

# Metros tumble in hockey final

## Valley-Dowling posts 8-4 win

MASON CITY, Iowa — West Des Moines Valley-Dowling turned the tables on the Sioux City Metros Sunday and claimed the Iowa High School Hockey League post-season state tournament championship with an 8-4 triumph.

Sioux City had beaten Valley-Dowling in three of four meetings during the regular-season.

The Metros finished the second 16-11 and Valley-Dowling closed with a 20-7 record.

The loss denied the Metros a third straight state championship in the Iowa High School Hockey League state tournament.

In the third-place game, Waterloo defeated the Omaha Gladiators, the regular-season champion, 4-3, while St. Joseph, Mo., earned fifth place with an 8-6 win over Ames.

In the seventh-place game, Mason City edged the Omaha Junior Lancers, 5-3.

Two Sioux City players, Dan Davies and Landon Blatchford, were named to the all-state first team and teammates Eric Rubel and Cory Roberts were named honorable mention.

Rubel had to leave Sunday's title game after a period when he reinjured his neck. Rubel suffered the neck injury in a Saturday game.

In ceremonies after the game, Davies, Roberts, Rubel and Blatchford were named to the Team Midwest squad that will play in the Chicago Showcase hockey tournament next month.

Sioux City Coach Dave Davies will coach the Team Midwest squad.

Valley-Dowling erupted for three goals in the third period Sunday to

break open an evenly played contest.

Rich Roche scored at 1:32 and 7:31 of the third period for Valley-Dowling, then Brennan Cox got a goal at 14:42 to clinch the victory.

Roche also has a goal at 13:25 of the second period in recording his championship game hat trick.

Chris Poli registered the first two goals of the game for Valley-Dowling, then Davies scored at 13:51 of the first period.

Then, in the second period, Valley-Dowling got two more goals from the same player again, Scott Hughes, to take a 4-1 lead.

The Metros bounced back when Davies scored at 11:15 of the second period to cut the Valley-Dowling lead to 4-2. Roche followed with a goal, though, at 13:25 before Kimmo Kukkonen brought the Metros back to within two goals with another red-lighter at 14:42 of the second period.

The Metros trailed 5-3 when Valley-Dowling unleashed its three-goal burst in in the final period.

### Summary

**First period:** 1, Valley-Dowling — Chris Poli (Luke Cisna, Rich Roche) 1:22. 2, Valley-Dowling — Poli (unassisted) 6:01. 3, Sioux City — Dan Davies (Dah Thonestad) 13:51. **Penalties:** Ritz, V-D, 9:34; Blatchford, SC, 11:49; Roche, V-D, 13:04; Davies, SC, 14:59.

**Second period:** 4, Valley-Dowling — Scott Hughes (unassisted) 3:59. 5, Valley-Dowling — Hughes (Sloan Kromminga) 9:59. 6, Sioux City — Davies (Landon Blatchford, Thonestad) 11:15. 7, Valley-Dowling — Roche (Greg Jones) 13:25. 8, Sioux City — Kimmo Kukkonen (Cory Roberts, Blatchford) 14:42. **Penalties:** Ritz, V-D, 4:26; Cisna, V-D, 5:11; Roche, V-D, 10:47; Juon, SC, 12:09 (minor, misconduct); Klipfel, V-D, 13:52.

**Third period:** 9, Valley-Dowling — Roche (Poli, Hughes) 1:32. 10, Valley-Dowling — Roche (Cisna) 7:31. 11, Valley-Dowling — Brennan Cox (Rod Dalton) 14:42. 12, Sioux City — Blatchford (Taylor Schramm) 14:56. **Penalties:** Stoneburg, SC, 1:17; Roche, V-D, 3:21; Hughes, V-D, 9:20; T. Schramm, SC, 12:32; Hedquist, SC, 14:20.

### Score by periods:

Sioux City.....	1	2	1	4
Valley-Dowling.....	2	3	3	8

### Shots on goal:

Sioux City.....	3	11	6	20
Valley-Dowling.....	8	7	7	22

**Goalenders:** Matt Sewalson, Sioux City; Tom Roche, West Des Moines Valley-Dowling.  
**Referee:** Al Stoltz. **Linesmen:** Rick Golinvaux, Ian Campbell.