

## Details of Athletics Department Deficit Revealed

HATTIESBURG – Regular [followers of USM](#) are familiar with recent media reports indicating that the institution’s [athletics department](#) is currently dealing with [a deficit](#) of over \$1,000,000. Various reports and editorials have linked [this deficit issue](#) to the recent end of the Martha Saunders administration of USM. New details are now coming to light from paperwork acquired from USM by USMNEWS.net via a Mississippi Open Records Act request. A two-page report obtained by USMNEWS.net, inserted below, shows that the so-called \$1,000,000 deficit is actually a deficit of \$1,194,855, or as much as 19.5% more than reported by various news media.

University of Southern Mississippi Athletic Department Projected Revenue and Expense			
	Actual 2011	Budget 2012	Projected Fiscal 2012
<b>Revenues</b>	20,901,992	20,191,152	20,591,152
<b>Expenditures:</b>			
Football	4,719,076	4,725,687	5,550,042
Men's Basketball	1,595,518	1,511,398	1,627,398
Women's Basketball	769,042	741,992	791,992
Baseball	603,257	519,147	622,147
Other Sports	1,610,922	1,562,570	1,611,570
Training and Strength	729,467	754,440	754,440
Media, Broadcasting and Video	579,694	542,891	558,891
Admin., Facilities and Other	6,140,870	5,333,027	5,595,527
Scholarships	4,396,548	4,500,000	4,674,000
<b>Total Exp.</b>	<b>21,144,394</b>	<b>20,191,152</b>	<b>21,786,007</b>
Net Revenue Over (Under) Exp.	(242,402)	0	(1,194,855)
Beginning Fund Balance	(547,996)	(790,398)	(790,398)
Ending Fund Balance	(790,398)	(790,398)	(1,985,253)

  

University of Southern Mississippi Athletic Department Projected Deficit for Fiscal 2012	
	Projected March, 2012
Projected Revenue Shortfall and other	0
Coaching Staff Vacations	244,369
Fringe on Vacation Pay	58,986
Moving Expenses for New Coaches	135,000
Temporary Housing	2,000
Additional Salary - 6 Months	100,000
Fringe on Add. Salary	32,000
Departments with Projected Expense Deficits:	
Event Management	84,000
Facilities	150,000
Media	16,000
Video	0
Football	252,000
Premium Seating	28,500
Mens Basketball	116,000
Womens Basketball	50,000
Baseball	103,000
Scholarships	174,000
Track	4,000
Admin.	45,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,594,855</b>
Projected payment from Larry Fedora	(400,000)
<b>Projected Deficit</b>	<b>1,194,855</b>

The brief report above also indicates that the athletics department’s deficit would have been \$1,594,855, or about 59.5% more than reports state, had a \$400,000 payment to USM athletics by former head football coach Larry Fedora not been projected. Sources tell USMNEWS.net that this projection likely involves Fedora’s buyout clause, which was invoked when he recently broke his contract with USM to become the new head football coach at the University of North Carolina. As such, losing Fedora to UNC actually mitigated, and to a large extent, the USMAD’s financial crisis. Combined with what has recently been uncovered regarding the USM plane and USM’s deals with *Idgroup*, the Saunders administration (2007-2012) appears to have squandered millions of dollars in USM supporters’ and Mississippi taxpayers’ funds.