

# Quest to recover hockey title begins with local clash tonight

The state hockey championship is still missing and the quest to recover it begins tonight with a battle for metro supremacy between the Waterloo Warriors and Columbus Sailors.

Faceoff is at 7:30 p.m. at McElroy Auditorium.

Valley-Dowling carted off the Iowa High School Hockey League state tournament trophy last winter, keeping it out of Waterloo for an unprecedented two straight years.

Columbus and the Warriors, meanwhile, battled for third place, marking only the second time in history that one of those teams hasn't played for the championship.

The Sailors cruised through their league schedule with a 17-1 record, but they ran into Valley at the state meet and bowed, 4-2. The Warriors lost to Sioux City, also 4-2, in the semifinals.

Now, it's on to a new season and both teams figure to be contenders once again. They'll find out how they stack up immediately.

On paper, the Warriors look better than a year ago. Columbus looks comparable. In one case, Columbus' loss was the Warriors' gain. In another case, the Sailors' loss was the Waterloo Black Hawks' gain.

Traditionally, the Warriors head into their season looking for a goaltender. That's not the case this year. K.C. Doland, Columbus' No. 2 goalie a year ago, has transferred to the public school system and will be wearing Warriors colors. Doland was

4-0 last year with a 93.3 save percentage. The Warriors also have a talented freshman netminder in Chris Abbott.

Tom Meyer, who scored 27 points in just 12 games last season, is also back and will give the Warriors a potent scoring weapon. In addition, veterans Jeff Frazee, Chris McFarland, Kirk Schoonover, Derek Hileman, Scott Smith, Bob Ames, Darin Johnson and Tracy Henn give the Warriors experienced depth at both ends of the ice.

At Columbus, Coach Mike Brown has to replace IHSHL scoring champion Brian Wehr, who has graduated to the Waterloo Black Hawks, although he had one year of high school eligibility remaining. Wehr rifled opponents for 66 points a year ago in 18 games.

Also gone is Neal Lanigan, who added 54 points, and Andy MacLennan, who scored 28. Brown says his biggest concern is numbers. The Sailors have little depth.

But a solid nucleus remains, beginning with goaltender Jason Hedican, 13-1 a year ago with an 87.3 save percentage. He'll have experienced defencemen in front of him, including Mike Sadler and Dan Bloom.

The top returning forwards are Jason Bloom (27 points) and Justin Smith (16). Also back are Corey Simon, Ben MacLennan and Jason Rose.

The IHSHL will play in two four-team divisions this season with the return to the league of Dubuque after several years as an independent.

## 1987-88 IHSHL Standings

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Columbus	17	1	0	34	112	44
Sioux City	13	4	1	27	87	47
Wat. Warriors	12	5	1	25	77	59
Valley-Dowling	7	11	0	14	70	61
Mason City	5	13	0	10	55	85
Ames	5	13	0	10	51	92
Urbandale	3	15	0	6	50	110

## Columbus

Head coach — Mike Brown  
 1987-88 record — 17-1-0  
 NOV. 18 — at Waterloo Warriors  
 NOV. 25 — Mason City  
 NOV. 27 — at Dubuque  
 DEC. 3 — at Mason City  
 DEC. 4 — at Sioux City  
 DEC. 9 — Waterloo Warriors  
 DEC. 11 — at Dubuque  
 DEC. 18 — at Ames  
 DEC. 17 — at Urbandale  
 DEC. 27-28 — at Chippewa Falls Tournament  
 JAN. 7 — Waterloo Warriors  
 JAN. 13 — at Mason City  
 JAN. 15 — Ames  
 JAN. 22 — Dubuque  
 JAN. 25 — IHSHL all-star game at Dubuque  
 JAN. 26 — Mason City  
 JAN. 28 — at Valley-Dowling  
 FEB. 3 — at Waterloo Warriors  
 FEB. 5 — Dubuque  
 FEB. 10 — Urbandale  
 FEB. 12 — Sioux City  
 FEB. 18 — Valley-Dowling  
 RETURNING LETTERMEN (8) — Jason Hedican, g; Mike Sadler, g; Jason Bloom, f; Justin Smith, f; Corey Simon, f; Ben MacLennan, d; Dan Bloom, d; Jason Rose, f.

## Waterloo Warriors

Head coach — Dave Swick  
 1987-88 records — 12-5-1  
 NOV. 18 — Columbus  
 NOV. 19 — at Mason City  
 NOV. 26 — at Mason City  
 DEC. 2 — Valley-Dowling  
 DEC. 3 — at Dubuque  
 DEC. 9 — at Columbus  
 DEC. 10 — at Urbandale  
 DEC. 12 — Urbandale  
 DEC. 17 — at Dubuque  
 DEC. 27 — Warriors Alumni game  
 DEC. 29-31 — at Mason City Christmas Tournament  
 JAN. 6 — Mason City  
 JAN. 7 — at Columbus  
 JAN. 13 — Dubuque  
 JAN. 14 — at Valley-Dowling  
 JAN. 20 — Mason City  
 JAN. 21 — Dubuque  
 JAN. 27 — at Ames  
 JAN. 28 — Sioux City  
 FEB. 3 — Columbus  
 FEB. 4 — at Sioux City  
 FEB. 13 — Ames  
 RETURNING LETTERMEN (9) — Jeff Frazee, d; Chris McFarland, d; Kirk Schoonover, f; Derek Hileman, d; Scott Smith, f; d; Tom Meyer, f; Bob Ames, f; Darin Johnson, f; d; Tracy Henn, f.