## Poker Pro's Corner: The time is right for a big raise by Jon Friedberg Q: How do I play hands like A-Q suited in the blinds with a couple of limpers in the middle stages of a tournament? - Bruce, Delray Beach, Fla. A: I like to make a big raise there and just win the pot right there, or in a worst-JON FRIEDBERG - Jon Friedberg won a World Series of Poker bracelet in 2006 and made a 2007 WSOP final table in pot-limit hold'em. CNS Photo. case scenario, get it down to one player. I almost always make a raise there, but I occasionally will check it. I would say 75 percent of the time I'm going to make a pot-size or bigger-than-pot-size raise there to try to get everybody out or to try and narrow it down to one other player. Q: How much attention should I be paying to my table? Should I be watching everything to pick up info? - iPod Sally, Elizabeth, Ind. A: Yes, definitely! For the first three or four orbits you should really pay a lot of attention. Any time a new player comes to the table you should pay attention to that player. I think the first 30 minutes are probably enough to get a good understanding and categorize the players you are up against. After the first half-hour I think it's OK to start text messaging or listening to your iPod or whatever, but I think it is important to watch and listen to people for the first 30 minutes.

Q: How do you decide if you should play just to cash if you are near the bubble, or should you not care and

turn the heat up?

