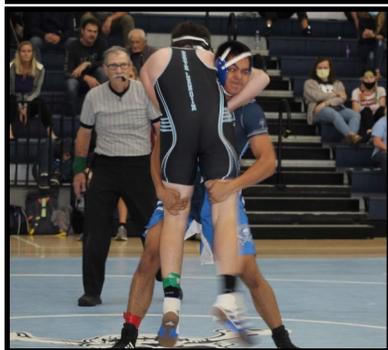


PIRATES DOMINATE IN THEIR RETURN TO THE MAT



If the Pirate Wrestlers' opening competition was a sign of what's to come, then the 2021-22 Season is going to be a good one. The Pirates dominated their competition in route to a 3-0 start on Thursday night, beating Northside 60-18, South Lenoir 62-12, and Camp Lejeune 76-6. Swansboro Wrestlers claimed 36 of 42 individual matches, with nine Pirates going undefeated on the evening. Individual results were as follows:

106: Paul Vaught (Fr)	3-0	152: Theo Yager (Jr)	3-0
113: Seamus Sullivan (Fr)	2-1	160: Draven Malubag (Jr)	1-1
120: Mason Cooper (Fr)	3-0	170: Marcus Mason (Fr)	2-1
126: Isaac Gawronski (Sr)	3-0	182: Dathan Malubag (Fr)	2-1
132: Aiden Russell (Jr)	3-0	195: Jace Wilkens (Sr)	3-0
138: Gio Rodriguez (Sr)	3-0	220: Zander Riley (Sr)	3-0
145: Klint Rhude (Jr)	3-0	Hwt: Brayden Cline (Fr)	2-1

* 160-pound wrestler Gauge Duplantis had to forfeit (injury default) his lone match due to concussion protocol.

When asked about the team's dominant performance, Senior Isaac Gawronski said "I'm not surprised. We returned 10 starters from last year. Eight of those guys were conference place winners and all 10 competed at regionals, so we have some experience this year. We also have depth. We had 12 guys on the team last season but have 30-plus this year. We even had a few starters out of the lineup tonight, but it didn't matter because we had young guys backing them up who could step onto the mat and get the win in their place. I'm really excited to see what we can do this year. We'll see some tougher competition as the season goes on, but I think we're going to continue to perform at a high level. Teammate and fellow senior Gio Rodriguez stated "I expected us to win all three matches tonight, but not by the scores that we did. We still have a lot of season left but this shows just how good we could be this year. It's the first time we started 3-0 since I've been at Swansboro and it feels great. I can't wait to see what this team can do moving forward.



Top to Bottom: (1) Theo Yager pins Northside. (2) Draven Malubag lifts his South Lenoir opponent for the takedown. (3) Marcus Mason turns South Lenoir to secure the pin. (4) Isaac Gawronski scores Nearfall points against Northside in route to a pin. (5) Gio Rodriguez lifts his opponent in route to a takedown and eventual pin. (6) Pirate Wrestlers celebrate their 3-0 start to the 2021-22 Season.