

Preston Lee Among First-Time Winners at WSOP

By Dave Lukow

Preston Lee has his first gold bracelet. A California native, Lee outlasted 907 other players to win Event 39 of the World Series of Poker (WSOP) in Las Vegas. The victory was worth \$236,498.

Event 38 - the \$10,000 Seven Card Stud Championship - was won by Yaniv Birman, who earned \$236,238 for the showing. A first-place finish in Event 37 added \$319,580 to Eric Baldwin's bankroll, while Event 36, the \$1,000 Super Seniors NLH tourney, was captured by Farhintaj Bonyadi. She took home \$311,451.

Yueqi Zhu, who works as an engineer, got \$211,781 for winning Event 35.

Robert Peacock had to be proud after earning his first WSOP bracelet for prevailing in Event 34. The New York resident received a payout of \$644,224.

The \$50,000 Poker Players Championship - Event 33 - was won by Michael Mizrachi. The triumph upped his career take by \$1,239,126. It marked the fourth time Mizrachi has walked away with a gold bracelet.

Californian Matthew Davis banked \$662,676 for winning Event 32, a \$1,000 seniors NLH tourney. The event attracted 5,918 entrants.

Steven Albin got by 309 other participants to win Event 31, which was a \$1,500 seven card stud competition. A Chicago resident, he earned \$105,629.

New Jersey's Ryan Bambrick claimed first in Event 30, a \$1,500 PLO tournament. Bambrick was paid \$217,123 for outlasting 798 other entries.

The winner of Event 29 was Hanh Tran, a player from Vienna, Austria. The showing increased his lifetime winnings by \$117,282. The bracelet was his first at the WSOP.

Los Angeles resident Gal Yifrach earned \$461,798 for winning Event 28, a \$3,000 NLH 6-handed tournament. There were 868 participants.

Event 27, a \$10,000 H.O.R.S.E. tourney, drew 166 entrants. In the end, John Hennigan, a Las Vegas resident, emerged with the victory. When all was said and done, he collected \$414,692.

Filippos Stavrakis won Event 26, a \$1,000 PLO competition. The Maryland resident received \$169,842 for topping the field.

Benjamin Dobson, playing out of the United Kingdom, got \$173,528 and his first WSOP bracelet for winning Event 25, a \$1,500 seven card stud hi-lo 8 or better event. There were 596 participants.

After five days of play, Michael Addamo won Event 24, a \$2,620 NLH tournament that had 1,637 entries. From Australia, Addamo picked up \$653,581 for the finish.

Brian Rast earned \$259,670 for winning the \$10,000 NL 2-7 Lowball Draw Championship, Event 23. The bracelet was the fourth for the Las Vegas pro.

Poker legend Doyle Brunson ended his WSOP career with a sixth-place finish in the tournament. He was paid \$43,963.

Event 22, a \$1,500 eight game mix, was won by London's Phillip Long. He took \$147,348 back to the U.K.

German native Arne Kern was wearing his first bracelet after finishing first in Event 21, the \$1,500 NLH Millionaire Maker. The 26-year-old student, along with the gold jewelry, collected \$1,173,223. There were 7,361 entrants.

Jeremy Wien won Event 20, a big blind antes \$5,000 NLH tournament. The Georgetown graduate took away \$537,710.

Event 19, a \$565 PLO battle, was won by Craig Varnell. A Colorado native, Varnell, in addition to his first gold bracelet, pocketed \$181,790. He's cashed 40 times at the WSOP.

The Main Event of the 2018 WSOP runs July 2-14.