

Youth Wrestling Season Gets Underway

The youth wrestling season got underway this past weekend with a number of wrestlers from the Pierre Youth Wrestling program competing in tournaments throughout the state. Tournaments are traditionally coordinated by local youth wrestling programs or national organizations to provide wrestlers with varying levels of exposure to wrestlers around the state or region.

Five youth wrestlers attended the South Dakota State University Championships in Brookings on Saturday January 7th. The tournament included some of the top wrestlers from North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, Minnesota, and Nebraska, and Blake Judson (1st and 2nd grade division) and Cade Hinkle (3rd and 4th grade division) advanced into the finals at the event. “Both Blake and Cade dominated kids in their first three matches to advanced to the championship matches,” said Paul Turman, President for Pierre Youth Wrestling. “They really wrestled well and lost very close matches to come away as runner-ups at the event.” The other wrestlers also performed well with a top 4 finish by Jaret Clarke, and a top 8 finish by Gabe Turman and Tyson Johnson.

Eight wrestlers from the program also traveled to Sturgis on the same day to compete with more than 400 wrestlers from South Dakota, Montana, Nebraska, and Wyoming. Representatives from the team



Pierre Youth Wrestler Blake Judson works to turn his Minnesota opponent during his semifinal match at the SDSU Championships this past Saturday.

came away with three first place finishers in the multi-state tournament including Maguire Raske, Jayden Wiebe, and Jace Bench-Bresher.

“It’s always nice to see many of our experienced wrestlers be willing to travel and compete this early in the season,” said John Lusk, Vice President for the youth program. “With 150 members in our club we expect many of our new members to begin traveling to tournaments this coming weekend to compete at these closer venues.” Local tournaments occurring during January 14th-15 weekend include events in Huron and Gettysburg, as well as multiple tournaments in Rapid City and the Black Hills area.

Individual place winners at each of the tournaments around the state include:

Tri-Valley

1. Cade Hinkle – 1st

SDSU Championships

1. Jaret Clarke – 4th
2. Cade Hinkle – 2nd
3. Tyson Johnson – 8th
4. Blake Judson – 2nd
5. Gabe Turman – 8th

Sturgis

1. Jace Bench-Bresher – 1st
2. Steven Fullerton – 2nd
3. Brady Getz – 2nd
4. Maguire Raskie – 1st
5. Hayden Shaffer – 4th
6. Jayden Wiebe – 1st
7. Jack Van Camp – 2nd
8. Will Van Camp – 2nd

Mt. Vernon

1. Matthew Hostler – 2nd
2. Ethan Martinmaas – 1st

Brandon Valley

1. Cade Hinkle – 1st
2. Blake Judson – 1st
3. Grant Judson – 2nd
4. Tyson Johnson – 4th
5. Austin Senger – 1st
6. Gabe Turman – 2nd
7. Lincoln Turman – 2nd
8. Will Turman – 1st

