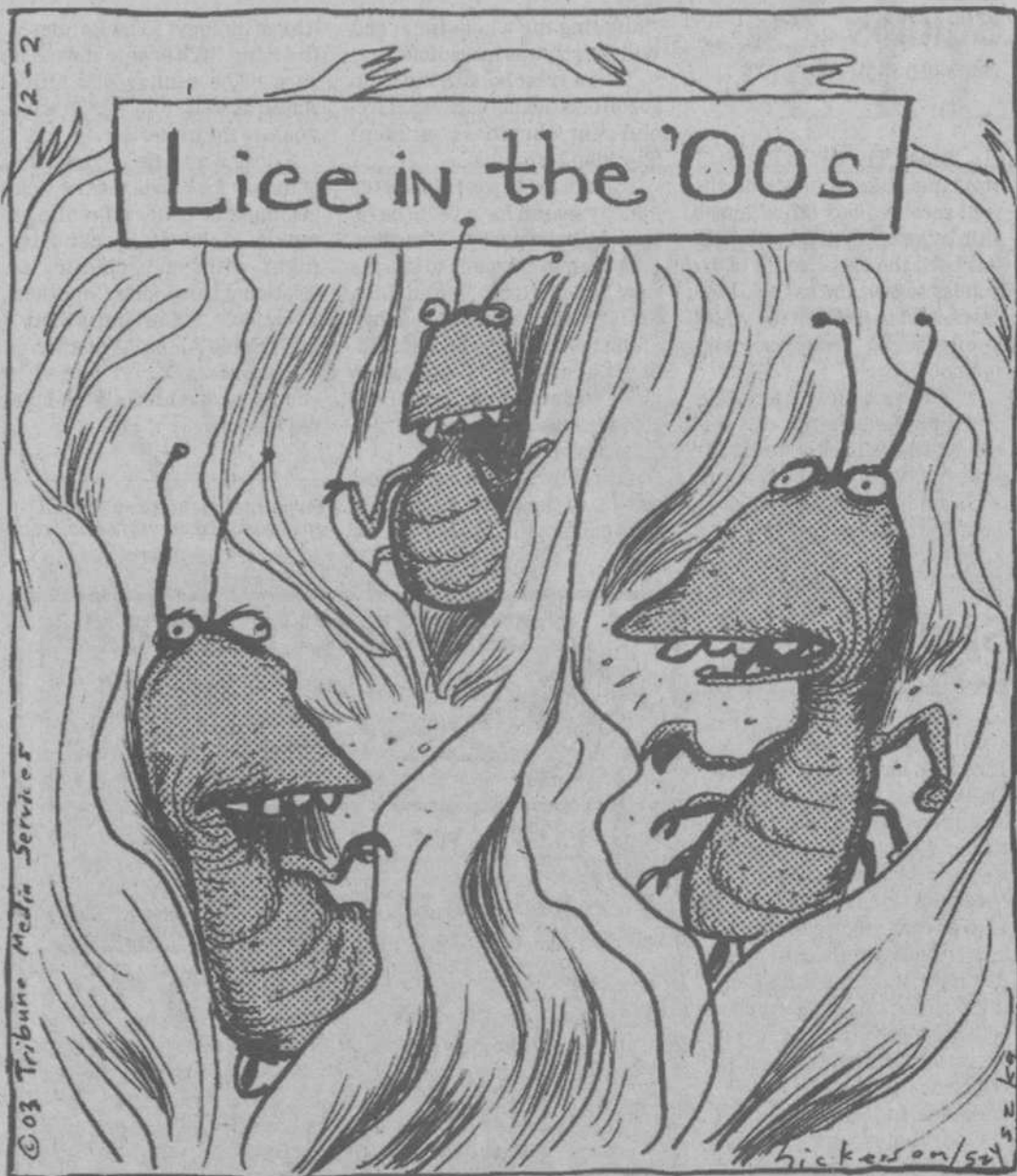


**The Quigmans** BY BUDDY HICKERSON



"Okay, people! Pack it up — it's a weave! We are outta here!"

**Everyday Joe** BY STEVEN OLEXA



**Haiku Circus** by Ken Sakamoto Count the syllables, thank you.



**CAPTAIN RIBMAN** in Where Dreams Come True



**What's Up?**

Welcome to What's Up, the weekly advice column brought to you by the Counseling and Human Development Center interns and staff. Submit your anonymous questions to [adviceatusc@hotmail.com](mailto:adviceatusc@hotmail.com). We offer no personal responses via e-mail. The center's professional staff supervises all interns. The following advice represents the opinions of the center and not necessarily the opinions of The Gamecock.

**QUESTION:** I am completely out of control this semester. I have maxed out one credit card and am having trouble paying the minimum on the others. Whenever I am stressed, I go shopping and love the feeling it gives me when I buy new things for myself and for others. Afterward, I always feel empty and stressed knowing I really cannot afford these new items. How can I control this bad habit, especially in time for the holiday spending season?

**ANSWER:** Consumerism tells us that material possessions will make us feel better about ourselves. Just like Cher in "Clueless," we often shop when we are feeling sad, lonely or hurt. Shopping is often used as a way to gain control, feel better and escape problems. Unfortunately, most people do not have the money to shop the way Cher and her Beverly Hills friends do, and irresponsible spending can cause overwhelming stress. You need to honestly assess your finances and curtail any unwise spending. If you tend to spend

more when you are alone, try bringing a responsible friend that might help you be more reasonable with spending decisions. It might also help to have a friend to talk to if you shop when you are upset. Try to keep those finances under control by maintaining a budget. You can dig out of big holes one quarter at a time. You will enjoy being debt-free more than the latest feel-good gadget.

**QUESTION:** I am going home for the holidays in December and am worried about hanging out with my old friends who have started to drink a lot since going to college. I am afraid we will have nothing in common anymore. How can I avoid them without hurting their feelings? Or should I attempt to spend time with them?

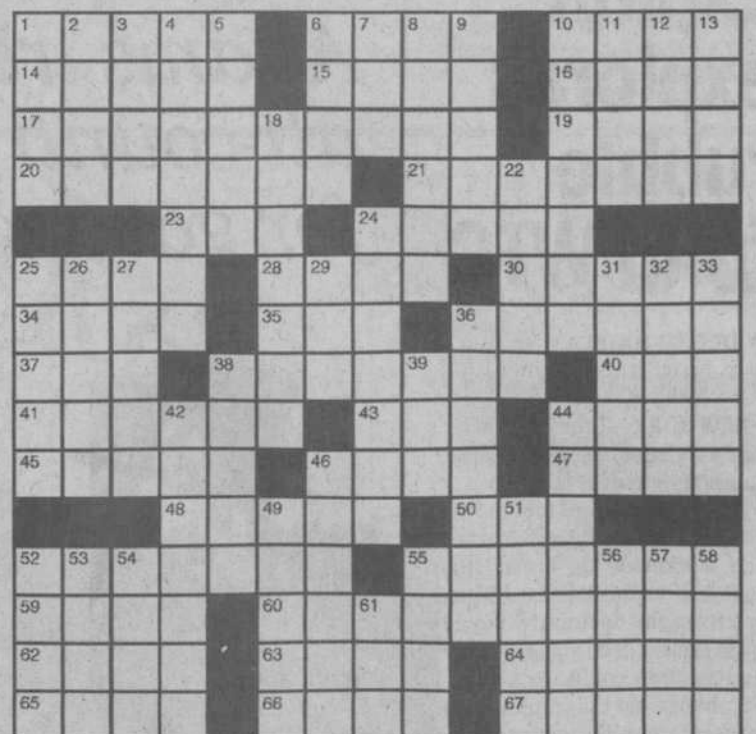
**ANSWER:** Many college students have childhood friends back home that take a different road. It could be too much booze, a steady girlfriend who you might or might not like or someone driven by money. However, old

friends are truly special since they have been there through formative years. In general, it is best not to discard old friends, but it is also unnecessary for you to throw away your values and lifestyle in order to keep the friendship. Try a "both/and" approach where you remain true to yourself and connected to your old friends. This will probably require frank conversations about comfort and differences. For example, you might want to hang out provided that your friends do not get "plastered" or "gross." This way you maintain both your integrity and the friendship. However, some problems might be too surmountable to overcome and it could better for you go your way - and let them go theirs.

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Open Monday through Friday,  
8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**CROSSWORD**

- ACROSS**
- News medium
  - Covenant
  - Seat for several
  - Jessica Parker
  - Jai
  - Novelist Hunter
  - Most majestic
  - Waistcoat
  - Like a secure professor
  - Abilities
  - Showing embarrassment
  - Mexicali mister
  - Algonquian language
  - Hoods' heaters
  - Moisten a tom
  - Towel word
  - "Telephone Line" grp.
  - Merchant
  - McKellen or Fleming
  - Stumbled
  - Corrida cry
  - Costs
  - Soup veggie
  - On (as a gamble)
  - Aroma
  - Camera part
  - Written part
  - Spoken
  - Shell propeller
  - Signs up
  - Blankets
  - Sonic sound
  - Most in need of a drink
  - Cotton package
  - North Carolina university
  - Silly
  - Roe-producing fish
  - Sandberg of baseball
  - MacGraw of "Love Story"
  - Skier's milieu
  - Fax's older cousin
  - Put up
  - Annual cycles
  - Informs
  - Write
  - Asserted
  - Exerts



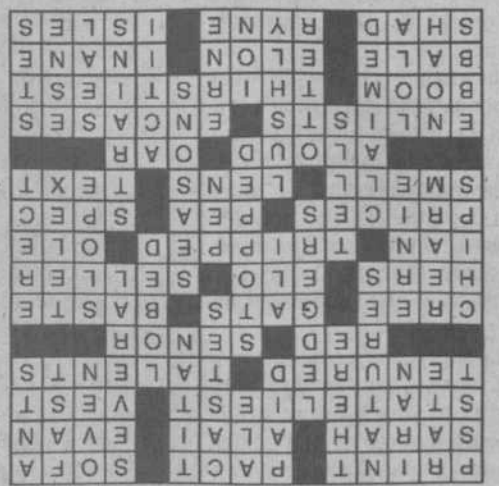
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12/03/03

- DOWN**
- Attention-getting sound
  - Evaluate
  - Teheran's location
  - Characters

- DOWN**
- At that place
  - Bill stamp
  - Pub potable
  - Hindu social divisions
  - Giant
  - More than a couple
  - Cooking chamber
  - Rapid
  - Picnic problem
  - Financial books
  - Like ears and lungs
  - Halted
  - Poker tokens
  - Upgrade guns
  - Banks of baseball
  - MacGraw of "Love Story"
  - Skier's milieu
  - Fax's older cousin
  - Put up
  - Annual cycles
  - Informs
  - Write
  - Asserted
  - Exerts

**Solutions**



- Profusely
- River frolicker
- Play part
- Flows out
- Biblical pair picker
- The Kinks 1970 hit
- White-tailed eagle
- Tight closure
- Feudal serf
- Fr. holy women
- Charged particle

**HOROSCOPES**

**ARIES** If you can keep your head down just a little while longer, you'll soon have the opportunity and the energy to advance. Don't assume that your commanding officer is a jerk. He or she is smarter than you think.

**TAURUS** You know how important it is to do what you said you'd do. You're a person who hardly ever lets a stack of stuff build up. It might have happened recently, however.

**GEMINI** It's best to proceed with caution until conditions become more stable. Your ruling planet, Mercury, is going into Capricorn. For the next few weeks you'll find it easier to think about investments, insurance and financial planning. Get matters resolved.

**CANCER** You're going to be asked some tough questions soon, but you can emerge triumphant. Your trick? Get the answers you'll need right now by asking the people who know.

**LEO** Even with a recent setback, your enthusiasm hasn't dampened. You'd better pay attention to business, however. It's important.

**VIRGO** Don't offer your opinions unless asked. You're more likely to be heard that way. You'll find it much easier to express your love soon. Make a date.

**LIBRA** You're learning rapidly, and that's making you look good in the eyes of others. Better not get cocky, though. You still could make a mistake.

**SCORPIO** Don't go full speed ahead until you've had more practice. You'll soon be

acquiring a lot of new skills. Exercise patience now.

**SAGITTARIUS** Your sense of humor is scheduled to return soon, so don't get yourself in a snit. Something you've been struggling with for days might finally get fixed.

**CAPRICORN** Bring a subconscious idea to the surface — it could be quite profitable. But don't tell anybody about it yet. Try it out at home first.

**AQUARIUS** Although you're pretty much up to speed, there still are some things to learn. Don't let the next few days go to waste. Things won't be getting easier.

**PISCES** It's a good idea to be cautious while you contemplate your next move. It's possible for you to get more money, and soon. Wait until tomorrow to ask.

**CALENDAR**



With Hot Lava Monster. Thursday at 9 p.m. New Brookland Tavern. \$12. Thursday.

**Wednesday, Dec. 3**

**FIVE NIGHTS OF ONE ACTS, PROGRAM B:** 7 p.m. Booker T. Washington Auditorium's Black Box Theatre. Free.

**"BAD BOYS II":** 8 p.m. Russell House Theatre.

**"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST":** 3, 7 and 9 p.m. Nickelodeon Theatre, 937 Main St.

**THE JAM ROOM ACOUSTIC SHOWDOWN, ROUND FOUR:** 9 p.m. New Brookland Tavern, 122 State St. \$2.

**PROGRESSIVE COFFEE HOUR:**

6 p.m. Jammin' Java, 1530 Main St. Free.

**"THE FANTASTICKS":** 7:30 p.m. Trustus Theatre, 520 Lady St. \$20.

**HIMSA, THE BLACK DAHLIA MURDERS, MAN AT ARMS, EACH PASSING MOMENT:** Uncle Doctor's, 1734 Mobile Drive.

**Thursday, Dec. 4**

**FIVE NIGHTS OF ONE ACTS,**

**PROGRAM A:** 7 p.m. Booker T. Washington Auditorium's Black Box Theatre. Free.

**UNIVERSITY CHORUS:** 7:30 p.m. School of Music Recital Hall, Room 206. Free.

**"BAD BOYS II":** 8 p.m. Russell House Theatre.

**"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST":** 7 and 9 p.m. Nickelodeon Theatre.

**"THE FANTASTICKS":** 7:30 p.m. Trustus Theatre. \$20.