

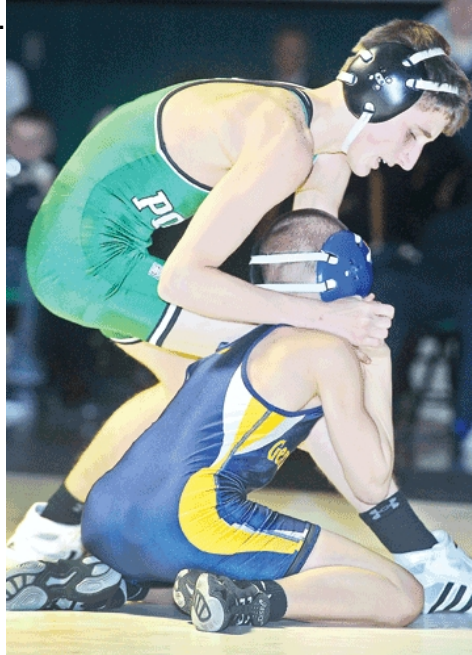
Shorthanded mat lineup no problem for Pirates

Written by MITCH MAERSCH
Wednesday, 16 January 2013 17:14

Even with injuries, illness, Port wrestling team sticks it to Germantown in NSC meet

Once the Port Washington High School wrestling team gets healthy, look out.

Despite having to battle through an illness-ridden season, the Pirates have their sights set on another North Shore Conference title.



On Jan. 10, Port dismantled Germantown, 57-21, for an impressive home victory.

“A lot of guys are wrestling really well right now. Some guys that aren’t in the varsity lineup stepped up,” Pirates coach Angelo LaRosa said.

Germantown was expected to be one of Port’s toughest challenges in its quest to win a 12th straight NSC team title.

The Pirates got pins from Nick Michalowski (106 pounds), Manny Rosado (113), John Wick (120), Noah Rosado (126), Brandon Moeller (138), Quinten Lueck (160), Josh Meins (170) and Tyler Brown (182).

Meins, a senior, was honored at the meet for earning his 100th career victory at the Cheesehead Invitational the previous week.

“Josh is really turning it up. He’s wrestling the best right now he ever has,” LaRosa said.

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“He’s been really top notch all season. We’re looking for a big finish from him.”

This Thursday, the Pirates will travel to Cedarburg for a 6:30 p.m. conference dual meet.

LaRosa will be coaching against a childhood friend, Matt Gartman, who heads the Cedarburg program. Both coaches grew up in Grafton.

“It will be fun,” LaRosa said.

LaRosa hopes hoping to have a full lineup of regular starters.

“We had some injuries and other reasons for having guys out,” he said.

“But we’re starting to get everyone back. Our biggest thing is getting everyone healthy.”

This Friday, the Pirates will participate in the Highlander Invitational at Homestead at 4 p.m.

Whitefish Bay 47, Grafton 24

Forfeits cost the host Black Hawks in a North Shore Conference meet Jan. 10.

In matches wrestled, Grafton won, 24-23. But the Hawks forfeited four weight classes.

Grafton’s match wins came from Colton Heberling (145 pounds), Billy Depies (152), Sam Hoffman (160) and Alex Marshall (220). Hoffman and Marshall scored pins.

Justin Rapp (170) received a forfeit.

Grafton coach Mike Dodge was also pleased with the efforts of freshmen Liam Pleger (120) and Arturo Duran (106) and junior Kevin Taylor (138) in losses.

“The freshmen were a little bit impressive,” Dodge said. “Overall our team wrestled tough.

“If you don’t count the forfeits, we only gave up two pins. To come in and wrestle a team like that we know is tough and not give up the pins is a good thing.”

This week, Grafton will host Milwaukee Lutheran in a 6:30 p.m. meet Thursday and wrestle in the Highlander Invitational at Homestead on Friday.

Image Information: PORT WASHINGTON’S Nick Michlowski controlled his Germantown

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opponent before scoring a pin in a North Shore Conference dual meet last week.

Photo by Sam Arendt