

UNC records set pace at ACC championship meet

FROM WIRE REPORTS

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. — The North Carolina women's swimming and diving team, led by an ACC-record-setting performance in the 800-yard freestyle relay, took a small lead in the first day of the 2004 ACC Women's Swimming and Diving Championships at Virginia's Aquatics and Fitness Center Wednesday.

After two events, the Tar Heels had scored 74 points in the meet and led second-place Florida State by four points.

UNC was led by the performance of its 800-yard freestyle relay team, which established a new ACC record at 7 minutes, 13.33 seconds, breaking the old mark of 7:14.39 set by UNC in 2001. The old record was set by a quartet of storied UNC All-Americans in Kelly Weeks, Jessi Perruquet, Katie Hathaway and Erika Acuff, but it was shattered Wednesday as the

team of Virginia Hanson, Weeks, Amanda Smith and Perruquet broke the record by 1.06 seconds. Hanson led off the relay with a personal-record time of 1:48.97 in the 200-yard freestyle, and she was followed by outstanding splits turned in by Weeks (1:48.85), Smith (1:48.55) and Perruquet (1:46.96).

In the 200-yard medley relay, the Tar Heels finished in second place with a time of 1:41.15, just 0.33 seconds off the school-record time in the event. Florida State won the event in 1:40.84. The Tar Heels improved significantly over last year's performance in the event when they were fifth in 1:42.70. UNC's relay consisted of freshman Megan Eickman, who swam the backstroke in 25.84, sophomore Lizzy Bruce, who swam the breaststroke in 28.57, sophomore Emily Carroll, who swam the butterfly in 24.45, and senior Jessi Perruquet, who swam the freestyle in 22.29.

CONGRESS

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appropriate \$5,000."

Congress still has \$13,513.96 of the original fund to appropriate to student organizations at the next four meetings.

Congress also approved a resolution stating its resistance to the proposed tuition hikes, citing insufficient research and the alienation of out-of-state students.

Jonathan Ducote, president of the UNC-system Association of Student Governments, discussed at the session efforts to lobby state officials.

Ducote encouraged Congress members to continue to talk to constituents.

"We're really going to have to pull our forces together."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

MEETING

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every five years this needs to be done, but the state is dead broke."

Ward said Friday's discussions will focus on these two issues and will address all the proposals presented Feb. 9.

Most of the other requests deal with local development. One asks for the authority to create zoning regulations pertaining to the ratio of bedrooms and bathrooms in residential development. This bill will aid the town in the creation of its first Neighborhood Conservation District in the Northside neighborhood.

borhood.

Bills dealing with the transfer of development rights into the town's urban area and the expenditure of open space bond funds outside of the town's extra-territorial jurisdiction have come before the legislature in the past.

Kinnaird said progressive development bills can be difficult to get passed because of powerful development lobbying groups.

"If it comes from Orange County, it's controversial," she said. "We are leaders. It's a chance we take."

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VOTERS

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Center. UNC-CH is one of 58 sites across the nation hosting the teleconference to examine issues such as the student view of democracy, a university's responsibility for student engagement and community's role in higher education.

After the teleconference, several UNC-CH student groups will facilitate a dialogue about student civic participation. "The goal of the dialogue is to get a discussion going about voter apathy across the country, specifically at (UNC-CH)," said Ben Adams, UNC-CH student government chief of staff.

Adams said there is a paradox in student civic engagement. "The amount of service students are doing has increased, but voter turnout rates have gone down."

Meredith Flowe, former UNC-CH Campus Y co-president, will facilitate the debate with Adams.

She said, "We hope to form a coordinated and concerted effort to get students out to vote."

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MARATHON

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Though Bucy's life has veered far from college dances, he won't soon forget being a marathon organizer for three years.

"Dance Marathon is something I take with me every single day," he said.

The final hour of each marathon, when patients' families take the stage, is particularly memorable for Bucy. He described it as "that absolutely humbling experience when you realize (the families) are touching you much more than you're touching them."

And the marathon's effects aren't limited to altering lives of student organizers. As students see their work affect the lives of patients and families, beneficiaries keep in touch to share their own stories.

East Carolina University freshman Keeley Simmen, who suffers from cerebral palsy, has been involved with the marathon from the start. As a junior in high school, Simmen wanted to give back to the organization that had helped her so much, so she organized a fund-raiser at her school.

At that year's marathon, Simmen took the stage, not only thanking the marathon's organizers but also presenting to them the profits of her fund-raiser, more than \$1,000.

Hux, who witnessed Keeley's gift, described it as one of her best memories from all four years working with Dance Marathon. "I've never seen anyone so proud."

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WISCONSIN

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the New England lawmaker a 15-for-17 record in state contests, and he has about 400 more delegates than his Southern counterpart.

To counterbalance these hefty advantages, Edwards must make major inroads on Super Tuesday, something that will be difficult given the fact that he must win outside his bases: rural, middle-class communities and the South.

Thad Beyle, professor of political science at UNC, said the 10-state rush also negates Edwards' advantages on the campaign trail. "People won't be able to do the sort of campaigning they've been able to do," he said. "(Edwards) seems to get a good rush when people get to meet him and talk to him."

Thus, Edwards' hopes might lie in continuing to present himself as an alternative to Kerry, who has tried to cast himself as the candidate who can beat President Bush.

If Edwards dims that aura, Guillory said, he might stand a slight chance. Guillory added that such a strategy helps Democrats by keeping Bush out of the spotlight and by giving voters time to examine Kerry as a candidate and not as the presumptive nominee.

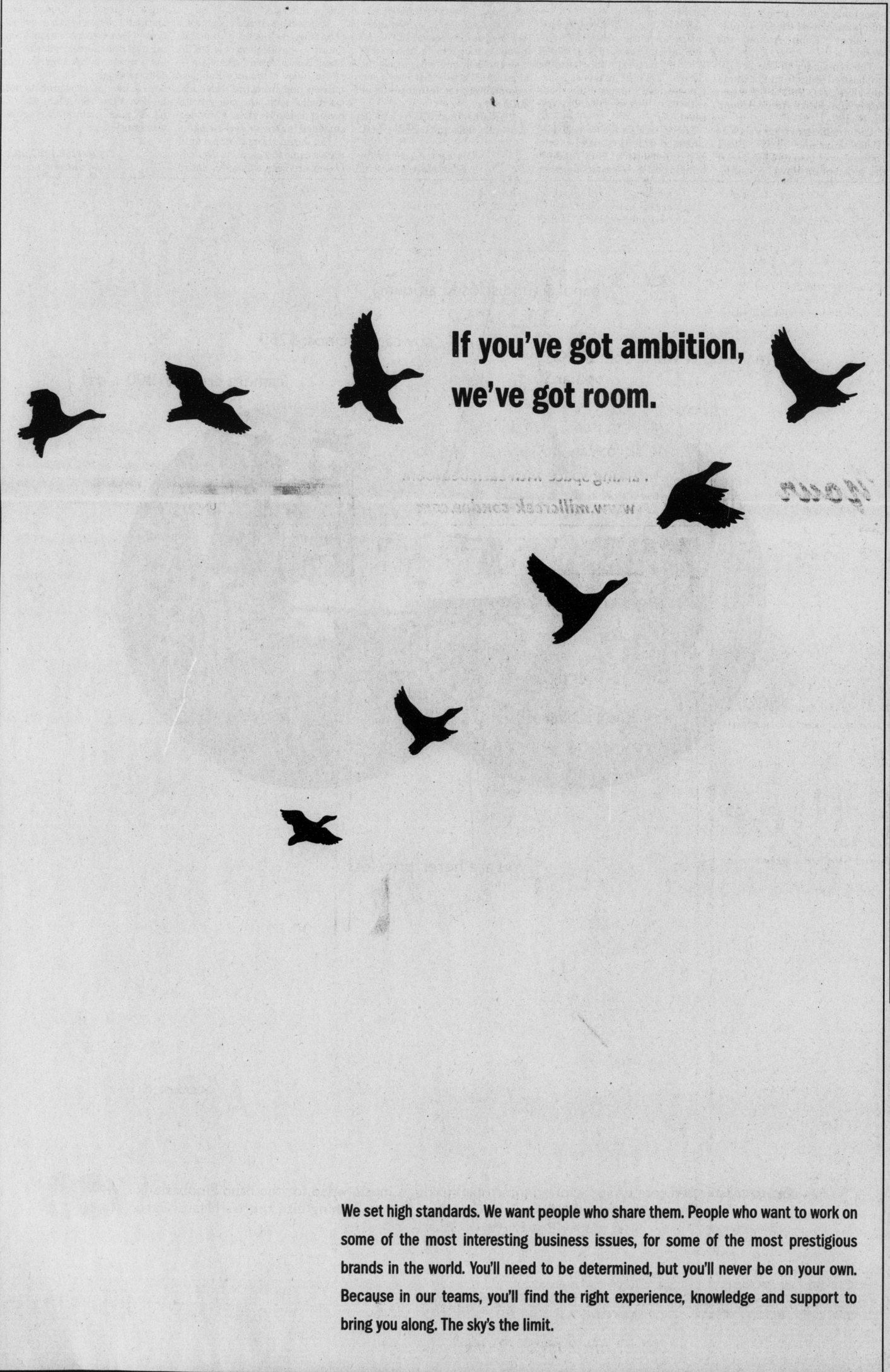
"Edwards has given us more time to think about the challenge facing the Democratic Party and what kind of candidate it needs," he said. "He's also given himself time."

Regardless of what happens in the weeks to come, however, Edwards is almost certain to be dogged by the question that he's been asked more than any other: Would he be Kerry's vice president?

Paul Herrnson, professor of government and politics at UMD, said the changing dynamics of the race won't quell the speculation.

But Guillory said Edwards' statements that he would not accept the position stem from the fact that he's kept himself in the race. "I think (Kerry and Edwards) haven't really thought deeply about it," he said. "They're still running for president."

Contact the State & National Editor at statedesk@unc.edu.



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