

STATE HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

Warriors fail to answer call

■ **Waterloo settles for today's seventh-place game after 5-1 loss to Junior Stars Saturday.**

By BRIAN PALS
Courier Sports Writer

WATERLOO

The Waterloo Warriors couldn't answer the bell Saturday, so they'll get an early wake-up call today.

The Lincoln Junior Stars handed host Waterloo its second straight Iowa high School Hockey League state tournament defeat, 5-1, in consolation round action Saturday, placing the Warriors in today's 7 a.m. seventh-place game at Young Arena.

The goal totals were down from Waterloo's 10-7 loss to Sioux City in the opening round, but Warrior coach Mike Brown wasn't any happier with his team's defensive effort.

"The circumstances were different, but we didn't really play any better defense than yester-

"We had some chances, but it seemed like we just played one period of hockey."

Mike Brown
Warriors head coach

day," Brown said. "We had some breakdowns, and we gave up way too many odd-man rushes."

Just like in Friday's game, the Warriors again took an early lead. Brice Thompson slipped a centering pass to Danny Kaaihue to put Waterloo up 1-0 with 3:54 gone in the first period. Later in the first, the Warrior defense came up with a great play when goalie Craig Arras made a falling glove save to rob Sean Heard on a short-handed breakthrough.

After that, though, the game belonged to Lincoln. Heard tied the game at the 5:52 mark in the second, scoring just seconds after returning to the ice from a penalty. Jeff Thoman put the Stars on

top with a shot from just outside the crease with 9:37 gone in the second, and an Eric Klotz 20-footer made it 3-1 early in the third.

Lincoln added two goals late in the third, one of them into an empty net, while Waterloo struggled to get anything going on offense.

"We had some chances, but it seemed like we just played one period of hockey," Brown said. "When things didn't go our way, you could see our guys kind of drop their shoulders. We didn't react very well."

Eighth-seeded Lincoln played its second strong game of the tournament, after taking No. 1 Mason City into overtime Friday night.

"Waterloo's got some great scorers, so shutting them down was a priority," said Stars coach Ryan Bancurik. "It was a combination of guys working hard in the defensive zone and great goaltending."

Waterloo out-shot the Stars, 29-26, but was 0-for-7 in power-play situations.

The Warriors face the Kansas

City Junior Blades in the seventh-place game, while Lincoln takes on the Omaha Junior Lancers for fifth place at 9:15 a.m.

OMAHA JUNIOR LANCERS 5, KANSAS CITY 4, OT — In a penalty-filled contest, Phillip Reagan knocked home the game-winner at the 3:50 mark in overtime. Steve Knutter and Matt Bruch each scored twice for Kansas City in the consolation round game.

Lincoln	0	2	3	—
Waterloo	1	0	0	—
FIRST PERIOD - 1. Waterloo, Dan Kaaihue (Brice Thompson, Matt Metcalf), 3:54. Penalties - Jordan Ross-Linc (cross checking) 6:23; Jeff Stiles-Linc (elbowing) 11:45; Matt Metcalf-Wat (high sticking) 13:17.				
SECOND PERIOD - 2. Lincoln, Sean Heard (Jordan Ross, Joe Nietfeldt), 5:52; 3. Lincoln, Jeff Thoman (Lars Nielsen, Heard), 9:37. Penalties - Brian Lamoreaux-Linc (slashing) 2:15; Heard-Linc (hooking) 3:39; Metcalf-Wat (tripping) 7:44; Nate Nersson-Wat (holding) 13:29.				
THIRD PERIOD - 4. Lincoln, Eric Klotz (Nielsen), 2:20; 5. Lincoln, Ross (JP Major), 13:42; 6. Lincoln, West (Davis) 14:42. Penalties - Klotz-SC (hooking) 3:01; Nersson-Wat (slashing) 7:41; Ryan West-Linc (charging) 10:03; Dustin Guess-Wat (slashing) 13:09; Heard-Linc (interference) 13:24.				
SHOTS ON GOAL				
Lincoln	5	9	12	— 26
Waterloo	10	12	7	— 29
Goalies - Lincoln, Nick Schumacher (28 saves); Waterloo, Craig Arras (21 saves).				
Officials - Matt Fryar, referee; Mike Waddick and Danny White, linesmen.				