

## **Which “B” Will it Be?**

### **More on the CoB’s Human Resource Carousel**

Though the fights over preferred candidates in management and marketing are getting heated, there’s no escaping the fact that since 2003, management and marketing, like every other group in the CoB, is riding a human resource carousel as a result of bad management of the College. Now we are awaiting the results of the hiring race between two additional candidates for management positions at USM. These are Bret Becton, currently a faculty member at Winthrop University, and Jacob Breland, a PhD student at Ole Miss in Oxford.

Sources say that Becton has school days ties to both Brian Gregory and Daniel Michael, both former or current members of USM’s CoB. Gregory departed the CoB after the 2006-07 academic year, and he is now employed with Northern Arizona University. Michael, an assistant professor of management at USM, is currently about half-way through a terminal contract that was delivered to him over the summer of 2007 by Interim CoB Dean Alvin Williams. For obvious reasons, Michael would not be expected to hold USM or its CoB in high regard, and sources tell USMNEWS.NET that Gregory is also not particularly fond of the way things worked within the CoB while he was there. Thus, one would expect that neither has had much in the way of a positive recommendation to offer Becton, assuming Becton has contacted either or both of them.

Breland, on the other hand, may be a player in the CoB’s “bring ‘em all home” hiring program. His “Mississippi ties” may signal a potentially compliant (future) faculty member for some of the CoB’s so-called old-timers, who are themselves seeking to maintain *status quo* politics in the College.

Stay tuned for more as the story develops.