

GLOBE GAZETTE EDITORIAL

Mohawk skaters
confident as they
take the ice at state

Summary

Mason City Mohawk skaters think it's their turn to win a state hockey title. We like the way they think, and wish them good luck as the tournament starts today in Kansas.

The fastest show on ice — Iowa high school style — takes the spotlight this weekend in Shawnee, Kan.

That's where the Iowa High School Hockey League state tournament will take place today through Sunday.

Why an Iowa tournament in Kansas? Simply put, Kansas City wanted to be part of the Iowa league, and the rest is history. Now, the Jr. Outlaws are taking their turn hosting the eight-team tournament.

The Mason City Hockey Club hopes history repeats itself as the Mohawks start their quest for a second state title at 6:45 tonight against the Lincoln (Neb.) Jr. Stars.

The Mohawks' only title came in the 1997 season. They've come close since then, including last year when they lost in the title game, 6-3 to the Des Moines Capitals.

This year, they excelled during the regular season with their 22-4-3-1 record good for the No. 2 seed at state (Lincoln is No. 7).

If the Mohawks win, they will face either No. 3 seed Des Moines Oak Leafs or No. 6 Ames on Saturday, with the winner likely to meet the top-seeded Capitals in Sunday's title game once again.

Beating the Caps would be a tall order, but it's an order the Mohawks already have filled once this season. So in our book, there's no overwhelming favorite for this year's championship.

Mason City's stellar record speaks volumes about the talent and dedication of the coaches and players.

Coach Mark Hicks says the Mohawks can win that second title if they play up to their potential.

"I'm sure there are seven other teams saying that, but I believe it," he said.

Certainly, his players are believers.

"We are due," said forward Gilberto Sullivan, "for a state championship."

We like the way they think.
Good luck, Mohawks. We'll see you at the championship rally.

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