



## 2000 UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO WEEKLY FOOTBALL RELEASE



• **THIS WEEK'S OPPONENT** •  
**BUFFALO (0-0) AT SYRACUSE (0-0)**  
**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2000 • 7:00 PM**  
**CARRIER DOME (49,500) • SYRACUSE, NY**  
**NON-CONFERENCE GAME**  
**WGR RADIO (550)**



### Quick Facts

Coach \_\_\_\_\_ Craig Cirbus, 6th year (17-38)  
 Game Captains \_\_\_ Carlos Spencer, Brandon  
 \_\_\_ Shaughnessy, Scott Keller, Joe McKoy  
 Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_ Division I-A/Mid-American  
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### BULLS HEAD DOWN THE I-90 TO OPEN 2000 SEASON

The University at Buffalo Bulls face the Orangemen of Syracuse University for the first time in 101 years to open the first season of the new millennium.

UB and Syracuse will play for the first time in a four-game series that could become New York State's first Division I-A football rivalry.

The Bulls will come into the game as huge underdogs after a difficult transition to Division I-A football in 1999. Buffalo finished 0-11 and 0-8 in its first season in the Mid-American Conference. Syracuse finished 7-5 on the year but finished strong with a win over Kentucky in the Music City Bowl.

### BULLS HAVE EDGE IN SERIES THAT DATES BACK TO 19TH CENTURY

While this Saturday's game begins the 21st century of football at UB, the all-time series with Syracuse has actually only belonged in the 19th century to this point.

All four previous meetings between the two teams occurred between 1896-1899 with Buffalo owning a 3-0-1 edge over the Orange.

The Bulls and Orange tied in 1896 (6-6) in their first-ever meeting but Buffalo captured the next three.

The all-time series year-by-year:

Year (Site)	Winner, Score	Series
1896 (Buffalo)	Tie, 6-6	0-0-1
1897 (Buffalo)	UB, 16-0	1-0-1
1898 (Syracuse)	UB, 10-0	2-0-1
1899 (Syracuse)	UB, 16-0	3-0-1

### WHAT'S NEW IN 2000

The Bulls have plenty of new looks to them entering the 2000 season.

Here's a rundown of what's new:

**New helmets:** The Bulls have added the University interlocking UB mark to their helmets while adding the word "Bulls" just above the face mask.

**A revamped coaching staff:** Particularly on the offensive side of the ball, UB will have lots of coaches in new places, if not new faces. **Charlie Donnor** remains the offensive coordinator but goes from offensive line coach to quarterbacks coach; **Tony Policare** moves from quarterbacks coach to wide receivers;

second-year coach **Chris Wiesehan** goes from wide receivers to the young offensive line and **Jim Gibbons**, who started his UB career in 1995 on the field, moves to running backs coach after directing the Bulls' strength and conditioning efforts the last four years. Gibbons' switch came in the wake of Dennis Greene accepting the head coaching job at Erie Community College in Buffalo, which begins football in the fall of 2001.

In addition, **Chuck Williams**, a fixture in

## 2000 Mid-American Conference Standings

### East Division

Team	Division		Overall		PF	PA	Hm.	Rd	Strk
	W	L	W	L					
Marshall	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	W-17
Miami	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	W-1
Ohio	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	L-1
Akron	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	W-1
Bowling Green	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	W-3
Kent	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	L-2
Buffalo	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	L-15

### West Division

Team	W		L		PF	PA	Hm.	Rd	Strk
	W	L	W	L					
Western Michigan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	L-1
Toledo	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	W-3
Northern Illinois	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	W-1
Eastern Michigan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	L-2
Central Michigan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	W-2
Ball State	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	L-17

### Thursday's Games

Southeast Missouri at Marshall, 7:00 pm  
 W. Michigan at Wisconsin, 8:05 pm  
 N. Illinois at Northwestern, 8:00 pm

### Saturday's Games

Ohio at Iowa State, 11:30 am  
 Bowling Green at Michigan, 12 noon  
 Toledo at Penn State, 12 noon  
 Akron at Virginia Tech, 1:00 pm  
 Kent State at Pittsburgh, 3:30 pm

Miami at Vanderbilt, 6:00 pm

Ball State at Florida, 6:00 pm  
 Connecticut at E. Michigan, 7:00 pm

**Buffalo at Syracuse, 7:00 pm**

*(italics indicate MAC games)*



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Western New York coaching, comes to UB from Canisius College to coach THE tight ends. Williams had coached UB's secondary from 1985-89.

Defensively, the changes were more minor; with **Matt Rhule** taking over the defensive line duties after spending last year as a graduate assistant, replacing **Tom Jones**, who moved back to coach the Bulls' safeties. **Mike Gebbia** remains in the secondary and will handle UB's cornerbacks. First-year graduate assistant **Doug Socha**, a North Tonawanda native, will be a defensive assistant with primary duties in the secondary.

Off the field, 1999 UB graduate **John Opfer** will head up UB's strength and conditioning program after serving as an assistant since this past spring.

**A new offensive line:** The Bulls graduated four-fifths of the most experienced offensive line in Division I-A football last year and lost three-year starter **Josh Stello (Moon Township, PA/Moon)** for the season to a torn ACL suffered in July.

Stello, despite playing defense the last two years, was expected to help anchor UB's young offensive line in 2000.

### *SCOUTING THE ORANGE*

The Bulls open their season on the road at perennial power Syracuse, a team that has dominated the BIG EAST in recent years.

The Orange have won the BIG EAST title in three of the past four years and have a 5-2 bowl record under head coach Paul Pasqualoni.

This year's team should be led by a defense that features Butkus Award Candidate **Morlon Greenwood**. Greenwood has made 37 consecutive starts and had 91 tackles last season. In addition, defensive end **Duke Pettijohn** had 10½ sacks last year.

The Orange have a quarterback

controversy to resolve. They have four players vying for the starting spot with both **Troy Nunes** and **Madei Williams** splitting time last season. They are joined by newcomers **R.J. Anderson** and **Chad Elliott** this fall with all vying for the starting spot.

Coach Pasqualoni has indicated that he will not make a decision on a starter for the Buffalo game until game time.

### *CAMP HAPPENINGS*

Here are some of the major events that happened during the summer and fall camp:

Three-year starter **Josh Stello (Moon Township, PA/Moon)** was lost for the season in July when he suffered a torn ACL to his right knee. He will redshirt and return for a fifth season next year. He will most likely miss next spring's drills but should be fully recovered by next August.

Sophomore **Kyle Kampf (Long Branch, NJ/Shore Regional)** suffered a back injury the first day of pre-season drills and decided to return home. His status with the team is uncertain at this time, but he is currently not with the team.

Sophomore **Terrance Dawson (Warren, OH/Warren G. Harding)** joined the Bulls on Tuesday, August 14 after playing last season at City College of San Francisco.

Dawson was originally signed out of high school to play at Indiana University and played his high school ball with UB teammates **Alvin Jennings** and **Marcus Claret** at Warren G. Harding HS in Ohio.

Dawson was a two-time All-Steel Valley performer in high school and led the conference in sacks during his last two years. One scouting service had him ranked among the top 15 interior linemen in the Midwest his senior year.

Sophomore **Jason Coley (Rochester, NY/Greece-Olympia)** was moved from

the defensive secondary to an outside linebacker during camp and has moved into the two-deep heading into the opener.

Senior defensive lineman **Joe McKoy (Jamestown, NY/Jamestown)**, who moved from fullback to defensive end, suffered a ruptured tendon in his left thumb but should be ready to play against Syracuse.

### *SYRACUSE CONNECTIONS*

Buffalo has several connections with Syracuse.

Senior punter **Mike Masucci (Canastota, NY/Christian Brothers Academy)** grew up just outside Syracuse and was recruited by the Bulls while playing in the Carrier Dome in a state playoff game.

Masucci has started all 33 games in his UB career and last year set a school record by averaging 40.8 yards per kick last season.

Sophomore **Mike Lambert** starred at Jamesville-DeWitt High School in high school and grew up in Syracuse. Lambert will make the trip as well and is in a battle with **Mark Graham (Monroe, MI/Monroe)** for the weakside cornerback position.

In addition, UB Athletic Director **Bob Arkeilpane** was a three-year starter for the Orange (1978-80) and graduated cum laude in 1981.

### *CIRBUS QUOTABLES*

Excerpts of head coach Craig Cirbus' MAC teleconference on Monday:

"We started off the pre-season with a lot of enthusiasm and excitement and a group of people who wanted to work hard. We really physically challenged our football team. It was a physically demanding pre-season and we have a lot of young people who haven't played a lot



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of football on both sides of ball."

"We're coming along, there are certain areas that are sharper than others. What I can safely say is that over a two-week period, I don't think there is a team in the country that has made greater progress from Day 1 to Day 14. I'm confident that we'll be as ready as any team could be going into Syracuse on Saturday night."

"As a coach you look at all the challenges that a Syracuse University team would present, all that talent and all that tradition. In light of all those factors, our players are dying to play the best in college football, they are really looking forward to it."

### *STREAKING...*

Streaks on the line on Saturday...

The Bulls are looking to snap a 15-game losing streak dating back to 1998. That is UB's longest losing streak since going winless for 22 straight games starting in 1925 and lasting until a 12-0 win over Long Island during the 1928 season. Buffalo was 0-21-1 during that stretch.

The Bulls have lost 11 straight games on the road dating back to a 16-14 win at Lafayette on Sept. 19, 1998.

The Bulls last win against a Division I-A team was a 16-0 win over Holy Cross on October 31, 1970, UB's last full season against major college competition until 1999.

Senior punter **Mike Masucci (Canastota, NY/Christian Brothers Academy)** has started all 33 games of his UB career. The next longest streak is senior offensive tackle **David Pruce (Chardon, OH/Chardon)**, who has started 24 consecutive games.

### *CAPTAINS NAMED*

University at Buffalo head coach Craig Cirbus announced during the first week of camp that he will name captains each

week during the 2000 season and name permanent captains at the conclusion of the season.

He also named seniors **Brandon Shaughnessy (Stafford, NY/LeRoy), Carlos Spencer (Buffalo, NY/South Park), Joe McKoy (Jamestown, NY/Jamestown)** and **Scott Keller (Amherst, NY/Amherst Central)** as captains for the pre-season and for the opener at Syracuse.

Shaughnessy was named offensive captain, Spencer the defensive captain and McKoy and Keller special teams captains.

### *ROHLFS HAS KNACK FOR TURNOVERS*

Junior free safety **Craig Rohlfis (Cincinnati, OH/Moeller)** has been a human turnover machine for the Bulls in his first two seasons.

Rohlfis, who tied for 20th nationally in interceptions last season, led the MAC last year in interceptions with five and was involved in **nine** of the **15** turnovers that UB forced last year. Besides the five hijacks, Rohlfis also forced two fumbles and recovered two others.

During his two-year career, the former

Moeller HS standout has been involved in 12 turnovers that the Bulls have gained.

During his high school career, Rohlfis set an Ohio state record by intercepting seven passes in the state playoffs as a senior.

### *FAMILIAR NAME IN THE DOME*

Sophomore **Matt Baniewicz (Penfield, NY/Valley Forge Military Academy)** could end up in UB's starting lineup on the offensive line, which would make for a familiar site in the Carrier Dome.

Matt's brother Mark was a three-year starter for the Orange on the offensive line and was drafted by the Jacksonville Jaguars this past spring.

### *NEW LOOK OFFENSIVE LINE*

The Bulls' offensive line has gone from the most experienced in the country in 1999 (with over 150 career starts) to perhaps the least experienced.

Senior **David Pruce (Chardon, OH/Chardon)** is the only lineman to have started a game for UB among the prospective two deep.

<b>• Numbers of Note in Cirbus Era •</b>		
	<i>1995-present</i>	<i>2000</i>
Playing at home _____	10-18	0-0
Playing on road _____	7-20	0-0
Playing on grass _____	14-29	0-0
Playing on turf _____	3-9	0-0
Leading at halftime _____	11-3	0-0
Trailing at halftime _____	4-33	0-0
Game tied at halftime _____	2-2	0-0
Winning turnover margin _____	12-6	0-0
Losing turnover margin _____	2-27	0-0
Even in turnover margin _____	3-5	0-0
Rushing for over 200 yards _____	10-5	0-0
Rushing for less than 200 yards _____	7-33	0-0
Passing for more than 200 yards _____	7-15	0-0
Passing for less than 200 yards _____	10-23	0-0



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## EXCELLING IN THE CLASSROOM

The UB football program continues to excel in the classroom as the Bulls currently have 10 players with a cumulative GPA over 3.0 and have averaged over 30 players per semester over that mark.

The list:

Player	GPA
Andy Avery	3.59
Marquis Dwarto	3.24
Andre Forde	3.34
Ron Gannello	3.20
Mike Gaydosz	3.13
Alex Lazo	3.55
Jeff Mills	3.66
David Pruce	3.53
Brandon Shaughnessy	3.24
Jason Smalarz	3.36

## ON THE AIRWAVES

All University at Buffalo football games can be heard on WGR Sports Radio 55 this season with **Rick Maloney** (play-by-play) and **Chris Brown** (color analysis) on the call.

In addition, the games can be heard over the internet by going to UB's website (buffalobulls.com) or directly to www.wgr55.com.

## ON THE TUBE

The Bulls will get plenty of exposure on television this season with two road games aired live in Buffalo and all five home games rebroadcast in the Buffalo market.

In addition, for the sixth consecutive season, head coach Craig Cirbus will join Assistant Athletic Director Paul Vecchio for **Bulls Football Focus** on the Empire Sports Network. The show will air this year on Tuesday nights at 9:00 pm on Empire Sports Network.

Empire will also air the Bulls' game at Marshall live on September 30th at 7:00

pm, while Adelphia Cable's HTTV will broadcast UB's battle with Ohio the following week in Athens at 7:00 pm.

In addition, UB's opener at Syracuse and five home games will also air on tape delay on Adelphia with **Brian Blessing** and **Mark Collins** on the call with **Gary Pufpaff** handling sideline duties.

Here is the Adelphia schedule:

Game	Replay Date/Time
Syracuse	9/3 (3:30 pm), 9/5 (8:30 pm)
Connecticut	9/17 (1:00 pm, 8:30 pm)
Bowling Green	9/24 (1:00 pm, 8:30 pm)
Ball State	10/22 (1:00 pm, 8:30 pm)
Kent State	11/5 (1:00 pm, 8:30 pm)
Miami, OH	11/19 (1:00 pm, 8:30 pm)

## SINGFIELD SETS SINGLE-SEASON MARKS IN KICKOFF RETURNS

Sophomore **Dahnel Singfield (Baltimore, MD/Dunbar)** set new school records for both kickoff returns (37) and yardage (803) last season and finished the year averaging 21.7 yards per return.

Singfield is already second all-time for career yardage with 826 yards on kickoff returns.

## SHELLY DOING STRIPPING

Sophomore **Chris Shelly (Pittsburgh, PA/Shaler)** has been a master of forcing fumbles during his UB career thus far.

Shelly is tied for fifth all-time with five forced fumbles in his career – including three last season – along with Vince Canosa (1992-95) and Craig Guest (1993-96).

## BULLS LOOKING FOR HALFTIME LEAD

The Bulls have an overall mark of 11-3 during the Craig Cirbus era when leading at halftime. Unfortunately for Buffalo, it has been a long time since the Bulls have gone to intermission with the advantage.

You have to go back 15 games to Buffalo's last victory – a 47-0 shutout of Canisius – to find the last UB lead going to halftime.

The Bulls last come-from-behind

## Returning Lettermen

### Three Letters (11)

LB	Kulaa Bacheyie	Sr.
PK	Scott Keller	Sr.
OL	Gabe Kogler	Sr.
P	Mike Masucci	Sr.
OL	Robert Meyer	Sr.
LB	Brandon Nishnick	Sr.
OL	David Pruce	Sr.
TE	Brandon Shaughnessy	Sr.
DB	Carlos Spencer	Sr.
OL	Josh Stello	Sr.
RB	Theron Walker	Sr.

### Two Letters (11)

DB	Adolphus Barkor	Sr.
RB	Marvin Brereton	Jr.
DL	Bob Dzvonic	Jr.
QB	Mike Gaydosz	Jr.
RB	Derrick Gordon	Jr.
OL	Jason Hayden	Sr.
OL	Tim Hedges	Jr.
LB	Brandon Jordan	Jr.
DB	Craig Rohlf	Jr.
LB	Chris Shelly	Jr.
WR	Dahnel Singfield	Jr.

### One Letter (20)

OL	Matt Baniewicz	So.
TE	Chad Bartoszek	So.
WR	Al Broccuto	So.
LB	Noah Burroughs	Sr.
LB	Marcus Cole	Sr.
DB	Jason Coley	So.
DL	Steve Fleming	So.
WR	Andre Forde	So.
QB	Joe Freedy	Jr.
LB	Chris Gray	Sr.
DL	Jamie Guerra	So.
OL	Brian Johnessee	Jr.
DL	Kyle Kampf	So.
DB	Mike Lambert	So.
LB	Alex Lazo	So.
DB	Youdlain Marcellus	So.
RB	Bam McDonald	So.
DL	Joe McKoy	Sr.
OL	Aaron McMickle	So.
DB	Javunt Pratt	Jr.



second half victory came at Lafayette on Sept. 19, 1998 when they rallied from a 14-10 halftime deficit to win 16-14. That was also the Bulls' last road win.

*THE COACHING MATCHUP*

The Bulls are coached by Craig Cirbus (Buffalo, '80) beginning his sixth year as head coach after spending 11 seasons as an assistant for legendary Joe Paterno at Penn State.

Cirbus has a 17-38 career record and earned NCAA Division I-AA Independent Coach of the Year honors after leading UB to an 8-3 record in 1996 – UB's first winning season in over a decade.

Syracuse is coached by Paul Pasqualoni, entering his 10th season at SU and his 15th season overall as a head coach. Pasqualoni has a career mark of 109-48-1 and a 5-2 record in bowl games during his career.

A 1972 graduate of Penn State, Pasqualoni came to Syracuse from Western Connecticut. He owns a 75-31-1 record at Syracuse and has not had a losing season in his nine years at the 'Cuse. Pasqualoni currently ranks 10th among active Division I-A coaches in winning percentage (.693).

*STILL LOOKING FOR PAYDIRT ON KICKOFF RETURN*

Although the Bulls kickoff return game ranked among the top half of the MAC last season, the Bulls have gone 110 straight games without returning a kickoff for a score.

You have to go back to Oct. 14, 1989 when Alan Bell returned a kickoff 89 yards for the last time a Buffalo player took a kickoff back for six.

*RECORD BOOK UPDATE*

The following Bulls find themselves in the UB all-time record book for career

marks:

Player .....	Category .....	Place/No.
Chris Shelly .....	Forced fumbles, career .....	T-5th/5
Craig Rohlf .....	Forced fumbles, career .....	T-9th/3
Scott Keller .....	Field goals, career .....	4th/13
Scott Keller .....	Extra points, career .....	2nd/52
Scott Keller .....	Points kicking, career .....	4th/91
Mike Masucci .....	Total punts, career .....	2nd/161
Mike Masucci .....	Total punting yards, career .....	2nd/6,156
Dahnel Singfield .....	Kickoff returns, career .....	5th/38
Dahnel Singfield .....	KO return yardage, career .....	2nd/826

*BULLS AGAINST THE MAC*

The Bulls currently have an all-time record of 10-22 against current MAC members.

The breakdown by schools: Akron (0-1), Ball State (0-2), Bowling Green (0-0), Central Michigan (0-1), Eastern Michigan (0-0), Kent State (4-3), Marshall (1-3), Miami, OH (0-2), Northern Illinois (1-2), Ohio University (2-4), Toledo (2-3) and Western Michigan (0-1).

The Bulls do not play Central Michigan, Eastern Michigan or Western Michigan in the year 2000.

*DID YOU KNOW?*

Senior offensive guard Gabe Kogler is of Hawaiian descent.

Redshirt freshman Demetrius Austrum's cousin is former Florida State standout Corey Simon, drafted by the Philadelphia Eagles in the 2000 draft.

Andy Avery, Jason Smalarz and Jeff Mills were all admitted into UB's prestigious Honors Program upon enrolling.

The Bulls have four players who hail from Canada (Theron Walker, Marvin Brereton, Kulaa Bacheyie and Youdlain Marcellus).

Rob Barber's uncle (Jodie Carter) was a member of the Miami Dolphins undefeated 1972 Super Bowl champions.

Bob Dzvonic's father is a well-known judge in the Pittsburgh area.

Derrick Gordon comes from Jamaican descent and, as a superstition, eats raw onions before games.

Sophomore fullback David Harvey-Bowen was a 1998 national powerlifting champion.

Running back Bam McDonald was the New York State Class A 200-meter champion in high school.

Sophomore Jason Montanez is related to musician Wyclef Jean, formerly of The Fugees.

Wide receiver Dahnel Singfield's cousin Jeff Burris plays for the Indianapolis Colts.

Freshman wide receiver Alvin Jennings was named the MVP of the Ohio-Pennsylvania Basketball Game.

Offensive lineman Robert Meyer is an accomplished tuba player.

Tight end Brandon Shaughnessy and freshman fullback Tom Shaughnessy are first cousins who both starred at LeRoy HS.

Punter Mike Masucci's father coached football for over 20 years.

Sophomore Aaron McMickle traveled with a USA wrestling team to Russia and Turkey. His father also ran for Senate in his native Ohio.

Senior Chris Gray's uncle, Terry Gray, played college football at Temple and later played in the CFL.