

Youth Wrestlers Kick-off Their Season

The youth wrestling season kicked off this past weekend with a number of Pierre wrestlers competing in tournaments throughout the state. Thirteen wrestlers from the Pierre Youth Wrestling program traveled to Sturgis on Saturday January 9 to compete with more than 500 wrestlers from South Dakota, Montana, Nebraska, and Wyoming. Representatives from the team came away with ten first place finishers in the multi-state tournament. Paul Turman, president of the Pierre Youth Wrestling program, noted that “It was nice to see so many of our young kids do so well in one of the best tournaments in the state. Especially when considering that only some of the best from the regional states are likely to travel to compete out-of-state so early in the season.”

In more local competition, 21 club members also wrestled in the Mid-Dakota youth tournament in Presho and the Northern State youth tournament in Aberdeen on Sunday January 10. Representatives from the club produced nine individual champions, and seven second place finishers. A number of new wrestlers competed for their first time including Sam Slocum (4th), Gavin Stotts (2nd), and Jett Zabel (4th). “It is nice to see a number of our newer members perform so well when wrestling for the first time in competition,” Turman said. “Our practices only began two weeks ago, and it is always exciting when our young kids can jump right in and have considerable success.” This coming weekend, club members will be competing at tournaments throughout the state including Rapid City, Huron, and Gettysburg. Individual place winners at each of these tournaments are listed below.

Sturgis Tournament

Cade Hinkle- 1st
Blake Judson- 1st
Grant Judson- 6th
Garrett Leesman- 1st
Skyler Leesman- 3rd
Mcquire Raske- 1st
Austin Senger- 1st
Will Turman- 1st



Pierre youth wrestler Chase Bunnis takes down his Watertown opponent on his way to a second place finish at the Northern State youth tournament.

Lincoln Turman- 1st
Gabe Turman- 1st
Peyton Zabel- 1st
Grey Zabel- 1st
Jett Zabel- 4th

Mid-Dakota Tournament

Gage Gehring – 2nd
Gunnar Gehring – 4th
Cade Hinkle- 1st
Spencer Livingston- 2nd
Michael Lusk- 1st
Matthew Lusk- 3rd
Logan Meyer- 3rd
Marcus Neace- 3rd
Spencer Sarringar- 1st
Quintin Serbousek- 1st
Sam Slocum- 4th
Luke Snyder- 2nd
Lee Snyder- 2nd
Levi Stoltenburg – 1st
Lucas Stoltenburg – 1st
Gavin Stotts- 2nd

Northern State Tournament

Chase Bunnis- 2nd
Garrett Leesman- 2nd
Skyler Leesman- 1st
Wyatt Leesman- 1st
Austin Senger- 1st

