

Double-overtime win gives Warriors shot at 7th place

By **SKIP SMITH**
 Courier Sports Writer

The last time Waterloo hosted the state hockey tournament, they made history by winning a record tying fourth title. Five years later, the Warriors were faced with the not so appealing idea of not placing at all.

In the final game on Saturday, the Warriors played like they were going for the title, beating St. Joseph (Mo.), 5-4 in a double-overtime thriller at the Young Arena.

With both teams on the verge of exhaustion, Waterloo's Ben Brown took a feed from Jason Boller and drilled a slap shot past the Griffons' Jimmy Bjennmyr to put an end to the marathon.

"Both teams played very well," said Warrior coach Mike Brown, whose team improved to 3-20-2 on the year. "Both teams had opportunities and both goaltenders were playing outstanding. It's a shame someone had to lose."

With the win, Waterloo earned a rematch with Dubuque in the seventh-place game this morning at eight o'clock. The Devils beat the Warriors on Thursday night to open the tournament.

In the championship at 3:30 p.m., the Omaha Jr. Lancers will try to become the first non-Iowa team to win the title. They'll face Mason City, which won the title back in 1987 and was runner-up in 1992. Ames and Des Moines will face off for third place, while the Omaha Gladiators and Sioux City will play for fifth.

Waterloo looked as if it was going to run away with it after building a 4-1 lead just over a minute into the third period. After St. Joseph's Fredrik Nystrom scored just 19 seconds into the game on a wrap around goal, the Warriors scored four straight goals, all by Tim Markey.

David Hedeman fed Markey on his first two goals, the second a nice looking give-and-go in which Markey passed to Hedeman to the left of the net. Hedeman then tapped

State hockey tourney

Friday

First round

Des Moines 4, Omaha Gladiators 2

Mason City 8, St. Joseph 2

Ames 3, Sioux City 2

Omaha Jr. Lancers 7, Dubuque 0

First round consolation

Sioux City 2, Waterloo 1

Omaha Gladiators 5, St. Joseph 4 (OT)

Saturday

Semifinals

Mason City 3, Des Moines 1

Omaha Jr. Lancers 8, Ames 1

Second round consolation

Omaha Gladiators 9, Dubuque 4

Waterloo 5, St. Joseph 4 (2 OT's)

it back to Markey, who beat Griffon starting goalie Bob Offett high for the lead.

"We've gotten more aggressive," said Brown. "Our offense is coming. It's a shame it's the end of the year."

Markey completed the hat trick before the first period was over, prompting Griffon coach Norm Nappier to replace Offett, who stopped just three of six shots, with Bjennmyr.

After giving up Markey's fourth goal early in the second, the Swedish exchange student stiffened up, allowing St. Joseph to rally.

Cliff John started the rally when he beat Warrior netminder Ryan Eldridge with a wrist shot and then Ben Meyer scored two straight power play goals to tie the score. All three goals were assisted by Dustin Ham.

Waterloo	3 1 0 0 1 - 5
St. Joseph	1 3 0 0 - 4

FIRST PERIOD — 1. St. Joseph, Fredrik Nystrom (unassisted), 1:19; 2. Waterloo, Tim Markey (David Hedeman), 4:14; 3. Waterloo, Markey (Hedeman), 10:50; 4. Waterloo, Markey (Brad Heggebo), 12:40. Penalties — Jason Boller-Wat. (roughing), 6:31; Ben Meyer-SJ (cross checking), 10:05.

SECOND PERIOD — 5. Waterloo, Markey (Luke McCarty, Brent Westphal), 1:37; 6. St. Joseph, Cliff John (Dustin Ham), 3:25; 7. St. Joseph, Meyer (Ham), 3:36; 8. St. Joseph, Meyer (Ham), 11:37. Penalties — Westphal-Wat. (elbowing), 3:54; Ham-SJ (roughing), 4:18; Jason Verbraken-Wat. (roughing, misconduct), 4:18; Markey-Wat. (tripping), 7:33; Jim Dwyer-Wat. (tripping), 9:35; Westphal-Wat. (tripping), 13:01; Dane Eckard-SJ (roughing), 13:25; Neal Ticknor-Wat. (roughing), 13:25; Meyer-SJ (tripping), 14:16.

THIRD PERIOD — No scoring. Penalties — Heggebo-Wat. (interference), 2:10.

FIRST OVERTIME — No scoring. Penalties — none.

SECOND OVERTIME — 9. Waterloo, Ben Brown (Boller), 1:38.

Waterloo	6 2 8 2 1 - 20
St. Joseph	10 11 6 9 0 - 37

Goaltending — Waterloo, Ryan Eldridge (32 saves); St. Joseph, Bob Offett (3 saves), Jimmy Bjennmyr (12 saves).

Referee — Kevin McDonald. Linesmen — Rick Kemp, Keith Hendrickson.