

No Solace Here . . . or There

After USM's untimely exit from the 2012 NCAA Basketball Tournament, many USM fans headed over to Pete Taylor Park in hopes of some solace in the way of a baseball victory over Murray State. Unfortunately, that was not to be as, as MSU dropped USM in game one of a three-game series. That loss put the Golden Eagles' record at 10-8 on the season. MSU would also take game three in the weekend series, dropping USM's 2012 season record to a disappointing 11-9. After the 16-Mar-2012 loss to MSU, some USM fans likely headed over to the softball complex on 17-Mar-2012 and 18-Mar-2012 for a three-game series against Central Florida. There, however, the Golden Knights took wins in two games, leaving the Lady Eagles' 2012 record at only 10-14. Finally, the men's tennis team fell in three weekend matches – to SMU, Wichita State, and Arkansas – and saw its 2012 record fall to only 7-9, after beginning the season at 5-2.

Kansas State Falls to Syracuse

Kansas State, the team that vanquished USM 70-64 at the beginning of the 2012 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament, fell in the Round of 32 to a depleted Syracuse team by a score of 59-75. Thus, it is highly unlikely that USM would have been able to handle the Orange from New York. With the win, SU moves on to the "Sweet 16."

One Chant Follows Another

Much has already been written and said about the USM pep band's racial slur aimed at Kansas State guard Angel Rodriguez during his late-game attempt to seal the win for KSU at the foul line. That chant – "[w]here's your green card?" – focused on Rodriguez' heritage, though in addition to being called "racially charged," it failed to recognize that by being born in Puerto Rico, Rodriguez is an American citizen. What has been less publicized is that the pep band's chant about Rodriguez was preceded by another chant, this time aimed at the fact that KSU was led to victory by Rodney Magruder, who scored 30 points in the 60-54 win for KSU. The first chant – "[o]ne man team," – also backfired on the pep band, at least according to sources, who point out that the Golden Eagles' inability to beat a team that relies upon a single player's talents is demeaning to USM, not KSU.