

***usmpride.com News* . . . . . DEVELOPING STORY**

HATTIESBURG --- The *usmpride.com News* offices have recently received a number of tips regarding the campus-wide Internet (network) outage that occurred at USM over the days leading up the beginning of spring semester 2007. Tips indicate that the problem originated inside the College of Business' Joseph Greene Hall. Specifically, sources report that the problem occurred in the Graduate Business Student Computer Lab, wherein both ends of a cable were mistakenly plugged into the same router box.

Sources inside *iTech* not only confirmed the information in the tips we received, they also indicated that estimates on the cost to USM of the network outage are coming in at over \$250,000. The outage persisted for a few days, and occurred during the always-significant final semester registration period at USM. We are told that USM's *iTech* is now undergoing an effort to put new processes in place that will prevent lengthy outages such as this in the future. Reporters at *usmpride.com News* also confirm that no official communiqué has since been forwarded from CoB Dean Harold Doty's office to CoB faculty/staff about the cause or costs of the University-wide network outage.