

## Eustachy Flops in First Round of CIT

HATTIESBURG – Larry Eustachy’s USM Eagles were just soundly defeated by the Louisiana Tech Bulldogs in round one of the 2010 CollegeInsider.com Tournament (CIT). The Eagles fell to the Bulldogs 57-66 on Thursday 18-Mar-10 in Ruston, LA. In the process, Eustachy’s 2009-10 campaign ends at 20-14, making his record over the past two seasons a disappointing 35-31, with the better part of 10 of those 35 wins coming against NAIA competition (e.g., William Carey University).

Final



**Southern Miss 57**  
(20-14, 8-8 C-USA)



**Louisiana Tech 66**  
(24-10, 9-7 WAC)

An earlier report here at USMNEWS.net indicated that the CIT, like the CBI Tournament, may have a significant entry fee. Such fees, combined with the lack of prestige associated with the new CBI and CIT, lead many institutions to decline invitations to the two events. That report also pointed out that by accepting the CIT invitation USM “. . . appear[ed] desperate to give Eustachy his first post-season invitation in six years at the helm of the men’s basketball program.” By going down hard in Ruston, Eustachy made the worst out of an already bad situation. In that light we repeat a previously-asked question: Will Amy Young and/or other USM faculty senators raise questions about this situation in the near future?

Academic affairs are being slashed to the bone at USM. When will the budget crisis begin to touch USM’s sagging athletics program?