

Report Says Eustachy Leaving USM

ESPN Sources Indicate that USM Head Coach to Become Next Coach at Colorado State

ESPN college basketball analyst Andy Katz [is reporting that](#) USM head basketball coach Larry Eustachy will soon become the next head basketball coach at Colorado State University. According to Katz's sources in the college basketball world, a press conference will be called for 12-Apr-2012 to announce Eustachy's decision to move from Hattiesburg to Fort Collins.

ESPN Men's Basketball

Sources: Larry Eustachy to CSU

ESPN.com news services

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Larry Eustachy will be the next head coach of the Colorado State men's basketball team, multiple sources told ESPN.com's Andy Katz.

According to the sources, a news conference to announce the hiring will likely be held Thursday.

Eustachy is currently the coach at the University of Southern Mississippi, and previously coached Idaho, Utah State and Iowa State.

Eustachy replaces Tim Miles, who left the Rams to coach Nebraska on March 23.

Miles led the Rams to the NCAA tournament and a fourth-place finish in the Mountain West (8-6) and a 20-12 overall record in 2011-12. The Rams lost to Murray State in the second round in Louisville.

A decade ago, Eustachy was one of college basketball's hottest commodities after leading Iowa State to consecutive Big 12 regular season championships in 2000 and 2001, heady territory for a program that's traditionally flip-flopped between middling and mediocre.

The fall was swift and severe.

Pictures surfaced in 2003 showing Eustachy partying with college students. He was quickly out of a job and in rehab, then spent a season out of coaching before resurfacing at Southern Miss in 2004. The Golden Eagles made the NCAA tournament this season and lost in the round of 64. It was the school's first tournament appearance since back-to-back appearances in 1990 and '91.

Stories about Eustachy's [departure from](#) USM are [also hitting](#) local [media](#). In the 11-Apr-2012 [evening report](#) in *The Hattiesburg American*, interim USM athletics director Jeff Hammond stated that Eustachy is "weighing his options" at the moment and has not informed him (Hammond) of his (Eustachy's) intentions to leave the USM men's basketball program. Hammond's additional quote was, however, perhaps most revealing with regard to his (Hammond's) position in this situation. There Hammond stated, "[w]e're just going to have to monitor the situation and see what develops." Through this comment, Hammond appears to reveal that he is much like USM fans regarding this particular situation – an interested, yet passive, observer.

Sources tell USMNEWS.net that ESPN's reporting in matters like this is usually on point. They also add that a Eustachy departure will have more of a symbolic than substantive impact on USM athletics and USM in general. Despite this, the general public's view – that this is a "body blow" to USM – will prevail, at least in the short run. That will be bad for the Martha Saunders administration, which seems to have faced one bad situation after another since its beginning back in May of 2007.