

# Hicks has comfort level with Mohawks

By KIRK HARDCASTLE

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**MASON CITY** — Mark Hicks is set to begin his 10th season as coach of the Mohawk Hockey Club.

And the veteran coach plans on staying awhile.



Hicks

"I don't see myself going anywhere right now," said the 42-year-old Hicks, who has been coaching

hockey at some level for 25 years.

Hicks, who took over for John Lloyd in the 2001-02 season, is a pastor for Praise Community Church and works in youth ministry.

He's still passionate about the game of hockey, as well.

"I just love hockey," Hicks said. "I like working with kids and helping them out.

"The last three or four years — it's been really fulfilling to me. It's more than just being a coach. It's been more about teaching young guys how to get through life.

"I love it and I have support from my work and from home. That helps a lot. It's what I was born to be."

Hicks said he's had opportunities in the past to coach either collegiately or at the junior hockey level.

But the veteran coach says he's content with where he's at right now.

"This is my home," he

said. "I love Mason City and it's been good for me and I don't plan on going anywhere.

"I've had opportunities to go places in the past and I just felt I needed to stay here."

## MOHAWK HOCKEY CLUB SCHEDULE

### NOVEMBER

Saturday — at Cedar Rapids, 7:45 p.m.; 12 — vs. Dubuque, 8:15 p.m.; 16 — at Waterloo, 6 p.m.; 19 — at Cedar Rapids, 7:45 p.m.; 24 — at Ames, 6 p.m.; 26 — at Dubuque, 6:30 p.m.; 27 — at Dubuque, 12:30 p.m.; 30 — vs. Ames, 8:15 p.m.

### DECEMBER

2 — vs. Des Moines Oak Leafs, 8:15 p.m.; 3 — vs. Cedar Rapids, 8:15 p.m.; 11 — vs. Sioux Falls, 7:30 p.m.; 12 — vs. Sioux Falls, 11 a.m.; 18 — at Omaha, 2:30 p.m.; 19 — at Omaha, 8 a.m.

### JANUARY

7 — at Des Moines Capitals, 6 p.m.; 8 — at Des Moines Capitals, noon; 14 — vs. Des Moines Oak Leafs, 8:15 p.m.; 15 — at Sioux City, 5 p.m.; 16 — at Sioux City, noon; 21 — vs. Quad Cities, 8:15 p.m.; 22 — vs. Kansas City Stars, 7:30 p.m.; 23 — vs. Kansas City Stars, 11 a.m.; 27 — vs. Ames, 8:15 p.m.; 28 — vs. Quad Cities, 8:15 p.m.

### FEBRUARY

1 — at Waterloo, 6 p.m.; 5 — at Kansas City Jr. Outlaws, 7 p.m.; 6 — at Kansas City Jr. Outlaws, 9 a.m.; 11 — vs. Des Moines Capitals, 8:15 p.m.; 12 — vs. Lincoln, 7:30 p.m.; 13 — vs. Lincoln, 11 a.m.; 17 — vs. Waterloo, 8 p.m.; 20 — at Quad Cities, 11:45 a.m.