

Columbus in title game, 2-1

SIOUX CITY — For three straight years, Columbus of Waterloo went winless at the state high school hockey tournament.

Five years have passed since the Sailors, once the dominant team in Iowa prep hockey, played for the state tournament championship.

But all that ended here Saturday afternoon as Columbus turned back its toughest rival — the

Waterloo Warriors — for a 2-1 semifinal-round overtime victory and a date this afternoon at 3:30 against Mason City for the title. The Mohawks advanced on the strength of a 3-0 shutout of host Sioux City.

Columbus owned a 2-1 advantage over Mason City in the regular-season series and led the third game before it got away.

Saturday, strong defense and brilliant goaltending by senior

Pat Lanigan (35 saves) carried Columbus to its third win in four meetings with the Warriors this season. And, in a defensive struggle, it was fitting that defenseman Craig Becker should score the game-winner 1:37 into the extra period.

After a scoreless first period, the Warriors grabbed a 1-0 lead on

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Hockey

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State tourney glance

First Round

Friday

Waterloo Warriors 8, Ames 2
Columbus (Waterloo) 9, Urbandale 3
Sioux City 1, Valley-Dowling 0
Mason City 12, Ames 2

Semifinals

Saturday

Columbus 2, Waterloo Warriors 1, OT
Mason City 3, Sioux City 0

Consolation

Saturday

Urbandale 11, Valley-Dowling 6

Games Sunday

Third Place

1 p.m. — Waterloo Warriors vs. Sioux City

Championship

3:30 p.m. — Columbus vs. Mason City

defenseman Reece Bixby's goal at 5:38 of the second.

Goaltender Scott Ames made that lead stand up until Jeff Wiedner took the puck and banged it into the net with just 4:26 left in regulation. Then, with the Sailors on the power play in the overtime, Becker won it with assists from Andy MacLennan and Marty Morgan.

Both the Warriors and Sailors posted lopsided first-round wins Friday afternoon.

Regular-season scoring champion Marc Gillard hammered in three goals and Bixby contributed three assists as the Warriors zipped past Ames, 8-2 in their opener.

Brian Wehr later added a three-goal hat trick and an assist to spark Columbus past Urbandale, 9-3. Sean Wirtjes added three assists and Jason Bloom two.

Mason City coasted past Ames, 12-2, to reach the semifinals while Sioux City goaltender Scott Patrick blanked Valley-Dowling, 1-0, in the other first-round game.

The Warriors play Sioux City for third place at 1 o'clock this afternoon.

Semifinals

Saturday

Columbus 2, Warriors 1, OT

COLUMBUS LINEUP

Goal — Pat Lanigan; defense — Craig Becker, Marty Morgan, Magnus Nilsson, Scott Jasser, Mike Sadler; forwards — Brian Wehr, Sean Wirtjes, Neal Lanigan, Andy MacLennan, Brian LaFontaine, Bill Fratke, Justin Smith, Jason Bloom, David Dutkowski, Trent Arnold, Jeff Wiedner, Andy McGarvey, Corey Simon.

WARRIORS LINEUP

Goal — Scott Ames; defense — Reece Bixby, Scott Smith, Jeff Schake, Jeff Frazee, Rob Hall; forwards — Del Donaldson, Marc Gillard, Tom Meyer, Chad McFarland, Brandon Bunger, Rob Dietz, Scott Carnes, Chuck Connors, Troy Laughlin, Darin Johnson, Tracy Henn, Bob Barnett.

SCORE BY PERIODS

Columbus	0	0	1	— 2
Warriors	0	1	0	— 1

FIRST PERIOD — No scoring. Penalties — Wehr (cross-checking) 1:48; Dietz (elbowing) 6:19; Bixby (slashing) 10:11; Nilsson (illegal equipment) 13:05.

SECOND PERIOD — 1. Warriors, Bixby (Bunger, McFarland) 5:38. Penalties — Hall (tripping) 2:44; Nilsson (roughing) 3:15; Bloom (tripping) 10:05.

THIRD PERIOD — 2. Columbus, Wiedner (unassisted) 10:16. Penalties — Donaldson (holding) 3:16; Wehr (elbowing) 10:34; N. Lanigan (tripping) 14:29; Gillard (charging) 14:48; Meyer (misconduct) 14:48.

OVERTIME — 3. Columbus, Becker (MacLennan, Morgan) 1:37. Penalties — none.

SHOTS ON GOAL

Columbus	11	11	5	— 28
Warriors	13	11	12	— 36

First Round

Friday

Warriors 8, Ames 2

SCORE BY PERIODS

Warriors	2	3	3	— 8
Ames	1	1	0	— 2

FIRST PERIOD — 1. Waterloo, Bunger (McFarland) 1:07; 2. Ames, Linder (Lippman) 2:38; 3. Waterloo, Meyer (Bixby, Shake) 8:21. Penalties — none.

SECOND PERIOD — 4. Waterloo, Gillard (unassisted) 5:21; 5. Waterloo, Donaldson (unassisted) 11:36; 6. Ames, Weltha (Murdoch, Watne) 12:08; 7. Waterloo, Gillard (Bixby) 14:04. Penalties — Bunger (Warriors) 3:19; Meyer (Warriors) 5:57; Watne (Ames) 6:15; Bixby (Warriors) 9:14.

THIRD PERIOD — 8. Waterloo, McFarland (Bunger) 10:42; 9. Waterloo, Gillard (Bixby, Smith) 14:11; 10. Waterloo, Connors (Frazee, Barnett) 14:20. Penalties — Donaldson (Warriors) 3:55; Meyer (Warriors) 8:01; Bixby (Warriors) 10:19; Gibson (Ames) 13:07.

SHOTS ON GOAL

Waterloo	11	13	13	— 37
Ames	8	10	6	— 24

GOALTENDERS — Warriors: Scott Ames, Ames; Aeron Goebel.

Columbus 9, Urbandale 3

SCORE BY PERIODS

Columbus	4	4	1	— 9
Urbandale	0	1	2	— 3

FIRST PERIOD — 1. Columbus, N. Lanigan (MacLennan) 1:55; 2. Columbus, Becker (Bloom, Wirtjes) 3:56; 3. Columbus, Wehr (unassisted) 7:39; 4. Columbus, Nilsson (Wiedner, N. Lanigan) 8:22. Penalties — P. Lanigan (Col) 6:56; Morgan (Col) 11:13; Sadler (Col) 13:16; Beebe (Urb) 13:16; Oiler (Urb) 14:48.

SECOND PERIOD — 5. Columbus, Wehr (Wirtjes, Bloom) 1:18; 6. Urbandale, Tunks (Light, Rast) 8:29; 7. Columbus, MacLennan (Nilsson) 8:38; 8. Columbus, Wehr (Wirtjes) 10:00; 9. Columbus, Wiedner (unassisted) 11:22. Penalties — Wiedner (Col) 2:28; Dutkowski (Col) 3:06; Nilsson (Col) 4:32; Beebe (Urb) 4:39; MacLennan (Col) 5:40; Dutkowski (Col) 11:38; Beebe (Urb) 11:38.

THIRD PERIOD — 10. Urbandale, Tunks (unassisted) 7:25; 11. Columbus, Simon (Wehr, Jasser) 10:52; 12. Urbandale, Tunks (Light, Beebe) 13:15. Penalties — Conard (Urb) 1:39; Sadler (Col) 5:28; Fettkeher (Urb) 8:49; Fettkeher (Urb) 14:41.

SHOTS ON GOAL

Columbus	20	15	6	— 41
Urbandale	5	7	10	— 22

GOALTENDERS — Urbandale: Rick Hall, Todd Zwanziger; Columbus: Pat Lanigan.

Hearn wins

WRC title