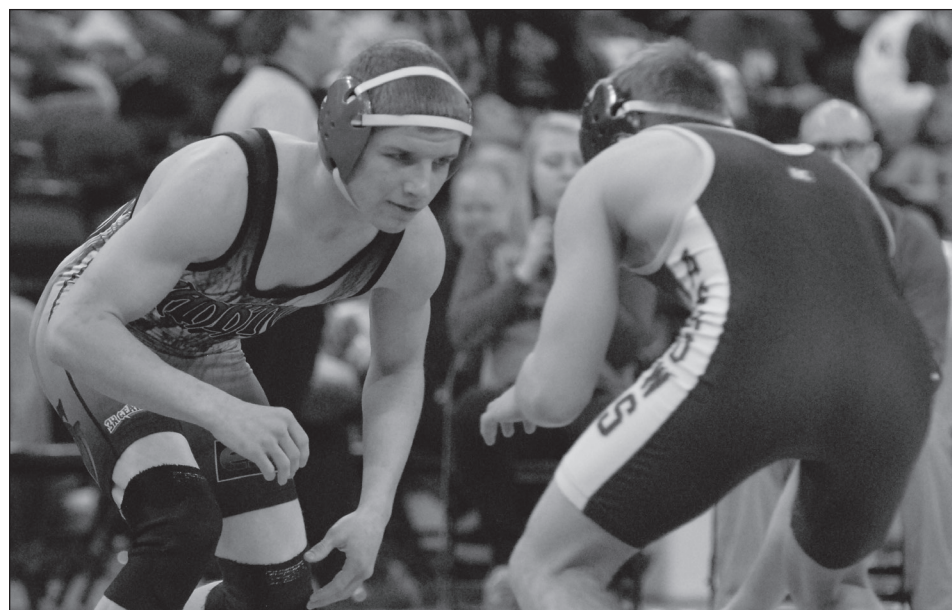


Season Preview | Yankton Wrestling

# Bucks Begin Riley Smith Era Today



P&D FILE PHOTO  
 Spencer Huber, left, and the Yankton Bucks open the 2015-16 wrestling season at the Watertown Dual Tournament today (Saturday). This season is the first under head coach Riley Smith.

## Bucks Return Three State Qualifiers

BY JEREMY HOECK  
 jeremy.hoeck@yankton.net

Last season, the Yankton High School wrestling team had three state qualifiers.

That number could have been significantly higher – eight others came within one win of reaching state – but the foundation was set in place for what could be a successful 2016 season.

"I think we can be that underdog team that people aren't going to expect," said first-year head coach Riley Smith, who was promoted after Ryan Hage resigned to become the boys' tennis coach.

Yankton, which opens its season today (Saturday) at the Watertown Dual Tournament, returns all three state

qualifiers and seven of the eight wrestlers who came up just short.

Leading the way will be senior Spencer Huber, who was the third-place wrestler at 126 pounds in Class A. He enters the season with a career record of 142-37, which is three wins shy of the program record, and could break that record today.

Huber will be joined by fellow state tournament qualifiers Cody Vornhagen (senior, 113) and senior Brock Folkers (senior, 195).

"I think we're looking a pretty good season, maybe one of the best I've been a part of," Huber said. "We've got seven seniors, all on varsity, so I think those guys should be able to lead us and win us some duals."

The other seniors on the roster are Bashir Abdalkreem, Jamee Bruegman, Zach Hanzlik and Jordan Lucht. They were thrust into a leadership position a year ago because of the makeup of Yankton's roster, according to Smith.

"They had a lot of good opportunities to learn that leadership role as a junior because we didn't have any seniors last year," Smith said. "Now this year, they're keeping going with that."

"We've been very fortunate to have that."

The Bucks will return Abdalkreem, junior Luke Lammers, Bruegman, Lucht, sophomore Ray Wermers, sophomore Cole Diedrichsen and sophomore Reese Anderson from that group that came up just short of reach-

BUCKS | PAGE 10

# Vikings Upend Plainview

## Hoops: Wynot Sweeps Past Winside

WAUSA, Neb. – Megan Kleinschmit scored 13 points as Wausa edged Plainview 50-46 in Nebraska girls' basketball action on Friday night in Wausa.

Michaela Timmerman added 11 points and five rebounds for Wausa (1-0) and Regan Hennings scored 10 points.

No stats were reported for Plainview (1-1).

Wausa visits Boyd County. PLAINVIEW (1-1).....9 17 30 46  
 WAUSA (1-0).....12 24 31 50

## Wynot 57, Winside 15

WYNOT, Neb. – Cortney Arkfeld finished with a double-double for the Wynot Lady Blue Devils, totaling 20 points and 10 rebounds in a 57-15 victory over Winside on Friday night in Wynot.

Carissa Kuchta added 17 points and five steals for Wynot, while Danielle Wieseler finished with 10 points and six steals. As a team, the Lady Blue Devils forced 44 turnovers and totaled 30 steals.

For Winside, Ellie Jaeger and Calli Finn each had four points, while Jaeger added eight rebounds.

Next action for Wynot will be a road game with Osmond next Friday, while Winside will face off with Lyons-Decatur Northeast on Tuesday. WINSIDE (0-2).....7 11 12 15  
 WYNOT (2-0).....14 28 42 54

## Crofton 70, Laurel-Concord-Col. 24

LAUREL, Neb. – Crofton cruised to its 55th straight victory in girls' basketball with a 70-24 win over Laurel-Concord-Coleridge on Friday in Laurel, Nebraska.

Crofton Stats  
 For LCC, Katie Leapley and Emily Hangman led the team in points with six points and five rebounds apiece, while Leapley added four blocks.

Crofton's next game will come Tuesday as they return home to play Boone Central/Newman Grove, while LCC will stay home to play Homer on Tuesday. CROFTON (2-0).....24 50 56 70  
 LAUREL-CONCORD-COL. (0-1).....7 12 16 24

HOOPS | PAGE 10



JEREMY HOECK/P&D  
 Wynot's Cortney Arkfeld, 23, soars in for a layup in front of Winside's Kelly Tweedy during their game Friday night in Wynot, Nebraska.

# NDSU Wanted Playoff Matchup With Montana, Rather Than SDSU

BY DAVE KOLPACK  
 Associated Press

FARGO, N.D. (AP) — North Dakota State got what it wanted for its first playoff game of 2015: redemption over rivalry.

The Bison's quest for a fifth straight Football Championship Subdivision title continues at home Saturday against the Montana Grizzlies, who defeated NDSU on the final play of the first game of the season 12 weeks ago. While the Bison were enjoying a bye last week, the Griz eliminated NDSU nemesis South Dakota State in a first-round game.

It was the preferred outcome for NDSU players, Bison cornerback CJ Smith said.

"We've played SDSU enough over my four or five years," he said.

It also gives the Bison a chance to atone for the season-opening setback that was featured on ESPN as the first game of the Division I season. Montana rallied to win the game 38-35 on a 1-yard touchdown run by Joey Counts with 2 seconds left.

The revenge factor, Bison defensive lineman Nate Tanquay, has gone mostly unspoken this week.

"I think it's in everybody's head," Tanquay said. "To me it's just embarrassing to lose to the same team twice. They're a really good team, and anything can happen, but for me especially I do not want to lose to these guys."

Montana defensive end Tyrone Holmes said that doesn't mean that NDSU has more on the line this weekend.

"I think we all have the same amount to play for," Holmes said. "We're all trying to get a national championship. I don't really don't see how they're playing for more at this point."

Both teams are familiar with December football. This is NDSU's sixth straight appearance in the FCS playoffs, where the Bison have an 18-1 record that includes a quarter-final appearance in 2010. The Bison are 13-0 at home in the postseason since becoming eligible for Division I playoffs in 2008.

Montana holds the FCS record for most overall playoff appearances at 23 and most consecutive playoff appearances with 17, from 1993 to 2009. This is their third straight trip to the FCS tournament.

The Bison (9-2) and Griz (8-4) have weathered their share of setbacks since playing in August. Both teams lost their starting quarterbacks to injuries. The Grizzlies got their standout, Brady Gustafson, back three weeks ago. The Bison are still without NFL prospect Carson Wentz, but redshirt freshman Easton Stick is 5-0 in his absence. Wentz broke the wrist on his throwing hand during a loss to South Dakota on Oct. 17 and isn't likely to return during the playoffs.

Montana coach Bob Stitt said his team, which was in survival mode without Gustafson, has settled back into a groove with him. He has led the Griz to a 57-16 win over

BISON | PAGE 10

# Track & Field: USD Men Picked As Pre-Season League Favorites, Coyote Women Second

ELMHURST, Ill.—As three-time defending Summit League Indoor Champions, it should come without surprise that the South Dakota men's track and field team was picked as the Summit League pre-season favorites by the league's head coaches. The Coyote women were picked to finish second.

The Coyote men received four first-place votes and 24 points to top the men's pre-season poll. North Dakota State collected the remaining two first-place votes and were projected second with 22 points. South Dakota State (17 points), Oral Roberts (13), IUPUI (8), and Western Illinois (6) round out the coaches' poll.

South Dakota returns a league-high six individual Summit League champions from a year ago. The Coyotes are led by 2015 All-American Teivaskie Lewin, who returns for his senior season. Lewin was the Summit League Track Championship MVP and Track Athlete of the Year. Lewin's joined by 2015 Summit League Newcomer of the Championship sophomore Gawain Williams. Returning champions for the men in-

clude Lewin (60 hurdles, 200 meters), junior Mach Dojiok (800 meters, mile), Williams (60 meters), and junior Tyler Frank (high jump).

Additionally, 2015 Summit League Field Championship MVP senior Jeff O'Connell and 2015 Field Athlete of the Year Kyle McKelvey rejoin the Coyotes for the outdoor season after redshirting last spring. Both O'Connell and McKelvey have exhausted their indoor eligibility.

North Dakota State's women topped the women's pre-season poll with seven first-place votes and 49 points. South Dakota earned the final first-place vote and had 41 polls to place second. South Dakota State (39 points), Oral Roberts (28), Omaha (22), Western Illinois (20), IUPUI (14) and Fort Wayne (7) finished off the women's coaches' poll.

The Bison return a league-best 10 all-league performers, while the Coyotes have nine back from last season. South Dakota's women are led by 2015 Summit League Newcomer of the Championship sophomore

Shanice Cannigan.

Returning all-league performers for the Coyote women include Cannigan (pentathlon, 2nd; 60 hurdles, 2nd; 4x400 relay, 2nd), senior Analisa Huscble (200 meters, 2nd; 4x400 relay, 2nd; 60 meters, 3rd), senior Amber Eichkorn (3,000 meters, 2nd; 5,000 meters, 3rd), senior Kelsey Barrett (5,000 meters, 2nd; 3,000 meters, 3rd), senior Katie Wetzstein (mile, 3rd), junior Madison Mills (pole vault, 2nd), junior Danielle Waldner (shot put, 2nd), junior Ashley Thompson (triple jump, 3rd), and sophomore Emily Brigham (pole vault, 3rd; long jump, 3rd).

The Coyotes also gain the addition of Summit League outdoor pole vault champion and 2015 NCAA Outdoor Championship qualifier junior Hunter Wilkes, who redshirted last indoor season.

The Coyotes open the season Jan. 16 with the Dakota Realty Alumni Meet in Vermillion.

The Summit League Indoor Championships are held Feb. 26-27 in Fort Wayne, Ind.

# Huron Drops Harrisburg

HARRISBURG – Huron downed Harrisburg 49-24 in Eastern South Dakota Conference wrestling action on Friday.

Tyson Lien (113), Trent Francom (145), Rick Strubel (160), Nick Christensen (170), Bailey Schoenfelder (195) and Josh Waagen (285) won by pin for Huron. Michael Kumlien (138), Nick Schirado (152) and Logan Warzecha (182) won by pin for Harrisburg.

106 - Dayton Huber HU maj, dec. Dylan Hage 14-1; 113 - Tyson Lien HU pin. Peyton Moore 5-24; 120 - Jacob Hansen HA dec. Blat Hoo 7-6; 132 - Taylor Dalen HA dec. Pwy Der 5-2; 132 - Chipper Shillingstad HU dec. Nolan Hoback 10-3; 138 - Michael Kumlien HA pin. Nathan Sowle 1-23; 145 - Trent Francom HU pin. Ben Oestebae 1-02; 152 - Nick Schirado HA pin. Zach Siemonsma 2-57; 160 - Rick Strubel HU pin. Collin Kehrwald 0-50; 170 - Nick Christensen HU pin. Ethan Kanabie 2-24; 182 - Logan Warzecha HA pin. Colin Simons 3-33; 195 - Bailey Schoenfelder HU over Sam Dieter HA (Fall) 0-29; 220 - Marshall Simons HU by forfeit; 285 - Josh Waagen HU pin. Parker Poppe 0-35

## Crofton-Bloomfield 33, Pierce 30

PIERCE, Neb. – Crofton-Bloomfield took advantage of three pins to claim a 33-30 victory over Pierce in prep wrestling action on Thursday.

Lucas Miller (132), Quinten Moles (160) and Kaleb Johnson (195) won by pin for Crofton-Bloomfield. Cody Yawn (126) and Alec Price (182) won by pin for Pierce.

106 - Open; 113 - Open; 120 - Damien Kersten CB by forfeit; 126 - Cody Yawn P pin. Max Boecker CB 0-09; 132 - Lucas Miller CB pin. Brody Peters 4-25; 138 - McFarland Reese CB by forfeit; 145 - Nelson Emerson P by forfeit; 152 - Jaden Janssen CB dec. Levi Sutbeck 4-2; 160 - Quinten Moles CB pin. Collin Tinker 4-55; 170 - Ryder Fuhs P by forfeit; 182 - Alec Price P pin. Ethan Poppe 1-46; 195 - Kaleb Johnson CB pin. Collin Bauer 5-11; 220 - Spencer Emerson P by forfeit; 285 - Open

WRESTLING | PAGE 10