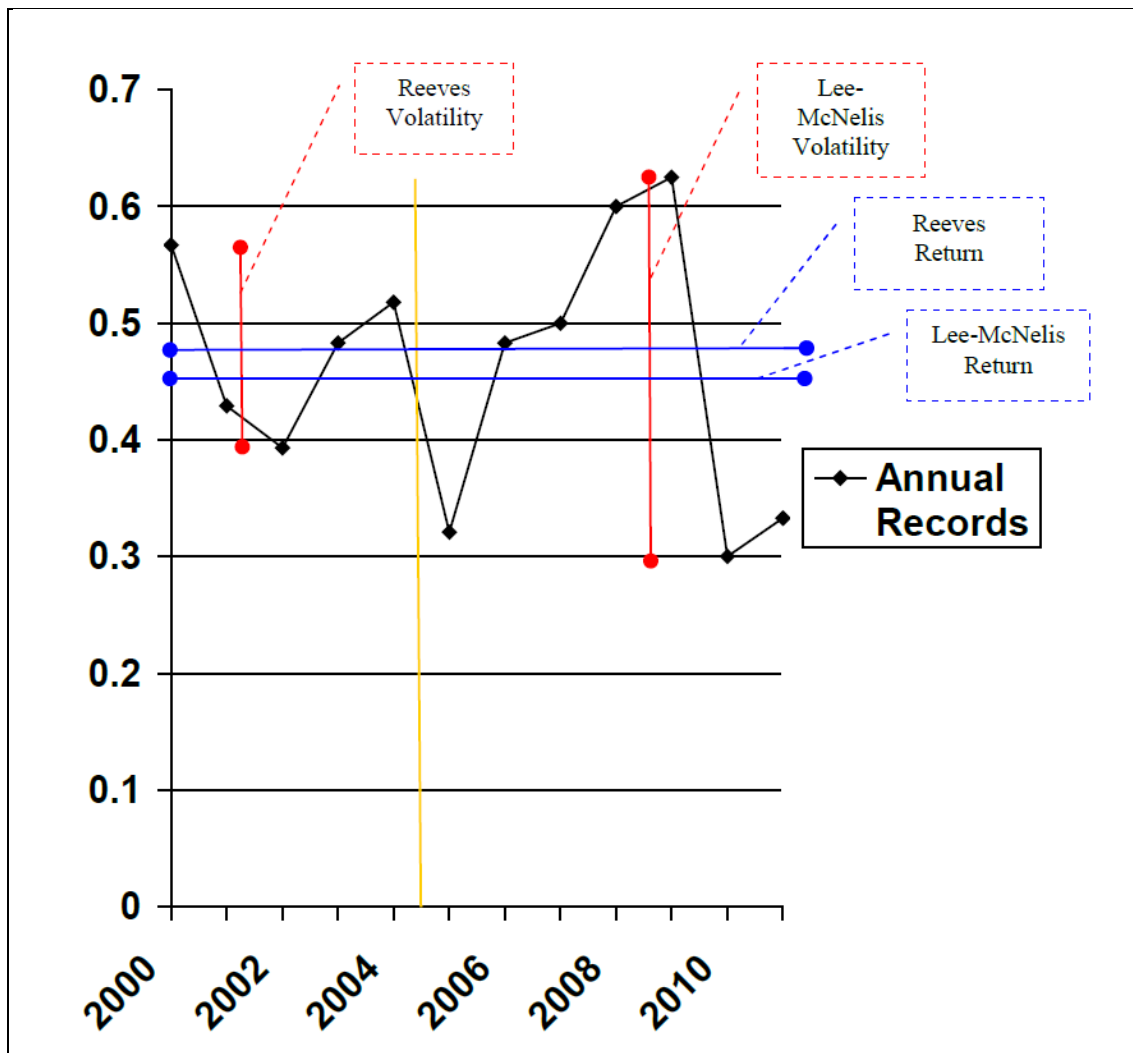


Buy, Sell or Swap?

A Guest Analysis

Joye Lee-McNelis, the head coach of the USM Lady Eagles basketball program, was preceded by Rick Reeves. Reeves was never really accepted by USM fans, alumni, or other constituents. As a result, he was on the scene for a brief stint of only five seasons. His successor, Lee-McNelis, is a former USM Lady Eagle herself, so when she arrived as USM's head coach seven seasons ago, she was coming home. Since re-joining the USM family, Lee-McNelis has been praised and defended by long-time Eagles fans and USM administrators. Yet, there has been little analysis to-date comparing Lee-McNelis to Reeves. To provide some, let's imagine that the two are company stocks. Which would you rather have in your portfolio? The graph below addresses that question.



Like some of the other USM athletics analyses posted here at usmnews, the figure above tracks the Lady Eagles' annual records from the beginning of the Reeves era through this most recent season. The gold dividing line separates Reeves' time from that of Lee-McNelis. The two blue lines depict each coach's return, as measured by overall winning ratio. Though both returns come in below .500, Reeves' return is clearly higher than Lee-McNelis'. Reeves' actual return is .479, compared to the .458 return from Lee-McNelis'. Next, the red lines mark the spread

between each coach's best season and his/her worst season. These lines provide a measure of volatility. Reeves' higher return came with much less volatility than what has surrounded the lower return thus far from Lee-McNelis. Clearly, if one were to own one of these two stocks, one would choose Reeves.