Junior Lancers turn back upset bid by Metros, 8-5

OMAHA — The Sioux City Metros gave the top-seeded Omaha Jr. Lancers a stern test in the semifinals of the Iowa High School Hockey League state tournament at Hitchcock Arena here Friday, but lost an 8-5 decision.

The Metros gained a 3-1 lead after a Greg Gill goal 2:05 into the second period. The once-beaten Jr. Lancers, however, stormed back with the next three goals to take a 4-3 lead. Trent Mozak kept Sioux City's upset hopes alive with a red-lighter at the 12:07 mark of the second period, knotting the score at 4-4

The teams traded goals to begin the third period, but Omaha netted three goals in the last five minutes to secure the win.

Mozak led the Metros with a pair of goals, while Walt Johnson added a goal and an assist. Omaha outshot Sioux City 30-19 in the game, doubling the Metros attempts in the third period (14-7).

The Metros (16-12) face the Capitals (19-8-1) at 1 o'clock today in the third place game,

Summary

First period: 1, Sioux City — Trent Mozak (Kyle Worner) 2:37. 2, Omaha — Nick Saldi (Jed Ortmeyer) 4:29. 3, Sioux City — Walt Johnson (Mark Munger) 5:30. Penalties: Worner, SC, 3:02; Kempter, SC, 6:50; Kiser, O. 9:36.

Second period: 4, Sioux City — Greg Gill (Worner) 2:05. 5, Omaha — J.R. Nano (Saldi) 9:26. 6, Omaha — Nano (Nate Slack, Saldi) 9:55. 7, Omaha — Tom Ogee (unassisted) 11:35. 8, Sioux City — Mozak (Jason Augustine) 12:07. Penalties: Kempkes, O (minor, misconduct) 6:05; Kempter, SC, 10:49; Kiser, O, 10:49.

Third period: 9, Omaha — Jeremiah Johnson (Slack, Ogee) 6:06. 10, Sioux City — Chresten Jensen (Johnson) 7:21. 11, Omaha — Ogee (unassisted) 10:10. 12, Omaha — Johnson (Saldi, Nano) 12:13. 13, Omaha — Nano (Steve Ziemba, Slack) 13:13. Penalties: Johnson, O, 9:05; Jensen, SC, 9:55; Mozak, SC (major, game misconduct) 13:03; Slack, O (major, game misconduct) 13:23; Jensen, SC (major, game misconduct) 13:23; Ziemba, O (double minor) 13:23; Augustine, SC, 13:23.

Referee: Robert Fitzpatrick. Linesmen: Jonathan Morrison, Scott Fitzpatrick.