

Warriors and Columbus defeated in state hockey tournament semifinals

By DOUG NEWHOFF
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MASON CITY — Waterloo's two high school hockey teams collide for the fourth time of the season this afternoon, but it won't be for the state tournament championship.

Instead, it will be Valley-Dowling and Sioux City playing for the 12th state tournament title and one of those teams will win its first championship ever.

Valley clipped league champion Columbus' wings and Sioux City put together a thrifty performance to defeat the Warriors in Saturday afternoon's semifinals. Both times, 4-2 was the final word.

So, the state tournament championship will spend an unprecedented third straight year away from Waterloo. The Sailors and Warriors will decide third place at 1 p.m. this afternoon at the North Iowa Recreational Arena.

That doesn't mean Waterloo won't

have a voice in the final, albeit a faint voice. Sioux City Coach Jim Coyle spent 20 years in Waterloo, including several as a standout goaltender for the Waterloo Black Hawks' United States Hockey League club.

Sioux City 4, Warriors 2

The Metros made the most of the least in their semifinal victory as they scored four times with just 16 shots on the Waterloo net.

Sioux City struck early, taking a 1-0 lead 1:37 into the game and added the first of two power play goals for a 2-0 lead.

Brandon Burger got the Warriors within a goal 4:32 into the period, but the Metros answered to take a 3-1 lead into the second.

Burger, who also scored twice in Friday's 4-3 overtime win against Ames, put the Warriors back in the game early in the second, but the Metros were invincible the rest of the way.

Waterloo didn't score over the final 26:47 of the game and Sioux City shut the Warriors down to one lonely shot on goal in the third.

"I thought the Warriors played extremely well," said Coyle. "And we feel fortunate to be in the final."

Sioux City hadn't played a game in two weeks and the Metros had but two days of ice in Sioux City over that stretch.

They also struggled as the league season wound down, losing their last three games.

"On paper, we don't have the talent of Columbus, or the Warriors, or Valley-Dowling," Coyle continued. "But the kids just worked super hard. All of them."

Coyle said it didn't matter who the Metros met for the title, but another shot at Columbus has a certain appeal.

"Being from Waterloo, I still have a lot of friends there," he

said. "And I coached half the kids playing for Columbus. I guess if we can't win it, I'd like to see them win it."

Valley-Dowl. 4, Columbus 2

Columbus simply couldn't break down the Valley-Dowling defense in the day's second semifinal.

The Tigers zeroed in on the Sailor wings and Columbus never got its game spread out on the large Mason City surface.

"Their defensemen played well," said Columbus Coach Mike Brown. "They played smart in their zone."

"We didn't have a great deal of flow, but Valley had a lot to do with that. They contained us pretty well. They didn't let us spread out and we didn't move the puck very well."

Jason Bloom staked the Sailors to a 1-0 and 2-1 lead, but the Tigers kept battling back and buzzing the Columbus net with quality shots.

Goaltender Jason Hedican stood up to the attack with a number of brilliant saves, but Valley finally tied it with :32 left in the second period.

Tournament glance

Friday's results

First Round

Sioux City 6, Urbandale 3
Waterloo Warriors 4, Ames 3, OT
Valley-Dowling 5, Mason City 3
Columbus 8, Urbandale 1

Saturday's results

Semifinals

Sioux City 4, Waterloo Warriors 2
Valley-Dowling 4, Columbus 2

Losers Bracket

Mason City 2, Ames 1

Games Sunday

8 a.m. — Urbandale vs. Ames
10:30 a.m. — Mason City vs. Urbandale
Ames winner (5th place)
1 p.m. — Waterloo Warriors vs. Columbus (3rd place)
3:30 p.m. — Valley-Dowling vs. Sioux City (championship)

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Hockey

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The Sailors, who led the league in power play goals with 33, got two manadvantage chances in the third period, but couldn't convert.

Then, with 6:18 to play, Valley-Dowling's Tony Drensen broke into the clear and fired a shot through Hedican for a 3-2 Tiger lead. And with 3:58 showing, Drensen finished off a bang-bang play from the slot to make it 4-2.

When Columbus took a needless penalty at the 2:54 mark and put Valley on the power play, the Sailors were facing an impossible situation.

"We told the kids we had to beat them to the puck in the corners and play smart hockey," said Don Krueger, who has co-coached the

Tigers with Ken Francis this season.

"We had to work harder than they did and not give up and that's exactly what they did. The last four weeks of practice, the kids have done everything we've asked. They felt in their hearts they could do it."

Valley finished the regular season with four straight wins after standing 3-11 at one point. Five of those losses were by a single goal and two others by two goals.

The turning point, perhaps, was an overtime victory over Sioux City near the end of the regular season.

"Even when they were just real close, they started believing in themselves," said Francis. "And you always want to peak at the end."

Sioux City 4, Warriors 2

SCORE BY PERIODS

Warriors..... 1 1 0 — 2
Sioux City..... 3 0 1 — 4
FIRST PERIOD — 1. Sioux City, Swanson (unassisted) 1:37; 2. Sioux City, Graber (Brunkan, Austin) 3:17; 3. Warriors, Burger (Frasse, McFarland) 4:32; 4. Sioux City, Austin (Brunkan) 10:50; Penalties — Burger (Whag-schilling) 2:25; Frasse (Whag-schilling) 7:43; Swanson (Schilling) 11:14.

SECOND PERIOD — 5. Warriors, Burger (Hall) 3:13; 6. Warriors, Francis (Schilling) 3:57; 7. McFarland (Whag-schilling) 14:41; 8. Keith (Schilling) 14:41.
THIRD PERIOD — 6. Sioux City, Graber (Brunkan) 7:43; Penalties — Conrad (Schilling) 4:46; Burger (Whag-schilling) 8:57; Laughlin (Whag-schilling) 9:47; Burger (Whag-schilling) 11:14.

SHOTS ON GOAL

Warriors..... 12 9 1 — 22
Sioux City..... 5 3 3 — 11
Officials — Referee: Chuck III, Steve Kueyler; Linesman: Del Conradson

Valley-Dowling 4, Columbus 2

SCORE BY PERIODS

Valley-Dowling..... 0 2 2 — 4
Columbus..... 1 1 0 — 2
FIRST PERIOD — 1. Columbus, J. Bloom (Smith, Dufkewicz) 5:57; Penalties — McCreary (Whag-schilling) 9:57; Wheeler (Croschrecking) 9:58; Westlake (V-Dingling) 14:43; 2. Wheeler (Croschrecking) 14:58; Drensen (V-Dingling) 14:43.

SECOND PERIOD — 3. Valley-Dowling, Krueger (Grob) 3:34; 4. Columbus, J. Bloom (Dufkewicz, Smith) 10:30; 5. Valley-Dowling, Drensen (Grob) 14:28; Penalties — Gooden (V-Dingling) 2:45; Langdon (Croschrecking) 3:14; 6. MacLennan (Whag-schilling) 5:52; 7. MacLennan (Croschrecking) 6:39; Drensen (V-Dingling) 9:15; Drensen (V-Dingling) 10:41; 8. McCreary (V-Dingling) 14:58.

THIRD PERIOD — 5. Valley-Dowling, Drensen (Krueger) 8:42; 6. Valley-Dowling, Drensen (Grob) 11:02; Penalties — Ziegler (Croschrecking) 5:58; Watson (V-Dingling) 8:33; Dufkewicz (Croschrecking from behind) 12:04; Wheeler (Croschrecking, unsportsmanlike conduct, interference) 13:56; 4. MacLennan (Croschrecking, misconduct) 14:58; Wheeler (Croschrecking, misconduct) 15:50.

SHOTS ON GOAL

Valley-Dowling..... 22 10 7 — 39
Columbus..... 4 12 5 — 21
Officials — Referee: Ian Campbell; Del Conradson; Linesman: Jim Kibben; Art — 301

Michigan tops Iowa in swim meet

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Michigan's Brent Lang captured his third individual championship and the Wolverines won their third straight title in the 78th Annual Big Ten Men's Swimming and Diving Championships Saturday night.

Michigan had 700 points, followed by Iowa with 621 and Indiana with 340.

Lang won the 100 freestyle in 43.74 seconds after a setting a meet record of 43.41 in the trials. He also won the 50 freestyle Thursday and the 200 freestyle Friday night in record time for his other titles.

Michigan Coach Jon Urbanek was pleased with his team's performance during the three-day meet at the Indiana University Natatorium.

"They lived up to what we expected. We got our top 10 ready for the NCAA's in Indianapolis in April," he said. "We used our bottom 10 for a team effort."

ate, 61-52

chances. It took them 61 shots to get the same 23 field goals South Hamilton scored in 42. That's a 37.7 percent average and 51 points against a points average of 54 percent and 23 points a game.

NU High.....	FG-A	FT-A	PP	TP
NU High.....	9-24	6-12	4	4
Alberts.....	5-16	1-2	4	11
Martin.....	3-6	0-2	1	14
Green.....	7-16	1-2	2	17
Steele.....	3-9	0-2	1	14
Gunn.....	0-2	2-4	2	2
McCreary.....	0-0	0-2	0	0
Edwards.....	0-0	0-0	1	0
Johnson.....	0-0	0-0	0	0
Totals.....	29-61	6-12	22	61
South Hamilton.....	FG-A	FT-A	PP	TP
South Hamilton.....	9-17	6-7	1	25
N. Hill.....	3-6	2-3	2	9
Hyland.....	7-9	0-1	2	14
Henderson.....	3-3	2-4	1	8
Schweppe.....	1-5	2-7	4	5
Anderson.....	1-2	0-1	2	2
Totals.....	24-62	14-28	14	61
NU High.....	4	21	13	-52
South Hamilton.....	14	19	15	-51

Three-point goals: Green 2, P. Hill