

spend it, save it

# MONEY



## Cheers and careers

## Friends and careers

Maybe all that time you and your cohorts spend analyzing the last episode of *Last Thing Around the Coffee Machine* isn't such a bad thing. A recent study by the staffing firm Accountemps reported that 57 percent of executives thought employees were more productive if they were friends. "Friendships at work make you more engaged with the company and more likely to put in extra effort to help out your colleagues," agrees Giselle Kovary of n-gen People Performance in Toronto. Extracurricular activities, like monthly bowling nights, can also help forge bonds. Just don't put too high a premium on socializing: "If someone doesn't come along, it doesn't mean they're not a team player," Kovary says.

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