

Blues outlast Warriors in overtime thriller

Waterloo to play for third place today against Jr. Outlaws

By **ROD PAYNE**
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DAVENPORT — The clock struck midnight for the Waterloo Warriors Saturday night as they dropped a heartbreaking, 3-2 overtime decision to the

host Quad City Blues.

The loss ended the Warriors' quest for Midwest High School Hockey's holy grail, the state tournament title, but it does not bump them from the dance, as Waterloo plays the Kansas City Junior Outlaws today at 11:30 a.m. for third place.

The game featured hard-hitting hockey with great body checks and highlight-reel goals, along with some questionable

plays that left a bad taste in the mouths of the Warriors, who entered the game as the No. 3 seed.

"Oh this one really hurts. There is no denying that," Warriors coach Shawn Weinke said. "We will let our guys sleep on this and have them run the process of emotion, then get back to it Sunday. These guys gave everything today, and as a coach, this is all you can ask for.

Every shift gave 110 percent."

As in any sport, sometimes giving your all can be compromised by fate and the lucky bounce of the puck. Such was the case with the Blues' first two scores Saturday.

Quad City, the No. 2 seed, jumped on the scoreboard early as Jake Hemmen picked a pass off the boards and raced

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WARRIORS

Rough hit knocks out Cedar Falls' Hester

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toward Warriors goalie Brian Dobs. A good bounce put the puck on Hemmen's stick, and he then rifled it to the back of the net for the 1-0 lead.

Jake Irey tied the game six minutes later, driving a Jayson Beal assist through Blues goalie Matt Turninger for the score.

The Blues regained the lead on one of the most unusual goals of the tournament. Quad City's Matt Stegemann fired the puck into the Warriors' zone, and Dobs came out to play it off the boards. Unfortunately for Dobs and the Warriors, the puck struck a divider between the glass and bounced back to Stegemann. Dobs was already out of the net to play the misguided rubber, and Stegemann knocked it in for his easiest goal of the season.

"That was so frustrating letting that one in," Weinke stated. "But, you know, that stuff happens during championship hockey, and I think our guys bounced back very well from that. They showed what they are made of and left everything out on the ice."

The Warriors did bounce back, as Irey drilled the nylon with his patented slap shot during a 5-on-3 advantage to tie the game at 2.

Waterloo had two-man advantages as the result of some unfortunate circumstances, ones

that brought the integrity of the game into question.

Cedar Falls senior Zach Hester cleared the puck from the boards when Brad Teplicky skated with reckless abandon and crushed Hester into the glass. Hester laid motionless on the ice for several minutes and was then escorted to the hospital.

Moments later, the Blues were whistled once again for a vicious check to the boards that left Waterloo East senior Jacob Schutte writhing in pain.

"I will be very surprised if Hester can play Sunday," a concerned Weinke said. "We took some hits tonight, and we will have to regroup for the next game. We had our opportunities during the two-man advantage and our scorers were denied. Turninger did a good job defending their net and made some huge saves."

The Blues nearly ended the game in regulation as they crashed the net with a 2-on-1 break. Dobs, however, came up with a spectacular save, smothering a point-blank shot by Hemmen.

During the overtime period, Waterloo misplayed the puck at mid-ice and the Blues cashed in with a goal that was discussed minutes after it was awarded.

Blues forward Jeff Morris made a swinging attempt at the puck in the crease but never made stick-to-rubber contact. The puck, though, reached the back of the net and the Warriors' dream of a championship was dead.

"We will bounce back," Weinke

stated. "When you put that Warrior jersey on, it just brings out 110 percent from everyone. I can't say enough of how proud I am of these guys."

The Warriors received recognition during the award ceremonies that followed Saturday's action. Waterloo West junior Irey was honored for finishing second in the league with 47 goals and 38 assists for 85 points. Lincoln's Jorgan Kontor was first with 88 points. Schutte finished eighth in scoring with 57 points.

Dobs completed the regular season with the most wins (29) by a goalie. Dobs collected nine shutout victories and had a .925 save percentage, good for third in the league.

HONOR ROLL: Warriors Hester, Schutte, Irey and Dobs were named state tournament all-stars, while teammate Tyler Mahnecke, a forward, received the Presidential Academic Award.

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Waterloo	1	1	0	—	2	
Quad City	1	1	0	—	3	
FIRST PERIOD — 1. Quad City, Jake Hemmen (Pete Katter) 4:35; 2. Waterloo, Jake Irey (Jayson Beal) 11:15. Penalties — Michael Thompson, Wat. (boarding) 11:59.						
SECOND PERIOD — 3. Quad City, Matt Stegemann (unassisted) 4:33; 4. Waterloo, Irey (MacKenzie Cain) 12:23p. Penalties — Beal, Wat. (interference) 2:3; Brad Teplicky, QC (checking from behind) 8:22; Teplicky, QC (game misconduct) 8:22; AJ Richards, QC (checking from behind) 11:55; Richards, QC (game misconduct) 11:55.						
THIRD PERIOD — No scoring. Penalties — Tucker Schweer, Wat. (interference) 8:15.						
OVERTIME — 5. Quad City, Jeff Morris (Nick Hester) 4:33.						
SHOTS ON GOAL						
Waterloo	10	12	10	3	—	35
Quad City	9	2	8	5	—	24
Goalies — Waterloo, Brian Dobs (21 saves); Quad City, Matt Turninger (36 saves)						
Officials — Referee, Chad Evers; Linesmen, Paul Koskovich and Tim Frazee.						