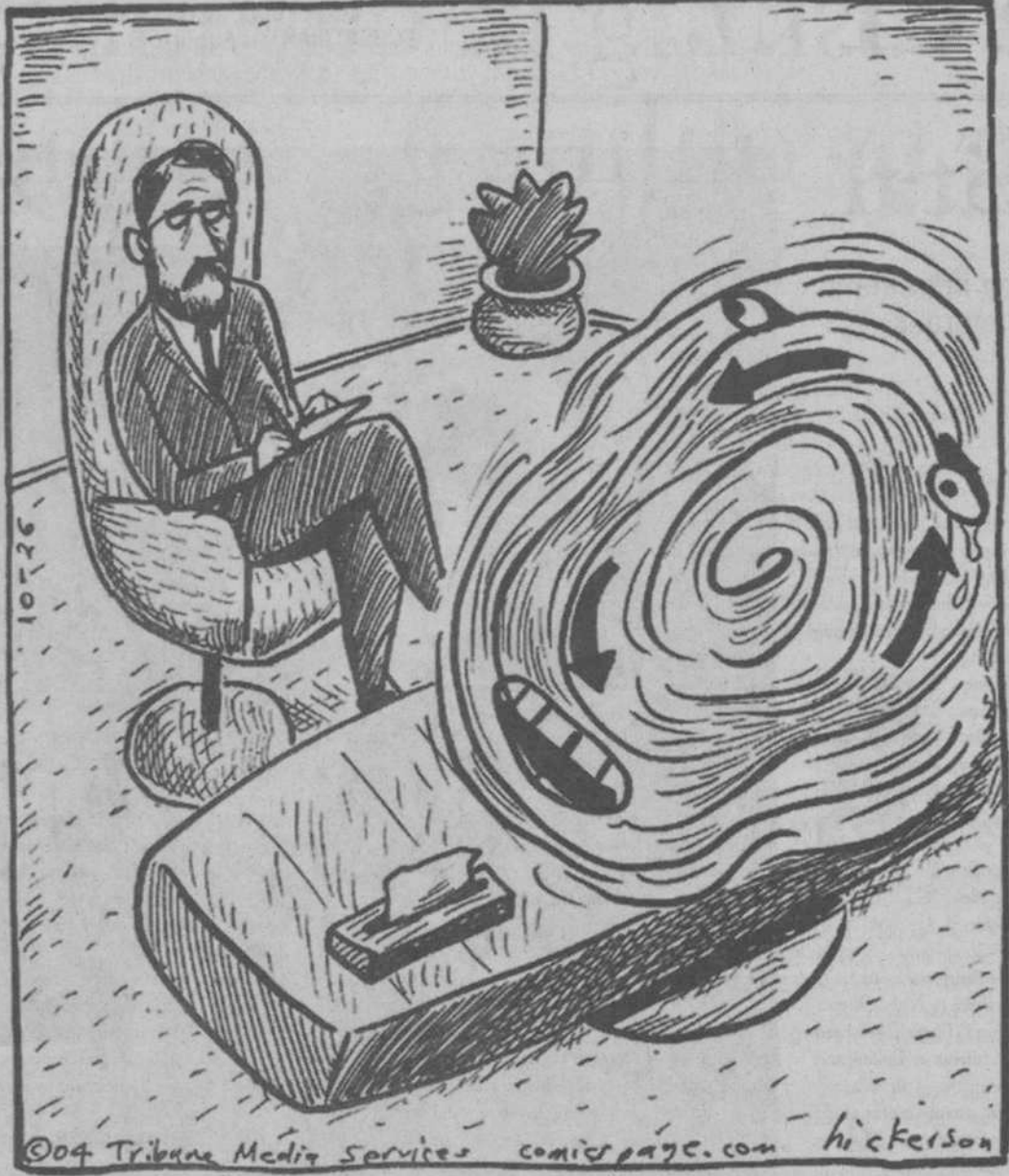


Quigmans ♦ By Buddy Hickerson



"It never fails, Doc. Every time I make a huge splash on the Florida coast, they downgrade me to a tropical depression."

Buttercup Festival ♦ By Elliott G. Garbauskas



CAPTAIN RIBMAN in Patriotic Duty! by Sprengelmeyer & Davis



POKER Continued from page 12

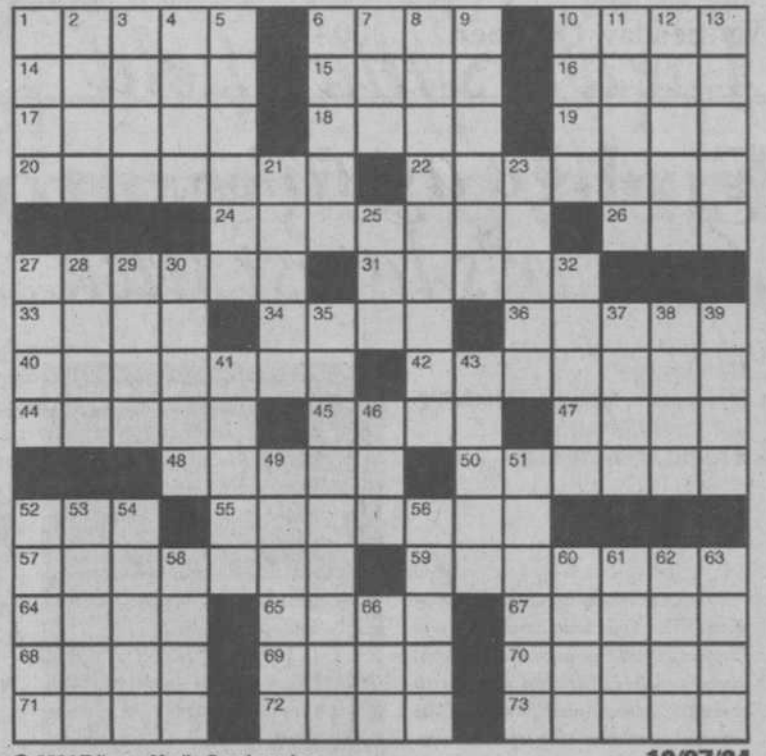
three or four tables simultaneously, players can easily participate in more than 200 hands an hour. The main disadvantage of Internet play for poker pros is the inability to "read" competitors — noticing small ticks and other mannerisms that can reveal if somebody is holding a strong hand or bluffing. Even at in-person games, pros often have more trouble reading the novices. "It's hard to read someone if they don't know if they have a good hand," said Jim Karamanis, a Chicago attorney who plays online and in-person poker recreationally. Nobody tracks how many people play poker for a living, but the number appears to be growing. "Certainly at this point there are thousands," said Greg Raymer, who left

his job as a patent attorney at Pfizer Inc. after winning \$5 million this year at poker's biggest event, the World Series of Poker. The lure of Internet poker has intensified since Raymer and the 2003 World Series winner gained entry into the casino events, which were broadcast on ESPN, by winning online tournaments. To prosper at Internet poker, players must be technically strong and quickly assess the thousands of scenarios that arise — betting aggressively on strong hands and folding when they're in a weak position. Signing on to EmpirePoker.com one Tuesday afternoon, Silver put \$1,000 into his account and folded most hands before the first round of betting, losing his \$15 ante. On the first hand he played, Silver lost \$170. "If I lose \$170 on a hand, it's nothing," Silver said. "You can't let it get to you."

"I didn't find a job when I graduated so I just kept playing ... ." MIKE KIM ONLINE POKER PLAYER Silver usually plays on weekday evenings and sometimes stays up until sunrise so he can play against aggressive Scandinavian players. "My sleep schedule has been terrible recently," said Silver, who also does work for Baseball Prospectus, which does statistical analysis of baseball games. Silver said he's done much better financially with online poker than he expected, though he and other players acknowledge their profitable poker days may not be long-lived. "I'm just trying to ride it out," said Kim. "If poker starts dying down, I'm going to have to get a real job."

CROSSWORD

- ACROSS  
 1 All grown up  
 6 Cuff fastener  
 10 Applaud  
 14 Cleveland suburb  
 15 Top-notch  
 16 Dynamic leader?  
 17 Avid  
 18 Type of pear  
 19 Sora of Virginia  
 20 Bridge framework  
 22 Gossip fodder  
 24 Post office's offering  
 26 6th sense  
 27 Offering sites  
 31 Thespian  
 33 Serengeti stalker  
 34 Gas container  
 36 Renowned  
 40 Object to  
 42 Part of BLT  
 44 Glossy fabric  
 45 \_\_\_ the line (obeyed)  
 47 Organic compound  
 48 Spirited mount  
 50 Element 53  
 52 Fr. holy woman  
 55 Tubb and Hemingway  
 57 Used pastels  
 59 Expressed gratitude to  
 64 UAE word  
 65 Relinquish  
 67 Rock full of crystals  
 68 "Six Feet Under" character  
 69 Trial by fire  
 70 DeGeneres sitcom  
 71 Collective pronoun  
 72 Mach breakers  
 73 Particular bias

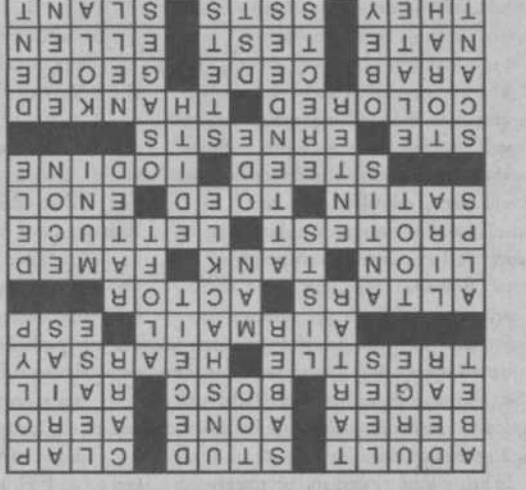


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10/27/04

- DOWN  
 1 Promote criminal activity  
 2 Expensive  
 3 Incite  
 4 Sediment  
 5 Fish sauce  
 6 Cavalry weapon  
 7 In addition  
 8 Remove fetters  
 9 Falseness  
 10 Author Caleb  
 11 Tenant's contract  
 12 Opera highlights  
 13 Nonmalignant growth  
 21 Itemized accounts  
 23 Overhead  
 25 British isle  
 27 High peaks  
 28 Former Italian bread  
 29 Whistle blast  
 30 Those against  
 32 Evaluated  
 35 Audience  
 37 "Scarface" star Paul  
 38 Bus. sch. subj.  
 39 Remove text  
 41 Sign on a door  
 43 Head of Hollywood  
 46 Poetic piece

Solutions



- 49 Puts up  
 51 Sioux people  
 52 Meager  
 53 Pentateuch  
 54 Make merry  
 56 Editorial directives  
 58 Follow orders  
 60 Jodi Foster film  
 61 Soft-drink nut  
 62 Utopia  
 63 Pockmark  
 66 Summer hrs.

HOROSCOPES

**ARIES** Where will you get the money to achieve the quality you imagine? Don't have a tizzy; the opportunity will present itself soon. Offer your services.  
**TAURUS** You're getting stronger and more determined over the next few days. One of your talismans must be the bulldog. When you latch on, you don't let go.  
**GEMINI** There's a fight brewing, but try not to get emotionally involved. Step back, and look at the bigger picture when deciding which side to support. There's an awful lot at stake.  
**CANCER** There's one hassle after another, and none of them are your fault. So why should you have to deal with them? Because you're so good at it!  
**LEO** You're smart and creative, but

that won't be enough. If you also take on responsibility for your actions and for others, you could rise into a well-deserved leadership position. Now's a good time to practice.  
**VIRGO** There are a few more touchy subjects to deal with before you can relax. Schedule a break for yourself tomorrow — and even more on the next day.  
**LIBRA** Quick action leads you to make a discovery that could change your attitude. Make plans carefully, and you can achieve more than you ever thought possible.  
**SCORPIO** You're not in the battle all by yourself even though it may seem that way. Form an alliance with somebody who can provide the stability you lack.

**SAGITTARIUS** It's just about time to get back to work. A creative friend may inspire you to try something you thought only others could do. Your expertise is expanding.  
**CAPRICORN** The wonders never seem to cease. Just about when you're ready to quit, the difficulty finally gets resolved due to a new discovery. And you had it all the time.  
**AQUARIUS** You may be just about worn out by now. Don't make big plans for tonight. You're wiser to stay close to home. Go to bed early, and recuperate.  
**PISCES** The odds are pretty high that you'll learn a lesson the hard way — and soon. Be respectful and attentive, hold onto your money, and your odds of success improve.

CALENDAR

TODAY  
 "Silence of the Lambs": 8 p.m. Russell House Theater. Free.  
 Birdcage Gamecock Style: 8 p.m. Russell House Ballroom.  
 "Metallica: Some Kind of Monster": 3, 7 and 9:30 p.m. Nickelodeon Theatre, 937 Main St.  
 Visualeyez & Gram 21 with The Handsome Devils and DJ Football, The Eyes of the Elders, Herald Gazette, D-One, NonChalant: 9 p.m. New Brookland Tavern, 122 State St. \$5 21+, \$7 under 21.  
 Rocky Horror Picture Show Cover Band featuring members of Signal: 10 p.m. Art Bar, 1121 Park St. No cover.



Dead Poetic with Acceptance, Apadiyine, Anadivine, Classic Case: 5 p.m. New Brookland Tavern. \$10. Thursday.

THURSDAY  
 "Silence of the Lambs": 8 p.m. Russell House Theater. Free.  
 "Metallica: Some Kind of Monster": 7 and 9:30 p.m. Nickelodeon Theatre, 937 Main St.  
 Modern Music Studios Battle of the Bands featuring Scenic Drive, Testing Ground, Rudy: 9 p.m. New Brookland Tavern. \$5 21+, \$7 under 21.  
 Andrew Norsworthy with Matt Hopper: 9 p.m. Jammin' Java, 1530 Main St. Pay-what-you-want show.

HEADS AND TAILS ♦ By Jonathan Hughes/The Gamecock

