



# SOUTHERN MISS GOLDEN EAGLES

2004 Golf Media Guide



Canebrake Golf Course



Van Hook Golf Course



Hattiesburg Country Club Golf Course



Shadow Ridge Golf Course



Timberton Golf Course



# Contents and Quick Facts

## Quick Facts

Location: .....Hattiesburg, Mississippi  
 Founded: .....1910  
 Enrollment: .....16,000  
 Nickname: .....Golden Eagles, Lady Eagles  
 Colors: .....Black & Gold  
 Conference: .....Conference USA  
 NCAA Affiliation: .....Division I-A  
 President: .....Dr. Shelby F. Thamess  
 Athletic Director: .....Richard Giannini  
 Senior Assoc. Athletic Director: .....  
 .....David Hansen  
 Assoc. Athletic Director/External Operations: .....Scott Carr  
 Assoc. Athletic Director/Compliance: .....  
 .....Don Oberhelman  
 Assoc. Athletic Director/SWA: .....  
 .....Sonya Varnell

## Men's Golf

Head Coach: .....  
 .....Steve Johnson/Southern Miss, 1993  
 Assistant Coach: .....  
 .....Justin Emil/Southern Miss, 2002

## Women's Golf

Head Coach: .....  
 .....Julie Gallup/Miami, Fla., 1995  
 Assistant Coach: .....  
 .....Mimmie Dymling/East Tennessee St. 2002  
 Athletic Media Relations Director: .....  
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 .....Hattiesburg Country Club  
 .....Canebrake Golf Club  
 .....B.O. Van Hook Golf Club  
 .....Shadow Ridge Golf Club

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## Contents

Women's Roster & Schedule	2
Women's Outlook	3
Men's Roster & Schedule	4
Men's Outlook	5
Women's Head Coach	6
Men's Head Coach	7
Golf Courses	8
Women's Profiles	9
Men's Profiles	14
Women's Fall Results	19
Men's Fall Results	20
Women's Letterwinners	21
Men's Letterwinners	22
University	24
University President	29
Athletic Director	30
Athletic Administration	32
Student Services	35
Conference USA	37
Eagle Club	39

## Credits

The University of Southern Mississippi 2003-2004 Men's and Women's Golf Media Guide has been prepared for the news media by the Southern Miss Athletic Media Relations Department. The media guide contains the most current information available about the men's and women's golf teams.

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 Southern Miss Publication & Printing Services

## **Women's Roster**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>HT.</b>	<b>L/R</b>	<b>CLASS</b>	<b>HOMETOWN/PREVIOUS</b>
Mia Davidsson	5-7	R	Fr.	Simrishamn, Sweden/Friaborgs Slesan HS
Ashlea Deener	5-5	R	(R)So.	Dallas, Texas/Carrollton Christian
Jennifer Keefe	5-5	R	Jr.	Orlando, Fla./Lyman HS
Ofelia Lopez	5-8	R	Sr.	San Antonio, Texas/Churchill HS
Nicole Mackey	5-2	R	Fr.	NE Swisher, Iowa/Prairie HS
Toni Martino	5-0	R	Sr.	D' Iberville, Miss./D'Iberville HS
Brena Quaranto	5-0	R	Sr.	San Antonio, Texas/Churchill HS
Beth Sprague	5-6	R	Fr.	Fairfield, Ill./Fairfield Community HS
Natasha Vincent	5-7	R	Jr.	Jacksonville, Ark./Jacksonville HS

**Head Coach:** Julie Gallup (4th year/Miami, Fla., 1995)**Assistant Coach:** Mimmie Dymling (East Tennessee State, 2002)

## **Women's Schedule 2004**

February 21	<b>Miss Louie Season Opener Tournament</b> Host: Southern Miss Shadow Ridge GC , Hattiesburg, Miss.
March 12-13	<b>NIU Snowbird Classic</b> Host: Northern Illinois Pebble Creek CC, Tampa, Fla.
March 16-17	<b>USF Waterlefe Invitational</b> Host: USF Waterlefe CC, Bradenton, Fla.
April 6-7	<b>Lady Eagle Invitational</b> Host: Southern Miss Shadow Ridge GC, Hattiesburg, Miss.
April 19-21	<b>Conference USA Championship</b> Host: TCU Shady Oaks CC, Dallas, Texas

\*\*One additional spring match will be added.



## Women's Outlook

Julie Gallup has a positive "Eagle Attitude" about this year's Lady Eagle golf squad. With a few changes being made with individual players, she looks forward to a possible spot in the regional tournament this season.

Though the Lady Eagles struggled a little in the first part of the fall season, Gallup says that "the girls are working on getting in shape. They're all here and ready to play." The squad finished the fall with a team best second place at the John Kirk/Lady Panther Invitational hosted by Georgia State October 27-28. The Eagles also finished with a total of 908 at the Beacon Woods Invitational October 10-12 and earned third place recognition.

Raw talent as well as improved talent will lead the Lady Eagles into the spring.

Team captain, Ofelia Lopez returns this year. An asset to the team, Lopez is able to, according to Gallup, "play difficult golf courses," and she had a "strong finish" in the fall. Lopez finished the fall season with a 78.03 average and played in all of the tournaments that the Lady Eagles competed.

Sophomore Ashlea Deener is "working hard on her game," said Gallup. During the fall, the Dallas, Texas, native was redshirted, but she has made some grip changes that contributed to her improvement as an individual player and as a team member.

Gallup describes veteran, Jennifer Keefe, as an excellent player. "She has improved tremendously over the last three years," said Gallup. The improvements that she has made have put her in a position to have a solid spring. She finished with an average this fall of 78.28, and she had a season best of seventh place at the John Kirk/Lady Panther Invitational October 27-28.

Mia Davidsson also has added to the Lady Eagle golf program. She was a strong player in the fall and has phenomenal ball-striking skills. She tied for seventh with Keefe during the John Kirk/Lady Panther Invitational in Stockbridge, Georgia at the Eagles Landing Golf Course.

Freshman Nicole Mackey competed in one tournament this fall and did, according to Gallup, "pretty well." Mackey tied for 51st place at the Tyson Invitational, September 7-9, in Fayetteville, Ark., at the Chenal Country Club. Gallup says that she has been working hard at making some changes in her game, and those changes should allow her to become a better player.

Toni Martino is a solid ball striker. Gallup sees her as "great for... team camaraderie." The senior redshirt has been the person to keep the team grounded and together.

Brena Quaranto, a senior from San Antonio, Texas, is a talented player, who is "willing to try new shots and willing to learn." Quaranto saw action in three out of the four tournaments that the Lady Eagles participated in this fall. She helped the team record second, third and fourth place finishes during the fall.

As a newcomer, Beth Sprague is in the process of making some changes to her swing. She may possibly be redshirted for the spring, but Gallup will be looking for her to have a good season next year.

Natasha Vincent is just starting to come into her own after having a successful fall season. The Jacksonville, Ark., junior seems to be headed toward a golf career with tremendous potential. With a seventh place finish at the Cardinal Cup in September, Vincent helped the Lady Eagles gain a 4th place position as a team.

The Lady Eagles are looking forward to a good spring season with a schedule that includes the Northern Illinois Snowbird Classic in Tampa, Fla.,

the USF Waterlefe Invitational in Bradenton, Fla., and the Lady Eagle Invitational. The season wraps up with the Conference USA Championship April 19-21 in Dallas, Texas. With all the team improvements, Gallup looks forward to a "good chance of getting into the regionals and ending the year on a strong note."



**Ofelia Lopez**

# Men's Roster

NAME	HT.	WT.	L/R	CLASS	HOMETOWN/PREVIOUS
Jonathan Atkins	5-9	156	R	Fr.	San Juan, Puerto Rico/ Colegia Rasa Bell HS
Micky D'Angelo	6-3	215	R	Jr.	Gulfport, Miss./ Long Beach HS
Danny Dennis	5-7	140	R	So.	Collierville, Tenn./ River Point HS
Justin Elliot	6-1	175	R	r-So.	Demopolis, Ala./ Demopolis HS
Michael Harrell	6-0	200	R	So.	Lymon, Miss.
Tim McCabe, Jr.	5-11	130	R	Jr.	Gulfport, Miss.
Shane Rushing	5-7	150	R	Jr.	Fort Walton Beach, Fla./ Choctawhatchee HS
Ben Snow	6-4	200	R	r-Sr.	Canton, Miss./ Canton Academy
Mike Soroka	6-4	180	R	r-Jr.	Philadelphia, Pa./ Archbishop Wood HS
Will Taylor	5-5	140	R	Sr.	West Point, Miss./ Shelton State CC
Matt Wofford	5-9	150	R	Sr.	Fort Walton Beach, Fla./ Choctawhatchee HS

**Head Coach:** Steve Johnson (4th Year/Southern Miss, 1993)

**Assistant Coach:** Justin Emil (Southern Miss, '02)

## 2004 Men's Schedule

February 9-10	<b>Tulane Invitational</b> Host: Tulane English Turn Golf Club, New Orleans, La.
February 16-17	<b>The Sam H. Hall Intercollegiate</b> Host: Southern Mississippi Hattiesburg CC, Hattiesburg, Miss.
February 23-24	<b>The Beau Chene Intercollegiate</b> Host: Southeastern Louisiana Beau Chene CC, Mandeville, La.
March 7-9	<b>Hyatt Cerromar Beach Intercollegiate</b> Host: Georgia State Hyatt-Cerromar Resort, San Juan, Puerto Rico
March 15-16	<b>The Carter Plantation Intercollegiate</b> Host: Southeastern La. Carter Plantation Golf Club, Springfield, La.
April 2-4	<b>LSU Spring Invitational</b> Host: LSU University Club, Baton Rouge, La.
April 12-13	<b>ASU Indian Classic</b> Host: Arkansas State Ridgepointe Country Club, Jonesboro, Ark.
April 19-21	<b>Conference USA Championship</b> Host: Conference USA Lake Jovita Country Club, Tampa, Fla.



## Men's Outlook

This year the Golden Eagles have a positive outlook for their upcoming season. Head Coach Steve Johnson is confident that the team can "finish in the top 10 every week teeing up."

The Eagles finished the fall with a 288.87 average and a team best second place finish at the Carolinas First Intercollegiate, September 22-23, in Simpsonville, Ky.

Veteran Ben Snow had a 72.6 average in the fall and a season high 12th place at the Cardinal Intercollegiate. Johnson says that Snow has done an outstanding job with pushing his game forward.

Johnson said that Justin Elliot is definitely moving forward. The returning sophomore finished 12th at the Cardinal Intercollegiate, and his season was finalized with a 73.3 average.

Senior team member Matt Wofford brings his experience back to the squad this season. Johnson says that Wofford had a "much better fall than he did last year." Wofford tied for eighth at the First Reliance Intercollegiate.

Mike Soroka is a junior this year and had an opportunity to contribute to the team at their first tournament this fall. Johnson believes Soroka is a player that is "able to take advantage of some golf courses." He finished with a third place finish at the Raising Cane Classic in September.

Danny Dennis comes back as a sophomore this season. He saw action in all the tournaments this fall and averaged 73.27. Johnson says that Dennis has been a player that the team can count on to make sure that they get into the round that is going to help them.

Shane Rushing also returns this year following a 72.92 average during the fall. He participated in four out of five of the team's tournaments. Johnson says that Rushing is a good all around player, and he has the ability to make four or five birdies in a round.

As a senior this year, Will Taylor joins the Eagles for his second season. "Taylor is very accurate off the tee," says Johnson. The West Point, Miss., native is sure to provide good leadership for the squad this season.

The Eagles welcome four newcomers this season. The talented freshman, Jonathan Atkins, is from San Juan, Puerto Rico. Johnson expects Atkins to help the Eagles move forward in the future.

Another addition joins the team from Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College. As a junior college

transfer, Johnson believes Tim McCabe will bring in the upperclassman leadership that the team needs. McCabe will also bring experience from Division II National and Regional competition.

One other new Eagle for the season is Michael Harrell. Johnson sees Harrell as a "good addition who will bring ... some more leadership and commitment" to the squad. Harrell is a sophomore at Southern Miss and played for Lee Academy in Clarksdale, Mississippi.

The team also will have the services of junior Micky D'Angelo, a member of the football team who joined the squad before the start of the spring season.

This year the Eagles' season will include the Hyatt Cerromar Beach Intercollegiate in San Juan, Puerto Rico, hosted by Georgia State. Johnson hopes that this will not be their only trip outside of the continental U.S. The Eagles also have the Tulane Invitational, Sam H. Hall Intercollegiate, the Beau Chene Intercollegiate, LSU Spring Invitational, ASA Indian Classic, and finally, the Conference USA Championship, April 19-21.

With a signing roster that Johnson considers one of best that they have ever had, the Eagles have a promising season ahead with players that are not going to give up.



**Ben Snow**

## Women's Head Coach



### **JULIE GALLUP**

**Women's Head Coach  
Fourth Year  
University of Miami, 1995**

Julie Gallup is in her fourth year with the Southern Miss golf program. She led the Lady Eagles to a second place finish during the fall at the John Kirk/Lady Panther Intercollegiate in October and third place in the Beacon Woods Invitational.

Gallup came to Southern Miss from East Tennessee State, where she was the head coach

for the 1999-2000 season. While at ETSU, the team improved its average by over a dozen shots and finished in the top eight in every tournament. Prior to coaching at East Tennessee State, Gallup served as a golf instructor at numerous golf schools along the eastern seaboard, including the Bill Skelley Golf School in Florida. Gallup has three years experience playing on different tours in the country, including the LPGA Tour in 1997.

Gallup graduated from the University of Miami in 1995 with a bachelor's degree in business management. While attending school, she was a two-time All-American selection, ranking as high as third in the nation at one point in her collegiate career. As an amateur player, Gallup was ranked as high as sixth in the nation. She started her success early while she was attending high school. She won the Women's Western Junior Open, the PGA Junior Championship, the USF&G Junior Championship and was ranked third in the nation by Golfweek Magazine. Gallup hopes to increase the competitiveness and success of the golf program at Southern Miss.

She is married to Greg Gallup, a native of Texas, and the couple has two children, Cameron and Gabrielle.



### **Marie-Christine (Mimmie) Dymling**

**Assistant Coach  
First Season**

Mimmie Dymling is in her first year with the Lady Eagle golf team as an assistant coach, joining her former head coach, Julie Gallup. Dymling comes to Southern Miss after playing on a professional Swedish tour in 2002-2003. After playing for East Tennessee State University from 1999-2002, Dymling earned numerous accolades that have gained her great recognition at her alma mater. She holds records at ETSU for lowest round (-1), lowest three rounds, best scoring average as a junior, and the best scoring average as a senior. During the 2001 and 2002 seasons, she was chosen as most valuable player and for the All-Southern Conference

Team. Among her accomplishments during her athletic career are nominations for Athlete of the Year in 2001 and 2002. With a first place finish in 2002 at the Golden Panther Invitational in Miami and a team captain position for two consecutive years, Dymling will prove to be a solid asset to the Southern Miss coaching staff.

Dymling is a native of Stockholm, Sweden, where she graduated from Rudbeck High School in 1997. She went on to earn a bachelor of science degree in marketing from ETSU in 2002. She is the daughter of Christina and Christer Dymling.

## **Men's Head Coach**



### **STEVE JOHNSON**

**Men's Head Coach  
Fourth Year  
Southern Miss, 1993**

Steve Johnson is in his fourth year as the head coach of the men's golf program. The Eagles recorded a second place finish at the Carolinas First Intercollegiate and also two fourth place spots during the fall.

Johnson, a two-year letterwinner with the Golden Eagles' men's golf program from 1991 to 1993, spent four seasons as an assistant golf coach

at Southern Miss, working primarily with the women's golf team under then Head Coach Sam Hall. It was not until Hall was recovering from a 1995 heart attack that Johnson's importance was truly noticed, and the young coach guided both programs and gained valuable recruiting and teaching experience.

When Southern Miss made a full-time commitment to women's golf in 1997, Johnson took over the women's program as head coach, while Hall focused solely on the men's program.

During Johnson's three-year stint as head coach of the women's program, the Lady Eagles won four tournaments, had eight Academic All-America selections, earned four all-conference selections, and gained the attention of many throughout the Southeast. In 1998-99, the Lady Eagles rewrote the school's record books. Prior to that season, Southern Miss had just one tournament title. Johnson's Lady Eagles won four tournaments and set a new record for a team low round in 1998-99.

Johnson received his bachelor's degree in business administration from Southern Miss in 1993. He completed his master's degree in sport administration in 1995 at Southern Miss and is working toward a doctorate in education. Johnson and his wife, Rhonda, have two daughters, Ellen and Leigh.



**Justin Emil**  
**Assistant Coach**  
**First Season**

Justin Emil is in his first year with the Golden Eagles as an assistant coach, joining head coach Steve Johnson.

Emil was a four-year letterwinner for the Golden Eagles. During his senior season, he was named to the Conference USA second team. His top finishes included a second-place finish at the Cellular One Raising Cane Classic and third at the Carolina First

Intercollegiate during the fall season. In the spring, he placed fifth in the Beau Chene Collegiate Classic. He finished with an average of 74.22, ranking second on the team.

Emil received his bachelor's degree in sport administration in 2002 and is working on his master's degree in sport management. He is the son of Nancy Emil and the late Gerald Emil.

## Golf Courses



### **Timberton Golf Club**

Opened in 1991, Timberton, located on Veteran's Memorial Drive in southwest Hattiesburg is, a par-72 course that plays 7,003 yards. It has a slope rating of 135 and a 73.4 rating. Timberton has consistently been ranked as one of the finest golf courses in the south, being rated as No.3 in Mississippi for 2002 by GOLF WEEK Magazine. The head pro is Richard Walsh. The course is the centerpiece of a thriving residential and business community. For more information visit [www.timbertongolf.com](http://www.timbertongolf.com).

### **Canebrake**

Opened in 1998, Canebrake, located on Hwy. 98 west of Hattiesburg, is a par-71 course that plays 7,003 yards. It has a slope rating of 130 and a 73.3 rating. Golf Digest rated Canebrake Golf Club No. 2 in the nation for best new public course in the December 1999 issue of the magazine, and the No. 3 course in Mississippi in the March 2001 issue. The head pro is Marc Brady. Canebrake also boasts a nationally recognized residential development. For more information visit [www.canbrakegolf.com](http://www.canbrakegolf.com).



### **USM's Van Hook**

Opened in 1957, Van Hook, located approximately a mile off West 4th Street northwest of the Southern Miss campus, is a par-72 course that plays 6,429 yards. It has a slope rating of 117 and a 72.2 rating. The head pro is Larry Lee. The course also boasts a variety of other amenities, including Lake Sehoy.

### **Hattiesburg Country Club**

Opened in 1960, Hattiesburg Country Club, located just northwest of the Van Hook course, is a par-72 course that plays 6,902 yards. It has a slope rating of 131 and a 73.0 rating. The head pro is Jerry Weeks. The HCC originally was located on Country Club Drive inside the Hattiesburg city limits. The course was closed recently for an extended period of time for its first major renovation. It is the former host of the Magnolia Classic, a long-running PGA tournament now played in Jackson, Miss. For more information visit [www.hattiesburgcountryclub.com](http://www.hattiesburgcountryclub.com).



### **Shadow Ridge**

Opened in January of 2000, Shadow Ridge golf club, located on Hwy. 98 west of Hattiesburg, is a par-72 course that plays 6,845 yards. It has a slope rating of 131 and a 72.0 rating. The head pro is Mike Blanchard. Shadow Ridge also boasts a growing residential development. For more information visit [www.shadowridgegolf.com](http://www.shadowridgegolf.com).

## Women's Profiles



**Mia Davidsson**  
5-7, Freshman  
Friaborgs Sjelan HS  
Simrishamn, Sweden

Excellent player ... Productive work ethic ... Has struggled some with adjusting to life in a different country and a different society ... Look for her to have a solid spring season ... **Fall:** Played in all four tournaments with an average of 78.93 ... Season best was a tie for seventh at the John Kirk/Lady Panther Intercollegiate (10/27-28) ... **Prep:** Played at Friaborgs Sjelan High School ... Had stroke average that has consistently placed her among the top finishers ... Also earned honors for badminton ...

**Personal:** Daughter of Ulf and Anna-Lena Davidsson ... Born December 28, 1984, in Ystad, Sweden ... Majoring in marine biology with a minor in biology.



**Ashlea Deener**  
5-5, Sophomore  
Carrollton Christian  
Academy  
Farmers Branch, Texas

Hitting long enough that she can be one of the top competitors on the team and in conference during the coming spring season ... **Fall:** Redshirt year ... Dean's list ... **2002-03 (So.):** Played in all four tournaments with an average of 81.6 ... Finished in the top 15 once ... Best finish was 13th at the Lady Colonel Invitational (9/12-13) ... In the spring, played in six tournaments ... Finished with an average of 80.31 ... Had three, top 20 finishes, including a top 10 finish in the Samford Lady Bulldog Intercollegiate (3/24-25) ... **2001-02 (Fr.):** Saw action in all four tournaments in the fall with an average of 81.8 ... Best finish was 26th at the Bay Tree Classic (9/8-10) and at the John Kirk/Lady Panther Intercollegiate (10/29-30) ... In the spring, she played in five tournaments with an average of 80.9 ... Best finish was a tie for 28th at the Southern Miss Lady Eagle Invitational (2/4-5) ... **Prep:** Played under the direction of Head Coach Dennis Bingham at Carrollton Christian Academy ... Placed first in district, regionals, and state her senior year ... Awarded all-district and all-state distinctions ... Who's Who for Sports and Academics ...

**Personal:** Daughter of William and Wanda Deener ... Born January 31, 1983, in Dallas, Texas ... Majoring in criminal justice, with a minor in spanish.



## Women's Profiles



### Jennifer Keefe

5-5, Junior  
Lyman HS  
Winterpark, Fla.

One of the hardest workers on the squad ... Totally dedicated to improving her game and helping the team improve ... Also an excellent student ... Has a great work ethic ... Academic team captain ... **Fall:** Participated in all four tournaments with an average of 78.28 ... Had season high 7th place tie at John Kirk/Lady Panther Invitational ... **2002-03 (So.):** Played in all four tournaments with an average of 79.2 ... Finished in the top 10 twice ... Best finish was second at the Lady Colonel Invitational (9/12-13) and 10th at the John Kirk/Lady Panther Invitational (10/28-30) ... In the spring, competed in six tournaments ... Finished with a stroke average of 79.15 ... Posted four, top 15 finishes including medalist of the Lady Eagle Invitational (4/7) ... Finished seventh in the NIU Snowbird Tournament, shooting a 152 ...

Forrest General scholarship award ... All scholar team presidents list ...

**2001-02 (Fr.):** Saw action in all four tournaments in the fall season with an average of 82.0 ... Best finish was 29th at the John Kirk/Lady Panther Intercollegiate (10/29-30) ... In the spring, she played in five tournaments with an average of 79.3 ... Finished in the top five once with a fifth-place finish at the NIU Snowbird Intercollegiate (3/14-15) ... **Prep:**



Lettered four years under the direction of Coach Bill Scott and Coach Sharron Blankenship ... Had a nine hole stroke average of 37 her senior year ... Had a nine hole stroke average of 39 for her career ... Was four-time all-county, all-district, and all-conference ... Four-time team MVP ... 1998 Conference Player of the Year ... Member of the National Honor Society ... **Personal:** Daughter of Thomas and Barbara Keefe ... Born April 19, 1983 in Winter Park, Fla. ... Majoring in international business.

### Ofelia Lopez

5-8, Senior  
Winston Churchill HS  
San Antonio, Texas



One of the acknowledged leaders on the team ... Great personality and popular among her teammates ... Good ball striker ... Playing best golf of her career right now ... Look for her to finish her Southern Miss career on a solid note ... Been team captain for past two years ... **Fall:** Participated in all four tournaments with an average of 78.03 ... Had season high at Beacon Woods Invitational with 12th-place tie ... **2002-03 (Jr.):** Played in all four tournaments with an average of 79.5 ... Finished in the top 15 twice with an 11th-place finish at the Lady Colonel Invitational (9/12-13) and a 12th-place finish at the John Kirk/Lady Panther Invitational (10/28-30) ... Dean's List Scholar ... In the spring, competed in five tournaments ... Had a team-low stroke average of 79.08 ... Posted four top-20 finishes, including a third-place finish at the Lady Eagle Invitational (4/7-8) ... **2001-02 (So.):** Played in all four tournaments in the fall season with an average of 80.0 ... Had a strong showing at the John Kirk/Lady Panther Intercollegiate (10/29-30) where she finished seventh ... In the spring, she played in four tournaments with an average of 78.7 ... Had a strong spring finishing in a tie for 11th at the Southern Miss Lady Eagle Invitational (2/4-6) and at the NIU Snowbird Intercollegiate (3/13-14) ... Also played well at the C-USA Tournament (4/20-22), finishing in a tie for 17th ... **2000-01 (Fr.):**

## Women's Profiles

Played in two fall tournaments and placed in the top 10 in both of them with an average of 76.0 ... Placed second at the John/Kirk Lady Panther Intercollegiate (10/29-30) and tied for eighth at the Baytree Golf Classic (9/8-10) ... Played well in the spring season with two top-25 finishes and one top-10 finish ... Finished 15th at the Lady Eagle Classic (2/4-6) and at the Lady Seahawk Invitational (3/26-27) ... Best finish was 10th at the C-USA Tournament (4/20-22), where she shot her lowest score of 74 ... All-Conference selection ... Stroke average was 79.8 for the spring season ... **Prep:** Played under the direction of Coach Mike Martin at Winston Church Hill High School ... Team captain of the 1999-2000 team, which won the 5A state championship ... Tied for third place individual honors at the state championships ... Named outstanding golfer in 2000 ... Four-year letterwinner ... Chosen most valuable player in 1997 ...

**Personal:** Daughter of Benito and Hilda Lopez ... Born October 26, 1981, in Laredo, Texas ... Majoring in coaching and sport administration.



**Nicole Mackey**

5-2, Freshman

Prairie HS

Swisher, Iowa

Had a middle-of-the-road fall tournament, but has been working hard on her game between seasons ... Also in the process of making some swing changes that should allow her to make even quicker progress ... **Fall:** Saw action in one tournament ... Finished with an average of 84.67 ... Tied for 50th place in Tyson Invitational ... **Prep:** Played for Coach Dan Bubon at Prairie High School ... Four-time division winner ... Had stroke average in top finishes ... Two-time second and two-time sixth place winner at state ... all-conference, all-metro, all-state, and Athlete of the Year all four years ... Also a member of state championship dance team ... National Honor Society ... Awarded high honors and the Award of Honor ... **Personal:** Daughter of Tim and Lori Mackey ... Born on March 18, 1985, in Cedar Rapids, Iowa ... Majoring in bio-chemistry.



## Women's Profiles



### Toni Martino

**5-0, Senior**  
**D'Iberville HS**  
**D'Iberville, Miss.**

Very good ball striker ... Keeps the team grounded and together ... **Fall:** Did not see any action. **Prep:** Lettered in golf one year under the guidance of Coach Joey Waites at D'Iberville High School ... A well-rounded athlete ...

Martino lettered four years in soccer and one year in softball ... Also played soccer at William Carey, where she helped the team to a 16-2 record and a NAIA national ranking of fifth ...

**Personal:** Daughter of Judy and Mark Martino ... Born on June 6, 1981, in D'Iberville, Miss. ... Majoring in psychology.



averaging 80.13 ... Had season high with a tie for 24th at the Cardinal Cup and John Kirk/Lady Panther Intercollegiate ... **2002-03 (Jr.):** Played in all four tournaments in the fall with an average of 79.5 ... Finished in the top five once with a fifth-place finish at the Lady Colonel Invitational (9/12-13) ... Competed in six tournaments during the spring ... Had a stroke average of 81.38 ... Posted three, top 10 finishes ... Had two, third-place finishes in the NIU Snowbird Tournament (3/13-14) and the Lady Eagle Invitational (4/7) ... **2001-02 (So.):** Played in three tournaments during the fall season with an average of 81 ... Best finish was 22nd at the John Kirk/Lady Panther Intercollegiate (10/28-30) ... Played in five tournaments in the spring with an average of 79.7 ... Best finish was 12th at the C-USA Tournament (4/20-22) ... **2000-01 (Fr.):** Played in one tournament in the fall season with an average of 82.6 ... Best finish was a tie for 32nd at the John Kirk/Lady Panther International (10/28-30) ... Lowest score was 79 ... Quaranto played in five tournaments in the spring with an average of 82.0 ... Best finish was 24th at the C-USA Tournament (4/20-22) ... Best score was a 76 shot at the Lady Seahawk Invitational (3/26-27), where she finished 26th ...

**Prep:** Lettered four years at Winston Churchill High School in golf ...

Played under the direction of Mike Martin ... Team won state championships all four years attended ...

**Personal:** Daughter of Verna Quaranto ... Born September 2, 1982, in San Antonio, Texas ... Majoring in coaching and sport administration.



### Brena Quaranto

**5-0, Senior**  
**Winston Churchill HS**  
**San Antonio, Texas**

Unbelievable amount of natural talent ... Able to hit a lot of shots that you don't see women at this level make ... **Fall:** Participated in three tournaments



## Women's Profiles



**Beth Sprague**

**5-6, Freshman**  
**Fairfield Community**  
**HS**  
**Fairfield, Ill.**

A solid student both in the classroom as well as of the game of golf ... Worked on some changes in the fall that should make her a more solid player in the spring ... A year of experience should help her become a mainstay next season ... **Prep:** Played under the direction of Brent Sutton at Fairfield Community High School ... Finished first at sectionals and fourth at state during junior year ... Finished first in the regionals during her senior year ... Her stroke average regularly placed her among tournament leaders ... All-state as a junior ... Four-year letter winner ... Academic Honor Roll all four years ... **Personal:** Daughter of Mary Sprague and the late Kris Sprague ... Born August 5, 1985, in Mt. Vernon, Ill. ... Majoring in criminal justice with minor in political science.



**Natasha Vincent**

**5-7, Junior**  
**Jacksonville HS**  
**Jacksonville, Ark.**

Amazing amount of natural talent ... On the cusp of doing great things ... **Fall:** Participated in all four tournaments with an average of 77.1 ... Best finish was tie for seventh in the Cardinal Cup Tournament ... **2002-03 (So.):** Played in all four tournaments with an average of 77.7 ... Vincent visited the winner's circle for the first time at the Lady Colonel Invitational (9/12-13), firing 78-73-151 to claim the individual title ... Also played well at the Louisville Cardinal Cup (9/23-24) where she finished seventh ... In the spring, competed in six tournaments with an average of 80.31 ... Best finish was a second-place finish at the Lady Eagle Invitational (4/7) ... **2001-02 (Fr.):** Played in all four tournaments in the fall season with an average of 81.0 ... Had the second-best finish on the team, placing 18th at the John Kirk/Lady Panther Intercollegiate (10/28-30) ... Played in four tournaments in the spring with an average of 83.8 ... Best finish was 32nd at the Southern Miss Lady Eagle Invitational (2/2-6) ... **Prep:** Lettered for one year at Mt. Saint Mary Academy ... Lettered for three years at Jacksonville under the direction of Coach Joe Francis ... Played in the No. 1 spot on the men's golf team ... An all-state and all-conference performer for four years ... Played in the USGA State Team Championships in 1999 ... Arkansas State Junior Player of the Year in 2000 ... High school overall champ in 2000 ... Qualified for the U.S. Junior Girls team twice ... Awarded the Army Scholar Athlete Award and was also an honor graduate ... **Personal:** Daughter of Jean and Donna Vincent ... Born April 4, 1984, in Lubbock, Texas ... Majoring in advertising.



## **Men's Profiles**



### **Jonathan Atkins**

**5-9, Freshman**  
**Colegia Rasa Bell HS**  
**San Juan, Puerto Rico**

**Personal:** Son of Joey and Terry D'Angelo ...  
Born June 20, 1982 ... Majoring in business.

Really good ball striker ... Will help the team move forward in the future ... **Prep:** Played under the direction of Mildred Calvesbert at Colegia Rasa Bell High School ... Team finished first in league ... Named All-American in baseball and basketball ...

**Personal:** Son of Lionel and Margarita Fernandez ... Born May 9, 1985.



**Micky D'Angelo**  
**6-3, Junior**  
**Long Beach HS**  
**Gulfport, Mississippi**

Long hitter ... Has tremendous strength ... Great addition to the team ... Should challenge for one of the top spots ... Joins the golf team following a shortened football career due to injury ... **Prep:** Lettered six years in golf ... A two-time all state selection ... A three-time district champion ...



### **Danny Dennis**

**5-7, 140, Sophomore**  
**River Point HS**  
**Collierville, Tenn.**

Has done a lot of work in the offseason ... Can count on him in the clutch ... **Fall:** Saw action in all five tournaments with an average of 73.27 ... Season high was at the fall Beach Classic, where he tied for 19th ...

**2002-03:** Played in four tournaments with an average of 74.75 ... His best finish was a tie for 17th at the Cardinal Intercollegiate, where he made his college debut, firing an opening round of 69 (9/30-10/3) ... Competed in only one tournament in the spring ...



## Men's Profiles

Finished 17th in the Sam B. Hall Intercollegiate (2/16-18) ... Had a stroke average of 72.7 ... **Prep:** Played under Coach Bruce Bledsoe at River Point High School ... Won the MPSA Class A State Championship in 2000, and also won the Class A District Championship five years in a row ... **Personal:** Son of Mark and Corinne Dennis ... Born on March 30, 1984, in Memphis, Tenn. ... Enrolled in general studies.



**Michael Harrell**  
5-10, Sophomore  
Kyle Finney HS  
Lyon, Mississippi



**Justin Elliott**  
6-1, 165,  
r-Sophomore  
Demopolis HS  
Demopolis, Ala.

Has capability of shooting very low scores ... Definitely moving forward ... **Fall:** Played in all five tournaments with an average of 73.3 ... Had season high of 12th place at Cardinal Collegiate ... **2002-03:** Played in five tournaments with an average of 73.93 ... Best finish was a tie for eighth at the Fall Beach Classic, where he shot a final round 66 to finish at four under par for the tournament (11/4-5) ... In the spring, competed in six tournaments ... Finished with an average of 75.06 ... Best finish was 18th-place in the Beau Chene Collegiate Classic (2/24-25) ... **Prep:** Played under Coach

Tannda Elliott at Demopolis High School in Demopolis, Ala. ... Helped his team win the 5A state championship in 2000 ... **Personal:**

Son of Gary and Tannda Elliot ... Born October 10, 1982, in Demopolis, Ala. ... Majoring in finance.



Good addition to the team ... Working on his control ... Will definitely be able to help at the end of the season ... **Prep:**

Played for Coach Kyle Finney at Lee Academy ... Named MVP for five years ... Named All-Conference and All-State ... Lettered one year in golf ...

**Personal:** Son of Mike and Cathy Harrell ... Born October 23, 2003, in Clarksdale, Mississippi ... Majoring in sport administration.



**Tim McCabe, Jr.**  
5-11, Junior  
Gulfport HS  
Gulfport, MS



Will give upperclassman leadership that the squad needs ... **Junior College:** Joins the Golden Eagles after a successful career at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College under Coach Tommy Shell ... NJCAA Division II Nationals for two years ... Won

## Men's Profiles

NJCAA Division II Region 23 individual title ... Given the Bulldog Award ... **Prep:** Played for Coach Howard McNeill at Gulfport High School ... Helped his team win the state championship in 2000 ... Named All-District two years ... Became an individual medalist in 2001 ... Lettered four years in golf and one year in basketball ... **Personal:** Son of Tim McCabe, Sr. and Candy Lambert ... Born December 9, 1982, in Jackson Mississippi ... Majoring in sport administration with minors in business and pre-dental education.



average of 72.29 ... Recorded four, top 10 finishes, including medalist in the Sam B. Hall Intercollegiate (2/16-18) ... Finished fourth at the Beau Chene Collegiate Classic (2/24-26) ... **2001-02 (Fr.):** Saw action in three tournaments with an average of 76 ... Best fall finish was 25th ... Played in all six tournaments in the spring with an average of 75, placing in the top 25 three times ... His best finishes were 15th at the Mississippi Gulf Coast Classic (2/11-12) and 17th at the Ron Smith Invitational (2/22-24) ... **Prep:** Lettered four years under Coach Billy Mikel at Choctawhatchee High School ... Placed seventh in the state tournament his junior year and placed fifth in state tournament his senior year ... Awarded all-state, all-district, all-conference his senior year ...

**Personal:** Son of Steve and Linda Rushing ... Born Dec. 15, 1982, in Jacksonville, Fla. ... Majoring in advertising.



**Shane Rushing**  
5-7, 150, Junior  
Choctawhatchee HS  
Fort Walton Beach,  
Fla.

Outstanding visualization skills ... Great shot maker ... Good all-around player ... **Fall:** Participated in four tournaments with an average of 72.92 ... Season high was at first Reliance Tournament finishing with a tie for 12th. ... **2002-03 (So.):** Played in five tournaments with an average of 73.87 ... Finished in the top 20 three times ... Best finish was fourth at the Cellular One Raising Cane Classic (9/8-10) ... In the spring competed in six tournaments ... Finished with a team-best stroke



**Ben Snow**  
6-4, 205, r-Senior  
Canton Academy  
Canton, Miss.

Has come in and proven himself as one of the top players in the program ... **Fall:** Participated in all five tournaments averaging 72.6 ... Had season high of a tie for 11th at Raising Cane Classic. ...

## Men's Profiles

**2002-03 (r-Jr.):** Played in three tournaments with an average of 75.44 ... Best finish was a tie for 31st at the Cellular One Raising Cane Classic ... Participated in four tournaments in the spring ... Finished with a stroke average of 75.27 ... **2001-02 (Jr.):** Redshirted ... **2000-01 (So.):** Saw action in two tournaments during the fall season ... Best finish was a tie for 26th at the Raising Cane Classic (9/26-27) ... Had a fall tournament stroke average of 77.3 ... Snow played in two spring tournaments ... Best finish was 56th at the Ron Smith Invitational (2/22-24), where he also shot his best round of 76 on day two ... Had a spring stroke average of 78.5 ... **1999-00 (Fr.):** Played in nine tournaments, 26 rounds and used 2,001 strokes for an average of 76.9 ... Best finish was 32nd with a low round of 71 at the Deep South Intercollegiate ... **Prep:** Came to Southern Miss from Canton Academy in Canton, Miss., where he played for Coach Flip Godfrey ... Won medalist awards at the state tournament in 1997, 1998, and 1999 ... Awarded most valuable player in 1997, 1998, and 1999 ... Lettered four years in golf ... Lettered in tennis twice and was awarded tennis most valuable player in 1999 and many other academic honors ... **Personal:** Son of Mark and Janet Snow ... Born July 9, 1981, in Gulfport, Miss. ... Majoring in finance.



**Michael Soroka**

**6-4, 175, r-Junior**  
**Archbishop Wood HS**  
**Philadelphia, Penn.**

Long hitter ... Has adequate length ... Needs to work more on course management ... **Fall:** Participated in one tournament in fall ... Placed third in Raising Cane Classic with an average of 72.7. ... **2002-03 (So.):** Saw action in four tournaments with an average of 72.58 ... Soroka visited the winner's circle at the Cellular One Raising Cane Classic (9/8-10), where he defeated teammate Justin Emil in an exciting three hole playoff ... Participated in all seven tournaments in the spring ... Had a stroke average of 74.57 ... Placed in a tie for fifth at the Tulane Invitational (2/9-11) ... Finished 21st at the Conference USA Championship ... **2001-02 (Fr.):** Saw action in four tournaments during the fall season ... Best finish was a tie for second at the Raising Cane Classic (9/10-11) ... Posted a round average of 74.5 ... Played in four tournaments in the spring with an average of 76 ... Best finish was a tie for 36th at the C-USA Tournament (4/23- 25) ... **2000-01 (r-Fr.):** Redshirted ... **Prep:** Comes to Southern Miss from Archbishop Wood in Philadelphia, Pa., where he played for Coach Robert Schmalbach ... Had a nine-hole stroke average of 36.8 in his senior year ... Named All-Catholic four times, twice individual champion, and two-time Philadelphia Catholic League champion ... Lettered in basketball and was an honor student ... **Personal:** Son of Mike and Kathy Soroka ... Born October 6, 1981, in Philadelphia, Pa. ... Majoring in business administration.



## Men's Profiles



**Will Taylor**  
5-5, 140, Senior  
Shelton State CC  
West Point, Miss.

Very accurate off the tee ... Keeps himself in the round at all times ... Provides good leadership ...

**Fall:** Did not see any action in the fall ... **2002-03**

**(Jr.):** Saw action in two tournaments with an average of 73.8 ... Best finish was a tie for 22nd at the Cellular One Raising Cane Classic (9/8-10) ...

**Junior College:** Joins the men's golf program after a great career at Shelton State Community College ... During his career there, Taylor was a two-time Division II Junior College All-American, and a member of the 2002 Division II Junior College National Championship team ... Also won two junior college tournaments during his career at Shelton State CC where he played under Coach Matt Terry ...

**Prep:** Played under Coach Tommy Earl Clark at Oak Hill Academy, where he lettered five years in golf ... Helped his team to the 3A state championship ... Four-time North State champion ... **Personal:** Son of Billy and Amelia Taylor ... Born on July 10, 1981, in West Point, Miss. ... Majoring in business administration.



**Matt Wofford**  
5-10, 170, Senior  
Choctawhatchee HS  
Fort Walton Beach,  
Fla.

Showing signs of improvement ... Best on team as far as taking care of details in the rounds ... **Fall:**

Participated in three tournaments with an average of 72.97 ... Best match was at First Reliance Intercollegiate where he tied for eighth ... **2002-03**

**(Jr.):** Played three tournaments with an average of 74.78 ... His best finish was a tie for 22nd at the Cardinal Classic (9/30-10/1) ... Participated in six tournaments in the spring ... Had two top 10 finishes ... Placed third at the Chenal Trojan Cup (3/22-24) ... Finished in a tie for sixth at the Sam B. Hall Intercollegiate (2/16-18) ... **2001-02 (So.):**

Played in three tournaments this fall season ... Posted a round average of 74.1 ... Best finish was 24th at the Fall Beach Classic (11/4-5) ... Saw action in five tournaments in the spring with an average of 75.3 ... His best finish was a tie for 26th at the C-USA Tournament (4/23-25) ... **2000-01 (Fr.):** Saw action in two tournaments in the fall season and had a round average of 75.2 ... Best finish in the fall was 11th at the Raising Cane Classic (9/26-27) ... Played in all five tournaments in the spring season ... Best finish was 27th at the C-USA Tournament (4/23-25) ... Had a low score of 74 at the conference tournament and at the Ron Smith Invitational (2/22-24) ... Spring stroke average was 77.2 ...

**Prep:** Attended Choctawhatchee High School and played four years on the golf team under Coach Billy Mikel ... Team captain his junior and senior years ... **Personal:**

Son of Jane and Robert Wofford ... Born June 22, 1982, in Fort Walton Beach, Fla. ... Majoring in sport administration.



# 2003 Women's Fall Results

## TEAM RESULTS

Tournament	1st	2nd	3rd	Total	Place
Tyson Invitational (Sept. 7-9)	313	315	319	947	6th
Pinnacle Country Club-Rogers, Ark.					
Cardinal Cup (Sept. 20-21)	314	319	318	951	4th
Cardinal Club-Simpsonville, Ky.					
Beacon Woods Invitational (Oct. 10-12)	299	306	303	908	3rd
Beacon Woods Country Club-Bayonet Pt., Fla.					
John Kirk/Lady Panther Intercollegiate (Oct. 27-28)	306	309		615	2nd
Eagles Landing Country Club-Stockbridge, Ga.					
Fall Totals: 4 Tournaments (11 Rounds)	1,232	1,249	940	3,421	
Averages	308	312.3	313.3	311.2	

## INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

Individual	1st	2nd	3rd	Total	Place
<b>Natasha Vincent</b>					
Tyson Invitational (Sept. 7-9)	76	82	78	236	T23rd
Cardinal Cup (Sept. 20-21)	78	79	75	232	T7th
Beacon Woods Invitational (Oct. 10-12)	73	77	76	226	T14th
John Kirk/Lady Panther Intercollegiate (Oct. 27-28)	77	78		155	T12th
Fall Totals: 4 Tournaments (11 Rounds)	304	316	229	849	
Averages	76	79	76.3	77.1	

Individual	1st	2nd	3rd	Total	Place
<b>Ofelia Lopez</b>					
Tyson Invitational (Sept. 7-9)	76	82	78	236	T23rd
Cardinal Cup (Sept. 20-21)	72	84	85	241	T15th
Beacon Woods Invitational (Oct. 10-12)	75	76	73	224	T12th
John Kirk/Lady Panther Intercollegiate (Oct. 27-28)	81	76		157	T15th
Fall Totals: 4 Tournaments (11 Rounds)	304	318	236	858	
Averages	76	79.5	78.6	78.03	

Individual	1st	2nd	3rd	Total	Place
<b>Jennifer Keefe</b>					
Tyson Invitational (Sept. 7-9)	79	76	82	237	T26th
Cardinal Cup (Sept. 20-21)	87	80	78	245	T22nd
Beacon Woods Invitational (Oct. 10-12)	74	77	76	227	T16th
John Kirk/Lady Panther Intercollegiate (Oct. 27-28)	75	77		152	T7th
Fall Totals: 4 Tournaments (11 Rounds)	315	310	236	861	
Averages	78.75	77.5	78.6	78.28	

Individual	1st	2nd	3rd	Total	Place
<b>Mia Davidsson</b>					
Tyson Invitational (Sept. 7-9)	82	75	81	238	T28th
Cardinal Cup (Sept. 20-21)	83	76	85	244	T19th
Beacon Woods Invitational (Oct. 10-12)	78	76	78	232	T23rd
John Kirk/Lady Panther Intercollegiate (Oct. 27-28)	74	78		152	T7th
Fall Totals: 4 Tournaments (11 Rounds)	317	305	244	866	
Averages	79.25	76.25	81.3	78.93	

Individual	1st	2nd	3rd	Total	Place
<b>Nicole Mackey</b>					
Tyson Invitational (Sept. 7-9)	89	82	83	254	T50th
Fall Totals: 1 Tournament (3 Rounds)	89	82	83	254	
Averages	89	82	83	84.67	

Individual	1st	2nd	3rd	Total	Place
<b>Brena Quaranto</b>					
Cardinal Cup (Sept. 7-9)	81	85	80	246	T24th
Beacon Woods Invitational (Oct. 10-12)	77	78	81	236	T31st
John Kirk/Lady Panther Intercollegiate (Oct. 27-28)	80	79		159	T24th
Fall Totals: 3 Tournaments (8 Rounds)	238	242	161	641	
Averages	79.3	80.6	80.5	80.13	

## 2003 Men's Fall Results

## TEAM RESULTS

Tournament	1st	2nd	3rd	Total	Place
Raising Cane Classic (Sept. 8-9)	283	286	287	856	4th
Canebrake Golf Club- Hattiesburg, Miss.					
Carolinas First Intercollegiate (Sept. 22-23)	295	290	288	873	2nd
The Country Club of South Carolina-Florence, S.C.					
Cardinal Intercollegiate (Sept. 29-30)	294	291	295	880	4th
The Cardinal Club- Simpsonville, Ky.					
Coca-Cola Tournament of Champions (Oct. 20-21)	298	287	292	877	8th
Holston Hills Country Club-Knoxville, Tenn.					
USA Fall Beach Classic (Oct. 27-28)	283	279	285	847	5th
Gulf Shores Country Club-Gulf Shores, Ala.					
Fall Totals: 5 Tournaments (15 Rounds)	1,453	1,433	1,447	4,333	
Averages	290.6	286.6	289.4	288.87	

## INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Total	Place
Ben Snow					
Raising Cane Classic (Sept. 8-9)	72	68	72	212	T11th
First Reliance Intercollegiate (Sept. 22-23)	76	72	74	222	T26th
Cardinal Intercollegiate (Sept. 29-30)	76	72	73	221	T12th
Coca-Cola Tournament of Champions (Oct. 20-21)	71	71	72	214	T14th
Fall Beach Classic (Oct. 27-28)	77	72	71	220	T53rd
Fall Totals: 5 Tournaments (15 Rounds)	372	355	362	1089	
Averages	74.4	71	72.4	72.6	

**Justin Elliot**

	1st	2nd	3rd	Total	Place
Raising Cane Classic (Sept. 8-9)	69	72	73	214	T16th
First Reliance Intercollegiate (Sept. 22-23)	76	73	72	221	T19th
Cardinal Intercollegiate (Sept. 29-30)	71	75	75	221	T12th
Coca-Cola Tournament of Champions (Oct. 20-21)	81	70	79	230	T62th
Fall Beach Classic (Oct. 27-28)	72	65	76	213	T22nd
Fall Totals: 5 Tournaments (15 Rounds)	369	355	375	1099	
Averages	73.8	71	75	73.3	

**Matt Wofford**

	1st	2nd	3rd	Total	Place
Raising Cane Classic (Sept. 8-9)	72	73	70	215	23th
First Reliance Intercollegiate (Sept. 22-23)	74	70	73	217	T8th
Coca-Cola Tournament of Champions (Oct. 20-21)	77	72	76	225	T50th
Fall Totals: 3 Tournaments (9 Rounds)	223	215	219	657	
Averages	74.3	71.6	73	72.97	

**Michael Soroka**

	1st	2nd	3rd	Total	Place
Raising Cane Classic (Sept. 8-9)	70	75	73	218	3rd
Fall Totals: 1 Tournament (3 Rounds)	70	75	73	218	
Averages	70	75	73	72.7	

**Danny Dennis**

	1st	2nd	3rd	Total	Place
Raising Cane Classic (Sept. 8-9)	73	73	72	218	T33rd
First Reliance Intercollegiate (Sept. 22-23)	75	75	73	223	T29th
Cardinal Intercollegiate (Sept. 29-30)	80	71	75	226	T30th
Coca-Cola Tournament of Champions (Oct. 20-21)	74	74	72	220	T28th
Fall Beach Classic (Oct. 27-28)	69	71	72	212	T19th
Fall Totals: 5 Tournaments (15 Rounds)	371	364	364	1099	
Averages	74.2	72.8	72.8	73.27	

**Shane Rushing**

	1st	2nd	3rd	Total	Place
First Reliance Intercollegiate (Sept. 22-23)	70	78	70	218	T12th
Cardinal Intercollegiate (Sept. 29-30)	77	73	72	222	T16th
Coca-Cola Tournament of Champions (Oct. 20-21)	76	74	72	222	T35th
Fall Beach Classic (Oct. 27-28)	71	71	71	213	T22nd
Fall Totals: 4 Tournaments (12 Rounds)	294	296	285	875	
Averages	73.5	74	71.25	72.92	

# **Women's Letterwinners**

**B**

Black, Emily; 00-01  
Black, Mandi; 94-95-96  
Boyd, Sherry; 92-93  
Bradley, Kate; 93-94-95-96

**C**

Canepa, Marella; 98-99-00-01

**D**

Deener, Ashlea; 02-03  
Dent, Claire; 98-99-00  
Doyle, Erin; 97-98-99-00

**F**

Ferro, Maria Jose; 99  
Fontana, Monica; 93-94-95-96

**H**

Hutnik, Kristin; 96-97-98

**K**

Keefe, Jennifer; 02-03  
Kildea, Eileen; 93-94-95-96

**L**

Lacoste, Terry-Anne; 97-99  
Lopez, Ofelia; 01-02-03

**M**

McConnell, Megan; 01

**P**

Phillips, Robyn; 94-95

**Q**

Quaranto, Brena; 01-02-03

**R**

Roudebush, Andrea; 97  
Roper, Wendy; 94

**S**

Scott, Erin; 97-98-00  
Sims, Jamie; 98-99-00-01  
Strenne, Kie; 95-96

**T**

Tolbert, Suzanne; 93-94-95

**V**

Vincent, Natasha; 02-03

**Z**

Zorn, Michelle; 01



# Men's Letterwinners

**A**

Atkins, Bubba; 63-64-65-66  
 Alvia, John; 61-62  
 Alzamora, Miguel; 89-90  
 Applewhite, Billy; 62-63-64-65  
 Ausherman, Derek; 99

**B**

Bagby, Norm; 60  
 Bauer, Tom; 80-81-82  
 Beightol, Barry; 92  
 Bethea, John; 50-51  
 Bishop, Hank; 60  
 Blackburn, Mark; 99  
 Blanchard, Mike; 99  
 Bolle, Chris; 77-78  
 Borne, Jon; 03  
 Bounds, Don; 68-69-70  
 Bracewell, Byron; 66-67  
 Bradley, Todd; 82  
 Brown, Stuart; 91-92-93  
 Budzinski, Terry; 77-78-79  
 Burkett, Andy; 74  
 Busby, Mike; 63-64  
 Butler, James; 62-64-65  
 Buler, Tom; 61  
 Byrne, Scotty; 52-53

**C**

Carmean, Mike; 72  
 Carpenter, Jimmy; 76-77  
 Chomyn, Ken; 81-82-83-84  
 Clark, John; 72  
 Clark, Mike; 85-86-87  
 Cleveland, Lonnie; 59-60  
 Cookson, Chris; 78-79-80-81  
 Cooper, Billy; 55  
 Cooper, Gary; 74-75-76-77  
 Couey, Voyed; 87-88-89  
 Crawford, Jack; 66-67-68  
 Curtis, Steve; 77

**D**

Davis, Bud; 58  
 Dearman, Chris; 92  
 Dennis, Danny; 03  
 Dickson, Bob; 53  
 Dietrich, Dan; 67  
 Dixon, Clark; 83  
 Drane, Dan; 84  
 Dudley, Matt; 86-87-88  
 Dzierzanowski, Ray; 68

**E**

Elliott, Justin, 03  
 Emil, Justin; 00-01-02-03

**F**

Ferber, Darcy; 84-85-86  
 Foxworth, Tommy; 91-92

**G**

Gallagher, Jack; 53  
 Gallagher, Mickey; 63-64-65-66  
 Gallaway, Tag; 78  
 Garrett, Bruce; 69  
 George, Alex; 57  
 Gillis, Charles; 53-54-55-56  
 Golden, Keller; 75  
 Gore, Barry; 68-69-70  
 Greene, Mike; 73-74-75  
 Grill, Pat; 84

**H**

Hale, Ricky; 76-77  
 Hall, Sam; 55-56-57-58  
 Hannon, Keith; 61-62  
 Hayes, Robby; 72-73-74-75  
 Hickman, Ron; 80-81  
 Hill, Richard; 91-92  
 Hines, Randall; 73-74-75  
 Hnatiuk, Glen; 84-86-87-88  
 Holman, Donny; 97-98-99-00  
 Hood, Lewis; 53-54  
 Howell, Greg; 97-98  
 Howell, Hugh; 50  
 Hughes, Kenny; 85  
 Humpries, Steve; 70-71-72  
 Hutton, Jeff; 75-76-77

**I**

Inman, Chris; 93-94  
 Irwin, Clayton; 78

**J**

Jackson, Scott; 92  
 Jacobson, Andy; 01-02  
 Jennings, Jeff; 85-87-88  
 Johnson, Ernest; 50  
 Johnson, Naret; 95-96-97  
 Johnson, Steve; 92-93  
 Jordy, Bruce; 57

**K**

Kallish, George; 87-88  
 Kindraft, Craig; 85-86

Kjellenberg, Jim; 76  
 Knokie, Bob; 73

**L**

Lee, Bo; 01  
 Levine, David; 78-79-80-81  
 Logan, Scott; 76  
 Love, Stewart; 52-53  
 Love, Walter; 56-59-60  
 Lowery, Andy; 98

**M**

Magee, Bruce; 83-84-85-86  
 Malinoski, Tim; 69-70  
 Manning, Kirby; 65  
 March, Gary; 84-86-87-88  
 Mateer, Wayne; 66  
 Maureer, Frank; 77-78-79  
 May, Scott; 94  
 McCellan, Oscar; 79-80-81  
 McConnell, Justin; 98  
 McMurry, Jason; 99-00  
 McWilliams, Lome; 82-83  
 Meadows, Phil; 95-96-97-98  
 Metz, Todd; 93  
 Milthrope, Mike; 78-79-80-81  
 Mitchell, John; 96  
 Mitcherson, Jim; 53-54  
 Montiel, Ken; 62  
 Morrison, Chris; 83  
 Moss, Roy; 51  
 Munson, Shawn; 78-79-80-81  
 Murray, Scott; 90-91  
 Myers, Chuck; 73

**N**

Nickse, Tom; 76-77  
 Norval, Gary; 69

**O**

Odom, Vic; 50-51

**P**

Pasch, Jake; 00-01-02  
 Penn, Mark; 82  
 Phelps, Joe; 61-62-63-64  
 Phillips, Carl; 90-92-93  
 Pitts, Russell; 92-93  
 Purnell, Frank; 50  
 Purvis, Schely; 78-79-80

# Men's Letterwinners

**R**

Raciatti, Johnny; 85-86  
 Radd, Bill; 50  
 Reed, Lance; 87-88-89  
 Roberts, Doc; 52  
 Roby, Jason; 95-96-97  
 Rogers, Nathan; 99-00  
 Russ, Chandler; 90-91-92  
 Rushing, Shane; 02-03  
 Rutt, Don; 66-67-69-70

**S**

Sarmiento, Jamie; 87-88-89  
 Schoenberg, Russ; 58  
 Shelbourne, Mike; 77  
 Smith, David; 73-74-75  
 Smith, David W.; 69-70-71-72  
 Smith, Mike; 81-82  
 Smith, Randy; 75  
 Smith, Roy; 58-59-60-61  
 Snellman, Dale; 80-81  
 Snow, Ben; 00-01-03  
 Soroka, Michael; 02-03  
 Sowards, Steve; 98  
 Speight, Chris; 01-02  
 Stephenson, Ronnie; 72-73-74  
 Stewart, Larry "Bo"; 93-94-95-96  
 Stilwell, Scott; 79-80  
 Stock, Robert; 93-94-95  
 Stross, Bill; 56-57  
 Summer, Steve; 88-89-90-91  
 Sutton, Al; 85-86  
 Sydboten, Jamie; 82-83

**T**

Tarling, Ken; 79  
 Taylor, Doug; 70  
 Taylor, Jamie; 51-52  
 Taylor, Will; 03  
 Thames, Earl; 72-73  
 Thomas, Steve; 77-78  
 Trolio, V.J.; 96-97-98

**V**

Vandergrift, Guy; 70  
 Vance, Jud; 73-74-75-76  
 Van Norman, Jim; 73-74-75-76

**W**

Wagner, Cliff; 89-90-91  
 Walker, Jack; 52  
 Walsh, Richard; 86-87-89-90

Warfield, Jack; 52  
 Webb, Charles; 72  
 Webb, Robbie; 58-59-60-61  
 Whitten, Buddy; 67  
 Wilkerson, Royce; 67-68  
 Williams, Cecil; 51-52-53-54  
 Williams, Joe; 65  
 Wilson, Steve; 91  
 Wood, Robby; 74-75-76  
 Woodrick, Gene; 55  
 Wofford, Matt; 01-02-03

**Y**

Yandell, Bill; 65-66  
 Yandell, Gene; 63-64-65-66  
 Yandell, Tom; 67-68  
 Yelverton, Tim; 99-00-01-02



**Russell Pitts**  
**1992-93**



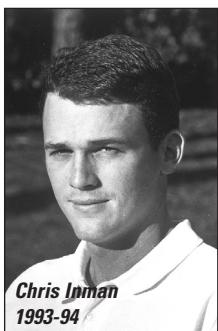
**Nathan Rogers**  
**1999-00**



**Glen Hnatiuk**  
**1984-86-87-88**



**Robert Stock**  
**1993-94**



**Chris Inman**  
**1993-94**



**Cliff Wagner**  
**1989-90-91**

# *The University*

## **THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI (SOUTHERN MISS)**

The University of Southern Mississippi, founded in 1910, is a comprehensive, dual-campus, public institution. The university offers an extensive array of programs leading to bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees through its five colleges: arts and letters, business and economic development, education and psychology, health, and science and technology.

The Southern Miss community is student-centered, building the university around the fundamental mission of educating students. Southern Miss has established a national reputation in research and teaching, and is dedicated to advancing the social, economic, and cultural well-being of the residents of Mississippi and the greater Gulf South region.

Southern Miss is classified by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching as a "Doctoral/Research-Extensive" university, placing it in the top 150 comprehensive institutions in the nation. This honor confirms the Southern Miss international reputation for academic excellence and ground-breaking research. Its people, programs, mix, location, and achievements make The University of Southern Mississippi a perfect choice for advancing education.

## **LOCATIONS**

Southern Miss is the only dual-campus institution in the state of Mississippi, with the original campus in Hattiesburg and the new campus in Long Beach. The university also has teaching and research sites along the Gulf Coast and across the ocean. They include: Stennis Space Center, Jackson County Center, Keesler Air Force Base, J.L. Scott Marine Education Center and Aquarium, Gulf Coast Research Laboratory, Point Cadet, and Pontelvoy, France.

## **STRUCTURE**

Southern Miss is Mississippi's second-largest institution of higher learning and became a comprehensive university in 1962. The administrative structure includes a president, two provosts (one for the Hattiesburg campus and one for the Gulf Coast



***Kennard-Washington Hall***

campus), five vice presidents, and deans of five colleges: arts and letters, business and economic development, education and psychology, health, and science and technology.

## **ACCREDITATION**

The University of Southern Mississippi is accredited by the Commission of Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award bachelor's, master's, specialist's, and doctoral degrees. Also, many university programs have earned prestigious accreditation from appropriate national organizations.

## **ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AND SOUTHERN MISS FOUNDATION**

There are more than 100,000 graduates of Southern Miss who share a desire to see the university reach the highest levels of success. Hundreds

## ***The University***

more non-alumni friends have claimed the university as their own. Many of these "adopted Golden Eagles" volunteer their time to assist with recruiting the best and brightest students. Others help with job placement for graduates. Still others make annual contributions for everything from scholarships to athletic and academic facilities. Some give very generously and are recognized annually as Honor Club members, while others assist through a program called the Founders' Society, which pays tribute to people who have included Southern Miss in their estate plans to aid future generations.

No matter whether you are a Southern Miss graduate or an adopted Golden Eagle, the offices of Institutional Advancement invite you to promote the university's legacy of academic and athletic excellence in the international arena.

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### **ARTS**

Southern Miss has long distinguished itself as the arts center of south Mississippi, and, indeed, for the entire Southeastern United States, and is a national and international center for the training of artists, musicians, dancers, actors, scholars, and arts teachers. To provide its students with well-rounded preparation for professional and teaching careers in one of the many branches of art, music, dance, and theater, the College of Arts and Letters offers courses of study centered around a core of theoretical,

historical, and performance activities. The college includes the Department of Art, the School of Music, and the Department of Theatre and Dance, with all areas being nationally accredited.

This distinction makes Southern Miss one of only 21 arts colleges in the United States and the only college offering all programs in Mississippi. Because the College attracts individuals from throughout the United States and from abroad, our students possess extraordinary talent and uncommon verve. Our ensembles have performed by invitation in Europe and Asia, as well as in New York City, Washington, D.C., Chicago, and Atlanta, to name a few.

With more than 300 arts events per year through concerts, exhibitions, plays, and other special performances, Southern Miss offers exciting and diverse ways to experience and participate in the arts. Further, the college has a long history of bringing to campus world-class performers and artists like Itzhak Perlman, Yo-Yo Ma, Ray Charles, Marvin Hamlisch, B. B. King, and Doc Severinsen. These arts opportunities, along with a renowned faculty dedicated to providing a quality education to the students, make Southern Miss the place to be for the arts.

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### **BUDGET**

The total budget for fiscal year 2003-2004 for The University of Southern Mississippi for general and



# *The University*

auxiliary funds is \$204,401,598. This includes general fund budgets for the Hattiesburg campus, Gulf Coast campus, Gulf Coast Research Laboratory, Center for Higher Learning at Stennis Space Center, and the Mississippi Polymer Institute.

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## **DEGREES**

The University offers 95 bachelor's degrees, 64 master's degrees, two specialist's degrees, and 26 doctoral degrees. During the 2002-2003 fiscal year, 3,403 degrees were awarded: 2,587 bachelor's, 675 master's, 24 specialist's, and 117 doctorates. Southern Miss has awarded more than 100,000 degrees in its 90-year history.

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## **ENROLLMENT**

The enrollment for fall 2003 was 16,000. Southern Miss students come from 81 Mississippi counties, 49 states, and 61 foreign countries.

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## **FEES**

Tuition and fees per semester are \$1,937 for Mississippi residents and \$2,439 for nonresidents. Residence hall rent is \$1,200 to \$1,435 per semester (depending on the hall), and a 5-day or 7-day meal plan for campus residents is \$835 or \$895 per semester. The *Kaplan Newsweek College Catalog* 1999, which surveys guidance counselors in public as well as private high schools, reports that guidance counselors across the nation single out The University of Southern Mississippi as a top school in a half-dozen categories, including "Best Value for Your Money." All fees are subject to change without notice.

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## **INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS**

Each year approximately 700 students take part in Southern Miss' study-abroad programs. Offering more than 20 summer, semester, and year-long programs in 30 countries world-wide (including England, Mexico, France, Cuba, Jamaica, Vietnam, Canada, and Australia, to name a few), Southern Miss has in recent years consistently ranked in the top 10 doctoral institutions nationally in the number of students studying abroad.

The university's flagship British Studies Program,

one of the largest of its kind, sends an average of 250 students and 30 faculty to London for five weeks each summer. Here literature and theater students attend Shakespearean plays at The Globe Theatre, and criminal justice majors learn about the latest in crime-fighting techniques from Scotland Yard, as part of the 20+ courses offered through British Studies. For students interested in an extended academic and cultural immersion experience, Southern Miss offers exchange programs for upper-level students to live and learn at partner institutions in one of seven countries for an academic semester or year, taking courses in their major and minor fields. In addition, The Abbey at Pontlevoy—Southern Miss' newest study-abroad program—commenced in September 2002. Set on the grounds of an historic 1,000 year-old Benedictine abbey and surrounded by chateaux in the heart of the Loire Valley, this program enables second-semester freshmen and sophomores to explore France and its European neighborhood while taking interdisciplinary courses to satisfy core credit.

Southern Miss study-abroad programs are designed so that students from any major or minor can take part and earn credit towards their degree program. Participation in these programs affords students the chance to enhance their scholastic curriculum while acquiring the international experience so vital in today's interdependent world. And with most financial aid applicable to program costs, study abroad is an affordable option as well as an unparalleled learning opportunity.

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## **LIBRARIES**

Library functions at Southern Miss are organized into three major facilities: the Joseph Cook Library, the William D. McCain Library and Archives, and the Southern Miss Gulf Coast Library on the Gulf Coast campus. The holdings of Southern Miss Libraries include more than 1.8 million volumes of books, journals, government documents, and microforms. Both electronic and print journal titles number more than 20,000, and the library subscribes to more than 100 different electronic databases that are accessible to Southern Miss students and faculty from any Southern Miss campus and around the world.

# *The University*



## ***Southern Miss Gulf Coast Campus***

### **MISSISSIPPI GULF COAST**

The University of Southern Mississippi-Gulf Coast is committed to providing quality education to the citizens of south Mississippi. The nonresidential campus offers bachelor's degrees, master's degrees, and specialist's degrees.

The beautiful Gulf Park campus in Long Beach is located on 65 acres overlooking the Gulf of Mexico. Majestic oak trees and colorful azaleas adorn the campus, the site of the famous Friendship Oak, a magnificent live oak tree 500-plus years old.

Recently completed are two construction projects totaling \$13.3 million. A three-story, 50,681 square-foot Advanced Education Center boasts state-of-the-art classrooms equipped with appropriate computer and communication connections, and a 500-seat auditorium. The new Library on the Gulf

Park campus provides students with a wealth of library resources and media collections. This 54,236-square-foot facility is the only university library on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

In keeping with the mission of providing quality education to the Gulf Coast community, The University of Southern Mississippi operations offer many services and notable projects.

The Culinary Arts Academy is dedicated to providing a quality culinary education that prepares graduates for leadership and management positions in the fast-growing food services and hospitality industries.

Noncredit programs are delivered through the Division of Continuing Education. By offering customized training for business, industry, and government, the division delivers education on campus or at the workplace.

# ***The University***

The Gulf South Economic Research Center's mission is to serve the southern Mississippi region by providing objective, timely, and accurate business and economic information.

With meeting space for up to 500 people and lodging space for 150, groups of all types can enjoy the retreat atmosphere of the Gulf Park Conference Center. The center features catered meals, satellite downlink, a computer laboratory, and 24-hour campus security.

The Southern Miss Small Business Development Center is a part of a cooperative effort between The University of Southern Mississippi, the federal government, and the state of Mississippi. It offers one-on-one, free of charge counseling, training, and technical assistance in all aspects of small business management.

The Toy Library and Technology Learning Center's mission targets the improvement of quality of life for individuals who have disabilities but also supports projects aimed at prevention.

With the addition of freshmen students in 2002, The University of Southern Mississippi Gulf Coast is now a four-year campus and well-positioned to provide comprehensive higher education to the region. The faculty, staff, and students reflect a diversity of ideas and cultures that nurture the learning environment. In short, The University of Southern Mississippi strives for excellence.

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## **RESEARCH**

During FY 2003, The University of Southern Mississippi received a total of \$67 million from external sponsors for research. This constitutes a \$17 million increase over the \$50.1 million received in FY 2001. Over the last four years, The university has tripled the size of its research enterprise as external awards have grown from \$20.1 million to over \$67 million this year.

These resources are invaluable in a number of ways:

- Enhancement of our students' learning experiences
- Recognition of our colleagues' ideas through the peer-review process in both public and private sectors

- Support for participatory learning programs in advanced graduate and undergraduate programs

The growth of our research/education enterprise when coupled with achievement of the Carnegie Foundation's designation as a "Doctoral/Research- Extensive Institution" brings significant national attention to our university. This significant national recognition validates the high quality of our strong graduate programs, undergraduate programs, and our students.

Research and sponsored programs are a significant part of total university operations that benefit students as well as the citizens of the state. External funding makes possible the operation of nationally competitive programs while providing enhanced learning experiences for both undergraduate and graduate students. Further emphasizing the strides made by the Southern Miss research enterprise is the continuing growth of activities integrating learning, scholarship, and public service in Mississippi communities.

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## **STUDENT LIFE**

Southern Miss is distinctive for its friendly, engaging, student-centered learning community. Our Division of Student Affairs is known nationally for its innovative programming, services, and facilities, including the Freshman Year Experience, community service-learning and citizenship, leadership scholars program, student employment services, and the award-winning Payne Center recreation facility. More than 200 active student organizations beckon students to complement their studies by participating in Greek life, clubs, recreational sports, professional societies, and fine arts events.

# University President



## DR. SHELBY F. THAMES

### President

Dr. Shelby F. Thames is the eighth president of The University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. He took office on May 1, 2002, continuing an illustrious career of 38 years at Southern Miss.

His previous administrative positions at Southern Miss were chair of the Department of Polymer Science, dean of the College of Science and Technology, vice president for Administration and Regional Campuses, and executive vice president. In 1970, he was the founder of the Department of Polymer Science and, in 1973, co-founder of the Waterborne and High-Solids Coatings Symposium, an event that has expanded to the annual International Waterborne, High-Solids, and Powder Coatings Symposium, in which he continues as its co-director. He sought and gained approval for the enhancement of the College of Science to the College of Science and Technology by creating several new technology programs.

He was instrumental in the conception and implementation of the "2+2 Degree Program" between Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College and Southern Miss Gulf Coast, which provided a bachelor's degree program course work on the Mississippi Gulf Coast in more than 26 subject

areas. Another of his many accomplishments involves three entities created to improve statewide economics: Mississippi Polymer Institute; International Coatings and Formulations Institute; and Southern Diversified Products, LLC (a Mississippi University Research Authority company).

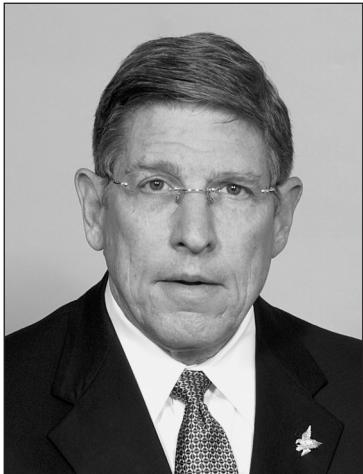
Among his numerous honors and awards are the designation as Distinguished University Research Professor of the Department of Polymer Science; recipient of the first Distinguished Professorship by the Southern Society of Coatings Technology, the 1996 Southern Miss Alumni Association Continuous Service Award, the 1998 NUC Wheeler McMillan Award for his work with agricultural products, and the 1999 AAIC Anson Ellis Thompson Career Achievement Award for his career in promoting the use of agricultural-based materials as industrial raw materials; and inductee in 1998 to the Southern Miss's Alumni Hall of Fame. In 1998, Southern Miss' \$29 million Polymer Science Research Center was named in honor of Thames and is now known as the Shelby Freland Thames Polymer Science Research Center. For bridging the gap between academia and industry and his work in research activities in the area of paint and coatings, Thames has been recognized as the 2002 R&D Person of the Year by Modern Paint and Coatings magazine.

At the time of his selection as president of Southern Miss, Thames had a research team numbering 50 and supervised five graduate students. Most recently, this team is known for the new environmentally safe paint based on agricultural products, which emitting no odor or harmful properties into the environment. One of the initial uses of the paint, called "American Pride," was in the reconstruction and repair of the Pentagon in Washington, D.C.

Thames currently serves on the Board of Directors for Conference USA and the Mississippi Technology Alliance.

Dr. Thames earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from The University of Southern Mississippi in chemistry and organic chemistry, and his doctorate degree from the University of Tennessee in organic chemistry.

# Director of Athletics



## RICHARD GIANNINI

**Director of Athletics/  
Chairman and Chief Executive  
Officer of the  
Southern Miss Athletic Foundation**

Since arriving as Director of Athletics five years ago, the impact of Richard Giannini's leadership and vision for Southern Miss athletics has been both positive and dramatic, and the face of Golden Eagle athletics will reflect his vision for the department far into the future.

His travels have taken him into every corner of Mississippi and into surrounding areas as well as distant states in an effort to "spread the Golden Eagle word," and it takes only a brief look at the face of Southern Miss athletics to see that those efforts have been fruitful.

Culminating an extensive search, Giannini officially assumed his current position June 1, 1999, pledging, "to work tirelessly to provide leadership to produce the best athletic program possible." And now, in just his fifth year as a Golden Eagle, the Florida native has been as good as his word.

In the past four years, Giannini has spearheaded efforts to raise over \$30 million in property, cash, and pledges for new facilities, including the development of the Circle of Champions program, which currently has 68 members, who each has committed \$10,000, per year, for 10 consecutive years.

Construction on the new Athletic Center to replace an aging Fairchild Fieldhouse has been completed and is in full use. And while this may be the centerpiece for athletic department progress, fans almost need a roadmap to keep track of the many projects and the unbelievable progress that is taking place. The Center was an \$11 million project.

The Baseball Center at Pete Taylor Park, furnished with dressing rooms, coaches' offices, players' lounge and medical training area, is complete and was in use during this past two baseball seasons, and that project has already paid huge dividends for the baseball program that, during the 2003 season, set school records for single-season victories, won Conference USA regular season and tournament titles and hosted the first NCAA Regional Tournament in school history. In addition, a new women's softball facility has been in use for the past two seasons. Additions and improvements continue at that venue.

A variety of other, less obvious projects, either have been completed, are underway, or are in the planning stages. Those include work on the playing field at M. M. Roberts Stadium, improvements to the Joe P. Park football practice facility, that include new lights that were installed in the fall of 2001, new contouring and sodding of the fields in the spring of 2002 and the addition of an underground drainage and watering system in 2003, and renovation of the dressing rooms at Reed Green Coliseum, among others.

In addition, a \$40 million facility upgrade is just ahead, to include renovations and expansion projects at both Roberts Stadium and Green Coliseum. Various phases of these projects are already underway. Those include three major phases at Green Coliseum where new air conditioning and heating systems are being installed; coaches' offices and locker room renovations starting once the 2003-04 season is over; and, major renovation that will include luxury suites, concession stands upgrades, the addition of a banquet room, the addition of more chairback seating and more courtside seating as well as making the building more "concert-friendly."

Other projects in various stages of planning include a new tennis complex, completion of the softball stadium, a new Olympic Sports Training Center and an artificial playing surface for Roberts Stadium.

## Director of Athletics

Sales already are well underway for luxury suites and club seating areas that comprise the cornerstone of the Roberts Stadium project. That project also will dramatically increase the stadium's seating capacity and will include an upgrade of the press box and a general facelift for the entire stadium.

In 2000, Giannini orchestrated a multimedia agreement with a national sports marketing firm, International Sports Properties, which guarantees the University \$1.8 million over the next several years, and will net much more as ISP assumes various other marketing expenditures.

Giannini also has continued to work at both the conference and national levels. He serves on several Conference USA committees, including the finance and basketball-scheduling committees and was chairman of the C-USA football athletic director's committee in 2001-02. Giannini is serving a four-year term on the prestigious 24-person NCAA Football Issues Committee.

A tireless and innovative administrator, Giannini brought outstanding intercollegiate athletic experience to Hattiesburg, including five years as athletic director at one of Southern Miss' longtime interstate rivals, Louisiana-Monroe. His 37 years of experience include work in intercollegiate sports, both with the NCAA and as a major college administrator, as well as impressive credentials in private business, where he established a national reputation in sports marketing and management.

While his resume is marked by successes at every level, Giannini's list of accomplishments at Louisiana-Monroe were most impressive as he was elected to the NCAA's Division

1-A Athletic Director's Executive Committee; initiated a five-year gender equity plan; helped Louisiana-Monroe receive a \$160,000 community outreach grant; started an NCAA Life Skills Program for athletics; negotiated excellent future football game guarantees with such teams as Clemson, Florida, Georgia, and Tennessee; and negotiated a once-every-four-years contract with Hawaii.

While working for the NCAA, Giannini's responsibilities included serving as executive producer of the

ABC football shows, as well as NCAA Tournament basketball games not aired by NBC. He also arranged and produced the first national telecast of the College Baseball World Series for HBO, and produced numerous conference football highlight films. He was also director of licensing for the NCAA for two years.

He served as assistant sports information director at Florida (his alma mater) from 1966 to 1970, was sports information director at Duke from 1970 to 1973, became assistant athletics director at Duke in 1974, and, after working for the NCAA in 1976 and 1977, returned to Florida as associate athletics director to oversee fundraising, sports information, marketing, licensing, promotions, and radio and television.

He left Florida in 1986 to enter the private sector, taking over as CEO and co-owner of Raycom Management Group in Charlotte, N.C., a subsidiary of Raycom Sports, where he developed numerous sporting events, including the Blockbuster Bowl, the most successful first-year bowl in NCAA history.

The Golden Eagle athletics director was born Nov. 12, 1942; is a 1961 graduate of Winter Park, Fla., High School; was a track athlete, competing in the weight events, at Furman; and graduated from the University of Florida in 1966.

He has been a Rotarian for over 22 years, as well as an active member of Temple Baptist Church in Hattiesburg.

Giannini and his wife, Gayle, are parents of four daughters—Ansley Stone, Britney Borbash, Carlyn Linker, and DeLancey, and grandparents of Tori Beth, Parker Christopher, Sara Payton, Kelsey Ryann, and Ryleigh Grace.

**The Giannini Family:  
Richard, Gayle, and DeLancey**



## **Athletic Administration**



**Dr. Dennis Phillips**  
**Faculty Representative to Athletics**

Long-time University of Southern Mississippi professor, Dr. Dennis Phillips, is in his first year as Faculty Athletics Representative for the Golden Eagle Athletics program, after succeeding Dr. Robert Boothe who retired from his teaching position with the University after serving in the capacity of Faculty Athletics Rep for the past five years.

Dr. Phillips, a tenured associate professor of human performance and recreation, earned his bachelor of arts from Pacific Lutheran University (Tacoma, Wash.) in 1973, his master of arts from Whitworth College (Spokane, Wash.) and his doctoral degree in teaching and administration with emphasis in athletic administration and sport management from Springfield College (Springfield, Mass.) in 1990.

He has been a college professor and administrator for 22 years, the past 11 at the University of Southern Mississippi. He has taught undergraduate and graduate courses in sport law, policy & governance of sport, sport psychology, organizational leadership, facility management, sport marketing, sport finance and economics, and sport ethics, in the coaching and sport administration program at Southern Miss. He is currently the graduate coordinator for the School of Human Performance and Recreation at Southern Miss.

"It is certainly an honor to represent Southern Miss in my duties and responsibilities as the faculty athletics representative," Phillips said. "Previous USM FAR's, such as Dr. Sidney Weatherford, Dr. Ron Marquardt, and Dr. Robert Boothe, have laid the groundwork for strong leadership in this position, and I hope to follow the same path. The role of the FAR encompasses a variety of tasks, involving academics, student-athlete welfare, compliance, equity and diversity, sporting conduct and governance issues. I look forward to working with President Thamés, Mr. Giannini, USM athletic administrators, coaches, student-athletes and NCAA and C-USA administration, to help insure the highest quality athletic and academic programs possible."

Dr. Phillips has also been a college assistant athletic director, assistant director of marketing and special events for the Volleyball Hall of Fame, and collegiate basketball coach for 12 years. He has coached basketball, led clinics, and presented papers on various

aspects of sport administration internationally in 18 foreign countries. He has been the President of the Mississippi State AAHPERD (American Alliance of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance) organization, Chair of both the Athletic Council and Sport Management Councils of the Southern District of AAHPERD, and on the Executive Boards of the National Council on Accreditation of Coaching Education (NCACE) and The Sport Law and Recreation Association (SLRA).

He also has been an active member and presenter at the North American Society of Sport Management (NASSM) and SLRA for many years, and has been a reviewer of both organizations' presentation proposals. He has written two chapters in Law for Recreation and Sport Managers, one chapter on Legal Issues of Hazing in Sport, and is a co-author of the book Profiles of Sport Industry Professionals. He has also served as reviewer for several AAHPERD publications.

He currently serves on the Governor's Commission on Physical Activity and Sport in Mississippi.

Phillips, and his wife of 23 years, Lenora, have two daughters, Paige, a senior at Auburn University, and Abbey, a sophomore at Oak Grove High School.



**David Hansen**  
**Senior Associate Athletics Director**

David Hansen is in his fifth year with the Southern Miss Athletic Department. He has served as associate athletic director, and was named Senior Associate Athletic Director in January, 2003.

He serves as the athletic department's chief financial officer and assists the Director of Athletics with the overall day-to-day operation of the department. He also oversees the business office, budget analysis and development, policy and procedures, facility renovation and construction, summer camps, the department's graduate assistant program and event operations.

Hansen came to Southern Miss in 1999 after serving as Assistant Athletic Director for Internal Operations at Louisiana-Monroe. He handled all event management, facilities, purchasing and championship event travel and arrangements, in addition to football operations.

He also was actively involved with planning promotional activities, managing concessions and directing licensing and merchandising.

## Athletic Administration

Prior to that position, he was Director of Football Operations at Louisiana-Monroe for four years. Before following current Athletic Director Richard Giannini to Louisiana-Monroe, he worked as an administrative assistant in athletics at the University of Florida.

In addition to his work at Louisiana-Monroe and Florida, Hansen also has worked with Raycom Management Group, Inc., as an event operations/sales assistant for the Blockbuster Bowl. He also has served as Activity Director for the National Youth Sports Program, and as an intern with the Sunshine Football Classic.

Hansen graduated from The University of Florida with a degree in telecommunications in 1992. The Gainesville, Fla., native is married to the former Trudy Guettler of Ft. Pierce, Fla., and the couple has three sons, Kevin, Casey, and Brian.



**Scott Carr**  
Associate Director  
of Athletics/  
External Affairs

In June 2003, Scott Carr was promoted to Associate Athletic Director for External Affairs. Now in his third year with the Southern Miss Athletic Department, Carr had served the previous two years as the Golden Eagles' Assistant Athletic Director for Facilities and Event Management.

In his new position, Carr oversees the areas of Marketing, Corporate Sales, Media Relations, Ticket Sales, Radio and Television broadcasting and Spirit Groups. He also represents the athletic department as liaison with the Hattiesburg Area Development Partnership and participates on the University's Staff Council.

Carr came to Southern Miss in July of 2001 after serving as Events Manager at the Orange Bowl Committee in Miami, Fla. He handled the overall management of the FedEx Orange Bowl including the 2001 BCS National Championship game between Oklahoma and Florida State, the Orange Bowl Basketball Classic and the Orange Bowl Parade.

Prior to that, he was Events Coordinator and Administrative Assistant at the Orange Bowl Committee. His duties included corporate sales for the Orange Bowl Parade, television production for the Orange Bowl Parade, Merchandise & Licensing, management of the Orange Bowl Football Clinic and

the management of other VIP events. Carr began his relationship with the Orange Bowl Committee as an intern on Sept. 1, 1997.

While a student at the University of Florida, Carr worked as a student equipment manager for the football and baseball programs. He was a graduate assistant equipment manager for the 1996 national championship football team.

Carr graduated with a bachelor's degree in business management from Florida in 1995 and earned his master's degree in sport management from Florida in 1997.



**Don Oberhelman**  
Associate Athletics  
Director of  
Athletics/  
Compliance and  
Student Services

Don Oberhelman is in his second year on Southern Miss athletics administrative staff, after assuming his position as Associate Athletic Director/Athletic and Academic Compliance on Feb. 1, 2002.

Oberhelman came to Southern Miss after serving as the Education Coordinator at Texas A&M University for three and a half years.

As the Associate Director of Athletics/Athletic and Academic Compliance at Southern Miss, Oberhelman oversees the areas of academic support, compliance and institutional control. He serves as the liaison between Southern Miss, Conference USA and the NCAA on all issues regarding compliance.

Oberhelman also administers the athletic department's education program for student-athletes, coaches, staff, fans, boosters and administration for all issues regarding NCAA compliance. He also serves on the C-USA Legislative Review Committee.

At Texas A&M, Oberhelman ran a comprehensive education program for its student-athletes, coaches, administrators, boosters and fans, educating them on NCAA, institutional and Big XII rules. He also had responsibilities in the areas of eligibility, monitoring, enforcement, waivers and preparing publications relating to all areas of compliance. He also maintained one of the most comprehensive compliance web sites in the country.

Prior to his stint at Texas A&M, he served as the Compliance Assistant at Florida State for two and a half years. There he administered an education program for student-athletes dealing with sports

## Athletic Administration

agents, implemented a professional sports agents registration program and developed the FSU compliance website.

Oberhelman completed the 2001 Texas A&M Leadership Institute, taught several classes and has been a guest presenter at numerous conferences on issues dealing with academics and compliance. He has held a graduate advisory chair and is currently an instructor in the Graduate School of Sport Administration at Southern Miss.

He graduated with a bachelor's degree in business administration from Kansas State University in 1993, obtained his master's degree in athletic administration from Florida State in 1996 and completed course work toward a doctorate of philosophy in education, also from Florida State, in 1998.

Oberhelman married the former D.D. Adamcik of Waco, Texas, in February, 2003.



**Sonya Varnell**  
**Associate Athletics  
 Director of Olympic  
 Sports/Senior  
 Woman  
 Administrator**

Sonya Varnell, Associate Director of Athletics for Olympic Sports and Senior Woman Administrator, is in her fourth year with the Southern Miss athletic department.

She serves as direct supervisor for head coaches in baseball, men's and women's golf, soccer, strength and conditioning, men's and women's tennis, track, and volleyball. She has direct oversight in those sports for budgets, scholarships, travel, scheduling, contracts, marketing and promotions, recruiting, and personnel. She also oversees athletic housing, letter awards, and the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.

As SWA, she serves as the athletic department's liaison with the University's Gender Equity Committee, and is responsible for implementing the gender equity plan and for student-athlete welfare. She also represents Southern Miss at Conference USA and NCAA meetings.

In 1997, she was one of 10 Americans to receive a Bundeskanzler Fellowship with the Alexander von Humboldt Stiftung. She conducted research on politics and sports in Freiburg, Germany. Upon her return to the states, she worked as a volunteer track coach at Pearl High School.

She spent four years at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln as the Coordinator of Multicultural Programs for Athletics. She was responsible for implementing the multicultural education program for student-athletes, coaches, administrative and support staffs. She was the liaison between the Lincoln community and the University regarding multicultural issues. Her other responsibilities included academic support services (NCAA eligibility compliance), public relations, and advisor to the Student-Athlete Advisory Board. While at Nebraska, she participated in the first NACWAA/Hers Institute for Administrative Advancement at Bryn Mawr College, an institute created to give women more training as athletic administrators.

In 1991, she served as the Compliance and Academic Affairs Assistant at the Southeastern Conference. Her responsibilities included NCAA and SEC rules interpretations, NCAA Special Assistance Fund, SEC Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, and event management at the men's and women's basketball tournaments. She helped to maintain the conference's squad and eligibility list. She designed the computer program to track all monies for the NCAA Special Assistance Program. At the request of the Commissioner, she conducted numerous researches on gender and minority student-athletes, coaches, and athletic administrators within the conference. She also provided administrative services for the SEC faculty athletic representatives, compliance coordinators, and senior women administrators. She also was instrumental in setting up the diversity training program, administered by the Anti-Defamation League, in which all SEC institutions were required to participate.

Varnell earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in public administration from The University of Mississippi. She has earned additional credit hours toward a second bachelor's degree in French and German from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She also served as a graduate assistant track and field coach at Ole Miss, where she and six others were the first scholarship athletes to begin the women's track and field program. She earned four letters (indoor and outdoor), set numerous records in the sprints, jumps, and relays, and was on the All-SEC Scholar-Athlete Honor Roll. She has received numerous academic and athletic honors and scholarships.

Varnell, a 1985 graduate of Pearl High School in Pearl, Miss., and a native of Brandon, Miss., has a daughter, Sophia, who is a student at Spelman College in Atlanta, Ga.

# **Student Services**

## **Mission Statement**

**To enrich the growth of students through academic guidance, encouragement of personal accountability, mentoring of responsible citizenship, development of independence, and the acceptance and appreciation of individual talents and abilities; thereby, empowering students to be positive contributors in a global society.**

Balancing academic achievement and athletic success is a primary focus of the Golden Eagles. To help student-athletes achieve that balance, Southern Miss offers quality academic support services.

The mission of the Southern Miss Student Academic Enhancement Program (SAEP) is to give the needed support to make that academic success a reality, not only during the student-athletes' playing days but also after his/her eligibility is completed.

The life of a student-athlete is a hectic one. The players' schedules are filled with practices, meetings, classes and study halls—all key to the success of a quality college experience. But, through the help of the SAEP, student-athletes have support through their educational journey and beyond.

Not only does the program focus on making the academic stay at the university a productive one, it also centers on preparing the student-athletes for life after graduation.

Academically, the SAEP works with student-athletes by counseling them in such areas as course selection and degree plans.

With the help of over 30 tutors, the program also offers individualized tutoring in all courses and an academic center that includes a study hall and two full access computer labs. The tutors are local educators, who have flexible schedules, thus allowing them to work with the hectic schedules of the student-athletes.

The program also places a higher emphasis on the individual services it provides. The staff is fine-tuning the services that it provides for students with special needs or those who have disabilities that prohibit them from performing at the necessary levels.

The SAEP also monitors NCAA eligibility requirements for the student-athletes, ensuring

participation in their respective sports. Student-athletes are involved in various individual and group community service projects and life skills programs that further develop the overall person.

Over the last few years, the SAEP program has been vital to the success of the student-athletes and those successes are paying off. Since Tracy Robinson and her staff have been at the University, the academic success of all the athletic programs continues to improve. In May, 2003, the program helped the largest class of student-athletes in school history graduate, a number that also has been improving each year.

The SAEP staff meets regularly with each coaching staff to evaluate the academic progress of every player. The close connection with the coaching staff and the SAEP department is key to the success of the team, in the classroom and on the field.

The graduation rates of all student-athletes at Southern Miss are higher than those of non-athletes. Golden Eagle athletes are regular members on the President's and Dean's Lists, as well as among the leaders in Conference USA scholars.

The spring 2003 semester resulted in a total of 133 student-athletes being recognized for their outstanding academic accomplishments.

"Graduation rates are reflective of a number of factors" said Robinson, Southern Miss SAEP Director. The significant increase at Southern Miss is largely due to the personal commitment of our staff to our students. Our mission is not solely to provide support services for student-athletes, but to make sure those services are individualized to meet the diverse educational, social and emotional needs of the students we serve. While we are thrilled with the increase, we also understand the reality of the numbers and the many factors not considered in the calculation."

## **Student Services**

This past year, 105 Southern Miss student-athletes were named to the Conference USA Commissioner's Honor Roll for having a 3.0 or better grade point average. Of the 105, 24 were selected for the Commissioner's Academic Medal, displaying a 3.75 grade point average for the entire year.

Another key to the success of the SAEP is that its staff has a family-oriented, one-on-one relationship with every student-athlete outside the realms of academics.

Recognizing that the transition to college is often as difficult for the parents as it is for the student, a parent education program was put into place this past recruiting season. The educational seminar takes place during the official visit weekend and enables the head coach and academic director an opportunity to meet with parents/guardians in an informal setting to present ideas and answer questions about the upcoming transition. The seminar addresses such topics as "Communicating With Your College Student," "The Importance of Continued Parent Involvement," "Drug and Alcohol Issues on College Campuses" and "High Risk Behaviors in College."

"The parent education component of our official visits was well received this past recruiting season," Robinson said. "It is comforting to parents to know that they are entrusting their students into the care of an entire athletic department family that is wholly committed to the personal development of its student-athletes. The program further emphasizes the fact that parent involvement continues to be an essential factor in the development of the student."

As the director of the program, Robinson works closely with a staff of qualified academic counselors for each sport in overseeing the academic progress of all Southern Miss student-athletes.

Academic Counselor Lauren Hillman is the newest member of the SAEP staff, after joining the staff in July 1, 2003. She will work with soccer, softball, volleyball, and women's basketball, as well as coordinating tutorial services. Kristi Pierce works with men's and women's golf, men's and women's tennis, men's and women's track, and baseball; and, Stacy Breazeale is the academic counselor for both football and men's basketball. Brenda Mixon is the department secretary. Graduate assistants for the department include Bonnie Adams and Dane Beary and Joey Pinkston is an academic assistant.

The SAEP, and the athletic department as a whole, works toward building individuals who can be productive members of society after their stay at Southern Miss.

**The Student Academic Enhancement Program offers many services to the student-athletes, services that are important in maximizing the college experience.**

**Tracy Robinson**

Director

**Stacy Breazeale**Academic  
Counselor/  
Life Skills**Lauren Hillman**Academic  
Counselor/  
Life Skills**Kristi Pierce**Academic  
Counselor/  
Life Skills**Brenda Mixon**

Secretary

# Conference USA

## A PROUD HISTORY

The conference unveiled its name, logo and commissioner on April 24, 1995 in Chicago. Eleven of the institutions began athletic participation in 1995, while Houston joined competition in the fall of 1996. The league's headquarters were established in Chicago. Britton Banowsky was named Commissioner in October 2002, succeeding Mike Slive, the league's first commissioner.

## PROMISE IN EXPANSION

Conference USA added East Carolina (September, 1996) and the United States Military Academy (March, 1997) as football members. ECU began league competition in 1997; Army in 1998 and UAB began football play in 1999. The league added TCU and ECU (1999) for all sports and they began competition in 2001. South Florida starts C-USA football in 2003.

## COMPETITION

Conference USA sponsors 19 sports - baseball, basketball, cross country, football, golf, soccer, tennis, and track and field (indoor and outdoor) for men and basketball, cross country, golf, soccer, softball, swimming, tennis, track and field (indoor and outdoor), and volleyball for women. The league's championship competition is enhanced by NCAA automatic bids in volleyball, men's and women's basketball, men's and women's soccer, men's and women's tennis and baseball.

## SUCCESS ON THE PLAYING FIELD

Conference USA performers have achieved great success in competition, placing the league among the top conferences in the nation.

### Men's Basketball

- Consistently rated as one of the top basketball leagues in the country
- 51 postseason teams (28 NCAA and 23 NIT)
- Strong fan support, drawing a record 1.9 million fans in 2001-02
- Among the nation's best in home attendance
- One Final Four team
- Three Elite Eight NCAA Tournament teams
- One NIT Champion
- Three NIT semifinalists

### Football

- Began competition in 1996
- Rated among the top seven conferences in the nation
- 22 teams have earned bowl bids
- Member of the Bowl Championship Series
- Bowl tie-ins with the AXA Liberty Bowl (champion), GMAC Bowl, Hawaii Bowl, Fort Worth Bowl and the New Orleans Bowl

### Women's Basketball

- Consistently rated among the nation's best conferences
- 30 NCAA Tournament appearances
- 15 WNIT appearances
- One team in the NCAA Sweet 16
- Two WNIT semifinalists
- Strong fan support, ranking among the nation's top 10 conferences in attendance
- Setting league attendance record for three straight seasons

### Volleyball

- 23 NCAA appearances
- Two Sweet 16 appearances in 1996 and 1998
- One of four leagues to send at least three teams to the NCAA Championship each of the last five years
- Five C-USA teams posting 20-win seasons for three consecutive years

In addition, 27 men's and women's soccer teams, 23 baseball teams and eight softball teams have earned NCAA Tournament bids. C-USA has sent two men's soccer teams to the Final Four, one baseball team to the College World Series and four softball teams to the Women's College World Series. The league has also had three national champions in NCAA track and field competition, one national champion in diving and numerous NCAA individual and team competitors in cross country, golf, swimming, tennis and track and field. Overall, Conference USA teams and individuals have made more than 290 NCAA appearances.

## SUCCESS OFF THE FIELD

Among C-USA's 5,000 student-athletes, there are champions off the playing field as well. In eight years, 68 student-athletes earned national Verizon Academic All-America honors, while 162 were named All-District. In addition, more than 7,500

# Conference USA

student-athletes have been named to the Commissioner's Honor Roll or received the Commissioner's Academic Medal, indicative of outstanding achievement in the classroom. The conference annually awards six postgraduate scholarships, along with the Sport Academic Award, Scholar Athletes of the Year and the Institutional Academic Excellence Award.

## **CONFERENCE USA ON TV**

ESPN, Inc. and C-USA entered into an exclusive eight-year agreement, beginning with the 2001 season. The multi-faceted agreement, which incorporates ESPN, ESPN2, ESPN Regional Television, ABC Sports, ESPN.com and ESPN Classic, is highlighted by: ESPN/ESPN2's coverage of C-USA football featuring weeknight games; televising possible future C-USA Football Championship Games on ABC; men's basketball coverage; syndication and network rights for the conference's football and basketball coverage through ERT; continued exposure for women's basketball, along with volleyball, baseball, soccer and softball, as well as marketing rights. The league also provides exposure for women's basketball, men's and women's soccer, volleyball, baseball and softball through the Conference USA Television Network.

## **Conference USA Staff**

### **Commissioner**

Britton Banowsky

### **Deputy Commissioner**

Brenda Weare

### **Associate Commissioner**

Dennis Helsel

### **Associate Commissioner**

John McNamara

### **Associate Commissioner**

Sandra Biller

### **Associate Commissioner**

Noreen Morris

### **Assistant Commissioner for Media Relations**

Russell Anderson

### **Director of Creative Services**

Erika Amstadt Hirschfield

### **Director of Sports Services**

Linda Jepsen

### **Business Manager**

Brad Stricklin

### **Associate Director of Media Relations**

Robin Jentes

### **Associate Director of Media Relations**

Dwayne Harrison

### **Assistant Director of Championships/Compliance**

Myra Fishback

### **Executive Assistant**

Marilyn Thivel

### **Administrative Assistant**

John Boston

### **Administrative Assistant**

Barbara Brown

### **Championships/Marketing Assistant**

Kyiesha Brakes

### **Receptionist**

Pat Jendrus

## **Coordinators of Officials:**

**Baseball:** Richard Fetchiet

**Men's Basketball:** Dale Kelley

**Women's Basketball:** Patty Broderick

**Football:** Gerald Austin

**Soccer:** David Harris

**Softball:** Joe Thompson

**Volleyball:** Marcia Alterman

# Eagle Club/Athletic Foundation



## Athletic Foundation Board

**Seated (from left):** Brad Brian, Pat Ferlise, Sharon Herrin, Bobby Dews (President), Dr. Shelby F. Thames (University President), Greg Rutland, Dr. Doug Rouse, Krandall Howell

**Second Row:** Leigh Ann Warner (Director of Athletic Development), Mary Ann Cockerham, Bill Ward, Dick Vogel, Christi Holloway (Chief Financial Officer), Melanie Hunsberger, Ben Willoughby

**Back Row:** Dr. Dennis Phillips, Steve Moore, Marvin Shemper, Dr. Wayne Atkison, Lawrence Warren, Mickey Hudson, Aubrey Collum (Treasurer), Richard Giannini (Chief Executive Officer)

**Not Pictured:** Deanna Favre, Mack Grubbs (Secretary), Buddy King, Mike Landrum, Eugene Owens, Bob Mixon

The mission of The University of Southern Mississippi Eagle Club is to provide deserving student-athletes a means to obtain a quality education while exhibiting their athletic talents. The Eagle Club provides its members the opportunity to contribute to the success of the University, both on and off the field of competition.

Eagle Club members know they have done their part to enhance the lives of students and to advance the interests of The University of Southern Mississippi. Over 300 students in 16 different sports receive some type of benefit from athletic scholarships at Southern Miss.

In order to give these individuals a chance to realize their dreams, the scholarships must be funded. The current cost for these scholarships exceeds \$3 million annually. Loyal alumni, parents, faculty, staff, students and friends of the University join the membership of the Eagle Club in an effort to offset these costs.

This, in turn, allows the University Athletic Department to disburse its income to other needed areas, which further enhances the success of Southern Miss as a whole.

The Eagle Club has been contributing to this effort for 17 years. During that time, athletic scholarship recruits have gone on to greatness in professional sports and in medicine, law, education, business, the arts, sciences and the humanities. Without the support

of the Eagle Club members, the education of more than 3,900 students over the last 17 years would not have been possible.

The Eagle Club has already raised in excess of \$1.7 million in 2003 and continues to strive to meet its scholarship requirement of over \$3 million. With Conference USA getting stronger each year, the Eagle Club wants to give the Golden Eagles every opportunity to be successful on the field of competition.

Athletics is an efficient way to bring national attention to the University, and the Eagle Club is part of that effort at Southern Miss. All Eagle Club members know 100 percent of their donation is going to assist a deserving student-athlete. They also know that giving to the University offers a sense of gratification, knowing that they helped move Southern Miss in a positive direction.

Over the last six years, the Eagle Club has shown tremendous growth in total donations and endowments. Total giving has jumped from \$750,000 to an excess of \$3 million annually. While the Eagle Club giving has more than doubled, the overall endowments have grown as well, as the Eagle Club currently has 66 endowments, valued at over \$2.5 million.

The Eagle Club is an integral part of the Southern Miss Athletic Department. The staff is headed by Richard Giannini, Director of Athletics and Chairman

# **Eagle Club/Athletic Foundation**

and Chief Executive Office of the Southern Miss Athletic Foundation. He is assisted by Dick Vogel, Executive Director of the Eagle Club, who oversees all of the daily operations and fund raising. Vogel is in his seventh year on the Eagle Club staff, serving as a field representative the first three years and then Associate Director for a year, before becoming the Executive Director in the fall of 2000.

Leigh Ann Warner has recently become the Director of Athletic Development. Her top priority is selling the football stadium expansion and Reed Green coliseum expansion and facility renovation. Additionally graduate assistant Laura Furko helps with the daily operation of the Eagle Club.

Christi Holloway serves as the Chief Financial Officer for the Southern Miss Athletic Foundation. Vickie DeLancey, office manager, and Emily Lewis, office secretary, handle all the day-to-day administrative functions.

For more information on the Eagle Club, please write, call or email the following:

**Eagle Club**

The University of Southern Mississippi  
P.O. Box 15458

Hattiesburg, MS 39404-9891

**Telephone:** 601-266-5299

**Email:** eagle.club@usm.edu

richard.vogel@usm.edu

**Richard Giannini**

*Director of Athletics/  
Chairman and Chief Executive  
Officer of the Southern Miss  
Athletic Foundation*

**Dick Vogel**

*Executive Director/  
Eagle Club*

**Christi Holloway**

*Chief Financial Officer/  
Southern Miss  
Athletic Foundation*

**Leigh Ann Warner**

*Director of Athletic  
Development*

**Vickie DeLancey**

*Office Manager*

**Emily Lewis**

*Office Secretary*

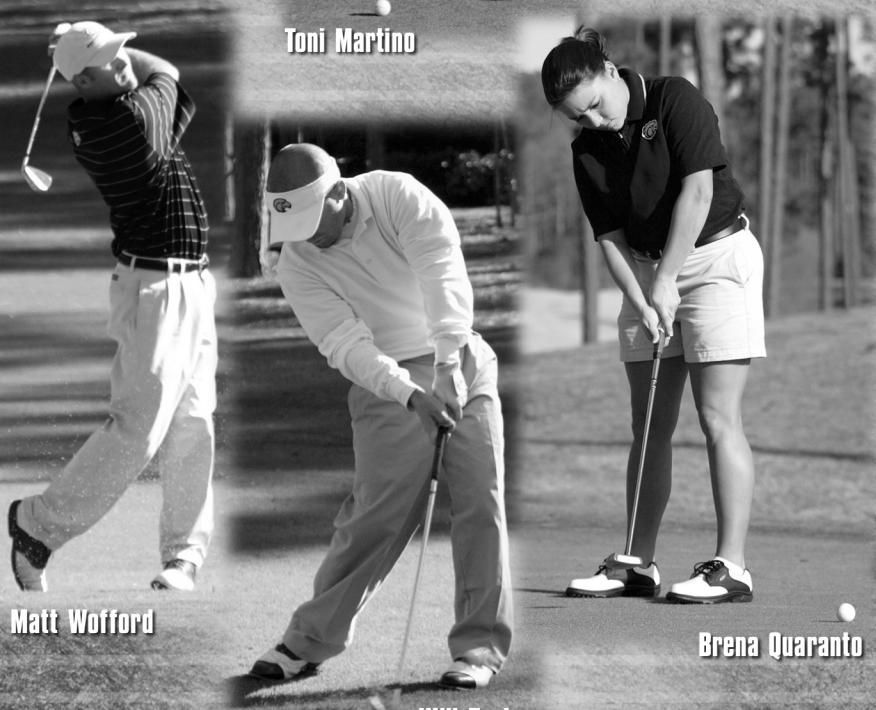


Ofelia Lopez



Matt Wofford

Will Taylor



Matt Wofford

Will Taylor

