

CoB News, 13 October 2008

October Surprise

Some CoB faculty may be surprised to learn that a number of new faces will be joining the CoB in January of 2009, just in time for the upcoming spring semester. These new hires were made by the Alvin Williams interim administration of the CoB (2007-08), and they fall primarily in the MGT and MKT areas. However, the fact that they occurred back in late 2007 and/or early 2008 means that the tentacles of the old Williams administration continue to get in the way of new CoB dean Lance Nail.

In the coming weeks, USMNEWS.net will have more on these new hires. As we have learned, the new batch involves more of the “Bring ‘Em All Home” hiring program of the Harold Doty and Williams administrations, wherein former CoB students are being brought back in droves to the CoB as new faculty. Our upcoming reports will also provide salary data on the new faces for 2009. Stay tuned.

Luxury Sweet?

With Saturday's 7-24 loss to Boise State University, USM's Golden Eagles have lost three straight games at M.M. Roberts Stadium (“The Rock”). This ignominious feat has not occurred since the 1970s. Judging by discussion at *The Hattiesburg American Online*, many USM fans are starting to wonder whether USM President Martha Saunders' decision to fire former head coach Jeff Bower, a USM alum who had produced 14 consecutive winning seasons, was a good one. The current coach, Larry **Fedora**, had never held a head coaching position before coming to USM after the 2007 season.



The “Fedora Era” off to Rocky Start

The third straight loss also comes just weeks after unveiling the new luxury suites at The Rock. Since the unveiling, the Golden Eagles have won at home just once, beating UL-Lafayette in the season-opener about six weeks ago. Not only is Bower's old 14 consecutive winning seasons in jeopardy, with a 2-4 record at mid-October, Fedora and his staff stand on the edge of killing USM's streak of seven consecutive bowl games. Prior news reports by *THA* and other media have shown

that the USM Athletics Department usually includes an expected “bowl payout” in its annual budget, a process that caused some financial distress the last time the Eagles failed to earn a bowl bid. USM is once again a few losses away from another potential financial bailout, only this time it will be faced by the new Saunders administration.

“So Hendersonian” -- An Editorial by 31st & Pearl Columnist

Recent [editorial](#) columns [about](#) accounting professor Jim Henderson’s exam proctoring [shenanigans](#) only add to the history of irresponsibility that has characterized Henderson’s tenure in the CoB. Now, the 19th [installment](#) of “Perks for Buds” shows that Henderson had Gwen Pate meet his responsibility to USM’s Academic Council on 8-Sept-08. One would guess that the 3:30pm meeting intruded on tee time, especially since Henderson’s teaching schedule is over before noon. Many American workers retire (in their old age) to a life of golf (mainly). Henderson’s life has been about golf, and for a long time. If news of his decision to retire in Dec-08 is indeed true, then the CoB, under new dean Lance Nail, will have a chance to breathe some new life into the accounting program. That, however, assumes there’s not another Morgan waiting in the wings.

Two Months in and No New Faces

After about two months under the new 2008-09 faculty contracts, the CoB’s public relations team has yet to upload photos and other information about the new CoB faculty. Based on prior reports here at USMNEWS.net, there are many new faculty aboard the CoB for 2008-09, particularly in the MGT & MKT department. Though this is par for the CoB course, according to sources at least, one would think that the new faculty will begin to form opinions about their new environment soon, and the absence of an accurate web presence will likely have some impact on those.