

Lee-McNelis Serves Suspension for NCAA Violations

HATTIESBURG - USM's head women's basketball coach Joye Lee-McNelis was suspended for USM's 2-Jan-2011 game against Louisiana Tech University for committing a number of NCAA violations. According to [a report in *The Commercial Appeal*](#) (Memphis, TN), Lee-McNelis (1) allowed a non-qualifier to participate in required physical activities, (2) required a non-qualifier to attend practices, and (3) required a student-athlete to participate in athletics before completing mandated medical testing. At the time these violations were made public, Lee-McNelis' Lady Eagles were 5-7 on the 2010-11 season, and only 14-28 since the beginning of the 2009-10 season.



USM lost to LTU by 22 points on 2-Jan-2011 without Lee-McNelis (pictured above), dropping the team to 5-8 heading into the C-USA portion of this year's schedule. The Lady Eagles have now lost five consecutive games, and Lee-McNelis' overall record at USM (in 6.5 years) [has dropped to](#) a troubling 93 wins and 104 losses. Sources tell USMNEWS.net that the most disturbing aspect of this story is that the NCAA is now examining activities in USM's athletics department, and that Lee-McNelis' one-game suspension is most likely *USM's response* to the violations. As such, an additional penalty, or penalties, from the NCAA could be forthcoming, as could additional findings as the NCAA more closely examines the Lady Eagles basketball program.