

# Yankton's Huber Takes Advantage Of Opportunity

Soph Has Record-Tying 39 Wins With Huron Inv., Post-Season To Go

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK  
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Even before the 2013-14 season began, Yankton wrestling coach Ryan Hage knew that the Bucks' single-season record for victories was in jeopardy.

Part of it was that the Bucks returned two state placemen and a third lineup regular that was expected to make a big jump after an injury-shortened season. The other part was that, due to a reworked schedule, this year's Bucks would have more opportunities to take the mat.

With the two returning state placemen sidelined due to injuries this season, the third wrestler, sophomore Spencer Huber, has taken full advantage of the opportunity to write his name in the Bucks' record books.

Huber has tied both Nick and Ben

Smith with 39 victories in a season. He should break that tie this weekend, as the Bucks head to the Huron Invitational on Saturday.

Senior Casey Skillingsstad, who recorded 19 wins himself (19-4) before being sidelined, sophomore Noah Vetter and Huber were expected to be the leaders of this year's extremely young squad. With Skillingsstad out, the Bucks have one senior and one junior in the lineup.

"This year we were definitely looking to Spencer to evolve into a leadership role," said Hage. "We also asked him to lead by example in the practice room and become more verbal."

Huber was having a good freshman season before getting hurt, and has built on that success.

"He's come a long ways in two years," Hage said. "It's been pretty excit-

ing to watch him evolve, develop and pursue his goals of ultimately winning a state championship in the next two years."

This year's Yankton schedule has opened up more opportunities to step on the mat. When Nick and Ben Smith set and matched the school victories record, they did it with unbeaten seasons. Yankton is wrestling in its sixth invitational style tournament, up from three a year ago, and wrestle in two dual tournaments. In addition, every other date on the Bucks' calendar is now a triangular or a quad, rather than a dual, giving Yankton two and three matches on a night that it would have had one in previous seasons.

Huber, while having a great season,

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P&D FILE PHOTO  
Yankton's Spencer Huber goes for the pin during a home match earlier this season. Huber, a sophomore at 126 pounds, has tied Yankton's single-season record with 39 victories. The Bucks are at the Huron Invitational on Saturday.

# USD Women Down 'Dons

BY JEREMY HOECK  
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VERMILLION — Though defensive has been the main talking point for the University of South Dakota women, offense was a constant buzz word after the latest contest.

So was survival.

Winning for the fourth time in five games, the Coyotes held on from a big lead to beat Fort Wayne 84-71 in Summit League women's action Thursday night at the DakotaDome.

USD head coach Amy Williams wasn't exactly too thrilled with her team's defensive performance despite Fort Wayne shooting 35 percent, but the end result was what the Coyotes were looking for.

"It certainly was not the approach we were planning to take, but it didn't hurt us with the way things turned out," Williams said.

The dagger for the Coyotes (13-11, 4-5) was a 16-0 run to start the second half and a 30-6 surge that overlapped the two halves.

Even up by as many as 25 points, though, USD had to survive a foul-littered second half — there were 31 fouls called after halftime.

"If we can play just like for 40 minutes a game, we're going to have good luck for the rest of the year," said junior Nicole Seekamp, who had 19 points, seven assists and five rebounds.

It was the second straight game that the Coyotes improved significantly against a team that had scored at least 90 points in the first meeting.

First was a 24-point improvement against Denver last Friday. And then came Thursday night's 25-point upgrade over Fort Wayne — which scored 98 points in the first matchup.



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D  
South Dakota's Raeshel Contreras, 23, passes out of a crowd of Fort Wayne defenders during their Summit League women's basketball game on Thursday at the DakotaDome. Contreras scored 12 points, one of five Coyotes in double figures in an 84-71 USD win.

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# Fort Wayne Men Hold Off South Dakota 75-69

FORT WAYNE, Ind. (AP) — Mo Evans scored 17 points and Steve Forbes added 10 with 10 rebounds as Indiana-Purdue-Fort Wayne defeated South Dakota 75-69 on Thursday night.

The Mastodons rolled out to a 28-10 lead in the first half as Luis Jacobo sank two 3-pointers, coasting to a 32-20 halftime lead.

South Dakota opened the second half with a 25-9 surge to take a four-point lead near the

midway mark. IPFW responded as Evans drained two 3-pointers and Jacobo had a three-point play to take a 57-48 advantage with 6:38 remaining.

The Coyotes pulled within three, but IPFW responded again with two baskets and a pair of free throws.

IPFW (19-8, 7-3 Summit League) outrebounded South Dakota 41-32. Jacobo finished with 15 points and Joe Edwards had 14.

South Dakota (9-15, 3-6) was

led by Karim Rowson with 15 points and Trevor Gruis had 14 with eight rebounds and seven blocks.

The Coyotes travel to IUPUI on Saturday. The Jaguars beat Denver on Thursday for their first Summit League win of the season.

IPFW 75, S. DAKOTA 69  
S. DAKOTA (9-15)  
Bos 1-10 2-2 5, Flack 4-6 0-0 10, Rowson 6-10 3-5 15, Gruis 7-11 0-1 14, Larson 1-6 2-2 4, Norris 4-6 3-4 13, Thosby 2-4 1-1 5, Kasperbauer 0-1 1-2 1, Pomlee 0-0 0-0 0, Robertson 1-1 0-0 2. Totals 26-55 12-17 69.  
IPFW (19-8)

Bland 1-4 2-3 5, McCray 1-7 2-4 4, Jacobo 6-15 1-15, Kibloski 1-4 0-0 3, Forbes 5-11 0-0 10, Evans 5-9 4-4 17, Reed 1-2 5-8 7, Edwards 2-6 10-14 14. Totals 22-58 24-34 75.

Halftime—IPFW 32-20, 3-Point Goals—S. Dakota 5-15 (Flack 2-2, Norris 2-3, Bos 1-6, Larson 0-1, Thosby 0-1, Rowson 0-2), IPFW 7-22 (Evans 3-6, Jacobo 2-7, Kibloski 1-3, Bland 1-3, McCray 0-1, Edwards 0-2). Fouled Out—Flack, Gruis, Rebounds—S. Dakota 32 (Gruis 8), IPFW 41 (Forbes 10), Assists—S. Dakota 23, IPFW 17. A—687.

S.D. STATE 77, OMAHA 60: OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Cody Larson and Jake Bittle each scored 16 points and hauled in 10 rebounds to lead South Dakota State to a 77-60 win over Nebraska-Omaha on Thursday night.  
Trailing by a point early in the first period, South Dakota State (15-10, 7-3 Summit League)

took control with a 12-3 run capped by a Larson layup that made it 24-16 with 10:52 to go in the half, and never trailed again. The Jackrabbits took a 37-27 advantage into the break and continued to pull away in the second half.

Brayden Carlson scored 17 points for South Dakota State, which out-rebounded Omaha 50-29 in taking its fifth straight win while also avenging last month's loss to the Mavericks.

Omaha (15-10, 4-5) were led by Mike Rostampour, who scored 15 points. Devin Patterson added 13 points for the Mavericks, while CJ Carter had 12.

IUPUI 59, DENVER 49: INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Mitch Patton scored 14 points as IUPUI picked up its first Summit League win of the year on

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# MMC Men Add Pair

BY JEREMY HOECK  
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Andrew Baker calls recruiting within the South Dakota borders not only beneficial because of the talent, but necessary in the continued growth of the Mount Marty College men's basketball program.

"I think that's something we need to have, we need to win our state at our level," said Baker, who is nearing the end of his first season as Lancers head coach.

And so, to that end, Mount Marty announced Thursday the signings of Seamus O'Malley (6-foot-1, G/F, Centerville) and Cody Willett (6-4, G/F, Canton) for the 2014-15 recruiting class.

The duo join Jalen Hurley, a 6-foot-5 wing from Parkston, who signed back in December.

And yes, there could be more in-state kids that follow.

"We need to get those South Dakota kids," Baker said. "It helps the Mount Marty brand, helps build interest in our program. It creates some buzz."

"All that stuff blends together."

O'Malley, who earned second team All-State honors after as a junior, has led Centerville to a 10-6 record and second-place standing in District 10B. This season, he is averaging 19.2 points, 8.2 rebounds and 2 steals per game.

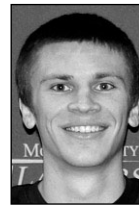
A big part of two 16-win teams, O'Malley brings more than a scoring punch, Centerville coach Kory Muller said. "He's provided leadership for us," the coach said. "He has a great work ethic, and he helps the younger kids develop. He knows how to handle pressure."

O'Malley's sister, Kieran, also attends Mount Marty and is a freshman on the women's basketball team.

Willett, who also earned All-State honors as a junior, has the Canton C-Hawks atop Region 4A with an 11-3 record.



O'Malley



Willett

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JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D  
Vermillion's Sydney Peters, 21, shoots during their Dakota XII Conference girls' basketball game on Thursday in Vermillion.

# West Central Girls Pull Past Vermillion

VERMILLION — West Central took a three-point lead at the half and would continue to defeat Vermillion 60-48 in women's basketball action on Thursday night in Vermillion.

West Central's Alexa From was the leading scorer with 14 points, while Ali Lacey netted 13 points and McKenzie Stone tallied seven rebounds.

For Vermillion, Haleigh Melstad scored 16 points in the effort, while Josie Huber notched 13 points and four steals.

Both teams will play Tuesday, with West Central (15-2) traveling to Hartford to face off against Canton and Vermillion (9-10) heading to Wagner to play the Red Raiders.

Vermillion won the JV game 34-24.

WEST CENTRAL (15-2) .....18 29 64 60  
VERMILLION (9-10) .....13 28 36 48

Crofton 70, Norfolk Catholic 33  
NORFOLK, Neb. — The Crofton Warriors made sure their second meeting with Norfolk Catholic was not nearly as interesting as the first.

Crofton, which had to battle past the

Knights 56-43 in the Mid-State Conference girls' basketball tournament championship on Saturday, jumped out to a 40-7 halftime lead and cruised to a 70-33 victory on Thursday.

Allison Arens led Crofton with 26 points, eight assists and four steals. Monica Arens scored 11 points, Quinn Wragge had 10 points and Kelsey Sanger had six assists in the victory.

For Norfolk Catholic, Geena Piper led the way with 11 points.

Crofton, 20-1, finishes the regular season tonight (Friday) at home against former Northeast Nebraska Activities Conference rival Randolph. Norfolk Catholic, 14-8, plays Boone Central-Newman Grove in the semifinals of the Sub-District C1-8 Tournament on Tuesday at Norfolk High School.

CROFTON (20-1) .....17 40 55 70  
NORFOLK CATHOLIC (14-8) .....2 7 20 33

Laurel-Con. Col. 75, Wisner-Pilger 57  
WISNER, Neb. — After a seven-point lead at the half, Laurel-Concord-Coleridge moved on to defeat Wisner-Pilger 75-57 in girls' basketball action on Thursday night in Wisner, Neb.

Cameron Eddie was the leading scorer for Laurel-Concord-Coleridge with 27 shots netted, along with seven rebounds and five assists. Ellie Arduser

notched 20 points and six steals for the team, while Audra Corbit gained 13 points and two blocks.

Wisner-Pilger's Bailey Batenhorst, Makenzie Kalkowski, and Samantha Liermann each scored 11 points, while Sara Smyth notched seven points in the effort.

Laurel-Concord-Coleridge (14-6) will head to Bancroft, Neb. on Friday to play Bancroft-Rosalie. Wisner-Pilger (9-14) will face off against Tekamah-Herman for Subdistrict C1-7 on Tuesday night in Oakland, Neb.

LAUREL-CONCORD-COL (14-6) .....22 39 64 75  
WISNER-PILGER (9-14) .....18 32 42 57

Lennox 52, Parkston 38  
PARKSTON — Lennox snuck past Parkston 52-38 on Thursday evening.

Kaitlin Hinker led Lennox (10-7) with 14 points.

Justene Alley led Parkston (5-12) with 14 points.

Lennox will play at Tea on Saturday, while Parkston travels to Bridgewater-Emery.

LENNOX (10-7) .....15 24 39 52  
PARKSTON (5-12) .....15 18 27 38

Allen 40, Bloomfield 19  
BLOOMFIELD, Neb. — Allen defeated Bloomfield 40-19 in a defensive juggernaut on Friday evening.

Lindsey Sullivan led Allen (9-12) with 15 points, while Lindsey Jones added 10

points.

Brittany Kerbel and Amanda Goeden led Bloomfield (4-14) with four points each.

Allen will play Randolph in Sub-District D1-4 in Ponca on Tuesday. Bloomfield will play Hartington on Monday in Ponca, as well.

ALLEN (9-12) .....17 27 34 40  
BLOOMFIELD (4-14) .....3 9 9 19

Pierre 45, O'Gorman 44

PIERRE — Pierre edged O'Gorman 45-44 on Thursday evening.

Kaitlyn Severyn led Pierre (9-7) with 12 points and nine rebounds. McKenna Halverson added 11 points, while Sydney Palmer collected nine points.

Jessica Mieras led O'Gorman (13-4) with 14 points and seven rebounds. Dalee Stene added 12 points and two assists in the loss.

Pierre will host Harrisburg on Saturday, while O'Gorman will travel to Lincoln next Saturday.

PIERRE (9-7) .....10 17 33 45  
O'GORMAN (13-4) .....14 26 35 44

## Boys

Menno 51, Canistota 48  
MENNO — Menno snuck past Canistota on Thursday evening by the score of 51-48.

Caleb Preszler led Menno (8-10) with 12 points, while Chet Peterson added 11 points and five assists.

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