

## *Editorial*

### **0 and 15 The Cure**

Let's turn around our USMTTT football program. 0 and 15! We were 12 and 2 just a year before last. Granted it took USM a few decades to get there, well, maybe a century to get there. But let's not belabor the facts. Let's turn our football program into a real football program. We're not quitters. Anyone who posts on Eagle Post, where Southern Miss fans meet on the net!, or BIG GOLD NATION, or listens to USM administrators and well paid USM athletic administrators know we, USM can do it. Just GoTTT! We have a "rich" tradition of striving, year after year after year, TTT. We're not quitters.

- Hey, let's spend a few more million on further expansions of the football stadium. Maybe we'll fill the seats even though we haven't filled the additional seats we built on the last expansion program.
- Maybe we should hire a real (expensive) coach, another million or two of annual salary should do it: make it \$2,500,000, even though it will be a small percentage of what the Big Boys pay their coaches, hey, we're better. While we're at it, let's increase the assistant coaches' pay to \$500,000 each per annum. It's only fair.
- How about another airplane? USM needs another airplane for the coach. How do you spell recruitment. Contact, interest, face-to-face is essential to coax prospects to come to USM—TTT. (President Bennet needs his airplane for junkets to the games to smooch with IHL members, mayors, Lieutenant Governors, state congressmen, etc). Don't worry about the costs. It's simple, don't tell anybody what the actual costs are. Saunders and Bennett have misrepresented for years the actual costs of their airplane.
- How about that locker room in Oregon? We should at least spend a million on rehab of our old one. Can't let Knights \$50+ million in Oregon go unchallenged.
- And by all means, if we are to climb out of our 0 and 15 trajectory, we must hire a few more administrators to oversee the necessary expansion of USM facilities TTT.
- And don't forget the real chumps in the equation. To quote then business college dean Harold Doty: Butts in seats. Just increase enrollment and the fees and tuition the "butts in seats" pay. What the hey, all the other schools are doing it, too. After all, USM is cheap in comparison with...Harvard. And USM is going TTT.

Let's go straight to USM authorities. USM's [new athletic director, McGillis, said](#), "I do feel like every facility we have needs improvement. Every one of them."

Wait! He's not through, yet: "There's no question that we are going to have to invest in our

facilities, and soon, in order to have championship-level programs and sustain championship-level programs...My aspirations are not for mediocrity here. So a game plan for investing in our facilities is front and center.”

Let’s put McGillis in context, reality for you academic types: Phil Knight just made ANOTHER contribution to University of Oregon, \$68,000,000 for a “Football Performance Center.” (\$300,000,000 Knight has contributed so far to Oregon University) Forget for a minute that Phil Knight could probably buy Mississippi, *if it was a good investment*.

Back to the context: Remember the 1988 vice presidential debate: Senator Bentsen’s retort to Senator Quayle: “Senator, you are not Jack Kennedy.”

Well, it’s applicable to USM: Chuck Scianna, you are no Phil Knight. University of Southern Mississippi Eagles—TTT, you are no University of Oregon Ducks.