Part-game rushes put basketball players at mercy of fans

By Thuba Nguyen
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It ain’t over till the fat lady cross-dresses ...

The Cal Bears were the Cal Bears, they had the homecourt advantage and they were the Cal Bears. And after falling behind by 18 in the second half, they came back to defeat Arizona 87-83 at Haas Pavilion in Berkeley, Calif., earlier this month.

But UA athletics officials said their own security was the problem. They had underestimated the Cal Bears threat and didn’t put enough people on the floor as quick as possible. “I think he popped right back up,” said Carl Reed, assistant athletic director of security.

Iguodala said he used his arm to block a Cal Bear. “Then another guy ran into me and he just missed. It’s kind of hard. … You don’t know what the fans are doing, you think they want to touch you, but they may want to touch you, come up close to you. So you try and get off the floor as quick as possible.”

One security guard was assigned to keep watch on O’Connor during the contest at Maples Pavilion, while four were assigned to keep tabs on the UA team. Carl Reed, assistant athletic director, said this particular incident was preventable.

Hackers break into 232 campus computers

By Walter E. Staton
STAFF WRITER

Hackers programmed a campus computer over the weekend to obtain passwords from other systems on campus and break into 232 machines.

One computer was initially hacked into Saturday, which was infected and used to scan other computers around campus. As part of the scan, a program passed and then collected administrator passwords, said Geoff Poer, a network systems analyst at the Center for Computing and Information Technology. Poer could not specify which computers were targeted, or if any files were viewed or modified by the hackers.

The Security Incident Response Team at CCIT was notified of the problem when network administrators noticed the program scanning their computers. They found the culprit computer on Monday and immediately began to “put out the fires,” Poer said.

Administrators with hacked systems are being contacted and advised to reset all the passwords on the machine. Once the administrator password is hacked, “You have to assume every other user/password combo is compromised,” Poer said.

Each of the hacked computers will be scanned for what Poer calls a “root kit,” or the program used to scan other computers. Poer said he hopes everything will be taken care of by the end of the week.

Students’ computers were not likely targets, as most of the computers attacked were servers. Student information and other sensitive records are kept on systems that would not have been susceptible to this attack, Poer said.

SIRT suspects the attack was made possible by a vulnerability discovered in the Windows operating system last Wednesday.

The team said it is common for hackers to attack the network over weekends, as their machines have been found, hoping to do their damage before network administrators on campus can download and install security patches.

Saro Hayan, a CCIT network systems analyst, said this particular incident was preventable.

Post-game rushes put basketball players at mercy of fans

By Brett Fera and Mitra Taj
STAFF WRITERS

Hustle McArthur Court, aptly known as “The Pit,” to take on the Oregon Ducks tonight, another court-nashing scenario like those after consecutive losses at Washington, California and Stanford isn’t all that far-fetched.

But UA athletics officials said protecting players from scenarios like the stampede that paralyzed 18-year-old Tucson High School senior Joe Kay following an upset victory is nearly impossible.

“We’re really at the mercy of the intelligence of the crowd to maintain common courtesy,” said Suzy Mason, director of event management for the UA athletics department.

Even with additional security, there is no guaranteed protection.

“There’s not much you can do about it, frankly, because we have a lot of security at our games here and away from home,” UA men’s basketball head coach Lute Olson said. “And it was shown at Stanford that all the security in the world wouldn’t keep that crowd from rushing.”

Security at McKale Center — capacity 14,365 — typically consists of a combination of security officials from private companies and the UAPD, who work with other agencies, Mason said.

But playing on the road is more of a concern, as Mason said fans are more likely to rush after an upset victory over prominent programs like Arizona. Sophomore forward Andre Iguodala said he used his arm to block a fan making his way for him during Arizona’s last-second loss at Stanford earlier this month.

“I think he popped right back up,” said the sophomore forward. “Then another guy ran into me and he just missed. It’s kind of hard. … You don’t know what the fans are doing, you think they want to touch you, but they maybe want to touch you, come up close to you. So you try and get off the floor as quick as possible.”

One security guard was assigned to keep watch on O’Connor during the contest at Maples Pavilion, while four were assigned to keep tabs on the UA team, said Carl Reed, assistant athletic director.