

By W.G. Ramirez

"I've got so much respect for this team-it's **absolutely incredible**-these guys went 18-0 in the Big West Conference; Our national championship team lost two games in the conference.

"We were in Missouri, 3-2, and wondering if we can win anymore games-I didn't think we'd be where we are right now-it's **absolutely incred-ible**.

"This should be the sports story of the year-not my hassles-it should be what this team has accomplished-these kids were **absolutely incredible**-I'm real proud of these kids."

Jerry Tarkanian-March 3, 1992

On a night when Jerry Tarkanian could have put aside all modesty, this genuine & humble human being could do nothing but turn all the attention, all the hype and all the praise over to his Runnin' Rebel basketball team.

Tears were shed and arms were waved as Las Vegas bid their final farewell to Tark the Shark. The Thomas & Mack, a.k.a. "The House That Tark Built," was filled to the rafters, 18,944 to be exact, to view Tark's final appearance as UNLV's head basketball coach.

Yes, there was a basketball game played, a victory over Utah St. 65-53, but this night belonged to Jerry T.; and the ceremony that followed the

game carried all the emotion and feeling of the18.000+ people, in attendance, at one time. UNLV Athletic Director Jim Weaver presented

Tarkanian with several gifts while T&M Center announcer Dick Calvert acted as emcee.

The sad-eyed Armenian was honored with his final game towel enclosed in a glass case, his game chair and also his infamous "ghost chair" which sat next to his seat unoccupied for 19 years, the banner which hung from the railing on the upper level of the T&M reading "Welcome To Tark's Shark Tank," a replica of the National Championship banner, four silver-plated tickets reserving four seats for JT during future 'Rebel home games and last but not least two UNLV jerseys, one red and one white, with his college number, 2, which is now retired at UNLV.

After the ceremony, Weaver was happy to comment on Tarkanian. "We wanted to pay tribute and honor the winningest coach in college basketball history and we wanted to do it 1 st class. We're proud to retire the number 2."

"You put the R in Runnin' Rebels," said former UNLV player Ricky Sobers, speaking, of course, to Tarkanian.

Assistant Coach Tim Grgurich told Tark that "once a Rebel-always a Rebel." Calvert then (See Absolutely Incredible, Page14)



Although never worn by a UNLV player, Jerry Tarkanian's collegiate number was retired Tuesday evening at the Thomas & Mack Center Photo by Savoy/LVS-Voice

Herb Brown Named NLV Police Department's Assistant Chief

With more than 20 years of experience on the North Las Vegas Police Force, former Director of Community Relations, Herb Brown 50, recently assumed his new position as Assistant Chief of Police.

Also, Ron Lusch, who joined the force in 1969, was appointed NLV Chief of Police, following former chief, Jerry Zohner's announcement that he would retire after 36 years on the force.

Brown joined the department as a patrol officer in 1971, and went on to work as a juvenile investigator, as well as work in the traffic and narcotics divisions.

It is believed that both men's backgrounds will help lead the department in a progressive direction.

"Herb and I believe in a humanistic approach to supervision

and participative management," Lusch said, adding, "We're not dictators." "People will go that extra mile for you if they feel they're part of the process, "Brown added.



SEE STORY PAGE 14 Photo by Savoy/LVS-Voice