

Metros win 'shootoff,' 4-3

DES MOINES — There are no "sister-kissing" ties in hockey, at least not in the Iowa High School State Tournament.

The Sioux City Metros and West Des Moines Valley Tigers battled through three 15-minute periods, and an eight-minute overtime session, deadlocked at 2-2.

Rules then call for a "shootoff," — a one-on-one (offensive skater against goalie) situation to settle the issue.

The Metros won it this way, the second time around, on Brent Hartman's pressure shot to pull out an exciting 4-3 decision in the opening round of the three-day, eight-team classic.

The win advances the Metros into today's semifinal game at 6:30 p.m. against regular-season champion Waterloo Columbus, a victor over Mason City in the late game Friday night.

Metro Coach Walt Johnson was elated after the afternoon victory, praising goalie Jamie Lempares and the players for their come-from-behind victory, saying: "Lempares was unbelievable in the nets." He also was lavish in his praise of Clay

Wiffen and Hartman for their shootoff goals.

The Metros got a 1-0 jump by scoring 9:15 into the first period on a short-handed goal by Bill Emerick. Defenseman Kreg Lohry was perched in the penalty box serving an elbowing infraction at the time.

When Brad Hanson flashed the red light at 4:46 of the second, the Sioux Cityans found themselves with a 2-0 advantage.

But it was short lived.

Valley struck back twice within nine seconds on shots by Mike Moulton at 10:49 and Todd Gifford at 10:58.

And that's where it stayed through the remainder of the second (4:02), the 15-minute third period and the eight-minute sudden death session — a total of 27:02.

Valley won the toss on the shootoff and elected to go first.

Steve Miller of the Tigers zipped in on Lempares and beat the Metro goalie with a quick wrist shot, giving the Des Moines team a 3-2 lead.

That placed the pressure on Metro forward Wiffen, who wheeled in on Valley goaltender Mitch VeDane, beating him with a shot on the right

side to tie the game once again at 3-3.

Valley took the next shot, which Lempares blocked neatly, and the Metros put Hartman in the pressure seat. He didn't disappoint, beating VeDane on the left side with his decisive goal.

Valley outshot the Sioux Cityans 41-30, but it was the Metros who out-pressured the West Des Moines team with their two shootoff goals.

The Summary

First period: 1, Sioux City—Bill Emerick (Clay Wiffen, Dan Holzrichter) 9:15. Penalties: Reynolds, SC, 2:36; Reynolds, SC, 5:26; Mulholland, V, 6:12; Krage Lohry, SC, 8:46; Mulholland, V, 11:32; Hartman, SC, 13:19.

Second period: 2, Sioux City—Brad Hanson, 4:46. 3, Valley—Mike Moulton (Jeff Rovner, Steve Mulholland) 10:49. 4, Valley—Todd Gifford (Keith Armstrong) 10:58. Penalties: Pinney, SC, 2:00; Mulholland, V, 6:51; Reynolds, SC, (minor, 10 minute misconduct) 8:15; Armstrong, V, 8:15; Miller, V, 13:16; Baker, SC, 13:16; Hartman, SC, 14:10.

Third period: No scoring. Penalties: Pinney, SC, 5:59; Mulholland, V, 11:29.

Sudden death overtime: No scoring. Penalty: Kentner, SC, 2:21.

Shootoff: 5, Valley—Steve Miller. 6, Sioux City—Clay Wiffen. 7, Sioux City—Brent Hartman.

Score by periods:

| | | | | | | | |
|------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sioux City | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | — | 4 | |
| Valley | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | — | 3 |

Shots on goal:

| | | | | | | | |
|------------|----|----|---|---|---|---|----|
| Sioux City | 6 | 14 | 3 | 5 | 2 | — | 30 |
| Valley | 15 | 7 | 9 | 8 | 2 | — | 41 |

Goalies: Jamie Lempares, Sioux City; Mitch VeDane, Valley.