

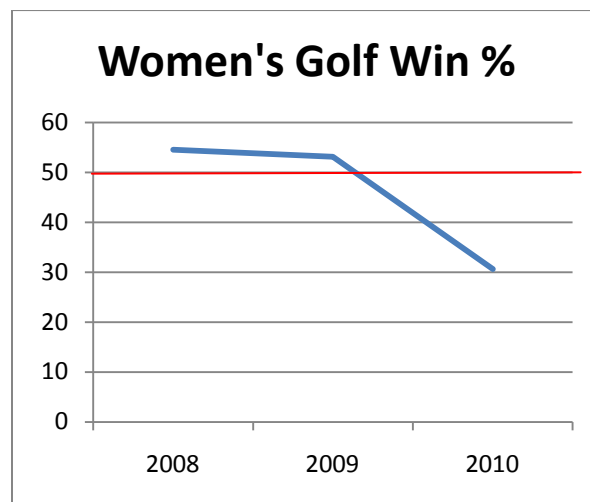
# Aunt Martha's Country Club

## A Look at How USM's Prez is Managing Athletics

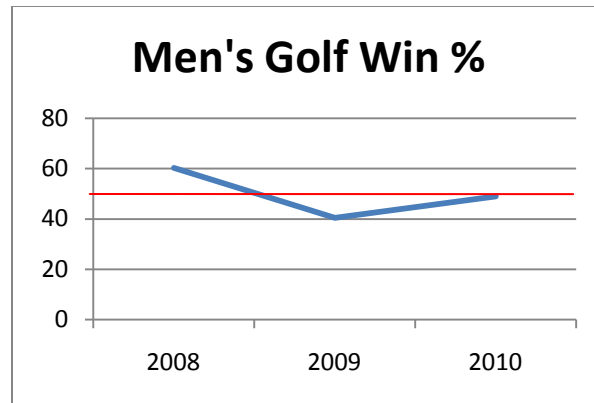
The "Banner Year" series here at USMNEWS.net has pointed out that USM's varsity sports programs appear to be slipping under USM president Martha Saunders' stewardship. This report examines how Saunders has been managing, or as the data below suggest, **mis**managing, the country club sports programs at USM. The numbers in Table 1 below make the case that USM's country club sports programs have been awash in mediocrity (at best) since Saunders' arrival back in spring of 2007. The win percentages range from a low of 45.0% in men's tennis to a high of only 50.9% in women's tennis. The overall win percentage for the four country club sports programs from 2007-08 through 2009-10 is a paltry 47.9%.

Sport	Wins	Losses	Ties	Win %
Women's Golf	92	110	0	45.5
Men's Golf	113	113	3	50.0
Women's Tennis	29	28	0	50.9
Men's Tennis	27	33	0	45.0
Totals	261	284	3	47.9

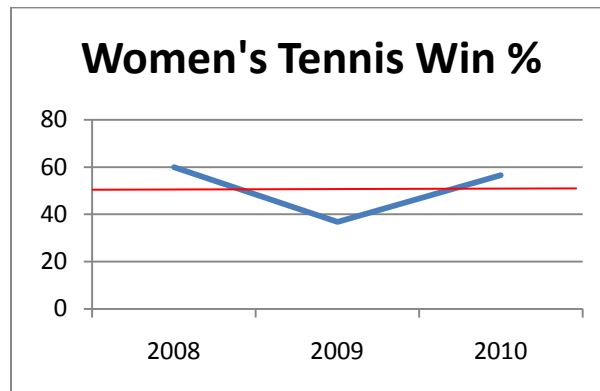
A look at the individual trends also yields a mixed bag of sorts, along with some bad news. The trend for women's golf shown below is disturbing. The drop in winning percentage from 2009 to 2010 is dramatic. The Lady Eagles won fewer than one-third of their matchups in 2010.



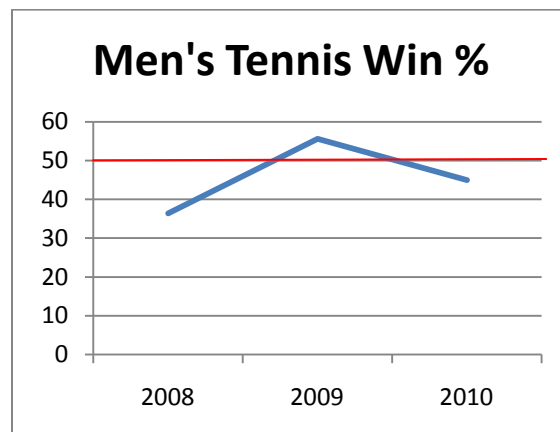
The record for men's golf is bouncing around quite a bit under Saunders. As the trend below indicates, men's golf is at least on an upswing, and the group did perform well in the 2010 Conference USA championship tournament in April. Still, the team lost as many matchups as it won over the past three seasons.



As the picture below points out, the USM women's tennis program has mirrored what the men's golf team has done during Saunders' presidency. Being on the way up is good, especially when your overall win percentage (for three years) is only 50.9%.



Another problematic situation for Eagle fans is the drop the men's tennis program has taken of late, especially after a promising improvement from 2008 to 2009. Now, in 2010, the program is below the 50% mark, as it was in 2008.



The next installment in this series examines the two track and field teams, which typically flounder. When those results are added, the picture may indeed be bleak.