Dean Frederick (’63) competed in football, basketball, and track for Fort Pierre High School. While a gifted three-sport athlete, it was on the hardwood where Dean shined for Fort Pierre High School, becoming the first all-state team selection in school history.

Dean was a four-year starter for the Buffalo basketball team (1959-63) and a top player in the region. As a freshman and sophomore, Dean and the Buffalos built a championship team. As a junior, he led the team to 14-9 record before a legendary senior season where Dean led the Buffalos to a 22-3 record. The senior-laden team was ranked much of the year, losing only to Howard, Agar, and Gann Valley. The Buffalos won the LCAC championship, the District 24 championship, and were Region 6 consolation champions.

Dean’s reputation as a top regional player culminated in being named to the 1963 Class B all-state 2nd team. He was the first in school history to receive this honor. Dean’s heralded senior season, where the Buffalos beat four ranked opponents and Dean won multiple *Argus Leader* “Ace of the Week” awards, helped him win the award and earn a scholarship to Southern State College. Dean averaged 24 points per game on 83% free throw shooting. In his career, Dean scored 1245 points on 88% free throw shooting. As a junior and senior, he grabbed 291 rebounds and dished out 216 assists. Statistically, Dean was one of the best. He also set the tone for future generations of Buffalo basketball players.

Dean played four years of football with the Buffalos, having a combined record of 21-11. He also ran track, was a member of the Lettermen’s Club, and participated in class plays. Dean has farmed, ranched, and raised his family in central SD. He has coached youth basketball and now watches his grandkids play.