

The Farm

News Briefs from Southern Miss

19-September-2011

Aunt Martha's Landscape

First, the PAC-10 became the PAC-12 when it added Utah and Colorado from the Mountain West and BiG-12, respectively. Nebraska, also from the BIG-12, left for the BIG-10, giving that conference 12 teams. Next, TCU bolted the Mountain West for the Big East, while Boise State departed the Western Athletic Conference for the Mountain West. After all that, Texas A&M, with the backing of all 12 SEC presidents, announced its intentions to leave the BIG-12 for the SEC. Sensing an opportunity, the PAC-12 expressed interest in acquiring Oklahoma, Texas, Texas Tech, and Oklahoma State from the BIG-12, a move that would create the first “super conference” of 16 teams. Should the BIG-12 shut down, both Baylor and Iowa State have announced their intentions to move to the Big East. Lastly, just this weekend (17-Sept and 18-Sept) both Pittsburgh and Syracuse formally joined the Atlantic Coast Conference, giving that league 14 members. The ACC is now rumored to be looking at Rutgers and Connecticut to get to 16 schools, potentially creating the second super conference. Where does USM fit into all of this? USM president Martha Saunders [says USM will](#) always be part of the highest levels of NCAA competition. USMNEWS.net sources, and [many USM followers](#), say Saunders is powerless in shaping USM's destiny, and that these super conferences will not have any interest in USM.

Will Kelly Take Over for Nail?

During his 2003-07 tenure as CoB dean, Harold Doty closed off the pipeline that had been developed linking former students of the University of Alabama to faculty positions in USM's b-school. However, since taking over USM's business college, current CoB dean Lance Nail has reopened that pipeline. In fact, Nail has added a second pipeline between USM's CoB and UA's sister institution, the University of Alabama – Birmingham. The latest to travel the former pipeline is new CoB associate professor finance, Gary Wayne Kelly. Kelly comes to USM's CoB from Mississippi State University, where he held the same position. Interestingly, Kelly is a graduate of UA, and reportedly is a friend of Nail, also a graduate of UA. It is not now known how much Kelly is earning at USM, but sources suggest that it is likely that Kelly is earning at least \$120,000 over 9 months. Previous reports here at USMNEWS.net indicate that Francis Laatsch [was removed](#) as chair of finance, real estate, and business law (FINREBL) in the CoB, and that this position is being temporarily occupied by Nail. Surely, Nail is looking for someone to take the reins, and having Kelly around will likely offer such an avenue for the CoB dean. Sources tell USMNEWS.net that it is also likely that Nail has discussed this “promotion” with Kelly, so that if and when it occurs, it will resemble a *fait accompli* to others in FINREBL.

USM Athletics 2011-12 & Aunt Martha's Coaches

Table 1

USM Athletics: 2011-12 Performance

Sport	Wins	Losses	Ties	Win %
Volleyball*	6	6	0	50.0
Soccer*	3	4	2	44.4
Football*	2	1	0	66.7
Women's Basketball*	0	0	0	0.0
Men's Basketball*	0	0	0	0.0
Softball*	0	0	0	0.0
Baseball*	0	0	0	0.0
Women's Tennis*	0	0	0	0.0
Men's Tennis*	0	0	0	0.0
Women's Golf*	0	0	0	0.0
Men's Golf*	0	0	0	0.0
Women's Track*	0	0	0	0.0
Men's Track*	0	0	0	0.0
Totals	11	11	2	50.0

* Season not yet completed

Source: southernmiss.cstv.com

Table 2
USM Career Records of Aunt Martha's Coaches

Name	Sport	Wins	Losses	Ties	Win%
Berry, Scott	Baseball	75	43	0	63.6%
Dobson, Howard*	Softball	93	124	2	42.9%
Ebke, Scott	Women's Soccer	15	44	5	27.3%
Fedora, Larry	Football	24	18	0	57.1%
Kroll, Ki	Men's Tennis	3	19	0	13.6%
Stephen, Kevin	Track	33	89	0	27.0%
Sutherland, Abbey	Women's Volleyball	25	18	0	58.1%
Theis, Raynie	Women's Tennis	21	24	0	46.7%
Voak, Kirsten & Malgradi, Jon#	Softball	<u>0</u> 289	<u>0</u> 379	<u>0</u> 7	<u>0.0%</u> 43.3%

* No longer affiliated with USM

Hired as co-head coaches in 2011