

The Farm

News Briefs from Southern Miss

26-November-2012

Saunders to Earn \$220,000 Salary as UWF Provost

According to Ed Kemp's 24-Nov-2012 [report for The Hattiesburg American](#), former USM president Martha Saunders is on the books to earn \$220,000 per year as the new provost (effective Jan-2013) at the University of West Florida. Still, as Kemp reports, "[t]hat's an identical figure to what Saunders was getting paid in her first year as a non-tenured professor of mass communications at Southern Miss, since she resigned the school's presidency effective June 30." Kemp's report also breaks new ground on Saunders' 27-Apr-2012 "resignation" as USM's president, stating that Saunders agreed to a "resignation" with the IHL Board on 20-Apr-2012, three days earlier than what was reported by *WDAM-TV* and seven days before her now infamous "resignation" press conference with IHL Board president Ed Blakeslee and IHL Commissioner Hank Bounds.

Eagles Finish 2012 Season without a Win

The USM Golden Eagles were blasted by the Memphis Tigers by a score of 24-42 in the annual "Black & Blue Game" on 24-Nov-2012 in Memphis' Liberty Bowl. With the loss, USM finishes the 2012 season at 0-12, completing the worst turnaround (from 12-2 in 2011) in college football history. The loss also drops first-year head coach Ellis Johnson's career record at USM to the same 0-12 mark.



This latest loss has many USM football fans believing that new USM athletics director Jeff Hammond will be dismissing Johnson at some point over the next several days. Others, however, believe instead that Johnson will be given one more season (2013) to put a winning product on the field at M.M. Roberts Stadium. Right now USMNEWS.net sources are leaning toward an additional season for Johnson as well.



As has been the case over the past few weeks, the moderator(s) at www.fireellisjohnson.com have had enough of Johnson and his coaching staff (see insert above).