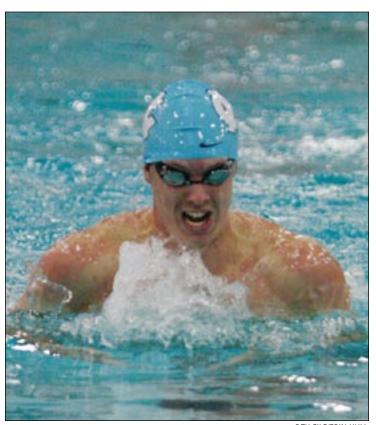
Tar Heel swimmers prep for Blue Devils



DTH FILE/ERIN HULL

Vinny Pryor will swim in his final dual meet as a Tar Heel on Friday against Duke. UNC's senior class has never suffered a loss to Duke.

Last home meet for Wyher, Harvey

BY KELLY PARSONS

ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The North Carolina men's and women's swimming and diving teams will host Duke on Friday, but it's not the Blue Devils that are making coach Rich DeSelm uneasy.

In addition to serving as the final dual meet of the season, the competition against rival Duke will be the last time 14 Tar Heel seniors will compete together as a class.

"It's pretty scary," said DeSelm, who is in his fourth season as head coach of the Tar Heels. "It's a good, good group."

North Carolina returned three men and two women first team All-Americans from last season. And for four of them, Friday's dual meet will be their last.

"Hopefully our younger people and the incoming freshmen next year can carry the torch," DeSelm

"But it's going to be challenging without these guys."

Both teams cruised to wins last season against Duke, and the No.

12 Tar Heels are confident history will repeat itself when they host the unranked Blue Devils on Friday at Koury Natatorium.

In last year's meet with Duke, freestyler Rebecca Kane took home four first-place finishes. Now with one dual meet left in her college career, DeSelm is expecting her to make a similar mark.

"She is the rock of our relays, and she's just fast every time," DeSelm said. "She doesn't have a bad meet."

Kane's efforts will be joined by those of senior Katura Harvey, who has won seven events so far this season. Though surprised that her

senior night has arrived so soon, Harvey is finishing her dual meet career without a doubt in her mind about the successful future of the program.

The atmosphere of the team is entirely different from when we were freshmen," Harvey said.

"It's really nice as a senior going out to see where the team is now ... it's definitely in a way better spot and

"Hopefully our younger people and the incoming freshmen next year can carry the torch."

RICH DESELM, UNC SWIMMING AND DIVING COACH

going in a way better direction."

On the men's side, 11 Tar Heels swimmers and divers will compete in their final dual meet. The most notable holes created by the 2011 graduating class will be made by the loss of seniors Tommy Wyher, Joe Kinderwater and Tyler Harris.

All three men finished in the top eight individually in last year's NCAA Championship and they each own at least one UNC record.

In last year's ACC Championships, Wyher became a six-time conference champion for the Tar Heels.

The senior class boasts many

accolades, and one of them is a perfect 3-0 record against Duke.

But Friday's meet is about more than just fast times and beating rivals — it's about celebrating the careers of athletes that have set a new standard for North Carolina

swimming. "We were Rich's first true recruiting class, and he brought us all on because we were starting a new tradition here at UNC," Kinderwater

"I know it's going to be really special for him ... it's going to be a special night for everyone."

Contact the Sports Editor at sports@dailytarheel.com.

THE LOWDOWN ON SUNDAY'S GAME



Florida State vs. No. 23 North Carolina



Smith Center, 2 p.m.

HEAD-TO-HEAD

Backcourt

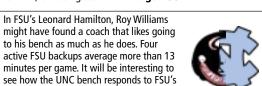
As point guard Derwin Kitchen goes, so too do the Seminoles. The senior will be instrumental in creating offense for a team that struggles to score. But he'll have to keep pace with UNC's two-headed PG unit that posted a 15-3 assist-to-turnover ratio against Boston College **Edge: UNC**

After UNC's win against N.C. State, Tar



Frontcourt

Heel forward John Henson said he and Tvler Zeller were motivated by claims made on talk radio that the pair was "soft." They'll have a chance to prove themselves against the Seminoles' ferocious power Edge: FSU forward, Chris Singleton. In FSU's Leonard Hamilton, Roy Williams



Intangibles

Bench

physical style. Edge: Push A win for the Tar Heels allows them to keep pace with first-place Duke in the ACC standings, while FSU risks being two games back of UNC for second place with a loss. North Carolina hasn't lost at home

to his bench as much as he does. Four



The Bottom Line — North Carolina 65, Florida State 62

vet this season.

DTH PICKS OF THE WEEK

The DTH SportsFriday staff and one celebrity compete to pick the winners of the biggest ACC and national college basketball games each week.

Senior assistant sports editor Aaron Taube held on to the slim lead he built in week two to maintain control of the leaderboard. His 4-4 record this week was just enough to hold off the challengers.

Leading the charge to take the lead back from Taube were sports editor Jonathan Jones and assistant sports editor Kelly Parsons, both posting respectable 5-3 records last week. Jones was the only picker with the foresight to select the Georgetown Hoyas to upset Villanova.

Similarly, Parsons was the only picker to pick Rick Pitino's Louisville squad to upset Connecticut in Storrs. The two are now tied for second place.

Last Week

Record to date

Florida St. at UNC

N. C. State at Duke

Virginia at Miami

Kentucky at Florida

Ohio St. at Minnesota

Michigan St. at Wisconsin

Va. Tech at Boston College

Back-to-back 3-5 weeks have taken the week one leader Brandon Moree all the way down to last place, where he is tied with editor Sarah Frier and senior writer Louie

This week's quest picker is Jim Young. Young is the editor of the ACC Sports Journal and produces much of the content that can be found at accsports.com. Before moving into online journalism, Young covered high school sports at the Greensboro News & Record before switching to the UNC, N.C. State and Duke beats.

We were able to get him this week despite the craziness that was National Signing Day. Young beat the recruiting trail as hard

Parsons

5-3

14-10 (.583)

Florida State

Duke

Virginia Tech

Miami

Kentucky

Ohio State

Wisconsin

Villanova

Aaron

Taube

15-9 (.625)

UNC

Duke

Virginia Tech

Miami

Florida

Ohio State

Wisconsin



conference.

right? as any ACC coach on Wednesday to give solid updates to Signing Day fans across the

ACC Sports Journal editor

Jim Young was a man among boys last semes-

ter as he went 7-for-7 in

our football picks. Young

can't get that lucky again,

Young was our guest picker in September, and correctly picked the outcomes of all seven games. So we decided to bring him back. Let's see if he can continue his unbeaten streak.

Brandon Sarah Jim Moree Frier Young 4-4 12-12 (.500) 12-12 (.500) 13-11 (.542) UNC UNC Florida State Duke Duke Duke Virginia Tech Virginia Tech Virginia Tech Miami Miami Miami Kentucky Kentucky Kentucky Ohio State Ohio State Minnesota Wisconsin Wisconsin Wisconsin

Villanova

Villanova

West Virginia at Villanova Villanova Villanova Villanova

Jonathan

Jones

14-10 (.583)

UNC

Duke

Virginia Tech

Miami

Kentucky

Minnesota

Wisconsin

Louie

Horvath

12-12 (.500)

UNC

Duke

Virginia Tech

Miami

Kentucky

Ohio State

Wisconsin

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