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SPORTS

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Takeaways from Duke's Scheyer, Foster, Proctor

Rodd Baxley

Fayetteville Observer **USA TODAY NETWORK**

CHARLOTTE — Duke basketball will likely enter the 2024-25 season the transfer portal. as the favorite to win the ACC.

ble of cutting down the nets as national champions at the 2025 Final

coach Jon Scheyer with several key returners, another loaded recruiting the Hilton Charlotte Uptown. class and some vital additions via

Viewed as one of the teams capa- tending ACC Tipoff, the annual unofficial start of the season for the Cooper Flagg 'wired' to handle conference. Scheyer, along with re-

Four in San Antonio, the Blue Devils turning guards Caleb Foster and Ty- Duke enter their third season under head rese Proctor, represented the Blue Devils on Wednesday afternoon at

Here are some takeaways from that trio as college basketball sea-Duke is among the 18 teams at- son gets closer on the calendar.

hype, 'hot and cold' analysis of

Jon Scheyer said 17-year-old Cooper Flagg, the projected No. 1 pick in the 2025 NBA Draft, is "wired" to handle the hype that will follow Flagg and the Blue Devils this season.

See DUKE, Page 2B

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS TENNIS



New Hanover tennis stars Hannah Davis, left, and Sophia Catino will go down as some of the best Wildcats to ever play the sport. KEN BLEVINS/STARNEWS

New Hanover reaches 100 conference wins

Michael Cuneo

Wilmington StarNews **USA TODAY NETWORK**

New Hanover girls tennis stars over tennis in the past four years. Sophia Catino and Hanna Davis, but the word still falls short.

Electrifying. Preeminent. Stead-

fast.

Combine those words and multiply them by 10, and you might get close to understanding just how Dominant is one way to describe good the duo has been for New Han- team's No. 1 doubles squad.

gles players have towered over area competition since 2021, going a com-

bined 130-7 (including dual-team and individual) in singles. The pair has also collected 38 wins to just one loss when featuring as the

"It's definitely a little sad," Cati-The Wildcats' No. 1 and No. 2 sin- no said of her final year of high

See TENNIS, Page 2B

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Keatts talks NCAA Tourney, Taylor talks rivalries

Rodd Baxley Fayetteville Observer

USA TODAY NETWORK

CHARLOTTE — N.C. State basketball enters the 2024-25 season as the

leader of the pack in the ACC. Coming off an ACC Tournament championship and Final Four run, Wolfpack coach Kevin Keatts will try to replicate that success with a mostly-new group led by returning guards

Michael O'Connell and Jayden Taylor. A trio of freshmen and five transfers also joined N.C. State as the program chases a third-straight trip to the NCAA Tournament.

One of 18 teams in the league, the Wolfpack attended ACC Tipoff on Wednesday, signaling the unofficial start of the season for the conference. Keatts, O'Connell and Taylor were in Charlotte to represent the program.

Here are some takeaways from that trio as college basketball season gets closer on the calendar.

Jayden Taylor talks NC State's rivalry with Duke, UNC; plus Wolfpack's identity

During its magical run last season, N.C. State knocked off Duke early in the ACC Tournament before beating North Carolina in the championship game. The Wolfpack faced the Blue

See NC STATE, Page 2B

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Who were the top performers this week?

Michael Cuneo

Wilmington StarNews **USA TODAY NETWORK** The Wilmington area high school fall

and conference play is only improving. While girls tennis, golf and volleyball will start the 2024 postseason in just a few weeks, football and boys soccer New Hanover 7-0. won't reach playoff season until November.

NCHSAA announced changes to the 2024 fall sports schedule as Western nam assisted three goals and scored one North Carolina continues to grapple with the effects of Hurricane Helene.

All that said, here are the best high Volleyball school sports performances from around the Wilmington area for the See FALL SPORTS, Page 2B

week of Oct. 11-17.

Tuesday

sports season is hitting its final stretch, Boys soccer

Harrison Dyer, Fr., Hoggard: Dyer netted four goals as the Vikings ran past

Cameron Berry, Jr., Ashley: Berry scored a hat trick in the Screaming Ea-On Wednesday morning, the gles' 9-0 win over North Brunswick. Tanner Putnam, Sr., Ashley: Put-

of his own in the win.



Topsail's Fisher Batts heads the ball as Topsail took on Laney in boys soccer on Tuesday in Hampstead. Topsail beat Laney 0-1. KEN BLEVINS/STARNEWS