

**2013/2014 World Series of Poker Circuit
Season 10
Harrah's Tunica
Tunica, MS
Event #6
No-Limit Hold'em
Buy-In: \$300 (+\$65)
Total Entries: 318
Prize Pool: \$95,400
January 28-29, 2014**



Oran Haynes Makes it Count in Event 6

Winner breaks through for first gold ring following five career final table appearances and two runner-up finishes, earns \$22,416.

Tunica, MS (January 29, 2014) — With four previous final table berths including two runner-up finishes already under his belt, the fifth time was a charm for Oran Haynes who broke through for a gold ring at Harrah's Tunica Wednesday evening. The victory – his first on the Circuit – came in a \$365 event and earned him \$22,416 as well as 50 points toward the Casino Championship.

“I’ve gone [into the final table] with the chip lead by a tremendous amount and blew it,” Haynes said of previous performances. “To finally win one... it’s unbelievable. Of course you have to have luck go your way, and I did. It’s been a remarkable ride.”

Joining Haynes in the late stages of play was ring winner Paul “Bicycle” Sokoloff. Sokoloff proved to be a tough competitor, having previously finished third in a \$10,000 H.O.R.S.E. event at the summer Series in 2012. There, he bested the likes of Dan Kelly, Abe Mosseri, Matt Waxman, Phil Ivey and Phil Hellmuth at the final table, but couldn’t break through for gold. While the competition was less decorated at tonight’s final table, it proved to be an equally difficult task as Sokoloff finished fourth, earning \$7,436.

Haynes, a small business owner from Baton Rouge, LA who now lives in Shreveport, considers himself a semi-professional and says he spends a lot of his free time grinding cash games or following the Circuit. His game has stayed consistently sharp over the years, recording eight Circuit cashes and pocketing more than \$80,000 in career earnings since 2011.

But, as a ringless man until tonight, he admitted at some point the motivation is less cash prizes and more the priceless hardware.

“[It was more important to] get the monkey off my back,” he said of his motivation late. “Of course you’re in it for the money, but to win a ring is something special. When you win one, it’s incredible.”

Haynes received congratulations from Circuit regular like Katherine Bowen and the Harrah's Tunica events center went up in applause when the tournament director announced his

achievement to the room. Undoubtedly, the win means a bit more to Haynes not only because of his close calls in the past, but because of his fondness of Harrah's Tunica as a Circuit facility.

"I was saying yesterday, this is probably the best stop I've been to by far," he explained. "From the poker room itself to the staff and the friendliness, I have nothing but great things to say about Tunica. This is a great series here."

Prior to Wednesday night, Haynes had made his way through massive re-entry fields only to finish fifth. He'd shared final tables with gold ring winners Bowen and Earl Merritt just to come up one spot short. He'd carded five-figure scores and ran deep in Main Events. About the only thing he hadn't done was play his way into the winner's circle.

Tonight, that all changed. And look out, Circuit, because the gold trophies will likely start to come in droves.

Event 6 was the sixth of 12 gold ring events on the WSOP Circuit schedule at Harrah's Tunica. The \$365 No-Limit Hold'em tournament attracted 318 players generating a \$95,400 prize pool. The top 33 players were paid.

Day 1 began Tuesday at 12 p.m. and lasted 21 levels. Day 2 began Wednesday at 2 p.m. with eight players remaining and play concluded at 6:15 p.m.

Notes on the Event

- Joining Oran Haynes at the final table was gold ring winner Paul "Bicycle" Sokoloff. In the summer of 2012, Sokoloff finished third in the Series' \$10,000 H.O.R.S.E. event, besting Dan Kelly, Abe Mosseri, Matt Waxman, Phil Ivey and Phil Hellmuth at the final table. He earned \$183,784. David "Bakes" Baker won the event, marking his second gold bracelet.
- Duane Gerleman (fifth) recorded his second final table appearance of the Tunica series. He previously finished eighth in Event 4.

The player who accumulates the most overall points during Harrah's Tunica's twelve combined gold ring tournaments earns the title Casino Champion and receives automatic entry into the WSOP National Championship to take place at Caesars Atlantic City this spring.

All players who cash in ring events receive points that apply toward the Casino Champion's race and the season-long race to claim one of 50 at-large National Championship bids awarded to the top point earners throughout the season. More information on the points system is available on WSOP.com.

Here is the list of gold ring winners from Harrah's Tunica:

EVENT #1: Mitch Franks defeated 384 players (\$365 NLH) for \$25,341

EVENT #2: Nick Burriss defeated 560 players (\$365 NLH) for \$35,290

EVENT #3: Robert Richardson defeated 1,448 entries (\$365 NLH Re-Entry) for \$74,932

EVENT #4: Robert Hankins defeated 347 players (\$365 NLH) for \$23,941

EVENT #5: Justin Brown defeated 348 players (\$365 NLH) for \$24,012

EVENT #6: Oran Haynes defeated 318 players (\$365 NLH) for \$22,416

With the sixth tournament wrapped, six more ring events remain at Harrah's Tunica.

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For additional information please contact:

Lukas M. Willems (WSOP Media Coordinator) at lukasmwillems@gmail.com.