Ron Rose

I spent a lot of time talking to Ron Rose at the LA Poker Classic some years back. I asked him if he was familiar with my website and he responded, "Yes, I read you said I played my hands backwards at the World Poker Tour in Foxwoods." I told him I only call it like I see it and a lot of times we make judgments based on the fact we can see the hole cards.

He explained about one hand where Howard limped and then came over the top after Ron raised from the blind. Howard could only have a few hands, pocket aces, kings, queens, baccarat, jacks, AK or been making a pure bluff. Of all the possibilities, Howard holding an ace king was slim and if he was holding that particular hand it would have been a race situation. So Ron laid his pocket tens down. After re-evaluating this hand, I came to the conclusion Ron was absolutely correct in his laydown. It is much easier to judge when we know what each person is holding.

 Rose has had several final table appearances including two wins at World Poker Tour events. He also helped increase the prize pool at the Battle of Champions. This show was aired opposite the Super Bowl pre-show on NBC and was a huge step for the poker world. Ron won this event and oddly enough there was not been much publicity about it.

• I asked him about his interview on the Champion's event where he stated he might give up poker if he won the event. Some people thought that was an arrogant statement. I have mentioned several times, I like that characteristic in people, but thought it warranted an explanation. He expressed that is what entrepreneurs do. They take something on full force and after succeeding, they usually move on. He also showed me a scar he received from open heart surgery after the World Series of Poker in 2003. After almost dying, he put things into perspective and realized poker isn't everything.

 Ron's business ventures include starting and selling two computer companies and an Internet company. He had a seat on the New York Stock Exchange and owned his own commodities firm. Before all of that, he was a mathematician/project engineer in the Air Force.

 Ron's accomplishments during the World Poker Tour's first season were impressive. He had a sixth place finish at Foxwoods, and won the event at the Reno Hilton. Ron then beat out all the other season one champions from the World Poker Tour in the Battle of the Champions at the Bellagio. Other accomplishments include winning the Seniors No Limit Holdem event at the World Series of Poker 2003. At the Hall of Fame Poker Classic 2002, he won the Pot Limit Omaha. Previously he won a best all-around player award at the Aviation Club in Paris when he won three events (2500 francs pot-limit Hold'em, 5000 francs pot-limit Omaha, and 5000 francs Omaha high-low). As you can see, he hasn't won a Limit Holdem events. "Dayton" Ron Rose doesn't play them. He doesn't know how anybody could want to go into battle without a full arsenal.