

Zach Nunn (IA-03) Red Box Backup – Spying

Nunn's Shady Tactics Go Back To College, When He Broke The Law By Spying On Another Student With A Baby Monitor

2002: Nunn Was Removed From The Drake University Student Senate For Using A Baby Monitor To Spy On The Student Body President. “A Drake University student leader has been reprimanded amid a campus political scandal that includes electronic eavesdropping and allegations of unfair campaigning. Zachary Nunn, a senior who organizes student events for the upcoming Drake Relays celebration, was thrown out off the student senate after admitting that he had planted an infant monitor in an office used by student body President Matt Elliott.”

Page 2B Saturday, March 9, 2002

CITY & SUBURBS

Drake senior rebuked in bugging case

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By JASON CLAYWORTH
REGISTER STAFF WRITER

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student senate after admitting that he had planted an infant monitor in an office used by student body President Matt Elliott.

Nunn said Friday he eavesdropped on the conversations of Elliott and others members of the student government because of suspicions that they violated rules governing the length and deadlines for campaigns.

“Obviously this is not something I’m proud of,” Nunn said. “It was a lapse in judgment. It was a mistake. It’s something I’ll have to live with for the rest of my life and I’m truly sorry.”

Nunn was not running for reelection to the student senate when

he hid the monitor. He said the scheme turned up no evidence of campaign wrongdoing. The desk was used by several student candidates and representatives, he said.

Elliott discovered the monitor about a month ago when he retrieved a note that had fallen behind the desk.

“At first it didn’t register to me that it was a baby monitor,” he said. “I thought it was a room freshener.”

Polk County Attorney John Sarcone said Nunn broke the law by planting the listening device, but added that he would not prosecute such a case.

“It’s best that this is left at the college level,” Sarcone said.

The student senate’s judiciary committee voted Thursday night to suspend Nunn for violating its ethics rules, Elliott said. Nunn will remain president of the Student Activities Board.

“I think that’s good that they suspended him,” said Ronnie Waggoner, a Drake freshman. “I don’t like what he did. I don’t like it at all. I think he should have been kicked out altogether.”

Drake student Stephanie Butler said Nunn wanted to ensure fair campaigning, which, she said, is commendable.

“Honestly, I think the

punishment is a little steep, but I understand it at the same time,” Butler said.

Drake’s dean of students, Jerry Price, who advises student leaders, was unavailable for comment Friday.

A new representative from the activities board will be appointed to the senate in the next few weeks, said Nunn, who faces no further sanctions from the university. He said the matter will not affect preparations for Drake Relays activities, which kick off April 22.

“I really believe what I was trying to do was good and just,” he said. “Looking back, I don’t think it was the most ethical thing to do.”

[Des Moines Register, 3/9/02]

Des Moines Register: “Polk County Attorney John Sarcone Said Nunn Broke The Law By Planting The Listening Device.” “Polk County Attorney John Sarcone said Nunn broke the law by planting the listening device, but added that he would not prosecute such a case. ‘It’s best that this is left at the college level,’ Sarcone said.”

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March 2014: The Des Moines Register Reported That Nunn Bugged A Student Government Opponent With A Baby Monitor While He Was In College. "Nunn was removed from his student government seat his senior year after an investigation discovered he planted a baby monitor in a desk used by the student body president and others to monitor their conversations." [Des Moines Register, [3/12/14](#)]