seminoles Around The World

The success of the Florida State swimming program goes well beyond Atlantic Coast Conference and NCAA competition. In fact, Seminole swimming has expanded its competition worldwide! In recent years, seven Seminole swimmers have competed in numerous world competitions, representing five continents and six countries in international competition.

Brendon Dedekind

- Represents South Africa in many major competitions around the world
- Finished 9th in the 50m Free at the 2000 Sydney Olympics
- Finished 2nd in the 50m Free and 50m Breast at the 2000
 World Short Course Championships in Athens, Greece
- Won the 50m Free at the 1999 Pan-Pacific Championships in Sydney, Australia
- Finished 5th in the 50 Free and 26th in the 100 Free at the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta
- Finished 4th in the 50 Free at the 1997 Pan-Pacific Games
- Finished 3rd in the 50 Free at the 1997 World University Games
- Placed 6th in the 50 Free and competed in the 100 Free at the 1998 World Championships
- Member of the 1998 gold medal World All-Star team at the Goodwill Games in New York
- Silver medalist at the 1998 Commonwealth Games

Stephen Parry

- Represents England in many major competitions around the world
- Finished 6th in the 200 Fly at the 2000 Sydney Olympics



Brett Petersen finished fourth in 100m breast at the 1999 Pan-Pacific Championships.



Brendon Dedekind and Rob Braknis at the 1996 Summer Olympics

- Finished 5th in the 200m Fly at the 1999 European Championships in Istanbul, Turkey
- Finished 6th in the 200 Fly at the 1995 World University Games at Tokyo
- British National Champion in the 100 and 200 Fly in 1996 and the 200 Fly in 1994 and 1995
- Finished 3rd at the European Championships in the 200 Fly in 1997
- Was 4th in the 200 Fly at the 1997 World University Games
- Finished 6th in the 200 Fly and competed in the 100 Fly at the 1998 World Championships in Perth, Australia
- Finished 3rd in the 200 Fly at the 1998 Commonwealth Games
- Was a member of the 1998 gold medal World All Star team at the Goodwill Games in New York

Rob Braknis

- Competed for Canada at the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta
- Finished 16th in the 100 Back and was a member of the 12th place 400 Medley Relay

Brett Petersen

- Represents South Africa in international competition
- Finished 7th in the 100 Breast at the 2000 Sydney Olympics
- Finished 4th in the 100 Breast and was on the 4th place 400 Medley Relay at the 1999 Pan-Pacific Championships
- Finished 5th in the 100 Breast with a time of 1:03.28 in the 1998 Commonwealth Games

Tanya Gurr

- Represents Zimbabwe in international competition
- Competed in the 1999 All-African Games



Seminoles at the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games (left to right) Brendon Dedekind, Stephen Parry, Coach Neil Harper, Brett Petersen and Julio Santos

Greg Main-Baillie

- Represents South Africa in international competition
- Finished 12th in the 50 Free and 15th in the 100 Free at the 1999 Pan-Pacific Championships in Sydney, Australia

Nelson Mora

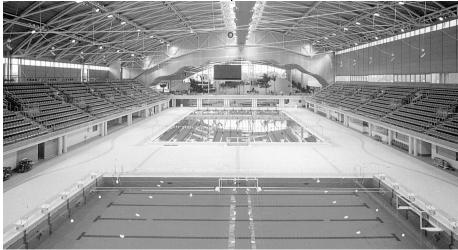
- Represents Venezuela in international competition
- Was a finalist at the 1999 Pan-

American championships in the 200 Fly and was on the 4th place 400 Free Relay

- Received a bronze medal in the 200 Fly at the 1999 Latin Cup
- Gold medalist in the 200m Fly at the 1995 Pan-American games
- Finished 20th in the 200m Fly at the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta

Julio Santos

- Represented Ecuador at the 1996 and 2000 Summer Olympics in Atlanta and Sydney
- Was a member of the 400 Free Relay



Sydney International Aquatic Centre Venue for the 2000 Olympic Games

Florida State Swimming & **Diving Hall of** Fame





PHIL

CURT

GENDERS

Inducted

BIM STULTS Inducted 1978

HILES

Inducted 1980









ROGER SLATER Inducted 1994

MIKE KOWALSKI Inducted 1995

ST





MIKE **TSCHIRRET** Inducted 1998

FOR HARPER AND FLORIDA STATE, SUCCESS GOES BEYOND THE COLLEGIATE RANKS

The 2000 Olympics

The 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia were extra special to the Florida State University swimming program. Head coach Neil Harper accompanied the South African delegation as an assistant coach as he watched two of his former FSU swimmers, Brendon Dedekind and Brett Petersen, compete in the 2000 Games.

The experience began in April of 2000 when six FSU swimmers from South Africa attended the Olympic trials in Durban. Both Dedekind, a student assistant coach for the Seminoles in 1999-2000, and Petersen, a senior on that squad, qualified after turning in times that ranked them in the top 10 in the world in their event. The swimmers then made a request to the South African Olympic Federation for coach Harper, who had been their coach for the past year and a half, to accompany them to Sydney. The request was granted, and in September, the three headed to Australia.



"Petersen being an All-American and an Olympic finalist and Dedekind being a two-time NCAA champ and Olympic finalist is quite impressive. It says a lot for our program on how we can take swimmers from all backgrounds and mold them and give them the opportunity to succeed." – Coach Neil Harper

However, this was not the first trip to the Olympics for Harper. Harper, a native of Great Britain, competed in the 1984 Los Angeles and 1988 Seoul Olympics, finishing sixth in '84 and fourth in '88 in the 400 meter medley relay.

"It was a great time," said Harper on his latest Olympic experience. "I was fortunate enough to swim for Great Britain in the '84 and '88 Games, but it had been a while since I had been involved as a participant or coach. It was a fantastic event. To be in the opening ceremonies and to see the facilities there was wonderful."

Petersen's event, the 100 meter breaststroke, was held on the



first day of competition. He placed first in his preliminary heat and returned to the pool that evening to swim in the semifinals. In the semifinal, Petersen swam the race of his life. After the final touch on the wall, he recorded a lifetime best and new South African and African record (1:01.42). The time placed him fifth in the finals. However, after a bad start, Petersen turned in a time of 1:01.63 which placed him seventh overall. Five days later Dedekind swam in the 50 meter Free, an event he placed fifth overall in at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics. In the prelims he turned in the eighth best time (22.4 seconds) which was good enough to move him into the semifinals. In his semi-heat, Dedekind placed fourth with an improved time of 22.39 seconds. Since the top eight times move on to the finals, Dedekind had a good chance to advance. However, the second semifinal heat was faster, taking five swimmers to the finals. Dedekind ended up ninth, one place away from competing for a medal.

Although Coach Harper and his swimmers were a little disappointed with the outcome knowing that they were both capable of swimming even better times, the experience was a success for the trio.

"We were very excited to be a part of the Olympic tradition and Olympic Games," stated Harper. "It makes us hungry for more success in the future. We can be proud because not every team in this country has two Olympians who have achieved what those two have. Brett being an All-American and an Olympic finalist and Brendon being a two-time NCAA champ and Olympic finalist is quite impressive. It says a lot for our program on how we can take swimmers from all backgrounds and mold them and give them the opportunity to succeed. I feel proud because that's what we have done."