker. By this time the Bellagio was in business and he traveled there frequently to play Stud, reaching limits as high as 80/160. He also played at the WSOP at Binion's Horseshoe too, focusing on satellites.

In 1999, Gaspard began trying his hand at tournaments. He was a fixture in the daily tournaments at Bellagio, and would also play some in the bigger events held in the Fontana Lounge. "Every time they had a tournament there, I would make a final table. It seemed like the easiest way for me to make money," he said.

Over the years Gaspard did not have many big cashes to put him on the radar. His best showing was still a hefty \$145,000 for second place in a Five Star World Poker

## ONE THING "PRINCE" WON'T BE AFRAID TO DO IS CONTINUE TO ATTACK. THE FORMER SHOOTING GUARD FOR NORTHEASTERN JOKES THAT HE HAS THAT SAME SHOOTER'S MENTALITY AT THE POKER TABLE.

Classic event in 2005. But this year Gaspard has been one of the hottest players on the circuit. He won a HORSE event at the Deep Stack Extravaganza at the Venetian in February, then chopped the \$5,000 NLHE at the Five Star WPC with Matt Brady in April. They each got around \$150,000, with Gaspard getting the bracelet and Brady receiving first-place points (he's on many top ten lists so far this year).

"I care, but I don't care about first. I play for the money," Gaspard said.

Going into the WSOP Circuit Event in New Orleans, Gaspard felt he had the advantage because people there wouldn't know his play as well as the Bellagio and Las Vegas regulars. "Most of those people I didn't know. I know if they don't know me they don't know what I'm thinking, so they won't make the adjustment towards me. That's why I felt that was a good spot."

It proved to be true as Gaspard managed to build a big stack early and steamrolled his way to victory. He earned nearly \$212,000 for the win, bringing his career tournament winnings into the \$1 million realm.

Gaspard said he felt inspired by the people of New Orleans. He said he could still see on many faces, the effects Katrina has had on the city. "They touched my heart. I see how the people went through Katrina. If God blessed me enough to do what I do and win money at it, I am going to play my hardest. I think being in that atmosphere made me more focused."

After his victory Gaspard took \$10,000 and bought \$100 gift certificates at Wal-Mart to pass out to area churches.

Now he heads into the WSOP brimming with confidence and plans to play around 15 events including the main event. He's also not

afraid to criticize his own game, realizing he played that K-J hand badly in the \$40,000 event and should have known his hand was no good when the money went in. "If I raise the pot K-3 never comes in anyway. I invited that cooler. I know I could avoid that and usually I do."

One thing "Prince" won't be afraid to do is continue to attack. The former shooting guard for Northeastern jokes that he has that same shooter's mentality at the poker table. "It's kind of like poker when I raise, they re-raise me and I fold. I'm back raising the next pot." He got his nickname from a friend he played pick-up games with a lot, who said he was so lucky in winning so much, he should be called a prince.

For now, Gaspard splits time between Vegas and Illinois where he has two daughters back home, 12-year-old Shenja and 18-year-old Rebecca.

His goal in poker is simple – to win the most money he can. He wants to do his best at that this year by only playing when he feels he can give the game 100 percent.

"I'm challenging myself this year to play my best every day," he said. "Whatever you put in, that's what you're going to get out."

"I sit down to play to win. I don't want to play just to play." **R**

Miss Las Vegas REALTOR  
www.MissLasVegasRealtor.com

Mahsheed Barghisavar REALTOR  
Vegas High Rise Realty  
Panorama Towers Realty

C: 408-768-9704  
O: 702-318-6814  
www.VegasSalesandRentals.com

**W**e can thank the dot-com bust for the emergence of one Joseph Sebok on the poker tournament trail (or should we call it the poker road?)

Sebok grew up in the Bay Area and worked for several internet start ups after graduating from Cal. He said he got laid off so many times before the age of 24 that it “became a joke with my friends.” Sebok decided to pack up his truck and he hit the road for four months, traveling the country and visiting friends.

When he returned home, Sebok had a conversation with his father, Barry Greenstein, about trying his hand at poker. Greenstein was excited at the prospects. “He was so confident and adamant about thinking I could certainly pull it off that he really sparked my interest and I jumped into it. Thankfully, it has worked out,” Sebok said.

The 32-year-old believes his experience during long days in the dot-com world helped him succeed at poker. “I loved spending 15 hours a day on projects and making sure they ran smoothly by the end. That ability to lock in has helped me enormously in poker.”

Sebok showed quick results after joining the circuit in 2005, including two World Series



COURTESY OF WORLD POKER TOUR

## JOE SEBOK

### *Travels Down the Long and Winding Poker Road*

BY JOHNNY KAMPIS

of Poker final tables where he finished fifth in the \$5,000 Limit Hold'em event and eighth in the \$5,000 Pot-Limit Hold'em tournament.

After that initial success, Sebok had a rough patch, which he expected would happen. “The tournament circuit was just a blur to me at first. I really felt like I jumped into

the deep end too quickly. It’s funny because everything I have ever learned in life I have raced out to early success and then had a regression period, which is exactly what happened with poker. I made those two WSOP final tables so quick, but in the back of my mind I knew there would be some hell to pay soon in the form of my results slowing down, which they did.”

He bounced back in the spring of 2006 with two victories in rapid succession in a \$1,500 No-Limit Hold'em event at the Mirage Poker Showdown and another in the \$2,425 championship event at Heavenly Hold'em at Commerce Casino, for a combined \$360,000.

In the beginning, Sebok was looked at by some as just a poker player’s son who would fail at the game. “The other players treated me as they would any kid whose daddy plays poker and is a legend – they thought I sucked, but were very nice to me. I rarely had anyone actually treat me poorly though. I just think they thought of me as the rich kid who got bored and decided to play poker on his dad’s dime. I understand that viewpoint as from their side I just

stepped in and was handed the keys to the car. I didn’t really resent it at all because I understood it.”

Sebok said his father (who is not his biological father, but his stepfather) had high standards for him. “He was also very cerebral. I remember going on long drives when I was little and us playing spelling and word association games. That was his thing. He always wanted us to be learning something and he worked hard to create that kind of atmosphere. Still, he was a tough dad for sure if you didn’t meet his standards.”

Greenstein would not teach Sebok the game of poker until he got a little older. “He kept me away from poker purposefully because he said that there were much more important things in life to put time into. Bear always told me that he wanted to see me become a well-rounded person and be able to do anything I wanted to. I think he saw poker as an activity that you can really let yourself get sucked into, if you let it. He just wanted to make sure I went out and had some life experience before that could happen, I think.”

Although he boasts more than \$1.7 million in live tournament winnings, Sebok is probably more famous now for his exploits in poker media than his time at the felt. That work began when he became co-host of “The Circuit” poker podcast, which was first started by Card Player with Scott Huff and Mike Matusow as hosts. Wanting more stability, Huff reached out to Sebok and Gavin Smith to become his co-hosts. That podcast eventually moved over to PokerWire (hosted by Joe Stapleton), and after that website went defunct Sebok and Greenstein talked about doing their own podcast and website.

The two formed GreenBok Productions and started PokerRoad, which comprises the podcast, an informative website, print articles and more.

“It’s been a ton of fun. We’ve been lucky enough that our fans from the radio show have kind of followed us with the new stuff. Now it’s just a whole host of shows, with the video content and the forums are growing. It’s completely due to the fans for them wanting to become involved with the lifestyle that we lead. It’s been really, really satisfying.”

Sebok has shown an ability to be self deprecating – just witness all the SeventhBok references about his two finishes just outside the televised final table in World Poker Tour events.

“Poker is one of those games that when the chips go in nobody knows what’s going to happen and things take strange turns, as we’ve all seen. I think you have to go into it with a positive attitude and not get too high or too low. For me it’s been essential to laugh at myself, which again the Poker Road community has helped me with just because I’ve had so many close calls. I think it’s really important to maintain that even keel and not get too down,” he said.

Although Sebok said he’s still looking for that “major breakthrough win,” he says his priorities have changed in the four years he’s been playing tournament poker. He used to dream of winning a major event or WSOP bracelet; now he’s more focused on his company.

“Now it’s probably more important to me to make sure that PokerRoad becomes a success than to win one of these major tournaments. Which isn’t to say that I wouldn’t love to win one of these major tournaments, but I think just in terms of my overall satisfaction in the longevity of growing this business I think I have more invested.” **R**

ALTHOUGH HE BOASTS MORE THAN \$1.7 MILLION IN LIVE TOURNAMENT WINNINGS, SEBOK IS PROBABLY MORE FAMOUS NOW FOR HIS EXPLOITS IN POKER MEDIA THAN HIS TIME AT THE FELT.



# ONLINE POKER 101

## AN AMATEUR'S FORAY INTO ONLINE GAMING

**S**tepping into the world of poker starts best with dipping your toes into the world of online poker. I am right there with you, so I am looking into online gaming sites to give an amateur's perspective.

I began with Facebook (Zynga.com created the application used most on Facebook). The idea of playing without real money is easy to digest and safe for learning. What I like best is not downloading any software. Granted, the internet connection needs to be solid, but I was able to jump on without much of a delay, other than the loading page getting stuck once.

The playing table does not take up much room on the screen, but it is surrounded by graphics and neon flashing font. These can be distracting and cramped, especially to the newbie. Once you actually read each little box, you can determine which ones are worth paying attention to. There is a box for chatting, but I have not yet had the mental aptitude to multi-task. I also like that the program tells me my high hand, which helps me learn the winning combinations.

Facebook also shows the other players' hands at the end of the game, highlighting which cards made the win. It highlights the cards for a brief moment, so I can figure out what just happened. The slower transition between games makes it much easier to understand the game.

The Zynga.com application on Facebook gets a good grade overall. To the creators, I suggest simplifying the playing page. Otherwise, using flash instead of downloaded software creates a quick, easy, non-committal experience. New users can feel safe learning the game in this venue because you do not use money and the application provides enough hints and tips that transitioning to a more serious game is less overwhelming.

Next, I tried PokerStars.com. After downloading the software and validating my email, I tried to load money to my account. The site does not take American Express and my MasterCard was declined. The site suggested the decline was due to online gambling restrictions on the credit card. While I appreciate the site's (and my credit card company's) sensitivity to my online security, I immediately moved on to the next site. I could have called my credit card company or sent cash other ways, but with so many other sites, why spend my time here? Maybe someone else will take AmEx.

Sure enough, FullTilt.com takes American Express and the card was not declined. Maybe I should worry that it was too easy, but having no glitches enhances the experience. While it seemed like the software took longer to download than Poker Stars, it seems fairly organized. It also pops up in a little box so I can view other browser pages while waiting on other players (I am writing this article as I play). I appreciate not having to constantly check back on the game's progress.

Getting started was very easy. Email validation and cashier processing only take

a few minutes. The layout of the screen is easy on the eyes with only the necessities appearing on the screen. Although the options tab says my preference for hints and tips is on, I cannot see any hints or tips on my screen. I have no help to tell me my high hand. Even though I may learn faster without the training wheels, I am also playing with real money. I have very little room for a wide learning curve.

The games typically move quickly with more people actually playing than fooling around (like on Facebook). The winning hands are shown like in the Facebook application, but so fast that I barely see what won.

Playing with money, I am forced to consider folding when given a bad hand. So far, it is an adjustment - an expensive adjustment. A word of advice to new players- start playing on the penny and 5 cent tables. I started at the quarter table and lost \$25 in 20 minutes (or less). Who knew a quarter could be so costly! Now, I am slowly winning it back in the micro-tables. However, I am rapidly becoming a better player because I am forced to make better decisions.

My overall grade for Full Tilt is very good and I will probably use it often. The main thing I find annoying on Full Tilt is the pop up for Full Tilt Academy after I close the program. Playing on a free application like Facebook is a safe, solid start. Be careful not to use it for too long, or else you lose the feel of the game. Micro-tables on a site like Full Tilt can help you learn, experience the real pain and excitement of the game, and can last you a long time. Good luck and give us your feedback. Let us know which site you would like us to try next. **R**

# 2009 ROUNDER of the Year

## QUALIFYING EVENTS

SOUTHERN SCHEDULE			
Jan 2nd - 17th	2009 Southern Poker Championship (WPT)	Beau Rivage Resort & Casino	Biloxi, MS
Jan 20th - Feb 9th	2009 WSOP Circuit Event	Harrah's Tunica	Robinsonville, MS
Feb 5th - 16th	2009 Oklahoma State Championship Of Poker	Cherokee Casino Resort	Catoosa, OK
Feb 17th - 23rd	2009 Seven Clans Poker Cup	Coushatta Casino Resort	Kinder, LA
March 5th-16th	2009 Spring Poker Classic	Gold Strike Casino	Robinsonville, MS
May 7th - 18th	2009 Mid-South Poker Classic	Cherokee Casino Resort	Catoosa, OK
May 8th - 20th	2009 WSOP Circuit Event	Harrahs New Orleans	New Orleans, LA
TBA	2009 IP Poker Classic	IP Casino Resort Spa	Biloxi, MS
Jul 24th - Aug 10th	2009 World Poker Open	Gold Strike Casino	Robinsonville, MS

WESTERN SCHEDULE			
Jan 22nd - March 2nd	2009 L.A. Poker Classic (WPT)	Commerce Casino	Commerce, CA
Feb 2nd - Feb 25th	2009 Venetian Deep Stack Extravaganza I	The Venetian	Las Vegas, NV
Feb 16th - Mar 20th	2009 Bay 101 Shooting Star (WPT)	Bay 101	San Jose, CA
Feb 25th - March 19th	2009 Wynn Classic	Wynn Las Vegas	Las Vegas, NV
Feb 26th - March 15th	2009 World Poker Challenge	Grand Sierra Resort And Casino	Reno, NV
March 19th - 29th	2009 WSOP Circuit Event	Harrahs Rincon	San Diego, CA
March 31st - April 25th	2009 WPT World Championship	Bellagio Hotel Casino	Las Vegas, NV
April 12th - 29th	2009 WSOP Circuit Event	Caesars Palace	Las Vegas, NV
May 26th - July 15th	40th Annual WSOP	Rio All Suit Hotel & Casino	Las Vegas, NV
July 29th - August 28th	2009 Legends Of Poker	The Bicycle Casino	Bell Gardens, CA
September 4th - 27th	2009 California State Poker Championship	Commerce Casino	Commerce, CA

NORTHERN SCHEDULE			
Jan 13th - 29th	2009 Borgata Winter Open	Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa	Atlantic City, NJ
Feb 7th - 15th	2009 Winter Chill Poker Tournament	Mohegan Sun	Uncasville, CT
March 4th - 14th	2009 WSOP Circuit Event	Caesars Atlantic City	Atlantic City, NJ
March 23rd - April 8th	2009 Foxwoods Poker Classic (WPT)	Foxwoods Resort Casino	Ledyard, CT
TBA	2009 USPC	Trump Taj Mahal	Atlantic City, NJ
June 7th - June 30th	2009 Borgata Poker Open	Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa	Atlantic City, NJ
TBA	Trump Classic	Trump Taj Mahal	Atlantic City, NJ

## CALCULATIONS

The following equation represents the method used to calculate points earned by a player in each tournament. B is the buy-in, E represents the number of entrants, P is the place the player finished in.

$$\frac{\sqrt[3]{B} \times \sqrt[3]{E}}{P + 1}$$

All buy-ins of \$5000 and over will all be calculated with B = 5000

## QUALIFICATIONS

The Rounder of the Year title will be awarded to the player who accumulates the most points in a series of qualifying tournaments taking place throughout the U.S.

The tournaments are open to all players.

Qualifying events will consist of tournaments with a minimum buy-in of \$300

Only players who make the final table will receive points.

A minimum of 60 players are needed for the tournament to qualify.

Re Buy/ Add On tournaments do not qualify.

Second chance tournaments do not qualify.

Seniors and ladies-only events do not qualify.

*Additional qualifying tournaments to be announced in upcoming issues.*







**Brian Belle**  
**Daphne, AL**  
 2009 WORLD SERIES OF POKER CIRCUIT  
 Harrah's New Orleans, LA  
 No Limit Hold'em Event 6 May 11  
 Finished 1st  
 Earnings \$13,388  
 Buy In \$300  
 Entries 142



**Joon Tag Cho**  
**Silver Hill, AR**  
 MID-SOUTH POKER CLASSIC  
 Cherokee Casino Tulsa, OK  
 No Limit Hold'em Championship Event 24  
 May 18  
 Finished 1st  
 Earnings \$40,973  
 Buy In \$1,500  
 Entries 88



**Men Nguyen**  
**Bell Gardens, CA**  
 2009 WORLD SERIES OF POKER CIRCUIT  
 Caesars Palace Las Vegas  
 No Limit Hold'em Champion Event 22  
 April 30  
 Finished 3rd  
 Earnings \$91,937  
 Buy In \$5,000  
 Entries 88



**Michael Mizrachi**  
**Miramar, FL**  
 2009 WORLD SERIES OF POKER CIRCUIT  
 Caesars Palace Las Vegas  
 No Limit Hold'em Champion Event 22  
 April 30  
 Finished 2nd  
 Earnings \$143,512  
 Buy In \$5,000  
 Entries 187



**Pat Peercy**  
**Fortville, IN**  
 2009 WORLD SERIES OF POKER CIRCUIT  
 Harrah's New Orleans, LA  
 Pot Limit Hold'em Event 4 May 10  
 Finished 1st  
 Earnings \$7,857  
 Buy In \$300  
 Entries 75



**Travis Smith**  
**Mount Hermon, LA**  
 2009 SPRING BREAK POKER CLASSIC  
 Beau Rivage Resort & Casino Biloxi, MS  
 No Limit Hold'em Event 12 April 5  
 Finished 1st  
 Earnings \$32,332  
 Buy In \$500  
 Entries 218



**John Lallo**  
**Ft. Myers, FL**  
 2009 WORLD SERIES OF POKER CIRCUIT  
 Harrah's New Orleans, LA  
 No Limit Hold'em Event 10 May 12  
 Finished 1st  
 Earnings \$18,560  
 Buy In \$300  
 Entries 263



**Lisa Wilder**  
**Mobile, AL**  
 2009 WORLD SERIES OF POKER CIRCUIT  
 Harrah's New Orleans, LA  
 No Limit Hold'em Ladies Championship  
 Event 19 May 17  
 Finished 1st  
 Earnings \$14,189  
 Buy In \$300  
 Entries 184



**Casey White**  
**Springdale, AR**  
 MID-SOUTH POKER CLASSIC  
 Cherokee Casino Tulsa, OK  
 No Limit Hold'em Event 21 May 15  
 Finished 1st  
 Earnings \$12,218  
 Buy In \$500  
 Entries 82



**Dave Stann**  
**Hollywood, CA**  
 2009 WORLD SERIES OF POKER CIRCUIT  
 Caesars Palace Las Vegas  
 No Limit Hold'em Event 18 April 24  
 Finished 1st  
 Earnings \$26,398  
 Buy In \$300  
 Entries 378



**Robert Campbell**  
**Miami, FL**  
 2009 WORLD SERIES OF POKER CIRCUIT  
 Harrah's New Orleans, LA  
 Omaha High-Low Event 2 May 9  
 Finished 1st  
 Earnings \$8,485  
 Buy In \$300  
 Entries 81



**William Sineath**  
**Valdosta, GA**  
 2009 SPRING BREAK POKER CLASSIC  
 Beau Rivage Resort & Casino Biloxi, MS  
 No Limit Hold'em Championship Event 17  
 April 10  
 Finished 1st  
 Earnings \$104,652  
 Buy In \$2,500  
 Entries 122



**Casey Lang Chiasson**  
**Lafayette, LA**  
 2009 WORLD SERIES OF POKER CIRCUIT  
 Harrah's New Orleans, LA  
 No Limit Hold'em Event 1 May 9  
 Finished 1st  
 Earnings \$48,272  
 Buy In \$300  
 Entries 572



**Christian Harder**  
**Annapolis, MD**  
 FIVE STAR WORLD POKER CLASSIC (WPT)  
 Bellagio Las Vegas, NV  
 No Limit Hold'em Championship Event 17  
 April 25  
 Finished 4th  
 Earnings \$571,965  
 Buy In \$25,000  
 Entries 338



**Robert Rosengarten**  
**Aventura, FL**  
 2009 WORLD SERIES OF POKER CIRCUIT  
 Harrah's New Orleans, LA  
 No Limit Hold'em Event 13 May 14  
 Finished 1st  
 Earnings \$61,629  
 Buy In \$1,000  
 Entries 262



**Shannon Shorr**  
**Tuscaloosa, AL**  
 FIVE STAR WORLD POKER CLASSIC (WPT)  
 Bellagio Las Vegas, NV  
 No Limit Hold'em Championship Event 17  
 April 25  
 Finished 5th  
 Earnings \$408,550  
 Buy In \$25,000  
 Entries 338



**Justin Bonomo**  
**Los Angeles, CA**  
 2009 WORLD SERIES OF POKER CIRCUIT  
 Caesars Palace Las Vegas  
 No Limit Hold'em Champion Event 22  
 April 30  
 Finished 1st  
 Earnings \$227,692  
 Buy In \$5,000  
 Entries 187



**George Guzman**  
**Ft. Lauderdale, FL**  
 2009 WORLD SERIES OF POKER CIRCUIT  
 Harrah's New Orleans, LA  
 Pot Limit Omaha Event 8 May 12  
 Finished 1st  
 Earnings \$12,921  
 Buy In \$300  
 Entries 74



**Michael Raimon**  
**Bradenton, FL**  
 2009 WORLD SERIES OF POKER CIRCUIT  
 Harrah's New Orleans, LA  
 Six Handed No Limit Hold'em Event 9  
 May 13  
 Finished 1st  
 Earnings \$24,192  
 Buy In \$500  
 Entries 172



**Nancy Birnbaum**  
**Atlanta, GA**  
 2009 WORLD SERIES OF POKER CIRCUIT  
 Harrah's New Orleans, LA  
 No Limit Hold'em Event 3 May 10  
 Finished 1st  
 Earnings \$51,269  
 Buy In \$500  
 Entries 341



**Dave Gafford**  
**Denham Springs, LA**  
 2009 WORLD SERIES OF POKER CIRCUIT  
 Harrah's New Orleans, LA  
 No Limit Hold'em Event 17 May 17  
 Finished 1st  
 Earnings \$43,650  
 Buy In \$500  
 Entries 375



**Joseph Phelps**  
**Diamond Head, MS**  
 2009 WORLD SERIES OF POKER CIRCUIT  
 Harrah's New Orleans, LA  
 No Limit Hold'em Event 7 May 12  
 Finished 1st  
 Earnings \$24,513  
 Buy In \$500  
 Entries 156



**Keith Ezykowich**  
**Gulfport, MS**  
 2009 WORLD SERIES OF POKER CIRCUIT  
 Harrah's New Orleans, LA  
 Pot Limit Omaha H/L Event 14 May 14  
 Finished 1st  
 Earnings \$8,791  
 Buy In \$300  
 Entries 114



**Scotty Nguyen**  
Las Vegas, NV  
5 STAR WORLD POKER CLASSIC (WPT)  
Bellagio Las Vegas, NV  
No Limit Hold'em Championship  
Event 17 April 25  
Finished 6th  
Earnings \$285,985  
Buy In \$25,000  
Entries 338



**Blake Buffington**  
Las Vegas, NV  
2009 WORLD SERIES OF POKER CIRCUIT  
Caesars Palace Las Vegas  
No Limit Hold'em Event 12 April 20  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$28,533  
Buy In \$1,000  
Entries 111



**Isaac Haxton**  
Las Vegas, NV  
2009 40TH ANNUAL WSOP  
Rio Hotel & Casino Las Vegas, NV  
No Limit Hold'em Event 2 June 1  
Finished 2nd  
Earnings \$1,168,566  
Buy In \$40,000  
Entries 201



**Kai Landry**  
Biloxi, MS  
2009 WORLD SERIES OF POKER CIRCUIT  
Harrah's New Orleans, LA  
No Limit Hold'em Event 16 May 14  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$35,620  
Buy In \$300  
Entries 544



**Mark Eddleman**  
Charlotte, NC  
2009 SPRING BREAK POKER CLASSIC  
2009 Spring Break Poker Classic  
Beau Rivage Resort & Casino Biloxi, MS  
No Limit Hold'em Event 14 April 6  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$32,475  
Buy In \$1,000  
Entry 93

2009 SPRING BREAK POKER CLASSIC  
Beau Rivage Resort & Casino Biloxi, MS  
No Limit Hold'em Champ Event 17 April 10  
Finished 5th  
Earnings \$20,349  
Buy In \$2,500  
Entries 122



**Eric Thompson**  
Tulsa, OK  
MID-SOUTH POKER CLASSIC  
Cherokee Casino Tulsa, OK  
No Limit Hold'em Event 22 May 15  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$7,869  
Buy In \$300  
Entries 106



**Randy Antrikin**  
Yukon, OK  
MID-SOUTH POKER CLASSIC  
Cherokee Casino Tulsa, OK  
No Limit Hold'em Event 2 May 8  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$7,527  
Buy In \$300  
Entries 92



**Ari Engel**  
Las Vegas, NV  
2009 WORLD SERIES OF POKER CIRCUIT  
Caesars Palace Las Vegas  
No Limit Hold'em Event 16 April 23  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$22,353  
Buy In \$1,000  
Entries 64



**Andrew Cohen**  
Las Vegas, NV  
2009 40TH ANNUAL WSOP  
Rio Hotel & Casino Las Vegas, NV  
(Casino Employees)  
No Limit Hold'em Event 1 May 28  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$83,833  
Buy In \$500  
Entries 866



**Vadim Trincer**  
New York, NY  
2009 FOXWOODS POKER CLASSIC (WPT)  
Foxwoods Resort Casino Ledyard, CT  
No Limit Hold'em Championship Event 11  
April 8  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$731,079  
Buy In \$10,000  
Entries 259



**Rodney Spriggs**  
Joplin, MO  
MID-SOUTH POKER CLASSIC  
Cherokee Casino Tulsa, OK  
No Limit Hold'em Event 4 May 9  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$7,874  
Buy In \$300  
Entries 96



**Louay Aamer**  
Tulsa, OK  
MID-SOUTH POKER CLASSIC  
Cherokee Casino Tulsa, OK  
No Limit Hold'em Event 23 May 16  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$20,406  
Buy In \$1,000  
Entries 57



**Suzanne Carrillo**  
El Paso, TX  
2009 WORLD SERIES OF POKER CIRCUIT  
Caesars Palace Las Vegas  
No Limit Hold'em Event 9 April 18  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$28,464  
Buy In \$500  
Entries 225



**Brent Keller**  
Horsham, PA  
2009 WORLD SERIES OF POKER CIRCUIT  
Harrah's New Orleans, LA  
Pot Limit Omaha Event 18 May 17  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$14,550  
Buy In \$1,000  
Entries 30



**John Tollefsen**  
Pearland, TX  
2009 WORLD SERIES OF POKER CIRCUIT  
Harrah's New Orleans, LA  
Pot Limit Omaha / Pot Limit High/Low  
Event 12 May 13  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$15,365  
Buy In \$500  
Entries 99



**Chris Amaral**  
Las Vegas, NV  
2009 WORLD SERIES OF POKER CIRCUIT  
Caesars Palace Las Vegas  
No Limit Hold'em Event 13 April 21  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$25,576  
Buy In \$500  
Entries 199



**Thang Luu**  
Las Vegas, NV  
2009 40TH ANNUAL WSOP  
Rio Hotel & Casino Las Vegas, NV  
Omaha Hi-Low Split-8 OB Event 3 May 31  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$263,190  
Buy In \$1,500  
Entries 918



**Amnon Filippi**  
New York, NY  
2009 FOXWOODS POKER CLASSIC (WPT)  
Foxwoods Resort Casino Ledyard, CT  
No Limit Hold'em Championship Event 11  
April 8  
Finished 2nd  
Earnings \$409,405  
Buy In \$10,000  
Entries 259



**Jess Jackson**  
Carthage, NC  
2009 WORLD SERIES OF POKER CIRCUIT  
Harrah's New Orleans, LA  
No Limit Hold'em Event 5 May 11  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$20,115  
Buy In \$500  
Entries 128



**Leonid Shteyn**  
Houston, TX  
2009 WORLD SERIES OF POKER CIRCUIT  
Harrah's New Orleans, LA  
Pot Limit Omaha w/ Re-Buys Event 16  
May 16  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$19,928  
Buy In \$300  
Entries 94



**Jeremiah DeGreef**  
Salt Lake City, UT  
2009 WORLD SERIES OF POKER CIRCUIT  
Caesars Palace Las Vegas  
No Limit Hold'em Event 20 April 26  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$69,890  
Buy In \$2,000  
Entries 134



**James Lopushinsky**  
Whitehorse, YT (Canada)  
2009 WORLD SERIES OF POKER CIRCUIT  
Caesars Palace Las Vegas  
No Limit Hold'em Champ Event 22 April 30  
Finished 4th  
Earnings \$71,756  
Buy In \$5,000  
Entries 187



2009 WORLD SERIES OF POKER CIRCUIT  
Caesars Palace Las Vegas  
No Limit Hold'em Event 7 April 17  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$38,815  
Buy In \$1,000  
Entries 151









**Steve Sung**  
Torrance, CA  
2009 40TH ANNUAL WSOP  
Rio Hotel & Casino Las Vegas, NV  
No Limit Hold'em Event 4 June 2  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$771,338  
Buy In \$1,000  
Entries 6012



**Jason Mercier**  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL  
2009 40TH ANNUAL WSOP  
Rio Hotel & Casino Las Vegas, NV  
Pot Limit Omaha Event 5 June 3  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$237,462  
Buy In \$1,500  
Entries 809



**Keven Stammen**  
Celia, OH  
2009 40TH ANNUAL WSOP  
Rio Hotel & Casino Las Vegas, NV  
No Limit Hold'em Event 13 June 7  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$506,786  
Buy In \$2,500  
Entries 1,088



**Brock Parker**  
Silver Spring, MD  
2009 40TH ANNUAL WSOP  
Rio Hotel & Casino Las Vegas, NV  
Limit Hold'em 6-Handed Event 14 June 7  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$223,697  
Buy In \$2,500  
Entries 367



**Brian Lemke**  
Norristown, PA  
2009 40TH ANNUAL WSOP  
Rio Hotel & Casino Las Vegas, NV  
No Limit Hold'em Event 15 June 8  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$692,690  
Buy In \$5,000  
Entries 655



**Jeffrey Lisandro**  
Salerno, Italy  
2009 40TH ANNUAL WSOP  
Rio Hotel & Casino Las Vegas, NV  
No Limit Hold'em Event 16 June 9  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$124,975  
Buy In \$1,500  
Entries 359



**Freddie Ellis**  
Brooklyn, NY  
2009 40TH ANNUAL WSOP  
Rio Hotel & Casino Las Vegas, NV  
World Champ 7 Card Stud Event 6 June 3  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$373,751  
Buy In \$10,000  
Entries 142



**Travis Johnson**  
North Hills, CA  
2009 40TH ANNUAL WSOP  
Rio Hotel & Casino Las Vegas, NV  
No Limit Hold'em Event 7 June 4  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$666,853  
Buy In \$1,500  
Entries 2,791



**Phil Ivey**  
Las Vegas, NV  
2009 40TH ANNUAL WSOP  
Rio Hotel & Casino Las Vegas, NV  
No Limit 2-7 Draw Lowball Event 8 June 5  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$96,367  
Buy In \$2,500  
Entries 147

**Phil Ivey**  
Las Vegas, NV  
2009 40TH ANNUAL WSOP  
Rio Hotel & Casino Las Vegas, NV  
Omaha/Seven Card Stud Hi-Low 8 or Better Event 25 June 14  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$220,538  
Buy In \$2,500  
Entries 376



**Lisa Hamilton**  
Honolulu, HI  
2009 40TH ANNUAL WSOP  
Rio Hotel & Casino Las Vegas, NV  
Ladies NL Hold'em Event 17 June 8  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$195,390  
Buy In \$1,000  
Entries 1060



**Daniel Alcai**  
Los Angeles, CA  
2009 40TH ANNUAL WSOP  
Rio Hotel & Casino Las Vegas, NV  
Omaha Hi-Low Split-8 or Better Event 18 June 9  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$445,898  
Buy In \$10,000  
Entries 179



**Brock Parker**  
San Francisco, CA  
2009 40TH ANNUAL WSOP  
Rio Hotel & Casino Las Vegas, NV  
NL Hold'em 6-Handed Event 19 June 10  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$552,745  
Buy In \$2,500  
Entries 1068



**John-Paul Kelly**  
Aylesbury, UK  
2009 40TH ANNUAL WSOP  
Rio Hotel & Casino Las Vegas, NV  
\$1,500 Pot-Limit Hold'em Event 20 June 11  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$194,434  
Buy In \$1,500  
Entries 633



**Ken Aldridge**  
Pleasant Garden, NC  
2009 40TH ANNUAL WSOP  
Rio Hotel & Casino Las Vegas, NV  
NL Hold'em/Six Handed Event 9 June 5  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$428,259  
Buy In \$5,000  
Entries 1,459



**Rami Boukai**  
San Diego, CA  
2009 40TH ANNUAL WSOP  
Rio Hotel & Casino Las Vegas, NV  
Mixed Pot Limit Hold'em/Omaha 10 June 5  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$244,862  
Buy In \$2,500  
Entries 453



**Anthony Harb**  
Canton, MI  
2009 40TH ANNUAL WSOP  
Rio Hotel & Casino Las Vegas, NV  
No Limit Hold'em Event 11 June 6  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$569,254  
Buy In \$2,000  
Entries 1,646



**Ville Wahlbeck**  
Helsinki, Finland  
2009 40TH ANNUAL WSOP  
Rio Hotel & Casino Las Vegas, NV  
World Champ. Mixed Event 12 June 6  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$492,384  
Buy In \$10,000  
Entries 194



**Zac Fellows**  
Vancouver, BC, Canada  
2009 40TH ANNUAL WSOP  
Rio Hotel & Casino Las Vegas, NV  
H.O.R.S.E. Event 21 June 12  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$311,899  
Buy In \$3,000  
Entries 452



**Jeffery Carris**  
Las Vegas, NV  
2009 40TH ANNUAL WSOP  
Rio Hotel & Casino Las Vegas, NV  
NL Hold'em Shootout Event 22 June 12  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$313,673  
Buy In \$1,500  
Entries 999



**Nick Schulman**  
New York, NY  
2009 40TH ANNUAL WSOP  
Rio Hotel & Casino Las Vegas, NV  
2-7 Draw Lowball Event 23 June 12  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$279,751  
Buy In \$10,000  
Entries 96



**Pete Vilandos**  
Houston, TX  
2009 40TH ANNUAL WSOP  
Rio Hotel & Casino Las Vegas, NV  
2-7 Draw Lowball Event 24 June 13  
Finished 1st  
Earnings \$607,256  
Buy In \$1,500  
Entries 2,506



PHOTO CREDIT: MWD/2009

## Vitaly Lunkin wins star-studded \$40,000 NLHE event

Many big names entered, but a lesser known player proved the victor. Russian Vitaly Lunkin won the \$40,000 buy-in No-Limit Hold'em tournament at the World Series of Poker, taking down nearly \$1.9 million in the process.

The win gives Lunkin more than \$2.5 million in lifetime WSOP earnings, which puts him in 34th place on the all-time money list.

The first open event of the WSOP, held in honor of the 40th anniversary of the tournament, drew 201 players and created a prize pool of \$7.7 million, the largest non-Main Event pot in WSOP history.

He had to defeat one of the all-time toughest fields to earn his second bracelet, as most of poker's top stars took part in the tournament that will be one of the few televised by ESPN this year.

Although the 38-year-old Lunkin may not be a household name, he has enjoyed plenty of poker success, including winning a \$1,500 NLHE event at the WSOP in 2008 for his first gold bracelet. The Moscow resident mostly plays in his native country other than attending the last two WSOPs.

The final table consisted of former Main Event champion Greg "Fossilman" Raymer and five-time bracelet winner Ted Forrest. Other players among the final nine were online pros Isaac Haxton and Justin Bonomo.

In addition to playing poker, Lunkin is a business manager back home. He is married with two children.

It was an interesting tournament for Raymer because he was simultaneously entered into the Champions Invitational event for past Main Event winners, and played in the \$40K while he was blinded out in the other event. He busted in third in the \$40K, earning \$775,000, and then moved to his short stack in the invitational only to bust on the next hand there.

"This was the most difficult tournament of my life," Lunkin said through a Russian translator in a post-tournament interview.

"When I was young, we did not have poker," Vitaly said about growing up in the former Soviet Union. When asked about his reaction to coming to Las Vegas and winning more money in the past two years than most people earn in a lifetime, Vitaly was quite diplomatic. "I think we don't have this barrier (between our countries) anymore. "Poker is one of the things that helped our countries come together."

Haxton faced Lunkin heads-up for the title with a slight chip lead, but the one-on-one play would only last 90 minutes. On the final hand, Lunkin limped on the button, Haxton raised to 600K and Lunkin called. After a flop of Qd-Td-8d, Haxton bet 1.2 million and Lunkin moved all-in, which Haxton called for his last 5.6 million. Lunkin held As-Ah, but Haxton had 14 outs with 8c-3d. However, the turn and river bricked off 7c-Ks and Lunkin was the champion.

Haxton earned \$1.17 million for second, which was the biggest tournament win in his career. **R**



Presented By



Poker seminars • WSOP® merchandise • "Lap of Luxury" • Poker celebrities • Prize money • Poker publications • Poker media • Poker seminars • WSOP merchandise • "Lap of Luxury" • Poker celebrities • Artwork • Bad Beat Bar • Live entertainment • WSOP history • Great food • Poker events • Competitions • High-end cars • Interactive gaming • Poker products • Pro tutorials • WSOP memorabilia • Game

# THE WORLD'S LARGEST POKER EXPO

FIRST ANNUAL • July 2 – 5, 2009 • 11am – 8:30pm • RIO Pavilion

For more information, contact (702) 777-2310

[www.worldseriesofpoker.com](http://www.worldseriesofpoker.com)



## The "Jovial Gent" wins the WPT Championship

After an eight-day affair, young Yevgeniy Timoshenko, who goes by "Jovial Gent" online, took down the final World Poker Tour event of the year – the \$25,000 championship event at the Bellagio in Las Vegas.

The 21-year-old had a tough final table to wade through, as the final six included Scotty Nguyen, Shannon Shorr and Bertrand "ElkY" Grospellier. Rounding out the field were Christian Harder and Ran Azor.

Timoshenko entered the final table with a huge chip lead, having amassed a stack of 13.3 million. Harder had the next largest stack with 7.43 million while Shorr trailed the field with 1.13 million.

The Tuscaloosa, Ala., resident was able to double up quickly however, when he shoved all-in over the top of an Azor raise and Nguyen call. Nguyen called the all-in with pocket sixes, but could not best the pocket tens held by Shorr. That hand crippled Nguyen, making him the first to exit when his A-4 lost to the A-9 of Harder on an A-K-2-A-7 board. The "Prince of Poker" earned \$285,985 for sixth.

Shorr's tournament life was short lived after his double up. Getting short, he pushed all-in from the small blind with 7c-6c and Timoshenko called from the big blind with 4-4. The board ran out A-9-3-J-K to



COURTESY OF WORLD POKER TOUR

knock Shorr out in fifth, which awarded him \$408,550. Timoshenko now had more than 22 million chips and was in position to dominate the final four.

The next elimination resulted in two for the price of one. Harder pushed all-in for 1.9 million from the button and Azor called in the small blind. "ElkY" then moved all-in himself for nearly 2.8 million from the big blind. Azor was priced in and called. The hands were A-J for Grospellier, A-8 for Harder and A-7 for Azor. As often seems to happen in this case the flop brought a 7 and the turn and river were no help for Harder and Grospellier. Harder collected \$571,965 while Grospellier got \$776,245.

Perhaps just as big for the young PokerStars pro Grospellier was that the finish earned him enough points to move above John Phan for the WPT Player of the Year award. Past winners include Jonathan Little, Daniel Negreanu, Erick Lindgren, Howard

Lederer, Gavin Griffin and J.C. Tran.

Heads-up play was short – real short, as in one hand short. Azor raised to 800K and Timoshenko pushed all-in. Azor called with Q-T, ready to gamble, while Timoshenko led slightly with A-3. The flop brought the Q-J-7 to put Azor in the lead, but the turn came K and the river was the 10 to give Timoshenko the winning straight. Azor received \$1,446,265 for the second-place finish while Timoshenko collected a hefty \$2,149,960.

The Ukraine native, who now lives in Washington state, has already won three live events, including the Irish Poker Open and the Asian Poker Tour Macau main event. **R**



## CLYDE MAY'S Conecuh Ridge FINE WHISKEY

### Alabama Manhattan

1½ oz. Conecuh Ridge Fine Whiskey; ¼ oz. Sweet (or Dry) Vermouth; dash Bitters... Combine all ingredients into an ice-filled cocktail shaker. Shake well and strain into Cocktail glass. Garnish with a lemon twist.

### Conecuh Smoothy

6 oz. Conecuh Ridge Fine Whiskey;  
2 ripe bananas; 4-5 scoops vanilla ice cream...  
Combine in Smoothy machine or blender.  
Great as an appetizer or dessert!

### Straight Up

Many folks prefer Conecuh Ridge straight-up, on the rocks... There aren't enough oo's in smooth to describe it!



Clyde May's Conecuh Ridge smooth whiskey is available in Alabama, California, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas. Ask for it by name where fine whiskeys are sold!

Please enjoy responsibly.

© 2008 Conecuh Ridge Distillery, Inc., Orange Beach, AL



# SIVAN KRISPIN

BIRTHPLACE: Israel  
 HOMETOWN: San Jose, CA  
 BIRTHDATE: 5-15-85  
 SIGN: Taurus  
 MEASUREMENTS: 34;26;34  
 HEIGHT: 5'5  
 EYES: Brown

FAVORITES:  
 ACTIVITY: Is shopping an activity? :p  
 VACATION SPOT: Bahamas  
 POKER PLAYER: Raymond Davis..only cuz I met him :)  
 SPORTS TEAM: For my boys..Raiders!  
 MY BEST FEATURE IS: My butt :)

THE BEST DATE I EVER HAD WAS: First time at the drive ins with my ex boyfriend

THE WORST DATE I EVER HAD WAS: All of them..I'm really not a dating kinda girl..if I had a good date, I probably wouldn't be single right now :p

SOMETHING PEOPLE WOULD NEVER GUESS ABOUT ME IS: I'm actually very shy and conservative. haha

THE BEST PICK UP LINE I'VE HEARD IS: "Can I buy you a drink or do you just want the money?" hahaha..I barely even drink so this one's perfect for me :)

THE WORST PICK UP LINE I'VE HEARD IS: "I'm not usually this tall, I'm sitting on my wallet" ..ehh..guys that talk about their money are a big no no!

THE BEST TIP I COULD GIVE GUYS ABOUT DATING IS: Be yourself :p

I'M HAPPIEST WHEN: I'm eating..haha :D

TO GET ME IN A ROMANTIC MOOD YOU WOULD NEED TO: Kiss me on my neck ;)



**June 21st**  
 Father's Day -  
 1pm \$350 Buy-In  
 1st Place Guaranteed  
 WSOP Main Event Package  
 (\$12,500 value)



**Get your  
 Player  
 Rewards  
 Card  
 NOW!**

**Start earning points  
 towards comps!**

**Progressive  
 Jackpots, Bonus  
 Hand Payouts,  
 Giveaways,  
 Happy Hour,  
 and Promotions  
 EVERYDAY!**



Buy your tournament seats on-line at  
 ptseats.com  
 play smart from the start

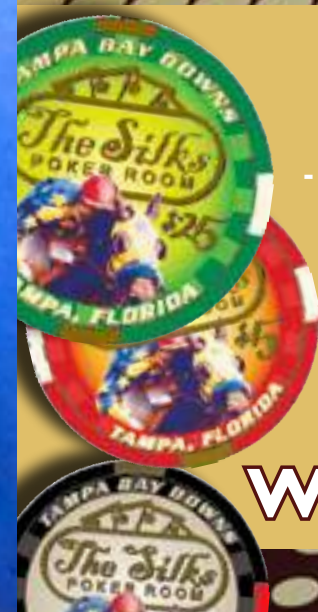
Table-Side Massage  
 AMENITY PRO

**OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK 12:30PM-12:30AM  
 GREAT FOOD & FUN!**

**- FULL RESTAURANT - FULL BAR - TABLE-SIDE COCKTAIL SERVICE  
 - ROAMING TELLERS - 50 PLASMA SCREEN TV'S**

**The Silks Poker Room at Tampa Bay Downs**  
 11225 Racetrack Rd. Tampa, FL 33626 Phone: (813) 298-1798  
 Just 10 minutes West of Tampa International Airport  
 Check out our multi-table tournament calendar & promotions at

**WWW.TAMPABAYDOWNS.COM**





# MAHSHEED

SULTRY SELLER PUTS STEAM IN SALES

BY DAVE LUKOW

Mahsheed sells real estate in Sin City. I'm not in the market right now, but if she's doing the selling, I'm writing a check.

"I've been doing it for four years now, I love it," she says. "There's nothing else I'd do in Vegas." Nothing else! What about poker?

"I don't play, no," Mahsheed says. "Everybody around me does, so I see a lot of it."

She may not play, but she doesn't just see the game ... she watches it.

"I watch it on television, especially Poker After Dark," says Mahsheed. "I know a lot of the guys on the show. When you know them, it's a lot more fun. Working as a realtor, I get to meet a lot of the players."

Despite her success with sales, it's not something this dreamy Californian had thought about as a youngster.

"To be honest, I kind of fell into it," Mahsheed admits. "I'm completely happy with it."

Vegas, not surprisingly, is a great place to sell property.

"For work, I love it," Mahsheed says. "Other than that, I'm more of a homebody. I've been here six years. I don't like going out that much."

The bright lights, I guess, aren't for everyone.

"I've never done any modeling," she tells me. "I never wanted to either."

For what it's worth, whether she wanted to model or not, it's another profession she would've aced.

HOMETOWN: San Jose, CA

HEIGHT: 5'4"

EYES: Brown

SIGN: Scorpio

FAVORITES:

ACTIVITY: Travelling

VACATION SPOT: New York and Miami



*Bad Beats, High Hands & Four-of-a-Kind Giveaways*

**Over \$500,000 in Jackpots Paid-Out In Our 1st Year!**

Florida's Favorite Monthly "Deep Stack" Tournament

-  Progressive Quads
-  Daily Tournaments
-  High Hands of The Hour

Hold'Em & Stud/Omaha Bad Beat Jackpots

Full Card Simulcast O.T.B.

All Of Our Facilities Are Open 7 Days-a-Week



**FT. PIERCE JAI-ALAI & POKER**

KINGS HWY. NORTH OF TURNPIKE EXIT 152  
WEST OF I-95 EXIT 129 OKEECHOBEE RD.  
FORT PIERCE, FL | (772) 467-0790 | jaialai.net

# Mark Seliger

Mark Seliger is most well known as a brilliant world renowned photographer. He has published five critically acclaimed photography books and shot so many covers and layouts for magazines in his career, they are to numerous to mention. Mark's recently released CD/DVD compilation "Luck's Changing Lanes" showcases another aspect of this talented rock photographer, however. The founder and frontman for the band Rusty Truck's venture into singing and song-writing has brought us some classic recordings worthy of inclusion in any music lovers collection. Collaborators on the production "Luck's Changing Lanes" include T Bone Burnett, Sheryl Crow, Jakob Dylan, Lenny Kravitz, Willie Nelson, Rob Thomas, and Gillian Welch.



## DO YOU PLAY POKER?

I don't play Poker. I used to play as a kid. I wish I did. In fact I was just having a conversation with my cousin about starting a Poker night because I love Poker and you know, it is the missing link in my world. I need Poker. My grandfather was an immigrant from Russia who came to Texas and one of his favorite things to do was play cards. My understanding from my fathers perspective was that he was a damn good card player. My grandmother was a tournament bridge player, so there has got to be something in there for me.

## SO PEOPLE MAY OR MAY NOT KNOW THAT SOME OF THE MOST FAMOUS 'COVERS OF THE ROLLING STONE' THEY'VE SEEN, WERE PHOTOGRAPHED BY YOU.

I worked for Rolling Stone from 1992 to 2002.. Shot a lot of musicians.

## DO YOU THINK THAT MADE MUSIC A MORE IMPORTANT PART OF YOUR LIFE?

I think that music has always been an aspect of my life and the whole connection to music for me photographically was great. I thought

of it really from a visual stand point more than I did from the writing aspect till ten years ago, and then I really started to write much more. I think that by listening to a lot of things and by having an appreciation of the moments, that you are actually listening to the way that other people write and your appreciation for other people and how they do things becomes an influence wether it is conscious or unconscious. Those things become pretty helpful in terms of being able to have an idea.

## WHEN DID YOU BEGIN PLAYING MUSIC?

I started playing guitar when I was a kid and I'm sort of self taught and I played in the privacy of my own home, but I sang and that was a real connection for me. That eventually started to become something that I did in my pass time and then I would say probably in '98 / '99...I really started to find a way to take a lot of fiction, a lot of stories I had heard from people, or things I had read and be able to transpose it into lyrics and I started to write very simple music. My songs are all pretty much a fairly personal journey of stumbling into my way of doing it. Finding a way to write words and to be able to tell a story from song-writing, just became a real

interesting pass time. So when I was on a plane I would start a song and usually would get half way through it.

## THE FIRST TIME I SAW YOU PLAY WAS ON IMUS. I REALLY MISS THAT SHOW. I USED TO WATCH HIM EVERY MORNING.

I know. He is a great guy. He was really, I would say, probably the best promoter of our band, and he always would give us a plug and enjoyed having us play on the show. He is a real music fan. He is also an extremely controversial human being. The record was on a smaller label and they kind of lost steam. Then Imus caught wind of us and he really supported the record and from that aspect of him supporting the record, we got asked to do a re-release with Ryco. So I recorded two new songs and did a really simple video or film. We did five films to five of the songs, primarily in Texas where we went to the rodeos. The visual aspect of the music is good, but I think it adds to have the film included in the dvd.

## THERE ARE A LOT OF FAMOUS MUSICIANS ON 'LUCK'S CHANGING LANES'.

They're producers. The whole process was about having these people I had worked

with in other ways coming on board and taking the songs and adding their vision. The songs came from a very basic place, just with the guitar. That was the whole idea. The process of writing the song and playing it on your guitar is a much different process than recording it; or it can be. But the people on the album are all people I have worked with from wether it was making a video with them or taking a picture for a magazine or whatever. It was really a wonderful experience because the people I worked with who I really enjoyed working with from a photographic place gave me an opportunity, or brought me into the world of recording. It is their world and they were as enthusiastic to show me their world as I was to show them mine. Recording is a process where you have to allow the producer the freedom to do what they need to do. That is a given. As much as I love performing with the band or just singing a song with the guitar, recording is a very different experience because the producer has to have a vision of what that song can be potentially. Every time I write a song, that song is formed and evolved into something different and that was really a neat process. That is what I really like about recording... when you have the ability to take something which is really organic and personal and have it embellished into something better. It is a great thing to see.

## TELL ME ABOUT 'RUSTY TRUCK' THE BAND.

Well, I had been playing with the same musicians for a while and that has been something I have done since I started writing; playing out. Then when I started to put together recording the record, and once the record came, we started to do it from

a different place. Performing really became much more of an interesting outlet for me too. I am working on a new record with my band. We are a young band. We have been truly playing for maybe six or seven years, so because I kind of started late in life we are taking no prisoners. We really enjoy getting out there and playing real well and singing real well.

## SO YOU WORK FOR VANITY FAIR AND GQ NOW? I WOULD IMAGINE YOU ARE VERY BUSY.

Well It's fun, you know, for me to be able to work with lots of different artist and working for magazines and also producing my own work and writing music is pretty much a great synergetic process; the balance of doing something visual and the balance of doing something that is more poetic in the sense of writing and connecting that with a voice. Really, the way I have progressed in writing is from what I could do vocally, which is something that I have stumbled onto. The particular sort of tone that I have and the idea of what my voice could do was really instrumental in terms of the way that I wanted to write. I am not very poppy. I don't really sing those kind of songs. I have always loved really nicer lonesome ballads and those are things that really had a great effect on me. So that is really the catalyst behind a lot of the song-writing, and that is a great place to come from. It is definitely a balance between the day job and the things I want to do musically.

You can find more about Mark at [www.markseliger.com](http://www.markseliger.com). Pick up the Rusty Truck cd 'Lucks Changing Lanes' and visit them at [www.rustytruckmusic.com](http://www.rustytruckmusic.com) **R**

**BIRMINGHAM, AL**  
[www.thenickrocks.com](http://www.thenickrocks.com)  
[www.myspace.com/thenickrocks](http://www.myspace.com/thenickrocks)

## DARLENE'S PICKS

**Dinosaur Jr.**  
 Jun 22, 2009  
 The Troubadour  
 West Hollywood, CA

**Gov't Mule**  
 Jul 23, 2009  
 Sloss Furnace  
 Birmingham, AL

**Dusty Rhodes and the River Band**  
 Jun 24-25, 2009  
 Dfest Music Festival  
 Tulsa, OK

**The Lemonheads**  
 Jun 25, 2009  
 Bowery Ballroom  
 New York, NY

**Booker T. Jones**  
 Jul 4, 2009  
 Taste of Chicago  
 Chicago, IL

**Bob Dylan, Willie Nelson & John Mellencamp**  
 Jul 29, 2009  
 Smokies Stadium  
 Sevierville, TN



**Beau Rivage - Biloxi, MS**

Call 1-888-566-7469 or buy tickets online at [www.beaurivage.com](http://www.beaurivage.com)



▲ **Wynonna**  
June 26

**Michael McDonald & Boz Scaggs**  
July 3

**Gladys Knight**  
July 10



▲ **Dwight Yoakam**  
July 11



▲ **Johnny Mathis**  
July 17 - 18

**Engelbert Humperdinck**  
July 24



▲ **Counting Crows**  
August 6

**Hard Rock - Biloxi, MS**

Call 228-374-Rock or buy tickets online at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com)

**Joan Rivers**  
June 26



▲ **The Molly Ringwalds**  
July 4

**Air Supply**  
July 10 - 11

▲ **Tony Orlando**  
July 24



▲ **Lee Greenwood**  
July 31



▲ **Delbert McClinton**  
August 7

**The Orleans - Las Vegas, NV**

Call 702-365-7111 buy tickets online at [www.orleanscasino.com](http://www.orleanscasino.com)

**Andre Rieu**  
June 24



▲ **Clint Black**  
June 26 - 28

**Bill Maher**  
July 3 - 5

**Kenny G**  
July 10 - 12



▲ **Gladys Knight**  
August 7 - 9

ALWAYS A HAPPY ENDING

快樂結局  
TAO

ASIAN BISTRO  
NIGHTCLUB  
LOUNGE  
BEACH

DINNER  
RESERVATIONS  
702.388.8338

NIGHTCLUB  
RESERVATIONS  
702.388.8588

[WWW.TAOLASVEGAS.COM](http://WWW.TAOLASVEGAS.COM)  
[WWW.TAOGROUPBLOG.COM](http://WWW.TAOGROUPBLOG.COM)

THE  
**VENETIAN**  
Resort - Hotel - Casino





## EXPERIENCE XS BY DAVID SASSEMAN

A night out at XS Nightclub, located inside Encore Las Vegas, is a Vegas "experience" you don't want to miss. XS is just that, excess. Just walking into Steve Wynn's newest creation, Encore, a \$2.3 billion hotel, casino, and resort is incredible. The man with his revolutionary visions also created the tower next door, the Wynn Resort. When the nightclub at the Wynn Resort did not do as well as expected, Victor Draï, a pro, was called in, and along with managing partners Cy and Jesse Waits, they transformed Tryst Nightclub into one of the most successful nightlife venues in Vegas. It made so much money it helped turned Vegas from stage driven nightlife to the present nightclub scene where the patrons are now part of the show. And a show it is. Beyond even Hollywood's wildest dreams.

XS is like a dream. You will feel enchanted as you are magically whisked back into the French Riviera. The beauty of this club is unsurpassed. Exciting days merge with erotic nights as the "European" (tops optional) pool becomes the backdrop to the club. Blackjack tables and a bar are set up on a peninsula jutting into the pool. There are no

walls. Half of the club is indoors and half under the stars. The rest of the club is a huge dance floor with lush private cabanas and seating tiered two stories high, theater fashion. The attention to textures, lighting, and sound is sensational. The 15 dancing poles and stages are used by professional Go-Go dancers and the general public. And dance they do, gorgeous. There is no need for a Las Vegas show when this place gets cranked up.

XS is unimaginably stunning. The waiting lines are long. It is an expensive nightclub, but it is the best, and what many people come to Vegas to see. One way to beat the line is come early, 10PM, get your hand stamped, you can leave and come back.

If you come early you could enjoy one of Encore's five restaurants, seven bars, or 11 high-end retail stores with brands like Chanel, Rock & Republic, Hermes, and Rolex. It also has an on-site golf course, spa and salon. With this slow economy some good package deals are being offered. **R**

MUSIC: A mixture of hip hop, top 40, trance, with a little house. COVER: \$30 men. Ladies usually free, sometime \$20.  
 DAYS: Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday HOURS: 10:00PM - 4:00AM INDUSTRY NIGHT: Monday- Special prices.  
 CAPACITY: 2000 SIZE: 45,000 square feet- Largest club in Vegas  
 XS RESERVATIONS: (702) 770-0097 ENCORE LAS VEGAS: (888) 320-7125 www.encorelasvegas.com

# ROUNDER LIFE

NEW TELEVISION SERIES!



**R**OUNDER MAGAZINE is producing a new network television series featuring Poker Pros, Celebrities and our entourage of beautiful Rounder Girls traveling the nation on the Rounder Tour Bus in a fun reality TV setting.



Rounder Life TV will travel the U.S. with Poker Pros, Celebrities and our incomparable Rounder Girls "Livin' it up" in style at the hottest Casino Resorts in the country, showcasing all the entertainment and amenities they have to offer. Get a peek into the life of a Rounder, (exclusive parties, the hottest night clubs, top restaurants, "High Roller" suites) and go behind the scenes of Rounder Magazine model photo shoots set in exotic locations. Rounder Life is an exciting TV Series for poker enthusiasts to see how the Pros "ROLL".



3960 HOWARD HUGHES PARKWAY • SUITE 500 • LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89169

## BE THE NEXT ROUNDER GIRL

OPEN CASTING CALLS FOR TV FIELD HOSTS AND "COVER MODELS" FOR ROUNDER MAGAZINE AND THE ROUNDER GIRL PROMOTIONAL TEAM.



### Rio All Suite Hotel & Casino

JULY 2ND-6TH  
 ROUND BOOTH AT POKER PALOOZA  
 FOR MORE INFORMATION,  
 CALL 205-937-9887

*Girls must be 21 to participate*



# Ask Hoyt



## WE CAUGHT UP WITH HOYT AS HE PREPARES HIMSELF FOR THE GRUELING SEVEN-WEEK WORLD SERIES OF POKER.

**IF YOU COULD PICK FIVE POKER PLAYERS, LIVING OR DEAD, FOR YOUR DREAM WPT FINAL TABLE, WHO WOULD THEY BE?** *Roger in Florida*

I guess there were one or two presidents who played poker. Was Truman a poker player? So I guess I will take him for one. I might take Wild Bill Hickok. Of course, you've got to put Doyle Brunson in there. I guess you could put Stu Ungar in there and I'll go with Johnny Moss. Everybody knows Johnny Moss.

**WHAT WOULD BE YOUR FIRST PIECE OF ADVICE FOR SOMEONE JUST GETTING INTO POKER?** *Billy in Texas*

I always preach money management and discipline. You've got to pace yourself with it. If you're trying to do it professionally your bankroll is your most important thing and not to lose over a certain percentage of your bankroll in one night, maybe five percent, maybe not over 10 percent of your bankroll in one week.

**HOW MANY PLAYERS DO YOU MOST PREFER TO PLAY AGAINST AT A TABLE AND WHY THAT NUMBER?** *Joe in Georgia*

I think I would say eight. A lot of people like it shorter, but eight is slow enough where you can sit back and wait and fold a lot of hands, but you still have to make moves. I think eight-handed would be my favorite.

**HAVE YOU GOTTEN YOUR WSOP BRACELETS BACK YET? ARE THERE ANY LEADS ON THOSE? (HOYT'S WSOP BRACELETS WERE AMONG THE ITEMS STOLEN FROM HIS LAS VEGAS HOME LAST AUGUST DURING A HOME INVASION)** *Amy in Arkansas*

No, I have not received those back. No leads on those.

**HOW DO YOU MENTALLY PREPARE FOR THE RIGORS OF THE WSOP?**

*Marcus in California*  
I try to take May off, get some exercise and just try to get in good shape. Try not to deal with a lot going into it. Two weeks before it starts I want to get peace of mind and solitude where I can start fresh.

**WHAT IS THE DUMBEST PLAY YOU'VE EVER SEEN AT A POKER TABLE? (FEEL FREE TO WITHHOLD NAMES TO PROTECT THE INNOCENT)**

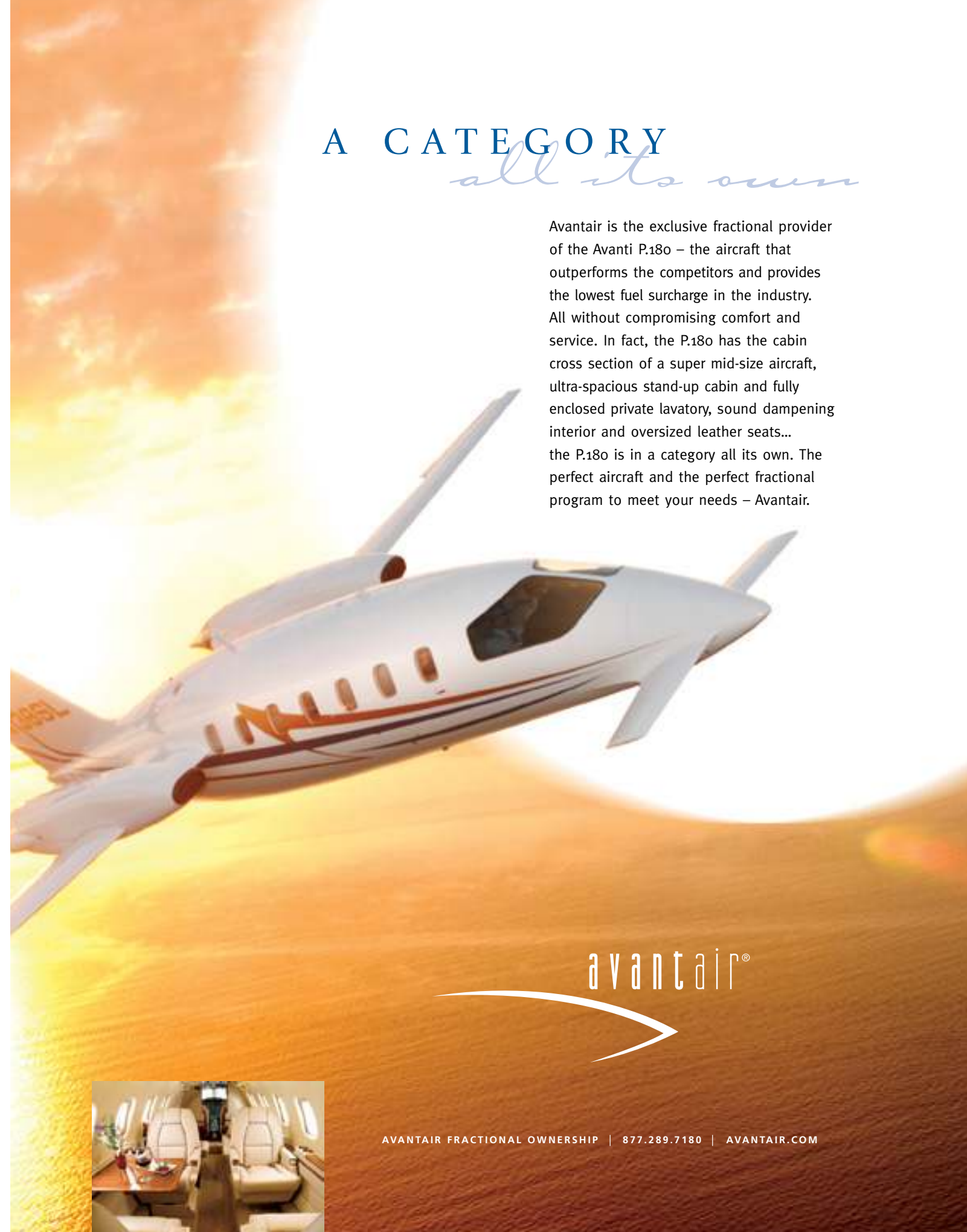
*Jim in Nevada*  
I would say calling with the absolute nuts would be one of the dumbest plays and I've seen it three or four times throughout my life. Somebody had the nuts, couldn't be beat and just flat called. I've seen the play where there didn't appear to be collusion. The guy just smooth called with the nuts. I've made a few dumb plays myself. Most of mine came from overlooking my hands. You play long enough you'll overlook your hand, so that's embarrassing. All those I guess were just mental lapses. **R**

*Hoyt Corkins is one of the world's best poker players. The two-time World Series of Poker champion is known as the "Alabama Cowboy" and "Mr. All-In." Each month Hoyt shares his 30 years of poker experience with our readers. If you have a question for Hoyt, you can write him at [askhoyt@rounderlife.com](mailto:askhoyt@rounderlife.com).*

## A CATEGORY

*all its own*

Avantair is the exclusive fractional provider of the Avanti P.180 – the aircraft that outperforms the competitors and provides the lowest fuel surcharge in the industry. All without compromising comfort and service. In fact, the P.180 has the cabin cross section of a super mid-size aircraft, ultra-spacious stand-up cabin and fully enclosed private lavatory, sound dampening interior and oversized leather seats... the P.180 is in a category all its own. The perfect aircraft and the perfect fractional program to meet your needs – Avantair.



avantair®



# The Tutima NATO Chronograph

*Celebrating Over 20 Years of Service*



  
**Tutima**  
German Tradition since 1927



Tutima Chronographs are official  
standard equipment of NATO pilots  
and the German Armed Forces.

**Carrazza** Fort Lauderdale, FL (954) 523-5237  
**Leo Hamel & Co.** San Diego, CA (619) 299-1500  
**The Watchmaker** Stoneham, MA (781) 438-6977

Contact us for the complimentary literature of Tutima's Instrument Watches. Distributed in North America by Tutima USA, Inc. (888) 462-7888 [www.tutima.com](http://www.tutima.com)