

Imagine...

Previous Governor Barbour suggested reorganizing Mississippi's universities. Not a bad idea.

See, "[So goes football, so goes USM](#)," below. It prompted "Imagine." Mississippi university football teams may be exhibit No. 1 in support of reorganizing Mississippi universities.

Does Mississippi need seven very expensive university football teams? Second and third rate ones to boot? A benny to Mississippi football fans resulting from a reorganization shouldn't be overlooked. Imagine the euphoria in ALL Mississippi football fans last weekend when UM beat AL and MSU beat TA&M, IF there were only two universities: UM and MSU. Only two football teams and two sets of administrators, streamlined administrations, etc, etc. The other six "universities" would be integrated with UM and MSU. Imagine two winning football teams. Two teams Mississippi could afford to support instead of seven poorly supported, more often than not, mediocre teams. Maybe time has come.

Just imagine Mississippi football fans rooting for a winning national big-time team year after year?

Re: So goes football, so goes USM

by **USMFan1206** » Mon Sep 29, 2014 5:16 pm

We really should consider moving down to DII. There's no reason to piss away millions of dollars on a crappy athletic program that is nothing but an embarrassment.

USMFan1206

Soaring Eagle



Posts: 969

Joined: Wed Sep 24, 2008 4:33 pm

Re: So goes football, so goes USM

by **Camouflage Eagle** » Mon Sep 29, 2014 7:29 pm

Mao Tse-gore wrote:

Wonder what changes at USM parallel this decline?

USM has the "Aunt Martha and EJ Effect"

On a stormy day in November 1984, Boston College and the University of Miami

played an extraordinary football game, an electrifying shootout with 1,273 yards of total offense and multiple lead changes throughout. However, it was the final play of the game that has persisted for decades in the minds of sports fans nationwide. The score was Miami 45, Boston College 41; with six seconds remaining, Boston College quarterback Doug Flutie made a miraculous, Hail Mary touchdown pass to win the game. Nationally televised the day after Thanksgiving, the game had a huge viewing audience. The win qualified Boston College, which finished the season with a 10–2 record and top-five AP (Associated Press) Poll ranking, to compete in the Cotton Bowl, one of the New Year’s bowl games.² Doug Flutie won the Heisman Trophy, the most prestigious individual award in college football, and subsequently enjoyed a successful career as a professional football player and TV analyst. Two years after this extraordinary game, Boston College experienced an approximately 30 percent surge in applications. Ever since, the popular media have called this phenomenon the “Flutie Effect,” referring to an increase in exposure and prominence of an academic institution due to the success of its athletics program. As USA Today described it, “Whether it’s called the ‘Flutie factor’ or ‘mission-driven intercollegiate athletics’, the effect of having a winning sports team is showing up at admissions offices nationwide.

On another thread: “...we [USM] play in the worst conference ...and we are the worst team in that conference...”