

# Tampa Bay Times - October 24, 2005

# JOHN RICCHINI

By **FRED W. WRIGHT JR.**Published Oct. 24, 2005 34, publishing, Tampa

#### How did you get started in investing?

After graduating from college in 1993. My major was in accounting and finance. My first investment was in Vanguard Wesley Income Fund.

#### What is your best investment so far?

Not one that's done better than the others.

# What is your worst investment so far?

Some of ones I've gotten out of were Jannus funds.

# What have you learned about investing that you think all investors should know?

Don't try to guess the market.

# How would you describe your approach to investing?

I follow pretty much diversification. My theory is simple \_ the Vanguard "die hard" theory. Pay attention to asset allocations and your age. I'm not trying to beat the market but just hit the market with cost averaging. I reallocate my funds

every six months.

#### How are you invested now?

Fifteen percent international funds, 25 percent bond funds, and the rest is a mixture of different types of mutual funds.

#### What do you find the most difficult about investing?

I try to make it as simple as possible by not getting involved and not following it on a daily basis. And not try to out-guess (the market).

#### What changes, if any, have you made in your investments in the past year?

Nothing major. I'm in one specialty fund, a real estate investment trust, and I've been trying to keep that to a consistent percentage.

#### Do you think now is a good time to invest?

I think every day is a good time to invest.

# What is your goal for your investing?

Retire at a young age. Live comfortably and not have to rely on someone else, like an employer, when I'm older.

# What is your biggest money concern right now?

I have a 4-month-old daughter. I just started looking into her college education and what are the best options.

# Where do you get your investment tips?

I read DieHards.org. I don't really look for leads.