

Metros land 4 on all-star team

Team Tri-State in Chicago tourney

By Steven Allspach
Journal sports writer

It may not be the NHL's Stanley Cup, but Team Tri-State's cup is bound to run over should it fill up the nets sufficiently to win the Chicago Showcase Hockey Tournament.

The Chicago Showcase is a high school version of the Stanley Cup, a tournament national in scope, including 20 teams representing 25 states from Massachusetts to California to Alaska.

Team Tri-State is composed of players from the Iowa High School Hockey League.

Four players from Sioux City's IHSHL state championship squad will play for Team Tri-State, coached by Dave Davies and John Lloyd.

Davies and co-coach Dave Legree guided Sioux City's Metros to the state title in February. Lloyd is the coach of the Mason City team in the IHSHL.

Brian Augustine, T.J. Reinsch, Dan Davies and Chris Sorum will be the Sioux City representatives on the all-star team.

"We won't be happy with just showing up for this tournament," said Coach Davies. "Our goal is to win our division (Patrick) and eventually reach the semifinals."

Team Tri-State includes players from Iowa, Nebraska and Kansas, although there are no teams from Kansas in the Iowa High School Hockey League.

Omaha has two teams (Junior Lancers and Gladiators) in the IHSHL and St. Joseph, Mo., also plays in the league.

Team Missouri, on the other hand, will play with Team Alaska, Team New Hampshire and Team Northwest (Utah, Montana and Idaho) in a separate division (Smythe) of the tournament.

Team Colorado, Team Michigan and Team New Jersey are in the Patrick Division with Team Tri-State.

Team Tri-State opens round-robin division play at 2 p.m. today in Wilmette, Ill., against Team Colorado. Team New Jersey is the Thursday (1:30 p.m.) foe in Skokie, Ill., and Team Michigan is the opponent Friday (noon) in Wilmette. The championship and consolation games are scheduled for Sunday in the Wilmette Ice Arena.

"We'll suit up 20 players for each game, but we've picked four alternates primarily because there's a tournament rule that stipulates a player will be suspended from further play in the tourney if he's penalized for fighting," said Davies.

The top eight teams record-wise after division play advance to the quarterfinals Saturday.

Team Tri-State concluded practice for the competition with three games last weekend in Ames.

Tri-State beat the Iowa State hockey club, 6-3, Team North Dakota, 3-2, and a club team from the St. Louis area, 9-3.

Team Tri-State finished 10th in his first trip to the Chicago Showcase last year.

The forwards, along with Davies, Sorum and Reinsch, are Aaron Cigrand and Jerry Hill of Dubuque, Nick Krueger and Andy Byrkit of Valley-Dowling, Ted Lowndes and Dusty Stolp of the Omaha Gladiators, Andy Gericke and Ben MacLennan of Waterloo, Brody Linder of Ames, Matt Workman and alternate Tom Christofani of St. Joseph.

Kyle Geiger of West Des Moines Valley-Dowling and K.C. Doland of Waterloo are the goaltenders and

Jason Garrison of Urbandale is the alternate.

Other defensemen on the team along with Augustine are Richard Roche of Valley-Dowling, Terry Nims and Joe Baxter of Dubuque, Doug Ivester of the Omaha Gladiators, Chris Kelly of St. Joseph and alternates Benie Buckley of Waterloo and Jamie Huffman of Urbandale.

"We're excited about the tournament and feel we can compete," said Davies. "In our division, Team Michigan looks strong. Most of their players were on the Michigan team our Sioux City bantam team played a couple of years ago in the nationals in Seattle and Michigan won that tournament."

Other teams in the tournament are Team Massachusetts, Team Pittsburgh, Team Southwest (Arizona, New Mexico, Texas), Team Buffalo, Team Illinois, Team Philadelphia, Team Oregon, Team Pacific (California, Washington), Team Central New York, Team Ohio and Team Wisconsin.

Several states are not included because governing high school athletic associations in those states don't allow all-star competition outside the school year.