

# Tark's lawyer angered by taping

by Jay Sapovits

UNLV is back in the national spotlight after losing in the Final Four to Duke 79-77 last season. But for the students, faculty and administrators of this school, the reputation the university may be acquiring could be one of a hustler, but this time it's off the basketball court.

Since July, Brad Booke, university assistant legal counsel, has been the mastermind of a covert operation which featured video taping of a basketball conditioning. He was successful in the tapings but not in keeping the issue under hat for the good of the school, which was the reason he said he taped the classes actions.

Booke has issued public statements of apologies, but Alan Jones, attorney to Rebel basketball coach Jerry Tarkanian, speaking on his own behalf said, "The major problem is not that a mistake was made. I think this is a terrible mistake, but the mistake has been compounded by the arrogance of defending it in trying to lend credibility to the action in saying it can be defensible.

"The students, faculty and the administration of this university should take steps to see that there are rules put into writing to insure that academic integrity and privacy of students and staff are maintained. Otherwise, how will the the university be able to attract good students and good staff in the future? This sort of action tears down the university and the community," Jones said.

Jones said he does not believe the initial statements of the university legal council can be forgotten, but rather should still be a main issue. Since the time of the incident President Robert Maxson said Booke will not be fired.

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Regent Shelley Berkley is adamant about the way the situation with the athletic director is being handled.

"I am very concerned. We need to call a closed personal session with board members and get further information. I am very displeased (with) what is going on right now," Berkley said.

Berkley said the situation with the athletic director and the secret video taping is a big problem and more information needs to be found out before a decision can be made on the situation.

"If people think this is going to disappear and is just a public relations problem, they are wrong. It is far more serious than that. All of the regents need to get with Maxson to shed some light on the allegations and determine what is going on," Berkley said.



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