

*Dear usmnews.net*

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I have been rather surprised that usmnews.net hasn't commented on the [penalties assessed](#) against Southern Miss' basketball program [by the NCAA]. Any thoughts?

Name withheld

Dear Name withheld,

In recent years, Southern Miss has hired head coaches who seem to have their eyes firmly on the next job. If they fail, they are fired. If they succeed, they move on and up. At a program like Southern Miss', the best way to move up and out is by cheating. It's no surprise that the best players with acceptable academic records go to a program that they hope will provide the exposure and experience to take them to the professional leagues. Southern Miss is generally left with the bottom of the barrel. Academic reputation and taxpayer and tuition dollars are casually squandered.