

# Coach Neil Harper



*Neil  
Harper*

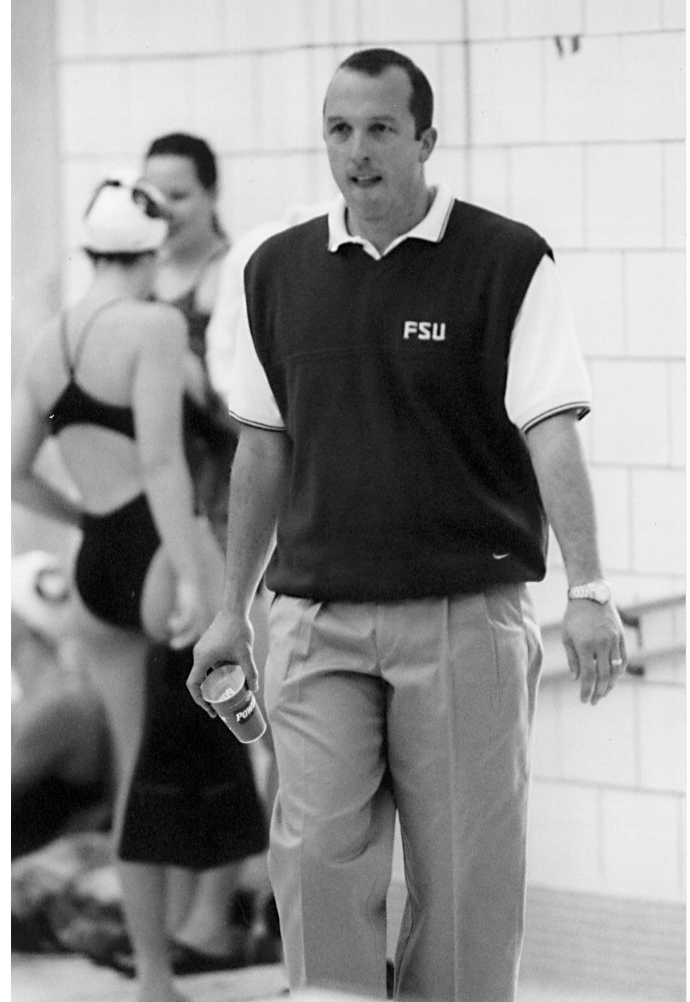
**Head Coach**

*3rd year  
(Louisiana State, 1988)*

**N**eil Harper begins his third year at the helm of the Florida State swimming program after a successful run in 2000-2001. Two Lady Seminoles, Christy Cech and Keryn Krynauw, represented FSU at the NCAA National Championships placing 32<sup>nd</sup> overall. Harper's productive season culminated in Fukuoka, Japan at the World Aquatic Championships. Harper coached Seminole swimmer Wickus Nienaber of Swaziland. The trip was the first for Harper as a head coach.

The regular season saw junior Christy Cech earn All-America honors after placing fourth in the 50 Freestyle at the NCAA Championships. Cech also gained Honorable Mention All-American in the 100 Free as well as competing in the 200 Free, while Krynauw swam in the 100 and 200 Breaststroke. The Lady Seminoles finished the season with an 8-5 overall record, 1-0 in the Atlantic Coast Conference, placing fifth at the conference championship. The men's squad season highlights were the ACC titles won by Greg Main-Baillie in the 50 Free and Devin Crock in the 100 Butterfly. Their swims, along with eight top five finishes in seven different events, placed the Seminoles fourth overall at the ACC Championship.

The returning team boasts 16 ACC Academic Honor Roll members. In his first two years at FSU Harper is particularly proud of coaching 49 swimmers and divers who have been







named to the conference honor roll.

As coach of the South African Olympic Team Harper guided former Seminole All-Americans Brendon Dedekind and Brett Petersen to the semi-finals and finals, respectively, at the 2000 Sydney Games.

Harper returned to Tallahassee in May of 1999 after two years as the Head Women's Swimming Coach at Ohio State. In two seasons, Harper's team posted a mark of 15-12 and qualified six Buckeyes to the NCAA Championships. In both years his teams were NCAA all-academic teams and more than 20 of his athletes were named to the Big Ten Conference All-Academic Team.

From 1994-97 Harper served as the top assistant at Florida State where he coordinated recruiting, served as the strength and conditioning coordinator and coached the stroke/IM group. During that time, Stephen Parry became FSU's first ever NCAA



Swimming Champion in the 200 Butterfly. FSU produced its first three All-American women in over 10 years as Harper coached Anne Blachford (200 IM), Helen Jepson (200 Fly) and Samantha White (100 Breast) to NCAA success.

Harper graduated from Louisiana State University where he served as an assistant coach from 1988-94. During that time, he helped coach 21 swimmers to NCAA All-America honors and seven Southeastern Conference champions. As an LSU Tiger, Harper was a seven-event NCAA All-American and four-event SEC champion. As a senior, he captained the LSU team to its first SEC team championship.

The London native represented Great Britain in the 1984 and 1988 Olympic Games placing sixth and fourth, respectively, in the 400 Medley Relay.

Harper is married to the former Paige Busch, herself an NCAA All-American at LSU and SEC 100 Breaststroke champion. They have been married 11 years and have two daughters, Katherine (7) and Kelly (5).

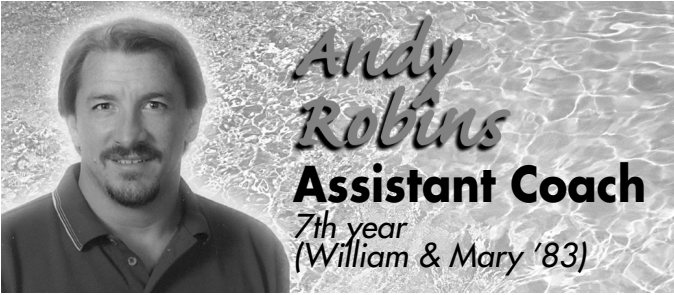
### Harper's Coaching Experience:

- ◆ 1988 -1994 – Louisiana State University (Assistant Coach)
- ◆ 1994 -1997 – Florida State University (Assistant Coach)
- ◆ 1997 -1999 – Ohio State University (Head Women's Coach)
- ◆ 1999 - present – Florida State University Head Coach
- ◆ 2000 – South African Olympic Team Coach (Sydney, Australia)
- ◆ 2001 – Swaziland World Championship Team Coach (Fukuoka, Japan)





# Assistant Coaches



*Andy Robins*  
**Assistant Coach**  
7th year  
(William & Mary '83)

The veteran of the Florida State swimming and diving coaching staff, Andy Robins is in his seventh year as an assistant coach with the Seminoles. While at FSU, Robins has been instrumental in the development and success of several All-Americans including Christy Cech, Stephen Parry, Nelson Mora and Anne Blachford. In addition to his on-deck coaching duties, Robins' responsibilities include recruiting, organizing team workout information, performance data and home meet management.

Robins has been actively coaching swimming since 1980. He has held various assistant and head coaching positions, especially in the local Tallahassee area. Beginning in 1985, Robins began coaching for the Area Tallahassee Aquatic Club and eventually became head coach for A.T.A.C. in 1993. Robins led A.T.A.C. to a top 10 finish at the spring 1996 Junior Nationals.

Other local swimming coaching positions Robins has held include coaching Leon High School in Tallahassee from 1986-1991. In 1987 he was recognized as the *Tallahassee Democrat's* High School Coach of the Year.

Robins also served as head coach of Florida's All-Star Team in 1990 and 1991, after previously holding the assistant coaching position for the team in 1989.

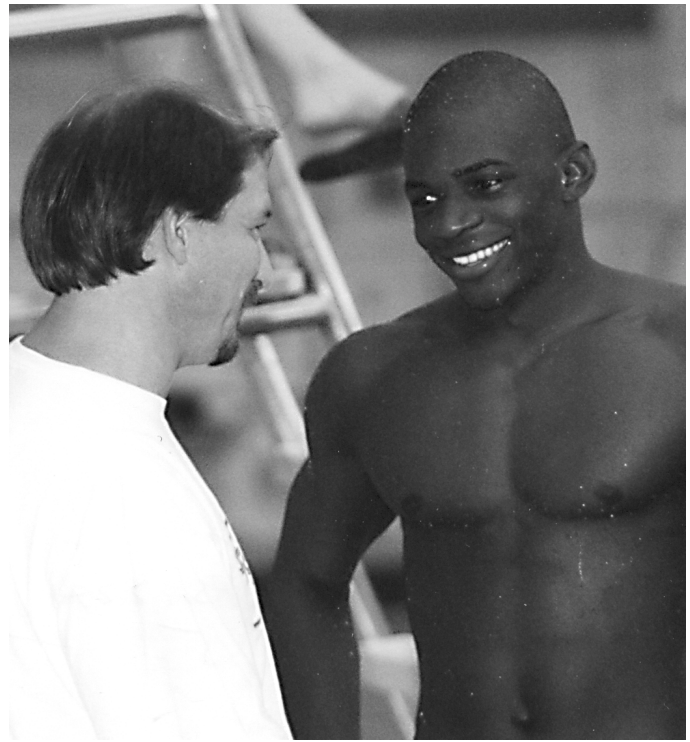
Robins served on the Florida Swimming Board of Directors, the House of Delegates, and the Technical Planning Committee from 1987-1998.

A graduate of The College of William & Mary, Robins swam both the backstroke and distance freestyle events. His swimming accomplishments at William and Mary include setting a school record in the 1650 free and serving as co-captain.

Robins earned a Master's Degree in Science Education from Florida State in 1987. He and his wife Karen have four children, Beth (23), Kurt (22), Jenna (16) and Annemarie (5).

## Robins' Coaching Experience:

- ◆ 1985-92 – Area Tallahassee Aquatic Club assistant coach
- ◆ 1986-91 – Leon High School (Tallahassee, Fla.) head coach
- ◆ 1989 – Florida All-Stars assistant coach
- ◆ 1990-91 – Florida All-Stars head coach
- ◆ 1993-1997 – A.T.A.C. head coach
- ◆ 1995-current – FSU assistant coach



*Patrick Jeffrey*  
**Diving Coach**  
3rd year (Ohio State '88)

Patrick Jeffrey, a five-time national champion diver returns for his third year on the Seminole swimming and diving staff as head diving coach.

Jeffrey's 2000-2001 diving squad, which welcomed six newcomers, enjoyed an exceptional season, with four Seminoles earning All-ACC recognition. This year's team welcomes three new divers to a squad that dominated the ACC Championships in the one-meter and three-meter events, taking first place in both. His Lady Seminoles took the top three spots in the women's one-meter event.

An accomplished diving star, Jeffrey brings a wealth of collegiate, national and international experience to the Seminoles. In his collegiate career at Ohio State, Jeffrey won the one-meter, three-meter and the ten-meter platform events at the 1988 NCAA Championships, becoming the only diver in NCAA history to win three events in a single year. He was also a finalist in the ten-meter platform event at both the 1988 Seoul Olympics and the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games. Jeffrey is also a three-time U.S. Diving National Champion on the ten-meter platform, as well as a two-time champion in the three-meter springboard. In international competition, Jeffrey won bronze medals at the 1991 and 1995 Pan-



Am games. He also competed on the 1989 and 1995 World Cup teams, and in the 1993 Goodwill Games.

Jeffrey's impressive coaching career includes stops as the 2000 U.S. Olympic Team Coach, the 1997 and 1999 USA Senior World Cup Team Coach, a Senior National Team Coach from 1997-00 and the Junior National Team Coach in 1998. Most recently he served as coach on the 2001 U.S. World Championship team in Fukuoka, Japan. His coaching has produced four individual Senior National Championships, three individual Junior National Championships and two Senior Men's Team third-place finishes.

Jeffrey graduated from Ohio State in 1988 with a degree in journalism and advertising. Jeffrey also received the NCAA Diver of the Year Award his final season.

### Jeffrey's Coaching Experience:

- ◆ 1996-99 – FAU Atlantic Diving Team (Boca Raton, FL)
- ◆ 1996-Present – Senior National Team
- ◆ 1997 – U.S. World Cup Team (Mexico City)
- ◆ 1998 – Junior National Team (Moultrie, Ga.)
- ◆ 1999-Present – Florida State Diving Team
- ◆ 1999 – U.S. World Cup Team Coach (Wellington, New Zealand)
- ◆ 2000 – U.S. Olympic Team (Sydney, Australia)
- ◆ 2001 – U.S. World Championship Team (Fukuoka, Japan)



**T**he Florida State swimming and diving team welcomes their newest addition to the coaching staff, John Fedena. The Newcastle, Del., native formerly assisted the University of Georgia's women's swim team and in the process, helped lead them to a national championship.

Fedena began his coaching career in 1996 with the Delaware Club swim team. His tenure ended though four years later with his move to Athens, Ga. In Georgia, Fedena not only assisted the University of Georgia, but also coached the Athens Bulldogs club swim team. Fedena's experience does not end there, as he has been an assistant and head coach the past five years at the Middle Atlantic (Delaware), Georgia Bulldog and Michigan Wolverine swimming camps.

Fedena remains active in swimming competition, as evident by his 2001 Southern Sectional Championship qualifying in the 50 and 100 Freestyle and 100 Butterfly. In collegiate competition, Fedena was a two-year letterman at the University of Delaware, where he helped in the 1997 men's team championship.



The 2000-01 FSU swimming and diving team at a meet at Arizona University.