

The Farm

News Briefs from Southern Miss

29-Nov-2010

USM Student Slams Giannini

Graduate student Justin Dunfee [is the latest in a parade](#) of USM students to publicly criticize the USM administration. The counseling psychology student from Texas penned a letter to *The Student Printz* on 22-Nov-2010, blasting USM athletics director Richard Giannini over the decision to provide a \$35,000 raise to USM head football coach Larry Fedora. Calling Giannini a “blatant hypocrite,” Dunfee suggests that Giannini “. . . should start kissing more private donors’ asses to help offset the athletic fees students pay” as part of their tuition each year. As reported by many sources in recent weeks, USM students fund, through a so-called tuition tax, about \$6 million of the USM athletics department’s approximately \$19 million budget each year. Also, about \$1 million of the remaining \$13 million comes from a transfer to athletics from the institution’s academic affairs (E&G) fund. The latter sum comes straight from Mississippi taxpayers.

“Teaching Out” of ECO Getting More Bizarre

All one has to do is read USMNEWS.net’s [. . . breaking news . . .](#) story [about USM's plan](#) for “teaching out” the now-defunct B.S. in economics to understand that the institution is at a crossroads when it comes to maintaining academic integrity in the face of massive budget cuts totaling \$25 million over FY11 and FY12. Now, new evidence is emerging regarding the “teaching out” of ECO that makes USM student Zach Mansell’s account look positive by comparison.

Spring 2011 ECO Schedule Guide

Course #	Title	Instructor	Cap	Enrolled
ECO 101	Basic Economics	Green	75	39
ECO 201	Principles of Macroeconomics	Green	90	87
ECO 201	Principles of Macroeconomics	Green	90	51
ECO 201	Principles of Macroeconomics	Klinedinst	90	38
ECO 202	Principles of Microeconomics	Misra	70	62
ECO 202	Principles of Microeconomics	Klinedinst	70	46
ECO 336	Survey of International Economics	Misra	90	73
ECO 336	Survey of International Economics	Misra	90	45
ECO 340	Price Theory	Nissan	15	6
ECO 345	Income Theory	Klinedinst	35	4

As the table above indicates, the “teaching out” portion of ECO’s spring 2011 class schedule guide (i.e., the last two rows) includes courses taught by Edward Nissan and Mark Klinedinst, two of the five CoB economists who were forced into retirement by the FY11 budget cut plan carried out by the Martha Saunders administration. The “enrolled” numbers suggest that “teaching out” is quietly becoming “taught out,” as only six and four students are enrolled in ECO 340 and ECO 345, respectively. Sources tell USMNEWS.net that the assignment of Nissan,

a statistician, to teach ECO 340 is more than disconcerting. There is no record of Nissan having taught an “ECO” course, and reports coming into USMNEWS.net indicate that ECO 340 was one of three integral courses in the now-defunct economics program.



McBride

The table above also shows that Klinedinst is teaching a full course load in spring 2011, as is Trellis Green, a third member of the group of five who was forced into retirement by the FY11 budget cuts totaling \$10 million. The other full load is being taught by Kaustav Misra, the Mississippi State University PhD student called upon by political science chair Allan McBride earlier this semester [to relieve him](#) (McBride) of ECO teaching duties.

USM Students *Rewriting Hattiesburg Nightlife*

According to Terry Jones’ 23-Nov-2010 [story](#) for *The Hattiesburg American* entitled “Bar hours now under scrutiny,” Hattiesburg Mayor Johnny DuPree has put together a committee, *including USM students*, to “. . . hash out the issues involved in the wake of the [shooting] incident” involving three USM football players. DuPree told Jones that the committee is hoping to put together a proposal regarding [new nightlife rules](#) for Hattiesburg in time for him to address the City Council in the early part of 2011. Though the committee’s work is just underway, DuPree informed Jones that he thinks that there is already a consensus among the group to close all nightclubs at midnight, rather than the 2 a.m. closing time they currently operate under.



As stated, the Mayor’s recent action comes in response to the shooting of three USM football players outside of Hattiesburg’s notorious Remington’s Hunt Club (see insert just above), where various risqué activities take place, and where Hattiesburg police have had to visit on numerous occasions to deal with issues in and around the club. It is not known who, among the USM student body, is a part of DuPree’s so-called Hattiesburg nightlife committee. Sources tell USMNEWS.net that the USM student portion of the group is likely dominated by “the SGA

students” [referred to in](#) USM junior [Charlie Davis' YouTube video rant](#) to USM president Martha Saunders. Davis rants that these students do not represent the mainstream student body very well. Interestingly, Davis’ video rant has seen an increase in viewership of about 95% in just the past several days.

“Mammas Don’t Let Your Babies . . .” Editorial from a 31st & Pearl Columnist

Are you familiar with the “House Divided” license plates, like the Mississippi State – Ole Miss one inserted below? Generally speaking, these tags are a humorous reference to homes wherein one spouse is a supporter of one school, while the other supports that school’s rival. Thus, the MSU-UM example below is apropos, representing one of the more bitter college rivalries in the country.



Of course, in Mississippi there are many houses divided along MSU-USM *and* UM-USM lines as well. It is in these that many MSU or UM fathers have likely taken to humming the tune to, and singing along with, the 1978 Waylon Jennings-Willie Nelson cover of “Mammas Don’t Let Your Babies Grow Up to be Cowboys,” only in this instance the dads are replacing “Cowboys” with “Eagles.” Why? It’s because of all of the controversial issues involving USM these days, from (1) a [\\$10 million budget cut](#) in [FY11](#) that [the](#) Saunders [administration eliminated](#) the CoB [economics department](#) to deal [with](#), (2) a \$15 million budget cut in FY12 that the Saunders administration has chosen to [terminate 29](#) tenured and tenure-track faculty [to address](#), (3) [the recent](#) Remington’s Hunt Club [shooting incident](#) that left three [USM football](#) players [seriously wounded](#), (4) USM’s [fall to the bottom](#) academic tier nationally (2009 *U.S. News & World Report* college rankings), where [it remains](#) today, (5) the Saunders administration’s [decision to sign](#) a \$2 million lease on a Beechcraft King Air 200, and [support](#) other wasteful spending projects, in the midst of the country’s worst economic climate since the 1930s, (6) [the hazing/alcohol poisoning incidents involving](#) the USM Greek system, and (7) other stories that paint USM as a [party school](#), to list a few. As these controversies mount, the moms will soon have *nothing* to combat the dads with in these divided homes.

USM’s Centennial in Pictures – A Guest Editorial



USM Terminal Contracts . . . Anyone, Anywhere, Anytime



Wounded USM Football Players Released from Hospital

Just days ago USM head football coach Larry Fedora informed the media that the three USM football players who were wounded in a recent shooting incident outside of Remington's Hunt Club in Hattiesburg were released from Forrest General Hospital. According to Fedora, the players are doing much better, and he expects two of them – Deddrick Jones and Tim Green – to play football again in the future. The other, Martez Smith, is reportedly paralyzed from the waist down as a result of the shooting.

Meanwhile, the emotional boost that the USM football team rode from the shooting incident to defeat Houston on 20-Nov-2010 apparently fizzled out on 26-Nov-2010, as USM fell to Tulsa by a score of 50-56. This loss brings Fedora's overall record at USM to 22-16, and marks the third time this season that USM has scored more than 40 points only to lose. The other two came against East Carolina and UAB, with both games being played in Hattiesburg.