

## The Meltdown Never Stops

In an [8-Oct-2013 presser](#), Patrick Magee explored USM's chances of posting a win during the 2013 season. Magee's conclusion: "A 0-12 record seems more probable than a 1-11 or 2-10 mark."

With USM's 19-Oct-2013 loss to East Carolina, more and more members of the USM family are questioning not only whether USM will win a game this year, but whether USM football has a future.

This weekend, Todd Monken's Golden Eagles football team was battered by East Carolina, 54-14, dropping Monken's overall record to 0-6. When combined with predecessor Ellis Johnson's one year record of 0-12, the Golden Eagles have now lost 18 consecutive games. Southern Miss managed to convert on just 4 of 16 third downs and managed only 233 total yards. Quarterbacks Allan Bridgeford and Nick Mullins threw for 112 yard, managing to connect with receivers on 11 of 28 passes. While Mullens threw for two touchdowns, as *Hattiesburg American* sports reporter Jason Munz tweeted during the disastrous loss, those touchdowns were against East Carolina's third string. Defensive penalties also took their toll with the Golden Eagles tagged four times for defensive pass interference penalties.

In a dramatic change from a year ago, there seems to be no outcry among the faithful for Monken's ouster. Should the year end without a win, that may change. However, for the time being there seems to be a sense of resignation that USM can't afford to buy out a second coach in two years, particularly in the face of the very generous [golden parachute](#) handed Johnson. Even the most optimistic fans acknowledge that it may be a very long time, if ever, before there is a turn around in the program. A small but decidedly growing minority are questioning whether USM should even have a football team.