Dream of success takes off with a rising star

Entrepreneurs hope James can take them higher

PATRICIA XAVIER STAFF WRITER

More than four years ago UCF grad Ryan Toth registered a domain name on the Internet. The reason: he thought it sounded cool. While Toth was running Toth, he learned how to build and nurture a business. After meeting former USF business student Emile Fiala last year, the practice paid off. Toth, Fiala and a friend combined their talents to form TornadoPromotions.com, a company that just signed a deal to promote basketball wonder LeBron James on the Web.

UCF apparel vendor shut out, shuts down

'Knights for Life' marketer surrenders over stadium contract

BEN BAIRD STAFF WRITER

Sitting in a booth at Uno's restaurant, Jeff Werschell and Anthony Bencomo are trying to sound bitter, but the recent death of their company has left an unpleasant taste in their mouths. They're recounting the demise of Knightmare Apparel, a company born on selling T-shirts, hats and other UCF-branded merchandise.

When the university recently awarded Barnes & Noble the exclusive right to sell UCF merchandise at the Citrus Bowl during home football games, Knightmare Apparel lost its largest source of revenue. The deal ultimately caused Werschell and Bencomo to decide to close their business; once they've sold all they can of their inventory, they'll shut down their Web site.

The two UCF alumni started Knightmare Apparel five years ago, with the goal of offering UCF fans more options in T-shirts.

"We were tired of what was out there, going to stores and not seeing anything," Bencomo said.

"Even the stuff that was out was just bad quality. I wanted to be able to wear something to the two roadtrips we go on every season - I wanted to do something," Werschell said.

And do something they did. The Knightmare Apparel company began with a single shirt sporting the phrase 'Knights For Life,' which pursued a popular NW Florida wrestling shirt. It was an idea Bencomo and Werschell thought fans would like more than traditional T-shirt offerings, and they were right, the fans started snapping them up.

The pair sold the shirts both online at www.knightmareapparel.com and, more prominently at a table in a Citrus Bowl parking lot during home football games. Soon they not only broke even, but also made a small profit, giving some of that money back to the school.

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Opponents of affirmative action plan state initiatives

Sponsored by the recent U.S. Supreme Court decisions outlining the use of affirmative action in university admissions, conservation activists plan to sponsor ballot initiatives in other states akin to California's 1998 measure banning racial and ethnic preferences.

Governor, a University of California regent, launched a statewide initiative campaign July. After the University of Michigan, whose admissions policies were the subject of the recent court rulings. The ballot measure would allow schools to outline the use of race, ethnicity or gender in admissions, hiring or contracting in public policies.

The court ruled last month that colleges may consider a minority student's race as one factor among many factors in weighing an application, but they may not use quotas or other point scales. In response, Opponents of affirmative action are re-evaluating their strategies to combating racial preferences.

Affirmative action opponents argued the Michigan initiative, as yet unsigned, would be modeled after California's Proposition 209 and a similar measure approved by voters in Washington state in 1998.

"We think this is going to be a huge national phenomenon," Edmundson said. "This means the court's decision last month that the recording-industry group is not going to be free for any U.S. student who would like to come and attend the event," Edmundson said. "At the end of the year last year the speakers budget was $60,000. This year it's got a $100,000. I think we've got a lot of money left over getting moved to other places. This is a good way to make sure that this money is going to be used for speakers and not getting moved around at the end of the year."

According to Edmundson, the purpose of the event is to educate and spark activism in Florida college students. "I'd like to see a whole slate of educated students all over the state of Florida, and especially at UCF," Edmundson said. "I think this is going to be a huge national phenomenon."

The event includes activism training and coalition building built around the theme, "We Must Be the Change. We Wish to See in the World."

Nader's participation is timely. He announced last week that he will decide later this year whether to run for president again in 2004, either as a Green Party candidate or as an Independent. The New York Times reported that Nader's decision rests on the fate of similar-minded Democratic candidates Dennis Kucinich and Howard Dean. Nader said the success of either candidate in the coming months will attract support while maintaining a liberal platform would reduce his likelihood of running. Organizers for the event told it as a way for UCF to get its name out and recognized among the other universities in the state.

"This will culminate in an entire statewide system of activism. We'd like to build a network here in Orlando because it's a great geographical location, and in my opinion a great university...we've got the manpower and the venue to put this on," Edmundson said.

The Progressive Coalition is an umbrella organization made up of 10 different UCF organizations including the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, the National Organization for Women, the American Civil Liberties Union, Campus Peace Action, Environmental Society, Feminist Majority Foundation, Student Government Association, the National Lawyers Guild, the National Student Association, and the National Medical Fraternity.

According to Progressive Coalition estimates, their last major event, a "We the People" campus rally last fall, drew 3,000 people.

Activist conference will have 40 speakers from across the country

FROM PAGE 1

for Nick Merolle, chairman of the Operations Review Committee, who said that spending 15 percent of the 1,000,000 speakers budget on just one conference is irresponsible. "I have a real problem with that seeing as how it's the first 10% of the first month of our fiscal year," he said.

However, Edmundson was quick to counter that concern. He said the money makes full use of speakers that last year saw its unused dollars dispersed to other projects.

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Tornado Promotions, which is based in Orlando, now provides a link to the students who have had online businesses. The company, which provides Web sites with domain registration, Web hosting and other services, said it needed to find a new source of revenue.

"You can't expect to sell a good or a service and keep selling it for the price of three years. It's a little bit of work, a little bit of heart, and quite a bit of business," said Edmundson, an officer in the company.

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Only two bids were welcomed, says Orsini

FROM PAGE 1

Apart from paying royalties to UCF for licensing, the two say they donated what they could to the UCF Alumni Association, and had planned on increasing the amount of donations to the school as the company grew.

When they learned that UCF's previous exclusive sports-retailer contract with Knight's Lockeroom had expired, they jumped at the chance to increase their sales with greater stadium access.

"We thought this would be perfect for us, because now UCF would have a whole bunch of vendors there and we could have a variety of people selling, and that would increase the quality of merchandise," Bencomo said. "We started getting excited and asking questions."

While the two built up their expectations, though, UCF's athletic department already was writing a new contract, furthering a lucrative relationship with mega-retailer Barnes & Noble, which owns and operates the UCF Bookstore on campus.

According to Bruce Orsini, UCF's athletic director, granting exclusivity contracts is standard practice among universities.

"We wanted to continue the partnership that UCF has with Barnes & Noble -- extend it from what currently is in existence at UCF all the way to the Citrus Bowl," Orsini said.

According to Orsini, the only other company that was given an opportunity to bid for the new contract, which grants exclusive rights to sell merchandise at the Citrus Bowl during football games, was Knight's Lockeroom. But even though Knight's Lockeroom previously managed that contract, the company was told early on that its contract would not be renewed.

"Barnes & Noble did not return requests for comment for this article."

As negotiations between Barnes & Noble and UCF went on, Knight's Lockeroom was kept in the dark. They were also kept under the illusion that they would be able to make a bid for the contract.

By Worreal's account he kept contact with UCF for several months, but the school didn't meet with him or return phone calls. Meanwhile, Bencomo and Worreal poured money into building up their company. Bencomo said they were preparing the company to viable compete for access to the stadium against its competitors.

However, when the pair was finally granted a meeting with Orsini they were told that Knight's Lockeroom wouldn't get the contract.

"I sat down with him, showed him my shirts; he loved my shirts and said you guys have a niche and I wish there was something I could do for you," Worreal said. "I said 'there is something, you can give us a corner, give us something.'"

"It was not an open bidding process," Worreal continued. "I guess we were ignorant about the manners of business in dealing with UCF." Worreal said that he and Bencomo were denied any chance of obtaining a contract with UCF to sell within the stadium.

"I told him the deal was perfectly legal. "I remember meeting with the Knight's Lockeroom Apparel people," Orsini said. "They asked me if they had a chance to make a bid and I explained the situation to them. We followed the university's purchasing practices and they allowed us to do what we did." Orsini did make them an offer, though -- to sell outside the stadium in the parking lots. To get that privilege, Knight's Lockeroom would need approval from UCF's sports marketing firm, ISP. The firm is responsible for setting up merchandising contracts.

"ISP wanted $1,800 a game," Worreal said. "That's over 200 shirts per game, and at UCF that's not realistic." Under the ISP deal, Knight's Lockeroom would have run out of money after just one game, Bencomo said.

"In lieu of a fixed fee," Bencomo and Worreal offered to pay UCF a percentage of their sales. But UCF never responded to their counter offer, they said.

"If you go to UF and walk down the street, there are vendors all around the stadium," Bencomo said. "We thought we could grow into something like a Garnet and Gold, or a Tiger Bag," he said, referring to popular outfits that sell fan apparel at Florida State and Auburn.

The pair said they would love to open up a real shop, and not have to conduct their business from their homes, a parking lot or an Italian restaurant. But with the stadium located so far from campus -- across town, just east of Interstate 4 -- having a fixed location isn't practical.

When the pair investigated opening a shop on campus, they found out Barnes & Noble had exclusivity rights there too, and the Student Union already had a store with those rights, too.

"This really left a sour taste in my mouth," Bencomo said. "But if there's a fair chance that we could really get into the Citrus Bowl, then I'd give it a shot because I love UCF."

Their next shot will be a year from now, when the new Barnes & Noble contract expires.
Flag funding highlights rift between liberal, conservative groups

FROM PAGE 4

bill similar to the Korneski request, but without that group's name attached to it.

"I'm not going to back the bill by ROCK because of the narrow-mindedness that they've displayed, the utter lack of respect for other UCF students, and really just the lack of spirit in what they're trying to do," Edmundson said.

"I want to do this right, and I think it should be done right, and I'm going to be authoring legislation later working with both organizations and anybody else who comes with single-issue votes down the rock and not want Edmundson to sponsor our bill specifically because of his ties to the Progressive Council."

"I do not feel comfortable allowing Sen. Edmundson to sponsor our bill since his organization has called the American flag 'oppressive' and 'racist,'" Smith said. "Members of his group have also discredited the bill publicly. When advancing an American flag bill, surely we want our sponsor to be someone who supports the flag."

Edmundson encouraged others to vote down the ROCK bill in favor of his own, reminding them that his bill would be coming up, too. "I will have the bill ready by the next senate meeting," he said.

"I'm not going to back the bill by ROCK because of the narrow-mindedness that they've displayed, the utter lack of respect for other UCF students, and really just the lack of spirit in what they're trying to do," Edmundson said.

Sen. Josh Edmundson plans to file his own bill to fund the display of American flags in classrooms, rather than back the request of a conservative campus group.

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Advocate predicts that male athletes will continue to suffer as women's sports grow

LARRY EICHEL
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSWIRE

The U.S. Department of Education concluded its painstaking review of Title IX Friday by reaffirming the existing rules of compliance, while making a modest change of emphasis.

In a three-page clarification letter issued yesterday, the department let stand the key standard of proportionality, the requirement that a school make certain that participation by gender in athletics closely tracks enrollment.

At the same time, Gerald Reynolds, the assistant secretary of education for civil rights, emphasized that there have long been two other ways to comply with the 1972 law, which has helped produce dramatic growth in women's sports.

One is for an institution to show that it has a history of expanding programs to benefit the underrepresented gender. The other is for the institution to demonstrate that it is already accommodating the interests and abilities of its student body.

Asked to assess the impact of the letter, Erina Jones, the department's general counsel, replied: "I would say Title IX takes no hit.

Leaders of advocacy groups on both sides of the issue agreed.

"This is a huge victory for women and girls everywhere — and the men and boys who care about them," said Marcia Greenberger, president of the Washington-based National Women's Law Center. "We are relieved that the Department of Education issued and heeded the millions of voices in support of Title IX."

But on Feb. 26, when the coaches' lawsuit over Title IX enforcement policies, its actions have been widely denounced by women's groups and hailed by the recording industry.

The Bush administration has completely caved to the gender-quota crowd," he said.

The letter does urge schools not to get rid of teams as a way of coming into compliance.

Numerous men's teams in such non-revenue sports as wrestling, swimming and gymnastics have been eliminated in recent years, with advocates of those sports citing Title IX as a factor. The letter declared the elimination of teams "a disqualified practice" that is "counter to the spirit" of the law.

The department, in its letter, also sought to debunk the idea that proportionality is the preferred method of compliance, a legal "safe harbor" meaning that it is the surest way for a college or university to protect itself against charges of non-compliance.

"The safe harbor" language appeared in a 1996 letter issued by the Clinton administration and in several court decisions.

"In fact, each of the three prongs of the test is an equally sufficient means of complying with Title IX, and no one prong is favored," Reynolds wrote.

The changes embodied in the letter are far more incremental than many advocates of women in sports feared when the review began — and far less ambitious than opponents of the status quo had wanted.

Last year, after the filing of a lawsuit over Title IX enforcement by the National Wrestling Coaches Association, the Bush administration created a special commission to review the way the law has been implemented and to make recommendations.

In its report, the sharply divided commission called on the Education Department to make several changes in the proportionality standard that would have given athletic administrators far more flexibility in dealing with the numbers.

Its work was widely denounced by women's groups and hailed by the wrestling coaches and their allies.

But on Feb. 25, when the report was formally submitted, Secretary of Education Rod Paige announced he would consider only the unanimous recommendations.

With that single announcement, he wiped out all of the more controversial proposals.

Then last month, a federal court in Washington threw out the wrestling coaches' lawsuit.

The coaches and other groups contended that many colleges and universities have gotten into compliance with Title IX by getting rid of men's programs rather than adding athletic programs for women.

Groups backing the current law say that economies have had at least as much to do with the program cuts as Title IX.

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The changes embodied in the letter are far more incremental than many advocates of women in sports feared when the review began — and far less ambitious than opponents of the status quo had wanted.

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In its report, the sharply divided commission called on the Education Department to make several changes in the proportionality standard that would have given athletic administrators far more flexibility in dealing with the numbers.

Its work was widely denounced by women's groups and hailed by the wrestling coaches and their allies.

But on Feb. 25, when the report was formally submitted, Secretary of Education Rod Paige announced he would consider only the unanimous recommendations.

With that single announcement, he wiped out all of the more controversial proposals.

Then last month, a federal court in Washington threw out the wrestling coaches' lawsuit.

The coaches and other groups contended that many colleges and universities have gotten into compliance with Title IX by getting rid of men's programs rather than adding athletic programs for women.

Groups backing the current law say that economies have had at least as much to do with the program cuts as Title IX.
Approximately 19 million American adults are affected by Depression each year.

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- lacking in motivation
- not enjoying activities as much

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- uncontrollable mood swings

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UCF SUPPORTER SINCE 1979 & WHEEL CLUB MEMBER SINCE 1982

0% FINANCING!
UConn locks out little guy with Barnes & Noble contract

For no less than 12 years of their lives, every person in the United States who has stepped into a public classroom has seen an American flag. It’s one of the most pervasive symbols in our society, perhaps second only to the crucifix. Having a symbol of America in American classrooms isn’t inconsistent — it’s not hard to imagine Martinis logos on the walls of the offices for the Florida baseball team. Though required in either case, these symbols are supposed to be inspirational, and remind those around them of who we are as a group or a team.

The enduring symbol of America, the stars and stripes, may fly from staffs around campus, but classrooms at UConn don’t have flags like K-12 classrooms do. A conservative group on campus, Rebuilding on a Conservative Cornerstone, wants to change that.

The group has asked the Student Government Association for $10,000 to put a flag in every UConn classroom. Combined with the political strife the idea has caused, the cost has the SGA Senate split.

Proponents say now is the time to show our support for America, while our troops are in harm’s way and we continue to recover from Sept. 11. They’re fans of patriotic students who worry that the flag will seem oppressive to international students, and that the project will cost too much when money is needed elsewhere.

Opponents are right to think the flags might be offensive. Of course they might be. If you put a symbol in front of a random group of people, somebody will likely find the symbol offensive. The problem is, if they’re offended by the American flag, the symbol of America, why does it matter? Returning to the Marines analogy, imagine going to a game at the Marlins’ stadium in Miami, and seriously considering complaints from the opposing team that Marlins logos are offensive and shouldn’t be there.

There should be no question that allowing flags in the classroom is politically safe. The question, then, is whether it’s worth the cost to put them there.

Will students benefit from having a flag on the wall in every classroom? Will teachers benefit? Will America benefit? It’s a hard question, and surely one worth asking.

The manager on duty informed me that many other schools use student organizations as a way to honor military service and display American pride, and that the classroom environment is one of the few places on campus where students can exercise this freedom. This means students are divided by a fence while military service members are killed.

Letters to the Editor

Flags in UConn classrooms are worth the $10,000 price

I want to thank you for reminding me how lucky I am to live in this country. I had an excellent opportunity to tell a young girl about the American flag and how it came to be. At a cost of $10,000 for the chance of giving a little bit of pride to our classes, and a reminder to students that we live in a great country, it’s worth a try.

Oh, who is this little guy with the words “I have a dream” that the others are afraid of? It’s not like they haven’t heard him before.


Letters to the Editor: are not necessary these of the house.

Fighting for the right to drink

Saturday, July 5, was Independence Day and I chose to celebrate my birthday at the Hard Rock Cafe in Orlando. With me were my friend and another male friend, both members of the military who were on leave in Orlando. When each man presented his military ID as proof that they were old enough to order a drink, the bartender refused to serve them on the grounds that military IDs were not "proper" identification. Each man offered an assurance of backing credentials, including Florida driver’s licenses; the bartenders deferred because the IDs had expired.

My friends explained that in the military, a ID card is necessary to receive one’s certain benefits because of the difficulties created in moving frequently. One of the men had just graduated from West Point; he was sure that most men who were overseas and had a wallet of other identifying items, including military IDs, Social Security cards, etc., from bitter experience. Also, military men are still denied service.

The manager on duty informed me that representatives of the Board of Regents, Boca Raton and Fort Lauderdale had warned him about accepting military IDs and he had warned his managers about accepting military IDs.

I wish to express my appreciation for the manager’s thoughtfulness that any officer in uniform who presented proper credentials including Florida driver’s license would be allowed to order his drink, the bartender refused to serve them on the grounds that military IDs were not "proper" identification. The bartenders deferred because the IDs had expired. I was sure that most men who were overseas and had a wallet of other identifying items, including military IDs, Social Security cards, etc., from bitter experience. Also, military men are still denied service.

I am dismayed to find a populace of people who feel so unappreciative in the use of a little common sense.

—FARRA ABRUZZE
Inflated grades, deflated standards

ON THE MIC

Mike Riegel  
STAFF WRITER

Give me an "A"! Give me a "B"! Just don't give me a "C!"
That is the chant that can be heard at universities across the nation, and UCF is certainly no exception. A recent study by The Future found that students are receiving better grades than they used to.

In the past 20 years at UCF, the number of A's has dramatically increased, while the number of C's has decreased. This proves, once and for all, that we really are smarter than our parents.

We've been trying to convince them of this fact since we were 13, and now we have statistical validation.

Actually, the upsurge in GPA is probably due to grade inflation. This particular phenomenon occurs when someone is given a grade that they did not earn. The motivation for grade inflation is debatable, but one thing's for sure: I like it.

I like getting good grades. I like having a GPA that's been augmented more than Patricia Anderson. And I'm pretty sure that most of my peers would agree with me.

I can see it on the faces of my fellow students when the teacher passes a test back. Some poor kid looks down and sees that "C" is staring back at him; the next thing you know he or she is looking for the nearest window and entertaining thoughts of jumping out of it. If the class is on the first floor the humiliation doubles as the emotionally distraught student jumps out, but only manages to scrape a knee.

But a "C" doesn't mean "deficient." It simply means "average." Or at least it did once upon a time. Things have changed and people have become very sensitive. Most students don't want the truth; they want the sanitized, politically correct version of what would be the truth if this were a Disney movie.

If someone showed up to English class and completed a majority of the course work, they're expecting to be praised for putting forth the necessary effort. This person may not be entirely sincere, but they tried, didn't they? So go ahead and give them an "A" for that research paper titled "Why DVDs are Way Cooler than Video Tapes."

All right, maybe I'm only a fan of grade inflation when it works in my favor. Of course I like to get a good grade that I don't deserve, but I can't stand it when other people get good grades for turning in work that isn't as good as mine.

Really, though, grade inflation is a waste of time. It might be a short-term solution that will make students happy, but that doesn't help anyone in the long-term. College is not about the truth. College is about drinking and getting away from your parents.

It's also about being more than what you are. College is not about being perfectly literate, but they tried, if not for putting forth the necessary effort. This proves, once and for all, that we really are smarter than our parents. It's also about being honest.

All through grade school we were all reminded of how we could do anything if we tried our hardest. That's a nice thought, but it's pretty far from the truth. College is natural selection. Those who have the skill move on to become doctors, lawyers, and scientists. Those who fail to meet the Darwinian challenge are left behind to become president of the United States.

What I'm trying to say is that when I go to the doctor I want to be relatively sure that the physician in question didn't earn a medical degree by being "pretty sure" of how to diagnose my ailment.

If that means a university-wide return to normal standards of grading, then so be it. But not until the grades are in for this semester - I've been promised a crap $3 bill for every A I get.

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July 16, 2003 • The Central Florida Future
Attendance concerns call for new measures

New UCF committee taking on hefty task

**ERIC KERNISH STAFF WRITER**

In an effort to raise the attendance level this year at UCF home games, especially football, Gert Garman, director of sports marketing, has come forth with a plan that she hopes will accomplish that.

Garman has put together a committee, comprising 115 volunteers, to assist the UCF Marketing Department.

She came up with the idea after recently attending the National College Athletics Conference, where they had a session on voluntary sales forces. There, Garman decided to form a voluntary sales force of her own for UCF only bigger.

The 115 volunteers will be split into different sub-committees. One will distribute items such as posters, schedules, and season-ticket brochures for all UCF sports all over town. Another will distribute news releases throughout Orlando.

A third group, the Volunteer Sales Force, will consist of two teams, a black team and a gold team, mostly comprising UCF fans with statewide contacts. Their goal, designed like a contest, is to see which team sells the most tickets through the month of August. The committee also has alumni chapters in Tampa, Broward County and Atlanta that want to get involved.

The volunteer committee makes up the final subgroup. Members will travel with Clear Channel radio stations to live events to help gain exposure for UCF sports. "Those 115 people are going to be great PR tools for the Athletics Department. The more people they can get fired up, the better off we’re all going to be," Garman said.

She emphasized that the committee’s plan this fall is to accomplish five major goals: get students involved, increase season ticket sales, build tradition, enhance UCF’s visibility, and change the perception of UCF within the Central Florida community.

"These are five things that we think we can make some headway on," Garman said.

One of Garman’s main concerns is the student body’s tailgating practices.

**Attendance levels**

For MAC teams in the 2002-2003 football season

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Average Attendance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Miami</td>
<td>69,597</td>
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<tr>
<td>Florida State</td>
<td>65,195</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Florida</td>
<td>24,304</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>20,123</td>
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<tr>
<td>Toledo</td>
<td>20,143</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northern Illinois</td>
<td>21,138</td>
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<tr>
<td>Western Michigan</td>
<td>17,345</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central Michigan</td>
<td>17,280</td>
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<tr>
<td>Western Michigan</td>
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<td>Ball State</td>
<td>12,603</td>
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<td>Akron</td>
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<td>Fresno State</td>
<td>10,723</td>
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<tr>
<td>Buffalo</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kent State</td>
<td>5,860</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MEASURING outside of the MAC

Tough times ahead for UCF and out-of-conference foes

**ASHLEY BURNS STAFF WRITER**

UCF needs to be concerned with the significance of its games against its MAC rivals, even Buffalo and Kent State. However, the most exciting game usually comes against the teams that aren’t in the Knights’ conference.

It is only a matter of time before UCF wins the next big Alabama-like game. Last season saw the Knights lose a few big heartbreakers against national power Penn State and new conference rival Marshall.

Whether it be the field goal drought against Auburn behind Donnie’s arm, or a near-win against Texas, UCF has yet to face off against a team like the Owls of FAU.

While the Owls are relatively new to NCAA football, they have created a program in a booted football market. First of all, they play in South Florida, an area that is obviously marked as Miami. However, UCF fans have never felt as the rest of the state is dominated by Florida State and UF fans.

Out of that, there is the growing presence of UCF and USF fans.

It is good, though, that the Knights’ last game against a Division 1-AA team comes against a Florida school.

The Owls will provide a great display of UCF’s offensive chemistry. FAU gave just 20 points per game last season against teams like UConn and Nebraska State. This September 13 affair will be quite entertaining as the first half will undoubtedly display Ryan Schneider’s passing attack. FAU will be a good team for Schneider and his receivers and tight ends to pad their numbers.

The second half will allow Alex Haynes to literally run FAU into the ground. It is more likely that backups Keith Williams and Donavious Wilson will see a share of the time in this game as well.

No matter the amount of points UCF puts on the board, it will be an entertaining day for UCF. The most exciting aspect of this game is that it offers the entire team the opportunity of an extra day of practice in case they need to work out any chemistry issues.

**Syracuse Orange**

This is the most win game of the season for the Knights. After last year’s knee-buckling second quarter comeback against UCF, the Orange can own the Knights with a third straight win this year.

The Orange are coming off a miserable 2002 campaign in which they finished 4-8. Syracuse might possibly have been the most inconsistent team in NCAA football last season, as they upset Virginia Tech in a three-overtime offensive brawl. However, this is the same Syracuse team that lost to Temple four weeks prior.
From Page 12

"We don't want to discourage people from tailgating at their cars. What we don't want anymore are the burning of the couches, and the U-Haul trucks coming in, and all that kind of stuff. We want people to come down there and tailgate. Bring your grill. Bring your coolers. Have a great time. Bring your 10-by-10 tent. That's cool. But when the catman goes off, come on into the stadium, because we need the cheering. The Golden Knights need everybody in there cheering."

Garman also understands that the Outlook will be a UCF tailgate party is not with UCF students:

"I think some of the problems that go on in the parking lots are just from people who have no intention of coming into the game," Garman said.

Some tailgaters, Garman said, aren't even sports fans, but she sees this as a positive:

"If we made it an event where you can come in, you can have a great time, even if you're not a sports fan, then it is a social occasion," Garman said.

All of the goals, however, the most important one that lies ahead for the committee is changing the perception of UCF within the Orlando community:

"A lot of people in Orlando still think of UCF as this little community college," Garman explained. "People who haven't been out here for 10 years have no idea what our campus looks like."

"People in our own backyard don't realize how big we are. How great we are. But people all over the country are noticing. So, that's kind of skewed, and we really need to change that."

Garman plans to achieve each goal by full, and carry that success into spring. "We want to increase season ticket sales for baseball as well," she said.

Last year UCF ranked ninth in the Mid-American Conference in average attendance at home games, with 17,098 people. Marshall led the conference with an average of 27,970, while Kent State finished last with 10,080. During the years 1998-2001, UCF averaged 22,921 in attendance per home game. In 2002, UCF's attendance fell by 5,000 people per home game.

The committee's goals, which will reflect my goals, are to sell 5 percent more season tickets this year, and then to get attendance at each of our games, and that includes all 17 sports, by 10 percent.

"One thing we can do that easily," Garman said. "Part of last year's attendance was from just two last year. The games on Parent's Weekend (vs. Kent State) and Thanksgiving weekend (vs. Ohio) had weather forecasts calling for rainy conditions. Sure enough, at Kent State, no rain actually fell. With all the parents in town that weekend, that game was predicted to have a huge turnout."

"We lost kids in attendance and actually it ended being one of the most beautiful nights of the whole year," Garman said.

That blown forecast turned into one of the best crowd levels that game. On Thanksgiving weekend, many students left town to be home with their families, and Garman said she understands that. This year, she hopes that UCF will be selling out the MAC stadium, not just around Thanksgiving, and that it will come down to that last game.

"We're hoping that students will want to come back, and they'll want to support," Garman said.

"We're asking students to come to 15 home games," Garman said. "Students' attendance will be recorded through special cards that allow the system to keep a total of their game attendance."

"We started the card-swipers last year, so we know when someone enters the tailgate party," Garman explained. "We're going to have the card swipers, not just at football now this year, but also at men's soccer, women's soccer, volleyball, men's baseball and women's basketball."

"You come to 15 home sporting events, and you get tickets put into a drawing," Garman said.

"We are going to send one UCF student and a friend of theirs to the Billboard Music Awards in Las Vegas for three days, all expenses paid," Garman said.

The contest will run through the end of the men's basketball season. In addition, the student government will give away scholarships at athletic events this year. The contest winners will be held both for the fans and the students.

Also to be repeated this year will be Fireside Friday, where 200 freshmen will get sent by bus to the first home game.

"We'll also be offering two free tickets to the first home game for any active or retired military, police, EMS and fire personnel," Garman said. "We want to honor them.

Garman is even trying to schedule an F-18 to fly over the stadium to honor those personnel."

Garman has organized an organized tailgate party to help control and enhance fans' experiences at the games. At UCF tailgate parties, the party starts about three hours before kickoff, and will run through halftime.

"This is supposed to be fun. It's an alternative to hanging out in the parking lots," Garman said.

Live music will accompany each Fun Faire event. Garman has planned for five bands to perform throughout the season.

In addition, she said, "We're going to have a double showing games from around the country before our games start, and then it will show our game."

There also will be a UCF Student Section intended to provide the students with significant discounts for inside the stadium, making food and drinks—"including beer"—less expensive.

"We're making it much more enjoyable for them out there because we really want them there at the tailgate," Garman said.

Fun Faire will also have several corporate sponsors, including Coca-Cola and TG Lawrence, who will be giving away samples and assorted gifts. A children's section will be overseen by the Altrium Association.

To enter Fun Faire, all guests need is their student ID or a ticket. "Whirlwinds will be given out to everyone who enters the tailgate party, making it easier to come and go. Because there will be merchandise sold on Timber Field, the whiskbats allow every student and fan to take purses back to their cars, as well as most people in the parking lot."

-- GARY GARMAN
Director of Sports Marketing
Adding to that pressure, the Knights must stop three potentially tough teams on the road this season, the Knights can win. If every player, especially Schneider, plays to his full potential for 60 minutes, then Virginia Tech can easily be beaten. The offensive line has to give Schneider time to throw and he has to make the right decisions. If Schneider does his job and finds two targets on the start, then the rest of the pieces will fall into place.

Virginia Tech Hokies

The toughest challenge in 2002 for the Hokies was opening the season against three ordinarily tough teams on the road. While the challenge is reduced this season, the Hokies must face just one incredibly tough opponent on the road to open 2003 on national television.

Virginia Tech防守

The toughest challenge in 2002 for the Knights was opening the season against three ordinarily tough teams on the road. While the challenge is reduced this season, the Knights must stop three potentially tough teams on the road. The toughest challenge in 2002 for the Hokies was opening the season against three ordinarily tough teams on the road. While the challenge is reduced this season, the Hokies must face just one incredibly tough opponent on the road to open 2003 on national television.

Virginia Tech Hokies

The toughest challenge in 2002 for the Hokies was opening the season against three ordinarily tough teams on the road. While the challenge is reduced this season, the Hokies must face just one incredibly tough opponent on the road to open 2003 on national television.
8 Days a week

Highlights of the cultural calendar

LINNEA BROWN STAFF WRITER

Wednesday, July 10

Atlantic and Native American Dance: The Atlantic Public Library hosts an Atlantic and Native American dance series. Performers from various American Indian tribes paint the dance floor and perform traditional dances and songs. While the event is free, donations are encouraged. The event is free and open to the public. From 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Atlantic Public Library, 407-676-5840.

Thursday, July 11

Mall Walking at 10:30 a.m. at the Mall at Millenia, 10200 SW Orlando DR, Suite 201. This is a free walking group that meets every Thursday to encourage an active lifestyle and offer a support system for those interested in weight loss or maintenance. This month's mall is the Mall at Millenia, 10200 SW Orlando DR, Suite 201. To sign up for the mall walking program, call 407-648-4900.

Friday, July 12

The Career Resource Center presents a service industry exhibit at Casselperry Club, 11715 N. Halsey St. From 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., this exhibit offers networking opportunities with local employers and job seekers. For more information, call 407-999-6700.

Saturday, July 13

Rainy Day Festival: The Rainy Day Festival is held at the Lake Nona Sports Complex, 13651 S. Florida St., Lake Nona. From 10 a.m. to noon, this festival includes live music, food trucks, and activities for families. For more information, call 407-679-2000.

Sunday, July 14

Annual Celebrity Golf Classic: The annual Celebrity Golf Classic is held at the PGA National Resort & Spa, 10100 W. Golf Club Rd., Palm Beach Gardens. From 7 a.m. to 2 p.m., this event features a golf tournament, celebrity sightings, and a silent auction. For more information, call 407-341-2000.

Monday, July 15

Café del Sol: The Café del Sol is located at 425 S. Orange Ave., Orlando. From 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., this café offers live music and a variety of drinks and food. For more information, call 407-889-2525.

Tuesday, July 16

Crossfit World Championships: The Crossfit World Championships are held at the Amway Center, 1211 W. Town Center Rd., Orlando. From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., this event features top Crossfit athletes from around the world competing in various physical challenges. For more information, call 407-839-1100.

Wednesday, July 17

Face Painting: Face painting is available at Central Park, 420 S. Parker Rd., Orlando. From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., this event features face painting for children. For more information, call 407-262-9500.

Thursday, July 18

NFL Hall of Fame: The NFL Hall of Fame is located at 2001 NE 10th Ave., Miami. From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., this museum showcases the history of the National Football League. For more information, call 305-379-3300.

Friday, July 19

Night at the Museum: The Night at the Museum event is held at the Orlando Museum of Art, 650 S. Magnolia Ave., Orlando. From 5 p.m. to 11 p.m., this event features live music, food, and drinks. For more information, call 407-839-3800.

Saturday, July 20

American Exhibit: The American Exhibit is held at the Florida Museum of Natural History, 2401 SW Archer Rd., Gainesville. From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., this exhibit showcases the history and culture of the American people. For more information, call 352-395-5900.

Sunday, July 21

Miami Dolphins: The Miami Dolphins are playing at Hard Rock Stadium, 3451 W. Clay St., Miami. From 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., this game features a showdown between the Miami Dolphins and the New York Jets. For more information, call 305-538-2000.

Monday, July 22

Adam's Apple: Adam's Apple is located at 2401 SW Archer Rd., Gainesville. From 10 a.m. to 2 a.m., this bar features live music, food, and drinks. For more information, call 352-371-0100.

Tuesday, July 23

Rainbow Gathering: The Rainbow Gathering is held at 7900 S. Lake Mary Blvd., Orlando. From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., this event features live music, food, and drinks. For more information, call 407-371-1111.

Wednesday, July 24

National Park Service: The National Park Service is located at 1211 W. Town Center Rd., Orlando. From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., this event features live music and a variety of drinks and food. For more information, call 407-839-1100.

Thursday, July 25

State Fair of Florida: The State Fair of Florida is held at the Florida State Fairgrounds, 1000 30th St. N., Orlando. From 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., this fair features live music, food, and rides. For more information, call 407-292-6700.

Friday, July 26

American Legion Post 407: American Legion Post 407 is located at 3401 E. Colonial Dr., Orlando. From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., this event features live music, food, and rides. For more information, call 407-898-3100.

Saturday, July 27

Walnut Street Fair: The Walnut Street Fair is held at 7900 S. Lake Mary Blvd., Orlando. From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., this event features live music, food, and rides. For more information, call 407-371-1111.
One out of 10 students owe $7,800 in credit-card debt

FROM PAGE 15

that before getting a credit card, or at least before I get four of them."

Those Internet links include advice such as: "Top Ten Ways to Manage Your Credit Card on Campus and Beyond."

1. Before you apply for a credit card, determine what you can realistically afford to pay each month.
2. Plan to pay off your bill completely each month.
3. Before you choose a credit card, shop around carefully.
4. Compare interest rates, stated as the APR or annual percentage rate of interest. Be wary of low "teaser" rates that only apply for a few months as an introductory offer; then much higher rates kick in.
5. Avoid cards with high penalty rates, rates of 20 percent or even 30 percent if the card issuer misses or makes a late payment.
6. Look for hidden fees such as late-payment charges or over-the-limit fees.

"I knew that I didn't have the money at that moment, and probably wouldn't have it for a while, but it's not like I can go to class without books."

Andrea Gever

7. Avoid the revolving-debt trap. Make more than the minimum payment each month. For example: If you make only minimum payments and you run up a $1,000 balance on a card with a 13 percent APR, even if you never use that card again and continue to make only minimum payments, you would still owe over $200 three and one-half years later. Pay off the debt and you would take over six years! It could be much worse if you are late on some payments and the card issuer raises your rate to 21 percent APR or higher.

8. Don't be seduced into obtaining several credit cards.

"I don't have the money at that moment, and probably wouldn't have it for a while, but it's not like I can go to class without books." —Andrea Gever

One out of 10 students owe $7,800 in credit-card debt

FROM PAGE 15

lower maintenance costs.

It also is better for the environment and the fumes don't smell as bad, said assistant superintendent Littlewood Hibbard.

The fuel costs 15 cents to 20 cents more per gallon than diesel, Hibbard said. But, if total operating costs are lower, the school system might continue to use the alternative fuel, he said.

"The economics is always an issue," Hibbard said.

General Motors Corp., the world's largest automaker, is looking at how it can use renewable fuels, said Gary Hersee, the company's director of alternative fuels.

But, he said, he does not recommend drivers use vegetable oil.

"That's a little scary," he said.

Still, Brown and David said they are not afraid to try. The secretary, studying "art stuff," plans to drive from Detroit to Columbus, Ohio, where David's parents live, and then to California.

The trip is the payoff for months of research and mastering basic mechanics. They even took welding classes.

The pair also discussed modifications like about a month and cost about $250.

They welded a 22-gallon steel tank for the vegetable oil and installed it in the back of the Jetta. They added valves and filters to purify the oil. The job required some rewired electronics.

To drive, they start the car with diesel fuel and switch to vegetable oil once it has been heated enough to be burned. And they are on the road.

---

Modifications to run Jetta on vegetable oil cost $250

FROM PAGE 15

David Brown and Rachel David have equipped Brown's 2003 Volkswagen Jetta Diesel Station Wagon to run on vegetable oil.

BRIAN BLANKENSHIP
STAFF PHOTO
A tan is a warning your skin has been exposed to too much sun. If your skin has even a light tan, you have already been exposed to enough ultraviolet radiation, or UV, to cause damage to your skin.

UV from natural or artificial sources, causes your skin cells to react and produce a dark pigment called melanin. Melanin is a form of natural defense against UV. It acts as a sort of sunscreen by absorbing further radiation.

Some people use tanning beds to tan or darken their skin. Solariums are enclosed sun beds that have light tubes that emit radiation from above and below. There are also similar devices like sun lamps that you can use in the sun. This can cause burns, broken blood vessels, rashes, and long-term skin damage according to Patti Stuart of Student Health Services.

A tan in the sun is a form of tanning bed.

Contrary to common myth, solariums do not offer safe tans. The operators of such facilities have shown inconsistent amounts of UV rays to be present in tanning beds. They also have found a broad range of UV doses and many times they were excessively high. Often the dose of UV light is not checked properly by the operators of such facilities.

Studies have shown inconsistent amounts of UV rays to be present in tanning beds. They also found a broad range of UV doses and many times they were excessively high. Often the dose of UV light is not checked properly by the operators of such facilities.

UV radiation is also known as a form of natural defense against UV. It acts as a sort of sunscreen by absorbing further radiation.

Tanning beds tan the skin by radiating it with both UV-A and UV-B radiation. Ultraviolet radiation from a tanning bed is more intense than natural sunlight. Ten minutes in a solarium can be equivalent to approximately four hours in the sun.

UV doses are not checked properly by the operators of such facilities. This can cause burns, broken blood vessels, rashes, and long-term skin damage. If you do choose to use these, think carefully about all the risks.

If you do choose to use these, think carefully about all the risks. Operators of these facilities should provide you with correct information about the risks and require you to sign a consent form before you proceed.

Finally, if you find a lesion or mole you are concerned about, please call and make an appointment to see us at the Student Health Center, 409-823-2701.

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