

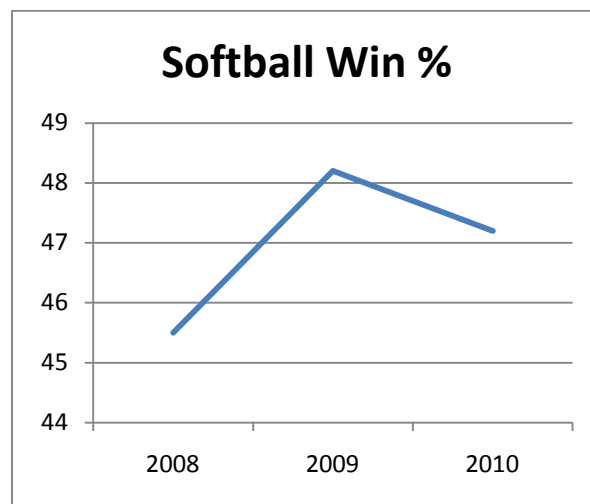
Aunt Martha's Field of Bad Dreams

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 once-proud softball program at USM. The numbers in Table 1 below make the case that USM's softball program has been floundering since Saunders' arrival back in spring of 2007. The overall win percentage for USM softball from 2007-08 through 2009-10 is a paltry 47.0%.

Sport	Wins	Losses	Ties	Win %
Softball	76	86	2	47.0

A look at the individual trend also yields a bad dream. The Lady Eagles won fewer than one-half of their games in 2008, 2009 and 2010. The downward trend this program is on currently is also cause for concern.



The next installment in this series examines the two track and field teams, which traditionally struggle. When those results are added, the picture may only get worse.