

31st & Pearl

Dotyball

Having seen (via the Internet) former CoB Dean Harold Doty's Sept-2005 interview with the University of South Florida, one can easily imagine that HoDo (former SAIS Director Stan Lewis' term for Doty) has become more than the punch line of various jokes. Doty is now the perfect choice as fodder in attempts by business faculty at various institutions to elevate a local yahoo to the position of business dean. The credentials are there -- PhD from UT-Austin, department chair service at Syracuse University, and former Dean of the College of Business at the University of Southern Mississippi. On paper, he looks like a promising candidate. Viewers of the notorious South Florida interview know better.

Here's the game. Business School A needs a new Dean, and the local politicians want to elevate "an insider" to the post. The problem is that the insider is weak, both academically and administratively. He/she needs to be made to look better. That is easily done by putting Doty on a flyout. When HoDo arrives, simply pin a microphone to his lapel and give him as much time as he needs to get to subjects like "the fun money" and securing AACSB accreditation. Simply put -- let the goofiness flow, and in large quantities.

When Doty departs, Business School A sits before the university's central administration, apologizing for every HoDo gaffe that occurred over the previous day or two. After apologizing, they put the insider's vita before Dr. Prez, and explain how professor insider is way better than Doty, who is by all accounts the best external candidate out there. After all, HoDo almost got the same job (b-school dean) at North Texas, South Florida, North Florida, and Texas Christian.

Next is Business School B's turn. It's almost like a sport -- Dotyball. Only HoDo is the ball, bouncing around from interview to interview. Anyone out there up for a game?