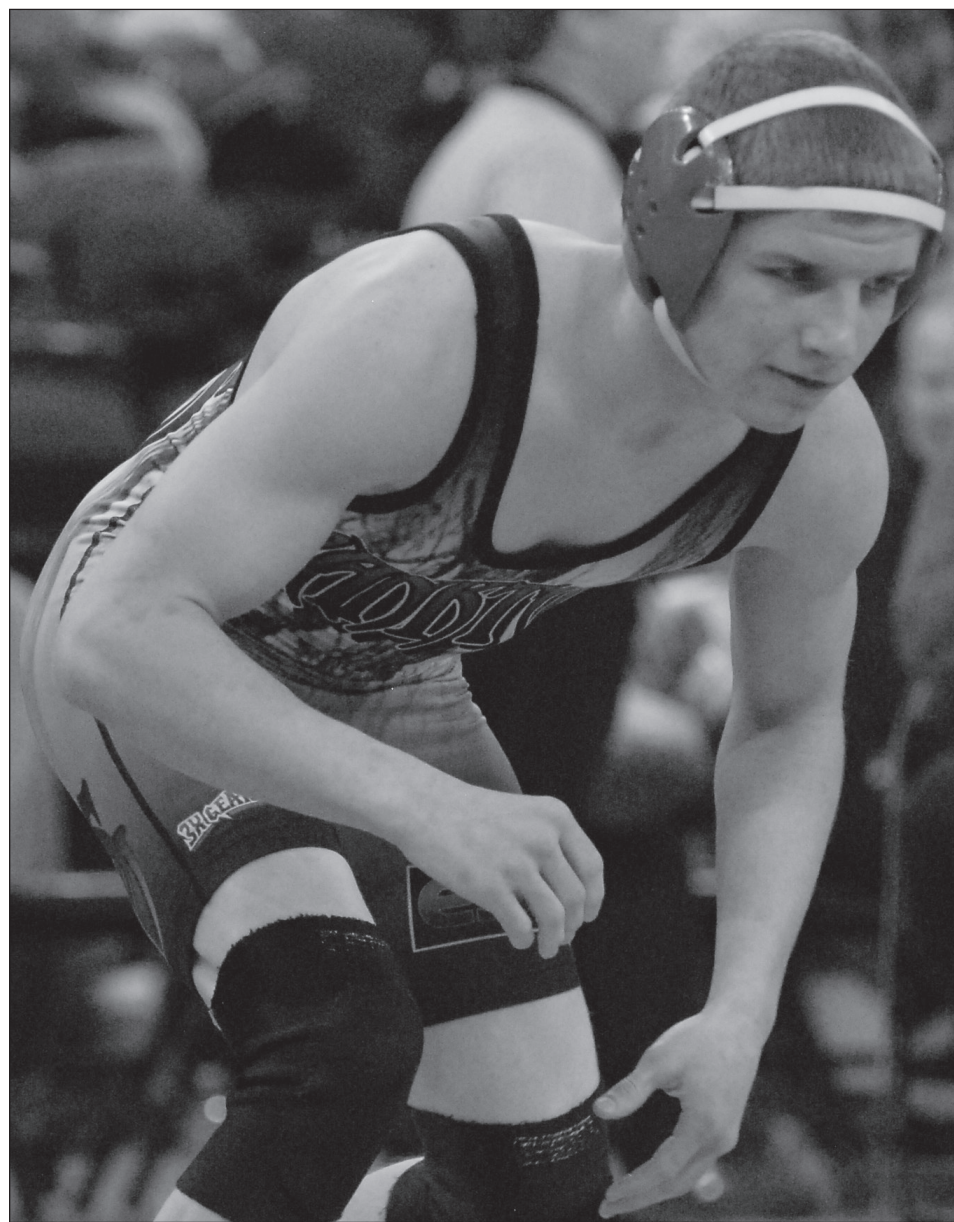




Yankton's Spencer Huber tries to turn over an opponent during a match in the 2014-15 season. Huber, who became the Bucks' all-time leader in victories early in the 2015-16 season, has high expectations for his senior campaign.

Record In Hand, Huber Aims For Gold



Spencer Huber will be honest with you.

He'll tell you that any records he sets are likely to be broken. And sometime soon.

Part of that is his humility; his soft-spoken nature. But most of that admission is him being honest.

Huber, the senior wrestler at Yankton High School, entered this season needing four wins to break the program record for career victories.

While he has yet to reach his ultimate goal of a state championship, Huber will nonetheless graduate next spring as the most successful wrestler in Yankton history. And yes, he says, he realizes it's partly due to the availability of more matches these days.

"I think coming up, there will be guys looking at that," Huber said. "There are going to be more matches that I've been getting, so I think I'm

setting the new records at this new style."

Huber came into the season with a career record of 142-37, well within reach of Nick Smith's mark of 145-5. Huber - like every wrestler these days - has, however more triangular, quadrangular and tournaments, rather than mostly dual meets. That means he gets more matches.

For example, Smith - who won four state titles - would typically get one match on every date. Huber, meanwhile, typically gets 2-3 matches each date.

During Smith's senior season, he went 39-0, while Huber last season went 47-4.

It certainly doesn't mean Huber's record will be any less impressive, it just means, he said, that it will present younger wrestlers with a similar opportunity if they stick with it.

"The younger kids can see that," Huber said. "They know they'll have more matches, and know they'll have opportunities to beat mine."

It's an example that goes far beyond wins, according to his coach.

One look at a pre-season practice would show you that Huber is the unquestioned leader of his team. He was the first one to go through the various warmups and techniques.

"He's not a guy that does only what he has to do," first-year head coach Riley Smith said. "If it gets easy, he finds a way to make it hard, and keep pushing."

All the while maintaining his quiet persona. Off the mat, at least, Smith points out.

"He's quieter, he doesn't go out and showboat," the coach said. "He's a lead by example person."

"He's one in the room that you watch what he's doing, it's something that every single wrestler should be trying to do."

On the mat, though, Huber's performance contrasts with his demeanor. He came into the season needing 15 pins to break that record in Yankton history, proof that Huber isn't afraid to get physical in a physical sport.

After a 48-20 start over the first two seasons of his varsity career, Huber has taken off the last two seasons. His record in that span? Ninety-four wins and 17 losses. He finished third at 126 pounds at last season's Class A state tournament.

"I'm definitely getting more aggressive on the mat," Huber said. "I used to be a wrestle-not-to-lose kind of guy, but now I'm wrestling to win."

Follow @jhoeck on Twitter

Story By Jeremy Hoek • Press & Dakotan • jeremy.hoek@yankton.net

In This Issue

Wrestling	Girls' Basketball
Feature: Spencer Huber 2	Season Preview: Yankton 4
Season Preview: Yankton 3	Boys/Girls Events To Watch 8
Feature: Riley Smith 4	Team Capsules: South Dakota 9-10
Events To Watch 6	Season Preview: Vermillion 11
Team Capsules: Nebraska 6	Feature: Crofton 16
Team Capsules: South Dakota 7	Team Capsules: Nebraska 17-18
Season Preview: Vermillion 12	
Boys' Basketball	Hockey
Season Preview: Yankton 3	Season Preview: Yankton Boys 5
Boys/Girls Events To Watch 8	Season Preview: Yankton Girls JV 5
Season Preview: Vermillion 11	
Feature: Gabe King 13	Area Calendars
Team Capsules: South Dakota 13-15	Crofton 10
Team Capsules: Nebraska 15-16	Hartington-Newcastle 11
	Hartington Cedar Catholic 11
	Niobrara-Verdigre 12
	Avon 13
	Centerville 13
	Bon Homme 14
	Freeman 15
	Viborg-Hurley 16
	Gayville-Volin 16
	Irene-Wakonda 17
	Andes Central-Dakota Christian 17
	Menno 18
	Scotland 19
	Composite Schedule 18-20
Gymnastics	
Season Preview: Yankton 5	
Team Capsules: South Dakota 9	
Season Preview: Vermillion 11	
Bowling	
Season Preview: Yankton 6	
Season Preview: Vermillion 12	

Winter Preview Staff

Yankton	Twitter	Instagram
Press & Dakotan Sports	@YanktonSports	@Pressanddakotan
James D. Cimburek	@JCimburek	@JCimburek
Jeremy Hoek	@jhoek	@jeremyhoek
Ben Hegge	@bigheadbenny13	@bigheadbenny
Rogelio Rodriguez	@RogelioUlisesR	@rogeliorodriguez
Dylan Huggins	@dugg23	@dhugg23
Michael Hammond	@michaelhammond_	
General Contacts	Phone: 605-665-7811	E-mail: sports@yankton.net

Vermillion	Twitter	Instagram
Plain Talk	@plaintalk2	
Elyse Brightman	@ebrightman2	@elyse2
General Contacts	Phone: 605-624-2695	E-mail: staff@plaintalk.net

201 Pine Street, Yankton, SD
Right across from the old Gurney's building

WWW.JJBENJI.COM

JJ BENJI

SCREEN PRINT & EMBROIDERY

605-260-0920

America's **BEST REALTY**

Unlock The American Dream!

www.yanktonhomefinder.com
1901 Broadway • Yankton, SD
Joe LaBarge

605-260-1600

Charlie's PIZZA HOUSE

804 Summit St. • Yankton, SD
(605) 665-2212

BONANZA
Steakhouse

N. Hwy. 81, Yankton
665-6394

HOURS:
Sun.-Thurs. 11am-9pm
Fri. & Sat. 11am-10pm

BALDWIN
FILTERS

1901 Hastings Drive
Yankton, SD

Jim & Pam Cunningham, Owners

AFFORDABLE SELF STORAGE

FREE Truck & Driver With Move-In

On-Site Manager • Security Gate
Fenced Facility • Overhead Doors
Lighted • 7 Different Sizes Available

605-665-4207

1501 West City Limits Rd • Yankton, SD

PREMIUM BEST TRANSPORT

1501 Wek Road
Yankton, SD 57078
605-665-9202

Roy Johnson Roofing, Inc.

- Standard Seam
- Repairing & New Roofs
- Built-Up Roofing
- One-Ply Roofing System

FREE ESTIMATES

500 Burleigh
Yankton • 665-7731

EconoLodge

611 W. 23rd St.
Yankton
605-689-3400

Good Luck Athletes!

.....

Here's to a season of Unforgettable First Moments

#UnforgettableFirsts
UnforgettableFirsts.com

First National Bank
fnbsd.com
332 Broadway Ave | Yankton, SD 57078 | 605.665.9611

Member FDIC