
From: Jadon Boatright
Sent: Wednesday, August 9, 2017 4:44 PM
To: Janice Ruggiero; Chaouki Tanios Abdallah
Subject: UNM Football

Hello, President Abdallah and Athletic Director Ruggiero,

My name is Jadon Boatright and I am a senior here at UNM and I am on full scholarship for football currently. I am reaching out to you about concerns for our football program/culture. I am not usually the one to feel the need to reach out to someone, but I without a doubt feel like something needs to be done and I will not be the only one to reach out to you guys as it continues.

Firstly, I would like to inform you guys on the things that I have experienced while being here at UNM since my freshmen year.

My first year here, a guy by the name of Saqwan Edwards had been grabbed by the neck by Coach Davie coming out of the tunnel because Coach Davie saw him smiling and the two of them went at it after Davie put his hands on him. It ended with Saqwan leaving to go home before the game had fully ended and after the game Coach Davie went to Saqwans house and asked him what he could do to get him to not say anything and to come back and play. Saqwan requested to play corner his last two years and Coach Davie granted that to him, without knowing whether or not he was capable of playing that position.

Second,

On an away game at a hotel we were staying at the night before we played Colorado St., two players got caught smoking Marijuana in their rooms and faced no consequences and still started in the game the next day.

Third,

A former player by the name of Teriyon Gipson faced a gun charge and marijuana possession and Davie told him that he could stay at home and get the charges taken care of over the summer. Gipson missed all of summer workouts which we are told is mandatory and came back during Fall camp still starting at running back. However, he did not get the charges taken care of and Davie told the newspaper that he was not aware about the situation until they had brought it up to him which is false.

Fourth,

Davie has allowed numerous people to not participate in team drug tests due to them admitting that they would fail if they did take the test. That is also supposed to be mandatory.

Now, I am not reaching out to you guys just to make it seem like I am 'tattle telling' on him. I believe these are just some of the serious issues that need to be addressed. The main reason I am reaching out to you guys is due to how he speaks to his players and his coaching staff. I can't tell you the number of times that he has told players to "Shut the f*** up" or has even grabbed players. His language towards the players is truly detrimental and I believe that someone needs to be at our practices the ENTIRE time. Many players on the team are not happy at all and there are many that have requested for their release and have been denied and many that have gotten it. I will not say the name, but someone on the coaching staff advised me to write this email to tell you guys how things really are and they have also said that Davie has requested for Coach Despain to inform him on when you guys arrive to practice and when you guys leave practice so that way he does not say or do anything that you guys would deem inappropriate. Myself, personally, do not want to play for Coach Davie. I do not respect the way that he talks to the players nor the coaches. The coaches do not even agree with the way he handles himself.

I have asked to be released from this program a number of times, but Coach Davie will not give me my release papers no matter what I do. I have asked about five to six times for them and I was told that the only way that I could get them is to go to court, but that there is a high possibility that I would not win the case. I left the school during my sophomore year after he would not allow me to get my papers and he told the newspaper journalist that I left because I was academically ineligible, which was not the case at all. I then called him once I had a teammate ask me about it and told him that I did not want any problems, but that I would come out about the Saqwan incident and then the next day the paper changed what it said and it said that I left by my own decision. You can even look that up and see both articles. I was highly depressed at that time and had to go home. I wanted to play somewhere else, but as I said, I could not obtain my release so this is the only place I can play at. I came back last season and told myself that I would just deal with it these last two years, but now coming up on my last year nothing has changed and I am starting to get really down again. I honestly do not plan on playing this last year and just want to go to school and get my degree. However, I know that if I do not play this season then my scholarship will end after December and I will not graduate. I promised my mom that I would graduate from The University of New Mexico and I want to keep that promise to her. I was hoping that you guys might be able to make that happen for me as I am scheduled to graduate in the summer.. I do not want to play football anymore, my love for the game has been shattered and all I want to do now is focus on my last year of school and be able to finish it on scholarship. I have given a lot to this program and I want to be able to have something to show for it.

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~~This is an amazing school and from the outside looking in, you could say that about the~~ football program as well. However, the kids here truly are not happy and I am voicing this out for all of us. The way the players are treated is highly unsuitable and me being a psychology major, I pay very close attention to it and understand the affects that it has on the kids here in the program.

I hope that this email opens up something for this program so that the current freshmen and other players do not have to feel like I did and like so many other kids do right now. I highly request for my name to stay anonymous due to the repercussions that could proceed if my name were to reach Davie about this. I am dealing with a lot at the moment, as we all are, and maybe this will be a start for change.

Thank you so much for your time and I know for a fact that you guys are going to continue to do great things for everyone here at UNM. Thank you for all that you guys do and I wrote this email with the thought in mind that I am doing the right thing. There are so many others who want to speak up, but are scared to. Also, I would be willing to talk in person as long as it is just us and no one knows about it.

Thanks again,

Jadon Boatright

Mobile: [REDACTED]