Written by Steve Ostermann
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A victory streak in the middle weights helped keep the Port Washington wrestling team undefeated in North Shore Conference dual meets last week.

After watching host Homestead pull within 18-15, the Pirates won five straight matches from 135 to 160 pounds and pulled away for a 43-27 win Jan. 21.

The surge carried Port to its fifth win in as many league meets this season.

“Homestead is probably the second-best team in the conference, so we knew it could be a good meet,” said Pirates coach Angela LaRosa, whose squad has won
eight consecutive NSC tournament titles.

“We lost a couple close matches, which made it close for a while.”

Port’s decisive run included two wins by pin, two by technical fall and one by decision.

Justin Meins started the flurry by pinning Beau Holter in 1 minute, 19 seconds, of the 135-pound match.

After Jake Maechtle (140) pinned Nolan Cohen in 2:36, Alex Dieringer (145) defeated Jason Ottem, 17-2, and Josh Meins (152) downed Conley Brown, 22-6.

Ryan Wischer (160) scored a 8-3 win over Taylor Ruffin to put the Pirates ahead, 43-15, with three matches left.

Port also got pins from Tyler Griswald (285) and Eli Rosado (119). Griswald defeated Chris Gust in 3:01, and Rosado needed 5:39 to pin Alex Fischer.

The Pirates’ Jermaine Will (103) won by forfeit.

Port Washington 37, Marquette 29

The Pirates built a 25-6 lead and hung on to win a nonconference meet at home Jan. 19.

The Hilltoppers closed the gap by taking five of the last six weight classes.

“Marquette’s an up-and-coming team that has some tough kids,” LaRosa said. “They came to wrestle.”

Port was led by pins from Dieringer (145), who defeated Nate Krzynski in 20 seconds, and Wischer (160), who scored a 2:56 fall over Joe Booth.

Winning by major decision for the Pirates was Adam Dreikosen (130), who defeated John Zeidler, 13-3.

Rosado (119), Nate Schnell (125) and Justin Meins (135) each won by regular decisions.

The Pirates received 12 points on forfeits at 140 and 189.

LaRosa singled out the performances of his youngest wrestlers, including freshmen Rosado and Schnell and sophomore Dreikosen.

“Our team is really young, but we’re starting to get a little more consistency from the freshmen and sophomores,” he said. “They’re getting a little more mature.”

This week, the Pirates will host Grafton in a 6:30 p.m. conference meet Thursday and participate in the Pulaski Invitational at 9:30 a.m. Saturday.

On Feb. 2, Port is scheduled to travel to Milwaukee Lutheran for an NSC makeup meet.