

31st & Pearl

More "No" No Good

In case you are joining us late in the game, the CoB's 2007-08 job searches are now well under way and the "politely decline" routine from candidate pool finalists has begun anew. Already the finance group has received the "thanks, but no thanks" play two or three times, and management has been kicked to the curb by at least one candidate thus far.

The CoB has been down this road before, particularly economics and finance. Just two years ago both units suffered through a seemingly endless sea of "no" before landing on the shores of Sami Dakhli and Akbar Marvasti in ECO, and Matthew Hood and Stephen Haggard in FIN. Just one year later Haggard was out the door, and off to Missouri State University. That stroke of genius has already been well-documented on the pages here at usmnews.net.

The CoB has suffered much since 2003, when former Dean Harold Doty arrived, and before, under the *un*watchful eye of former CBA Dean William Gunther. There's no way to *un*-do all that has been done in the past to diminish the institution. And, whether there is a way to turn the ship around under the same tired, old administrators is probably not a question with a good answer accompanying it.

There's little doubt that the perennial series of "no" from CoB job candidates is a *symptom* of things gone awry. What many are beginning to believe now, however, is that the "no" card, played as often as it is these days, just might also be a *cause* of the current malaise.

31st & Pearl is a series housed at usmnews.net that features commentary on aspects of life in the CoB from a variety of columnists.