

THEATRE

From page 1

"I would love to see a 20-year-old woman do a monologue followed by a professor," Nordeen said. "I would even love the Deco Deli ladies to be a part of it. All women should spread the message of being a proud woman.

They shouldn't be shameful. It should be an unconditional pride."

"The Vagina Monologues" will consist of comedic and dramatic individual and group pieces based on women's stories and experiences of mystery, humor, pain, power, wisdom, outrage and excitement.

"It spreads a message that's cathartic," Nordeen said. "The

show contains mature themes but it is not for the shock factor."

Both men and women can help usher, sell tickets and help with the "V-Week" activities. Men cannot be in the show.

"Having more men involved conveys a stronger message," Nordeen said. "Men are apart of our lives and need to be a part of this too."

PC

From page 1

"It definitely was not meant to threaten PC," Arnold said. "I know that I supported it because it gave me more power as treasurer — it didn't bind me to having to do that 50 percent. I don't think it is a threat

at all."

In any case, Chapman and PC Vice Chair Aaron Wolfe maintained that no matter the outcome, they will continue to put on a variety of events for the student body.

"We just want to be able to always provide quality events that students enjoy and not make people pay," Wolfe said. "That's our big concern."

SENIOR

From page 1

Seniors can nominate faculty members to attend the professional etiquette dinner Saturday night. The most nominated faculty honorees will dine with students as they learn lessons on self-presentation and table manners.

Speakers will also address whether graduate school is a good idea for certain majors.

"Part of what the conference will do," Hickman said, "is help students understand that, depending on your major, you may or may not need to go to graduate school."

SOAPS

From page 1

above other productions."

RTVF majors produced the show as part of class curriculum and were responsible for all aspects, Allen said.

Doing this helped prepare them for after graduation, he said.

"We do this because it is a great way for students to prepare for this type of work for when they graduate and pursue their careers," Allen said. "It is great to see the improvements made in the show, from the acting, to the writing and directing as more episodes are made by the students."

SNOW

From page 1

Bret Butler, a freshman interior design major, said he did not know classes were canceled until he was halfway to his Topics in Math class.

"I didn't even know it was snowing until I got downstairs," Butler said.

He said he had a feeling classes were canceled but decided to get up and go anyway. He said he was really excited classes were canceled and he could go back to sleep.

A few snow angels and snowmen also popped up around campus.

"After I'm done with Bartholomew Augustus the Snowman," said Ricky Anderson II, a freshman radio-TV-film major, "I'm going to go inside and get some hot chocolate."

Anderson said he had been outside playing for an hour, and that Wednesday was his first real snow day, since he comes from Houston.

In The Main, Carolyn Isbell, a freshman athletic training major, said, "I'm going to go make snow angels on the football field, again."

She said she was very excited because, being from Arizona, she has never experienced snow.

While students were either sleeping or playing, Physical Plant employees were out making sure the TCU grounds were safe. All of the groundskeepers were required to come to work Wednesday.

Groundskeeper Thomas Seidl said he had been outside since 7 a.m. putting sand on steps and sidewalks to melt the ice. He said there was no known damage from the weather.

"We didn't know we were going to get this much," Seidl said. "It caught everyone by surprise."

Seidl said he thinks the weather is going to get worse in the next few days because the snow will be melting yet temperatures will remain below freezing.

Snow accumulated to 1 to 2 inches Wednesday, and the sun won't shine through the cloudy skies until Tuesday, according to the National Weather Service.

Temperatures will remain in the 30s until Sunday with chances of light freezing rain each morning and night and light rain each afternoon, according to the weather service.

Will Stallworth, associate vice chancellor for facilities, did not return multiple phone calls requesting information about the weather's effect on the campus. Employees answering the phone at the physical plant said they were instructed to not answer questions for the Skiff.

CRIME

From page 1

residence of an unidentified female TCU student at about 2 a.m. Tuesday. Officers found screens removed from windows of the home. The incident prompted TCU Police to send out the e-mail alert on Tuesday.

Early Wednesday morning, the student called Fort Worth police again when she thought a prowler was on her property, said officer Charles

Gonzalez. Gonzalez said the woman told police an unidentified person rang her doorbell and shone a flashlight in the back door.

Officers investigated the property on both incidents and found no other evidence, Gonzalez said.

Fort Worth police Sgt. J.J. Perez said, "This could be a lot of other things than somebody trying to do harm."

The student said it was too dark to get a description of the man she saw in her yard, Perez said.

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— Samuel Butler

THE SKIFF VIEW

Administration makes bad call

It seems the Bush administration is finally waking up to a situation that is already a nightmare for most Americans. But their most recent solution to the problem doesn't seem to be sitting well with American public.

What was once just a step in the wrong direction for the United States has left us stranded in the wrong direction, and rather than turning around and going back, the recent troop surge is simply digging America in deeper.

Iraq has developed into a lose-lose situation for America, and instead of curtailing the inevitable loss of more American lives by following the recommendations of the bipartisan Iraq Study Group, the Bush administration has decided that we're in it for the long haul.

The group's report seems to have gone unheeded by senior administrators, even though it offered what is the most plausible pathway to an Iraq that may, someday, no

longer be a burden for Americans. This need to minimize the conflict's adverse effects on Americans must also be balanced with a responsibility to help Iraqis recoup from the damage done by America's invasion.

This year alone, 34,000 Iraqis were killed, according to the United Nations. The Iraqi infrastructure is devastated, and the country is in ruin and deteriorating rapidly.

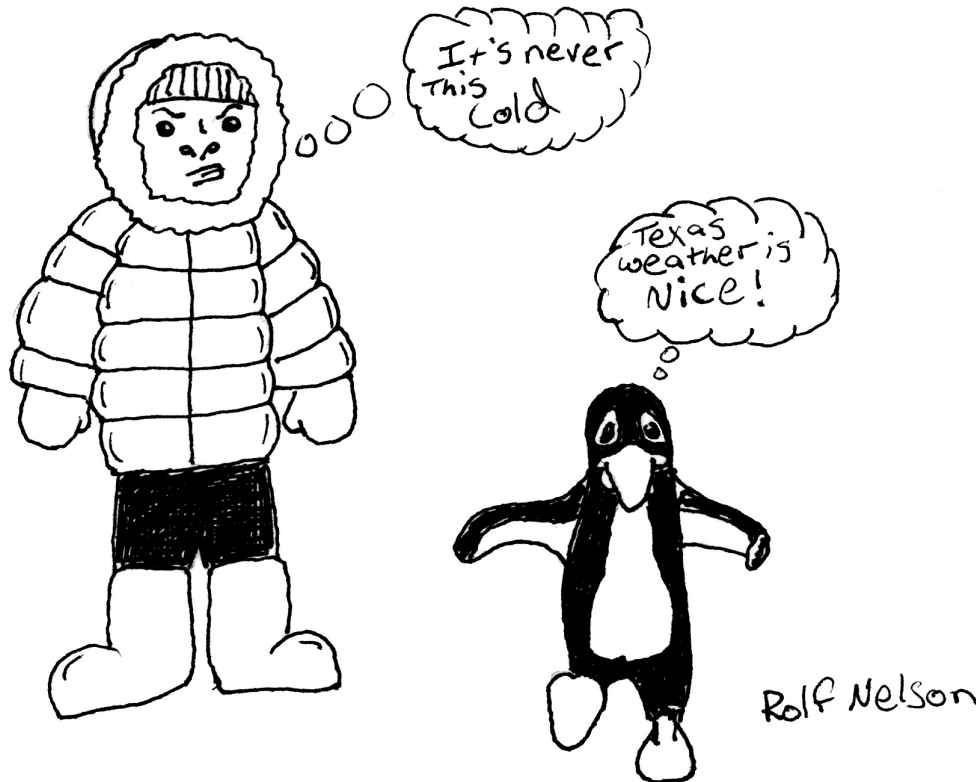
The United States has overstayed its welcome in Iraq, and the country is broken as a result. It appears the Bush administration is now following the adage of "You break it, you buy it."

That's exactly what they're doing, too. We've broken it, and now we're trying to buy it — this time, with another 21,500 American troops.

Eventually, our nation's leaders will just have to accept that Iraq may be broken beyond repair.

News editor Andrew Chavez for the editorial board.

OOOFSPOOF BY ROLF NELSON



Spears won't win respect with sleazy new behavior

Oops! She did it again.

Before the Christmas break, the Web site livejournal.com printed an article titled "She's Bringin' Slutty Back" referring to Britney Spears' wild, new life-style minus a husband, Kevin Federline.

COMMENTARY



Leslie Honey

getting out of a car — photos of her private region.

The photographs reveal a drunk Spears with fellow bad girl Paris Hilton. They leave nothing to the imagination; you can even see the scar from her cesarean section from the birth of both of her children, Sean Preston and Jayden James.

After the recent divorce from husband Federline, Spears is facing tough reviews as a single mother.

The new spotlight Spears has brought upon herself is one of many bad moves to add to her already-scandalous past.

The motherhood rap Spears created after the birth of her children was just beginning to repair her bad reputation. However, after almost dropping Sean, driving a car with him in the front seat and strapping him wrongly into a car seat, Spears

has quite a few mistakes to make up for, especially when they are reviewed by the scandal-crazed media.

This new revelation of partying and panty-dropping will in no way help Spears gain the respect of old fans and the media.

Although Spears didn't intentionally have photos taken of her private area, the mother of two should be adult enough to carefully watch her clothing and underwear choices, especially when she will be entering and exiting a small vehicle for the evening.

The problem is, Spears never intentionally does anything wrong. Problems keep landing on her lap unexpectedly. Being an extremely public figure, Spears should prepare herself for the hunger of the paparazzi and expect them to photograph her.

In a recent interview with Matt Lauer, Spears sobbed that she was just a "normal person." However, 20 hit songs and millions of dollars later, she's more than a normal person.

I almost feel sorry for Spears, but when you throw yourself into the spotlight and expect fame and

fortune, having your photo taken everywhere you go becomes part of the job.

Spears should embrace the new journey she has taken by becoming a mother and keep her legs closed. After two children with a wannabe rapper, Spears has had her legs open enough.

Pop star mothers should not be out all night partying with heiresses; they should be at home singing their babies to sleep. If Spears wants to be treated as a respectable mother, she needs to clean up her act and realize the party is over.

Leslie Honey is a senior news-editorial journalism major from Longview.



MCT

Appreciate little details

It has always amazed me that some of the world's greatest discoveries were accidentally made by people looking for something else.

Alexander Fleming, for instance, discovered the antibiotic penicillin in 1928 when his neglected bacteria culture got moldy.

COMMENTARY



Talia Sampson

In the 1940s, four teenage boys stumbled upon some of the world's oldest cave paintings in Lascaux, France, when they followed their dog into a hole in the ground.

Even Christopher Columbus was just trying to find a faster way to India when he sailed into the Americas.

But even more incredible to me than the significance of these discoveries is the fact that these people took the time to appreciate what they found.

I mean, imagine if those boys had not understood that the paintings in that cave were anything special, and simply found their dog and went home without ever telling anyone what they had seen.

Or what if Fleming had merely glanced at the mold and then thrown the spoiled culture away? Even Columbus could

have decided to merely stock up on supplies and keep sailing.

Marcel Proust once said, "The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes but in having new eyes."

In other words, discovery is not about the things you may see, but the way you look at them.

This past fall, I studied at the TCU London Centre and was fortunate enough to see several well-known places, but the most fulfilling experiences came when I abandoned my checklist and took the time to appreciate anything I came across.

For instance, one day, I decided to take a stroll along Fulham Road, a street near my residence hall.

When I set out, my only intention was to see how long it would take to walk to a cinema up the street, and so I let myself randomly stop to read placards, stare at buildings and watch other people enjoying the day.

On that day, I saw several wonderfully designed churches, a Volkswagen Beetle straight out of the 1960s parked between Aston Martins and, my favorite discovery, a placard on a brick wall marking the spot where Beatrix Potter's house once stood.

Everything I saw that day was mundane and easy

to overlook, but I remember almost every detail of that day more clearly than when I saw some of London's most famous attractions.

Life can become pretty hectic for college students.

As we try to balance academics, socialization and personal health, we become engrossed in checklist schedules.

But the greatest moments in life are unplanned and occur when we allow our eyes to wander to whatever entices them and allow ourselves to appreciate what we see.

This is not to say that we should completely abandon our class schedules to frolic merrily on Sadler Lawn just for the change of scenery, because it is not about new landscapes.

Rather, as we go through our days, we should take time to see everything we see every day from a new perspective.

And who knows, maybe that fruit you left molding on the counter, that one hole you keep tripping over on your way to class, or even that "faster" route you planned to get to the Stockyards will yield greater discoveries and adventures than you ever imagined.

Talia Sampson is a junior news-editorial journalism and international relations major from Moorpark, Calif.

Oprah's \$40 million African school for girls too extravagant

Oprah recently built a school called the Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy for Girls in a town called Henley-on-Klip, 40 miles outside Johannesburg, South Africa,

COMMENTARY



Ylona Cupryjak

according to Newsweek. Included in this school will be a yoga studio, beauty salon, indoor/outdoor theaters and large fireplaces in every building. There are also hand-picked china dishes, mattresses, uniforms and oversized closets, as well as plenty of tribal art and bright colors to decorate the walls.

"These girls deserve to be surrounded by beauty, and beauty does inspire," Oprah said.

And the price tag on this beauty?

It amounts to about \$40 million. Fortunately, anyone accepted into Oprah's school is exempt from any tuition or education expenses. The South African government had planned to help in the beginning but pulled out, claiming the school was "too elitist and lavish for such a poor country," according to Newsweek.

Oprah, however, has taken no notice of her critics, and instead, has asked local South African tribes to recommend or nominate girls who show leadership qualities or potential. More than 3,500 girls applied; however, the school only had 152 places available to offer.

Oprah relays the message that children are the future, but does that future also include visions of desirable

wealth, western ideals of materialism and knowledge of status power? Does Oprah hope the girls accepted will grow to become international stars or famous leaders who will wipe out all poverty and strife in Africa?

"I wanted to take girls with that 'it' quality and give them an opportunity to make a difference in the world," Oprah said.

But what about those many girls who don't have the "it" quality Oprah is diligently searching for, and instead, are ordinary girls who only have a desire to learn, as well as better themselves and their lives? What about those girls who aren't as outspoken or persistent as Oprah would like, and don't know how to distinguish themselves from the thousands of others? Some girls will be privileged,

while others will be left behind, forever knowing only poverty and despondency.

Also, there is the question of spending so much money on the school, yet there are so few spots available for placement. For \$40 million, do those African girls really need a yoga studio? Of course, these girls must look at everything Oprah offers in the school with wide-eyed appreciation and delight, which they too can be worthy enough to possess; in contrast, most children in America take for granted the little luxuries they have and are provided with. But Oprah is building her school with an Americanized "eye." These chosen girls are so young, yet they are already noticing the grandeur and possibility of accumulation that is materialism. Couldn't

at least some money be spent on making more rooms available so there are more chances for an "it" quality girl to be accepted? Children are the future and deserve the best, but the best of education available to as many as possible should be the top priority.

Now, building a school is a fine achievement, especially in a poor country such as South Africa, where education is but a luxury. Building a \$40 million school in Africa, however, with such a low acceptance rate, questionable acceptance qualifications and facilities that seem too frivolous and extravagant for such young girls is a bit overgenerous. Of course, it is very commendable of Oprah to get actively and directly involved with poor African girls and be generously giving with her wealth. She has plenty of desire, passion

and vigor when it comes to altruistic donations and working to provide better lives for underprivileged people. But when young girls are suddenly thrust into Oprah's ostentatious and wealthy charity, she has as much the same chance of producing spoiled, visionless consumers obsessed with material wealth and portentous status as grounded, sensible, and intelligent leaders and activists.

But, on the other hand, perhaps it is wise to observe that at least Oprah is taking charge of her vision and doing something productive with all her wealth and power. Her dignified disregard of other's disapproval shows that she won't let her critics, or anyone else, stop her from fulfilling hers and the African girls' dream.

Ylona Cupryjak is a sophomore theatre major from Keller.

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Professor sees purple, thinks green

Sociology teacher wants campus more residential

By AUNDREA EICHMAN
Staff Reporter

A sociology professor said he is using purple bicycles to preserve the world for future generations.

The Purple Bike Program, which creator Keith Whitworth, sociology professor, said has become nationally renowned, currently has five bikes,

These five original bicycles were purchased with a \$4,080 Vision In Action grant.

He said the funds not only go toward the bikes, which are budgeted at \$500, including a helmet, lock, and other supplies, but also advertising and marketing for the program and GPS units. Whitworth said he would like each bike to have a GPS unit so they can be tracked and monitored to see where they travel most.

Whitworth said his biggest obstacle with his program is not having enough bikes.

To change that, he has submitted a \$60,000 grant for 100 bikes. He ultimately wants 500.

"With 500 bikes, the campus will move more toward becoming more of a residential campus," Whitworth said. "Students, faculty and staff will be constantly reminded



BILLY WESSELS / Photo Editor

Keith Whitworth, sociology professor and creator of the Purple Bike Program, shows off one of five purple bicycles outside of the sociology building. One of his goals for the program, he said, is to improve the environment.

to think 'green' as the purple bikes cruise through the campus."

The goal with the Purple Bike Program, Whitworth said, is to "utilize the resources of today, so we don't have to compromise the resources of future generations."

"Basically, my motivation is my kids," Whitworth said.

"They're the ones having to react to my generation's abuses of our earth and they're going to have to somehow reverse them."

More than 100 students and faculty members signed up last semester to rent a bike for a day or a week. With such a turnout, Whitworth said, he will raffle off names the third week of January to determine who gets to ride a bike.

He said he hopes to purchase more bikes with money received from donations and through ads on the spokes of the bicycle wheels, a "rolling advertisement" for the companies that participate.

Sarah Warner is one of the 60 student volunteers who participate in the program to protect the environment and promote a healthier lifestyle.

"We're not really a generation that rides bikes," said Warner, a junior sociology major. "This is a great way to change that."

The program started as a hands-on project for his Applied Sociology class two years ago, Whitworth said.

Potentially, Whitworth said, he would like freshmen to have the opportunity to purchase a bike for four years at \$400, with free monthly maintenance.

Whitworth said he hopes his program also encourages students to bring bikes from home. Free monthly maintenance will extend to them as well, but they won't have the one-of-a-kind purple bike.

"We decided to spend a little extra money on them to make them appealing," Whitworth said.

Whitney Barnard, a junior radio-TV-film and communication studies major, hopes the Purple Bike Program will mean great publicity and a new tradition for TCU.

Whitworth said one of his concerns was that students wouldn't want to wear the helmets provided with the bikes. He said when students rent a bike, they are required to sign a waiver saying they are responsible for the bike and themselves.

Barnard said she would love to ride the bike, but when it came to wearing the helmet, she said, "I don't know if I'd go that far."

Online sign-up for the bikes will be posted soon, and the program will have a formal kickoff in March.



BILLY WESSELS / Photo Editor

Dancers perform one of several Mexican culture pieces at the Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo on Jan. 14. The Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo runs through Feb. 4.

STOCK SHOW FIESTA

FRIDAY'S EVENTS

Time	Event	Location
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PEAN RADICAL SEES IT 129

her painful evidence that the interests of on when they are opposed to those of (January 26), it is doubtful whether anything at Shantung, but that may be excused on . The more serious matter is the Ameri- onal control of China by means of the difficulties, partly owing to the anarchy d by Japan, partly owing to the withhold- e British Inspector-General of Customs. says:

his country [China] could be ren- the Government provided with a stroke of the foreigner's pen, while t be bankruptcy pure and simple. political chaos, the Customs Rev- ast year exceeded all records by es sanctioned by the Washington nt revenue to liquidate the whole bt in a very few years, leaving the ured for the Government. The 20

in the Chinese say they would like to As a consequence of foreign control meet an obligation of \$5,500,000 tion of America is set forth in The follows:

the Chinese and politicians were at one and the same time the heroes and villains of the piece; having cooperated in the creation of a dangerous situation, they came forward handsomely in the hour of trial with an offer to save China from themselves as a result of the Chinese Government would only enter into relations with the Commission, and thus prepare the way for the eventual establishment of an American financial protectorate.

By the Agent, Wash. Branch for November 17 (p. 720), in a telegram dated "International Council of China". I find it reported that America

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FROG BALL

See how the Frogs handled the Colorado State Rams on tcdailyskiff.com.

Weather puts practices on hold

By MARCUS MURPHREE
Sports Editor

Weather may not only be affecting the classrooms at TCU; the Flying Frogs are having trouble scheduling their practices, the track and field head coach said.

"It's 27 degrees, and we have to take our time with what the weather is doing," said head coach Darryl Anderson. "I told the kids to run on their own in the Rec Center."

Two members of the team who were continuing their training this week were shot put and discus throwers, freshman Trey Jordan and sophomore Tommy Killem.

Both Killem and Jordan were working on their throwing techniques in the hallway of Daniel-Meyer Coliseum Monday afternoon. Jordan won first place in the shot put at the Arkansas Invitational on Jan. 13 — his first collegiate competition.

"My distance was 54 feet, 11.5 inches, and I threw against 16 other people," Jordan said.

Jordan said preparation for the outdoor season tends to be Anderson's main focus at this point in the year.

"My goal is to peak at the outdoor conference meet, and coach Anderson works us to be an outdoor team," Jordan said.

Though only jumpers and throwers won events at the meet, Anderson was still pleased with the team's performance as a whole.

"We got out to as fast a start as we'd like to with getting back from Christmas Break," Anderson said.

Anderson is looking further down the road at the Mountain West Conference Indoor Champi-



SKIFF ARCHIVES
Calandra Stewart, senior distance runner, finished in sixth place in the Women's 3,000 Meter at the Arkansas Invitational on Jan. 13.

onships set to take place Feb. 23 and 24 in Albuquerque, N.M.

"We'll see how we manage in the next five weeks," Anderson said.

The early parts of the seasonal training rely not only on getting back in shape but building team chemistry, Anderson said.

"We just got back on Monday before the meet, and we needed to get the competitive juices

flowing," Anderson said. "I was glad to get on the bus and travel as a team together and warm up as a team."

Other Flying Frog notables from the Arkansas Invitational are men's triple-jump winner Jonathan Jackson, a junior, and women's shot put winner Candice Kelley, a sophomore. Senior distance runner McKale Davis took second place in the women's 3,000-meter race.

Director: Student attendance low

By MICHELLE NICLOUD
Staff Reporter

Student attendance at college sporting events around the country is dropping, and TCU is no exception, an athletic administrator said.

Scott Kull, associate athletic director for external operations, said the size of the average basketball crowd at Daniel-Meyer Coliseum is 3,000 to 4,000 people, most of whom are young children and their parents.

Despite the Lady Frogs' 13-4 record and reaching No. 23 in the ESPN/USA Today coaches' poll and the men's team sitting at 10-5, Kull said students are not making the trip out to Daniel-Meyer Coliseum on game days.

The majority of basketball tickets sold go to large groups of children from the surrounding area, Kull said.

"We go after those groups that really show an interest in basketball," he said. "This year, we've really tried to go into smaller communities, like Aledo and Burleson and towns like that, to try to gain support for our basketball programs."

Christian Smith, a sophomore theatre major, said he

doesn't go to games because he thinks they are not publicized enough.

"(They are) not advertised very well," Smith said. "For the football games, there's advertisements all over TCU. There's messages over the phone, but for basketball games, there's nothing like that."

Freshman nursing major Diana Singer agreed more advertising would help fill the seats, especially because game days are not the same week after week. She also suggested featuring halftime concerts to draw in more students.

"They just don't advertise very much," Singer said. "Is it on a set day? Football games are always on Saturday. If they had halftime shows or sell T-shirts for a certain game, or have a certain person performing, I'd be more likely to go."

On game days, Kull said members of the athletic department place signs along campus walkways and intersections.

Past promotions, such as T-Shirts, have not increased attendance, Kull said.

Jack Hesselbrock, associ-

ate athletic director for internal relations, said it can be difficult for students to get involved because TCU has only been in the Mountain West Conference for two seasons, and no rivalries have emerged yet.

"Some of the teams that we're playing, people haven't really grown accustomed to yet," Hesselbrock said. "When you say TCU-SMU, everybody kind of goes 'grrrr'; When you say TCU-Wyoming, they go 'OK.'"

The student section, the band, the cheerleaders and the Showgirls all work together to bring a competitive and supportive atmosphere to the floor, Hesselbrock said.

"There's just a difference with the cheerleaders, the Showgirls, the band and the student section full," he said. "That's what the arena is supposed to be like."

Members of the women's basketball team could not be reached for comment due to their travel schedule. Members of the men's basketball team declined to comment.

The Frogs' next home game is against the UNLV Rebels at 7 p.m. Saturday in the coliseum.

TOP 3 ATTENDED BASKETBALL GAMES OF 2006-07 SEASON

Opponent	Men's Basketball Attendance
Texas Tech	5,438
SMU	3,987
New Mexico	2,284

Opponent	Women's Attendance
Florida	2,359
Colorado State	2,334
SMU	2,284

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