

DAILY BULL



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Friday, September 14, 2007

How To: Become a Professional Poker Player

By Tim Kotula ~ Daily Bull

You've seen it come to thousands of venues across the country – ritzy casinos, VFW halls, high school lunchrooms – the list is endless. Indeed, the game of poker has swept this country faster than a bout of explosive diarrhea. Every weekend, thousands of spunky, young college students try their hand at this demanding and rewarding profession, but by Sunday afternoon most of them have given up and gone back to devising schemes for cheating on their chemistry midterm.

Most pro players who win regularly actually have some sort of strategy or method of playing the game in order to achieve victory. So you can forget about winning. Truthfully, most of the folks you see at 2 AM on ESPN are simply pretending to live the high life by looking and acting the part, without actually having the means to do so. Come Monday afternoon they can usually be found at certain popular eating establishments asking, "Would you like fries with that?", or practicing their five-knuckle shuffle.

So, if you want to be a pro poker player, the easiest thing to do is to simply dress like one. Grow a little goatee, purchase

a pair of those super-chic wraparound sunglasses that make you look like Batman, and start wearing a lot of brightly colored, Hawaiian shirts. Just how shiny should the coating on your sunglasses be? As a general rule of thumb, if the sun's reflection isn't capable of indirectly blinding someone standing about 100 feet away, they aren't shiny enough.

You must wear your sunglasses everywhere, both inside and out. Never remove them under any circumstances, even if it's dark out. This is the First Law of Professional Poker, and is a key ingredient in the development of your 'poker face'.

Spike your hair a bit, and consider dying it jet black too. Pick up an inexpensive, gold-plated neck chain and unbutton your shirt just enough that people can notice it. Since you probably can't afford a Rolex, a Folex will have to do, but flaunt it a lot and wear it in an obvious manner. Use cologne heavily.

When it comes to mannerisms, acting like a pro poker player is similar to acting like a Big Man on Campus, but you have to pretend to have money. At the bar,

...see Poker on back

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Horrorscopes

By Tim Kotula ~ Daily Bull

Aries: This is probably a good week to triple lock all the doors, turn off the lights, head for the basement, curl up in a ball with a bottle of vodka, and hope you make it out alive.

Taurus: Take my advice - don't buy a Ford again.

Gemini: Ah, it's a Grue! RUN!!!!!!!!!!!!

Cancer: You will be diagnosed with a dreadful condition - I bet you can't guess what it is.

Leo: Are you hearing voices? Your Rice Krispies are saying bad things about you in Internet chatrooms - they must be silenced!!!!

Virgo: I see dumpster diving in your future.

Libra: Cheer up emo kid, life IS that bad.

Scorpio: Enough already, it's time for you to come out of the closet and admit your bondage fetish.

Sagittarius: All I can say is, don't drop the soap!

Capricorn: Remember that NMU chick at last night's party? Congratulations, you're going to be a father!!! Just kidding, but you probably do have herpes now.

Aquarius: See your psychiatrist - those dreams about misplacing your toothbrush in your 8th grade math teacher's underwear drawer are NOT normal, or healthy.

Pisces: Don't go swimming this week - you might become lunch.

I Love My Toys

By Mark Cruth ~ Daily Bull

As almost everyone knows, this has been the summer for toy recalls. Just a few days ago Mattel announced their third massive toy recall due to "high levels of lead" within the toys' paint. Now, I can understand a few hundred toys being taken off the shelves because of some minor problems like small pieces posing as a choking hazard, or jagged edges that may cut a small child. However, recalling millions of toys because of lead paint is kind of ridiculous in my mind.

When we were kids, I don't ever remember my parents taking toys away from me because they were unsafe. No one thought about lead paint, and if they did, they would just pull the toy out of our mouths if we were chewing on it. I'm no chemist or biologist but I think that

...see Toys on back



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...Poker from front

drink only the most expensive scotch or brandy available, and buy at least one round for everyone. Smoke only the finest Cuban cigars (and if you don't smoke, you'll need to pick up the habit). Develop a strong taste for 80s rock if you don't enjoy it already. When talking with people (especially those of the opposite sex), make sure to mention that you are a pro poker player several times within the context of the conversation, like this...

Woman: "Well I'm a member of PETA and a vegan, because I firmly believe in the rights of every animal on this planet. I'm also a very active member of NOW, have a black belt in karate, and someday I hope to have a nice family while maintaining a highly-successful career, to prove that women can earn their keep just as well as men. How do you feel about that?"

You: "I'm a pro poker player."

Daily Bull

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I hope this How To will serve as a guide for a new generation of kitchen-table poker players to step up to the next level and become pro studs. Speaking of which, I need to go. I think my sunglasses might've just given my roommate third-degree burns. ☹

Partying With E. coli

By Liz Masters ~ Daily Bull

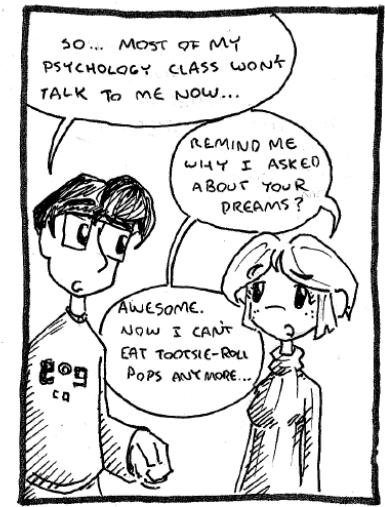
When you think of E. coli, you may think death, but this is not true in all cases. I tend to try and persuade people about the benefits E. coli provides. E. coli is not such a bad dude (or dudette). Every mammal, including humans, has a wee fellow named E. coli in our large intestine. This buddy helps us poop. POOP. How's that for scientific research?

I was partying with E. coli one time. It was pretty sweet, his name was Ed. At this one party, some guy tossed a beer at us and you know what Ed did? He gave the guy explosive diarrhea! It was crazy.

Ed's not always so cool though. One time he made a chick get sick because he was near her salad. Then some crazy epidemic happened, and he was busted by the cops. It wasn't the greatest time for Ed, but hey it wasn't his fault people that people don't know how to clean their lettuce.

So you see, E. coli isn't so bad. We actually need guys like Ed or we wouldn't be able to poop in the pe-rennials. And we'd probably die, so don't forget that. Happy defecation everyone! ☹

CONTINUED LANGUAGE



JOHN EARNEST

...Toys from front

a kid would need to not just chew on, but actually eat, a whole lot of toys with high levels of lead paint in them to get sick.

I think that parents today are a little over-obsessive. When I was a kid, I had toys that I think would give the current generation of parents brain hemorrhages. One of my favorite play items was my Creepy Crawlers maker. Wow, if a 150-watt bulb and hot oozing plastic in metal molds doesn't scream fun, I don't know what does. I also remember the good times I had with my Super Stretch Armstrong. After busting it open by stretching it a good 25 ft, I came to the realization that the stuff inside probably caused cancer.

As you all remember, our toys were pretty sweet. Though, when looking back, I think our parents really had the best toys to play with. The lawn dart has got to be one of the best. The basic idea was you had these extra large darts, and you would throw

them in the air to try to hit this target you put on the grass. Being kids, I'm sure they "accidentally" hit each other with those darts more than a few times, but it was all in good fun.

While at Goodwill the other day I found another fun project kids played with back in the day. It was a lead-based candle making kit. Wow, this would probably do great in today's market. It was another toy where kids would use a heat source to melt and mold a scolding liquid, and this time it had lead! The best part is that the box was labeled "Ages 5 and Up."

I guess the main idea behind the last few paragraphs is to try to get the point across that when we were kids, and when our parents were kids, we had toys that would probably never make it past the legal team of a company in today's world. The really funny part about this is it appears that we turned out alright. I don't think taking a Polly Pocket or GI Joe away from a kid because the level of lead paint is a little higher than usual will make kids healthier. If anything, I think the metal anguish of taking a beloved toy away will cause the child a little more trauma than lead paint would. ☹



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