

# Warriors host state hockey meet

The Waterloo Warriors will kick off the 1994-95 Iowa High School Hockey League postseason tournament tonight when they face off against Dubuque in an 8 p.m. preliminary round game at Young Arena.

The Warriors, the ninth seed, and the eighth-seeded Devils will play for the right to advance to the tournament's first round and meet the top-seeded and undefeated Omaha Junior Lancers (24-0) at 3:30 p.m. Friday.

In their three regular-season meetings, the Warriors (2-18-2) and Devils (3-18-1) tied once and split the other two games, Dubuque winning 2-0 and Waterloo winning 2-1.

"We can play with these guys," said Waterloo head coach Mike Brown. "We gotta shoot the puck and make something happen."

The Warriors' biggest problem all season was a lack of offense — their 32 goals scored were last in the league, 27 less than than Dubuque's second-lowest total of 59.

"Defensively we've been playing pretty well," Brown said. "We just don't have very many people who are goal scorers. We'll have to be aggressive offensively and play at both ends tonight."

Friday's first-round schedule includes third-seeded Des Moines against the sixth-seeded Omaha Gladi-

ators at 8 a.m., second seed Mason City versus seventh seed St. Joseph (Mo.) at 10:30 a.m. and fourth seed Sioux City against fifth seed Ames at 1 p.m.

The semifinals will be played Saturday at 10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. and the championship game is scheduled for 3:30 p.m. Sunday. The losers of the semifinal games will meet at 1 p.m. Sunday in the third-place game.

Omaha is the obvious favorite entering the tournament, but Brown doesn't believe the Junior Lancers won't have competition.

"Omaha's a good hockey team," he said. "They have good young hockey players and they'll be around for a couple years. But Mason City can give Omaha a run, and if Des Moines gets good goaltending they can play with them, too."

**NOTES** — Former Chicago Blackhawks' defenseman Keith Magnuson will be the featured speaker at Saturday's Tournament Recognition Banquet at Five Sullivan Brothers Convention Center.

Magnuson played 11 years for Chicago, was a captain for four seasons and was selected to two All-Star teams. After retiring following the 1979-80 season, Magnuson moved behind the bench and coached the Blackhawks in 1980-81 and 1981-82.

## ■ See some hockey

**WATERLOO** — This week, the Waterloo Warrior High School hockey team is pleased to be hosting the Iowa High School Hockey League 1995 Varsity State Tournament.

Teams from Ames, Des Moines, Dubuque, Mason City, Sioux City, Omaha and St. Joseph, Mo., will come to Waterloo to compete. Through the generous donation of Norwest Bank, we have been able to plan what we believe will be the best state tournament that the league has ever seen. In addition to showcasing Young Arena, the tournament is projected to have an economic impact on the community in excess of \$650,000.

The Warriors open the competition at 8 o'clock tonight against Dubuque. Games will continue on Friday, Saturday and Sunday with the championship game at 3:30 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are available at all Norwest Bank locations and by calling the ticket office at Young Arena (232-3444) during business hours.

If you have not yet taken the opportunity to see an event at Young Arena, this is an excellent opportunity for you to do so while supporting the Warriors. You will also see the best high school hockey the state has to offer.

**GARY IVERSEN**

*President, Waterloo Warriors*