



PRESS RELEASE

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Golden Nugget's Inaugural Grand Poker Series concludes with \$1.2+ million in total prize money awarded

LAS VEGAS – The Golden Nugget Hotel & Casino concluded its inaugural Grand Poker Series July 6, handing out more than \$1.2 million in total prize money, along with three championship bracelets, throughout the 30-day event.

The series, held in the property's newest events center, The Grand, hosted more than 15,000 players from across the globe, as well as raised more than \$250,000 for charity through two celebrity charity tournaments.

“We’re extremely happy with the success of our first Grand Poker Series,” said John Colville, Director of the Golden Nugget’s Poker Room. “Between our philanthropic charity events, varying popular daily tournaments and exciting celebrity hosted festivities, we gave players the very best in poker options and, in turn, brought in both new and known faces, highlighting the Golden Nugget as the place to be for top-tier poker.”

The Grand Poker Series featured daily tournaments on more than 50 tables, hosting 24/7 cash games, sit and go satellites, and much more.

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Matthew May of Suffolk, England, won the first bracelet during *Cards, Celebrities and Cause*, a Montel Williams hosted celebrity charity tournament June 6 which raised \$25,000 for Williams' Multiple Sclerosis Foundation.

Siriwan Sukmekerd of North Las Vegas, Nev., won the second bracelet after dominating the Golden Nugget Poker Queen Ladies Event June 9, pushing through a group of 219 women to take the win.

Inhpounh "Tony" Vangvone, of Nipomo, Calif., took home the third "Poker Shark" bracelet after winning the two-day Grand Finale, the concluding event of The Grand Poker Series.

2008 Grand Poker Series Daily Tournament Winners

June 6	Matt May	June 21	Pal Hjerfenes
June 7	Ablahad Tobya	June 22	Pat Batchelder
June 8	Steven Lee	June 23	Colleen Mullaney, Francis Pinchot and Rick Collins
June 9	Siriwan Sukmekerd	June 24	Nelson Huynh
June 10	John Pesch	June 25	Sirous Baghehesaraie
June 11	Jason Lane	June 26	Mansour Alipourtaro and Keith Loftus
June 12	Ron "RR" Roberts	June 27	Ed Limayo
June 13	Eugene Castro	June 28	James Milton Newberry
June 14	John Tipton	June 29	Allon Englman
June 15	Randy Shearer	June 30	Yoe Morton Hinstroza
June 16	Frederick Michael Short	July 1	Joan Pollack
June 17	Timothy David Clark, Cory Wilbur and Chris Gawlik	July 2	Darris Wiltse and Ray Ruis
June 18	A.C. Cordero	July 3	John Wolfington
June 19	Evan Mandery	July 4	Fred Thompson
June 20	Pat Batchelder	July 5	Inhpounh "Tony" Vangvone

During the highly-anticipated celebrity charity tournaments, amateurs, celebrities and professional poker players alike vied for the top recognition, as well as raised thousands for multiple charities. In attendance at one or both events were Don Cheadle, Shannon Elizabeth, Phil Gordon, Evelyn Ng, Todd Brunson, Jennifer Harmon, Daniel Negreanu, Barry Greenstein, Howard Lederer, Mike "The Mouth" Matusow, Marcel Lusk, Erick Lindgren, Erica Schoenberg, David Benyamine, Dan and Beth Shak, Jeff Madsen, Jennifer Tilly, Phil Laak, Jerry Yang, Chris "Jesus" Ferguson, Jamie Gold, Marsha Waggoner, Robert Williamson III, Debbie Burkhead and Women in Poker Hall of Famers Barbara Enright, Marsha Waggoner and Susie Isaacs, as well as hosts for both events, Montel Williams, Phil Ivey, Howard and Suzie Lederer, and Steve Zolotow.

“We’ve now got the ‘ace’ up our sleeve,” said Colville. “The poker community knows we weren’t bluffing; that the Golden Nugget provides the very best in poker offerings and this prestige will continue drawing players to our first-rate tournaments. We have even recently signed on as the host property for the 2009 season of the popular NBC series, Poker After Dark.”

For more information on The Grand Poker Series or the Golden Nugget Hotel & Casino visit us at www.goldennugget.com.

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ABOUT GOLDEN NUGGET LAS VEGAS

Winner of the AAA Four Diamond Award since 1977, the Golden Nugget Las Vegas is the most luxurious resort on the Fremont Street Experience, and consistently receives critical acclaim for exceeding customer expectations. The Golden Nugget offers more than 1,900 deluxe guest rooms and suites; a high-energy casino featuring the most popular slot and video poker machines, table games, race and sports book and poker room; nightly entertainment; world-class restaurants; luxury spa and salon and The Tank, a year-round outdoor swimming pool complete with a live shark aquarium. In September 2005, Landry’s Restaurants, Inc. purchased the Golden Nugget hotels and casinos in Las Vegas and Laughlin, Nev., and embarked on a 14-month, \$100 million renovation project, which was completed November 2006. In December 2007, the Golden Nugget completed its \$60 million Phase II project, which expanded the resort west onto First Street and introduced additional entertainment, event and dining venues. Hotel reservations and additional information are available by calling 800-634-3454, or by booking online at www.goldennugget.com.