

BLACKJACK PLAYERS VIE FOR \$250,000

By Joe Cross

The three Sahara hotels will be the sight of the richest blackjack tournament in history as the \$250,000 Sahara World Championship of Blackjack gets underway Dec. 11, at Las Vegas, Reno and Lake Tahoe.

More than 2,500 players are expected to vie for the title of 1980 World Champion of Blackjack with the winner being decided Dec. 14 in Las Vegas.

Play begins at all three Sahara Hotels at the same time. Contestants will pay a \$275 entry fee and then buy in each round with \$500 and play against each other, as well as the house, during the event.

The winners at each table — the player with the most money at the end of the two-hour rounds — advances to the next round. The semi-finalists from Reno and Lake Tahoe will be flown to Las Vegas for the semifinal and final rounds of play.

The tournament blackjack concept was developed by Del Webb's Sahara Hotel and World Championship of Blackjack Inc. of Tarzana, Calif. Now in its third year, tour-

namment blackjack has added the thrill of competition to the game.

Some past players have remarked that the most interesting aspect of the tourney is the player to player confrontation.

With the first round underway, the Sahara will have drawn more than 10,000 players into its blackjack tournaments since the first in December of 1978.

This year's event will offer the largest cash award to date for a blackjack tournament as the winner will collect a \$75,000 first place prize.

The concept of tournament blackjack has grown at the Sahara to include four annual tournaments, and many of the past participants will be back for another try.

Some of the more notable returning players include Santa Monica, Calif. office machine company owner Avery Waisbren, who collected the top prize in the last Sahara Summer Blackjack Classic.

Returning after his recent victory in the Sahara Fall Blackjack Classic, Jim Seedorf will try for his second tournament victory.

LAS VEGAS POKER ROOMS

AMBASSADOR: Bill Smith, Mgr. 7 card stud 1-3/6, on the end: 1-3 Hold 'Em	CIRCUS CIRCUS: Daon Archer, Mgr. 7 card stud 1-7 1-5 2-4 4-8	RAINBOW CLUB: Dottie Null, Mgr. Dealers Choice Pineapple Hold 'Em Hi-Lo Split 7 card stud Texas Hold 'Em	SILVER SLIPPER: Sandra Maupin, Mgr. 1-3 3-6 1-3 3-6 1-3 3-6 1-3
BARBARY COAST: Doug Morello, Mgr. 1-2 1-3 1-5 1-3/6 7 card stud 7 card stud 7 card stud on the end	HACIENDA: George Mathes, Mgr. 1-3 1-4 1-5 7 card stud 7 card stud 7 card stud	ROYAL AMERICANA: Don Williams, Mgr. 1-2 1-3 1-3 1-5 2-10 3-6 7 card stud 7 card stud 6 on the end Hold 'Em Hold 'Em Lo Ball	SKYLINE: John Kish, Mgr. 1-3 7 card stud
BINGO PALACE: Tom Bowling, Mgr. 50¢-1 1-2 1-3 2-4 7 card stud 7 card stud 7 card stud 7 card stud	DESERT INN: Paul Minick, Mgr. 1-3 1-3 3-6 5-10 1-5 1-3 7 card stud 7 card stud 7 card stud 7 card stud 7 card stud 6 on the end	HOLIDAY CASINO: Lew Tartar, Mgr. 1-2 1-3 1-3 3-6 7 card stud 7 card stud 6 on the end 7 card stud 7 card stud	SAHARA HOTEL: Ed Miller, Mgr. 1-4 3-6 5-10 10-20 15-30 30-60 3-6 4-8 7 card stud 7 card stud 7 card stud 7 card stud 7 card stud Lo Ball Lo Ball
CAESARS PALACE: Charlie LeMore, Mgr. 1-3 1-5 5-10 7 card stud 7 card stud 7 card stud	DUNES: Chip Reese, Mgr. 1-3 1-4 3-6 3-6 5-10 10-20 7 card stud 7 card stud Hold 'Em Hold 'Em Hi Lo Split	KING 8: Jay Wright, Mgr. 1-3 1-5 1-3 7 card stud 7 card stud Hold 'Em	STARBUCKS: Billy Smith, Mgr. 1-3 5-10 15-30 30-60 40-80 50-100 7 card stud 7 card stud Razz Razz Razz
CASTAWAYS: Sandy Maupin, Mgr. 1-3 1-3 1-4 7 card stud Hold 'Em Hold 'Em	EL CORTEZ: Ross Ferraro, Mgr. 1-2 1-3 3-6 3-6 5-10 5-10 3-6 1-3 1-5 7 card stud 7 card stud Hold 'Em	LADY LUCK: Joe Guzzo, Mgr. 1-2 1-3 1-4 7 card stud 7 card stud Hold 'Em	SUNDANCE: Art Allen, Mgr. 1-3 1-3 2-4 2-10 7 card stud 6 on the end Hold 'Em Lo Ball
	FOUR QUEENS: Jack Crawford, Mgr. 1-3 1-4 5-10 7 card stud Hold 'Em Hold 'Em	LANDMARK: Wm 'Slick' Hanner, Mgr. 1-3 1-5 5-10 7 card stud Low Razz Hi Low Split High High Limit, 6 on the end Limit, 5 card draw	TREASURY: Ken Lambert, Mgr. 1-3 1-4 1-3 7 card stud 7 card stud Razz, 6 on-the-end Pot Limit Texas Hold 'Em No Limit Texas Hold 'Em
	FREMONT: Russ Morreale, Mgr. 1-3 3-6 1-3/6 on-the-end 3-6 2-5 2-10 3-6 4-8 4-8 5-10 7 card stud 7 card stud Hold 'Em Hold 'Em Lo Ball Lo Ball Razz Razz Hi Lo Split	LAS VEGAS CLUB: Ross Gerraro, Mgr. 1-3 1-5 1-4 7 card stud 7 card stud Hold 'Em	TROPICANA: John Sutton, Mgr. 1-2 1-4 3-6 1-5 7 card stud 7 card stud 7 card stud Hold 'Em
	GOLDEN NUGGET: Bill Boyd, Mgr. 1-2 1-3 1-5 1-2 3-6 10-20 15-30 20-40 7 card stud 7 card stud 7 card stud 7 card stud	MARINA: Mathew Sassanelli, Mgr. 1-4 5-10 3-6 No Ante 25¢ Ante Hold 'Em 7 card stud 7 card stud 25¢ Ante	UNION PLAZA: Don Coles, Mgr. 1-3 10-20 3-6 7 card stud Hi Lo Split Hold 'Em, Hi Lo Split
		MAXIM: Jesse Ward, Mgr. 1-3 1-5 3-6 5-10 7 card stud 7 card stud 7 card stud	VEGAS WORLD: Blackie Blackburn, Mgr. 1-3 1-3 3-6 7 card stud 6 on the end Hold 'Em
		MGM GRAND: Frank Sansone, Mgr. 1-3 5-10 7 card stud 7 card stud 7 card stud 7 card stud Hold 'Em Razz	WESTERN: Ross Ferraro, Mgr. 1-3 7 card stud
		SAM'S TOWN: Carol Seybert, Mgr. 1-3 1-3 2-4 2-10 7 card stud 6 on the end Hold 'Em Lo Ball	
		SHOWBOAT: Merritt Barber, Mgr. 1-2 1-3 1-3 1-5 2-4 3-6 7 card stud 7 card stud 6 on the end Hold 'Em Hold 'Em Razz	
		SILVER BIRD: Harry Kern, Mgr. 1-3 3-6 15-30 300-600 3-6 4-8 7 card stud 7 card stud 7 card stud 7 card stud Hold 'Em Razz	
		SILVER CITY: Harry Kern, Mgr. 1-2 1-3 3-6 7 card stud 7 card stud 7 card stud Hold 'Em	
		SILVER DOLLAR: Jerry Holtz, Mgr. 1-3 1-3 2-4 6 card stud 7 card stud 7 card stud Hold 'Em	

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