

FOXSPORTS.com Reporting that Smith is Paralyzed, 2 Women Have Been Arrested

Citing a source familiar with the situation, [FOXSPORTS.com is reporting](#) that USM football player Martez Smith is paralyzed from the waist down as a result of a gunshot wound he sustained at 1:30 am on 14-Nov-2010 outside of the Hunt Club in Hattiesburg. According to the source, Smith's spinal cord was severed by the gunshot, while Smith's teammates, Dedrick Jones and Tim Green, sustained gunshot wounds to the chest and neck, respectively. Though all three are now listed in "fair" condition at Forrest General Hospital, reports are that Jones has undergone surgery to remove a bullet from his lung, and that Green's wound has left him unable to speak. It is not known whether Jones' surgery was successful. Meanwhile, Green has been able to communicate with family and friends via written notes.

The Hattiesburg Police have arrested two females -- Patricia Brown, 49, and Cleothus Wilkerson, 25, both from Bassfield. They have since been charged with three counts (each) of accessory after the fact -- aggravated assault. Now, Hattiesburg Police are seeking Travis Brown of Prentiss, the alleged shooter in this incident. It is not yet known if Travis Brown is related to Patricia Brown, or where the HPD believes Travis Brown is currently located. It is also not known if the two female suspects have attorneys. Since the incident, USM head coach Larry Fedora has informed the media that Smith, Jones, and Green were among 8 to 10 USM football players out at the Hunt Club in the early hours of Sunday morning, celebrating the team's 31-21 win in Orlando on Saturday against then-25th ranked Central Florida. The Hunt Club is now under the spotlight as a result of this incident. Kim Bradley, president of the Hattiesburg City Council, informed local media that the city government is looking into closing the local nightclub.

The Golden Eagles football team is only about four days away from its final home game of the 2010 football season. The 7-3 Eagles clash with 5-5 Houston on 20-Nov-2010 in a crucial Conference USA game. USM is looking to enhance its postseason bowl prospects, while Houston is hoping to win and become bowl eligible. The Cougars won last year's contest in Houston. With Saturday's win over UCF in Orlando, Fedora's overall record at USM is 21-15. Fedora's base salary was recently raised by \$35,000, taking it to \$685,000 per year.