

The Farm

News Briefs from Southern Miss

29-Oct-2010

‘Fedorgeron’

Some USM fans have taken to referring (on various Internet sports sites) to USM head football coach Larry Fedora as “Fedorgeron.” In doing so, they are comparing Fedora’s performance at USM since 2008 to that of a former head coach at Ole Miss – Ed Orgeron. Over the course of a few seasons, Orgeron proved to be a fiery, yet entirely *incapable* head coach, having been elevated to the top spot in Oxford from his prior position as a defensive line coach at USC. Though the jump from offensive coordinator at Oklahoma State to head man at USM wasn’t as big, Fedora’s performance in the much less substantial Conference USA has been anything but stellar. Two consecutive 7-6 seasons preceded what has gone on so far this season. The Eagles are currently 5-2 on the season, yet a win this weekend in Orlando by East Carolina over Central Florida will all but destroy USM’s hopes of playing in the C-USA championship game in December. This will be a major disappointment to Eagles fans, given that Fedora has publicly stated that, with the experience on the team, getting to that game and winning it was expected this year.



Larry Fedora



Ed Orgeron

As Table 1 below indicates, the typical USM football victory in 2010 has so far come against an opponent which now has 2 wins and 5 losses, a Sagarin power rating of only 55.69, and which is ranked only 141st in the Sagarin rankings. Given that Fedora is being paid the better part of \$1 million annually, sources say that much more is expected of him by most USM football fans.

Table 1
USM’s Victories in 2010 (through 23-Oct-2010)

| Opponent | Sagarin Rank | Sagarin Power | Overall Record |
|------------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|
| Prairie View A&M | 188 | 47.51 | 5-3 |
| Kansas | 132 | 56.86 | 2-5 |
| Louisiana Tech | 81 | 66.88 | 3-4 |
| Marshall | 135 | 56.67 | 1-6 |
| Memphis | 169 | 50.55 | 1-6 |
| Totals | 705 | 278.47 | 12-24 |
| Avg. | 141 | 55.69 | 2-5 |

Interestingly, in the three years that Fedora served as offensive coordinator at OSU (2005-07), the Cowboys were 18-19 (0.486). In the 2.5 years after Fedora departed Stillwater, the Cowboys are 24-9 (0.727). Is it possible that the folks in Stillwater are glad to see “Fedorgeron” elsewhere?

Dear USMNEWS.net . . .

Russ Willis as [shadow president](#) - that makes sense. Does anyone else recall that is how former USM president Shelby Thames started, with President Aubrey Lucas, as VP and hatchet man?

[name withheld by request]