

# 31<sup>st</sup> & Pearl

## Been That Long?

The recent reprinting (on 2-Nov-09) of some older USMNEWS reports about the so-called "Black Tuesday" in the EFIB reminded CoBers and other readers of USMNEWS.net that the website has been around for quite some time. The aforementioned report was dated Sept-06, making it more than three years old. The website is, in fact, much older than that. The first reports rolled off the presses back in the winter/spring of 2006, earlier that same year.

The early USMNEWS.net reports concerned several topics, among them former CoB dean Harold Doty's "booze account," USM's penchant for failing to rule promptly on faculty grievances, and secrecy shrouding the USM Foundation (and its activities). Long-time readers of USMNEWS.net are, however, aware that so many other issues have since been covered, from former CoB associate dean Farhang Niroomand's \$75,000 in travel expenditures (over just a few years) to assistant professor of accounting Mary Anderson's relationship to USM CFO Joe Morgan (and how that relationship sometimes benefits some of the CoB's accountants).

Who knows what the future holds? It's difficult to speculate. We're just three months removed from George Carter's public accusation (in *Inside Higher Ed*) that the Martha Saunders administration was at the heart of a "subterfuge" in its attempt to eliminate (back in Aug/Sept-09) the CoB's economics programs and nine economists. It was also then that Carter informed the world that current CoB assistant professor of ECO, Yosef Bonaparte, was fired (during 2008-09) without warning or cause.

This brings us back to "Black Tuesday" of Sept-06. Carter was at the heart of that episode – one of the more dastardly in modern CoB history. It's funny how a 2006 subterfuge can be something else to the same person who in 2009 threw the term around so loosely in describing other events.