

# JOBSEEKERS: TURN INSIDE FOR GREAT CAREER

Chicago Tribune

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## INSIDE IN HEALTH CARE

• DOCTOR'S PROFESSIONAL LIFE FOLLOWS TWO DISTINCT PATHS

### WORK NOTES

#### Recession hits older workers

**O**lder workers are finding it harder to get new jobs or hold onto the ones they already have. A few stereotypes that hurt senior workers are that they demand higher salaries than new workers and are unable to learn important new skills on the job. The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission found there was a 33 percent increase in the amount of age discrimination complaints processed in the past two fiscal years combined. That's 47,360 complaints filed between October 2007, just 60 days before the recession began, and September of last year. Over the same period, total discrimination complaints to the EEOC rose 19 percent, to 188,679.

#### Reference? Check

**U**nless you ask, you never really know what your old boss really thought of you, and it can cost your dearly. In a recent survey conducted by staffing agency OfficeTeam, the results showed that a reference check has the ability to throw away all the hard work you put into your job search. Hiring managers said they get rid of around 21 percent of potential employees from consideration after speaking to the people they've listed as their professional contacts.