



# The Yellin' Rebel

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## Officials have trouble getting story straight

by Bonar Tucker

A tangled web of stories continues to get even stickier as the UNLV administration tries to conceal its embarrassment over being exposed while secretly videotaping a basketball conditioning class from the ceiling of the North Gym.

Although a formal apology has been issued by Brad Booke, legal counsel, accounts continue to differ, even from original statements made by officials. Some administration statements have changed from one day to the next causing speculation as to whether or not Booke was alone in his decision to do the tapings.

Booke said he ordered the camera to be placed by University Police. However, Robert Ackerman, vice president of Student Services said Booke "requested" surveillance of the class to Dave Hollenbeck, chief of police. Hollenbeck received authorization from Ackerman to place the camera.

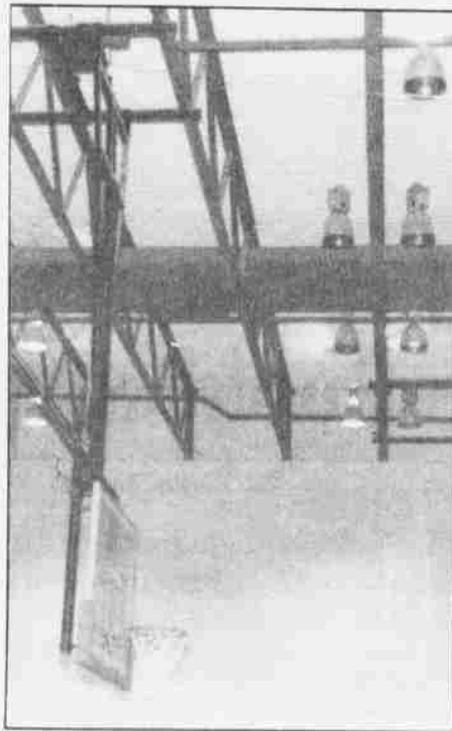
"Booke suggested monitoring of the situation and Dave (Hollenbeck) and I discussed it," Ackerman said.

Being aware that the video camera was to be used, did Ackerman give his approval?

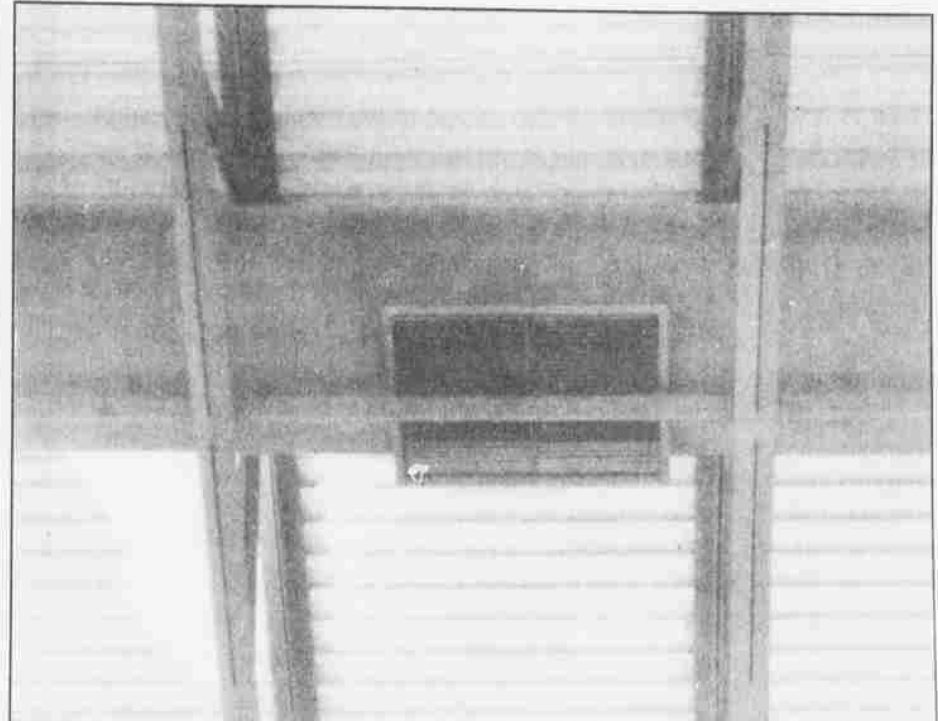
"Yes," Ackerman said, "but that was not the first step in the process."

Hollenbeck, however, gives an even different version.

"It was discussed exactly how we would go about it (among Brad Booke, Detective Sgt. Lonnie Barrett, Hollenbeck and Jaina Preston, compliance coordinator),"



Left: The North Gym ceiling where the infamous air conditioning duct is located. Right: An upclose view of the vent University Police Detective Sgt. Lonnie Barrett filmed the conditioning class through.



photos by Morgan Fisher

Hollenbeck said.

Preston denied that she had any part in the decision to secretly tape.

"I knew we were concerned about the issue," Preston said. "But the actual decision to videotape, I knew about after the fact. I heard about it on the news and I was

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### The pieces of the puzzle

by Tricia Ciaravino

In the course of investigation, reporters of *The Yellin' Rebel* discovered the university administration had invented a new game. Similar to Clue, it was designed to frustrate those trying to uncover the truth. Unfortunately, the players refused to show their cards at the end of this game to discover if Colonel Mustard really placed the camera in the air conditioning vent.

Players:

Brad Booke, legal counsel and compliance director

David Hollenbeck, University Police chief  
Robert Ackerman, vice president for Student Services

John Irsfeld, vice president and deputy to the president

Jaina Preston, compliance coordinator  
John Massengale, dean of health, physical education and recreation

Robert Maxson, university president

Oct. 30 - Hollenbeck said the discussion to videotape the conditioning class occurred between "Brad Booke, myself, Detective Sgt. Lonnie Barrett and Jaina Preston (compliance coordinator)".

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## Booke apologizes for videotaping

by Ched Whitney

After a week of controversy and harsh words, UNLV legal counsel Brad Booke came forward Friday and apologized for his decision to videotape a conditioning class.

During a press conference Booke stressed that he was apologizing for the technique he used in an effort to comply with NCAA rules, not his motives.

"It is clear to me that videotaped monitoring, while certainly not illegal, is offensive both to the principles and to the people of the university community," Booke said.

In a phone interview Wednesday, Booke said that his decision to videotape was a painful and difficult one. He said he felt that it was a

necessary step in order that UNLV avoid additional NCAA sanctions.

"In those violations (specifically practice taking place before the Oct. 15 start date) were occurring," Booke said, "there was a great likelihood that penalties could be greatly enhanced; or a separate case started with the death penalty being the worst-case scenario."

"I made a decision to videotape a men's basketball conditioning class to protect the university from the very real possibility that several infractions, including the death penalty, could be imposed against the university."

Booke said that in addition to himself, Jaina Preston, UNLV's compliance coordinator, and David

**"It is clear to me that videotaped monitoring, while certainly not illegal, is offensive both to the principles and to the people of the university community."**

— UNLV legal counsel Brad Booke



Hollenbeck, University Police chief, were aware of the taping as it was going on.

Preston, however, has told *The Yellin' Rebel* that she learned of the incident on the TV news.

UNLV President Robert Maxson said he was not aware of the videotaping until after the incident became public. Maxson said

he felt Booke was right to handle this without his consent.

"Clearly this was within his (jurisdiction)," Maxson said, characterizing Booke's apology as "an act of moral courage."

Before apologizing Friday, Booke had characterized the taping as a "minimal intrusion."

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Should UNLV students be embarrassed by its administrations' recent actions? — page 5



#### ENTERTAINMENT

Dustin Hoffman, Steven Hill and Loren Dean star in \*\*\*\*\* 'Billy Bathgate' — page 15

