

Metro icers win, gain shot at IHSHL crown

OMAHA — The Sioux City Metros will play for the championship of the Iowa High School Hockey League tournament.

The Metros earned a berth in the title game by upsetting the Omaha Gladiators 3-1 in a semifinal contest here Saturday afternoon. Des Moines played the Omaha Lancers in the other semifinal contest.

The Gladiators, the IHSHL regular-season champions, took a 1-0 lead in the second period on a shot by Brent Duncan at the 13:18 mark.

Sioux City, 20-8, didn't waste any time charging back in the third stanza. Clint Stiles knocked the puck through the posts just 33 seconds after the final period began. Greg Gill, who picked up an secondary assist on Stiles' goal, scored the game-winner at the 4:08 mark. Dusty Browning capped the Sioux City win by sending the puck into an empty Omaha net with five seconds remaining in the contest.

After managing just 10 shots in the

first two periods combined, Sioux City launched 13 missiles at Omaha netminder Joel Ruegg in the final stanza.

Metros goaltender Jake Hindermann, meanwhile, was rock solid in the net with 19 saves, turning back the Gladiators on breakaway chances on more than one occasion.

Today's tournament championship game is set for a 3:30 p.m. start at Hitchcock Arena.

Summary

First period: No scoring. *Penalties:* None.

Second period: 1, Omaha — Brent Duncan (Nick Crites) 13:18. *Penalties:* Berickman, O, 5:29; Jensen, SC, 6:38; LeGree, SC, 9:01.

Third period: 2, Sioux City — Clint Stiles (Willie Persinger, Greg Gill) 0:33; 3, Sioux City — Gill (Chresten Jensen) 4:08; 4, Sioux City — Dusty Browning (unassisted) 14:55. *Penalties:* Ruegg, O, (10-minute misconduct), 15:00.

Score by periods:

Sioux City.....	0	0	3	—	3
Omaha.....	0	1	0	—	1

Shots on goal:

Sioux City.....	7	3	13	—	23
Omaha.....	8	6	6	—	20

Goaltenders: Jake Hindermann, Sioux City; Joel Ruegg, Omaha.

Referee: Rick Kemp. Linesmen: Tim Frazee, Kevin McDonald.