Warriors enter as underdogs

Waterloo is seventh seed at state hockey tournament.

DUBUQUE — Waterloo heads into this weekend's Iowa High School Hockey League tournament with the odds against it stacked high.

The seventh-seeded Warriors (13-19-1) tangle with second-seeded Mason City (25-8-0) on the ice at Dubuque's Five Flags Center this afternoon after dropping 5-2, 1-0 and 8-4 decisions to the Mohawks during the regular season. Mason City is the league's second-highest scoring team with 141 goals in 33 games and one of the top

defensive clubs with only 65 goals allowed.

It's also a balanced attack with 11 players scoring in double digits, including seven with at lest 22 points heading into the postseason.

By contrast, Waterloo has scored 85 goals and just three Warriors have tallied as many as 20 points — Bryan Brown with 30, Matt Metcalf with 23 and Luke Langdale with 20.

Waterloo does head into the tournament with some momentum. The Warriors won three of their last four games, including a 3-0 shutout of the third-seeded Des Moines Capitals. Needing a win last Sunday to make the eight-team tourney field,

Tournament glance

GAMES FRIDAY
1 p.m. - Des Moines Capitals (25-8-0) vs. Lincoln (13-19-1)

3:15 p.m. - Mason City (25-8-0) vs. Waterloo (13-19-1)

5:30 p.m. - Des Moines Oakleafs (20-13-0) vs. Sioux City (20-13-0) 7:45 p.m. - Omaha Jr. Lancers (32-1-0) vs. Dubuque (10-23-0)

Waterloo and goaltender Andy Wright stepped up again with a 3-0 win over Kansas City.

The winner of today's matchup advances to meet the winner of the Capitals-Lincoln game at 1:30 p.m. Saturday. The loser plays the Caps-Lincoln loser at 9 a.m.

Sunday's championship game is at 1:45 p.m.