

31st & Pearl

From the Mouths of Babes

On 4 May 2007, Sami Dakhliya took the floor of the CoB's end-of-year faculty meeting and delivered a prepared "resolution" against dissent. That speech was part of what must have been a week's worth of preparation for an event that will probably be remembered more for its orchestration than what was written. Prominent among those who won't forget are Stephen Bushardt and George Carter, two full professors who potentially benefit from that spring 2007 day's effort to preserve the "way of life" that these sycophants have nurtured for decades – a reign they won by avoiding the kinds of situations that Dakhliya willingly put himself in by delivering his "resolution."

Where was Jon Carr? Carr cat-called the usmnews.net editor from the bleachers, while Dakhliya put his name on the line so that Carr and others can continue to feed from the trough, just as they always have. What about Jim Henderson? He had already departed JGH and was probably selecting the club for his approach shot early on in his front nine at the Hattiesburg Country Club while Dakhliya was mobbed by the adoring crowds in the post-meeting celebration. No Bushardt. No Carter. Not Niroomand. No way Hsieh. What about Sawyer? Didn't hear from Nissan. Where was Duhon? Klinedinst? Hardly. You see, none of these *senior* CoB faculty could muster up the *x*-factor that Dakhliya utilized to make his stand in support of good ol' boydom.

Why Dakhliya? Well, some in the CoB would call Dakhliya a pariah. That "some" would even include the administrators and toadies who selected him for just this very role one year ago. If Dakhliya is indeed the pariah they say he is, then the choice makes sense. He had nothing to lose, really. The others? Many of the others have got their reputations in the local community to uphold. Another day, another dollar. It's all the same in USM's College of Business. Only, the country club just gained another *junior* member.

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