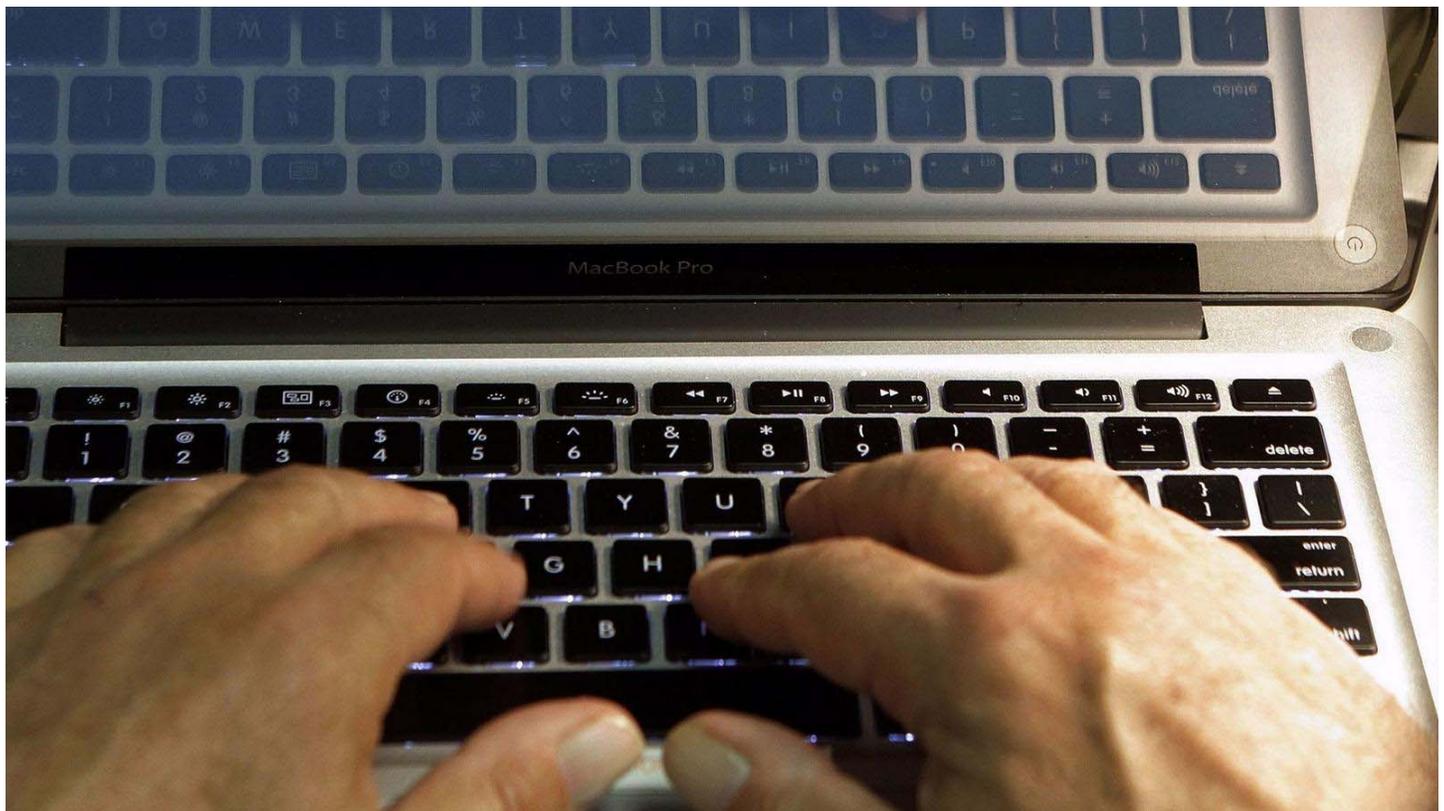


UCF trio win national computer programming title



A UCF team won a national championship in computer programming. (Damian Dovarganes / AP)



By **Marco Santana**
Orlando Sentinel

JUNE 2, 2017, 12:25 PM

First up for University of Central Florida graduate Josh Linge: a national championship in a computer programming competition.

Next stop? Facebook.

The 23-year-old Jacksonville native delayed a start date with the social media giant's Seattle office to participate one last time in the International Collegiate Programming Contest in Rapid City, S.D.

Known as "Battle of the Brains," the battle drew more than 12,000 team entries from across the world.

After winning a regional, Linge and two teammates advanced to a field of 133 that competed in the world championships. UCF's team won the national title and finished 13th in the world.

"Imagine how hard a football team has to work to win a national championship," the team's faculty adviser Ali Orooji said in a release. "This is the same thing. You have to work very hard to put yourself above the others."

Linge's team also included sophomores Alex Coleman and Timothy Buzzelli.

In the competition, teams were faced with simulated real-world, computer programming scenarios and challenged to solve them within an allotted time period.

The event featured competition from schools such as Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Princeton and Cornell.

In November, the school won the southeast regional to qualify for the national competition. UCF teams swept the top four positions in that 65-team field.

It marked the 35th straight year that UCF has finished in the top three of the regional competition. *Got a news tip?*
msantana@orlandosentinel.com or 407-420-5256; Twitter, @marcosantana

Copyright © 2017, Orlando Sentinel