2013/2014 World Series of Poker Circuit Season 10 Harrah's Tunica Tunica, MS Event #8 No-Limit Hold'em Buy-In: \$500 (+\$80)

Total Entries: 274 Prize Pool: \$137,000 January 30-31, 2014



## **Daniel Rivera Bests Talented Field in Event 8**

\$580 no-limit hold'em event concludes in the shadow of the Main Event, victor pockets \$32,878.

**Tunica, MS** (**January 31, 2014**) — While Day 1A of the Main Event played out at the other end of the tournament room, Daniel Rivera worked his way through the 274-player field in Event 8, a \$580 No-Limit Hold'em tournament. He came out victorious to the tune of a \$32,878 first prize, his first gold ring and 50 points toward the Casino Championship.

Making the win sweeter was the fact it came at the hands of a talented field that included Circuit regular Bill Varga (30th) and ring winner Nolan Burton (15th). On top of the in-the-money finishers, the final table included the likes of Michael Sanders (ninth) and WSOP final tablists Sean Small and Sean Drake.

Besting the resumes of Drake and Small is nothing to be taken lightly. Together the pair accounts for almost \$330,000 in career earnings at the WSOP, two WSOP final tables, seven Circuit final tables and a gold bracelet – the latter accolade earned by Drake in the 2011 Casino Employee's event.

Fortunately for the rest of the final table, their runs at gold ended in sixth and fourth respectively.

"I had a huge monkey on back I really wanted to take off," Rivera said of the win. "A lot of my friends all won rings and I hadn't been able to."

Years in the making, it's difficult to imagine better timing for the triumphant performance. Registration for the first flight of the Main Event was still open by the time the last river card hit the felt, and while Rivera thought better of registering so late into Flight A, he didn't leave much room for interpretation in regards to Saturday's Flight B.

"I'm going to win it," he said of the Harrah's Tunica finale. "I'm going to go back-to-back. I'm going to go rest, get a steak and then win the Main [Event]."

While it's far too early to anoint him the Circuit's newest Main Event winner, he is in fact the Circuit's hottest player. With a run at a follow-up gold starting tomorrow, he'll be holding his head a little higher than the rest of the field.