

Who're the fan(atics) responsible for this waste of student and taxpayer money?

There's got to be a limit on silly behavior, especially when it costs so much money, year after year, decade after decade. And, especially when the expenditures have nothing to do with nor does it advance the mission of the organization, university in this case, that pays for it.

USA Today published the annual salaries of college football coaches. The University of Southern Mississippi is paying [Todd Monken](#) over \$700,000. Of course, most folks know that USM's football team has a record of 0-9 this year, that is no wins and nine losses. The record for the past year and half is zero wins and twenty-one losses! The worst record in the country.

The win-loss record and the silly waste of money on a coach's salary aside, football has not advanced or improved the education mission of USM, even after spending hundreds of millions of taxpayer and student money over many, many decades.

If local USM football fans want a "USM football team," let them buy or lease the stadium (at a price that USM would recoup its stadium cost over a ten year period), hire the players, and incur all other costs themselves and leave the rest of the taxpayers out of their fan(aticism). And, if players the fan(atics) hire want to go to USM for an education, the players should apply like any other student in accordance with common acceptance criteria and pay for it. If the fan(atics) want to pay their players' tuition and fees and tutors or other educational help, good for them. And, USM should shut down their "basketweaving" courses especially designed for athletes.