

31st & Pearl

Doty a Valuable Resource to Community and CoB

I'm almost positive that Harold Doty's February 2007 prediction – that the stock market would be higher in late Aug-07 than it was after the “crash” of late Feb-07 – proved correct. And, that was the second of two comments about the NYSE that our own finance sage made back then to the reporter from *The Hattiesburg American*. The other? Markets go up, and markets go down. Two out of two, and both with surgical precision. Yes, the Hattiesburg-area is fortunate to have such a resource, even if the CoB doesn't let it flourish like it should.

These two celestial comments about the stock market represent just the kind of information that our local community needs from its “b-school.” It's great that the CoB, through then-Dean Doty, got this information out there in Feb-07 so that citizens and local business leaders could make use of it. And I'm sure they have, and are grateful to have had the opportunity. But why couldn't the information about markets (they go “up and down”) have been disseminated much sooner than Feb-07? Just think about what local residents could have done with the information had they had access to it in Aug-06. The problems faced by many in Feb-07 may have been avoided.

Doty is clearly a valuable resource to the CoB, both inside and out. There are a number of ways he could be of assistance to CoB administrators, just as he has been this year to area residents. For one, it would seem that his knowledge and experience with all matters AACSB would be invaluable to Interim Dean Alvin Williams and the CoB's AACSB teams. Why isn't he doing more? Second, with P&T season upon us, and with CoB facing what some are calling “The P&T Jailbreak of '07-'08,” there are lots of P&T dossiers to put together. With all of the faculty turnover and loss of experience, one would think that Doty, a *full professor* of management who has himself gotten two promotions, would be most helpful in showing younger faculty how to put these together. It would seem that we have all got to do more to get Doty doing more.