

## **“A Horribly Bungled Administrative Disaster”**

The reporters and readers of usmnews.net are watching for news concerning Dr. Howard Ross’ litigation against UW-Whitewater and Martha Saunders. The race discrimination suit, scheduled to begin trial on February 8, 2010, arose out of Dr. Ross’ demotion. In the meantime, usmnews.net’s staff has looked at, among other publications, *The Royal Purple*, UW-Whitewater’s student newspaper. On September 9, 2009, in a *Royal Purple* Staff Opinion, the authors presented a thoughtful and balanced editorial entitled [A case based on race? A Royal Purple exclusive update on a former dean's legal battles with the university, how racial discrimination could have played a role in the events and what questions weren't being asked.](#)

After discussing different sides of the issue, the authors of [A case based on race](#) observed:

“The reality of these events could be debated several different ways. It’s possible Ross, either along with Jones or not, is guilty of everything the university is accusing him of. On the other hand, Ross might be a true victim of racial discrimination waiting to be vindicated.

**Or, and most likely, this could be a horribly bungled administrative disaster that will be paid for by the university, its officials and, ultimately, the taxpayer.”**

**The question comes to mind: how many “horribly bungled administrative disasters” has Dr. Saunders presided over? While usmnews.net does not know the full extent, over the next several months our reporters and contributors will be providing information concerning the administrative disasters visited on USM during Dr. Saunders’ presidency.**

**usmnews.net invites anyone who has information to provide it in confidence. As always, we require documentation prior to publication.**

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