

Springing Forward?

Ancillary Expenses from USM's Beechcraft King Air for April-May of 2011

The ancillary expenses associated with USM's airplane are largely unknown to the USM and Hattiesburg communities. USMNEWS.net is working to change that. This report examines some of the April-2011 and May-2011 expenses, the bulk of which appear to be associated with a trip to Peachtree City, Georgia.

4/1/2011	KENNETH G PRICE, JR.	ENTERPRISE RENT-A-CAR	(\$8.81)
4/8/2011	KENNETH G PRICE, JR.	WM SUPERCENTER	\$28.28
4/26/2011	KENNETH G PRICE, JR.	ENTERPRISE RENT-A-CAR	(\$5.27)
5/9/2011	KENNETH G PRICE, JR.	MCALISTER'S DELI OF TU	\$32.55
5/12/2011	KENNETH G PRICE, JR.	AIRCRAFT SPRUCE EAST	\$14.31
5/11/2011	KENNETH G PRICE, JR.	APPLEBEE'S #84	\$35.15
5/12/2011	KENNETH G PRICE, JR.	CARRABBAS #6115	\$49.03
5/12/2011	KENNETH G PRICE, JR.	DICKEYS GA-348	\$23.85
5/13/2011	KENNETH G PRICE, JR.	57th FIGHTER GROUP	\$33.77
5/13/2011	KENNETH G PRICE, JR.	CROWNE PLAZA	\$3.00
5/13/2011	KENNETH G PRICE, JR.	BP 5018 PCHTREE INDU	\$26.90
5/13/2011	KENNETH G PRICE, JR.	CROWNE PLAZA	\$271.64
5/13/2011	KENNETH G PRICE, JR.	CROWNE PLAZA	\$268.64
5/16/2011	KENNETH G PRICE, JR.	ENTERPRISE RENT-A-CAR	\$92.40
5/31/2011	KENNETH G PRICE, JR.	ENTERPRISE RENT-A-CAR	(\$5.88)

The insert above is taken from documents obtained by USMNEWS.net via a public records request. The first three entries cover ancillary airplane expenses for April-2011. Two of these appear to be credits assigned back to USM from Enterprise Rent-a-Car, a popular destination for portions of USM's operating budget. These credits total \$14.08, which falls short of the \$28.28 charge to Wal-Mart, a common source for airplane supplies. The *net* expenses for April-2011 total \$14.20.

May-2011 is a completely different story. There is only one credit – again to Enterprise Rent-a-Car – and it comes to only \$5.88. This credit is more than offset by the 16-May-2011 charge to Enterprise of \$92.40, bringing the *net* Enterprise Rent-a-Car expense to \$86.52. The Airplane Operations pilots' lodging expenses, all associated with Crowne Plaza, are \$3.00, \$271.64 and \$268.64, respectively. These total a tidy \$543.28. Food charges include \$32.55 at McAllister's, \$35.15 at Applebee's, \$49.03 at Carraba's, and \$23.85 at Dickey's. These charges, which span from 9-May through 12-May of 2011, total \$140.58. Added to these costs are miscellaneous payments to "Aircraft Spruce East," "57th Fighter Group," and BP. These payments are \$14.31, \$33.77 and \$26.90, respectively. They total \$74.98.

- April-2011 total: \$ 14.20
- May-2011 total: \$845.36
- \$859.56**

The quick calculation above shows that the total ancillary expenses *found in this report* for April-2011 and May-2011 is a whopping \$859.56, a sum that comes from \$14.20 for April-2011 and \$845.36 for May-2011. Sources tell USMNEWS.net that there is little wonder, given details like those above, as to why USM remains a bottom-tier university according to *U.S. News & World Report*.