2012-2013 World Series of Poker Circuit

Season Nine

The Lodge Casino

Black Hawk, CO

Event #3

No-Limit Hold'em Re-Entry

Buy-In: \$300 (+\$65) Total Entries: 516 Prize Pool: \$154,800

March 16-18, 2013

Mitch Schock-s the World, Bests 516-Player Field

North Dakota-based pro diversifies his WSOP portfolio, gives his bracelet some company.

Three-time WSOP Circuit champion Justin Gardenhire finishes third.

Black Hawk, Colo. (March 18, 2013) — Mitch Schock bested a 516-player field in this weekend's \$365 No-Limit Hold'em Re-Entry event at The Lodge Casino adding a WSOP Circuit gold ring to the gold bracelet he already owns. Schock, a professional poker player from North Dakota, was awarded \$33,284 and 50 points toward the Casino Championship.

"Monetarily (this victory) isn't nearly as big, but the win on the World Series of Poker Circuit is just huge," Schock said comparing his ring to his bracelet. "The dollar amount isn't the biggest thing. It's the title; the ring. I really wanted to have a World Series bracelet and a World Series ring."

Schock's gold bracelet came in 2011 in a \$2,500 Pot-Limit Hold'em/Omaha event. He bested a similar-sized field of 606 entrants to take home \$310,225. Much like during his run at a gold bracelet, Schock had his work cut out for him in Colorado Monday night.

Due to immense turnout, the event extended an extra day, bringing Schock, who held a sizable chip lead, as well as three-time WSOP Circuit champion Justin Gardenhire and Aaron Gardner back for a third day.

"It was kind of nerve-racking because I was supposed to win," Schock said of holding the overnight chip lead. "Everybody had kind of booked (the win) for me. We still had a lot of poker to play. One double up and either of them was right back in the game."

Gardenhire hit the rail almost as soon as he took his seat Monday night and Schock then enjoyed an almost eight-to-one chip lead over Gardner -- but nobody was going anywhere without a fight. Gardner doubled up when his nines-up bested Schock's eights-up and it was off to the races.

"Gardner had (1.8 million) at one point. He was right back in it," Schock said.

Schock worries were warranted, but never came to fruition as he eventually got the best of his 21-year-old adversary who walked with \$20,578.