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## WZZM 13

February 12, 2006

### **Financial Aid Changes for College Students**

Last week President Bush signed a reauthorization of the Federal Higher Education Act.

That means some changes are on the way for those applying for financial aid right now.

Dozens of parents and students visited Grand Valley State University Sunday for "College Goal Sunday." Similar groups met at other locations around Michigan and around the country. They got help filling out their federal financial aid forms. It's a complex, but valuable process.

Teresa Bonham and her daughter Carolyn Bonham of Grandville are filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA, with the help of experts from local colleges.

"We were stressing this whole process, from the very beginning," said Teresa. "We've been to two workshops already. When we heard about this, we had to be the first people here and I think we were almost."

Bonham filled out the form on her own last year when her son entered college. This year, with Carolyn heading to Michigan State University, she wanted some extra help with the form.

"The FAFSA is the starting point for all federal, state and many of the scholarships from the schools plus gift money," said Joann Litton of the Grand Valley State University Financial Aid Office. "Any need based money. This is it."

But this year, students and parents can expect changes in financial aid after President Bush signed a reauthorization of the Higher Education Act.

Dean Ronnie Higgs of Ferris State University says student loan limits have increased for the first time in ten years. So, come July 1, 2006, freshman and sophomores can borrow more money. But, Higgs says, "The interest rate on those loans has increased also. Right now they're as low as 4 percent. But, next July they're going to rise as high as 6.8 percent."

No matter what, Teresa Bonham says applying for financial aid is worth the effort. "We were entitled, with our son who's a freshman now, we received things that we were surprised, didn't think we'd be eligible for," she says. This makes a college education a more affordable investment.

You can call any college financial aid office to ask questions about the FAFSA. The Michigan priority deadline for the FAFSA is March 1st and some individual schools have different priority deadlines. You can find more information at [www.MICollegeGoal.org](http://www.MICollegeGoal.org).

## **Pioneer**

February 13, 2006

### **Benefit dinner, auction set for Saturday**

BIG RAPIDS- Enjoying the great outdoors isn't usually done in a Holiday Inn, but that's what will happen Saturday in Big Rapids.

The 17th annual Friends of Ferris Dinner/Auction Fund-raiser will take place at the local Holiday Inn and Conference Center beginning with social time at 5:30 p. m.

Dinner will follow at 7 p.m., with the live auction afterward. A silent auction also takes place during the fund-raiser.

The theme for this year's event is "Enjoy the Great Outdoors." Recommended attire is business casual and tickets cost \$50 per person. Tickets will be available until the start time of the event from any Friends of Ferris member. They also can be purchased by calling Sueann Walz, Friends of Ferris chairperson, at (231) 796-5865.

"You can experience a wonderful dinner," Walz said of the event. "It's a very nice social event - you can visit with a lot of friends, which we don't get to do much these days because everybody is going in 16 different directions.

"It's a really nice event," she continued. "It's a nice, relaxing evening."

The auctions - both live and silent - will offer a variety of merchandise. Anyone interested in bidding on an item who does not plan to attend the event can do so by filling out a proxy form for someone in attendance to bid for them.

Some of the highlighted auction items include a Robert Barnum print, a game-worn, team autographed FSU Hockey jersey, 14 tickets to a Whitecaps game in Varnum Riddering's suite, an opportunity to participate in the Celebrity Harness Race at the Mecosta County fair, a seven-day stay at Bridge View Beach House on Bois Blanc Island, a chance to ride in the pace car at Berlin Raceway, range shooting with State Sen. Michelle McManus and other legislators at the Michigan Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus and a Lanber 2097 12-gauge sporting clay shotgun.

Friends of Ferris is a political action committee that works to represent Ferris State University with legislators, primarily state legislators in Lansing.

Walz noted there was no set dollar goal for the fund-raiser. "Whatever we can get," she said, smiling. She explained, "Because of the fact we're a political action group, we can't take contributions from corporations, (just individuals and LLCs)."

Last year's fund-raiser brought in a little more than 829,000, with approximately 275 people in attendance.

The group has been very helpful to the university, as acknowledged by FSU President

David Eisler.

"I'm so impressed with the work you do to help us," he told group members during a meeting Wednesday. "(It) makes a tremendous difference for the university.... Thank you so much for all you do to help us here at Ferris State."

Regarding the fund-raiser itself, Eisler said, "This is a great event - we always enjoy going.' It's a wonderful time, camaraderie. It's a very special evening for Ferris.... We really appreciate it."

## **Fox Sports**

February 13, 2006

### **Nardella's passion on display for Team Italy**

For years, the Olympic hockey tournament was about feel-good stories and romanticism. The 1980 "Miracle on Ice" Americans were the embodiment of all that the Olympics could mean to amateur hockey players hungry to make their mark on the world stage.

In 1998, however, Olympic hockey abandoned its eroding ideal as the ultimate sanctuary for amateur athletes and warmly embraced the glitz and glamour of professionals - presenting a best-on-best format that was compelling to all but the most hard-line of hockey purists.

The 1998 Games in Nagano, and the 2002 Games in Salt Lake City, provided the world with unbelievable hockey memories, but few of the romantic sporting moments that were once a staple of the competition. There was no Jim Craig draped in an American flag, searching the Lake Placid stands for his father. There was no Peter Forsberg scoring a gold medal-clinching goal for Sweden that would assure the youngster a permanent place among Swedish sporting icons.

The 2006 Turin Games, scheduled to begin later this month, will once again feature professionals in the men's hockey tournament, including more than 150 players from the National Hockey League.

Yet, there will be at least one feel-good story at this hockey tournament in Turin, Italy.

Meet Bob Nardella, a 38-year-old third-generation Italian-American who will be playing for the host Italians - a right he earned by playing the requisite three years in Italy's professional league after playing his college hockey at Ferris State University.

Nardella's story - his perseverance in playing the game he loves and chasing the dream he harbored since childhood - embodies what many believe is the Olympic ideal.

Nardella's story is about sacrifice, it is about disappointment, it is about triumph. Mostly, though, it is about following one's heart despite the obstacles placed in that path.

"It's a story of dedication and it's a story of passion," said Kevin Cheveldayoff, the general manager of the Chicago Wolves, one of Nardella's homes during his professional hockey journey. "Bob is a special person. This is just another chapter in his amazing story."

Even the modest Nardella understands how truly blessed he has been.

"It's been a pretty remarkable story," agrees Nardella. "I've been pretty lucky to play as long as I have. You know, a lot of people thought I wouldn't play at all because of my size. To have played and been successful, the satisfaction is there. Then, to go the places I've been to play - Stockholm, Helsinki, Vienna, Croatia, Yugoslavia, Slovakia. All the

places I've been, I mean, it's pretty amazing. Then, to be able to play in my hometown was cool, too. And to win championships. So, definitely, I've been pretty lucky."

Some would argue that Nardella has made his own luck.

A slight 5-foot-8 and 169 pounds, Nardella was often overlooked throughout his hockey career because of his lack of size. That's just because nobody decided to check the size of his heart.

After leaving Ferris State in 1991, Nardella had the opportunity to go to the East Coast Hockey League. An agent also tried to convince him to attend an NHL tryout. But, Nardella - a good-skating, puck-moving defenseman - had other ideas.

"You know, I didn't really know if I was good enough to do any of that, so all things pointed toward Italy," he said. "The money (there) was really good back then."

Consequently, Nardella traded on his heritage - his grandmother was from Marchi and his grandfather from Potenza - and joined the Italian professional league, playing three years for Alleghe HC. Under Italian rules, that three-year stint made him Italian in virtually every respect. He no longer counted as an import in roster considerations, and he was eligible to play for the Italian national team.

When he was chosen to play for the Azzurri, as the Italian team is known, it was one of the proudest days of his life.

"I did (the three years) and they picked me," he said. "I earned it, they are not handing those spots out like they are in baseball now - where guys that have never stepped foot in the country are named to the team. There's a lot of NHL guys they could have gotten if they were to do that. But, to their credit, they're not doing that."

In fact, the Italian Olympic team is almost evenly split between native Italians and Canadian-Italians. Nardella and Tony Tuzzollna, a former NHLer, are the only two Italian-Americans on the team.

Nardella has answered Italy's call whenever possible since first being named to the team. He has played in three Pool A World Championships and numerous smaller tournaments. He also played for Italy during the Nagano Games.

But despite his love affair with Italy, Nardella could not ignore the siren song emanating from homeland during his stint in Italy's professional league. He needed to finally answer the question about whether he was good enough to make it in the States. So, when the opportunity arose for him to play with his hometown Chicago Wolves - then in the International Hockey League - Nardella jumped at the chance offered by Gene Ubriaco, the Wolves head coach at the time.

"I wanted to see if I could play here and that's why I came back and played for Chicago," said Nardella, who lives in nearby Melrose Park, Ill. "I found out I was good enough. I was able to play in my hometown and there's a lot to be said for that and that's pretty much why I stayed."

What followed was an amazing run with the Wolves, who moved to the American Hockey League during Nardella's stay. From 1997-98 to 2001-02, Nardella put in six standout campaigns. He proved to be a key cog in the Wolves three championship seasons - 1998, 2000, and 2002.

While all that success proved good for Nardella, it was bad for the Italian national team. Each year, Nardella was playing playoff hockey somewhere in North America while the World Championships were being contested "across the pond." As a result, Nardella has not played with the Italian national team since 1998.

In fact, Nardella believed his international career had long passed him by. Not only that, but he was ready to give up professional hockey completely two years ago. That's until the Rockland Ice Hogs of the United Hockey League convinced him to play part-time - only playing games on the weekend while working at his business, RJN Supplies, and spending time with his family during the week.

"(Rockford) kept calling me to ask me to play," says Nardella. "I kept saying that I'm done, I don't want to play and the guy kept calling. He was persistent. I said, 'I can't practice, it's too far away. I want to work, I want to do things.' He said, 'You don't have to practice, you can just play games.' I said, 'I've been waiting for a situation like that my whole life.'

"So, I played like 40 games with them that year and then the Wolves saw me there and said, 'Why don't you come back and play with us, see if we can win again?'"

Nardella helped the Wolves down the stretch, but the team didn't win another title. Then, the lockout came and Nardella was pushed aside as young NHL players flooded the AHL. Again, he was all set to hang up the skates. Again, fate refused to let him give up.

This time, it was the Italian national team on the phone. Micky Goulet, the new Italian coach, wanted Nardella to be one of the veteran anchors on the Italian blue line. He called and asked Nardella to play after the Wolves convinced Goulet that Nardella could still handle the assignment.

"I hadn't played in a year-and-a-half and I said I would have to work a lot of things out, but sure I'll take a look at it," said Nardella.

Somehow, he made it all work. He plays games with Rockford. He practices weekday mornings with the Wolves. In the afternoons, he runs his business. At night, he coaches his son's Squirt team and serves as hockey director for the 14-team Glenview Stars youth hockey league.

"Daily, I juggle things," says Nardella. "I deal with youth coaches, I deal with parents, I try to get in shape, I play games with a team in Rockford and I practice with the Chicago Wolves. Everybody's really helping me to do this."

Everyone helps because they can see the passion Nardella has for the game, the passion he has for his heritage.

"Bob has given so much to this organization," says Cheveldayoff. "He's won championships here and done whatever the organization has asked. For us, it was a no-brainer when he approached us and asked us to do this."

Plus, the Wolves, like everyone else involved, want to see Nardella don the blue sweater of Italy one more time.

"We'll be watching anxiously when Team Italy takes on Team Canada and some of the other big teams at the Olympics," said Cheveldayoff.

Nardella is less than a week from doing just that.

He left Thursday for a short training camp before the Italians open the Olympic tournament with a game Feb. 15 against Canada, the defending Olympic champions. Team Canada is loaded with NHL superstars, players with big names and bigger contracts.

"You know what?" asked Nardella. "It's going to be tough in the warmup not to look over to the other side of the ice. It's going to be really tough."

Nardella knows his Italian team is no match for the Canadians. He understands that there is little hope that the Italians will even make things interesting. But, if Nardella has learned anything during his two decades of professional hockey, it is the fact that anything can happen at anytime.

"I'm looking at this way: We're overwhelming underdogs," laughed Nardella. "If you have to play the best team in the world, you want it to be this way. They all play on the 12th (in NHL games across North America), they have practice on the 13th and we play them on the 15th at 1 p.m., which for a lot of them is 5 a.m. (with the time difference).

So, if you have to play the best team in the world, you want to get them when they are like that."

Even with all that, does Nardella believe his team has a chance?

"It would be the Miracle on Ice, Part 2," he says.

In that simple statement, Nardella again reawakened the romanticism that has been dormant in the Olympic hockey tournament.



## **The Grand Rapids Press**

February 14, 2006

### **Holland Blast gets double dose of basketball talent in Epps twins**

HOLLAND -- Carlton and Corey Epps knew what they wanted when it came to choosing a career.

As for basketball, that was where the Benton Harbor duo faced an uncertain future. The Epps twins, both 6-foot-2 guards, had finished their eligibility on the Ferris State University men's basketball team and, for a while, it looked as though their hoops days were temporarily over.

The Holland Blast, the newest team in the International Basketball League, changed the Epps' plans.

"I still wanted to play after I got done playing at Ferris State, and I was told the Holland coach (Mike Ahrens) was interested in myself and my brother," Carlton Epps said.

"I was approached by the Grand Rapids Flight before, and their roster was pretty full, so it didn't work out that time around," Corey Epps said.

"(Ahrens) showed an awful lot of interest, and that was great."

The IBL, which played its first season last spring and summer, emphasizes a faster, more skilled game with immediate in-bound plays and fewer time-outs.

The faster pace is a good fit for the Epps, who left Ferris with impressive career marks. Carlton Epps concluded his collegiate career ranked among the school's all-time leaders in scoring (1,544), rebounds (454), steals (270), assists (250), free-throw percentage (0.820), three-point field goal percentage (0.426), made three-pointers (240) and blocked shots (53).

In addition to posting school career records for three-pointers and steals, he also notched single-season marks with 102 treys, 95 steals and a 0.883 free-throw percentage as a senior in 2004-05.

As for Corey Epps, he earned FSU's Defensive Player of the Year Award following his senior campaign last year. He had his best season in a Bulldog uniform last year as evidenced by his personal career-highs in scoring (309), field goals (112), rebounds (97), three-pointers (57), assists (82), steals (63) and blocked shots (11) in his final collegiate campaign.

Numbers like those sold Ahrens on bringing both players into the fold.

"Corey will be called upon to defend some of the best players in the league. He's proven he can defend at the college level, and I'm excited about his potential at this point in his career."

The Holland Blast is slated to open the 2006 season March 31 against the Detroit Pros in the Holland Civic Center.

"It's nice to know we're going to be playing," Carlton Epps said. "It was frustrating having all this time free and not knowing what to do with myself."

Added Corey: "We're both in our last semester, and we're looking forward to the opportunities ahead."

"Carlton is a multitalented player who will contribute at both ends of the floor," Ahrens said. "He has excellent shooting range and can create a running game."

## **The Flint Journal**

February 14, 2006

### **Discards provide gift of sight**

GRAND BLANC TWP. - When an elderly Mexican woman was fitted with a pair of used eyeglasses, tears streamed down her face.

The volunteer who had assisted the woman asked what was wrong - were the temples too tight?

"No," the woman said. "I'm crying because I'll be able to see my granddaughter for the first time."

Stories like that, brought home by volunteers in the Rotary Club's Avoidable Blindness program, have inspired Township Clerk Linda Kingston to participate this year.

"I cannot fathom what (the woman) felt," said Kingston, an optician for 28 years who belongs to the Grand Blanc Rotary Club. "The gift of sight is amazing."

On Feb. 16, she and about 30 other volunteers from across the state will journey to San Carlos, Mexico, with 10,000 pairs of used eyeglasses and eye-examining equipment.

The group's goal during the eight-day visit is to improve the vision of 1,500-2,000 Mexican villagers and supply them with sunglasses to minimize eye-damaging exposure to the sun.

Rotary volunteers, who include third-year students at the Michigan College of Optometry at Ferris State University, will provide services with makeshift equipment under a tent. The Rotary outreach is the only form of vision care most village residents receive all year, Kingston said.

"We're able to help people who really need help," said Dr. Brad Habermehl, an optometrist and Burton Rotary Club member who coordinates the program locally. This will be his sixth trip to San Carlos.

"We can give them functional vision with eyeglasses from somebody's drawer that would never be used again."

Eyeglasses collected by the clubs in the past year have been sanitized, labeled by prescription, sorted and boxed - all by inmates at the Ionia prison in Ionia County.

Habermehl said he often is asked why Rotary doesn't extend the program to needy Americans. The answer: It's illegal to dispense used eyeglasses in this country under Food and Drug Administration regulations, he said.

Kingston said she's looking forward to the mission and her very first trip to Mexico.

"These villagers depend on their eyesight for survival," she said. "I'm so honored to be able to participate. It will be a truly remarkable experience."

## **Detroit Free Press**

February 14, 2006

### **DESIREE COOPER: Jim Crow haunts a new generation**

When Comedy Central phenom Dave Chappelle walked away from a \$50million contract in May 2005, people wondered if the provocative, African American comedian was having a nervous breakdown. Days later, he resurfaced in Africa, but he never explained his strange vanishing act until earlier this month on the "Oprah Winfrey Show."

His story was meandering, but one contributing factor was this: He was doing a sketch involving a character in blackface when it elicited an unnerving laugh from a white person on the set. It was then that he sensed something was wrong.

"I was doing sketches that were funny but socially irresponsible," Chappelle told Winfrey. "I felt I was deliberately being encouraged and I was overwhelmed."

That's when I became convinced that he didn't need a therapist so much as a ghost-buster. Chappelle was being haunted by Jim Crow.

#### **No laughing matter**

The Jim Crow era was the period of legally enforced segregation that followed Reconstruction and continued until the mid-1960s. During that period, derogatory images of black people saturated popular culture, including the asexual, maternal mammies; gentle, servile Uncle Toms, and simple, childlike coons. The images were found on everything from canned goods to cookie jars.

"Jim Crow images contain a history of humiliation, degradation and separation," said Susan Morris, a humanities professor at Ferris State University. "It's not the kind of thing that you get over -- they show up again and again in modern ads, music and film."

Morris and her colleague, associate sociology professor Anthony Baker, are experts from Ferris State's Jim Crow Museum of Racist Memorabilia, a collection of more than 4,000 artifacts from the Jim Crow era through today.

On Friday, Morris and Baker spoke to about 75 students gathered by New Detroit Inc. and the University of Michigan-Dearborn for the ninth conversation about race they've sponsored on campus since 2004.

In explaining the topic, "The Ghosts of Jim Crow," Morris made certain to point out that she and Baker are white.

"These images come from the imagination of whites, and it's whites who need to address them," said Morris.

Jim Crow imagery, she added, may have slipped into history, but it has not left our psyche. "There's a real connection between the misrepresentation of African Americans in popular culture and the violence that has been lodged against them, both physical and economic," said Morris.

Baker agreed, noting images of black men as brutes, black women as seductive Jezebels and black children as worthless all surfaced after Reconstruction, when black people went from slavery to freedom.

"The mammies and Uncle Toms made people feel good about slavery," said Baker. "The later images helped justify the violence that was perpetrated against blacks after they were freed."

### **The picture of prejudice**

The images are disturbing: Postcards with naked black infants lined up near a pond and labeled "alligator bait." Cartoons of black women with exaggerated body parts and tiny heads that made them look more like animals than humans. The monstrosity of black facial features so they were viewed as grotesque and nonhuman.

As horrible as they were, many of the images survive today, many in videos and music produced by black people.

"Never underestimate internalized racism," said Morris. "People can be oppressed, yet continue to express their oppression in their own choices."

The images also continue to be used by white people. Racist images are still put on items like clocks and mouse pads.

About two years ago, a board game called Ghettopoly, developed by a Taiwanese immigrant, allowed players to build crack houses and get carjacked. Game pieces included a machine gun, a basketball and a marijuana leaf. The game stirred an uproar and eventually was dumped by its retailer, Urban Outfitters.

"To this day, images of apes and monkeys are used as a way to depict black people," said Morris. "It's what it will always mean. You can't just dress monkeys up like people and not conjure Jim Crow."

### **The power of images**

Which may explain why black and white people often have a hard time deciphering what is racist and what isn't.

"Whites may not have any intent to hurt anyone when these images surface," said Barbara Kuchmanich, 24, a freshman from Royal Oak who is white. "They don't feel aggressive, so they don't understand it when someone gets defensive. It's very subtle, and we often can't talk about it."

Shauna Gray, 22, a U-M Dearborn senior who is white, added that many images have lost their meaning over time.

"This generation often doesn't see Aunt Jemima syrup as racist," she said. "If you can't see the racism in an image, does it matter?"

It does, according to Morris. "You have to be aware of the history so that you don't unknowingly perpetuate the racism," she said.

Deidra Woods, 53, is an African-American Northville resident and a senior at U-M Dearborn. She said she worried that even if children don't understand the racist history of popular images, they are learning new racist ideas from cartoons.

"In cartoons, it starts with the language of one group as being different than others," said Woods. "It creates an understanding that this is the way the 'others' speak and behave. It's funny at 6, but by the age of 12, you know it's supposed to be black people."

For Baker, that's the key reason for the Jim Crow Museum. "We act as if there's no history -- that we encountered each other yesterday," he said. "But these images are alive, and they creep up on us in an innocent, everyday way."

According to Chappelle, maybe it's not so innocent.

"I would go to work on the show and I felt awful every day," he said. "I felt like some kind of prostitute or something. The hardest thing to do is to be true to yourself, especially when everybody is watching."

I'm glad he had the guts to stand up against the specters of Steppin' Fetchit, the contented darkey and the black brute. Maybe because of his actions -- and those of the young people who attended the conference -- people will now realize that after 150 years, Jim Crow has outlived its usefulness.

## Delaware News Journal

February 14, 2006

### **You really can be addicted to love**

Love feels so good. The looks. The longing. The giddiness.

And the more you get, the more you want. In time, you just can't live without it.

Romantic love sounds a lot like a form of chemical addiction.

According to many experts, it is.

"There's no question that our basic drives are wired," says Robert Friar, a physiologist with the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality, who teaches at Ferris State University in Michigan.

He's referring to that amphetamine-like rush of dopamine, norepinephrine and phenylethylamine that propels us into wanting someone. Badly.

But if much of love's foundations seem uncontrollable, love's superstructure may be built upon a person's innate ability to choose.

"For humans, the biggest thing that's different from animals is that females will allow the males to approach all year," says Dan Carson, chair of the University of Delaware's biological sciences department.

"It may be tied to the mental thing, that we make more choices, allowing the higher thinking processes to make the decisions about whether to mate or not."

"A big problem in culture is our confusing love and lust," says Friar, whose studies primarily concentrate on the chemical sparks that propel us into reproduction-mode.

"Lust comes from the hypothalamus, the lower part of the brain, where sexual orientation and desire comes from. Its purpose is to reproduce so we don't become extinct."

Love comes from the cerebrum, he says, referring to a more highly developed area of the brain that only humans use. "And that requires intellectual reasoning."

It's a distinction even Pope Benedict XVI points to in a preview to his first encyclical, "God is Love," published last month.

If love manifests itself as "eros" or erotic love between men and women, he said, it "must transform itself into agape" love, a "higher" or "platonic" form that symbolizes "the gift of oneself to the other."

Even so, chemicals drive both the lust and the mature stages of love, scientists say.



## **What men and women look for**

According to evolutionary psychology, which studies human behavior, biology seems to have pre-determined at least whom we're initially attracted to, says Carrie Veronica Smith. A University of Delaware psychologist, she teaches a course on human sexuality.

Men and women value different qualities, she says.

Those differences have defined human societies.

Those differences are why men and women stand poised facing one another, perennially puzzled and intrigued, fascinated and irritated, attracted and repulsed, longing to become one, yet forever separate.

Those differences explain the stereotypes of why men tend to rove, and why most women are more likely to settle on one guy.

"Men are driven or pushed to mate often and indiscriminately... so they focus more on physical features," Smith says.

Among other things, guys unconsciously look for good skin, Smith says -- an indicator that the woman is disease free. They look for large breasts -- a signal that she can better care for potential offspring. They look for a good waist-to-hip ratio, that is, a thinner waist in relation to wider hips -- she'll be able to give birth to a child, and is less likely to die when she does.

If that sounds cold, it's not. But it is an unconscious decision. And, if he's attracted and there's some reciprocation, it's confirmed by body chemistry.

When a man or woman enjoys the company of the opposite sex, a chemical called phenylethylamine, or PEA, is released by the hypothalamus, Friar says. That encourages the relationship.

It doesn't get more primitive than this. This chemical is the same stuff that was triggered in a person a million years ago, scientists say.

It's the cool feeling you get after you meet someone and you want to be with her or him as much as possible. It's that rush of blood to the face, that giddy feeling in your gut as your heart tips its hat, that feeling of "I'm in love."

"Romantic love is really lustful love," Friar of Ferris State says.

But even when indulged, the power of that chemical reaction lasts only four or five years.

Scientists theorize that in a hunting-gathering society, that was how long a man needed to be with a woman to care for a child, until the tribe took over.

The fact that we became farmers and thus more sedentary during the past 10,000 years has hardly registered biologically.

As if in confirmation of our basic drives, the Census Bureau says the median number of years a first marriage lasted is about eight years for both men and women. The median time from marriage to separation, however, is only a bit more than six years, in a study of marriages and divorces from 1996-2002.

### **Monogamy, infidelity and jealousy**

Women choose differently.

There's the ability to bear children, for one thing.

"In order to pass on my genes, I'm going to take nine months to do that," Smith says. "For [a man], it's going to take only a couple of seconds."

But the kicker -- the thing that drives guys crazy, precipitating their obsession with their wives' or girlfriends' fidelity, not to mention to whom they pass on their property and lineage -- is what Smith calls "parental certainty."

"Because men don't carry that child, they don't know it's theirs," she says. "While I have nine months parental investment, I also have 100 percent parental certainty."

Because of that certainty and investment, women cannot afford to play the same attraction game that men play, Smith says.

"Yes, we want you to be attractive," she says, especially so around the time a woman ovulates.

"But what we need is status, resources and power," Smith says. "Are you going to be able to take care of me during those nine months, and beyond?"

Monogamy is thus more important to women.

Of course, none of this precludes infidelity.

"A woman may secure a man who has status and resources and power, and still cheat with a man who has good genes," Smith says.

Which brings us to jealousy.

"Men will be far more upset if a female partner cheats sexually, because then you bring in the specter of whose baby it is," Smith says. "Women are far more bothered with emotional infidelity, afraid that you're going to take those resources from me."

So, in the end, what's love got to do with it?

Love and bonding, which begins with PEA, may actually increase over time with the frequency of sex, Friar says. Say thanks to yet another chemical.

"For long-term relationships, there is oxytocin, the bonding chemical," he says.

Every time you kiss someone passionately, hold them closely and it feels good, you're releasing it. With sex, you release even more.

"It can last up to 50 years, assuming that sexual relations last as long," Friar says.

To keep oxytocin flowing, a couple should have sex at least twice a week, he says.

But even with all the chemically-induced preconditions there, it still takes the rational, choice-making part of our brains to make love last, Smith says.

One theory says there must be a balance of intimacy, passion and commitment for it to continue, and that involves chemicals, communication and reflection.

Another theory, about which Smith has recently published a paper, says that, for "psychological well-being," one must have three fundamental needs met.

These include "competence" -- you need to feel you know what you're doing; "autonomy" -- you need to be able to freely choose what you want to do; and "relatedness" -- having others support and care for you.

"We feel more satisfied, more relaxed, less guilty and less regretful," she says, when those needs are met.

Bad decisions early in a relationship can contribute to unhappiness and divorce, Friar says.

"This is the difference between falling in love with your cerebrum, or falling in lust with your hypothalamus," he says. "If a couple gets involved in sex too soon, oxytocin will cause you to bond with that person, and it may be the wrong person for you."

This is where our predetermined needs meet up coldly with our rational selves.

If biology makes a couple attractive to each other, and their passionate embraces and kisses propel that PEA-release and make them giddy with excitement -- that's the time to starting thinking long and hard.

And that thinking -- no matter how painted into a corner we feel we are by instinct and the longing for another -- is as much part of our human nature, Carson says.

People are able to reasonably transcend their instincts.

"We routinely override basic instincts," Carson says. "We don't always not eat when we're not hungry. We sometimes stay when we're frightened. That's part of our brain's programming. Other animals, they simply don't."

## **Pioneer**

February 14, 2006

### **Math/Science and Technology Center to consider non-MOISD students**

BIG RAPIDS - The Mecosta-Osceola Math/Science and Technology Center (MSTC) will be accepting applications for the 14th entering class until March 17.

For the first time, applications are being sought from 8th graders residing outside of the Mecosta-Osceola Intermediate School District if they are willing to comply with School of Choice guidelines.

The MSTC serves school districts by providing an accelerated curriculum enriched with required research, internships and optional field studies courses for their students. Successful applicants enroll in two years of integrated science, math, research and technology coursework followed by two years of college coursework through partner Ferris State University.

The half-day program is located on the FSU campus and serves approximately 100 students.

Historically, up to 119 students from as many as 10 schools have applied for the 29 seats available each year. Admission is based upon an ACT test, grades, recommendations and, for some, an interview. All applicants must attend a testing and orientation day on Wednesday, March 8 at Ferris State University. Information Sessions for parents will be held Feb. 22 and 23 at 7 p.m. in the MSTC, located in the Arts & Sciences Commons Building on the FSU campus.

Local school district students (Class of 2005) attending the MSTC averaged \$125,000 per student in merit scholarship offers due to their strong academic credentials (3.8 HSGPA and 29.7 ACT) and research background. The class included many published researchers, a pair of National Merit Finalists, and a 4th place in the world (divisional) winner at the International Science and Engineering Fair. The MSTC has produced two 4th Place winners in three years.

The MSTC is operated by the Mecosta-Osceola Intermediate School District and serves students from Big Rapids, Chippewa Hills, Crossroads Charter Academy, Evart, Morley-Stanwood and Reed City. Home school students, students attending private/parochial schools, and students residing outside of the MOISD may also apply.

For information, call (231) 796-3543.

## **Pioneer**

February 14, 2006

### **Ferris students mentor in the community**

BIG RAPIDS - January was mentoring month for the State of Michigan, and a group of social work students are doing their best to become mentors for some students in Big Rapids Public schools.

As, part of a Fall semester class and continuing on into the Winter semester, students in SCWK 320, Theories and Methods of Practice II and SCWK 330, Advanced interviewing, are in the community to gain real-life experience in their career choice. The courses integrate classroom learning with academic service learning in the community.

In the fall, under the supervision of Dr. Wendy Samuels, these Ferris State Students simulated the development of a human service agency within the classroom, utilizing the concepts of a learning organization, and decided to develop an "agency" that provided mentoring to area students.

The students call their agency Mission: Mentor, and operate under the vision of "building relationships changing lives." The goal of the agency is "committing to the education and stimulation of children's minds by addressing their social and academic needs."

This agency serves three of BRPS: Hillcrest Elementary, Big Rapids Middle School and Big Rapids High School, by providing mentoring both academically and socially.

Four Ferris students are providing mentoring services at Hillcrest Elementary School. They utilize several creative approaches that focus on social skills such as role-modeling, self-esteem and peer-building. Both the Ferris Students and the elementary students benefit from this challenge to unite and learn from each other.

Mission: Mentor's middle school team accepted the opportunity to teach a seventh grade enrichment class every day for an entire marking period. Teamwork skills progress rapidly in this group; they become more cohesive with each session.

"We want to ensure a positive learning experience for both groups of students," said Sherry Franklin, school social worker at BRMS.

Three Ferris students attend the high school twice a week to tutor and educate eager young minds of tomorrow. In addition to schoolwork, the teens enthusiastically participate in numerous activities that range from improving social skills to time management. The teens positively interact with Ferris students being close in age. Both groups of students enjoy the company and learn much from each other.

The Ferris students presented the outcome of their fall project to community stake holders at a presentation on Dec. 15. The Ferris students are continuing their mentoring on an individual basis this semester as part of an advanced interviewing course, and hope for continuation of Mission: Mentor by next year's students.

## **Pioneer**

February 14, 2006

### **Professor emeritus creates scholarships for welding students**

BIG RAPIDS - Professor emeritus Joseph Mikols of the Welding Engineering Technology department at Ferris State University has established the Joseph S. Mikols Endowment Fund through the Ferris Foundation. Mikols of Paris said the endowment fund will support scholarships and laboratory equipment for the welding engineering program in the College of Technology.

"Having worked in the welding and metallurgical engineering field for 33 years, I understand the value of a good education," said Mikols on why he established the endowment. "I've worked as a welding engineer in the construction industry for 19 years and the last 14 of my career as a professor in the welding engineering technology program at Ferris. The program provides an outstanding education for students wishing to pursue careers in the welding field," added Mikols.

Candidates for the scholarship must be a sophomore, junior or senior student in the welding engineering technology program and have earned a minimum 3.0 GPA.

Scholarships will be awarded in honor of Mikols' friend William A. Beegle, his wife, Linda Good Mikols, and Steve and Oral Vikols, his parents.

For more information or to make a gift to the Joseph S. Mikols Endowment Fund, please contact the Ferris Foundation at (231)591-2365 or [fsufdn@ferris.edu](mailto:fsufdn@ferris.edu). Details about establishing scholarships or endowments may be obtained from the Advancement Office at (231) 591-3825. I

## **The Detroit News**

February 15, 2006

### **Schools in Michigan remain segregated, findings show**

Charter schools, choice policies haven't added much diversity to student populations, study says.

Black and white students aren't attending school together any more than they did 12 years ago, even with the addition of charter and school choice policies, according to a Michigan State University study.

The analysis indicates Michigan is no closer to shedding its designation as having the most segregated schools in the nation.

Nearly 60 percent of the state's African-American students are in predominantly black schools, a number that has stayed relatively consistent since 1992, according to the report from MSU's Education Policy Center.

At the same time, the number of racially segregated school buildings has increased by almost 50 percent to 431 schools statewide, primarily due to the opening of charter schools.

"You would think after 50 years we would see some progress," said David Plank, co-director of the Education Policy Center. "In Michigan, there hasn't been any progress.

"Parents are moving their students from racially segregated (traditionally public) schools to racially segregated charters."

Close to 75 percent of black students in Michigan attend segregated schools, which would mean the schools are more than 80 percent black, according to the report.

Charters and school-of-choice policies, first implemented in the mid-1990s, weren't touted as a way to integrate schools, Plank said. But it was a potential result, given parents were no longer restricted to districts where they lived.

Charter schools receive public money, operate outside traditional public school districts and must be overseen by a college or school district.

And school-of-choice districts are public school districts that allow out-of-town students to enroll in their schools.

Dan Quisenberry, president of the Michigan Association of Public School Academies, said diversity is important but the large numbers of parents choosing charters shows that a school's quality is a higher priority for parents.

"You've got to do the basics first," Quisenberry said.

Telly James said she isn't surprised or concerned by lack of diversity in charters.



Her daughter is a third-grader at Detroit's Woodward Academy and the school's racial makeup wasn't on her mind when she decided to send her there.

"The city is predominantly black," James said.

"When the neighborhood is black, the school is going to reflect it."

Plank said he is surprised that the integration of schools, which has been such a prominent issue for the last 50 years, has fallen off the map.

"This is an issue we simply don't talk about anymore," Plank said.

## Pioneer

February 15, 2006

### **Tour of Jim Crow Museum a life-changing experience**

If I were born with brown skin in a community up or down our river, then.....

If you were born white like me, how you complete this sentence depends on a lot of different things: how well integrated into the majority community you are, how much influence the popular media have on you, how much American social history you know, how many people with brown skin count you as a friend....

My wife, Judy, and I thought we could do a decent job of completing this sentence before we adopted our three brown-skinned daughters. Were we wrong! To know that racism exists in American society is one thing, to live it everyday as our daughters have is another reality altogether.

In 1996 I began to get some inkling of what brown skin really means in this country. I started working with David Pilgrim to create the Jim Crow Museum (<http://www.ferris.edu/jimcrow/>). David possessed a large collection of racist memorabilia and donated it to Ferris State University. The museum contains at least 4,000 everyday household, entertainment, and advertising items that defame African American men, women, and children. These images date from slavery, the Jim Crow era of U.S. history, right up to the present day.

The Jim Crow Museum is the only publicly accessible museum of its type. Other museums explore slavery, the American Civil Rights Movement, and the accomplishments of African Americans. The Jim Crow Museum is the only museum that focuses on the artifacts that both shaped and reflected attitudes toward African Americans developed during the Jim Crow era roughly from the late 1870s to the mid-1960s.

All racial groups have been and are caricatured, but none have been caricatured as often or in as many ways as have African Americans. They have been portrayed in popular culture as pitiable exotics, cannibalistic savages, hypersexual deviants, childlike buffoons, obedient servants, self-loathing victims, and menaces to society. These anti-black depictions are manifested in or on material objects: ashtrays, drinking glasses, banks, games, fishing lures, detergent boxes, and other everyday items.

Unfortunately, this kind of stereotyping has not stopped. It is no longer as blatant nor as commonplace as it was before the Civil Rights Movement. Nevertheless, items from the past continue to be reproduced and new items created, advertised, and consumed. One of the most powerful aspects of a visit to the museum is encountering the brand new racist items the museum is collecting.

The museum uses racially charged and demeaning, everyday items to explore historical and current expressions of race prejudice and discrimination. These images engage visitors at the deepest emotional and intellectual levels, and make it possible for the museum facilitators to initiate and conduct powerful discussions about race and race

relations. At a time when many Americans are afraid to talk openly about race relations, the museum makes possible powerful discussions about race, and offers exciting opportunities to teach tolerance and understanding to Ferris students, high school and college students from throughout Michigan, religious groups, business leaders, and many others.

The Big Rapids High School students from David Szot's poetry class have impressed me the most. They come to the museum every spring and then write poems about the experience. In their own way each of the poems I have read are a tribute to the power of this experience to change people's lives. The first group were classmates of our youngest daughters, some of whom were their close personal friends and stood with them through the harassment their brown skin brought them.

I will never be able to truly complete the sentence I set out at the beginning of this article, but I do know that I can help visitors to the museum come to appreciate how hard it is being brown in this country. I also know that a visit to this museum forces a person to take a stand for or against the equality of all human beings.

If you would like to visit the Jim Crow Museum, assemble a group of friends or colleagues and call the museum at (231) 591-5873. Until our fund-raising drive to expand and endow the museum is successful, it is not possible to have walk-in visits. We have learned from experience that you don't want to encounter this material alone. We know people need and want to talk about the experience.

Be warned, a visit can be life changing.

## **The Detroit News**

February 16, 2006

### **Families get break on college costs**

New law clarifies that funds transferred to 529 plan are not counted as a student asset.

WASHINGTON -- Soaring tuition and student-loan costs may cloud college prospects, but families saving for higher education will find a small silver lining in the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005.

The new law, signed by President Bush last week:

Clarifies that money transferred to a 529 college savings plan from custodial accounts -- a Uniform Gift to Minors Act or Uniform Transfer to Minors Act account -- isn't a student asset when figuring student aid. The money will be treated as parental assets, which are weighted 6 percent of the federal formula that determines a family's share of college costs compared to 35 percent for student assets, reports accountant Joe Hurley, who runs the [SavingForCollege.com](http://SavingForCollege.com) Web site. (The 529 plans are named after their section number in the Internal Revenue Service Code. Michigan offers a 529 plan.)

Will treat prepaid tuition plans the same as 529 plans for purposes of figuring family contributions toward college costs.

#### **The downside of new law**

The same law, the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, also cuts \$12.7 billion out of federally guaranteed student-loan programs, a change that stands to raise repayment costs on the typical \$20,000 student loan by as much as \$2,000.

#### **What families should save**

The general rule used by financial aid expert Mark Kantrowitz of [www.finaid.com](http://www.finaid.com) is that students' families should expect to pay two-thirds of college costs from savings, current income and student loans, with the other third coming from grants and scholarships.

#### **How prepaid plans work**

The change for prepaid tuition plans may make them more attractive because they lock in future tuition costs at state colleges and universities at a time when the College Board reports that annual tuition to four-year public colleges rose 7.1 percent to \$5,491 this school year. (Tuition at private four-year schools rose 5.9 percent to \$21,235.)

However, prepaid plans are restricted to in-state residents, and only 13 states (Alabama, Florida, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Nevada, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and Washington state) have them, [SavingforCollege.com](http://SavingforCollege.com) reports.

Another five (Colorado, Kentucky, Ohio, Texas and West Virginia) closed their plans or temporarily suspended them when investment returns lagged tuition increases. Prepaid plans do avoid the risks of serious market downturns that are part and parcel of 529 plans. These are mutual-fund investments to which you contribute after-tax money for the promise of tax-free withdrawals for qualified higher-education costs.

But their uncertain tax future combined with controversies over complex fee structures, inadequate investment choices and the like are given as reasons that net sales of 529 plans slowed to \$13.69 billion last year from \$13.72 billion in 2004 in the latest Financial Research Corp. report.

Morningstar Inc., the independent investment adviser, has warned that "would-be investors would do well to consider the many vehicles for saving for college before automatically diving into a 529 plan." But its latest "Best and Worst 529 Plans," in the February issue of Morningstar FundInvestor and online at [www.Morningstar.com](http://www.Morningstar.com), finds that some plans are addressing these shortcomings, with more than a dozen cutting 529 fees last year, for instance.

It's still important to weigh whether 529 plans fit your needs, Morningstar analyst Kerry O'Boyle advises. He suggests that families start by investigating home-state 529 plans.

Five states -- Colorado, Illinois, New Mexico, South Carolina and Virginia -- let taxpayers deduct the full contribution from state taxes, and 18 others have partial deductions atop the federal tax breaks, says analyst John Roth of tax publisher CCH Inc.

## **The Detroit News**

February 17, 2006

### **U-M hits new high ' in gifts of cash**

College collected 22 percent more in donations in 2005, as MSU saw 15 percent decline.

Charitable giving to the University of Michigan reached an all-time high in 2005, while giving to Michigan State University dropped for the third consecutive year, according to national report released Thursday.

The state's two largest schools are both in the midst of fundraising campaigns designed to support academic programs, building improvements and scholarships at time of declining state funding.

U-M posted a 22 percent boost in donations in 2005 that placed it 16th nationally for gifts, according to the annual survey by the Council for Aid to Education. Nationally, donations to universities and colleges grew 4.9 percent from the previous year.

President Mary Sue Coleman invigorated the fundraising efforts, said U-M Vice President for Development Jerry May.

"Part of her job was to... charge up the campaign. She's been coast to coast talking to donors and alumni," May said.

"Our campaign goal is \$2.5 billion and we are asking all the time. We kicked off the public campaign in spring of 2004 and it takes a while for people to make decisions about big gifts:"

The survey measures cash the universities actually received during a year and does not include other pledges for money and trusts, May said.

In all, U-M raised \$493 million last year.

MSU posted a 15 percent drop in giving, according to the report. However, WSU officials say the report doesn't reflect the university's fundraising efforts since it only documents one type of giving - the cash the university received.

Cash gifts were down because of large one-time gifts in the previous year, but other pledges for money boosted total university giving just slightly below last year's level, said Marti Heil, associate vice president for university development. Nationally, donations to colleges and universities reached \$25.6 billion. The gifts are especially important for universities facing declining public funding.

"The 2005 survey results indicate that higher education fundraising has firmly recovered from weak performances in 2002 and 2003," said Ann E. Kaplan, director of the survey.

The 1,005 institutions that participated in the survey represent nearly two-thirds of the nation's four-year institutions, including 90 percent of research and doctoral institutions.

The top fundraising university was Stanford University at \$603 million.

## **Pioneer**

February 18 & 19, 2006

### **MHTSA partners with FSU's DPS for upcoming traffic summit**

LANSING - James A. Santilli, Jr. of the Michigan Highway Traffic Safety Alliance (MHTSA), and Chief Martin J. Bledsoe of the Ferris State University Department of Public Safety have been selected to speak together at the 11th annual Michigan Traffic Safety Summit during the pedestrian and bicycle safety workshop.

Santilli, who also serves on the Governor's Traffic Safety Advisory Commission's Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Team, and the Ferris State University Traffic Safety Team (FUSTIEST), asked Bledsoe to speak in partnership since half of the workshop will highlight the successful team approach to pedestrian safety initiatives in the Ferris State University community.

"The Ferris State University community should be extremely proud of what their officials have accomplished in the area of traffic safety," said Santilli. "The efforts of the FSUTST, under the leadership of Chief Bledsoe, have greatly enhanced safety in the community."

According to the Michigan Department of State Police, the other portion of the workshop will be presented by Jack Lucero Fleck of San Francisco, and will teach attendees about San Francisco's widespread use and positive experience with pedestrian countdown signals.

The summit, which will be held Feb. 28 - March 1, at the Sheraton Lansing Hotel, will have law enforcement, traffic engineers, public health, private industry, non-profit, and local, state, and federal agencies in attendance. Also, NASCAR racing legend Ernie Irvan will be featured at the keynote speaker.

For more information on the FSUTST, please visit ([www.mhtsa.us/fsu/fsutst.htm](http://www.mhtsa.us/fsu/fsutst.htm)). The informational page is provided for the FSUTS I courtesy of MHTSA, with the approval of the Ferris State University Department of Public Safety.

Information about the speakers:

James A. Santilli, Jr. Santilli entered the traffic safety advocacy world in 2001.

Since then, he has been, and continues to be instrumental in leading the emergence of what is now known as the Michigan Highway Traffic Safety Alliance.

Santilli serves on the Governors Traffic Safety Advisory Commissions' Impaired Driving Action Team, and the Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Team. In addition, he serves on the Give'em a Brake Coalition, is a supporter and member of Mothers Against Drunk Driving, a member of the Coalition for a Safe and Responsible Michigan, a member of the National Commission Against Drunk Driving, a member



of the National Troopers Coalition, and a representative on the Ferris State University Traffic Safety Team.

Santilli was trained at the Oakland Police Academy to become licensed by the state of Michigan as an emergency medical services - medical first responder, is certified by the American Heart Association for Basic Life Support Healthcare Providers, and has training in nonviolent/violent crisis intervention, advanced cardiac life support, and various emergency medical services continuing education. Santilli also has been trained in child passenger safety (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration curriculum), and is certified as a Child Passenger Safety Technician.

A lifelong resident of Michigan, Santilli was born in Detroit, raised in Clinton Township, and currently resides in Big Rapids. He is completing a bachelor degree in criminal justice with a focus on human resource management through Ferris State University, and was the recipient of the 2005 Ferris State University Torchbearer Leadership Award.

Santilli attended Dakota High School in Macomb County.

#### *Martin J Bledsoe*

Martin J. Bledsoe, prior to serving in his current capacity as director of the Ferris State University Department of Public Safety, had a 30 year law enforcement career with the Farmington Hills Police Department, and retired as assistant chief of police in 2003.

Bledsoe is a 1991 graduate of the FBI National Academy, and is currently serving as the past president of the FBI National Academy Associates - Michigan Chapter.

Bledsoe also is a member of the International and Michigan Associations of Chiefs of Police, the International and Michigan Associations of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators, and serves as the chair of the Ferris State University Traffic Safety Team.

Bledsoe has received a master's degree in public administration from Eastern Michigan University, a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Madonna University, an associate degree in law enforcement from Schoolcraft College, and graduated from the Northwestern University School of Police Staff & Command.