

Breaking the Rules
By Duane Cobb

Yesterday's [letter to the editor](#) raised an interesting question -- why was Dr. M. Christopher Brown II, former president of Alcorn State very publicly forced out when [Martha Saunders](#), former president of Southern Miss was allowed to resign? There is really no doubt that [Saunders was fired](#). Yet the IHL provided [Saunders extensive cover](#) to re-build her reputation along with a generous salary.

Why? We do know that following Saunders' departure, the IHL was diligently providing [retroactive approval](#) for a variety of contracts. Each of the retroactively approved contracts exceeded the amount requiring IHL approval. We remember the [Tablegate](#) scandal in which a \$400,000+ contract effected by the [Saunders administration](#) violated state law. That law requires, in part, that University contracts in excess of \$250,000 must be approved by the IHL. See other reports about Saunders by Googling™ her name at usmnews.net.

Dr Brown may be sitting in his home in Nevada pondering these questions.