

2014/2015 World Series of Poker Circuit

Season 11

IP Casino Resort and Spa

Biloxi, Miss.

Event #7

No-Limit Hold'em Six Handed

Buy-In: \$300 (+\$65)

Total Entries: 138

Prize Pool: \$41,400

September 9-10, 2014



Rodney Sermons Wins Six Handed Ring

Event 1 winner Mark Fink finishes second, takes Casino Championship Lead.

Sermons pockets \$11,799 in first-ever Circuit cash.

Biloxi, Miss. (September 10, 2014) — Rodney Sermons defeated Mark Fink heads up in Event 7, a \$365 six-handed tournament, to earn his first ring along with \$11,799 in prize money Wednesday night at IP Biloxi. The 12-day series on the Gulf Coast marks Sermons' first time traveling to an event and his victory goes down as his first-ever WSOP cash.

"I felt like I was ready. I wanted the experience," Sermons said of his motivation to travel to the property. "I don't have any delusions of grandeur to become a poker pro or anything like that. I enjoy the game and I enjoy playing."

Sermons' hot run and the victory that followed stole the headline from the Event 1 winner Fink. Fink came to the Event 7 final table toward the bottom of the counts and needing a fourth-place finish or better to take the Casino Championship lead. An early double up helped his cause and he played his way to a heads-up berth against Sermons.

Unfortunately, that simply meant he'd be the last to fall victim to Sermons' good fortune. Fink finished second earning 37.5 points toward the Casino Championship. The deep run brings his seven-event total to 87.5, giving him a 12.5-point cushion over current second-place player Joshua Reichard.

"I felt like I was playing against a lot of the Circuit grinders," an admittedly inexperienced Sermons said. "It was a little intimidating, but I had an incredible run... I was able to be patient, stay the course and at the end it came to me – and that's the main part. It came to me. I know that I was playing against better players today, but cards tended to be in my favor."

Despite a willingness to dismiss his play in relation to his opponent's, Sermons came to Day 2 confident he had what it takes to score gold. He accumulated almost a third of the chips in play and began the last playing session with a hefty lead.

"The thought [that I could win] occurred to me [on Day 1] and I don't think it was just the exceptional run that was taking place," Sermons said. "It was just a feeling – a very quiet, easy

