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# Dear Editor,

## Dear Editor,

I agree with the panelists in last week's Navidaters column about how a guy doesn't need to spend a lot of money on the first few dates. However, the young man wrote about the dating expenses falling on the guy and his family. The panelists did not mention that there are financial resources involved for a young woman dating too. Some of these expenses are having a selection of dressy and casual dating outfits for both seasons, accessories, routine manicures, and cosmetic procedures that make her look and feel her best for the date. It was surprising there was no mention of how much thought and resources a woman puts into a date as well.

## A Reader

## Dear Editor,

In my youth, there was an exceptionally talented *frum* basketball player by the name of Eric Davis. Besides his exceptional talent, he had other standout qualities.

He was exceedingly humble, as his talent didn't affect his personality. He lived on the ground like everyone else. In addition, he made everyone feel like a king, whether they had issues or not. He had the ability to hone in on those who needed encouragement, and he provided it.

When I think of him, I think of last week's parsha when we read about Yisro. Yisro was a listener, he humbled himself before others, and he looked to solve problems for others.

Looking to this week's parsha, of laws between people, there's a key connecting *vav*, "*V'elah haMishpatim...*" which serves as a bridge to last week's parsha,

where the Torah was given. This *vav* equalizes Sinai to human interactions. There is no Torah without human refinement, in humility and interaction.

There's a powerful *midrash* on the verse in Yeshaya (60:1) that says, "Arise, Shine, for your light has come; the glory of G-d has shone upon you." The Midrash Yalkut Shimoni (499) comments on this verse that when Moshiach comes, he will go to the rooftop of the Beis HaMikdash and announce "*Anavim*, humble ones," the time of redemption is here. The final call is to the humble ones.

This letter began by saying that Eric Davis had exceptional talent along with great humility. Therefore, talent and humility are not a contradiction. How is this to be understood?

We must look at Moshe, the paradigm for humility, who was a person of exceptional talent. How did Moshe live by both?

It has been suggested that Moshe was angelic, but he never felt he reached his potential. Interestingly, he's viewed as someone who did, probably because he never thought he did.

He always felt he fell short. Therefore, he had nothing to be arrogant about. Regarding others, he felt they were performing fine with their talents. If you think your exceptionalism doesn't reach perfection, then, in fact, there's nothing to feel proud about, only to contemplate how you can do better. In this way, we must all utilize our talents to the highest degree, but because we know a higher level remains to be conquered, we can always live humbly.

**Steven Genack**

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# Readers Poll

## Does your family do anything special for Rosh Chodesh?

**46%**  
Yes

**54%**  
No