

Dotylicious

by Duane Cobb

So, a local television reporter tells former CoB dean Harold Doty, now the business dean at UT-Tyler, that gas prices are at \$2.49 and nine-tenths of one penny per gallon, and Doty tells her that he is fearful that industry pressures exist that could push that price above \$2.50. You read that correctly – UT-Tyler's *dean savant* is predicting that the price of gas might rise another two-tenths of one penny.

$$\boxed{\$2.49\frac{9}{10}}$$

Doty is fearful – or so he tells the local Tyler television reporter – that refiners' decision to "idle capacity" in order to complete some routine maintenance will push gas prices higher, perhaps even above \$2.50 per gallon. If you listened closely, he does at least admit that all of the technical ideas (e.g., "idle capacity") came from media reports. That shows the ol' CoB b-school general is learning. In the past *he* would've taken credit for that idea and the others he mentioned in his television interview.

Having said that, however, he is still the guy who told the Hattiesburg media that financial markets go up and financial markets go down. Saying that he fears another two-tenths of a penny rise in gas prices can be put in the same file. As one USMNEWS.net reader wrote recently, this little television interview could be the beginning of the end of Doty's honeymoon with the UT-Tyler b-school faculty.

Loyal readers will remember that Doty's wife, Susan, was hired a few years ago by the CoB as the director of its Center for Economic Education. That happened despite the fact that she holds no economics credentials. The pack of George Carter, Akbar Marvasti and William Gunther pushed (carried water) for this decision, and a happy husband on the second floor made it a reality. Never mind that a legitimate candidate up at Mississippi State University saw his prospects go down the drain, as Carter and his cronies made the case for "Ms. Doty." Now, Susan is reportedly a senior lecturer in economics at UT-Tyler. There, economics is outside the business school, just like it will soon be at USM. That means that Harold pulled strings that put *another college/school* at UT-T in a bind, just so "Ms." could continue to provide a second major income for the family. Who

cares about quality? Apparently, not the folks in Tyler.

Perhaps it's time for Harold to step to the plate again, and secure new Tyler jobs for his water-carriers – Carter and Gunther. Why not Marvasti, you ask? That 25-year veteran of higher education wars was "classified" by the economists (Mark Klinedinst) as a "junior professor," and thus was allowed to continue his career (such as it is) at USM.

$$\boxed{\$2.50\frac{1}{10}}$$

Same haircut, same suits, same Doty. Perhaps for the first time since April of 2007, the month Doty and his then-Lieutenant Farhang Niroomand, resigned their posts atop the CoB, CoB faculty got a clear reminder of how things can be under Doty. One can only imagine what would be going on in the CoB, multi-million dollar budget cuts and the rest, if he were still around (with Niroomand) "spreading the love" in Joseph Greene Hall.

Now Doty is Tyler's problem child, tantrums and all. Surely the b-schoolers there have done nothing to deserve it. That said, keep them in your thoughts from time to time.